



### National Pg 2 'HPV vaccine crucial'



### National Pg 3 Park entry fees under review



### National Pg 4 Govt recovers cooperatives' assets



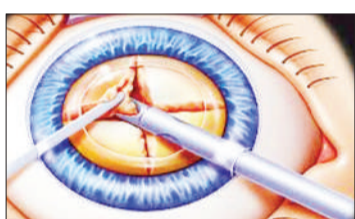
### National Pg 5 Campaign against marginalised students



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## Maria Nyerere wants flowery weeds problem rapidly ended

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Butiama

FIRST phase First Lady Maria Nyerere (pictured) has appealed to government authorities to find solutions to the increasing spreading of weeds that are increasingly inhabiting farm productivity in many parts of Butiama district.

"Here there are many weeds, we have foreexample weeds known as Nyabagole which crowd off suitable grass for our livestock. You must also work on this problem," she said, citing the prevalence of a flowery shrub that scientists term 'lantana camara.'

A rapid online entry says lantana camara

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# ACT fixes 12trn/- in Z'bar development manifesto



Seif Shariff Hamad (L), the opposition Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) candidate for the Zanzibar Presidency in the upcoming General Election, pictured in Zanzibar yesterday cutting a ribbon to launch the party's 2020/2025 election manifesto. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ACT-WAZALENDO yesterday launched its manifesto for Zanzibar's development, where the total value of envisaged projects to be implemented in five years is 12trn/-.

Seif Shariff Hamad, who is the party's national chairman Zanzibar presidential candidate, said the policy projection aims at bringing justice, equality and happiness to the people of Zanzibar if the party clinches victory in the General Election scheduled for later this month.

"ACT-Wazalendo is determined to lift women and youth out of poverty by promoting investments and creating jobs in all sectors of the economy," he said.

The 12trn/- reflects expected investments in key sectors like education, where the party intends to expand access to primary and secondary education, put up technical colleges, improve teacher training colleges and widen access to loans for students in institutions of higher learning.

Othman Masoud Othman, a member of the committee that drew up the manifesto, said that social security including health



**On polling day (October 28), Hamad will square it out with ruling CCM candidate Dr Hussein Mwinyi and 14 other**

cover will be widened to rope in people who are not protected under schemes currently in place.

"We will build referral hospitals in all regions, a laboratory that meets international standards and research centres in both Unguja and Pemba islands," he said.

Another area of focus is the implementation of a water supply strategic plan meant to provide every Zanzibari with clean and safe piped water.

The party also intends to build 250 kilometres of roads to strategic tourist destinations so as to increase tourist arrivals across the isles and boost the flow of foreign exchange.

Other projects to be implemented if ACT-Wazalendo wins are the construction of two new airports - one in Unguja and another in Pemba - well as a 100 megawatt supply project.

Othman said that, apart from taxes, the money will be raised from investments involving public-private partnerships in various projects.

On polling day (October 28), Hamad will square it out with ruling CCM candidate Dr Hussein Mwinyi (pictured) and 14 other.



## Chadema declares support for ACT in Zanzibar contest

By Guardian Reporter

PRINCIPAL opposition party, Chadema yesterday announced support for the ACT-Wazalendo candidate in the Zanzibar presidential race, Seif Shariff Hamad.

National chairman Freeman Mbowe said in Dar es Salaam that the party's central committee had deliberated on the matter and reached the decision, and it will henceforth rally its supporters in the isles behind the Hamad campaign ahead of Election Day on the 28th.

"After consultation with our candidate for Zanzibar presidency Said Mohamed, we have agreed to support ACT-Wazalendo candidate Seif Shariff Hamad," he said.

This comes after weeks of talks between



**In yesterday's press conference, Mbowe also said that the party had advised its candidate Tundu Lissu not to proceed with campaigns**

the parties on how to cooperate in the general election without falling foul of the regulatory authorities as single candidate posture could attract penalties from the Registrar of political parties.

Mbowe said committees had been formed to sort out technical issues on how to cooperate in the parliamentary and councillorship contests, where numerous Chadema and ACT-Wazalendo candidates were barred by the regulatory body.

The move by Chadema to support ACT-Wazalendo for Zanzibar presidency is expected to be reciprocated by ACT-Wazalendo supporting Chadema in the race for the Union presidency, but for nearly two weeks the matter has hinged without being finalised.

Mid-last month, news went around that ACT-

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## Boom as tourists fully book big hotels in festival season

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

IT is boom time in the northern tourism circuit as all major hotels and lodges are fully booked up to the holiday season of Christmas and New Year.

Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO) official Timothy Mdinka said here at the



Dr Allan Kijazi

weekend that accommodation facilities catering for visitors are mostly full with bookings for the entire month of December, indicating rapid revival of the country's leisure travel industry in the country's post corona period.

Apparently the booked hotel guests are not only from abroad eeking to sample Tanzania's attractions, but a fairly big number of local sightseers is inching up to spend time in the end of year season with wildlife adventures.

Renewed vigour from domestic tourists is noticeable as local business people are beginning to visit tourist attractions in big numbers, with year-end holiday breaks an especially good

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## 'Human papillomavirus vaccine for girls crucial'

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

THE government has called upon parents and guardians to make sure that girls receive a vaccine for human papillomavirus (HPV) for recommended period to keep them safe from getting the disease that might weaken their health.

HPV is a viral infection that is passed between people through skin to skin contact. According to the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), HPV is most commonly transmitted through sexually transmitted infection (STI).

Research shows that vaccines reduce the possibility of deaths to approximate 2 to 3 million people every year. Through vaccines, the government has so far managed to control smallpox, tetanus, polio and measles.

Speaking during a one-day seminar to journalists organised by the Ministry of Health, Community, Development, Gender, Elderly and Children in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, Acting Regional Medical Officer, Dr Ayoub Kibao said the government has managed to control several diseases by providing vaccine to 80 percent of children under one year.

The seminar was meant to share a brief of the trend for HPV vaccine in the country.

Dr Kibao said during the Covid-19 outbreak, the number of attendants for vaccines was low as many people feared to be infected with Coronavirus.

"It is the right time that parents continue taking their children for vaccines as the spread for Coronavirus in our country has gone down," he said.

According to him, despite the rate of vaccination being high, there are several children who have not received the service while others have not completed the vaccine especially for

measles.

Dr Kibao added that failure or delays to take girls for HPV vaccine might put them at a risk of getting infections to other diseases.

Statistics from the Ministry of Health, Community, Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, indicates that in 2018, 59 percent of people received HPV-1 vaccine, while 40 percent of people received vaccine for HPV-2.

In 2019, 78 percent of people were vaccinated for HPV-1, while 49 percent of people received the vaccine of HPV-2. In 2020, 61 percent received HPV-1, while 38 percent received HPV-2.

In Ilala District, 73 per cent of people received HPV-1 vaccine and 48 percent received HPV-2 while Temeke District, 146 percent of people received vaccine for HPV-1, and 125 per cent received vaccine for HPV-2.

In Kinondoni District, 98 per cent of people received HPV-1, and HPV-2 95 per cent of people were vaccinated. In Kigamboni District, 109 per cent of people received HPV-1, while 73 per cent of people were vaccinated to control HPV-2 while in Ubungo District, 89 per cent of people were vaccinated for HPV-1 and 82 per cent for HPV-2.



**It is the right time that parents continue taking their children for vaccines as the spread for Coronavirus in our country has gone down**



Opposition Chadema national Chairman Freeman Mbowe addresses a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday at which he announced that the party's candidate for the Zanzibar Presidency was withdrawing and they would now support ACT-Wazalendo flag-bearer Seif Shariff Hamad. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## Chadema declares support for ACT in Zanzibar contest

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Wazalendo had agreed to support Chadema in the Union presidential race but the rival party's candidate, Bernard Membe, refuted the reports.

"I'm the ACT-Wazalendo presidential candidate for the United Republic who has been given the mandate to market the party's election manifesto during this election. Circulating reports that we are supporting Chadema at the presidency level are false," he tweeted. Membe has since failed to continue

campaigning after launching his campaigns in Lindi Region mid last month, raising speculation as to whether the dormancy was the 'support Chadema' push or financial doldrums had set in.

In yesterday's press conference, Mbowe also said that the party had advised its candidate Tundu Lissu not to proceed with campaigns to abide by the punishment rendered by the ethics committee of the National Electoral Commission (NEC) which held that he has committed ethical breaches

and barred him from campaigning for seven days.

On Friday last week, Lissu reacted to the news defiantly, vowing to ignore the 'rough justice' and continue with his campaigns yesterday as earlier scheduled.

"Apart from being our presidential candidate, Lissu is also Chadema deputy national chairman. There is a lot of work for him to do during the seven days," he said.

Apart from Hamad, other candidates in the race for Zanzibar presidency

are Dr Hussein Mwinyi (CCM), Said Soud (AAFP), Juma Ali Khatib (ADATADEA), Hamad Rashid (ADC), Mfaume Khamis (NLD), Ali Juma (CHAUMA), Issa Muhammed Zonga (SAU), Ameri Said Ameri (Demokrasia Makini) and Hamad Muhammed Ibrahim (UPDP).

Others are Hussein Juma Salim of Tanzania Labour Party (TLP), Mohamed Omar Baharia of the Union for Multiparty Democracy (UMD), Shafiq Hassan Suleiman (Democratic Party), Khamis Faki Mgau (NRA) and Othman Rashid Khamis (CCK).



Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute experts present a sack of high-yielding beans to Father of the Nation Mwalimu JK Nyerere's widow, Mama Maria Nyerere (with walking stick), at her Butiama residence in Mara Region at the weekend. Looking on (L) is her son Madaraka Nyerere. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

## Maria Nyerere wants flowery weeds problem rapidly ended

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is a small perennial shrub which can grow to around 2 m tall and form dense thickets in a variety of environments. "Due to extensive selective breeding throughout the 17th and 18th centuries for use as an ornamental plant, there are now many different lantana camara cultivars," it says, noting that it is a resilient plant which flourishes even in relatively dry environments.

Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Director General Dr. Geoffrey Mkamillo noted that the widow of founder president Julius Nyerere had requested improved and high yielding beans and cassava varieties from TARI so that she plants them on her farm.

"We have brought four sacks of improved and high yielding beans varieties each weighing 100Kg which means there is a total of 400Kg. We thank you so much for your request and we hope this farm will also provide an opportunity for other farmers to learn use of seed technologies so that those living around this area adopt the new technologies," he said.

TARI has come out of the shelves and now working in the field with farmers, he stated, elaborating that for the past ten years, TARI has researched and released improved varieties that have high yields suitable for farmers in the Lake Zone. They are tolerant to moderate drought and resistant to diseases and pests, he affirmed.

Until December last year TARI had released nine improved cassava varieties, one of them known as TARI CAS 4 which, under good agricultural practices, can produce up to 50 tonnes per hectare from the current seven tonnes, he explained.

The new improved cassava varieties are a solution to diseases such as the cassava mosaic disease and cassava brown streak diseases which have ravaged the crop and reduced productivity in the Lake zone.

"In this period of industrial economy as being articulated by our president, Dr John Magufuli, TARI is committed to ensure that improved crop varieties are produced plentifully and supplied to farmers across the country. This is also vital as raw materials from agriculture constitute around 60 percent of the raw materials needed to feed our industries," the director underlined, insisting that TARI has the

right solutions for weeds that challenge farmers' crops.

TARI-Uyole Centre Director Tulole Bucheyeki and the national coordinator for the beans program, Dr. Rose Mongi explained that Mama Maria Nyerere has received the high yielding bean varieties, listing them as are Calima Uyole, Njano Uyole, Uyole 96 and Uyole 18.

"These high yielding varieties matures within three months. They have a big market inside and outside the country and are tolerant to diseases," the coordinator noted.

Earlier on, Butiama District Executive Director Diana Sonno had commended efforts by TARI as having improved the way farmers in the district can now tackle many challenges facing them, as they will now find effective solutions.

"I thank Mama Maria Nyerere for coming up with this idea of having improved crop varieties in her farm. This is a good example that should be emulated by other farmers. This provides a rallying point and thus it is big support to government efforts of improving agriculture, making improved seeds easily available in the fight against hunger in the district," she said.

Agricultural officers from TARI Naliedele centre and Ukiriguru centre demonstrated to the farmers on how to plant the improved crop varieties and other good agricultural practices.



**These high yielding varieties matures within three months. They have a big market inside and outside the country and are tolerant to diseases**

## Boom as tourists fully book big hotels in festival season

FROM PAGE 1

period for such visitations, he said.

Tour operators have helped the surge by cutting down safari and accommodation prices by 90 percent, he pointed out.

"The cheaper packages offered to local visitors have opened up new interest among Tanzanians and other East Africans to take tourism seriously and we hope the trend will be sustained," the TATO official told tourism stakeholders lately meeting in Arusha.

Tour operators have realized that members of the public for the most part wish to partake in tourism activities but the costs were pegged too high, meant to obtain optimal revenues from foreign visitors.

Tour operators now want the government to include member states of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) in local packages now extended to EAC member countries.

This way more tourists from the continent will easily access Tanzania's

tourist attractions at affordable rates, thus boosting the sector at a time when the country is waiting for global recovery of the travel industry.

Dr Allan Kijazi, the commissioner for conservation and deputy permanent secretary in the Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources said at the meeting that tourists from abroad were resuming their journeys to Tanzania.

"Our national parks have been receiving between 200 and 300 visitors per month since August," he said, projecting the trend as promising

and soon the industry could be back onto track.

Permanent Secretary Dr Aloyce Nzuki said the government was working on the proposal from the industry stakeholders to endorse lowered pricing for low tourism seasons in order to stabilize traffic flow for safaris throughout the year.

The meeting of tourism stakeholders and the ministry is held twice yearly to brush up the sector's operating blueprint to improve prospects for the tourism industry.



CCM's presidential running mate, Samia Suluhu Hassan, displays the party's election at a campaign rally in Nzega yesterday. Photo: VPO

# Govt to boost animal vaccine production

By Guardian Reporter

THE government is determined to make Kibaha based Tanzania Vaccine Institute (TVI) produces 13 vaccines for strategic livestock diseases to make the country self-reliant on animal vaccines.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Prof Elisante Ole Gabriel revealed this over the weekend when speaking to media personnel who visited the vaccine manufacturing centre.

Prof Gabriel said that the move will make livestock sector contributes immensely to the country's economy.

So far, the institute produces six vaccines—Temevac 1-2 (for Newcastle diseases), CBPP, Anthrax, Black quarter, Brucella and Tecoblax (mixture of Anthrax and Black quarter vaccine)

"Our target is to make the centre produces 13 vaccines of the strategic animal diseases," he said, adding: "We ministry, we want to see the sector contribute heavily to the GDP from the current 7.5 per cent and this will be possible, if we produce our own vaccines to fight against notorious livestock diseases."

He noted: "It's important for the country to have its own capacity of producing vaccines for national security purposes."

Tanzania, according to him, needs to export animal products such as meat, dairy, hides and skins and to do so; it needs animals which are healthier.

"So, TVI was established to serve that purpose and I'm happy to see that the institute is progressing well and I'm sure that the target of producing 13 vaccines will be realised in few months to come."

In the past, Tanzania was among countries, which have phase-out cattle plague—a disease caused by the rinderpest virus which primarily infected cattle and buffalo.

"And this was only possible through vaccination," he said.

TVI is under the Tanzania Veterinary Laboratory Agency (TVLA), which is responsible for developing and producing vaccines and other biological as well as testing and evaluating biologicals, ethno-veterinary and laboratory chemicals.

The PS said that the centre started producing vaccine for Newcastle disease, which has been effective that requires poultry farmers to vaccinate their chicken thrice a year as per farmers' calendar.

He urged livestock keepers to inculcate a culture of using locally produced vaccines, which are effective and cheap.

"I also urge local government authorities in the country to use TVI produced vaccines in this year's vaccination campaign as stipulated in vaccine and vaccination regulations."

TVLA Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Furaha Mramba, said: "We're determined to make Tanzania self-reliant on livestock vaccines and we're working tirelessly to meet the government target of 13 vaccines."

She said that it's cost-saving when the country produces its own vaccines instead of importing them and spending so much money for the purpose.

TVI Manager, Stella Bitanyi, said that the institute began operations since 2014 and that it has ever since been expanding step by step by training its personnel within the country and abroad to ensure that they have the required qualifications and competences for the work. These capacities are still needed.

According to Dr Bitanyi, the institute is located in 1037 ha of land, which allows more expansion of the centre.

Tanzania is the second largest number of livestock in Africa after Ethiopia and is estimated to have 33.4 million cattle, 22 million goats, 5.6 million sheep, 2 million pigs and 83 million chicken.

# Park entry fees undergo review

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE government has begun going through recommendations from the country's tourism stakeholders who want to see the reduction of national parks entry fees during low tourism seasons.

Speaking here at the weekend at the 6th deliberations meeting between officials from the public sector, the ministry and the private sector, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism Dr Aloyce Nzuki said a consensus is yet to be reached on the issue.

"When you touch prices within the Fiscal Year, decisions to be reached at should abide by the law," Dr Nzuki said.

The ministry's Deputy Permanent secretary, Dr Allan Kijazi said the aim of the meeting was to bring together tourism stakeholders to deliberate on achievements in the

sector as well as challenges in order to provide solutions thereof.

He said in the past five years the government has strengthened the country's tourism sector as well as enabling the private sector to advertise and attract tourists.

He said before the advent of coronavirus,

the number of tourists coming to the country was increasing every year.

He said according to ministry's statistics, the number of tourists was increasing by between eight and 10 per cent each year, among biggest increases internationally.

He said United Nations World Tourism

Organisation (UNWTO) statistics show that world tourism has been increasing by between three and four per cent, hence Tanzania has been making great strides in the tourism sector.

He further said according to World Bank (WB) statistics, Tanzania's tourism sector contributes more than USD 2.6bn per year.

## Data Analytics Training with SPSS

RM Consulting, a Technology Solutions Provider Company in Tanzania, in partnership with Datum Analytics Limited from Kenya, A Premier Statistical Software and training consultancy company is offering a one-week intensive training in Data Analytics Using SPSS suite of solutions that will be conducted in Dar es Salaam Tanzania.

With more than 10 years of highly successful Analytics training programs, RM Consulting and Datum Analytics Limited offers you a wide range of options for learning how to optimize your use of SPSS Software

### Why Train with DATUM and RM Consulting?

More than 10 years of highly successful SPSS training programs delivered by an IBM SPSS Certified Professionals. Our training is delivered by experienced analysts that will provide you with insider knowledge on all aspects of the Analytical Cycle. We offer an industry driven training approach focusing on real life scenarios.

All levels of expertise are catered for in our Tailored Training sessions designed specifically for you.

### Domains Addressed.

CRM/ Operational Analytics, Risk Analytics

### Who is the course for?

Research / Data Professionals, Quality Assurance and Risk Analysts, Monitoring and Evaluation Officers and Managers; Graduate students/Lecturers;

### Course Outline

This will incorporate lecture and interactive sessions. Participants will see how a real-life data analytics scenario that include CRM, Risk and Operations.

- Introduction to Statistics: Types of statistics, data structure, development of indicators.
- Introduction to Analytics with SPSS: Data entry, data manipulation, Validation Indicator Generation, model development
- Statistical Inferences: Descriptive, Predictive and Prescriptive methods.
- Introduction to modelling techniques: eg Correlation and Regression, Forecasting and Trend Analysis

### Training dates: 3th-6th November 2020.

Registration Deadline: 28th October 2020 | Cost: USD 500.00 PPI Venue: Protea Hotel Dar salaam, Tanzania Participants expected to have own laptops.

Training Software will be provided by trainers. For inquiries and registration please contact us via [email: info@rm-consulting.co.tz](mailto:info@rm-consulting.co.tz) / [info@datum.co.ke](mailto:info@datum.co.ke) or call **+255754053921/+254721555726.**

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### Contractors Training Course

Arusha, October 07 - 09, 2020  
**Special Course on Business Management Skills**  
Corridor Springs Hotel - Arusha

The Contractors Registration Board wishes to inform all Contractors that a special training course on **Business Management Skills** (Module SC 180/ MC 280) will take place at **the Corridor Springs Hotel- Arusha**. The Training will start at **8:30 on Wednesday 07<sup>th</sup> to Friday 09<sup>th</sup> October 2020.**

The course is highly interactive and practice - oriented and will cover Entrepreneurship, Developing Business Ideas & Plans, Building Businesses, Financial Management Essentials, Marketing Aspects, Basic Business Operations and Human Resources, Funding Decision of Business, Life Cycle of the Business and Corporate Governance Issues.

The course is targeted at Managing Directors (MDs), Directors, Architects, Engineers, Quantity Surveyors and Technicians from Firms registered with CRB and Technical personnel from other Institution dealing with Construction.

The fees for the course is **50,000/=** per person for Registered Contractors and **100,000/=** for non contractors.

The Fees covers training materials, lunch and beverages for three days. Fees are to be paid directly to Bank of Tanzania, CRBDB, NBC, and NMB in the name of **CONTRACTORS REGISTRATION BOARD** using control number **995740025453**

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Dr Hussein Mwinyi (2nd-L, foreground), the ruling CCM's candidate for the Zanzibar Presidency in the upcoming General Election, attends special peace prayers in Zanzibar yesterday alongside religious leaders and other government officials. Photo: SVPO-ZNZ

## Govt, stakeholders fight 'new' disease killing hybrid dogs

By Guardian Reporter

THE government, working together with various stakeholders, has embarked on steps against a disease that kills a great number of hybrid dogs that is believed to be leptospirosis.

Director of veterinary services in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Prof Hezron Emmanuel Nonga said yesterday in a statement that his ministry, in collaboration with other stakeholders including Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), (Tanzania Small Animal Veterinary Organization (TASAVO) have started collecting statistics from all veterinary centres including veterinary clinics and laboratories in order to understand the size of the problem and how it had been spreading.

He also said the ministry will also collect samples from some areas for examination to understand the causes of the deaths and provide education to dogs keepers, especially those of modern breeds to abide by vaccination and cleanliness and other biosecurity measures to control infection from *Leptospira* bacteria in dogs' enclosures.

He said from February to June this year the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries had been receiving reports of the deaths of new breeds of dogs after short illness suspected to be

*Leptospira* and added that the sick dogs die even after receiving treatment.

He said the problem has been more prominent in big urban centres like

Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Dodoma, Moshi, Arusha and Mwanza.

He said the dogs start weakening and lack of appetite, developing stair hair coat and excrete blood and tears, vomiting and urinating from time to time.

He said owners of dogs with such symptoms to restrict them in their enclosures and ensures the food thereof is well prepared.

Tanzania is estimated to have over four million dogs kept for various reasons including for security purposes, as pets and for hunting.

Dogs bred in Tanzania are of two kinds - mongrels and other exotic breeds, while mongrels make up of more than 95 percent of the total

Exotic breeds in Tanzania include German Shepherd, Bulldog, Poodle, Rottweiler, Labrador Retriever, Great Dane, Doberman and many others.



**He said the dogs start weakening and lack of appetite, developing stair hair coat and excrete blood and tears, vomiting and urinating from time to time**

## Mbarali District builds six secondary schools

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbarali

THE government in collaboration with Mbarali District residents have built six secondary schools aimed to boost Standard VI leavers to proceed to secondary education.

This was revealed at the weekend by the Mbarali District Commissioner, Ruben Mfune, in an interview with this paper during which he also said many residents have supported government

efforts to ensure students study in conducive environment.

Mfune said the schools which had been built through government and citizens efforts include Muwale secondary school with five classes, Kapunga secondary school with three classes, Ihangha secondary school and Nyamakuyu secondary school both with five classes.

He said the construction of the schools is the continuation of the

construction of new schools and classrooms for existing schools, adding that in 2019 two schools were built namely Ipwani secondary school and Mwakaganga secondary school.

He said the district also conducted fund raising events from amongst various stakeholders for the construction of six new schools and 36 classrooms to cater for students who passed their Standard VII

examinations but failed to advance to Form I at the existing secondary schools.

He said 151m/- was realised through the fund-raising events and appealed to residents in the district to continue contributing towards the construction of classrooms for secondary schools as well as desks, adding that such challenges could be past history as the district was economically self-sufficient due to rice farming activities.

## Govt recovers fraudulently sold cooperatives' property

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

THE Government has returned cooperatives' assets in Kilimanjaro Region, including three houses and three vehicles that had been fraudulently sold by few greedy people at throw away prices.

Ministry of Agriculture Permanent Secretary, Gerald Kusaya, said the current government plan was to ensure whoever embezzled cooperatives' assets is brought to account for his or her actions.

The PS gave the remarks at the weekend when he was handing over three vehicles of Tanganyika Coffee Curing Co. Ltd (TCCCo) that had been recovered from business people who bought them fraudulently.

The vehicles include a Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop Reg. T 187 ACD that was being used for tourism activities in Arusha Region; Land Cruiser GX Reg. T 199 CD and a Fiat goods truck Reg. T 215 ACD.

"As government we will not accept a few people to embezzle cooperatives' assets, they will have to surrender them to the owners. I appeal to you, officials and members of the country's cooperatives countrywide to safeguard your assets," he said.

Before the handing over of the vehicles, the TCCCo board chairman John Boshe said embezzlement of the assets was a result of poor management by officials who were trusted with the task of safeguarding cooperatives' assets.

assets.

He said the issue is among main issues that contributed to failure by many cooperative unions, including the Coffee Curing Company to function despite having plants and machinery bought at high prices.

During the handing over event, the Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner, Dr Anna Mghwira, asked Gerald Kusaya to direct the review of the decision of the High Court of Tanzania, Moshi Zone that set free the region's cooperatives heavyweights who were faced by two economic crime cases that had resulted in a loss of over 4.9bn/-.

Dr Mghwira explained that she was not satisfied by the court ruling and called on the Ministry to take further steps by asking the High Court to review its decision.



**As government we will not accept a few people to embezzle cooperatives' assets, they will have to surrender them to the owners. I appeal to you, officials and members of the country's cooperatives countrywide to safeguard your assets**



Queen Cuthbert Sendiga, the opposition Alliance for Democratic Change candidate for the Tanzanian Presidency, addresses a campaign rally at the Bagamoyo fish market in Coast Region at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## TANAPA: Poaching in Ruaha, Kitulo and Katavi national parks under control

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

POACHING in Ruaha, Kitulo and Katavi National Parks had significantly decreased. According to TANAPA not a single elephant carcass was found in the parks in the last two years.

Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) Conservation Commissioner for

the southern zone, Pius Mzimbe told reporters of the Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) under the sponsorship of USAID who visited various areas and villages around Ruaha National Park to see how people in the areas are involved in controlling poaching and the benefit they get from good neighbourliness with the TANAPA authorities.

He said as for now in the national parks there are adequate warders and equipment to fight poachers and added that even poaching networks have been dealt a blow through patrols with many of their members arrested and legal steps against them.

Mzimbe said the government has been placing great efforts in the war against poaching in the National Park,

which has gone down with animals including elephants, buffaloes and giraffes continue to reproduce as they were now living in peace.

He further said there have also been great restriction of orchids harvested in Kitulo National Park as in the past the product enjoyed high demand in the country and neighbouring countries.

He said apart from the presence of well-trained TANAPA warders there has also been good cooperation with the residents living in the park's proximity in the fight against poaching.

He further said as of now there is a team comprising various people in Mbarali District, Mbeya Region educating people on various issues on good neighbourliness and cooperation

against poaching.

Mbarali District Commissioner Reuben Mfune said they have been working together with TANAPA to control poaching including TANAPA-residents skirmishes in the parks by educating the residents on national park's preservation by not taking their livestock inside the park for grazing.



Ilala district administrative secretary Chalangwa Selemani (2nd-L), NMB Bank Plc Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar zone manager Donatus Richard (2nd-R) and Pugu Station Primary School headteacher Valentine Mhagama (C) applaud at a ceremony held at the weekend at which the bank donated 35 tables and chairs worth a total of 8m/- to Dar es Salaam Region teachers. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Make efforts to attract youth to the coffee sector - Kusaya

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

Ministry of Agriculture, Permanent Secretary, Gerald Kusaya, has instructed institutions on coffee crop research to come up with a friendly environment that would woo youth in Kilimanjaro Region into coffee farming so as to increase production from 5,000 tonnes at present to 25,000 tonnes.

Kusaya issued the instructions at the weekend in Moshi when he was closing the three-day national coffee festival under the slogan: "Sustainable coffee sector will be developed by the youth."

"We have the responsibility to increase production, and statistics show that in the past, for Kilimanjaro Region for example we had the capacity to produce 25,000 tonnes of coffee a year, but as for now I am informed the region produces less than 5,000 tonnes a year."

"That is a big challenge and what does it mean? If we had reached 25,000 tons for Kilimanjaro Region alone, as we proceed to 2025, the production has to go up, but I also call on other institutions including Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI) to prepare

a friendly environment that would make it attractive many people toward coffee production sector."

He said the coffee sector has a big contribution in the country's industrial sector, as among the 30 coffee factories, 28 are for coffee roasting and two are for instant coffee production.

He said the government has made improvements to the coffee festival, adding that as from next day it will held for seven days instead of three.

Earlier, speaking at the festival, the director of Tanzania Coffee Board, (TCB) Prof Jamal Adam said: "There have been efforts to increase coffee production and I should only say such efforts begin with production, mobilisation over prices thereof, but also the issue of conducive business environment is essential, hence their presence here is to support the International Coffee Day."

"In the coffee value chain, the CRDB Bank and ASAS we recognise your contribution beginning with production, inputs to provision of capital."

Kagera Regional Administrative Secretary Faustine Kamuzora said: We in Kagera Region are leaders in coffee production, as

in our area coffee is politics, coffee is life. We have learned a lot from these festivals and production has started to rise and this year we will have a harvest record."

KATIKA MAHAKAMA KUU YA TANZANIA DAR ES SALAAM

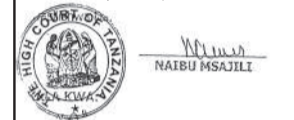
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Watu wote wanaodai kuwa na haki ya Marehemu alyetajwa hapo juu wanfahamisha kufika na kuangalia mashauri haya katika jalada kama wanaona inafaa kabla ya kutolewa kwa uthibitisho wa barua za usimamizi wa mirathi kwa waombaji/mwombaji hapo juu. Mapingamizi yoyote kuhusu haya yawe yemeandikisha mnamo au kabla ya tarehe 21st Mwezi wa October 2020. Imetolewa Dar es Salaam, leo tarehe 21st Mwezi wa September, 2020



## Govt supports campaign for marginalised students

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

THE government has commended the campaign for Female Education (Camfed) Tanzania for its educational support to marginalised students through the learner guide training programme.

Learner Guides are young women from marginalized backgrounds, who were themselves once vulnerable to exclusion from education, but they are now working to keep more girls in their communities in school.

Speaking at a function to hand over certificates of recognition to young women Learner Guides in acknowledgement of their support to vulnerable students at Kilakala secondary school in Morogoro Region over the weekend, Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) Selemani Jafo said the program is worthy of government support.

During the event, 70 young women represented Camfed Learner Guides from across 32 districts and 9 regions across the country.

"We are working together to see how it can reach more students in schools throughout the country. Our nation can achieve its Development Vision 2025, which describes a nation of citizens with a positive mindset, and a culture which cherishes human development through hard work, professionalism, entrepreneurship, creativity, innovativeness and ingenuity", Jafo said in his speech read by Morogoro Regional Commissioner, Loata Sanare.

Jafo added: "Your efforts and commitment are highly appreciated. We recommend you continue to do this good work."

He said that Learner Guides identify children who are at risk of school drop-out, and link them to additional support from school officials and local authorities.

The minister noted that the linkage is important to students, their families, and the wider community, as a reduction of school dropouts is key to the development of the nation.

He said the collaboration between Camfed and the government will help to create new pathways of civic engagement for young people in their transition from school to the workforce, while improving quality and access to education for marginalized students and mobilizing community engagement.

Jafo noted that during school closures as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, Learner Guides supported students in many innovative ways including delivery of life skills lessons over local radio, and the distribution of printed study materials.

The Learner Guides continued to run small, socially distanced study groups, and mentored girls to ensure they don't lose hope, Minister Jafo stated.

Camfed Tanzania National Director, Lydia Wilbard said that the 'My Better World' programme builds skills such as self-confidence, effective communication and problem-solving, which are foundational for employability, both formal and self-employment.

"Since Learner Guides are from the communities they serve, they are able to relate to pupils on a personal level and inspire them with a concrete demonstration of leadership and confidence," said Wilbard.

She said that since its establishment in 2005, Camfed Tanzania has supported more than 683,439 children to attend and succeed at school, with a focus on marginalized girls at the secondary school level and 1,580 tertiary students were supported.

Wilbard stated that by the end of 2019, an additional 316,196 secondary students have been supported through the philanthropy of women leaders in the Camfed Association and their community members.

A total of 26,376 young women who have completed secondary school with Camfed's support have joined the Camfed Association of women leaders.

Women under the association are provided with leadership and entrepreneurship training, and volunteer programmes. These initiatives help them build important skills and knowledge that empower them to improve future opportunities for themselves as well as their families and communities.

One of the Learner Guides, Maria Kamanda from Iringa Region said that through the learner guide program she has been able to help not only children at school, but also increased her confidence and ability.



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# Centre embarks on project to examine various risks facing informal settlements

By Getrude Mbago

THE Tanzania Centre for Community Initiatives (CCI) has embarked on a project aimed to examine multiple risks in informal settlements in Dar es Salaam Region and later come up with sustainable solutions.

Dubbed "Grassroots insights into urban risk: creating interdisciplinary pathways to resilience in Dar es Salaam" the two-year project will be implemented in Ilala and Temeke districts focusing on three major areas of disasters, sanitation and waste management.

Speaking during the launch of the project in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, CCI executive director Dr Tim Ndezi said that the implementation of the project will develop contextually-grounded analysis of risks, hazards, and resilience in informal settlements using participatory methods.

Dr Ndezi said that although informal settlements face multiple risks often rooted in poor-quality shelter, inadequate services and unresponsive local governance, these challenges are usually tackled in sectoral and departments without considering the voices or detailed knowledge of residents themselves.

"While focusing on inadequate sanitation and solid waste management, the team's analysis will look to encourage inter-sectoral strategies and create a platform for inclusive, co-produced interventions with government actors to foster resilience to multiple risks," he said.

For his part, Festo Makoba, CCI water and sanitation expert said that the project serves to highlight the importance of collaborative engagement between actors, non-governmental organizations and communities for sustainable development.

"Low-income communities in Dar es Salaam use a range of formal and

informal infrastructure and service providers, including for sanitation and solid waste management. Reports show that fewer than 10 percent of city dwellers have access to piped sewerage, and the rest must rely largely upon pit latrines or septic tanks," he said.

Makuba noted that climate change also aggravates the existing shortfalls in sanitation and solid waste management making it essential to incorporate climate risks when designing interventions. The rising frequency or intensity of extreme weather events may result in damaged homes, deepening poverty, and a range of health burdens in informal settlements.

"Through this project, we aim to enhance understanding of multiple primary and secondary hazards in the city, foster interdisciplinary, holistic strategies to promote urban resilience as well as come up with approaches in improving sanitation, solid waste management in informal settlements," he said.

Makuba said that apart from researching multiple risks in informal settlements, the project will also educate the public on various measures needed to mitigate impacts especially those caused by climate change.

"CCI will also train residents in living in unplanned settlements and support them to build modern latrines, we will introduce the 'Biofil Toilet Technology' to support those communities," he said.

Biofil Toilet Technology' is an on-site waste water treatment option that offers integrated treatment of sewage in a manner that poses minimal risk to the environment and public health, and the opportunity of sustainable economic returns on natural biological treatment of waste in the long term.

The project will also strengthen support towards community groups on better solid waste collection in informal settlements, Makuba said.



NBC Bank Moshi Branch public relations officer Neema Soka (R, with microphone) briefs Kilimanjaro regional commissioner Dr Anna Mghwira (2nd-L) at the bank's pavilion at the Kahawa Festival Exhibition held in Moshi District yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Govt establishes task force to intensify peace and security at country's borders

By Guardian Correspondent, Ngorongoro

THE Commissioner for Immigration, Dr Anna Makakala, says she has formed a team of experts that will visit all border regions to provide education on immigration issues.

Makakala said at the weekend when she was speaking to residents on better solid waste collection in informal settlements, Makuba said.

Arusha Region.

"Education on immigration issues is still a challenge among the people living in border areas and that is why they have often been complaining, hence the Immigration Department will send a team of experts to the areas to provide civic education in order to solve problems facing them," Immigration Commissioner General said.

She said the Department will continue with the procedure of registering resident immigrants and called upon them to come up to register themselves during the registration exercise.

"Normally people living in border areas intermingle with foreigners, hence we appeal to resident immigrants to come up and register themselves, and we also appeal

to them to continue maintaining defense and security in the border areas," she added.

The Ngorongoro District Commissioner Rashid Taka, speaking at the meeting with the Immigration Commissioner General, said the government, working together with the residents have been maintain peace and security in the border areas.



Coast regional education officer Abdul Maulid presents a certificate to a Form Four leaver at a graduation ceremony at Dar es Salaam's St. Anne Marie Academy at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Guardian Reporter

# Private schools urged to charge affordable fees

THE government has urged private schools in the country to make affordable school fees so as to enable parents afford the expenses and be able to send their children to the schools.

Coast Region Education Officer, Abdul Maulid made the appeal during the 16th graduation ceremony of St. Anne Marie Academy held at the school's premises Mbezi Kimara kwa Msuguri in Dar es Salaam.

He said that posing high school fees will be a burden to parents and deny opportunity to children from low income to access education they need.

Maulid commended the school founder Dr Jasson Rweikiza for his decision to invest in education,

something that complements the government's efforts in boosting education sector in the country.

He said huge investment done by Dr Rweikiza has offered employment opportunities to a number of Tanzanians including 200 teachers and advised others to emulate the move.

He also commended the school management for their supervision, a situation which has been resulting in good performance in national examinations. "This also signifies that the school has competent teachers to prepare the students well."

The official said St Anne Marie Academy has appeared in national

top ten results several times but they should not relax but rather work hard to produce more and best results to maintain the academic status.

He also urged the school to ensure that they support the surrounding communities in the construction of infrastructures, water as well maintaining good relationship with the community as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

"I have witnessed attractive infrastructures of the school such as the modern library, laboratory, sports grounds, passable road and street lights. I think there are a lot of things that attracted parents to bring their

children here," he added.

School head teacher, Gradius Ndyetabula said in 2019's form six national results, 19 students of his school got division one, 47 division two, 19 division three and there were no division four or O.

He added that in form four national results 2019, 43 children got division one, 63 division two, 19 division three.

Ndyetabula hailed the school management for its commitment towards making sure that all required services for the children and employees are available, something that has created a smooth learning and teaching environment.

# Observe production procedures, processors of edible oils advised

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

ABOUT 1,700 producers, distributors and sellers of edible oil have been trained on best production, recommended means of storage, safe and best packaging and importance of putting required information on their products.

Organised by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) in collaboration the Ministry of Industry and Trade and Small Industry Development Organisation (SIDO), the two-week training, which was held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend brought on board stakeholders Mkalama, Kiomboi, Sikonge Urambo, Shelui, Tabora and Nzeza districts.

Other areas were from Igunga, Singida municipal, Kondo, Kongwa, Mpwapwa, Kibaigwa, Chamwino, Itigi, Manyoni, Dodoma city and Bahi.

It was aimed at informing edible oil stakeholders on the opportunities in the government to enable them improve their products so that meet required standards hence extend local and foreign market.

Director of Quality Control at TBS, Lazaro Msasalaga advised the stakeholders to adhere to production principles and storage in order to avoid losing market and disturbances in case they are found with substandard products which would compel to destroy at their own costs.

"I advise you to contact with TBS offices regularly when you need professional assistance in the whole chain of production, storage and proper packaging," said Msasalaga.

TBS research and training manager, Hamis Sudi said the training for stakeholders in the edible oil sector will be conducted in all regions of the country and initially conducted in the central region including Dodoma, Singida and Tabora regions.

"This is just the beginning, as the

Organization will ensure that such training reaches all stakeholders. The two week training ended last Friday.

He explained that the training is free and the Government is funding through TBS.

Along with the topic on edible oil products TBS uses the training to explain the responsibilities of the Organization including those that have been conducted by the former Food and Drug Authority (TFDA).

The TBS Acting Chief in Central Zone, Salome Emmanuel urged entrepreneurs whose oil products have not yet been given mark of quality to seize the free opportunity by submitting an application through SIDO.

According to her, the training involved stakeholders who were drawn from Pandambili (Kongwa), Singida Main Market, Pahi Ward (Kondo), Majengo Market (Dodoma city) and Mitundu (Itigi).

Others were Nzeza and Tabora main markets, and petty traders along Shelui road.

She said the aim is to educate them on the effects of oil exposing edible oil to the sun as its heat can easily affect the product and endangers health of consumers.

For their part, edible oil processor known as Daud Makala, and a seller identified as Eunice Maneno who took part in the training held in Dodoma hailed the efforts done TBS to educate stakeholders on quality issues.

They said the move would help producers to meet required standards hence enable their products to compete in local and international markets.

Edible oil vendors in Singida and Tabora markets have called on the Government to facilitate access to packaging materials and ensure that they are sold at cheap price.



Jacqueline Materu (R), Vodacom Tanzania Plc's head of communication and public relations, plants a tree in Arusha at the weekend as a gesture of support for the fight against the impacts of climate change – in the spirit of global Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13. This was on the sidelines of a Youth of United Nations Association conference on ways to prepare the youth for the future. With her at the event, which was sponsored by the mobile phone service provider, are students from Kikwe Secondary School in Arusha city's Tengeru suburb. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# 300-odd residents of a Coast Region village back with normal sight after getting treatment

By Guardian Correspondent, Rufiji

MORE than 300 villagers at Nyaminywiri, in Rufiji District, Coast Region have undergone eye treatment and cataract surgeries at a two days free camp conducted by Nyaminywiri health centre.

President of the Lions Club Mzizima, Hitesh Solank said the surgeries were conducted by a team of specialised doctors from Dar es Salaam in collaboration with their counterparts from Rufiji District.

"The club also provides food and water services to patients who received treatment at the camp", he said adding the aim is to reach many people with eye complications in different regions across the country.

Solank said the have also conducted similar free medical camps in Mwanza, Morogoro and Tanga Regions. He said that plans are to conduct three camps per year, but it all depends on the demand.

He said that during the camps, they receive between 200 and 300 patients per day, the thing that indicates that there are many people with sight problems in the country.

Rufiji District Chief Medical Officer, Dr Ali Mbikilwa commended the Lions Club Mzizima, doctors and stakeholders for making the event a success. He said that in the two days a good number of residents from peripheral areas have been attended to by eye specialists.

"The good turnout of people is a clear indication that they are aware of the importance of medical check-ups

as well as finding solutions to their sight problem from specialized experts," said Dr Mbikilwa.

He added that they are consulting development stakeholders on the possibilities of conducting similar camps at Ikwiriri village in the District. He said the area has many with eye and vision problems.

"We have a shortage of eye experts at almost all the hospitals and health centres, the problem is much bigger in remoteness areas. There is only one eye specialist in our District who provides services to eye patients from all the villages and wards," he stated.

Acting Rufiji District Executive Director, Geriad Ismail called upon stakeholders to also provide similar medical services in other villages. He said the Nyaminywiri village has a small population compared to other villages where there are also many people with eye complications.

Geriad informed that the District was working to improve provision of health services to the villagers whereas it has started to construct another health centre at Mloka village to ease service delivery.



**The club also provides food and water services to patients who received treatment at the camp**

By Francis Kajubi

# Over 20,000 children, youth benefit from a 'Learn and Play' programme

A TOTAL of 21,601 children and youth who missed primary school admission due to a number of reasons have benefited from a 'Learn and Play' programme by SOS Children's Village Tanzania.

The three-year programme that was implemented in two wards of Chanika and Zingiziwa in Dar es Salaam covering ten primary schools have enabled children aged zero to 23 years old being enrolled for primary school, secondary and high learning studies thus making them achieve their goals through education. Wrapping up the programme over the weekend, SOS Programme Manager, Elamu Kayange, said that from the children who benefited, 10,815 are female and 10,786 are male. Financed by Denmark's development cooperation, DANIDA at a budget tune of 2.23billion/-. The programme targeted at enabling children play and learns by developing infrastructures of the schools.

"The programme focused on four dimensions being making sure that children out of school are enrolled, to train teachers, to make sure that children are not vulnerable discrimination and to convince people and development partners to give out funds for the programme" said Kayange.

For the project to become a success two approaches were considered: improving teaching and learning environment in schools and providing training to teachers on teaching techniques of children enrolled. About 80 nursery teachers were trained, 123 teachers were trained on teaching techniques of the play and learn programme, 54 teachers were trained for the adults learning programme (MEMKWA).

Other 127 teachers were trained on children's learning basic approaches while the other 202 teachers were trained on alternative punishments to students instead of beating. About 84 teachers were trained to library issues and 76 teachers and headmasters were trained on to lead school committees.

"About 335 children who were aged beyond the primary school admission age were enrolled through the MEMKWA programme. During the programme 8,233 children were taught about road safety, 100 participated in special training of play and learn while other 250 children took part at the play and learn festival, 133 children were subjected to trainings about the children's council on the importance of informing all sorts of discriminations against children" Kayange.

Other 12 officials from the gender desks of the two wards were trained on techniques of dealing with discrimination regarding children. The programme also covered construction of six toilets with 12 holes each, Renovation of 34 classrooms, establishment of nine new libraries and construction of new 10 nursery classrooms. More than 3,000 children have been admitted through the nursery schools.

One of the children who have benefited from the programme, Christerfolo Kibonji

(14) said that she joined Kimwani primary school of Zingiziwa ward when she came from Morogoro where she lived a hard life that forced her into dropping school.

"When my mother and father got divorced I was left with my grandmother who couldn't stand my schooling costs that forced me to come to Dar es Salaam, where my mother also had no interest of sending me to school until when I found a friend who introduced me to a teacher who knew about this programme" said Kibonji.

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The Kingdom of Belgium through Enabel and the Government of Tanzania through the Ministry of Water, are implementing a water and sanitation project in Kigoma region. This is a 5-year project which runs through June 2022 and aims to promote provision of sustainable water supply services in the region. The project has a component of sanitation and hygiene promotion which will be implemented in 22 villages across 6 districts of Kigoma region. Enabel, is coordinating the call and is now inviting applications from suitably qualified local or international NGOs to implement this component. The project targets behavior changes in respect of domestic water management, hand hygiene, and latrine use and maintenance.

This is an exciting intervention to which all non-state actors with requisite capacity to implement sanitation and hygiene projects, are encouraged to apply. Enabel is looking for agencies that can use effective and innovative approaches in rural hygiene and sanitation promotion to submit their applications for consideration.

Organizations that previously submitted their expression of interest and concepts are encouraged to look out for the guides on our website ([www.enabel.be](http://www.enabel.be)) and <https://btctanzania.wordpress.com/> in order to make fresh submissions.

The deadline for submission of the concept notes is **November 2, 2020** as evidenced by the date sent, the postmark or date of acknowledgement of receipt. All concept notes submitted after the deadline date and time will be rejected.

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## Malaria remains a huge danger calling for maximum vigilance

**C**URRENTLY, the world is largely embroiled in one of the greatest health emergencies of our times COVID-19, an emergency that has so far caused immense disruption and suffering.

The disease has affected over 2.5 million people and claimed the lives of over 160,000 globally as of the last count. There is no doubt that this pandemic is testing the resilience of healthcare systems globally, especially due to the ease with which it is spreading.

The situation is even more dire in regions such as Sub-Saharan Africa where preventable diseases such as malaria still exert pressure to the healthcare systems.

Malaria is a serious and sometimes fatal disease caused by a parasite that commonly infects a certain type of mosquito which feeds on humans. People who get malaria are typically very sick with high fevers, shaking chills, and flu-like illness.

In 2018 there were 228 million cases of malaria worldwide resulting in an estimated 405,000 deaths. Approximately 93 per cent of the cases and 94 per cent of deaths occurred in Africa. Rates of disease have decreased from 2010 to 2014 but increased from 2015 to 2017, during which there were 231 million cases.

An international study reveals how future climate change could affect malaria transmission in Africa over the next century. For more than two decades now, scientists have suggested that climate change may alter the distribution and length of transmission seasons due to new patterns of temperature and rainfall.

Detailed mapping of malaria transmission is vital for the distribution of public health resources and targeted control measures.

In the past, rainfall and temperature observations have been used in malaria climatic suitability models to estimate the distribution and duration of annual transmission, including future projections.

But factors affecting how rainfall results in water for mosquito breeding are highly complex, for example how it is absorbed into soil and vegetation, as well as rates of runoff and evaporation.

A new study, led by the Universities of Leeds and Lincoln in the UK, for the first time combined a malaria climatic suitability model with a continental-scale hydrological model that represents real-world processes of evaporation, infiltration and flow through rivers.

This process-focused approach gives a more in-depth picture of malaria-friendly conditions across Africa.

When run using future climate scenarios up to the end of this century, a different pattern of future changes in malaria suitability emerges compared to previous estimates.

While the findings show only very minor future changes in the total area suitable for malaria transmission, the geographical location of many of those areas shifts substantially.

Conversely, projected decreases in malaria suitable areas across West Africa are more pronounced. The largest difference is in South Sudan, where the study estimates substantial decreases in malaria suitability in the future.

The study, published today in *Nature Communications*, highlights river corridors as year-round hot spots of malaria transmission.

While flowing water in large rivers is not a suitable habitat for malaria-carrying mosquitoes, nearby smaller water bodies, such as bankside ponds and floodplains can make for ideal larvae breeding grounds, as do associated irrigation schemes.

## World Teachers' Day must really seek to make sure the educators lead better lives

**A** teacher also called a school teacher or, in some contexts, an educator is a person who helps students to acquire knowledge, competence or virtue.

Informally the role of teacher may be taken on by anyone (e.g. when showing a colleague how to perform a specific task). In some countries, teaching young people of school age may be carried out in an informal setting, such as within the family (home schooling), rather than in a formal setting such as a school or college. Some other professions may involve a significant amount of teaching (e.g. youth worker, pastor).

In most countries, formal teaching of students is usually carried out by paid professional teachers. A teacher's role may vary among cultures.

Teachers may provide instruction in literacy and numeracy, craftsmanship or vocational training, the arts, religion, civics, community roles, or life skills.

Formal teaching tasks include preparing lessons according to agreed curricula, giving lessons, and assessing pupil progress.

A teacher's professional duties may extend beyond formal teaching. Outside of the classroom teachers may accompany students on field trips, supervise study halls, help with the organisation of school functions, and serve as supervisors for extracurricular activities. In some education systems, teachers may be responsible for student discipline.

Teaching is a highly complex activity. This is partially because teaching is a social practice, that takes place in a specific context (time, place, culture, socio-political-economic situation etc.) and therefore is shaped by the values of that specific context. Factors that influence what is expected (or required) of teachers include history and tradition, social views about the purpose of education, accepted theories about learning, etc.

World Teachers' Day, also known

as International Teachers Day, is an international day held annually on October 5. Established in 1994, it commemorates the signing of the 1966 UNESCO/ILO recommendation concerning the status of teachers, which is a standard-setting instrument that addresses the status and situations of teachers around the world. This recommendation outlines standards relating to education personnel policy, recruitment, and initial training as well as the continuing education of teachers, their employment, and working conditions. World Teachers' Day aims to focus on appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world and to provide an opportunity to consider issues related to teachers and teaching.

To celebrate World Teachers' Day, the UNESCO and Education International (EI) mounts a campaign each year to help give the world better understanding of teachers and the role they play in the development of students and society. They partner with the private sector such as media organisations to achieve this purpose.

The campaign focus on different themes for every year. For instance, "Empowering Teachers" is the theme for 2017. This was the year World Teachers' Day commemorated the 20th anniversary of the 1997 UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel, bringing the sometimes-neglected area of teaching personnel at higher education institutions into the conversation about the status of teachers.

For 2018, the UNESCO adopted the theme: "The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher." It commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and serves as a reminder that the right to education cannot be realized without trained and qualified teachers.



## Any prospects for the Belt and Road Initiative in the wake of COVID-19?

By Muhidin Shangwe

**I**N 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping announced an ambitious trans-continental project which has come to be known as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

At the time of the announcement, President Xi launched two initiatives, namely the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. The initiatives aim at revitalizing an ancient network of trade routes that linked China with Asia, Europe and Africa. The two initiatives were later merged and renamed as the BRI.

The BRI is essentially an infrastructure building program designed to enhance connectivity of the three continents through a complex network of roads, railways, power plants, gas pipelines, ports, etc. However, the BRI also has such objectives as promoting policy coordination, financial integration, cultural exchanges, and international cooperation in solving global problems. It's an all-round initiative. To illustrate this point, the BRI offshoots include the Health Silk Road and the Digital Silk Road. The former is an initiative that focuses on the promotion of global health governance with emphasis on the BRI countries while the latter's aim is to bring advanced IT infrastructure to countries that participate in the initiative.

### China's diplomacy and COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant impacts on China's diplomacy both negatively and positively. First, China has been at the center of the COVID-19 discussion for the reason that the virus was first reported in the city of Wuhan, central China early this year. China was the first victim of the pandemic which has since become a global health crisis. Along with this, China has been on the receiving end of criticism coming mainly from the US, accusing Beijing of covering up the outbreak of the disease. The US western allies have also come forward to accuse China of wrongdoings in the reporting of the pandemic, and the Chinese and Asian people in general have faced deplorable targeted stigmatization in various corners of the world.

This development comes at the time when China's foreign investment, aid and loans have been facing increased scrutiny. The characterization of Chinese loans as "debt-trap diplomacy" has gained currency, often overlooking recipient countries' own agency in the



transaction and the comparatively low percentage of Chinese loans in developing countries. For instance, according to a 2018 report done by Jubilee Debt Campaign, a UK-based charity organization, private lenders and multilateral financial institutions are the main sources of African government's external debt, accounting for 32% and 35% respectively, while Chinese loans account for only 20% of Africa's external debt. Also overlooked is China's lending framework which is now paying greater attention to risk assessment. It remains to be seen how these developments will affect the confidence and interaction between overseas Chinese investment on the one hand and the host countries on the other.

Second, China's approach to combating the virus at home and abroad is also having international significance. The shutdown of Wuhan and putting in place a rigorous testing and case-tracking system, for instance, were seen as workable solutions for the rest of the world to follow. Images of Chinese doctors arriving in countries such as Italy to offer a helping hand to their counterparts whose backs were against the wall as they witnessed a collapsing health system earned China respect and added to Beijing's

soft power. It was part of China's contribution to the global effort to combat the virus which also came in the form of providing ventilators, masks and testing kits particularly to the developing countries.

### The BRI and COVID-19

On June 18, 2020, foreign and other ministers of BRI partner countries held a video conference to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic. The High-level Video Conference on Belt and Road International Cooperation called for an equitable access to health products as a global priority, investment in building sound and resilient health-related infrastructures, including the development of telemedicine, and more cooperation in the fight against the disease. To underscore the significance of the BRI, a joint statement by the ministers reiterated the need to boost connectivity and promoting economic recovery.

The full weight of the economic impact of COVID-19 is yet to be measured, and as long as the virus keeps spreading, it will be a daunting task to do so. However, it is understandable to think that the economic and social stress of the pandemic will have significant impact on the implementation of BRI projects.

The World Bank forecasts that Chinese economy will see a sharp slowdown of growth to 1.6 percent this year. This is likely to create a financial deficit for the BRI. But there is light at the end of the tunnel. It has been reported that China's exports in August climbed by 9.5 percent, the highest surge in 2020. According to the projection done by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), China will be the only G20 country registering GDP growth in 2020, and its economy will rebound strongly in 2021 with an increase of 8%.

With the shrinking resources for investment from Africa's traditional partners in the West, cooperation with China has become more urgent and pivotal for African countries. For the BRI, cultivating a sense of business confidence and promoting financial and trade interactions among partners will be crucial for boosting economic growth amid and after the pandemic. As a Nigerian scholar Ehizuelen Michael observes, the COVID-19 did not just change the world, it also showcases the significance of the BRI.

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# Open letter to Davidetta Browne Lansannah, Chairperson, Liberia's electoral commission

Open Letter to Davidetta Browne Lansannah  
Chairperson, National Elections Commission (NEC)  
9th Street, Monrovia, Liberia  
Dear Lansannah:

Permit me to congratulate you for your new job. I hope by the grace of God you are fine and doing well. I am also fine.

As a journalist and former workmate at the Liberia Broadcasting System, I was among well-wishers who celebrated you upon your appointment as Chairperson of the National Elections Commission (NEC) early this year. I am glad that a female media executive has been named to head the country's electoral body. I think that your preferment is also an honor for the journalism community. The job is no doubt tedious and tension pack. The need for all stakeholders' hands to be on the table in this process cannot be overlooked.

Following the Senate's approval, a month later, while looking through some local dailies, I came across an astonishing Editorial of the Monday, August 17, 2020 edition of Daily Observer Newspaper, caption: Gloomier by the day? Chairperson Lansannah is playing with Fire and She Must Beware!

After reading the editorial, my initial reaction was wow, how come this professional colleague of mine has not lasted long in office, but she's being opposed by her staffers instead of being supported to succeed?

According to the Editorial, the standup between you and your staffers centered around the means of complying with the Supreme Court order to the NEC to clean up the 2017 Voter Roll the court had declared compromised. The Editorial said the NEC staffers' suggestion to conduct 'Stationary Voters Roll Update' (VR) has been overruled by you Madam Chair, and you are insisting that the VR Update be conducted by 'Mobile teams around the country'.

The paper said the experience gathered from the 2014 senatorial elections during which time the experiment with Mobile VR Update proved shockingly bad though it was conducted during the dry season when the country's roads were in better condition.

It said now with the rainy season at its peak, the NEC Chairperson's insistence on a Mobile VR process which she very well knows will be another fruitfulness exercise given the bad road conditions at this time of the year, is unwelcoming.

Stationary VR Update is a process where the VR team is set up at a particular location for the entire VR Update exercise, while VR Update by Mobile team is rotational i.e. for the team to work in one community or district for a specific period like for example a week or two and move to another community or district throughout the VR process.

The paper pointed out that with the failure of Mobile VR Update experiment in mind, it appears that the Chairperson is either being double-dealing and deceptive or she does not know or fully understand just what she is doing or is supposed to be doing.

If the paper's position on what appears to be serious disagreement between you and your support staff is something to go by, then it reminds me of what the Executive Director of the NAMO Partners for Democratic Development, Mr. Eddie Jarwolo told a local radio talk show host that cheating in electioneering process does not happen in one day.

According to him, it can start small and continues up to the election day. Perhaps the alleged slashing of the pending December 8, 2020 senatorial budget from US\$26 million to US\$13.5 million dollars which has been described by the commission as unrealistic, could be a well calculated attempt to deliberately delay the midterm elections under the pretense of the usual no money slogan.

I think that instead of hauling and pulling Madam Chair, as insinuated by the editorial, you should be seeking support and advice from experts



According to Madam Lansannah, in the adjusted timeline, NEC will carry out civic and voter education on the principles of the voters' roll update

on election aimed at resolving your staffers' opposition to the use of VR Update by Mobile teams. The way things are going, I believe that there is an urgent need to fast track the process leading to the success of the December poll. You have to be mindful because you have a long list of electoral arrears that are time-bound exercises that need to be held at a prescribed date in order to meet deadline.

I do hope that the commission's remaining re-scheduled electoral activities such as Voter Roll Update (VRU) will be completed on time in order to ensure smooth landing come December 8, 2020, since you have assured that all timelines are still intact, according to the Thursday, August 20, 2020 edition of the Inquirer Newspaper.

As you may be aware, a strong advocate for the impartiality of electoral authorities, has emphasized that regular and genuine elections through which the people have a real opportunity to choose their representatives freely, are now considered to be the cornerstone of democracy.

He further revealed that "an electoral roll of acceptable completeness and advocacy lies at the heart of the democratic process where the ability to vote depends on whether a voter's

name is on the roll." (Free and Fair Elections, International Guy S. Goodwin-Gill, P. 47.)

Besides, Madam Chair, 17 years after the signing of the historic Accra Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), on August 18, 2003, which marked the ending of 14 years of Liberian civil war, one of the drafter of the instrument, River Gee County Senator Comman B. Wesseh is cautioning Liberian to maintain the peace that we enjoyed today.

He reminded us that on that fateful day, Liberian leaders made a solemn and strong pledge to end the brutal civil war and also promised to never allow the country to go back to war with itself again and that Liberians would never allow the use of their territory for war against their neighbors.

In my candid opinion, Mrs. Lansannah, you as head of the country's election management body, have a crucial role to play in the maintenance of Liberia's fragile peace especially during these electoral seasons. One way you can do it, is to conscientiously adhere to the election laws without fear or favor.

You are already in the driver's seat Madam. Do your best in order to discourage the return of the

ugly past. Another way I think that you can be successful in the process, is to ensure that election workers especially magistrates are trained and motivated to act impartially.

Thursday, August 20, 2020 edition of the Inquirer Newspaper reported that the Ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) and the four Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) did not attend the NEC organized inter-party consultative committee (IPCC) political parties Code of Conduct (CoC) signing ceremony in Monrovia.

Part V of the CoC provides among things, that appointed officials who want to canvass or participate in an election must resign at least two years before elections; three years in the case of tenured officials.

The CoC is also intended inter-alia, to hold accountable politicians that would come in conflict with the law especially when they are key players in the process.

Up to now, the NEC appears to be unwilling to determine the fate of the two parties in the wake of their refusal to comply with the NEC directive which implied their unwillingness to uphold democratic principles aimed at abiding by the Code of Conduct. This in my view Madam Chair, is

unacceptable and unhealthy for the ensuing special senatorial and future regular elections in the country.

Remember Madam Chair that suspicion is dangerous. It can destroy friendship, relationship and a country; just by poisoning the minds of one group of people against another. Let's get it out of our national politics. For example, the brutal memories of the Presidential and Legislative elections of October 1985 in which Slain President Samuel Doe was accused of stealing the election, which according to political observers, served as one of the prime factors of the 1989 rebellion, which is still fresh in our minds.

I also want to draw your attention to the missteps of your predecessor, Cllr. Jerome George Korkoya, which led to some strange things happening at the commission under his watch during the 2017 elections that had the potential to have undermined the credibility of the entire exercise and create a political tension in the country at the disadvantage of the ordinary people.

Wednesday, July 5, 2017 edition of the Heritage Newspaper quoted the former Civic Educator of the NEC, Mr. Josiah F. Joeker, Jr. as saying that NEC ex-Chairman Korkoya's June 14, 2017 statement that citizens with valid voter cards would have voted on Election Day whether or not their names were on the roll, was inconsistent with the standard of maintaining a credible roll. He wondered how does one obtain a valid card when his or her information was not captured on the roll.

He said the profile of the voter is established by a credible voters roll, which confirms the validity of the voter card. He stated emphatically that without credible voters roll there

will be no free and fair election.

Besides, this principle of maintaining a credible voters roll is also guaranteed by Article 77 (b) of the 1986 Constitution of Liberia mandating the commission to ensure that eligible voters are registered.

Commenting on the issue further, Commissioner Jonathan K. Weedor indicated among other things that a reliable and credible Final Registration Roll is a cardinal requirement for every free, fair and transparent election.

From all indications, you are gradually being challenged by some politicians in Montserrado County, who are engaged in pre-election campaign activities through petitioning ceremonies without the campaign being officially declared by your entity as required by law.

The gavel is already in your hand. You just need to use it within the confine of the law to regulate violators before things become shockingly bad to the point where the Commission may likely find it difficult to control.

As you the experts are quite aware, one of the pre-election activities of the NEC is to monitor elections guidelines and Code of Conduct for Representatives of Political Parties, Accredited Coalitions, and Alliances, and Independent Candidates at all times without fear or favor. If not, politicians may likely take advantage of the Commission's indifference to sideline the law in order to accommodate their vested interest.

For instance, Nimba County District 5 Representative, Hon. Samuel Korgai was on the OK FM morning rush recently raising serious issue about the billboards installed in various parts of Monrovia with inscriptions alongside President Weah's photograph calling on voters to vote "YES" for all the propositions contained in the pending December 8, 2020 referendum which has already been objected to by some lawyers and civil society actors.

He said President Weah's call for the reduction of term for elected officials i.e. President from 6 to 5 years, Senator from 9 to 7 years, Representative from 6 to 5 years as well as his "YES" vote for dual citizenship, is a cleaver attempt by the President to secure his third term bid.

I am just wondering as to whether the office of the President is now responsible for civic voter education instead of the NEC and civil society. If the expressions on the lips of politicians and civil society actors are something to go by, then it appears that they are looking up to you to prevail on the office of the president to have the billboards removed.

I think Madam Chair that there is a need for your entity that is responsible to organize and conduct free, fair and transparent elections in this country, to provide clarity on Hon Korgai's assertion and set the record straight.

When you begin to check mail these people at the initial stage, they will regard you as head of the NEC with the gavel of authority to compel compliance. In addition, your action will also reduce the necessity for challenge, limit the possibilities of outright rejection of election results on the basis of cheating, as well as make transfer of power from losers to winners much easier and honorable.

To be frank with you, colleague, if you don't do it now, and God forbid the situation happens to become a recipe for political bitterness, Liberians at home, away from home, and the generation yet unborn may not easily forgive you, and the 21st century Liberian political history may not likely favor you. I am therefore suggesting that your conscience and the God that you serve be your guide in the conduct of your daily activities at the commission. Liberian people along with the world at large is washing you! Stay blessed, stay safe, have a nice day.

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# How we undo ourselves in Nigeria

By Eddy Odivwri

Perhaps those who argue that we sought for Independence too soon, may have a point. It is not to suggest that we do not cherish our freedom and sovereignty. In six days from today, Nigeria will be 60. Looking back, how do we place the country? Have we made as much progress as we ought, given all that the good Lord has bestowed on us as a people and as a nation?

If there was a means of comparing the socio-metrics that we had during the colonial days and the ones we have had after independence, it would be clear that Nigeria had made far more reasonable progress in almost all spheres during the colonial days than we are making under independence.

Evil and crime have become so dynamic, such that they keep changing in form and tactics.

Some have argued that the all-knowing God knew what he was doing when He endowed us with so much human and material resources, knowing that we shall have leadership problems.

But our case has been worsened now because both the leadership and the followership have all fallen short of grace for beneficial conducts. And this is across board.

Everywhere we turn, we are faced with a plethora of cases wherein we not only reduce our collective potential, we also jeopardise the future of upcoming generations.

In the second republic, it had been presented as a great crime, if not sin, for a top government official to award contract and demand or receive a ten per cent kickback. It was one of the many offences the regime of then Gen Mohammedu Buhari/ Maj Gen Tunde Idiagbon had to deal with. Many politicians (second republic governors especially) were sent to jail for such offences or even less.

Today, not only are contracts awarded with "MoU" of higher kickbacks between the awardee and the awardee, there is now a wholesome 'abscondment' with the total worth of a contract, without even visiting the site where the contract ought to be executed, let alone execute it. That is why certain contracts keep re-occurring in state and federal budgets year-in, year-out. They glibly explain it away as "know-your way"!

Perhaps there is no other place where these malaises are far more endemic than the state and National Assemblies. That is where our politicians literally commit huge robberies without arms. It is the issue of budget padding.

Hon Abdulmumin Jubrin in 2017 had introduced the new lexicon of 'budget padding' to our parliamentary register. Since then, and before then, it had become a running practice among parliamentarians as they often arrange with the executive to undo the treasury.

Sometimes, the total value of the padded budget is enough to transform more than one sector of the economy. Indeed, it is even worse than contract inflation which is no better evil though. With the latter, the exaggerated sum voted for the construction of a 10-kilometer road for instance, can be sufficient for the construction of 20-kilometer road, in the same terrain.

What it means is that the money that can be used to build 50 kilometer road, ends up building only 25 kilometers. We undo ourselves in.

In the health sector, Health managers plus their civil servant collaborators budget huge sums for health facilities. The monies are collected, but the facilities are either never procured or are under-procured. And in times of emergencies, we lose valuable lives, needlessly, because somebody, somewhere had frisked the system. It is everywhere. They joke about it and say it is "workshop": that where a man works, that's where he/she would chop [eat]; as if they do not earn their legitimate income from being in employment.

The Aso Villa clinic, is notorious for not having even common drugs, yet, every year they draw down funds from the budget. Where do the monies go? We undo ourselves.

I read something during the week, allegedly written by Mr Akinwunmi Ambode, immediate past governor of Lagos State, wherein he was cataloguing the reasons he was not returned as governor of Lagos. One of it was that he refused to pad the budget with 10 per cent for the lawmakers (as the practice



is?). One other reason for his being disallowed from re-contesting was because he insisted that party chieftains who collected various contracts under former Governor Raji Fashola (now Minister of Works) should execute those already awarded contracts before being awarded new ones. It must have sounded like gibberish in the ears of those who see government as an extension of their treasury. If we are not determined to undo ourselves, why would a normal person collect contract for a project, get paid, and then refuse to execute the contract? And because such persons are probably political gladiators, the law does not catch up with them. They are spared. The work remains undone. Society suffers at the expense of the unholy greed of one man or woman. How we undo ourselves!

It is even more befuddling that the governors and other top government functionaries know why these projects have failed but they cannot discuss it. They wring their hands in utter helplessness, essentially because at a higher scale, they also indulge in such ill deals.

The other day, in 2018, a clerk in JAMB office claimed that some snake swallowed N36 million. What kind of snake is that? Where was N36 million kept for a snake to swallow? Those are monies that should be used to improve a system. One fellow corners it and the system suffers. We all complain and grumble that the system is not working... Without knowing that it is one of us who has done us in.

Recently, a scandal broke out in College of Education, Warri, where the provost of the College, soon-to-retire Prof Mrs Mary Olire Edema was said to have spent N36 million to build two toilets in the college. That was a TETFUND grant, which just had to be clerically "burnt". How does building two toilets cost even N2 million? Yet, in that college, there will be many things missing; students will be suffering, other staff

will be suffering, facilities will not be working as they ought, yet, the head of the organization is expending N36 million to build two toilets? What a prized pool!

Or how shall we explain the National Universities Commission (NUC) which recently budgeted N8 million for research and N85 million to purchase vehicles? This is largely a research institution. What a disservice to proper prioritization!

In some universities, it is said students can now arrange to get given grades. They call it "sorting". Students pay lecturers certain amounts that have been charged by the lecturers, and then they get bargained grades. Such students buy their way through the universities. They graduate, without having capacity, speaking cracked English. Yet, they get employed one day and end up being a disaster in the public space. How we undo ourselves!

A friend recently applied for her first degree transcript from Abia State university. She was charged N50,000, for "express service" that took nine weeks. She had also applied for her Masters Degree transcript from a university in the UK. The transcripts were to be sent to an institution. While the Abia State University sent the transcript after nine weeks, it took the UK university an hour or so to send the transcript at no fee at all. The applicant was even sent a soft copy of the transcript from the UK university.

She was not charged. The receiving institution further requested authentication of the transcript from the Nigerian university. All that was required was a two-paragraph email to confirm that the transcript earlier sent emanated from the school authorities. But our dear Abia State university went ahead to demand another N31,000 as "authentication fee" from the applicant, before it can confirm that the transcript it earlier sent is genuine. And all these charges are un-receipted. How we undo ourselves!

The cases are a legion. Those who run efficient and stress-free systems abroad are also human. They are not angels. It is a matter of orientation. In many ways, we make it tough and hard for others. It is high time we changed our orientation for the better. That way, we are better off and collectively happier.

Edo Guber: The Lessons for Obaseki

It was such a relief that the Edo governorship election has not only come and gone, but also without the rivers of blood that was predicted to flow along with it. Bookmakers had predicted that there would be massive violence. The Oba of Benin had to intervene. So was the National Peace Committee headed by former Head of State, Gen Abdusalam Abubakar and Catholic Bishop of Sokoto Diocese, Matthew Hassan Kukah.

Thankfully, the interventions were effective and helpful in stemming the tide of violence which had threatened to mar the polls.

It is no longer news that incumbent Governor Godwin Obaseki won the election, beating, for the second time, his arch political rival, Pastor Osagie Ize-Iyamu, his fellow Bini man.

It was a tough contest. His former godfather, turned adversary, Adams Oshiomhole had literally staked his political life for this contest. It is likely to be his last political outing. It ended sadly for him. It is worse that he had lost out at the national level, and now at the state level. Except something significant happens to redeem and reboot his political profile, Oshiomhole may begin to suffer political orphanage.

I read a joke cautioning all jubilant Obaseki supporters to do it with caution, since the Supreme Court has not "voted". That tells a lot of story: how the Supreme Court can intervene to change the political fortune of gladiators.

But it is instructive that unless something else happens, Obaseki is

as good as having secured his second term. Mr President, the head of the opposition party, had congratulated him. The All Progressives Congress (APC) which had initially rejected the outcome of the election, has also followed suit to congratulate Obaseki. If we take these as accepting the outcome of the election, then Osadebey House is going to continue to host Obaseki for another four years.

But what are the lessons from the contest for Obaseki?

First, he must realize that as victorious as he was (with his 307,955 votes), as many as over 260,000 voters did not want him to be returned. That is not a figure that he should dismiss. Now he has won. He has to be the governor of those who wanted him and those who did not want him. But more importantly, he must introspect to find out why those who voted against him did so.

It is good he has extended the hand of fellowship to those who fought against him, particularly Oshiomhole and Ize-Iyamu. He must be magnanimous in victory and seek to carry everyone along. To see himself as the political conquistador of Edo State would be to miss the point.

During the campaigns, a lot was said. He was described as an MoU governor. Now that he has won, it is time to activate the content, essence and benefit of those MoUs. It is time to put words to action. His campaign promises should always be his mirror and check.

Another lesson for Obaseki is to indeed perish the thought of him being the latest godfather on the Edo landscape. If his victory is acclaimed to have been the formal burial of godfatherism in the state, he should not seek to awaken the ghost, image or silhouette of godfatherism in the state, four years after. As he would have seen, not only is it a malappropriation of the will of the people, it is even more dangerous to go against your avowals. Oshiomhole had vowed to abolish

godfatherism. He went full circle to practice what he condemned.

Hear him: "A situation where one man decides, has been abolished. All I want is for power to move to the people. The people should decide who becomes their leader and that leader will not be answerable to any godfather, but to them." But sadly, Oshiomhole wanted to be the Alpha and Omega in Edo Politics, something he condemned so strongly against late Chief Tony Anenih.

So, Obaseki should steer clear of the temptation to play the Lord of Edo politics.

But more importantly, is the question of whether Obaseki will soon be adopted as a godson by another godfather. Already, observers are touting Gov Nyesom Wike of Rivers State of being his godfather. The latter is brutal and politically uncouth. Becoming his godson, would be hurtful ultimately to the image and psyche of the people of Edo State. As they say, Obaseki must "shine his eyes"

As a newly elected governor, one who was supported by a network of governors and many interested individuals, Obaseki must be careful in knowing how to manage and deal with his many political IOUs, such that it does not impede the development of Edo State.

He was accused of scuttling the idea behind the Specialist Hospital, in Benin which his predecessor built to a near-finish point. Obaseki is said to have brought consultants to run the hospital and that the ordinary Edo people no longer have access to the facility.

It is in Obaseki's place to take proper notice of all the criticisms he received during the campaigns and work towards addressing those ones that are truly valid and would be beneficial to the ordinary man on the street.

All said, I therefore congratulate the governor on this historic victory and wish him greater feats ahead.



# Former First Lady Nancy Doe's benefits claims: Is it constitutional or legal?

By Special Correspondent

Nancy Born Doe was the former first lady and wife of the late Samuel Kenyon Doe who was himself killed in cold blood by War Lord Prince Yormie Johnson. Mrs. Doe earned her title as the first lady when her later husband Doe became a Military junta leader of the notoriously know "People Redemption Council, PRC" that toppled a 123-years political hegemony of the True Whig Party and killed 17-government officials in cold blood. Nancy's title was also validated when former president Doe was elected President, the Republic of Liberia under a would-be cloudy political maneuvering exercise that yielded unprecedented political outcries.

The late Doe presided over one of the most brutal and turbulence political systems after critics concluded that he rubbed the presidency and became a very oppressive and fearful ruler in many ways from the perspective of many critically unassuming minds. How the late Doe took over the affairs may have directly or indirectly fueled the 1980 brutal genocide. Moreover, Doe also acquired stolen properties from the so-called "Americo-Liberian" he killed and legitimized those properties ASAP.

An unimpeachable source directly familiar with these scenarios revealed that the late Doe accumulated huge stolen properties ranging from 15,500 acres of land in Bentol City; 49 duplexes, 16 giant businesses/stores; 63 independent gold mines, and 5mcanize farmland in Grand Geddeh, and Tuozon Doe's birthplace.



The late Doe assumed the nation's highest position the presidency without disclosing his assets because political pundits believe Doe was a very poor rate that came to political prominence.

It was however obvious that none of the 17-PRC members were rich or had properties before their

ascendancy to political power, but instead, they acquired properties illegally and transformed under their titles around Liberia. The sources also disclosed that Nancy Doe was on taxpayer payroll and was given a budget ranging between 800000 to 1.5 million US dollars as a first lady every budget year when Doe was

in power both as military junta leader and President of Liberia.

These unaccounted and unverifiable taxpayer monies were spent by Nancy Doe as she saw it fate. Being the first lady is not an electable position, it was a position hidden under the shadows of the late Doe who was then President OF

Liberia. But the questions that arose are as follows: "Was the First Lady Position" a fully constitutional title backed by taxpayer funding? From research, the answer is no. A first lady position is not a constitutional position for which it should deserve the attention of taxpayer funding to service said office from time to time.

Nancy Doe claimed that she is entitled to benefits as a former first lady or benefits from for her late husband which is becoming much more acrimonious in most Liberian circles.

30-years after the brutal killing of the late Doe, Nancy Doe, the former first lady is strongly laying claim on serious financial benefits which has continued to generate an endless argument. With regards to Nancy's position to claim her late husband benefits, there are other questions. Did Doe die in the office? Was he killed in the office?

These questions are sensitive and private oriented. Political scholars shared their thoughts with Political Hot-Fire that as long as Doe was killed, is the same as being overthrown or force out of the office and losing everything. He emphatically forfeits all his presidential benefits as compared to whether he died in office due to illness or it was through other natural causes. The death of the late Doe has a lot to do with Nancy Doe's claim for herself and or for her husband. Critics believed that Nancy Doe claimed to benefits is unconstitutional but legal. There is no constitutional provision to state that the taxpayers

are obligated to the former first lady in goods, cash, or services.

A president can only be pensioned when he honorably ended his tenure according to the constitution of the land and demands all his benefits. But this was not the same with Doe. He didn't end his tenure. He was killed outside his official office as president of Liberia. He has killed another warlord fighting another warlord and he was overpowered and subsequently killed so he doesn't desire any benefits directly or indirectly as another faction in the Liberian civil war and not has a president of Liberia.

What affected Doe affects Nancy Doe. Her late husband doesn't desire any pension constitutionally according to his role as another faction leader in the war and how he died as a captured faction leader. Doe wasn't captured in the executive mansion and killed like Tolbert. Doe fought back as another faction indirectly. The government of Liberia will need to take Nancy Doe to the task to pay back taxpayer monies she used during her husband's regime since he did not die in office but was captured fighting back as another faction in the civil war.

## Factories across seven industrial parks in Ethiopia to be revolutionised through the digitisation of labour supply

With support of the Mastercard Foundation's Young Africa Works program, the creation of a digital industrial park labour database in Ethiopia will unlock the potential for job creation within Ethiopia's industrial parks, as well as their surrounding ecosystem.

Today, First Consult announced a partnership with the Ethiopian Investment Commission to implement the digitization of the labour supply and matching database for factories within seven industrial parks in Ethiopia.

The partnership between First Consult, which is implementing the BRIDGES Programme, an initiative supported by the Mastercard Foundation's Young Africa Works in Ethiopia strategy and the Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC), will lead to a series of job creation and employment interventions across several industrial parks (IPs) throughout the country.

The seven Industrial Parks participating in the utilization of the IP labour database include: Adama IP, Debre Berhan IP, Dire Dawa IP, Bahir Dar IP, Hawassa IP, Mekelle IP, and Kombolcha IP.

The BRIDGES Programme, which is a five-year initiative, will support the creation of close to 600,000 jobs for young people (80% women) and 15,000 micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Furthermore, the BRIDGES Programme will train 300,000 unemployed young people through industrial park job creation initiatives, and market linkage between industrial parks and MSMEs.

The creation of a digital industrial park labour database will unlock the potential for job creation within industrial parks, as well as their surrounding ecosystem. Additionally, it will promote local value addition and domestic linkage between large investors and local suppliers. The IP labour database will also be used as a major instrument for optimal, reliable, and predictable labour market information for policy makers and industrial parks.

"The industrial park labour database system has significantly supported investors and government in mapping out the labour demand and supply" said Kamila Hamza, CEO of the Hawassa Industrial Park Investors Association. "It has also further facilitated the ease of doing business through a constructed labour database system that would provide thousands of young people with the opportunity for decent and fulfilling employment."

The expected impact of the digital IP labour database includes:

- Facilitating the matching of labour supply and demand to support an estimated 100,000 jobs



within two years.

- Supporting 30,000 industrial park workers to obtain soft-skill training and awareness of the industry for better comprehension and career development planning.

The BRIDGES Programme, which is a part of the Mastercard Foundation's Young Africa Works initiative, intends to facilitate and provide technical assistance toward the develop-

ment of the digital labour database. In Ethiopia, the Mastercard Foundation, through its Young Africa Works strategy, aims to create 10 million dignified and fulfilling jobs and employment opportunities for young people by 2030.

"True to its name, this initiative is truly creating a much needed bridge for tens of thousands of young people into the world of work. And it is an inspiring example of the role technology

and digitization has to play in enabling work, which is something the Foundation wholeheartedly champions," said Alemayehu Konde Koira, Mastercard Foundation's Country Head, Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian Investment Commission will take the lead in supervising the development of the IP labour database and manage its data collection and aggregation of information from all participating industrial parks. The EIC will also work to ensure proper

buy-in and utilization of the database by stakeholders and investors.

Work on the digital IP labour database will begin in mid-September 2020 and continue throughout the implementation and scale up to additional industrial parks. Full development of the database and transfer of ownership to the Ethiopian Investment Commission will be completed by 2023.

"True to its name, this [digital in-

dustrial park labour database] is truly creating a much needed bridge for tens of thousands of young people into the world of work. And it is an inspiring example of the role technology and digitization has to play in enabling work, which is something the [Mastercard] Foundation wholeheartedly champions," said Alemayehu Konde Koira, Mastercard Foundation's Country Head, Ethiopia.

The Mastercard Foundation works with visionary organizations to enable young people in Africa and in Indigenous communities in Canada to access dignified and fulfilling work. It is one of the largest, private foundations in the world with a mission to advance learning and promote financial inclusion to create an inclusive and equitable world. The Foundation was created by Mastercard in 2006 as an independent organization with its own Board of Directors and management.

The Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC) is an autonomous federal government institution established under Proclamation No.769/2012 Council of Ministers Regulation No.313/2014 to carry out an efficient investment administration system and to encourage foreign and domestic investments in Ethiopia through promotional, support and aftercare schemes. Functionally, the EIC operates under the direct supervision of the Ethiopian Investment Board (EIB), chaired by the Prime Minister.

First Consult is a leading Ethiopian institution specialized in economic development in Ethiopia. With a focus on private sector, financial sector and human capital development since 2005, First Consult has built and worked with over 500 partnerships that spans the private sector, government and development community. By supporting and mobilizing strong local institutions with highly-capable individuals, the institution strives to solve the most-critical development challenges of our time. The core focus on youth development and women's economic empowerment is central to the mission of First Consult, which is to realize an inclusive and sustainable development that benefits all.

BRIDGES is a five-year programme that aims to create employment opportunities for young women and men by unlocking the job creation potential of industrial parks (IPs), other anchor enterprises (AEs), and their surrounding ecosystem including micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). BRIDGES works to capitalize on, and scale-up its previous experiences and key learnings within the industrial sector toward creating direct employment linkages, as well as establishing sustainable market linkages between AEs and MSMEs. The BRIDGES programme is comprised of four focus areas: Employment Linkage, Enterprise Development, Enterprise Competitiveness, and Access to Finance.

## BUSINESS

## ECO-FRIENDLY

# FAO launches Green Cities Initiative to help transform agri-food systems

ROME

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations has unveiled its new Green Cities Initiative and Action Plan to help transform agri-food systems, end hunger and improve nutrition in and around the cities in a post-Covid-19 era.

The launch took place during a virtual event titled Green Cities to Build Back Better for SDGs - A New Powerful Venture hosted by FAO during the 75th session of the UN General Assembly. Highlighting the vast potential of cities in reducing the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on people's health and food security and contributing to climate change mitigation, FAO director-general QU encouraged all partners to appreciate the essential role of cities in building back better and the urgency of innovative, comprehensive and coordinated actions.

"For cities to become much greener, more resilient and regenerative, we need to rethink the way urban and peri-urban areas are designed and managed", he said in his opening remarks at the event. "With only ten years left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals", QU added, "we need a fundamental change of mindset and remodelling our business approaches."

FAO's Green Cities Initiative aims to improve the livelihoods and well-being of urban and peri-urban populations in at least 100 cities (15 metropolitan, 40 intermediary and 45 small cities) around the world in the next three years, looking to have 1,000 cities join by 2030.

In particular, the initiative is focused on improving the urban environment, strengthening urban-rural linkages and the resilience of urban systems, services and populations to external shocks. Ensuring access to a healthy environment and healthy diets from sustainable food systems, it will also contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and sustainable resource management.

The new initiative also includes the creation of a "Green Cities Network," where cities of all sizes - from megapolis to medium to small - will exchange experiences on best practices, successes and lessons, as well as build

city-to-city cooperation opportunities.

The organisation will enhance its work with local and national authorities, city councils, mayors, the private sector, academic institutions and international organisations, and engage with urban communities - especially with women and young people. "The initiative we are launching today is a product of a new way of thinking. I hope that you are inspired to join us and support it by your innovative way of implementation," said Dongyu.

The world is becoming more and more urbanised. By 2050, almost 70 percent of the world's population will be living in cities, with 90 percent of the increase occurring in Africa and Asia. About 70% of all food supplies are consumed by urban dwellers - a number that is steadily on the rise.

Population growth and rapid urbanisation imply dietary shifts and an increasing demand for basic goods and services, as well as growing competition for natural resources to ensure access to healthy diets for all. Local administrations are finding it more and more difficult to meet the needs of urban and peri-urban populations and the Covid-19 pandemic has added new challenges, such as food systems disruptions, loss of jobs and food insecurity, worsening conditions especially for the most vulnerable.

As a result, many urban and peri-urban communities are now more than ever exposed to food and nutrition insecurity combined with diet-related non-communicable diseases as well as increasing rates of overweight and obesity.

Today cities consume almost 80% of the total energy produced in the world. They are responsible for 70% of global waste and account for about 70% of global energy-related greenhouse gas emissions.

Maintaining sustainable food systems and having more green spaces, including urban and peri-urban agriculture and forests are essential for cities, making them more resilient in dealing with the impacts of climate change and Covid-19, ensuring that health-related issues do not disrupt urban food supply and distribution.

## DIVERSIFICATION

# Copper drops most since March, with growth fears dimming outlook

NEW YORK

Copper tumbled the most since March amid concerns over the pace of economic recovery as traders looked for signs of progress in US fiscal-stimulus talks.

US manufacturing expanded in September by less than forecast, according to a report Thursday, while U.S. initial jobless claims remained well above pre-virus levels. US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said there are still major differences to be bridged in the negotiations over a fiscal stimulus package with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin. Subscribe for full access to all our share and unit trust data tools, our award-winning articles, and support quality journalism in the process.

Copper, considered an economic

barometer, has risen for six straight months in a bet on improving global growth and tight supplies. Now, investors say further stimulus is needed, with layoff announcements from companies including United Airlines Holdings, Walt Disney Co and Royal Dutch Shell fuelling concern that the recovery may fizzle. "The short-term catalyst in the markets is the ongoing stimulus talks and whether they result in an agreement," Edward Meir, an analyst at ED&F Man Capital Markets, said in a report.

Copper also came under pressure as an eight-day holiday in China sidelined the biggest consumer of the metal. Markets often see a sharp sell-off before major holidays, according to Peter Mooses, a senior market strategist at RJO Futures.

## EXCELLENCE

# SGA Tanzania wins big at Geita mining exhibition for investment in technology

By Guardian Reporter

INVESTMENT in modern technology to combat crime has earned SGA Tanzania Limited a third overall winner at the 3rd Geita International Mining Technology Exhibition which ended last week.

Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office (Investments), Angela Kairuki who closed the exhibition commended the security company for showcasing latest technology used to keep crime at bay hence qualifying to scoop the award in the category of technology suppliers and mining facilitators.

Kairuki applauded SGA management's investment in latest technologies in ensuring that the public is secure from criminals. "You are doing a good job which shows serious investment in the country," she stated.

Speaking after receiving the award, SGA Security Sales and Marketing Manager, Faustina Shoo explained that the award signifies the company's commitment in investing in modern technology to safeguard safety of clients.

"We were able to demonstrate how our latest security solutions can enhance safety in mines by eliminating risks of losses of property and safety of people. With these solutions, mine will remain secure places for people to while the government will be able to monitor minerals being extracted to get proper taxes for overall economic development," Shoo said. She said SGA is already working with prominent mining companies in the country and



SGA Tanzania Limited's managing director, Eric Sambu (R), receives an award from sales and marketing manager Faustina Shoo for outstanding performance won at this year's Geita International Mining Technology Exhibition recently. Photo courtesy of SGA.

the benefits are tremendous.

SGA Tanzania's Managing Director, Eric Sambu expressed joy for the recognition given to the company saying that they deserved it because investment in modern technology has been

a priority. Sambu congratulated the company's staff who took part at the exhibition saying they did showcase excellent equipment used in security services.

"SGA was the first company

to operate as a private security company in Tanzania and this award is testimony that we have succeeded to keep people and their property safe," Sambu said adding that with a workforce of over 18,000, the company has

invested heavily over the past 36 years of its existence in the country.

"We invest heavily in training and we ensure that we pay above the market rates to motivate and retain our key staff," he noted while stressing that the key to their success include motivated employees who are honest and diligent in performing their duties.

"The recent happenings in the local business environment provided us with a learning opportunity and a chance to empower our employees at all levels and align our operations to focus on the customer needs," the SGA Tanzania chief executive noted.

Among other things to safeguard quality of its services, the company has maintained its ISO certification on Quality Management System since 2001 and has just been certified with Occupational Health and Safety ISO 45001 Standard. The company is certified with ISO 18788 on Security Management Operations System.

SGA is the oldest private security company in Tanzania, having started its operations in 1984 as Group Four Security, and presently employs over 5,800 Tanzanians countrywide. "With a fleet of 224 vehicles and 12 established regional bases with fully-fledged control rooms and motivated personnel to man them, we have the necessary infrastructure to support all customers anywhere in the country," he stated.



SBL corporate relations director, John Wanyancha speaks at a past event.

## INVESTMENT

# Brewer introduces DrinkiQ e-learning tool to curb alcohol abuse

By Guardian Reporter

IN a bid to tame excessive alcohol consumption, Serengeti Breweries Limited launched a new DRINKIQ online learning tool that will provide consumers with information on drinking responsibly.

Speaking at the launch in Dar es Salaam on Friday, SBL's Corporate Relations Director, John Wanyancha said the new mobile-friendly online tool is the first of its kind within the alcohol industry which uses interactive learning and tests to give people information about

the content of their drinks.

Wanyancha said the DRINKIQ also gives consumers information on how alcohol is made and the different ways that it impacts their bodies; how to keep track of their alcohol in-take; how to pour a standard measure of spirits, wine or beer; and displays the truth about common myths concerning alcohol.

"The e-learning strategy is part of 'Drink positive' campaign, which is a global initiative and a brainchild of Diageo, which is SBL's holding company, aimed at sensitizing people who choose to drink to

make positive and responsible choices about alcohol," he said.

"DRINKIQ e-learning is the next stage in SBL's commitment to help consumers make informed choices about drinking. We have been providing face-to-face DRINKIQ training to groups across the country in the last few years but our approach will now change due to the situation we are currently facing," Wanyancha added while referring to the coronavirus outbreak.

He further added that the e-learning tool has been received well by the public because consumers have clearly shown

a genuine desire for the information being availed hence decision to put it online so that many can access it.

"This powerful, new online tool is intended to raise collective knowledge about alcohol, allow anyone, anywhere in Tanzania and even beyond, to quickly get informed on what entails healthy, responsible drinking and gives the tips they need to make the right choices when taking alcohol," the SBL Director noted.

Wanyancha advised the public to better understand what they are drinking and where possible seeks advice

on drinking moderately and responsibly to make smarter choices about what to drink and when.

"As a responsible citizen, SBL will continue to use its marketing and communication expertise to help raise awareness about responsible drinking to make a significant and sustainable impact in the society," he stated. Incorporated in 1988 as Associated Breweries, SBL is the second largest beer company in Tanzania with three operating plants in Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Kilimanjaro Regions.

## EXPANSION

# Mwanza RC urges public on the use of NCBA Bank's opportunities

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

RESIDENTS of Mwanza City have been challenged to exploit opportunities proved by the presence of NCBA Bank Tanzania Limited as the new bank opens its first branch in the region.

Regional Commissioner, John Mongela who launched the branch on Friday congratulated owners of NIC Bank (T) Limited and CBA Bank (T) Limited for the voluntary merger saying the new bank is better placed to serve customers.

"Mwanza depends on fishing activities which is a leading foreign currency earner that contributes a lot the national economy. The city is home to 13 fish processing factories with installed capacity to process about 1,065 tons of fish per day," Mongela said.

"Additionally, data from Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries now shows that the factories depend on the Nile perch. However, illegal fishing has caused a significant drop to only 171 tons of fish harvested per day although we are taking stringent measures are in place," he said.

Due to the economic potential of the country's second largest city in the country, the RC urged NCBA management to give the best services and products to clients "I therefore, seize this opportunity to testify that NCBA's arrival shows interest in our region and its economic endeavours. I thank you for the timely arrival in our region. We be-

lieve that NCBA Bank is going to be one of the best partners, enabler, facilitator and financial institution to help Mwanza move to the next stage of greatness," he added.

Briefing the Mwanza Regional Commissioner, NCBA Managing Director and CEO, Margaret Karume assured the city's residents and its neighbourhood of best services and products saying the fishing industry will also be served better.

"All NCBA customers will experience the same level of personalized services from any of our branches in Mwanza or in other countries within our network like Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Ivory Coast," Karume said adding that customers will also use ATM cards at any of the bank's branded machines in the country and across the border.

She thanked the government through Mongela and the clients for their willingness to embark with NCBA Bank towards greatness noting that the bank will support resilient economic reforms in the region and the country.

"We remain steadfast in our ambitions to support critical sectors for economic development in Mwanza. We are looking forward to holding constructive discussions with our customers and stakeholders to outline strategic plans that meet our people's needs to foster significant economic growth," the chief executive noted. The two new branches are among the 12 that NCBA Bank has opened across the country since launching its new headquarters in Dar es Salaam in August this year.



NCBA Bank Tanzania's managing director, Margaret Karume, speaks at a past event.

## VICTORY

## KRA wins Sh1.6bn tax row against Rift Valley Railways

NAIROBI

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has won a tax battle with Rift Valley Railways (RVR) after a tribunal ordered the consortium to pay Sh1.6 billion. The Tax Appeals Tribunal chaired by Mr Mahat Somane dismissed the petition by the concessionaire stating that some of the items imported by RVR, among them locomotives and diesel engines, were not tax exempt as alleged.

"This therefore leaves room for one reasonable conclusion; that the appellant (RVR) was not granted remission in respect of the locomotives and as such the taxes as assessed by the respondent (KRA) are properly due and payable by the appellant," the Tribunal ruled.

KRA told the tribunal that it did an analysis of the company's business between 2011 and 2016 in respect of customs duty, value added tax, withholding tax and withholding VAT. The taxman later in 2017 issued an assessment notice for taxes amounting to Sh1.69 billion.

The company, however disputed the claim saying it had obtained VAT remission from Ministry of Finance for some of the items it imported including train simulator system, tamping and ballast distributing machines, knock down kits and diesel engines.

Further, RVR said part of the tax demanded were transit material for goods destined for Uganda and KRA had misapplied the law by seeking to standard rate the revenue attributed to transportation of goods in transit.

But KRA argued that the company undervalued freight charges on six imported locomotives in December 2014. The taxman further accused RVR of fraudulent remission of VAT on importation of tamping and ballast distributing machines, claiming it had obtained remission from the Ministry of Finance.

The tribunal ruled that the failure to withhold tax as required was a breach of the law on the part of the RVR, a move that was occasioned by its miscomprehension of the effects of the repeal of Section 25A of the VAT Act. According to the tribunal, a perusal of the documents showed that some items the company claimed were exempted had been left out by the Treasury in a letter dated August 15, 2011.

"Accordingly, we find that the taxes assessed by the respondent in respect of the locomotive, spare parts, diesel engines, train simulator and the tamping machine are owing to the public purse and should be settled by the appellant," the tribunal ruled.

The company, however got a reprieve after the tribunal quashed tax debt of Sh56.7 million after providing documents to support payment. "The appellant's withholding tax liability in respect of local and imported services should be reduced by Sh56,717,291 for which it has correctly supported," the tribunal ruled.

## CHARITY

## Bank donates medical appliances, furniture worth 35m/-

By Guardian Reporter

MEDICAL appliances, chairs and tables all valued at 35m/- were donated by NMB Bank Plc to several public schools and health centres in the country last week.

Through its corporate social responsibility programme, the bank handed over 35 chairs and similar number of tables worth 8m/- to Pugu Station Primary School in Ilala Municipality of Dar es Salaam on Friday to furnish teachers staff room.

The bank also donated 50 desks to Mbezi Juu Primary School, 20 chairs with tables to Bunju A Primary School in

Kinondoni Municipality of Dar es Salaam worth 12m/-, NMB also donated medical equipment to health centres in Coast and Ruvuma Region.

Speaking during a hand over ceremony, NMB's Dar es Salaam Zone Manager, Donatus Richard told Ilala District Administrative Secretary, Charangwa Seleman that the bank will continue supporting government efforts to improve education and health sectors.

Richard said the donated furniture will help ease shortage of chairs, tables and desks in public schools hence contributing towards good performance of pupils. "Challenges facing

education and health are our priority and because of the government's policy of universal free education up to secondary school level means demands are very high," Richard noted.

In a vote of thanks, DAS Selemani commended the bank's leadership for investing in community services while urging other corporate entities to emulate the Dar es Salaam based lender's example.

"The government is doing all that is possible to address these challenges but they are many hence need other stakeholders backing," he said while noting that this year Ilala Municipality has allocated 700m/- to reduce

them. He said the bank's donations show an appreciation of the public's support to its business activities which enables it to make profits hence com-

mendable.

Other schools which received the donations include Madaba Secondary School in Songea Municipality, Makamba Pri-

mary School in and Kizapala Health Centre both in Mkuranga District which got chairs, tables, desks, beds and mattresses and 25 sheet beds.

## SA releases one-fifth of earmarked state-owned land to farmers

JOHANNESBURG

South Africa has released about a fifth of earmarked state-owned land to around 275 farmers so far, officials said on Thursday, as the government seeks to accelerate land redistribution in an effort to redress historic racial inequalities.

The ruling African National Congress has pledged to accelerate land reform, a divisive issue 26 years after

the end of apartheid - a period when land was taken from millions among the Black majority. Housing and land ownership patterns remain vastly unequal. Subscribe for full access to all our share and unit trust data tools, our award-winning articles, and support quality journalism in the process.

Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform Thoko Didiza said 135,117 hectares (333,900 acres), out

of the 700,000 hectares, had been released to date, or around 19% of it. The government said it would begin the process to release the remainder of the land, equating to 896 farms, in the next two weeks in the form of 30-year leaseholds, with an option to buy. Giving away state-owned land is the first and probably easiest step in the government's land redistribution strategy, which to fulfill government pledges needs to be followed

by expropriating private holdings of mostly white farmers.

The government published a draft bill in December proposing changes to the constitution to allow land to be expropriated without payment. Despite wide public support, the plan has drawn criticism from commercial farmers and opposition politicians who say it will scare off investors and potentially harm food production.

## RESULTS

## Ethiopia gold exports surge after crackdown on smuggling

ADDIS ABABA

Ethiopian gold exports surged after the central bank offered higher prices for the metal in a bid to curb smuggling and as part of wider efforts to spur investment in mining.

Ethiopia's gold industry is currently dominated by small-scale artisanal miners, but Newmont Corp. and Australia's Allied Gold Corp. are among

the companies exploring for the precious metal in the Horn of Africa nation. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government hopes that cleaning up informal mining by channelling gold sales through the central bank is a first step to making the country more attractive to investors.

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quality journalism in the process. "The rush is sort of starting," said Harry Anagnostaras, executive chairman of London-listed Kefi Gold and Copper Plc, which is developing the Tulu Kapi mine in western Ethiopia. "People are starting to come in and it's because the government is starting to transform itself very deliberately and openly from a sort of reluctant bride to a welcoming host and compliance checker."

Official gold shipments in July and August totaled 700 kilograms (24,700 ounces), a more than fourfold increase from the year-earlier period. Exports could climb further after the central bank boosted the prices it offers by more than the increase in spot gold since the beginning of June.

Bullion's surge to a record this year is pushing African governments to maximize the benefits from their gold

resources. Nigeria plans to stem illegal gold exports worth hundreds of millions of dollars a year to boost the country's foreign reserves. Tanzania has introduced mineral trading centers which have taken artisanal minerals and reduced smuggling.

Ethiopia's approach is generating interest from miners, according to Anagnostaras, who is also chairman of a 25-member industry group in the

country. The government aims to more than double the contribution of mining to 10% of gross domestic product over the next decade.

Megado Gold Ltd., an exploration company listed in Australia, said it has five gold exploration assets in southern and western Ethiopia, while Canada's Sun Peak Metals Corp. is prospecting in the north of the country.











Mbwana Samatta

## After Samatta, KRC Genk miss out as four clubs reach UEFA tournaments

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL ENEZA

CLUB fortunes cannot just be told by the presence of individual players as it is composite mix, but still everyone knows they make a difference.

As it is in all other fields, whether it is physical or business, intellectual or mass canvassing activity like politics, broad conditions and preparedness fuse with individual abilities to bring about events - like climbing to top flight or dropping.

Hence Mbwana Samatta was not everything in KRC Genk, but his absence is being noticed.

News filtering about results of qualifying matches for the UEFA Champions League on the one hand and for UEFA Europa League on the other were noticeable in what finally was the standing for Belgium generally, and for KRC Genk in particular, the club that recruited Samatta from DR Congo's TP Mazembe.

His being sold at 8.5m pounds to Aston Villa enabled what will most likely become his brief appearance in the English Premier League (EPL), where he scored one remarkable but refused goal against Liverpool in a UEFA Champions League tie.

It appeared that the rest was not so remarkable but for a premier league goal against Bournemouth, the only one he managed for the six-month stay.

Surprisingly, the Liverpool goal came in the very first weeks of his shift to Villa Park, which to outside watchers including his legion of fans in Dar es Salaam and elsewhere, appeared to be the shape of things to come.

This was not to be borne out as weeks went by, which evidently calls for some expert in psychology to jot out, but only guesswork is available without such a data flow kind of analysis, or trying to figure out an explanation when it takes the shape that it did. One probable explanation is that the player had extra adrenalin in the early days; it petered off later.

Still it is much less as regard the player that one finds something remarkable, as his exit from Aston Villa resulted from a move to strengthen its attack, targeting high profile players at transfer prices that are double (17m pounds), thrice (23m pounds) or quadruple (33m pounds) to obtain signatures for its newly packed outfit, especially in attack.

That is why a formidable Turkish club rushed to obtain his signature ahead of others, as everyone could see it was a club reinvigoration move that diminished Samatta's playing chances at Villa Park. But that is history.

What is not so ancient is the declining fortunes of KRC Genk at the opening of the new season, as it would appear they have

slid to a more familiar role near the upper cream of the Belgian first league, but not with the top sides.

One fairly well known club is the country's representatives in the UEFA Champions League, namely Club Brugge, and three sides feature in the Europa Cup, where KRC Genk participates in playoffs and did not clinch a position.

The others are Royal Antwerp, Genk and Standard Liege, where the middle near-namesake of KRC are rivals of Genk, and unlike the other three, they are not usually near the top of Belgian soccer, so that is familiar.

What local fans relish to remember is that it was upon the recruitment of Samatta from TP Mazembe that KRC Genk actually climbed the ladder to the UEFA Europa League in his first season and to the Champions League in his second season, netting at least one goal in nearly all the crucial encounters.

That is how he got noticed in the EPL and shifted to Villa Park, but the price they offered and was accepted says something about the gap in valuation of two premier leagues.

It also shows the caliber of players they recruit, and recently Aston Villa has been hitting harder.

It also says something about economic environment in which players are recruited or sought, the quality of sponsor advertising and thus ability to sustain the competition for high caliber players.

We are as yet sitting out the first ties of the Tanzania senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' captain in his new role at Fenerbahce S.K. of Istanbul in Turkey, how far it will approximate his stint at KRC Genk, but preliminary projections can be made.

As it was the case when the Istanbul side met its city archrivals Galatasaray in a derby and the match ended scoreless, Samatta was among the substitutes and actually used as the game went on.

Earlier Villa had just won 3-1 without needing his services.

What becomes of the player at Fenerbahce is unlikely to match his pivotal contributions at KRC Genk as the Belgian club is smaller by comparison, and rarely has top level regular standing in the premier league, while Fenerbahce is one of the two most known club sides, with its city rivals, Galatasaray.

In the UEFA Europa League there is one Turkish club, Sivasspor, while Belgium has three teams participating, in which case Samatta is at a bigger club side but in a less remarkable country in relation to soccer level than Belgium.

Chances of outright success are thus balanced.

## What went wrong for Krmpotic at Yanga?

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL MWEBE

**A**FTER just 37 days, Young Africans SC (Yanga) have sacked head coach Zlatko Krmpotic. The club announced Krmpotic's immediate departure on Saturday in the wake of a 3-0 victory over Coastal Union in a Vodacom Premier League duel, which took place in Dar es Salaam.

A surprise statement from Yanga on Saturday night confirmed that the Jangwani Street club had relieved Krmpotic of his coaching duties.

"Yanga hereby informs its fans, members and stakeholders that it has reached mutual agreement to terminate its relationship with its head coach Zlatko Krmpotic," read the club statement.

"Yanga would like to thank Zlatko for his professionalism while at the club and wish him all the best in his future endeavours."

Krmpotic leaves with Yanga sitting first in the Vodacom Premier League table having collected 13 points from five matches, three more points than they had at this corresponding stage last season.

Many agree the former Zesco United coach was never a good fit for Yanga, but sacking him so close to the club's league clash against rivals, Simba, dubbed 'Dar es Salaam Derby', and especially after topping the league standing is a strange move.

However, going by recent media reports the announcement came as no major shock.

Here, we look at the problems that contributed to the Serbian tactician's quick exit from the Jangwani Street outfit.

### Fallout with Farid Mussa

The breakdown of Krmpotic's relationship with winger Farid Mussa will be top of the agenda.

The former Azam FC winger is considered as one of the biggest signings made by Yanga in the last transfer window.

After four years in Spain, Mussa completed his reportedly \$50,000 return to the Mainland Tanzania



Yanga defender, Lamine Moro (R), celebrates with fellow players after he had netted for the outfit in a Vodacom Premier League match against Mtwara Sugar, which took place in Morogoro recently. Yanga won 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Premier League in August.

Given the amount Yanga paid, he is viewed as an integral part of the first team.

Five games into the season, he has only played one match under Krmpotic.

It did not take long for tensions to surface. Once they had, they would not go away.

While Yanga spokesman, Antonio Nugaz, termed his exclusion from the squad as due to illness, Mussa came out and declared himself fully fit and went on to say he does not understand why he is not playing.

It was telling that he did not even make it off the bench in the last two games against Mtwara Sugar and Coastal Union.

It is safe to say the bad blood between Krmpotic and Mussa contributed to the quick exit of the former.

The Serbian tactician could not not only get the best out of

a marquee signing but also went as far as pushing him out of the squad so early into his reign.

### Blunt attack

The ever restless Yanga fans were more concerned with how the team looked blunt in attack.

Until Saturday's comprehensive victory, the team had not scored more than one goal in a competitive match.

Yanga spent big in transfer fees to bring three strikers, Waziri Junior, Michael Sarpong and Yacouba Songne.

The three strikers have just two goals among them in five matches.

Waziri Junior arrived at Yanga off the back of a very good season with relegated Mbaio FC but never got a single minute in a competitive game under Krmpotic.

He was not even selected in the matchday squad against

Coastal Union.

### Uneasy relationship with players

As one of the biggest signings, Mussa was the most high-profile player to fall out with Krmpotic, but there were many more cases.

Krmpotic is said to have upset captain Deus Kaseke and young fullback Kibwana Shomari after questioning the latter's performance.

Ahead of a clash against Mtwara Sugar, it is reported Krmpotic wanted to employ Kaseke as a fullback instead of Kibwana.

It was a decision that irked senior members in the squad who questioned the unorthodox decision. The coach made a U-turn but the damage had been done.

It is almost unbelievable but Krmpotic had lost the dressing room within weeks of arriving and training with the team.

## Kitata upsets Kipchoge to win London Marathon

LONDON

ELIUD Kipchoge's four-year winning run at the London Marathon ended Sunday as Shura Kitata emerged from the rain and the gloom to become the new champion.

There was no upset in the women's race with world record holder Brigid Kosgei winning her duel with fellow Kenyan Ruth Chepngetich, the world champion, who was eventually pipped for second by Sara Hall of the United States.

The race, originally scheduled to be run in April, was adapted to 19.7 laps of St James's Park rather than the traditional street route, and was restricted to elite runners only, due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Kipchoge, the Kenyan who has had not lost a marathon in seven years, dropped off the pace around the 22-mile mark. The 35-year-old world record holder had no answer as a seven-strong lead group edged away from him, and he ended up finishing down in eighth.

Kitata of Ethiopia claimed victory in two hours, five minutes and 41 seconds, pipping Vincent Kipchumba of Kenya on the line after a thrilling sprint finish.

In the women's race, Kosgei broke for home with seven miles to go leaving Chepngetich, who had looked the stronger in the middle stages of the race, far behind.

The pair were a minute ahead of their nearest challenger at the halfway mark and looked on course to trouble the women's-only world record of two hours 17 minutes and one second.

But as the rain began to fall harder the pace slowed and Kosgei eventually crossed the line in 2 hours 18 minutes, 58 seconds - almost five minutes outside her world record set in Chicago last year.

"The weather was not good so we struggled," Kosgei said. "I struggled up to the moment I finished."

"We have not prepared well due to the pandemic. I will be prepared for good results next year."

A tiring Chepngetich was caught by a stunning late charge from Hall, who overtook her with just a few strides remaining.



Kenya's Brigid Kosgei runs past Buckingham Palace and the Queen Victoria Memorial into the Mall on her way to winning the London Marathon in London, England, Sunday, Oct. 4, 2020. Athletes are competing on a 26.2-mile (42.2-kilometer) closed-loop course consisting of 19.6 clockwise laps around St. James's Park. The traditional course along the River Thames was scrapped because of the coronavirus pandemic and only elite men and women are competing and no spectators are permitted. (AP Photo)



# SPORT

'Ice-cold' Haaland nets twice as Dortmund run riot

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A section of riders from Team Matambuu from Dar es Salaam feature in a recent race, held in Tanga. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TEAM MATAMBUU

## Tanzanians ought to embrace cycling-call

By Guardian Correspondent

THE family of Tanzania's Father of the Nation, the late Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, has asked people in the country to embrace cycling as it is a healthy, low-impact exercise that can be enjoyed by people of all ages.

Nyerere's sons, Andrew and Makongoro, made the call during a function for flagging off of this year's edition of a cycling tour, known as 'Twende Butiama', which took place at the Father of the Nation's residence at Msasani in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

The two were of the opinion cycling is also a source of fun.

They thanked the riders who are expected to cycle more than 1400km to reach Mwitongo Village in Butiama on October 14.

"We really thank you for starting this tour to Mwitongo, Butiama, it is not that easy but you are determined to finish the journey, our late father loved cycling very much, when he was teaching Pugu Secondary School in Dar es Salaam, riding was his best and dependable means of transport," Makongoro stated.

"It is healthy as it can protect people from serious non communicable diseases."

The tour which has attracted more than 170 riders is sponsored by SAS Logistics, Usangu Logistics, Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) and other companies and organizations.

Speaking on behalf of all sponsors, Salim Albusaidy from SAS Logistics hailed Mwalimu Nyerere family for giving them a warm welcome at Msasani, noting they expect the same in Mwitongo.

He said they are committed to seeing to it that the 'Twende Butiama' tour is becoming very popular and attracting riders from all parts of the world as the late Mwalimu Nyerere contributed a lot to the world.

"Our plans are to see to it that 'Twende Butiama' tour is becoming very big, this year we have more than 170 riders from more than six clubs," Albusaidy disclosed.

"Our aim is to take this tour to great heights, the 'Twende Butiama' tour has a lot of importance with some of them being valuing healthy and promoting domestic tourism," he said.

The riders are expected to arrive at Mwitongo in Butiama on October 14 to climax the date Mwalimu Nyerere passed on.

They will pass in Morogoro, Dodoma, Singida, Shinyanga, Mwanza and arrive at Mwitongo, Butiama on October 14.

While at Mwitongo Village, they will carry out a number of social activities which include plating trees.

Godfrey Mhagama, Tanzania Cycling Association (Chabata) Chairman, hailed 'Twende Butiama' organizing committee and SAS Logistics for the tour.

He stated on top of honouring the late Mwalimu Nyerere, the tour is a platform for riders to gain experience.

He said his association will offer its full support to organizers of 'Twende Butiama' so that the tour becomes one of the biggest in the world.

"We are happy that the 'Twende Butiama' tour is growing each and passing day, last year we had 110 cyclist who took part but this year more than 170 have registered and we expect the number to increase as many people will join the tour on the way," he noted.

"We are committed to provide all necessary support to see this tour reach the levels of Tour de Rwanda, Tour de France and other top tour events," he said.

## Yanga part ways with Zlatko Krmpotic



Zlatko Krmpotic

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

YANGA have parted ways with his head coach, Zlatko Krmpotic, after one month in office.

The Jangwani Street-based side had, through

its Acting Secretary General Patrick Simon, announced the firing of the coach on Saturday evening.

"Young Africans Sports Club (Yanga) hereby inform its fans, members and stakeholders that it has reached mutual agreement to terminate its relationship with its head coach Zlatko Krmpotic," reads a statement from the club.

No reasons were issued for the firing of the coach who has guided Yanga to five games in this season's Vodacom Premier League, in which the team won four games and recorded draw in one.

Yanga thanked the coach for his contribution to the club and his professionalism while at the club and wished him all the best in his future endeavours.

Speaking in a telephone interview yesterday, Yanga's information officer, Hassan Bumbuli, confirmed the development saying the outfit's assistant coach, Juma Mwambusi, will head the bench on an acting capacity.

"It is true we have parted ways with our head coach, Zlatko Krmpotic, we wish him all the best, today is Sunday... the club's leaders have not

meet to discuss anything," Bumbuli disclosed.

"In the meantime, our assistant coach, Juma Mwambusi, will act as the head coach until the time we find a new coach," he said.

Yanga had, with the exception of their comprehensive 3-0 win over Coastal Union, been registering narrow wins in the top flight duels.

The Serbian tactician was hired on a two-year contract replacing Belgian, Luc Eymael, who was fired before the start on the 2020/21 Premier League.

Yanga, through the club's registration committee chairman, Hersi Said, said during Krmpotic's unveiling they hired the Serbian tactician for two years.

He revealed that they picked the much-travelled Serbian despite having a list of many coaches who had offered themselves to replace Belgian Eymael, who was fired at the end of last season.

"Krmpotic's experience in handling teams in Africa gave him the job, he had trained such outfits like Zesco United in Zambia, Polokwane of South Africa," Said said.

## Coastal Union coach blasts players for complacency

By Correspondent Joseph

Mchekadona

COASTAL Union's head coach, Juma Mgunda, has said his charges lacked positive mentality during the squad's Vodacom Premier League encounter with Yanga, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last Saturday.

The Tanga outfit conceded 3-0 loss to Yanga in the duel.

In an interview held after the duel, Mgunda expressed his displeasure with his charges, noting they played well but were lacking a positive mentality.

He said his side created some chances but failed to convert them into goals.

"It was a very good match, we did our best but the main challenge I saw in my charges is that they were lacking positive mentality, they were repeating the same mistakes," he stated.

"We conceded all goals as a result of the same type of mistakes but all in all we have lost and now the focus is on the coming games," he said.

Coastal Union are positioned 16th in the league table with four points from five games played.

Yanga assistant coach, Juma Mwambusi, hailed his charges for playing according to game plan and said the Saturday results is just the beginning.

"On Saturday I was very happy with the



Yanga winger, Tuisila Kisinda (L), negotiates his way past Coastal Union's fullback, Hans Masoud, when the sides met in a Vodacom Premier League clash, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Yanga won 3-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

performance of my players, they did exactly what we told them and I'm sure the team will maintain this type of intensity in the coming games," he said.

Smarting from victory in their last week's league matches, both teams started the first half on high

tempo and kept their fans on the edges of their seats but the squads could not find the back of each other's nets.

Yanga had themselves to blame for failing to score in the first half as they made several attempts on Coastal Union's goal.

In the second half Yanga displayed their desire and hunger for three points and substituted midfielder Zawadi Mauya for Haruna Niyonzima and fullback Kibwana Shomari for Deus Kaseke.

The mission was achieved when they scored the first goal on the

48th minute via midfielder, Carlos Fernandes, midfielder Haruna Niyonzima made it 2-0 on the 52nd minute and striker Yacouba Songne netted the third on the 64th minute.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

