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Mbamba Bay port to create jobs, boost economy



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Tanzania recognised for managing cybersecurity



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Govt's fish farming plan targets ponds, rice farms



Guardian BUSINESS
Gold price breaks \$2,600 barrier as Fed cuts bets on prolonging historic run



New project seeking to help fruit growers to fight against pests



Firm launches demo farm to revolutionise farming




Princess Sophie unveils horticulture export drive

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

UK royal visitor Princess Sophie (pictured) over the weekend officiated at the launch of an ambitious horticulture exports accelerator programme (HEAP), which the stakeholders say will transform the country's horticultural exports landscape.

Invited with assistance from the Tanzania High Commission in the UK, the Duchess of Edinburgh graced the event coloured by the motto "race to a \$2bn" horticulture export earnings, anchored in the Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA).

This programme is geared to raise horticulture exports to the UK and the European Union, where the \$2bn goal in earnings is projected for 2030, with TAHA CEO Dr Jacqueline Mkindi affirming that HEAP will equip local exporters with competitive tools needed to take up market parts arising from preferential trade agreements.

Local producers will be provided with the skills and resources necessary to meet international market standards.

TAHA's comprehensive approach fo-

Overall, HEAP represents a significant step forward in enhancing Tanzania's horticultural exports and establishing a more competitive presence in international markets

cuses on strengthening the entire horticulture value chain, enhancing export volumes and fostering sustainable partnerships with UK and European firms, she said.

Key priorities include capacity building, establishing strong trade linkages and ensuring compliance with international standards, she further asserted, while UK High Commissioner Marianne Young praised the work TAHA pursued with the Tanzanian High Commission in the UK.

Applauding the partnership was exciting, she pointed at UK support to unlock the agro-sector potential, including investments in climate-smart agribusiness.

The UK recently unveiled a developing countries trading scheme, thus bringing up the need to address challenges that local firms face in accessing the UK and wider markets.

Under the current initiative, 15 local firms' executives will travel to the UK this

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NFRA all out to spend 202bn/- to buy 92,000 tonnes of sugar



A food vendor from Makamaka village in Chemba District, Dodoma Region, prepares porridge for sale at the weekend. Too bad, she is yet to reap the benefits of cooking gas technology, which is slowly but surely gaining popularity in many parts of Tanzania at the expense of charcoal and firewood. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

NFRA can store 365,000 tonnes at own facilities, set to double by June next year, projecting storage capacity of up to 3m tonnes by 2030

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Songwe

THE National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) has said it is determined is gearing to spend at least 202bn/- on the purchase of 92,000 tonnes of sugar as a buffer against unnecessary price increases.

Dr Andrew Komba, the NFRA chief executive officer said in an interview that the agency will purchase the sugar under the supervision of the Sugar Board of Tanzania (SBT), while it is working to install well organised storage facilities.

He also talked of NFRA acquiring 19 warehouses from the Tanzania Initiative for Preventing Aflatoxin Contamination (TANIPAC) in order to cater for expanded market demand for cereals in neighboring countries.

NFRA will also resume implementing a project for building modern silos in variopys regions, he said, noting that maize tonnage was increasing since President Samia Suluhu Hassan directed a significant price increase for farmers.

NFRA's advisory board has decided that the cereals be purchased up to next February, with an option to extend the buying season to next year's agricultural harvesting period, he said.

Three years ago NFRA had funds for the pur-

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Tanzania improves local rhino numbers by 101 in nine years

By Guardian Reporter

THE number of black rhinos has increased from 162 in 2015 to 263 this year, the government has stated.

Dr Pindi Chana, the Natural Resources and Tourism minister, said in a message to mark World Rhino Day marked annually on September 22 that the rise in the rhino population stemmed from various interventions in combating poaching and illegal wildlife trade.

The government has been collaborating with stakeholders including the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to implement the 'combatting poaching and illegal wild-

It also encompasses the importance of rhinos in ecosystems and negative effects of their declining populations

life trade' project, she said.

It also launched the national anti-poaching strategy for 2023-2033, focused on strengthening enforcement capacities, enhancing international collaboration, engaging with illegal trade destination countries to address the demand for such products, she said.

The strategy is also intended to promote advocacy and public awareness, supporting research and encouraging community engagement in the conservation and sustainable management of wildlife resources, the minister noted.

The increase in rhino numbers will

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UNDP in sports tourism links with rural economy

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has initiated a partnership with an active sports tourism organizer targeting the western sphere of the northern tourism circuit.

Shigeki Komatsubara, the UNDP resident representative, told journalists here over the weekend that this initiative will help turn the circuit into a more inclusive economic area.

The programme is focused on ensuring that tourism revenues benefit local populations around the Serengeti National Park, a UNESCO world heritage site.

"Our mission is to empower local fishermen, farmers and livestock keepers to engage meaningfully in the tourism value chain," he said, affirming the need to redirect tourist spending toward grassroots economies.

As part of this initiative, the upcoming

Serengeti Safari Marathon will engage local suppliers in products like beef, fish and fruits, vegetables to hotels and lodges in the Serengeti area, he stated.

This collaboration boosts local businesses and foster growth, enhance social inclusion and promote environmental sustainability, he said, pointing at the need to facilitate dialogue and collaboration, to connect people with local resources, improving job opportunities and quality of life for many.

With tourism a vital component of the economy, contributing nearly 19 percent to GDP, this strategy is positioned to create lasting change, he suggested, pointing at a study by the Netherlands Develop-

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SPORTS



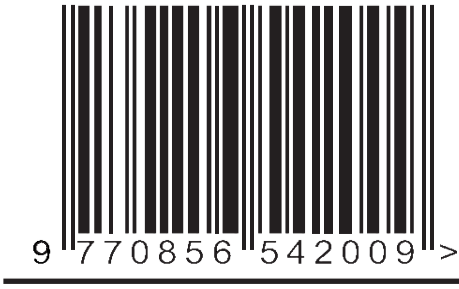
GAMONDI CONFIDENT AHEAD OF CAF CL GROUP STAGE FOLLOWING DOMINANT QUALIFICATION

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DIAZ STRIKES TWICE AND LIVERPOOL TOPS THE PREMIER LEAGUE WHILE NEWCASTLE LOSES AT FULHAM

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Princess Sophie unveils horticulture export drive

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week for a fresh produce consortium event, providing an opportunity to showcase their products and connect with potential buyers.

"This programme will help put Tanzanian products on UK supermarket shelves, boosting job creation and incomes," she further noted, while High Commissioner Mbelwa Kairuki highlighted HEAP's potential to drive economic growth and enhance international cooperation. Local producers need to meet global standards for a sustainable horticulture trade, he stated.

Gerald Mweli, the Agriculture permanent secretary, said HEAP is a transformative initiative with a

major role in fostering meaningful partnerships in global markets. The government was committed to creating a supportive business environment for investments and ensuring the successful implementation of HEAP, he said.

Frank Nyabundege, Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) managing director, affirmed the initiative's potential to uplift portions of the youth and women via horticulture.

Overall, HEAP represents a significant step forward in enhancing Tanzania's horticultural exports and establishing a more competitive presence in international markets, he added.

NFRA all out to spend 202bn/- to buy 92,000 tonnes of sugar

FROM PAGE 1

chase of 100,000 tonnes of maize but the cereal purchase financing has now been elevated to purchasing up to 1m tonnes, he said, noting that sugar will be purchased from different sources within the country.

This will automatically provide a buffer when stocks run low and sugar has to be imported, he said, explaining NFRA activity as set to expand to start purchasing more crops, like peas, beans and lentils, adding to sugar, maize, rice and sorghum.

He similarly pointed at sourcing more funds through food bonds, opening possible niches for investors to chip in, enabling the agency obtain loans from financial institu-

tions.

The credit will be provided as business loans, refunded after selling the cereals, he said, noting that 464bn/- is expected to be obtained through this procedure.

Building the warehouses will take upwards of 35bn/- with renovation of other cereal storage facilities at diverse centres across the country also lined up, he said.

NFRA expects to build 12 new warehouses with 50,000 tonnes storage capacity, while renovating six cereals storage towers in Sumbawanga, Dar es Salaam, Songea and Arusha.

Currently, NFRA can store 365,000 tonnes at own facilities, set to double by June next year, projecting storage capacity of up to 3m tonnes by 2030, he added.

UNDP in sports tourism links with rural economy

FROM PAGE 1

Organisation (SNV) and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) in relation to the state of rural economy.

The studies indicated considerable disparity in tourism revenue distribution, as the Mount Kilimanjaro area accommodates 28 percent of total revenue for local communities, while in contrast the Serengeti yields 19 percent for surrounding areas.

The UN agency sees the need for a more equitable revenue distribution in tourism, valued at \$3.5bn annually and supporting over 1.5m jobs. A larger portion of this wealth needs to be distributed among local communities, he stated.

Timothy Mndika, the marathon organiser, hailed UNDP for promoting active sports tourism over the past six years, acknowledging that

it has strengthened the rural economy.

"The upcoming marathon, set for November 16, is expected to attract 2,000 runners, with a good number coming from foreign countries, where the cumulative needs of stay and participation is projected to drive up local economic and engagement in tourism as a whole, he said.

Conservation, tourism promotion and community benefits will be registered via the multiplier effects of this event, as an initiative taking up sports; while embodying a wider objective of ensuring that local communities are more engaged with the tourism ecosystem.

"They need to thrive alongside the flourishing tourism sector, ultimately aiming for a more inclusive and sustainable economic future for Tanzania," he added.

Uganda sees surge in asylum seekers amid Sudan conflict

KAMPALA

UGANDA has received over 100,000 asylum seekers since January 2024, including an influx of Sudanese refugees fleeing brutal conflict in their home country, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) has said.

Sudanese refugees now make up the largest demographic of newly arriving refugees in Uganda this year, accounting for 36 percent of the total number of new arrivals.

Most Sudanese refugees arrive in Kiryandongo settlement in mid-Western Uganda where 150-200 of them are screened at the reception centre daily.

Resources in the settlement are severely strained, with a lack of medical supplies, medicine and adequate health infrastructure posing health and safety risks to the already vulnerable individuals.

As the main health service provider in the settlement, the IRC reiterates the urgent need for more funding in order to meet the needs of the growing number of refugees.

"More than a year of intense fighting in Sudan has forced millions to flee their homes to escape the humanitarian catastrophe unfolding,

They arrive in nearby countries severely traumatized and in need of medical care and basic assistance that is often in short supply, as we're seeing in Uganda. For refugee hosting countries, more funds are urgently required: today, the Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan remains only 23 percent funded. Beyond that, the violence in Sudan must end now so that people are no longer forced to flee their homes."



More than a year of intense fighting in Sudan has forced millions to flee their homes to escape the humanitarian catastrophe unfolding



Riot police officers on patrol in the streets of Bariadi town in Simiyu Region yesterday. Photo: Police Force

Tanzania improves local rhino numbers by 101 in nine years

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boost the country's tourism industry, she said, placing tourism contribution to the economy at 17 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) and 25 percent of total foreign exchange earnings. Dr Hassan Abbasi, the permanent secretary, said the tourism sector has provided direct and indirect employment to over two million people, on the basis of Bank of Tanzania (BoT) quarterly report for June 2024.

Foreign earnings had reached \$3.6bn, with international tourist visitations increasing to 1.9m in the past year, he said, while the minister urged the public to back the government's conservation efforts in combating poaching.

The public needs to report poachers to local authorities and law enforcement agencies, she said, pointing at data from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the African Rhino Spe-

cialist Group.

In the first decade of independence there were upwards of 100,000 rhinos in Africa, including white and black rhinos, with poaching cutting the numbers to 65,000 in the 1970s and 1980s.

Only black rhinos are found in Tanzania, with their population standing at anywhere around 10,000 in the 1960s but due to relentless poaching up mid past decade their numbers decreased to less

than 200.

The World Rhino Day is meant to raise awareness about the critical need to conserve the world's rhino species, highlighting on-going threats that rhinos face, including poaching, habitat loss and illegal wildlife trade driven by high demand for rhino horns.

It also encompasses the importance of rhinos in ecosystems and negative effects of their declining populations, he added.



Tanzania's Ambassador to Japan, Baraka Luvanda, delivers speech in Tokyo at the weekend at the launch of a partnership programme involving the private sector and smallholder coffee farmers in Tanzania, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Japan's Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries ministry and various major Japanese firms. Photo courtesy of Foreign Affairs ministry

Kenya vows to step up measures to boost rhinoceros conservation

NAIROBI

KENYA yesterday joined the rest of the international community in marking World Rhino Day by committing to intensifying measures to save the black rhino population in the country.

Rebecca Miano, the cabinet secretary in the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, said the government has adopted novel technologies such as the use of drones and forensic evidence to up the ante in rhino conservation.

"Besides, we have allocated resources to support the recruitment of additional law enforcement officers. This will contribute significantly to our efforts to save the remaining rhino populations and other wildlife for posterity," Miano said

during the celebrations in Samburu County, northern Kenya.

The official lauded the continued co-existence of humans and wildlife in private and community-owned spaces, which she said gives hope that Kenya will continue leading from the front in wildlife conservation, including offering invulnerable sanctuaries for rare animal species such as the rhino.

"I assure the global community that Kenya will continue to play her rightful role in wildlife conservation while laying special emphasis on rhino range expansion and conservation," Miano said.

Kenya is an important rhino habitat, hosting 80 percent of the eastern black rhino subspecies found in eight realms nationally, according to Miano.

She said the government has developed laws and policies that favor its quest to secure wildlife resources for current and future generations, including domesticating multilateral environmental agreements such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Miano said the implementation of the past six editions of the rhino recovery action plan and the seventh edition currently underway has enhanced the regeneration of the black rhino populations by more than 100 percent.

The number of rhinos in the country has increased from less than 400 in 1989 to 1,890 in 2022, with 966 being black, 922 white and two northern whites.

"There is likelihood that Kenya's

rhino population will exceed the numbers in 2022 once the ongoing national wildlife census is concluded," Miano said, adding that Kenya's black rhino population is ranked third largest globally after South Africa and Namibia.

She said the East African nation hosts the world's only remaining female northern white rhino following the death of "Sudan" in 2018, whose stuffed figurine is quartered at the Nairobi National Museums as an enduring relic of an iconic freak of nature in Kenya's wide-ranging stock of wildlife species.

The Kenyan official said the Wildlife Research and Training Institute, together with other researchers around the world, is working to bring the northern white rhino back from extinction.

US, Tanzania team set to heighten financial tracking system in LGAs

By Guardian Reporter

THE United States and Tanzania have joined forces to execute a project aimed at modernising inspection and finance tracking management information systems (IFTMIS).

Funded by the US government through USAID's Public Sector Systems Strengthening Plus (USAID PS3+), the project is implemented in collaboration with the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government PO-RALG), with additional support from the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).

The IFTMIS development team consists of Tanzanian developers and programmers from PO-RALG and USAID PS3+ with the aim of ensuring the project's sustainability concerning operational and developmental needs for system maintenance.

Denis Mbilinyi, Director of the Financial Audit and Monitoring Unit at PO-RALG, unveiled this recently during a training session in Mwanza Region.

He stated that the new system will help ensure that laws, regulations and procedures are adhered to in the implementation of local government authorities' duties, promoting good governance throughout the country.

Mbilinyi said that IFTMIS will simplify identification of financial discrepancies in daily operations, enabling more funds to be used effectively for their intended purposes. This is particularly crucial for development projects addressing community challenges in education, health, agriculture and livestock.

Abdul Kitula, director of public financial management at USAID PS3+, reported that improvements to IFTMIS have been completed, with refinements made to the analytics and dashboards of the inspection module.

"These enhancements will provide users with better insights and

streamline the inspection workflow, leading to a more efficient inspection process and improved oversight of public fund expenditure," he said.

Addressing existing challenges, Hamis Mjanja, principal internal auditor at PO-RALG, noted that the lack of automated mechanism to inspect and track funds disbursed to local government authorities has resulted in increased audit queries and a decline in unqualified audit opinions, negatively impacting governance.

Mjanja also pointed out difficulties in coordinating preparation and scrutiny of LGAs' responses and action plans for implementing Controller and Auditor General (CAG)'s recommendations, as the process is currently manual.

Effective communication among stakeholders, including the National Audit Office (NAO), LGAs, regional secretariats, PO-RALG and Local Authorities Accounts Committee (LAAC) has been challenging, particularly regarding audit reports and implementation of CAG recommendations.

The integration of IFTMIS with other systems is expected to facilitate data extraction from various electronic platforms used by LGAs for financial management and service delivery, enhancing efficiency of financial tracking and inspections.

Participants included financial management officers, internal auditors and ICT Officers who are set to train 3,652 system users across LGAs on preparing, verifying, and implementing responses and action plans for CAG recommendations through IFTMIS. The training aims to equip the ministry to instruct 184 LGAs and 26 regional secretariats as end-users of the system.

According to Mjanja, PO-RALG, in collaboration with USAID PS3+, aims to digitalise internal operations for inspections and responses to CAG and other directives, with the system expected to be operational by November this year.

EACOP, traditional leaders chat protection of community rights

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project has brought together traditional leaders from indigenous groups to discuss implementation of international laws that protect the rights of local communities.

Held in Arusha recently, the meeting was part of the project's quarterly review meeting to heighten protection of rights, particularly heritage, resources and cultures.

Speaking to reporters soon after the meeting, Fatuma Msumi, community engagement leader for EACOP in Tanzania, said discussions centred on the project's progress, future plans and protect implementation.

"The meeting brought together 103 traditional leaders from Waturu, Wamasai, Wakiha and Wabarbaig tribes, representing 29 villages across nine councils and seven districts, including Handeni, Kondo, Kilindi, Simanjiro, Kiteto, Kondo Hanang and Igunga," she said.

She expressed pride in the project's implementation, highlighting that it has proceeded without complaints from affected communities because of respecting their customs and traditions and their fundamental rights.

The meeting covered a range of topics, including general project report, updates on pipeline construction, land acquisition, measures to restore and enhance livelihoods of those impacted and reports on human rights and grievance management.

Benson Lukuta, member of EACOP Management Team in the Ministry of Energy, noted that the meeting provided a platform for dialogue on issues affecting the communities during project implementation, prioritising their rights, customs and general way of life.

"EACOP actively involves local communities in sustainable development initiatives, prioritising employment opportunities for residents affected by the project, thus promoting national economic growth," he said.

James Gejuru, Barbaig tribe leader, appreciated EACOP's commitment to prioritising communities affected by the project.

He highlighted the project's sensitivity to their culture, particularly the decision to reroute the pipeline away from the burial site of a traditional leader.

Shindaria Kishaida, chairman of the Datoga Community, praised EACOP for its efforts to include indigenous peoples and keep them informed about the project's progress.

"Our main task is to educate our communities about developments of the project and the employment opportunities available, including training for our youth to prepare them for work in the construction process," Kishaida said.

EACOP project aims to construct a pipeline transporting crude oil from Hoima in Uganda to Chongoleani in Tanga, spanning 1,443 kilometres with 1,147 kilometres in Tanzania and 296 in Uganda.

Key stakeholders in EACOP Total Energies which holds 62 percent stake, Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation and Uganda National Oil Company hold 15 percent each while Chinese oil company CNOOC holds 8 percent stake.

"The meeting brought together 103 traditional leaders from Waturu, Wamasai, Wakiha and Wabarbaig tribes, representing 29 villages across nine councils and seven districts, including Handeni, Kondo, Kilindi, Simanjiro, Kiteto, Kondo Hanang and Igunga"



Residents of Suguti village in Musoma Rural constituency look on forlornly at the weekend at one of the houses damaged by a downpour. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Jobs created by Mbamba Bay Port project big boost to area economy'

By Guardian Correspondent, Nyasa

TANZANIA Ports Authority (TPA) has said that the construction of a new port at Mbamba Bay, costing 75.8bn/-, is a major strategic project expected to boost local economy due to creation of job opportunities, especially for the youth.

TPA Deputy Director General Juma Kijavara, said this here at the weekend when speaking during a visit by Minister for Transport Prof Makame Mbarawa to inspect the site for the new port in Nyasa District, Ruvuma region.

Kijavara noted that one of the major benefits of the port construction is creation of job opportunities for local residents, especially the youth, adding that this is expected to stimulate economic development for families and the district as a whole.

He mentioned that various business opportunities would increase for local residents through services provided to contractors and project workers.

"This will boost income for small and medium-sized traders during the two-year implementation of this project," he said.

Kijavara also said that the implementation of supporting infrastructure such as roads and electricity will further benefit the local community.

In his address, Prof Mbarawa noted that the port will enhance the economies of Tanzania and neighbouring countries such as Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia, encouraging more investment in the private and public sectors, particularly in manufacturing, transportation, commerce and tourism around Lake Nyasa.

He commended TPA for executing the major project and for its effective operations that are beneficial to the nation.

"This modern port will reduce transportation costs of various industrial products, especially minerals, agricultural products and fish as it will have the capacity to accommodate large vessels, leading to lower shipping costs and more affordable prices for citizens," he said.

"Recently, we launched another major project for construction of large oil storage facility at the Dar es Salaam port," he said.

"Now, we are launching construction of this strategic port to open up the country and create various opportunities, including jobs for Tanzanians."

Construction of the port will involve, among other things, building

of two berths measuring 103 meters in length, capable of servicing two large vessels, unlike the current port which only accommodates small boats for cargo and passengers.

It will also include construction of warehouses, staff housing, an administration building, a passenger terminal, a workshop, a water tower, a health facility building, a bridge measuring 105 meters in length and 15 meters in width for cargo transport vehicles, a storage area for 3,000 cargo containers and internal and external roads for vehicles to access the port.

John Paul, TPA project engineer, said that the authority has already made an advance payment of 3.2bn/- (5 percent) to the contractor and has paid consulting engineer 448.1m/- as an advance payment which is equivalent to 10 percent.



Sports, Arts and Culture minister Dr Damas Ndumbo (R) is welcomed to Songea municipality at the weekend for the opening of a national cultural festival. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt ticks 11 of 13 activities in 2nd statistical master plan

By Correspondent James Kandoyo

THE government has completed 11 out of 13 activities in the first year of the five-year Tanzania Statistical Master Plan (TSMP Phase II) for 2022/23-2026/27.

Salum Kassim Ali, Zanzibar Chief Government Statistician, said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking shortly after the meeting on implementation support mission with the World Bank and the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

He said that the assessment is conducted every six months and the last assessment was conducted in May, this year.

Ali acknowledged the crucial technical and financial support provided by the WB, which has been instrumental in ensuring success of the programme.

The TSMP includes a total of 65 activities, of which Tanzania selected 13, successfully implementing 11 so far.

Dhiraj Sharma, senior economist at the World Bank's New York office, commended Tanzania's significant progress since March 2023 mission, noting that achieving 11 out of 13 results reflects the government's commitment to the TSMP's objectives.

New e-system billed to ease public engagement with govt

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR eGovernment Authority (eGAZ) has launched a new system aimed at simplifying communication, improve service delivery and boost public engagement with government institutions.

Dubbed 'Shared Government e-Services System (SGES)', the system aligns with the 2023-2027 e-Government Strategy, it focuses on creating unified and efficient systems for digital transformation within the government.

Speaking during the launch at the weekend, eGAZ Director General Said Seif Said noted that the system will enhance government operations by offering digital services such as SMS, bulk SMS, USSD services, interactive SMS platforms and a high-capacity data centre.

According to him, SGES will also help mitigate financial losses in public institutions by delivering essential services digitally, thereby improving governmental efficiency.

The eGAZ in collaboration with digital service provider Tigo Zantel aims to transform government services and build a transparent and efficient digital economy while developing information and communication technology infrastructure in Zanzibar's public sector.

Said revealed that assessment conducted by the agency indicated that adoption of a unified system could prevent losses of up to 50m/- per day, equating to 18bn/- annually, caused by the use of analogue

"This achievement positions Tanzania to continue receiving support from the World Bank for subsequent activities under TSMP Phase II," he said.

Sharma expressed encouragement over the advancements made since the last assessment, reiterating WB's commitment to providing necessary technical support for TSMP's success.

TSMP coordinator James Mbongo highlighted key accomplishments, including training, development of a quality assessment framework, enhancements of consumer price index and improvements in statistical infrastructure.

The procurement of tablets for data collection and the completion of various research initiatives were also noted.

The developments mark significant progress in modernising Tanzania's national statistical system.

TSMP II aims to build on the successes of its predecessor, addressing challenges and adapting to changes in the statistical landscape while focusing on harmonising data, improving quality and supporting Tanzania's broader socioeconomic goals.

systems across institutions.

He further highlighted the agency's commitment to reducing costs and increasing government revenue by encouraging various institutions to adopt the system.

On the topic of controlling financial leakages, Said noted that the agency regularly evaluates public institutions to safeguard government revenues by implementing robust systems that meticulously track employees' actions.

Aziz Said Ali, Director of Tigo-Zantel for Zanzibar, expressed pride in the company's role as key partner in the transformative project, supporting the government's digital transformation.

He stated that SGES will fortify the government's digital infrastructure, ensuring services are delivered more efficiently, transparently and accessibly, ultimately contributing to a stronger digital Zanzibar.

"This partnership exemplifies the power of collaboration in achieving national development through technological innovation," he said.



This partnership exemplifies the power of collaboration in achieving national development through technological innovation



Iramba district commissioner Suleiman Mwenda, addresses a meeting at Kinalilya village on Friday, part of the thrust of his remarks being on fines imposed arbitrarily on herders. Photo: Correspondent Tobias Mwanakatwe

By Guardian Reporter

COLLABORATION between the Ministry of Agriculture and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) has reached a milestone in enhancing global market access for Tanzania's agricultural crops.

This is through implementation of 'Strengthening Plant Health in Tanzania for Enhanced Food Safety' (STREPHT) project which has facilitated handover of a market access dossier for eight priority crops to representatives from 14 countries.

Funded by the European Union, the project aims to enhance access to safe and high-quality agricultural produce for both local and international markets.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture David Silinde officially presented the market access dossier to representatives in Dodoma late last week in an initiative which is expected to open new markets valued at approximately \$3.4 billion.

The ceremony was attended by ambassadors from the export countries, underscoring the

Tanzania boosts global market access for agricultural produce

importance of the initiative for Tanzania's agriculture sector.

The 14 countries involved in the initiative include EU member states, USA, Zambia, Pakistan, South Africa, India, Brazil, Mexico, Singapore, China, Malaysia, Canada, Turkey, Iraq and Israel.

"This handover marks a crucial turning point for Tanzania's agriculture sector," Silinde said.

The dossier aims to secure market access for key crops, including avocado, vanilla, black pepper, pineapple, cloves, cocoa, banana and Irish potatoes.

Idrisa Abdallah, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture -Zanzibar, highlighted the significance of this step for Zanzibar's agricultural exports, particularly for cloves, one of the island's primary exports.

"Securing access to this substantial share of the global market will certainly benefit

our farmers and strengthen our thriving agriculture sector which contributes about 85 percent of export earnings in Zanzibar and 27 percent of the GDP," he said.

STREPHT project is dedicated to ensuring that Tanzania's agricultural products comply with international standards, particularly phytosanitary standards essential for export markets. By meeting the standards, Tanzania aims to enhance its agricultural exports, especially to the EU and other global markets.

Lamine Diallo, head of Natural Resources Section at the EU Delegation to Tanzania and the East African Community, emphasised the EU's commitment to supporting Tanzania's agriculture sector. "The development of these market dossiers highlights the European Union's dedication to improving safety and health standards, boosting market access and

promoting investment in Tanzania's agricultural produce. This will stimulate growth in the export business and benefit Tanzania's agriculture and farmers," he said.

Dr Nyabenyi Tipo, FAO Country Representative and Dr Monday Ahonsi, technical adviser at FAO, praised the collective efforts that led to the achievement.

"The accomplishments are a result of joint efforts under the STREPHT project which focuses on strengthening Tanzania's plant health services to meet the stringent phytosanitary standards required by global markets," Dr Tipo said.

The Ministry of Agriculture through TPHPA in collaboration with the EU and FAO, remains committed to ensuring that Tanzanian agricultural products are competitively positioned in international markets, fostering growth and development across agriculture sector.



Christina Mndeme, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Vice President's Office (Environment), has a word with environment stakeholders in Mbeya city at the weekend on the use of clean cooking energy. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

NAIROBI

THE High Court of Kenya on Friday lifted a six-month sentence for the police chief after he tendered an apology for contempt in a case related to the disappearance of three political activists.

Deputy Inspector General of Police Gilbert Masengeli, who was Acting Inspector General of Police at the time of the disappearance of three human rights activists, had been sentenced to six months in prison, a sentence which was later suspended for seven days to allow him to purge the contempt.

Masengeli had failed to appear in court despite being summoned seven times to explain the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of three persons who went missing on August 19 during anti-government demonstrations.

The police chief appeared in court on Friday to tender his apology, citing official duties as the reason for his non-appearance and stating he was involved in critical security operations in the country.

"I humbly apologize to this

Kenya court drops six-month jail sentence for police chief

Honourable Court for breaking orders and undertake to comply in the future. The non-attendance in court, however, was not intentional but rather due to operational challenges," Masengeli said.

High Court Judge Justice Lawrence Mugambi stated that the court found Masengeli was remorseful for the contempt of court conviction, noting that he found the police chief's apology to be genuine and sincere, leading to the lifting of his six-month sentence.

He said Masengeli was calm before the court and pleaded for forgiveness and mercy from the court.

The judge said the police chief stated on oath why he could not attend court, including his day of sentencing.

"The supremacy of the law has been vindicated and up to this moment, Masengeli has successfully punched the contempt

of court conviction. As a result, the conviction and sentence are hereby set aside," the judge ruled.

The move came hours after the three political activists who had been missing for a month after their abduction were found alive Friday morning after being dumped on the roadside in the outskirts of the capital, Nairobi.

The Law Society of Kenya, an umbrella body of lawyers which filed the case, argued that the missing persons had used their social media platforms to encourage youth participation in nationwide protests and advocated for the rejection of the Finance Bill 2024.

"I humbly apologize to this Honourable Court for breaking orders and undertake to comply in the future. The non-attendance in court, however, was not intentional but rather due to operational challenges"



Dr. Praveen Chandra
Chairman - Interventional Cardiology
Medanta - The Medicity, India



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 **GERMAN QUALITY AND INNOVATION**

Tanzania granted global recognition for its efforts in Managing Cybersecurity Standards

By Our Writer

IN today's interconnected and digital economy era, where everything from banking to entertainment happens online, cybersecurity is more important than ever. As the nation embraces digital transformation, and more users are connected online, Inclusive and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development emerges as a paramount concern. Protecting our digital assets is crucial to ensure the safety and security of individuals, businesses, and the nation as a whole. As Doreen Bogdan-Martin, a leading figure in the field, has stated, "Building trust in the digital world is paramount." By investing in robust cybersecurity measures,

Tanzania can safeguard its digital infrastructure, protect personal information, and foster a thriving digital economy.

In the just released Global Cyber Security Index (GCI) 2024 report, The United Republic of Tanzania effort in managing the Cybersecurity standards has been recognized by the United Nations specialised Agency responsible for Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) known as the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The 5th Edition of the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024 just released has ranked Tanzania in the **Tier 1**, comprised of 46 countries that have executed the highest standards in Cybersecurity. Tanzania

has excelled First Winner, surpassing all countries in East and Central Africa.

Since its establishment in 1865, ITU has been driving innovations in ICTs together with 193 Member States and over 1,000 companies, universities, international and regional organizations. This intergovernmental body through its Telecommunication Development Bureau (ITU-D) is responsible for coordinating Inclusive and Secure Telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development, affordable connectivity, digital transformation and in establishing **the world-wide standards** that foster seamless interconnection of a vast range of communications systems.



Global Cybersecurity Index 2024

5th Edition



ITU through its study group comprised of ITU GCI Expert Group have designed evidence-based GCI assessment that is used to measure countries commitment in cybersecurity in the context of the following five pillars namely Legal, Technical, Organizational, Capacity development and Cooperation. The GCI, which was launched in 2015 looks at seeing countries develop well-defined, relevant and applicable legal frameworks that deals with cybersecurity and cybercrime, set up technical teams in dealing with cybersecurity at the national to sector specific level, measures to address lack of skilled talent, and efforts to enhance collaboration, particularly around issues impacting vulnerable populations as seen in the figure below:



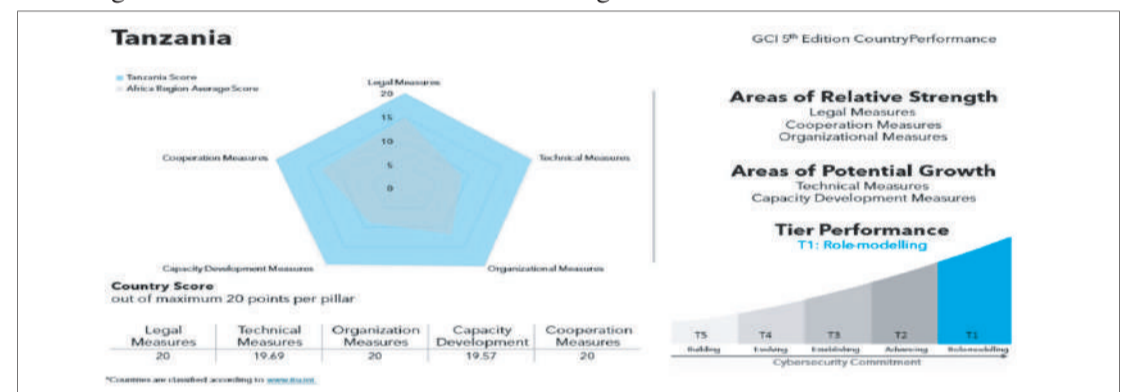
In the previous GCI report published in 2021 Tanzania's commitment in the management of cybersecurity was ranked as second in Africa after Mauritius. In the GCI Report released on September 12, 2024 countries were assessed using a new model of five-tier analysis, a shift that allows a greater focus on each country's advances with cybersecurity commitments and resulting impacts.

The report places 46 countries in Tier 1, the highest of the five tiers, reserved for "role modelling" countries that demonstrate a strong commitment in all five cybersecurity pillars. This is where Tanzania and other four (4) African countries have been listed.

The report also shows most countries are either "establishing" (Tier 3) or "evolving" (Tier 4) in terms of cybersecurity. The 105 countries in these tiers have largely expanded digital services and connectivity but still need to integrate cybersecurity measures.

A "cyber capacity gap"—characterized by limitations in skills, staffing, equipment and funding—was evident in many countries and across all regional groups.

In this 5th assessment the results shows that Tanzania has compiled 100% on the pillars of legal, Cooperation and Organizational Measures and leaving as technical and capacity development measures with areas of potential growth. Tanzania gained 99.27 overall marks and therefore becoming the third best



This assessment is very significant to Tanzania for it to be ranked in **Tier 1 - Role Modelling** with developed countries. This means Tanzania is fully trusted and has the required capabilities to optimally harnessing the benefits of international cooperation. Such international collaborations endeavours to facilitate the sharing of best practices, intelligence, and resources, strengthening the collective cyber resilience.



Speaking in an interview in Dar es Salaam yesterday over the Country assessment, the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) **Director General Dr. Jabiri K. Bakari** expressed this assessment from credible institution provides us as a

country an opportunity to build and fortify national cybersecurity capabilities and resilience especially as we build the digital and blue economies and cybersecurity collaboration will help us to navigate the complexities of cyberspace with confidence and

competence. He continued to mention that TCRA as a member of ITU will continue to improve in the areas highlighted that require improvement and will continue its commitment in building a culture of network and information security for the benefit of the

entire country. The TCRA Chief also called upon cybersecurity practitioners in the Country to acquire cybersecurity licenses so as to increase visibility and collaborations in cybersecurity activities in Tanzania.

Commenting on the report, ITU Secretary-General, Doreen Bogdan-Martin, said:

"Building trust in the digital world is paramount. The progress seen in the Global Cybersecurity Index is a sign that we must continue to focus efforts to ensure that everyone, everywhere can safely and securely manage cyber threats in today's increasingly complex digital landscape."



"The Global Cybersecurity Index 2024 shows significant improvements by countries that are implementing essential legal measures, plans, capacity building initiatives, and cooperation frameworks, especially in strengthening incident response capabilities. However, simply committing to action is not enough, we need to make sure that cyber commitments are implemented through high-quality, high-impact activities," said **Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director of ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau.**

Tanzania Computer Emergency Response Team abbreviated as TZ-CERT, is a team with the responsibility of coordinating response to cyber security incidents at the National Level and Cooperate

with Regional and International entities involved with the management of cyber security incidents. TZ-CERT was established under section 124 of the Electronic and Postal Act (EPOCA) no 3/2010 within

the structure of the TCRA. TZ-CERT offers services such as security alerts and warnings and security advisory more information is available on website <https://www.tzcert.go.tz>

Follow the link or scan the QR code to read the full report Global Cybersecurity Index 2024 <https://bit.ly/3XxCZHI>

Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024

Scan for a full report



<https://bit.ly/3XxCZHI>

Govt applauds banking sector for boosting SMEs, economy



Arusha District Council chairman Ojung'u Salekwa (4th-R) pictured yesterday launching an Information and Technology laboratory equipped with 26 computers at Oljoro ward's Endeves Secondary School for children from the Maasai pastoralist community. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has commended banking sector for supporting small and medium-scale businesses, enhancing economic performance and national development.

Exaud Kigahe, Deputy Minister for Industry and Trade, made the remarks at the weekend when wrapping up this year's Kariakoo Business Festival in Dar es Salaam.

The event brought together Kariakoo business stakeholders, enabling them to buy and sell goods at discounted prices while connecting with local and international customers.

He highlighted Kariakoo's strategic importance, describing it as the country's business hub, generating over 2bn/- in daily revenue for the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

"Any effort to uplift businesses in this area should be recognised and supported by the government. One of the major challenges our traders

face is access to capital," he said.

He said organising the festival opens up opportunities for networking, sharing business strategies and accessing affordable loans to foster economic growth and increase tax collections.

Kigahe lauded banks for sponsoring the important event, urging other financial institutions to follow suit to boost economic development.

"We at the ministry are pleased to see traders succeed. However, it is vital that the business community maintains honesty and trustworthiness in dealing with banks. Borrow responsibly, invest wisely and ensure timely repayment of loans to build trust and facilitate further credit access," he said.

Martin Mbwana, Kariakoo Business Community Chairperson expressed gratitude to lenders for embracing the idea of Kariakoo Festival, acknowledging their contribution to empowering the

community economically.

Alex Mgeni, head of business department at NMB, said that the bank disbursed over 2.5trn/- in loans to businesses over the past two years.

"When we were approached to sponsor the festival, we recognised Kariakoo's strategic significance. With five branches in the area and plans for further expansion, we felt compelled to support this gathering," he said.

The festival featured not only Kariakoo businesspeople but also various public institutions related to business, including the Tanzania Trade Development Authority (Tan-Trade), Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA), TRA, the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO), Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), Fair Competition Commission (FCC) and National Insurance Corporation (NIC).

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

RETIRED President Jakaya Kikwete is scheduled to lead a fundraising campaign to support the treatment of 1,500 children suffering from various heart diseases.

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Mussa Azzan Zungu unveiled this at the weekend when speaking about the event expected to take place on November 2 in Dar es Salaam.

He said that statistics available at the Ministry of Health show that out of 100 children born, two have heart problems and so far 1,500 children have been registered for treatment but they are not able to afford the cost.

Zungu said that if children battling such conditions normally do not get treatment on time and many of them die. He asked Tanzanians to come forward during the fundraising campaign to

JK to lead fundraiser for treatment of children battling heart diseases

contribute to the cause.

"I ask Tanzanians to join together to support the government's efforts to strengthen mother and child health services," said Zungu who is Board Chairperson of Heart Team Africa Foundation.

Zungu said that many children with such problems come from poor families. He asked various institutions and organizations to come forward to support their treatment at the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI).

He said JKCI in collaboration with Heart Team Africa Foundation have organized the fundraising campaign to collect 30 percent of the planned treatment for children which is equivalent to 4m/- for each child. President Samia Suluhu Hassan contributes 70 percent of treatment for children.

"I ask traders, private and public institutions, sports clubs, ambassadors of various countries and the media to support the efforts to save lives of our children through the slogan 'touch the heart and bring hope to the children'," he said.

JKCI Executive Director Dr Peter Kisenge commended the government's efforts for continuing to invest in health sector by purchasing modern medical equipment for all major hospitals in the country as well as training for medical professionals.

He said the improvement of health services in the country has attracted patients from various countries who have been coming to Tanzanian hospitals, especially the Muhimbili National Hospital and the JKCI) for treatment.

Dar school receives over 100 desks from education lovers

By Correspondent James Kandoya

KUNDUCHI Primary School in Kinondoni District, Dar es Salaam, has received a boost to its learning environment with donation of 138 new desks from education stakeholders.

Donated by Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam in collaboration with Rotary Vancouver, the desks will help pupils have a more comfortable and friendly learning environment.

During the handover ceremony at the weekend, Kunduchi Primary School head teacher Emmanuel Munisi said that the donation addresses a significant challenge of desk shortages at the public institution.

He said the new desks will greatly improve learning environment, allowing pupils to sit comfortably,

thereby boosting their academic performance.

Munisi thanked Rotary Club for the support and assured the donors that the desks would be well maintained for future generations.

Manisha Tanna, President of Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam, said that the donation brings the total number of desks provided by the club to 3,708, valued at over 470/-.

She explained that the initiative is part of a comprehensive strategy to enhance learning environment and promote environmental conservation through tree planting.

In addition to the desks, Rotary Club has also planted 7,140 trees and provided information communication technology training to 80 teachers.

"This is a significant step in addressing shortage of desks in

primary schools throughout the Dar es Salaam Region," Tanna said.

She noted that more than 10,000 primary school pupils have benefited from the initiative, moving from sitting on the floor to having proper desks.

Rotary Club remains committed to developing projects across seven key areas: promoting peace, fighting diseases, providing clean water, ensuring maternal and child health, supporting basic education and literacy, growing local economies and protecting the environment.

Through community service, Rotarians work to meet local needs and create lasting improvements while their international efforts address humanitarian challenges and foster global understanding and peace.

Ministry's newest fish farming plan targets ponds, rice farms

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries Minister Abdallah Ulega has announced a new strategy aimed at expanding fish farming in ponds and on rice farms to increase stock and boost incomes for communities.

Minister Ulega unveiled the plan at the weekend during his visit to Mpitimbi B Fish Farming Group in Songea District, Ruvuma Region.

"The strategy allows us to spread knowledge and encourage more people to engage in this type of farming. This initiative will not only enhance fish availability but also increase household incomes," he said.

The minister highlighted the commitment of the government to uplifting citizens through productive sectors.

He noted that encouraging young people to enter fish farming industry is vital for improving their economic prospects.

Ulega explained that promoting fish

farming is a key government priority as it presents a sustainable alternative to traditional fishing methods.

"This approach has the potential to significantly increase fish production while alleviating pressure on natural fish stocks," he said.

To facilitate the initiative, the minister outlined several measures, including establishment of demonstration farms. The farms will serve as training and innovation hubs, allowing new fish farmers to learn about best practices in aquaculture.

The demonstration farms will showcase modern techniques such as advanced feeding methods, disease management strategies and efficient water use practices.

By providing hands-on training and practical experience, the government aims to enhance skills and knowledge of fish farmers, thereby improving their productivity and sustainability.

Songea District Commissioner Wilman Kapenjama expressed optimism about the strategy's potential impact.

"If the initiative succeeds, it will greatly benefit many young people economically. Our district is ready to collaborate with the ministry to implement fish farming on rice paddies, ensuring that the people of Songea and surrounding areas have a reliable source of fish for consumption at all times," he said.

KATIKA BARAZA LA ARDHI NA NYUMBA WILAYA YA KINONDONI MWANANYAMALA

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GOODLUCK E. MMARY.....MUOMBAAJI/WAMBAAJI DHIDI YA

DR. HAROUN ALLY.....MDAIWA/WADAIWA

WITO KUITWA SHAURINI

DR. HAROUN ALLY

POPOTE ULIPO/MLIPO

GOODLUCK E. MMARY amefungua shauri mbele ya Baraza la Ardhi na Nyumba lillopo Kinondoni (Mwananyamala) shauri husika limepangwa kutajwa tarehe 10/10/2024 saa 03:00 asubuhi/mchana mbele ya Mh J.W.SILLAS Hiyoy unaamriwa kuhudhuria mbele ya Baraza siku hiyo bila kukosa.

Imetolewa na kutiwa saini na Mhuri wa Baraza hili leo tarehe 18 mwezi 09/2024

World Vegetable Center

Job Announcement

Project Manager – V4P&P Project

Nairobi, Kenya

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) is a non-profit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and five regional offices around the globe. WorldVeg conducts research and development programs that contribute to realizing the potential of vegetables for healthier lives and more resilient livelihoods. For more information, please visit our website: worldveg.org

WorldVeg is seeking a highly experienced individual to fill the position of Project Manager for the IKEA Foundation-funded project entitled 'Enabling Vegetable Business Development in East Africa for more Jobs and Better Human and Environmental Health' (in short, V4P&P). The project will contribute to enhanced youth employment, healthier ecosystems, and better nutrition through increased vegetable production and trade and provide leadership to activities related to strengthening of vegetable business networks.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Oversee and plan project operations, organize workshops, maintain project schedules, deliverables, and evaluation activities, and prepare and submit project reports in the two focus countries for submission to the donor.
2. Manage project finances and staff (recruitment, compensation, and performance).
3. Supervise and coordinate the work of the staff and the subcontracted partner organization in the project sites in Kenya and Ethiopia to implement field activities and meet program targets.
4. Facilitate training for M&E data collection and database management and serve as lead field monitor when necessary.
5. Liaise and coordinate closely with colleagues managing other complementary programs in the Eastern and Southern Africa region for sharing knowledge and cross-learning.
6. Record and document site and national-level experiences, best practices, and program performance.
7. Ensure high-quality science and research delivery as per the research agenda of the V4P&P project.
8. Promote gender equity within the project as well as in its outcomes and impacts.
9. Identify and pursue additional funding opportunities to strengthen the project's impact and leverage the donor's investment.
10. Represent the Center on project and related issues.

The Person:

- Master's degree or PhD in agricultural economics, agribusiness, horticulture/agronomy/agroecology, or another agricultural discipline but with a strong interest and proven expertise in business development.
- At least 5 years of experience in managing multi-country agri-food systems projects in Eastern and Southern Africa
- Extensive knowledge of agriculture, food systems, agri-business, rural networks and organizations, cultural practices, etc., in Eastern and Southern Africa.
- Strong communication skills in spoken and written English.
- Able to work with multidisciplinary teams in a multicultural and multinational environment.

The Reward:

This is an Internationally Recruited Staff (IRS) position with competitive pay and benefits. The initial appointment is for three years. The recruitment is conditional on a project funding agreement between WorldVeg and the project donor.

The candidate we hire will embody WorldVeg's Five Core Values:

<i>Dedication to Innovation and Knowledge Sharing</i>	Supports the conduct of world-class science, respects ethical standards, and is committed to sharing results in a transparent manner.
<i>Commitment to Impact</i>	Aspires to achieve positive, tangible, and lasting impact contributing to Sustainable Development Goals.
<i>Commitment to Partnerships</i>	Believes in the value of partnerships to advance research for development.
<i>Respect for People</i>	Respects the diversity of gender, culture, ethnic origin, religion, age, beliefs, and views.
<i>Respect for the Environment</i>	Strives to minimize its environmental impact and to introduce greener technology and practices.

How to Apply:

Applicants should submit a letter of application explaining their suitability for and interest in the position along with a curriculum vitae, a recent passport-size photograph, names and addresses (including telephone/fax/e-mail) of three referees, and date of availability to human.resources@worldveg.org before **15 November 2024**. Applications should be submitted in English and as a single PDF file. Please mention the position title in the subject line.

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New \$80m crop output booster funding should be well targeted

REPORTS from Washington, DC, speak of the United States committing more than US\$80 million in funding under a new programme meant to help increase agricultural output in three southern African states.

A senior US State Department official said the countries earmarked have the potential to supply food to the broader region, even though there is no country that can't supply surplus grain if the factors are right.

Thus, it is evident that there are strategic objectives that are helped by assisting in stabilising food supply.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) named the targeted countries Zambia, Malawi and Tanzania, noting that this brings the agency's total commitments to the region in the food sector to US\$577 million.

These countries, much like most others in Africa and well beyond, have rather abundant arable land with small-holder growers having the potential to boost yields with some help.

USAID says that these countries have expressed political will which has "in some cases been followed by very meaningful shifts in resources," which shows that the specific policies are helpful, even if they have some drawbacks.

USAID says it is trying to align and expand investments in accordance with plans "that we think are credible to that objective of regional breadbaskets". Yes, this is candid enough - that the main issue here is not being assured of success but credibility.

African farmers, like many others around the world, have had a torrid time in recent years, notably the rise in fertiliser prices what with the war in Ukraine.

The El Niño weather pattern as

prevailed late last year brought droughts with little precedent to Zambia and Malawi, while Tanzania endured severe flooding while Zambia witnessed a halving or crop harvests, with consumers facing soaring prices.

This was visibly becoming the case in Tanzania as purchases of maize by foreign traders for drought-stricken countries were halted, to avoid a consumer price spiral in cities.

The US has a 'Feed the Future Accelerator' focused on the technological environment for smallholder farmers, with smart-phone provision uppermost.

The farmers need to access information on weather patterns and soil health as well as apply fertilisers more efficiently. All this has been amply explained by agro-sector administrators, thus posing the issue as to what new input the programme raises.

Policy makers here would avidly prefer seeing the US agency bringing in the resources to pursue existing initiatives or strategies, but clearly the USAID authorities have some fine points to pursue.

While a range of critics see this programme as not being just about helping framers as it also involves boosting private investment alongside US government funding, the issue is elsewhere.

There is a contrast of sentiments that is taking time to die down, where local ears are tolerant of foreign companies if they come in, take up barren land and start projects.

Starting a \$35m seed production facility in Zambia jolts nerves, as Bayer Inc. is part of the biochemical industry, while policy makers here want just improved local seeds constantly researched while low crop yields are persistent. Surely, a tantalising scenario.

Mpox infections nearing 30,000 mark indicates crisis is unabated

THE number of cases of mpox reported in Africa has risen to 29,152, with 6,105 inclusive of 738 deaths since early, this according to the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC).

The trend shows that mpox isn't massively infectious but the threat is refusing to go away, with chances of a bigger public health emergency being seen in future.

The fact that there were 2,912 new cases in the second to third week of this month shows that 3,000 infections was a monthly average.

With 14 deaths reported for the month (up to end of last week), it is clear a breadth of agencies and governments are not quite in a hurry with vaccinations and dosages to forestall infections.

Reports from the Democratic Republic of Congo indicated that various officials there or abroad have not been working with the urgency it deserves to obtain mpox drugs or institute a rollout for vaccines.

Similarly, the security situation in the parts most of DRC affected by outbreaks of the disease has not helped with pushing the rollout to a good start.

Africa CDC experts cite cross-border movement, malnutrition and unsafe sexual practices as among the major risk factors for mpox, which is true if one is infected.

During Covid-19 it was clear that inhaling infected breath from an individual would be adequate for infection to take effect, so it was spreading like a whirlwind.

But it is on record that, while

there thousands of people cross borders in the Great Lakes region day in day out, it is fortunate that this has not necessarily been spreading infections.

What will not be resolved with any ease is this border crossing, the malnutrition factor and then interactive infections of a bodily sort, as to avoid this situation one has to be strongly suspicious in the first place.

It is evident that, considering these factors, many more children and adults are at risk of being infected should some infection scenarios involve a handshake or brushing arms.

In sum, it isn't entirely clear as yet whether the public affirmation by Africa CDC that is a month old that the ongoing mpox outbreak in Africa is a rising public health emergency of continental security has been validated.

In its characteristics, mpox is apparently closer to Ebola than Covid-19 while all the three diseases appear to have first been kindled by viruses from animals within a particular ecosystem.

Experts say mpox spreads through contaminated body fluids, respiratory droplets and other contaminated materials, in much the same way as various epidemics previously experienced.

As they say, a stitch in time saves nine. This is especially important and relevant this time around as it is lives that need to be safeguarded but amid shortages of vital vaccines while delivery of drugs is too slow for comfort.

We are witnessing yet another health emergency calling swift global preventive and remedial intervention.

The Demonstration



Gang violence and mass displacement ravage Haiti

By Oritro Karim

AMID the ongoing civil unrest in Haiti due to gang violence, levels of internal displacement have soared. Mass internal displacements in Haiti have led to a host of adverse consequences. This includes a disruption of schooling, increased levels of violence and exploitation, and limited access to essential services such as healthcare.

Just last week, clashes in the Cité Soleil and Delmas neighborhoods of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area have led to the displacement of over 2,000 people in the span of two days. As of now, over 170,000 people are displaced in Port-au-Prince alone, with over 300,000 displaced in the entire country.

On September 11th, armed clashes in Port-au-Prince forced over 103,000 children to flee to the Grand South displacement shelters. This influx of refugees has put a significant strain on local communities and shelters as they struggle to provide resources to those in need. In addition, the education system has been severely compromised, with Haiti seeing hundreds of school closures.

"The arrival of 103,000 displaced school-aged children in the Grand South has caused a severe strain on educational services while nationwide, nearly 919 schools in the West and Artibonite regions have been closed. Approximately 156,000 students have been affected, and many children have lost a substantial portion of their academic year due to these closures and ongoing violence", stated the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Armed gang violence and mass displacement have also led to the dwindling efficacy of several essential services. Specifically,

By Yasmine Sherif

THE longing for peace transcends time, geography and religion. Based on justice, human rights and universal values outlined in the UN Charter, a culture of peace brings us all together in our common agenda for humanity. We can only co-exist by aligning ourselves with such a world order.

On today's International Day of Peace, we call on world leaders to end conflict and embrace a culture of peace as enshrined in the UN Charter and related international law.

As the UN General Assembly outlined in the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace a quarter of a century ago, this must include: "Respect for life,



Families residing in a makeshift displacement camp located in the main square of Leogane, Haiti. Credit: UNICEF/Le Lijour

healthcare systems have seen significant losses. Approximately 40 percent of all healthcare facilities in Port-au-Prince have been shut down.

Reginald Fils-Aimé, director of strategic planning at the Haiti-based Zanmi Lasante non-government organization, told reporters that persistent gang violence impedes transportation for both healthcare staff and patients. Medicines cannot be transported due to fear of violence. Nadesha Mijoba, country director of the Haitian Health Foundation (HHF), adds that "patients are walking farther distances in search of health services, oftentimes, at very high risks of violence, kidnapping, rape, and even being killed".

Additionally, access to food has been severely limited as a result of conflict and displacement. Violence and heavy demand has put a significant strain on the

agricultural sector. The World Food Programme states that farmlands in the Arbonite Valley, also known as Haiti's "breadbasket", have been seized by gangs, leading to stolen crop yields.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has warned that since February, the escalating violence and displacement has significantly reduced agricultural production and disrupted the markets. This has left half the population, approximately five million people, experiencing acute hunger.

Severe overcrowding in makeshift displacement camps have exacerbated the health crisis in Haiti. These camps are breeding grounds for the spread of disease due to unhygienic living conditions, as well as the sheer amount of people that are in close contact. UNICEF states that a lack of access to clean water and adequate

sanitation has led to the spread of cholera.

Healing Waters International, a non-profit organization that is dedicated to bringing clean drinking water to impoverished communities, adds that contaminated water and dehydration often leads to the contraction of deadly waterborne diseases, including typhoid and diarrhea.

Gang violence and high levels of displacement have also made way for abuse and exploitation. The Human Rights Service of the UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) has monitored levels of forced recruitment of displaced children as well as gang use of sexual violence, including rape and mutilation, targeted towards girls and women. Kidnappings, killings, and physical assaults have also skyrocketed in the duration of this conflict.

IPS

Cultivating a culture of peace

human rights and fundamental freedoms; the promotion of non-violence through education, dialogue and cooperation; commitment to peaceful settlement of conflicts; and adherence to freedom, justice, democracy, tolerance, solidarity, cooperation, pluralism, cultural diversity, dialogue and understanding at all levels of society and among nations."

Educating for peace starts at home and continues in school through years of education. This takes place during the most formative years of a child learning about their identity, ethics, values, conscience, courage and compassion. Wherever there has been a failure in imparting on

children the imperative for peace, the world is turned upside down. This is a global failure with no geographical boundaries.

Today, we live in a world of unprecedented violence, armed conflict and chaos. All the genuine and heartfelt commitments made in 1945 in the UN Charter seem to be fading away. Children and adolescents are the most vulnerable, the least protected, and the most impacted. They bear the brunt.

Global conflicts killed three times as many children in 2023 than in the previous year, according to the United Nations. The number of forcibly displaced people reached an unprecedented 120 million in

May 2024.

"In 2023, the United Nations verified a record 32,990 grave violations against 22,557 children in 26 conflict zones, a 35% increase from the previous year," according to recent analysis by the UN.

We can end these violations and invest in a constructive co-existence globally. We can use our resources for education, rather than for wars. In classrooms around the world, girls and boys who have withstood the wrath of war can rebuild their hopes and their lives. Cultivating a culture of peace is possible. The financial resources exist. The choice as to how we use them is ours.

IPS

By Correspondent Constantine Akitanda

Financial resources key to combating food insecurity, malnutrition

IN July 2024, the global community received a stark wake-up call through the release of "The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024" flagship report.

The extensive report released by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP) and World Health Organization (WHO) shed light on an escalating crisis, the world is drifting further from achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Targets 2.1 (ending hunger) and 2.2 (eradicating malnutrition).

The central message is clear—without innovative financing tools and strategies, progress will stall, and the cost of inaction will multiply.

"Financing the gap to ensure food security and nutrition must be our top priority," states the FAO's urgent appeal.

Yet, despite such calls, global hunger and food insecurity are worsening, between 713 and 757 million people faced hunger in 2023—an alarming rise that places the world on a dangerous trajectory.

Despite concerted efforts over the years, food insecurity and malnutrition persist; the report reveals that, in 2023, an additional 152 million people faced hunger compared to 2019.

Around 2.33 billion people experienced moderate to severe food insecurity, with 864 million grappling with severe food insecurity—numbers that underscore the gravity of the global food crisis.

Economic turmoil, inflation, persistent income inequality, and geopolitical conflicts continue to fuel this crisis.

The Israel-Palestine conflict, for instance, left 96 percent of Gaza's population acutely food insecure. Climate change also exacerbates these pressures, affecting food production and pushing millions into hunger.

The uneven distribution of food insecurity and malnutrition further compounds the issue, rural communities, low-income countries, women, and marginalized groups bear the heaviest burden.

Since data was first gathered in 2015, women have consistently experienced higher rates of food insecurity than men, making gender disparity a critical aspect of the crisis.

But what truly stands out is the intricate web of interconnected drivers, political instability, economic fragility, and climate change. Each factor worsens the other, creating a cascade of hardship that traps millions in hunger.

The report identifies a central problem, financing for food security and nutrition is woefully insufficient. Even as international organisations and governments attempt to direct more funds into agriculture and nutrition, these efforts are fragmented and often misaligned with real needs.



The gap between what is necessary to meet SDG Targets 2.1 and 2.2 and the current available funding is staggering, closing this gap will require investments ranging from USD 176 billion to USD 3.975 trillion by 2030.

The urgency of this financial shortfall cannot be overstated, for the cost of inaction will far outweigh these figures. Hunger is not just a humanitarian issue; it is an economic one that can cripple growth and perpetuate cycles of poverty.

Still, donor-driven financing often

fails to address these concerns, with funds directed toward interests that miss the mark.

Another barrier is the financial constraints faced by many low- and middle-income countries, preventing them from adequately investing in food security and nutrition programs.

But the report does not merely catalogue failures—it offers solutions like blended finance, which marries public and private resources, is highlighted as a key approach to unlocking more investment in food systems.

Social protection programs, including cash transfers and food vouchers, offer a lifeline for many and need expansion to mitigate the immediate impacts of food insecurity.

Moreover, with climate change disrupting agriculture, investments in climate-resilient food systems are no longer optional—they are essential.

To address this crisis, the report proposes an overhaul of the financial architecture governing food security.

Governments must adopt integrated food systems that bridge agriculture,

health, education, and social protection. This holistic approach will not only tackle food insecurity but will also lay down a sustainable foundation for long-term progress.

There's also a pressing need to focus resources on the most vulnerable populations—those who have limited access to funding yet face the highest risks.

The ability to direct financing where it is most needed can be a game-changer in the fight against hunger.

Another critical recommendation is improving data collection and monitoring. Without accurate, reliable data, it is impossible to track progress or ensure that resources are being allocated effectively.

Transparency in how funds are used will enhance accountability and improve the efficiency of these programs.

Investing in sustainable agriculture is non-negotiable, the future of food production hinges on research, technology, and innovation that support climate-resilient agricultural practices.

Smallholder farmers, often sidelined, need financing to improve their access to land, technology, and markets, empowering these farmers could transform not only their livelihoods but also global food security.

At the heart of the report is a message of urgency, the current level of financing for food security and nutrition is inadequate and misaligned, without immediate and decisive action, the global community risks perpetuating a cycle of hunger and poverty that will only deepen with time.

This is no longer a matter of charity; it is an economic and social imperative, the report closes with a challenge, daring us to rethink how we fund food security.

Will we continue to treat hunger as an unfortunate consequence of conflict and climate? Or will we finally act, channeling resources into strategic, sustainable solutions that transform the way we feed the world?

As the numbers rise, so too must the commitment to ending hunger, the answers are there, the question now is whether we have the will to use them.

Lesotho needs constitutional reforms to gain political stability

By Hoolo Nyane

LESOTHO, a small country landlocked by South Africa, has been struggling to make constitutional reforms since the advent of coalition politics in 2012. It needs the reforms to address political instability which has been a feature of the country for more than five decades.

The judiciary, security agencies and civil service have been politicised, resulting in the institutions being abused for political ends, stoking recurrent instability.

The reform project has encountered many headwinds. High government turnover amid unstable governing coalitions, the reform processes being declared invalid numerous times by the judiciary, and a sheer lack of political will are just a few.

The current administration, in power since 2022, is taking a new stab at it. The national assembly is debating the bills intended to amend the constitution. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has hailed this as "a positive development".

But as a constitutional law researcher who has published widely on the constitutional developments in Lesotho, I argue that the current approach to constitutional amendment is only intended to ward off the current pressure to pass reforms. It may not cure the longstanding constitutional problems in the country.

The approach has two features. Firstly, the reforms process is now almost exclusively led by the government. This will enable the government to have only its views, and those it agrees with, being enacted as national reforms.

Secondly, it breaks the constitution into three separate amendments. This dismembers the constitution. The court of appeal has already warned against that, saying the sections of the constitution, regardless of how they are amendable, belong to a single basic structure.

Fits and starts

The reform attempts have been in fits and starts. The most decisive step was in 2022 when parliament, on the eve of its dissolution ahead of elections, passed a raft of reforms known as the omnibus bill. This resulted in the 10th amendment to the constitution.

However, parliament didn't follow the amendment procedures set by the constitution. The Court of Appeal in turn declared the reforms invalid. The process was restarted after the 2022 elections, overseen by the SADC Panel of Elders led by former Tanzanian president Jakaya Kikwete.

New attempt at reform

With the support of the SADC, the current coalition government, led by Prime Minister Sam Matekane, has broken the constitutional reforms into three sets:

Changes requiring a simple majority in parliament



Maseru, the capital of Lesotho

to pass: These are amendments that either introduce new provisions to the constitution, or alter provisions of the constitution that are not entrenched. These include sections such as changing the number of official languages. Government can pass this set alone.

Changes requiring a two-thirds majority: Section 85 of the constitution protects certain provisions by requiring a minimum two-thirds majority of the two houses of parliament. These provisions include the structure and workings of parliament, among others. The present government lacks this majority. It needs opposition support to pass this set.

Changes requiring a referendum: These are provisions that require a vote of electors before enactment, such as changes to the monarch and the bill of rights. They can only be changed by consensus across all sectors of society, not just in parliament. There is no plan at present to move ahead with this set of amendments.

The idea of the three-part approach is to

speed up reforms amid immense international and local pressure as it circumvents the many procedural hurdles in amending entrenched provisions.

But I see problems with it.

Stakeholders left out

The National Reforms Authority, established by an act of parliament in 2019, was disbanded in 2022 by the government of the former prime minister, Moeketsi Majoro.

The reforms authority was not a perfect model. It was dominated by politicians and was criticised for not following proper constitution-making processes. But at least it gave the reform project some legitimacy because it represented a variety of stakeholders. It even relied on public consultations reports produced by its predecessor, the National Dialogue Planning Committee.

In the new approach reforms are led by the government. Previous governments were warned against a government-led approach to reforms as it alienates other stakeholders.

The ultimate purpose of these reforms is to change governance in Lesotho, which is characterised by unchecked exercise of executive power. It's unlikely that a government will reform itself.

There are political elites - in government and the opposition - who are against fundamental changes. They believe in continuing the current Westminster design with only minimal changes. The problem with the Westminster system in Lesotho (a constitutional monarchy) is that the monarch's powers have drifted to the prime minister, who exercises them for political ends. This has been at the centre of political instability.

Piecemeal approach

The government has evidently rejected calls to totally overhaul the constitution and replace it with a new one. Instead, it has chosen piecemeal amendments.

The government reckons it can easily pass the simple majority amendments and easily negotiate with the opposition to secure

support for passing the two-thirds amendments. Then, perhaps in future, consider the amendments requiring a referendum.

This is a flawed attempt to deal with criticism by both the high court and the court of appeal in 2022. The courts held that parliament had disregarded the rules about how to amend the constitution.

Parliament is now heading for another pitfall: dismembering the constitution. Breaking it into compartments to make it easier to amend it will kill its basic structure.

The courts have already warned the parliament against interfering with the basic structure of the constitution without the involvement of the people.

What should be done

The donor community and society in Lesotho have grown impatient with the delay in finalising the reforms. But pandering to pressures is not enough.

The ideal approach would be for the country to make the new constitution through a proper process that will culminate with the people approving the outcome in a referendum. This approach has already worked in recent constitutional changes in Africa. The most recent examples are Kenya and Zimbabwe. This approach will enable the country to reflect holistically on its treacherous constitutional development and clothe the new changes with the garb of legitimacy.

By Frank Abel

Droughts and floods as climate change fuels cholera outbreaks: What long-term solution?



IN Tanzania, the interplay between extreme weather events—such as prolonged droughts and intense flooding has created a precarious environment for water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) practices.

Climate change refers to long-term alterations in temperature, precipitation patterns, and other atmospheric conditions on earth, primarily driven by human activities such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial processes. These changes can lead to extreme weather events, including prolonged droughts and intense floods.

Droughts occur when there is insufficient rainfall over an extended period, resulting in water shortages that can severely impact agriculture, drinking water supplies, and overall ecosystem health.

Conversely, excessive rainfall occurs primarily due to the complex interactions of atmospheric conditions, including increased moisture in the air, changes in wind patterns, and the influence of climate change. When warm air rises, it cools and condenses, forming clouds that can lead to heavy precipitation.

Climate change exacerbates this process by increasing global temperatures, which allows the atmosphere to hold more moisture. As a result, when weather systems move through an area, they can release this accumulated moisture in the form of intense rainfall. Additionally, phenomena such as El Niño and La Niña can disrupt normal weather patterns, leading to periods of excessive rain in certain regions.

Droughts can contribute to cholera outbreaks in Tanzania by diminishing access to clean water and forcing communities to rely on contaminated sources, which increases the risk of cholera infection.

To address this issue Tanzania needs to implement comprehensive strategies to improve water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure, especially in drought-prone areas. This includes investing in sustainable water management practices and ensuring reliable access to safe drinking water for all communities.

Floods can contribute to cholera outbreaks in Tanzania by overwhelming sanitation systems and leading to the contamination of drinking water supplies with the cholera-causing bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*.

During periods of heavy rainfall and flooding, sanitation systems can become overloaded and fail to properly treat and dispose of human waste. This can result in the contamination of water sources used for drinking, cooking, and hygiene purposes. When people consume water contaminated with *V. cholerae*, they are at risk of developing cholera, a severe diarrheal disease that can lead to dehydration and death if left untreated.

The recurring cholera outbreaks in Tanzania, driven by both flooding and drought, underscore the critical link between climate change and public health. Both extreme weather events are manifestations of climate change, with droughts leading to water scarcity and reliance on contaminated sources, while floods overwhelm sanitation systems, contaminating drinking water supplies.

Given that these climatic factors significantly contribute to the spread of cholera, addressing the root cause—climate change—emerges as a more effective strategy for combating cholera outbreaks. By implementing comprehensive climate action initiatives, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing environmental resilience, Tanzania can mitigate the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events.

This proactive approach not only aims to decrease the incidence of cholera but also fosters a healthier population by improving overall water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) conditions. Ultimately, prioritizing climate change mitigation will create a sustainable framework for public health that protects communities from the dual threats posed by environmental changes and waterborne diseases like cholera.

In regions like Simiyu, which are prone to cholera outbreaks exacerbated by drought, implementing adaptation measures such as drilling water dams and wells is crucial for ensuring access to clean

and safe drinking water. The most effective way to achieve this is through Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), which leverage the strengths of both sectors to enhance water infrastructure. Communities are often willing to pay for reliable access to clean water, making PPPs a viable solution for financing and maintaining these essential services.

By engaging private entities in the development and management of water sources, local governments can ensure that projects are not only sustainable but also tailored to meet the specific needs of the community. This collaborative approach fosters innovation, efficiency, and accountability, ultimately leading to improved health outcomes by reducing the incidence of cholera.

As we confront the challenges posed by climate change, investing in resilient water systems through PPPs will be a pivotal step towards safeguarding public health and enhancing community resilience against future droughts and cholera outbreaks.

For regions prone to flooding, such as Rufiji, Kilombero, and Dar es Salaam, implementing effective adaptation measures is crucial to mitigate the impact of extreme weather events and reduce the risk of cholera outbreaks. One of the most effective strategies is to enhance water management systems by constructing and maintaining robust drainage systems that can efficiently channel excess rainwater away from populated areas. Additionally, investing in flood-resistant infrastructure, such as elevated water storage facilities, can help ensure access to clean water even during heavy rainfall.

Public-private partnerships (PPP) can play a pivotal role in these efforts, as they allow for shared resources and expertise in developing sustainable water management solutions. Engaging local communities in these initiatives is essential, as they are often willing to contribute financially for reliable access to safe drinking water.

Promoting awareness about hygiene practices during flooding events can significantly reduce the risk of cholera transmission. By integrating these measures into a comprehensive flood management strategy, Tanzania can enhance community resilience against flooding while safeguarding public health and preventing cholera outbreaks.

Given the scarcity of resources, the government may face challenges in implementing comprehensive adaptation measures to mitigate cholera outbreaks caused by droughts and floods.

An effective approach to address this issue is to leverage the social corporate responsibility (CSR)

initiatives of companies operating in the affected regions. By identifying and prioritizing key areas for intervention, the government can engage with these companies to align their CSR efforts with the most pressing needs.

Companies with operations in drought-prone regions like Simiyu can be encouraged to invest in sustainable water management projects, such as constructing water dams and drilling wells. These investments not only provide access to clean water but also demonstrate the companies' commitment to the well-being of the communities in which they operate.

By partnering with the government and local authorities, companies can ensure that their CSR initiatives are tailored to the specific needs of each region and are implemented in a coordinated manner.

Similarly, in flood-prone areas, private companies can contribute to enhancing drainage systems and constructing flood-resistant infrastructure. This not only protects communities from the immediate impact of floods but also reduces the risk of cholera outbreaks by preventing the contamination of water sources.

Companies especially telecom companies can also support public awareness campaigns on hygiene practices during flooding events, further strengthening the resilience of communities against waterborne diseases.

To facilitate this approach, the government can establish a platform for regular dialogue between the public and private sectors. This platform can serve as a forum for identifying priority areas, sharing best practices, and coordinating efforts to maximize the impact of CSR initiatives.

By fostering a collaborative environment, the government can harness the resources, expertise, and reach of the private sector to complement its efforts in addressing the challenges posed by climate change and cholera outbreaks.

Moreover, the government can provide incentives and recognition for companies that actively engage in CSR initiatives aligned with the national priorities for climate change adaptation and public health. This can include tax benefits, awards, or preferential treatment in government contracts, encouraging more companies to participate in these crucial efforts.

By leveraging the CSR potential of companies operating in Tanzania, the government can effectively supplement its resources and implement targeted interventions to protect communities from the dual threats of climate change and cholera

outbreaks. This collaborative approach not only enhances the resilience of the nation but also fosters a sense of shared responsibility and partnership between the public and private sectors in addressing pressing environmental and public health challenges.

To effectively address public health issues with root causes stemming from environmental factors, a holistic approach that integrates the efforts of the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Health is crucial. This collaborative framework should focus on developing and implementing comprehensive strategies that tackle environmental challenges while simultaneously improving public health outcomes.

One such approach is the establishment of an inter-ministerial task force dedicated to identifying and mitigating environmental risks that contribute to disease outbreaks. This task force can conduct joint assessments, share data and resources, and develop coordinated action plans to address issues such as water contamination, improper waste management, and air pollution.

By addressing these environmental factors, the task force can help prevent the spread of waterborne diseases like cholera while also improving overall community health.

Furthermore, the task force can work towards strengthening early warning systems and emergency response mechanisms to effectively manage disease outbreaks triggered by environmental factors. This includes enhancing disease surveillance, improving communication channels between the two ministries, and ensuring the availability of necessary resources and supplies. By integrating environmental considerations into public health planning, the task force can help build resilience and minimize the impact of future outbreaks.

Additionally, the task force can spearhead public awareness campaigns that educate communities on the linkages between environmental health and personal well-being. These campaigns can promote sustainable practices, such as proper hygiene, water conservation, and waste management, empowering individuals to take an active role in safeguarding their own health and the environment.

By adopting this holistic approach, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Health can optimize resource utilization, foster synergies, and achieve greater impact in addressing public health challenges with environmental roots. This integrated strategy not only tackles the immediate health concerns but also lays the foundation for long-term sustainability and resilience in the face of emerging environmental threats.

In conclusion, the intricate relationship between climate change, extreme weather events, and public health crises such as cholera outbreaks in Tanzania demands urgent and coordinated action. As demonstrated, both droughts and floods serve as catalysts for the spread of cholera, highlighting the pressing need for a comprehensive approach that integrates environmental management with public health strategies.

By prioritizing investments in sustainable water and sanitation infrastructure, enhancing community resilience through education, and fostering collaborative partnerships between government and private sectors, Tanzania can effectively combat the dual threats posed by climate change and waterborne diseases.

The time to act is now; failure to address these interconnected challenges not only jeopardizes public health but also undermines the future of countless communities across the nation. We must seize this opportunity to create a healthier, more resilient society that can withstand the impacts of a changing climate while safeguarding its most vulnerable populations.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



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Initiative to equip children with financial literacy in Tanzania unveiled



By Guardian Reporter

IN an initiative designed to provide children with essential financial literacy in Tanzania, Stanbic Bank has launched Hatua Account Clubs.

Emmanuel Mahodanga, bank's head of personal banking said during the account launch yesterday in Dar es Salaam that the idea is meant to overcome today's increasingly complex financial landscape, the ability to manage money, understand investments, and make informed financial decisions is more critical than ever.

He said that the programme is part of bank's commitment to empowering the next generation by offering them the tools to navigate and succeed in a world where financial literacy is foundational to success.

According to him, Hatua Account Clubs offer children a unique learning experience, combining fun activities like golf, tennis, football, movies, and arts with lessons in financial responsibility. The initiative seeks to instil positive financial habits at an early age, helping children understand important concepts like saving, budgeting, and investment.

"These skills have both immediate and long-term benefits, preparing children not only to manage their day-to-day finances but also

to build wealth, manage investment portfolios, and make sound financial decisions as adults," he said. He highlighted the importance of early financial education, stating: "We are preparing children to live in a world where understanding finances, managing investments, and building wealth are essential life skills. By introducing these concepts early, we set them on a path toward financial independence and success."

The expected outcomes of the Hatua Account Clubs programme go beyond simply teaching children about money. In the short term, the initiative helps children form healthy financial habits, such as saving regularly and thinking carefully about their spending. In the long term, these early lessons are expected to evolve into a deeper understanding of complex financial tools, such as managing investment portfolios and navigating global financial markets, ensuring that future generations are financially literate and capable of making informed decisions.

The account underscores the bank's broader commitment to fostering financial inclusion and education across all age groups. The program is open to all children, and parents are encouraged to participate in nurturing these essential life skills in their children.

Milestone as continental food initiative inaugurated in Dar

By Guardian Reporter

AFRICA Food Tanzania has launched a special initiative designed to empower communities, drive innovation and promote sustainable practices focused on organic farming and climate resilience.

Dubbed: "Africa Food Initiative", the initiative will enhance farming practices, leading to better crop yields and increased earnings, ultimately contributing to Tanzania's agricultural production and foreign exchange earnings.

Speaking during the official launch in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, Mahonda MP, Abdullah Ali Mwinji said the initiative will help revolutionise agriculture across the continent.

He noted that farmers in Tanzania often struggle with poor crop yields due to out-dated farming methods, limited resources and a lack of essential inputs.

"This initiative is more than just a project; it's a movement to unlock the potential of Tanzania's agricultural sector. The goal is to empower every farmer and community, contributing to a self-sufficient and prosperous agricultural economy," he said.

Herment Mrema, Africa Food Tanzania director outlined the programme's ambitious objectives, which include halving food imports and waste, thereby establishing Tanzania and Africa as global leaders in sustainable agriculture.

"We aim to ensure food security while preserving our cultural and environmental heritage," Mrema said.

He welcomed stakeholders to collaborate in building a resilient and sustainable agricultural sector, setting a global example of innovation and environmental stewardship.

Godwin Nyelo, Executive Secretary of Africa Food Tanzania, highlighted the importance of local advisory boards and teams in driving change.

"These teams will be equipped with essential tools and knowledge to foster innovation and leadership," he said.

Nyelo stressed the need for collaboration, stating that the initiative



aims to build a dynamic network of partnerships across Africa, sharing resources and best practices to replicate success and address challenges.

He said to date, the Africa Food Initiative has launched in 11 African countries, with more countries expected to follow.

Nyelo emphasized that value chain development is crucial for boosting productivity.

"We aim to empower stakeholders across agricultural, service, and industrial sectors to produce and market value-added products, creating sustainable income streams for smallholder farmers," he said.

In line with the needs of the 21st century, Nyelo pointed out that fostering a culture of innovation among smallholder farmers is vital.

The initiative encourages strategic partnerships with local businesses, government entities, NGOs, and farmer cooperatives to expand

its impact.

"A strategic plan for Africa Food Tanzania aligns well with the Agricultural Policy, ensuring the initiative contributes to the nation's long-term agricultural transformation goals," he said.

Tanzania takes sixth position in Africa with 212 rhinoceros

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE State of the Rhino Report 2024 released by the International Rhino Foundation over the weekend, places Tanzania on the sixth position in Africa, as far as the number of horned mammals on the continent in concerned.

The IRF Rhino Population data for Africa released in sync with the World Rhino Day observed last Sunday, indicates that South Africa maintains the lead with the biggest number of the horned species on the continent, despite increasing cases of poaching in the country.

There are only 14 countries in Africa that still have Rhinos left. The entire continent is estimated to have over 17,460 white Rhinos and 6,420 black rhinos as of August 2024.

In total there should be more than 23,880 Rhinoceroses on the African Continent according to the recent data released by the International Rhino Foundation (IRF).

South Africa tops the bill on the continent with a total of 16,056 Rhinos, among them 13,991 whites and 2,065 blacks. But the International Rhino Foundation reveals that the country also leads in Rhino poaching cases where 499 such animals were killed in 2023.

Namibia follows in the second position with 3,612 Rhinos, according to the State of Rhino Report of 2024, but only two happen to be black Rhinos while the rest, 1416 are white. A total of 67 Rhinos were poached in Namibia within 2023.

Kenya, which leads in East Africa as far as the number of Rhinos is concerned, ranks third on the continent with a total of 1,811 such animals, among them 938 blacks and 873 white species. Only one Rhino was killed by poachers in Kenya in 2023.

Zimbabwe has a total of 1,033 Rhinos, with the State of the Rhino Report



ranking the country at number four, though it suffered 11 cases of poaching in 2023.

Botswana comes fifth in Africa with the highest number of Rhinos at 265, among them 242 whites and 23 blacks. A total of 138 such rare mammals were however poached in the country between 2018 and 2022.

Tanzania takes the sixth position in Africa with a total of 212 Rhinos, from the census conducted by the Arusha-based, National Wildlife Re-

search Institute (TAWIRD). The country has not experienced any rhino poaching incident for over five years now.

Eswatini with 146 Rhinos takes the seventh position in Africa, as of late; there have been no cases of poaching in the country either according to the International Rhino Foundation (IRF).

Zambia is left with 66 Rhinos at the moment, 58 blacks and 8 whites, with only one poaching incident

which occurred in 2022 and therefore the country ranks at number eight in Africa.

At number nine, comes another East African Country, Rwanda which has a total of 58 black rhinos, with no poaching incident so far.

Closing the top ten list on the continent is Malawi which has 56 Rhinos with only one killed in 2022.

Uganda is another country in the East African Community with Rhinos; Kampala has recorded 35 White Rhinos, ranking at number 11 on the continent.

The Democratic Republic of Congo at Number 12 has a total of 20 white Rhinos.

Mozambique with 16 Rhinos, among them 14 whites and 2 blacks ranks the African population list at number 13.

Finally comes Chad whose Rhino population is at a measly 7 closing the list at number 14. Despite a 10-year decline during the height of the poaching crisis, white rhino populations have come a long way and are increasing again.

White Rhinos occur in just four countries: South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, and Kenya. White Rhinos are not endangered, although they

have been impacted by poaching.

On the other hand, Black rhinos have been steadily increasing since their population low in 1995. Both species are far better off than they were 30 years ago and will hopefully continue this upward trend.

Tanzania continues to breed black rhino species at the Mkomazi National Park in Kilimanjaro Region.

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area in Arusha remains the only area in East Africa where Rhinos roam freely in the crater.

There were a total of 586 deaths by poaching occurring across Africa in 2023; with 499 of those taking place in South Africa. The 586 rhinos lost in 2023 represent about 2.5 percent of the African rhino population that year, or one rhino killed every 15 hours.

Kruger National Park of South Africa, once the hotspot for rhino poaching - had 78 rhinos killed in 2023, a decrease of 37 percent from 2022.

The vast majority of poaching last year (65 percent) occurred in the province of KwaZulu-Natal, which had an alarming 325 rhinos poached - 307 of those deaths occurred in just one state park, Hluhluwe iMfolozi.

By Jérôme Tubiana

Refugee chronicles: The long and lonely road from Sudan to France

On a windy, rainy February day in Gravelines on France's northern coast, two Sudanese men in a parking lot are struggling to read a bus schedule. Today, the two men are trying to find the next bus to Calais, 21km (13 miles) to the west.

The United Kingdom is just 32km (20 miles) across the sea. But in weather like today, dinghies full of refugees are unlikely to cross the English Channel.

The day before, the sky was clear and 249 people seeking a new life in the UK had made it across on five boats.

It's a common endeavour - in 2023, some 30,000 migrants successfully crossed the Channel on the "small boats" which continue to drive headlines in the UK. One of them asks for help.

"We've been in the region for 10 days," Hashim*, a tall man in his 20s, tells me. "We need time to know what we'll do next. So, we're moving from Sudanese camp to Sudanese camp, trying to get information."

Last night, he and his friend, Yusuf*, a loud, bearded man in his 40s, slept in a camp in Dunkirk.

Hashim is certain they will find room in a tent in Calais tonight. Yusuf appears less optimistic.

Hashim has fled here from West Darfur, which has endured repeated bloody massacres for 30 years. Yusuf is from Blue Nile, another war-torn province in the east of Sudan.

They followed similar routes from Sudan to Europe but only met in France. They decided to try to cross together to the UK, but the small boats are too expensive for them.

It's 1,500 euros (\$1,655) for a Sudanese passenger, or as much as 2,000 or 3,000 euros for supposedly "richer" nationalities such as Syrians, Afghans or Vietnamese.

The money is paid to the gangs of people smugglers - some of whom are migrants themselves.

As they are talking, a bus pulls up and they get on, following a crowd of refugees and migrants who are wet from a failed boarding attempt on a nearby beach.

I check with the driver to ensure he is heading to Calais, and they head off.

Later that day I'll see them again, warmed, in the hangar in Calais where the charity Caritas-France welcomes migrants on the near-island that forms the heart of the port city.

Worst displacement since the partition of India Sudan's displacement crisis has been called the world's worst since the partition of India in 1947 displaced at least 15 million people.

Since war broke out in Sudan in April 2023, more than 10 million Sudanese have been displaced.

Some have taken to the roads towards the Mediterranean and Europe, joining uncounted millions from the world's disaster zones. Like generations of Sudanese people fleeing past conflict, they have often been smuggled in the backs of trucks.

But their journeys are getting quicker, taking weeks rather than, as in the past, months or years for those who went before them and usually stopped along the way to earn money in North African countries.

In the not-so-distant past, most Sudanese in Libya would work to send remittances home - a key part of the journey.

But a recent United Nations survey found that 75 percent of Sudanese in Libya intend to move on because of the violence, detention and racism they, like other Black Africans, suffer in the country.

Sudanese are also among the nationalities most commonly intercepted at sea by the Libyan Coast Guard or pushed back into Libya by the Tunisian National Guard at the land border - often followed by detention in Libya.

From mid-2023 to mid-2024, some 10,000 sub-Saharan Africans were reportedly deported from Tunisia to Libya.

In May this year, hundreds of mostly Sudanese refugees and migrants camping in front of UN offices in downtown Tunis were rounded up and reportedly expelled to the Algerian border.

In response to refugee inflows, the European Union continues funding border guards across Africa while offering minimal aid to refugee camps, hoping these measures will suffice to deter Sudanese and other sub-Saharan Africans from moving northwards.

In February, the UN noted how the Sudan conflict had worsened Europe's migration fears and called for more support for refugees in the form of aid.



A boy collects straw at Adre, a refugee camp on the border of Sudan and Chad, to which tens of thousands of people have fled from West Darfur to escape violence by armed groups allied with Sudan's Rapid Support Forces (RSF). The people there are mostly ethnic Masalit who fear a campaign of ethnic cleansing.

"The Europeans are always so worried about people coming across the Mediterranean," said UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) head Filippo Grandi. "I have a warning for them ... if they don't support refugees coming out of Sudan, even displaced people inside Sudan, we will see onward movements of people towards Libya, Tunisia and across the Mediterranean. There is no doubt."

To the people we met who were fleeing the Sudanese war, the European response is baffling.

That is especially so for those who succeed in crossing the Mediterranean to Italy and then make it via the Alps to France in hopes of reaching the UK. To them, it is the peak of absurdity that the same French authorities who try to prevent them from entering France then try to prevent them from leaving.

With UK funding since 2003 - some 543 million euros (\$606m) has been set aside for 2023-2026 - the French authorities systematically stop migrants and refugees from boarding the "small boats" from France, with some officers reportedly stabbing the dinghies and slashing tents under which migrants sleep, then leaving those who do not manage the crossing with little support in France other than from a handful of NGOs.

Tea, towels and survival blankets On that same cold, grey morning when I met Hashim and Yusuf, 12 wet, freezing Vietnamese people were walking down a coastal road south of Calais. Their boat had capsized.

On their way back from this misadventure, they met a team from the French association Utopia 56, which formed after the tragic death of a Syrian toddler named Aylan, whose body was washed to shore in Turkey in 2015. It has some 200 volunteers who

provide food, shelter and legal advice to migrants across France. On clear nights, when dinghies may be able to cross the English Channel, it "marauds" (French for patrols) the roughly 150km (93 miles) of coastal roads to provide assistance to those who don't make it.

When we arrive at this spot on our way to Calais from Gravelines, Utopia 56 volunteers are providing hot tea, towels and survival blankets to the Vietnamese, then waiting with them for the fire brigade. The mayor of the nearby town of Wimereux turns up and agrees to make a room available so they can warm up. The firemen offer to take them there. According to the Utopia 56 volunteers we speak to, such empathy is "not that common".

After visiting this spot, the Utopia 56 team drives to the nearby Plage des Escardines and scans the shore for possible shipwrecked migrants. There are police officers on the beach, and some follow us.

One of them asks the team about a potentially missing boat with 69 people on board. The activists' distrust of the policeman is visible. "You know, we've been trained to rescue," the policeman says, trying to reassure them. "We're here for that. If they succeed crossing, I don't give a f***!"

Later we learn that at around noon, a French Navy vessel rescued a boat with 56 migrants, and that three passengers (reportedly Iranian Kurds) had been reported missing. The official record states that after the rescue took place, the passengers said three people had fallen overboard. One body was found, but the two others could not be located.

Over in Calais, which we reach in the early afternoon, groups of migrants are leaving their muddy campgrounds on the outskirts of the city to head to town. They flock to the hall where Caritas volunteers welcome migrants in the afternoons, providing food, warmth and advice about their rights in both France and the UK. In 2016, the French authorities dismantled the encampment, which had become known as the "jungle", essentially a collection of slums with about 9,000 migrants. Since then, dozens of smaller "jungles" of tents, provided by local charities, have been forming again on the outskirts of Calais. Despite regular and often violent evictions by police, the camps continue to reform.

According to Juliette Delaplace, Caritas's manager in Calais, the town permanently hosts "more than 1,000 migrants in different jungles, divided by communities - there are Sudanese, Eritrean, Afghan jungles. At least 60 percent of the migrants are Sudanese, it is the first nationality."

This afternoon, it is closer to 90 percent of the 720 migrants who have come to the Caritas centre today - some new arrivals, and others from the jungles looking for a meal and some warmth.

This is not new, Delaplace adds - the Sudanese have been present for at least 10 years. But more have come since the onset of the latest war in Sudan last year. And with less money to pay smugglers than refugees and migrants from some other countries, "they stay longer than others and are more dependent on NGOs", she says. Despite the seemingly large numbers of Sudanese here, Calais is actually only hosting a small share of the 1.5 million new Sudanese refugees (since the war began), most of whom are being received and hosted by much poorer countries bordering Sudan. Since 2023, 600,000 people have fled to Chad and another 500,000 to Egypt, joining a diaspora there estimated at 4 million.

By June 2023, overwhelmed Egyptian authorities had suspended the visa exemption policy - first for Sudanese men, then for children, women and elderly people as well - despite a 2004 agreement on free movement. Refugees were forced to pay higher fees to smugglers or more in bribes at the border to get across.

'Anything of value, they took'

Issa, a tall man who looks older than his 20 years, is sitting at a table in a corner with a small group of other young Sudanese, all visibly exhausted. They gather here, where there are electric wall sockets to charge their phones - a lifeline for information on crossing opportunities, the weather and news from those who have already left Calais about whether or not they made it.

Issa entrusts his phone to a friend and moves to a quieter corner for a chat.

He is from the Fur tribe, who gave the region its name: "Dar" means "home" in Arabic, making Darfur "home of the Fur". The Fur are the region's biggest non-Arab tribe.

Last year, Issa was in Sudan's capital, Khartoum, where he was going to university and working at a bakery to support his parents and siblings. In April, like many out-of-town students, he left the capital to spend Ramadan in his hometown of Kabkabiya, North Darfur.

That was when war broke out between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

Although the rivals have been vying for power over Khartoum, Darfur wasn't any safer. The battle quickly reignited old ethnic divisions and engulfed Kabkabiya, a historical stronghold of the Arab tribal militias known as the "Janjaweed", some of whom were repackaged into the RSF by former President Omar al-Bashir.

They quickly took the town, according to Issa. Some SAF soldiers were killed; the others fled.

The next day, the RSF entered houses and farms, shooting at civilians, and targeting the non-Arabs. Issa lost many friends.

He wipes away tears and continues: "Anything of value, they took. They also targeted women, they raped many. And they tried to enlist young men. My father forbade me to go out to avoid running into the RSF."

Issa had already been thinking of leaving Sudan to work abroad and help his family. "The war precipitated my decision," he explains. His father gave him money for the journey and his plan was to head straight to Europe - no particular country in mind.

In June, Issa left in the back of a pickup truck filled with 45 passengers, all non-Arab young men leaving Sudan. It was packed because the drivers were trying to make as much money as possible - the passengers who had money paid for the others. The first payment they had to make was to the RSF, just to be allowed out of the town.

No-man's land In early July 2023, Sfax had witnessed a wave of violence against Black Africans, followed by the arrest and deportation of 1,200 of them to the Libyan border.

At least 28 people died in the no-man's land between the two countries, some of thirst, and 80 more were reported missing. But Sfax had quietened down a bit by the time Issa and his friends arrived, so they scrounged up some cardboard to sleep on close to a downtown market.

Tunisia was becoming a popular embarkation point, with 84 percent of the Sudanese people who crossed to Italy in 2023 leaving from there while the previous year, 2022, some 98 percent had left from Libya.

The switch is largely down to money. In El Amra, a main departure hub just north of Sfax, Issa was quoted 1,500 Tunisian dinars (\$500) for a spot on a boat going to Italy - roughly half the price charged in Libya.

But the smuggler ran off with the cash, leaving a desperate Issa who, instead, headed to Tunis to register with UNHCR, the United Nations' refugees agency. While he waited for his appointment there - a month away - he found a job in construction paying just \$7 a day.

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One

Radio One

BUSINESS

Gold price breaks \$2,600 barrier as Fed cut bets prolonging historic run

BENGALURU

GOLD soared above the \$2,600 level at the end of last week, being the first time in history, extending a rally boosted by bets for further US interest rate cuts, and rising tensions in the Middle East.

Spot gold was up 0.7 percent at \$2,605.50 per ounce on Saturday, while US gold futures rose 0.6 percent to \$2,630.30. Silver gained 0.5 percent to \$30.93.

Bullion's latest rally got a fillip after the Federal Reserve initiated an aggressive easing cycle on Wednesday with a half-percentage-point reduction, adding to the appeal for gold, which pays no interest.

Prices of the safe-haven asset have climbed 26 percent in 2024, its biggest annual rise since 2010, as investors also sought to hedge uncertainties spurred by prolonged conflicts in the Middle East and elsewhere.

The record rally could be poised for a correction, analysts said.

"Clearly, there's still some buying activity associated with the Fed's decision to begin their easing cycle with a big cut," said Daniel Ghali, commodity strategist at TD Securities.

However, "the source of this buying activity remains off our radar," given ETF (exchange traded fund) inflows are relatively marginal and Asian buyers are still on a buyers' strike, all signs of "extreme positioning," Ghali added.

The record rally has eroded retail demand in top consumers China and India. It "should not go on forever," Commerzbank said in a note, citing the expectation for rate cuts of only 25 basis points each at the Fed's next two meetings.

Still, some analysts said gold could see more upward spikes.

"Geopolitical risks, such as ongoing conflicts in Gaza, Ukraine, and elsewhere, will ensure to sustain gold's safe-haven demand," Forex.com analyst Fawad Raqazada said in a note.

Continued weakness in the dollar, which makes gold cheaper for hold-



ers of other currencies, offered additional tailwinds, analysts said.

Elsewhere, Platinum fell 1.1 percent to \$974.76 and palladium shed 1.7 percent to \$1,062.25.

According to the report by the World Gold Council (WGC), the global gold production is expected to experience modest growth in 2024.

According to projections, gold output could stabilize or slightly increase, driven by new mining projects coming online and the recovery of operations impacted by earlier challenges, such as supply chain disruptions.

While central bank demand has been a significant driver for gold in recent years, contrib-

uting notably in 2023, 2024 is expected to see a slight deceleration in central bank purchases, particularly from countries like China.

However, despite this, the overall global demand for gold remains robust, with central bank buying expected to stay above historical trends.

Factors like geopolitical uncertainty, inflation, and interest rate policies are likely to impact gold's overall market performance, but production levels should remain stable, with no significant downturns forecast.

Furthermore, regions like Africa and Latin America continue to play essential roles in maintaining strong gold supply globally.

Reports show Africa is projected to maintain its significant role in global gold production, driven by major producing countries like South Africa, Ghana, Tanzania, Mali, and Sudan.

Mali, for example, is expected to produce around 57.3 metric tons of gold, with key companies such as Barrick Gold and B2Gold leading the efforts.

This represents a slight decline from the 66.5 tons produced in 2023 but still places Mali among the continent's top producers.

New project seeking to help fruit growers to fight against pests

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Tanga

THE Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) has launched a key project to equip agricultural extension officers and farmers with critical knowledge to combat pests that attack fruit trees.

The robust initiative, which operates in the fruit-growing regions of Kilimanjaro and Tanga, aims to empower farmers cultivating avocados, oranges, and mangoes. The project, titled the Fruit Tree Agroecological-based Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Project, is a three-year collaboration between TARI Ukiriguru and the Kenya-based International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), funded by the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ).

As part of the project, 165 extension officers and farmers in the Hai and Siha districts of Kilimanjaro region and Muheza district in Tanga region have been trained on integrated pest management (IPM) to tackle pests affecting avocado, mango, and orange crops.

Speaking during the project's training session in Tanga over the weekend, Dr. Abdallah Mkiga, the project leader for Tanzania through TARI Ukiriguru, emphasized that the project is designed to support farmers in managing pests more effectively and professionally, especially those that damage their crops.

"This training is intended to ensure that farmers and extension officers can identify fruit tree pests, such as fruit flies and False Codling Moth (FCM), and



Farmers from Tanga Region attend a special training on integrated pest management for pests attacking avocado, mango, and orange trees. The training was held in Muheza district, Tanga region, over the weekend. PHOTO: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

apply suppression techniques using an integrated pest management approach," Dr. Mkiga said.

Dr. Shepard Ndlela, the team leader from ICIPE, added that through IPM, farmers will reduce their reliance on chemical pesticides, thus enhancing productivity and fruit quality while safeguarding human and environmental health.

Farmers who participated in the training praised the eco-friendly IPM techniques introduced, such as on-farm monitoring, the use of biopesticides, male annihilation, baiting methods, natural enemies like parasitoids, and orchard sanitation practices, including the use of the Augmentorium.

Charles Semagongo, a farmer from Mkinga village in Muheza district, Tanga region, who owns over 1,500 orange trees, said the training helped him identify pests he had previously not considered a threat to his mango and orange orchards.

Another participant, Fatuma Muhammed, an orange grower from Muheza district, said she now understands how to differentiate between natural enemies and pests and how to integrate these natural enemies with other control techniques for better results.

"We used to think that weaver ants were harmful to our oranges, but the experts from TARI and ICIPE explained that these ants are beneficial as they protect the oranges from other pests," she shared.

Earlier, during the training's opening session in Hai district, District Commissioner (DC) Lazarus Twange commended TARI for its efforts in building the capacity of agricultural experts

and lead farmers across the country, including in Hai.

"This initiative supports the government's goals to enhance the agricultural sector," DC Twange said.

The four-day training was conducted by experienced researchers from TARI Ukiriguru (Mwanza), TARI Tengeru (Arusha), and TARI Mlingano (Tanga), in collaboration with experts from ICIPE in Nairobi, Kenya.

Muheza District Executive Director (DED), Dr. Juma Mhina, stated that the project has come at an opportune time, as fruits are a major source of income for many farmers in the district.

"Apart from being crucial to the district's economy, fruit production has long faced pest-related challenges. We are optimistic that the implementation of this project will help resolve these issues, boosting the economic growth of individual farmers and the nation as a whole," Dr. Mhina noted.

Firm launches demo farm to revolutionise farming

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibaha

MZURI Afrika Company has embarked on a groundbreaking initiative to establish a demo farm in the Vigwaza area of Kibaha District, aimed at transforming the agricultural sector by utilizing state-of-the-art machinery.

The 300-hectare project, located in the Coast region, is over 60 percent complete, with crop planting scheduled to begin in mid-January next year.

The initiative focuses on demonstrating advanced farming techniques and technologies, offering local farmers practical insights and tools to enhance productivity and sustainability through the use of hydraulic machinery.

MZURI Afrika's Managing Director, Shaban Mgonja, stressed the importance of modern tools to boost agricultural productivity in response to the rising demand in global markets.

"Preparations for the farm are ongoing, and

we expect to start planting seeds at the beginning of the year, coinciding with the rainy season," Mgonja announced during a ceremony bidding farewell to graduates at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA).

As part of the project, five operators were trained at SUA through a two-month program, focusing on handling the sophisticated machinery to be used on the farm.

The hydraulic machinery is a game-changer, capable of performing four tasks simultaneously: digging, planting seeds, applying fertilizers, and aerating the soil.

"It can cover five to seven acres per hour, a significant improvement over traditional hand-hoe farming methods," said Mgonja. "On average, two operators can manage up to 1,000 acres from planting to harvest, drastically reducing operational costs for farmers."

The new technology also promotes conservation agriculture, which helps preserve land over multiple farming seasons and reduces



fertilizer use by 30 to 40 percent.

Dr. Nelson Makange, Acting Head of the Agro-Mechanization Unit at SUA, noted that this technology will greatly enhance wheat production due to its efficiency.

"Training farmers, especially youth, on the proper use of agricultural equipment will attract more people to the field," Dr. Makange said.

MZURI Afrika also highlighted the success of these machines in Poland, where they have been shown to produce up to 14.25 tonnes of wheat per hectare.

In comparison, data from the Tanzania Ag-

ricultural Research Institute (TARI) indicates that the average yield in Tanzania is currently about 1.6 tonnes per hectare.

Efforts are underway to boost productivity in Tanzania through both intensification and extensification, with a target of reaching at least 3.0 tonnes per hectare.

The company is also committed to raising public awareness, particularly among youth, to increase their involvement in agriculture.

"There is growing interest among young people in farming, and by improving their methods—especially through the use of modern machines—we can promote modern, ef-

ficient agriculture," Mgonja added.

Since 2022, at least 26 students specializing in agricultural machinery have graduated from SUA, with many securing employment due to the high demand for skilled machine operators.

One of the recent graduates, Naomi Mhina, the only female operator of such machinery on the continent shared her experience by saying: "The journey wasn't easy, especially as a woman in this field. However, I persevered because I saw the opportunity and knew I could succeed."

The partnership between the company and SUA focuses on training operators in advanced agricultural machinery, by equipping participants with essential skills to effectively operate state-of-the-art equipment, enhancing productivity and innovation in agriculture sector.

By combining academic expertise with practical training, this initiative seeks to prepare a skilled workforce capable of meeting growing demands for modern farming.

LONDON

Middle East, Africa M&A deal activity falls 8pc

DEAL activity in the Middle East and Africa fell 10.4 percent in the first eight months of 2024 amid challenging economic conditions, according to data and analytics company GlobalData.

North America registered an 18.9 percent YoY decline, while Europe, Asia-Pacific and South and Central America reported a fall of 16.2 percent, 8.1 percent and 27.3 percent, respectively.

Overall, global deal activity fell 15 percent year-on-year (YoY) to 32,050 deals by August this year.

Mergers & acquisitions (M&A) deals volume fell 9.5 percent YoY, while private equity and venture financing transactions declined by 13.4 percent and 23.9 percent YoY, respectively.

"Factors such as macroeconomic challenges and geopolitical issues are likely in-

fluencing the deal-making activity," said Aurojyoti Bose, Lead Analyst at GlobalData, adding that dealmakers must navigate this complex environment with strategic foresight and adaptability.

The dip in deal volume, particularly in major regions, may open doors for savvy investors and companies to acquire undervalued assets and strengthen their positions for the eventual market rebound,

Bose stated.

However, Morgan Stanley's outlook shows that global mergers and acquisitions (M&A) activity in 2024 is expected to recover after facing challenges in 2023, driven by several key factors including improved market conditions, sectoral trends, private equity and cross border deals.

"After a slow 2023, the global economy

is stabilizing, and capital markets are becoming more conducive to deal-making. A better macroeconomic environment, with cooling inflation and more predictable interest rates, will encourage companies to seek growth through acquisitions," says Morgan Stanley.

The firms report says, technology, healthcare, energy, and financial services are leading sectors for M&A. In tech, digital transformation, AI advancements, and cybersecurity concerns are spurring deals.

Conservation community members urged to capitalise on beekeeping

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

MEMBERS of the Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA) across six geographical zones have been encouraged to initiate beekeeping projects in their village forests.

This initiative aims to curb deforestation, increase income, and promote environmental conservation.

Daniel Lucas, the project manager for MJUMITA's Forest and Farm Facility (FFF), made this call during the 24th MJUMITA Annual General Meeting held last week in the Morogoro municipality.

The event attracted 15,000 community network members, forestry officials, village leaders, donors, staff from the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG), and ward councilors.

Lucas identified the six zones as the Southern Highlands, Central, Northern, Western, Eastern and Coastal, and Southern. He highlighted the potential honey yields if beekeeping projects are initiated:

Tanzania's vast forest resources provide ideal conditions for honey production. By engaging in beekeeping, communities can not only generate income but also manage these resources more sustainably.

Beekeeping offers the opportunity to produce honey, beeswax, pollen, propolis, royal jelly, brood, and venom. These products help improve livelihoods,



Members of the Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network across six geographical zones attend annual general meeting last week in Morogoro municipality. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

conserve forests, and combat climate change.

Lucas also noted MJUMITA's efforts in supporting the beekeeping sector. To date, 61 individuals have been trained in adding value to bee products.

Additionally, MJUMITA has established the Kilosa District Beekeeping Federation and provided educational materials for primary school students, including a beekeeping book and an essay competition. The organization has also supplied 100 modern beehives to participating schools.

MJUMITA supports beekeepers in showcasing honey-based products at national exhibitions and has built demonstration sites for practical learning. Tanzania currently ranks as the second-largest honey pro-

ducer in Africa, behind Ethiopia, and 14th globally, with 32,691 tons of honey produced in 2022.

Lucas emphasized that the beekeeping sector has great potential to contribute to the national economy and improve livelihoods.

It can create jobs, generate income, address health issues, ensure food security, and sustain ecosystems through pollination.

During the meeting, MJUMITA community network members proposed that the government allocate a budget for village forests similar to the funding provided for central and district forests.

They also called for training programs for village leaders and councilors in forest conservation and good governance, as some contribute to deforestation.

The Ministry of Lands, Housing, and Human Settlement Development is working on village mapping to prevent land disputes. Integrating forest conservation education into school curricula was also recommended to raise awareness among students.

MJUMITA's members further advocated for each member to plant at least 10 trees to promote environmental conservation and encourage local communities to protect forests and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Continuous education on land laws is also necessary to reduce disputes, and an exchange program could facilitate knowledge-sharing among successful conservationists.

MJUMITA's Executive Director, Rahima Njaidi, stressed the importance of collaboration among stakeholders to share experiences and develop strategies to combat deforestation, noting that it takes years to reverse forest loss.

Rehema Ngelekela, Chairperson of MJUMITA's National Board, highlighted that 1.8 million hectares of forest have been conserved on village lands, allowing for local ownership and management.

This workshop was organized by MJUMITA with support from the African Visionary Fund, Maliasili Investing in People for Nature, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Ministry and association organise exhibition for small industries

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Tanzania Association of Small Industries Owners and Small Producers (TASSIM), in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and Trade, has organized the Tanzania Small Scale Industries Exhibition, scheduled for the end of October in Dodoma.

The exhibition will take place from October 28 to November 1, 2024, at the Jakaya Kikwete Convention Center. Its main goal is to celebrate the significant contribution of small industries in strengthening Tanzania's economy.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, TASSIM Chairperson Ali Masoud announced the event during the launch of the Small Industries Day (TAMISID). He emphasized the importance of the exhibition, which is expected to gather over 1,000 participants, including

small industry owners, producers, and policymakers.

Other attendees will include industry professionals and representatives from both the public and private sectors. More than 500 participants are expected to showcase innovative products and services, promote networking, and engage in insightful discussions about the industry.

Masoud explained that the objectives of Tanzania's Small Industries Day are broad, aiming to amplify the voices of the small industries community and celebrate their significant role in the development of the nation's economy. The event seeks to foster creativity and competition among small industries while raising awareness of their contribution to economic sustainability and growth.

Additionally, the exhibition will highlight the achievements of small industries, showcasing their critical



The Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Dr. John Simbachawene, (L) admires products made by one of entrepreneur who attended the launch of the Small Industries Day that is organized by the Tanzania Association of Small Industries Owners and Small Producers (TASSIM) over the weekend in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

role in driving economic progress. It will also provide an opportunity for businesses to connect and explore potential collaborations, further promoting growth opportunities in the sector.

The exhibition will also offer educational insights, with discussions on industry trends, best practices, and strategies for overcoming challenges faced by small-scale industries. Participants will

have the chance to engage with key industry stakeholders, including financial institutions, policymakers, civil society representatives, and academics. The Deputy Permanent Sec-

retary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Dr. John Simbachawene, invited citizens and stakeholders to participate in a meeting aimed at improving the new Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) policy.

Dr. Simbachawene explained that the government had gathered feedback in the first phase of consultations and will now hold a second phase in Dodoma for those who missed the initial opportunity. He urged citizens, entrepreneurs, and businesspeople to attend and provide their opinions to help shape the policy.

"The Ministry continues to work on the new SMEs policy, and we have called a meeting for stakeholders in Dodoma to contribute their opinions in this second phase. This will help finalize the policy and enable it to support our nation's economic development," said Dr. Simbachawene.

He added that one of the key objectives of Small Industries Day is to raise awareness of the sector's contribution to the economy while encouraging creativity and innovation within the industry.

Science students receive scholarships from Karimjee Foundation US Fed to get validation for rate cut

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

FOUR local secondary school students specializing in science have successfully secured scholarships to pursue advanced studies at various universities, courtesy of the Karimjee Foundation.

This brings the total number of students who have benefited from the East Africa-based business group to 49.

The students awarded the scholarships through the Young Scientists Tanzania (YST) initiative include Salha Shamimu and Ramlat Hamad from Lumumba Secondary School in Zanzibar, and Winfrida Haliyake and Ally Abdallah from Mitunduruni Secondary School in Singida region.

In an exclusive interview with The Guardian over the weekend, Cobus Van Zyl, head of the marketing department at the Karimjee Foundation, said the Foundation received over 1,055 scholarship applications from students across the country this year.

"Apart from awarding scholarships to these four students, we have also granted Meda Iddi Omondi and Mussa Jairoso Albert, from Sikirani Secondary School in Kilimanjaro, 2.1 million Tanzanian shillings each. Additionally,



Winfrida Haliyake (right) and Ally Abdallah (left), students from Mitunduruni Secondary School in Singida region, who won scholarships for advanced science studies at university, pose for a group photo with Cobus Van Zyl (center), head of marketing at the Karimjee Foundation. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Erick Egidius Kweyunga and Aidan Mjuni Andrew from Kibaha Secondary School received a total of 1.2 million shillings for excelling in their exams," Van Zyl said.

He noted that the scholarship recipients come from 337 secondary schools that were shortlisted and qualified to

compete for the prestigious opportunity.

"The entire selection process was handled professionally and transparently. The four qualified students presented their innovative ideas in the science sector. These business ideas were scrutinized and later approved

by the Karimjee Foundation in partnership with Young Scientists Tanzania (YST)," Van Zyl explained.

Van Zyl emphasized that the Karimjee family, for 200 years, has upheld education and charity as core principles of its business philosophy.

The Foundation has supported numerous initiatives, including building schools and hospitals, offering educational scholarships, fostering community development, and promoting science, technology, and wildlife conservation.

"Since becoming the main sponsor of YST in 2011, when the competition attracted just four applications, we have witnessed remarkable growth. This year alone, 1,055 applications were submitted from 337 schools across Tanzania. To date, 49 students have received scholarships from the Karimjee Foundation," Van Zyl highlighted.

Van Zyl also expressed optimism that the Founda-

tion's partnership with YST will continue to inspire students to pursue careers in science and technology and encourage schools to engage with these platforms.

"We are particularly proud of the YST team for their tireless efforts in making this initiative a success, helping build scientific capacity across the country," he added.

Founded in 1825, the Karimjee Group is one of East Africa's most respected and diversified business entities, with interests spanning automotive, real estate, financial services, and more. The Group remains committed to the region's economic development through its ventures and partnerships.

The mission of the Karimjee Foundation is to invest in education as a catalyst for Tanzania's socio-economic progress. Through Young Scientists Tanzania, the Foundation supports a platform that plays a pivotal role in driving this effort.

LONDON

THE Federal Reserve's preferred price metric and a snapshot of consumer demand are seen corroborating both the central bank's aggressive interest-rate cut and Chair Jerome Powell's view that the economy remains strong.

Economists see the personal consumption expenditures price index rising just 0.1 percent in August for the second time in three months. The inflation gauge probably climbed 2.3 percent from a year earlier, the smallest annual gain since early 2021 and a shade higher than the central bank's 2 percent goal.

The slowdown in inflation from a year ago reflects falling energy and weaker food prices, along with moderating core costs. The PCE price gauge excluding food and fuel probably rose 0.2 percent for a third month, economists expect government data to show Friday.

The step-down in inflationary pressures from earlier this year provided Fed policymakers with enough confidence to lower rates on Sept. 18 by a half percentage point. The cut was the first in more than four years, and represented a pivot in the central bank's policy toward averting a deterioration in the job market.

Investors will parse remarks from a large number of Fed officials in the coming week. Governors Michelle Bowman, Adriana Kugler and Lisa Cook, along with regional presidents Raphael Bostic and Austan Goolsbee, are among those set to appear at various events.

The August inflation figures will be accompanied by data on personal spending and income, and economists project another solid advance in household outlays. Sustained consumer spending growth helps raise the chances that the economy will continue expanding.

Africa's oil exporters struggling as cost of climate change soars

By Hafed Al-Ghwel

AFRICA'S major oil-producing countries face an ironic predicament. Despite high global oil prices, their production is on a steep decline, hemorrhaging economic opportunities, and impeding overdue transitions to low-emission economies.

These petrostates, including Nigeria and Angola, have lower trade surpluses today than in 2010, even though oil prices are significantly higher.

It raises the question: Why aren't these resource-rich nations reaping the benefits of the current oil boom?

On the surface, the answer appears to be multiple years of under-investment and systemic challenges. Outdated legislation, strained relations with local communities, and competition from emerging oil exporters such as Guyana have stymied anticipated growth.

Countries such as Congo Brazzaville and Equatorial Guinea have seen significant contractions in oil output, while nations such as Nigeria have recorded dramatic declines. Meanwhile, non-African OPEC peers such as Saudi Arabia and Russia have increased oil production, further accentuating the disparity.

More worryingly, the rapid decline in global oil demand growth in recent months, particularly driven by China's economic slowdown, has triggered a sharp sell-off in oil markets. This sudden drop is already having crippling effects far beyond Asia.

In Africa, where petrostates have already been grappling with long-standing issues, including obsolete infrastructure and fluctuating political stability, the consequences are even more acute.

Countries such as Nigeria and Angola, which are heavily reliant on oil revenues, now face a double-edged sword: diminishing demand globally and internal production challenges. This dual pressure is destabilizing their already over-burdened economies, impeding their ability to invest in critical sectors, while also facilitating a transition to more sustainable energy sources.

Furthermore, shrinking global oil demand has also led to reduced investments in the African oil sector, further exacerbating challenges posed by decreasing output. With global financial institutions and oil companies diverting their capital elsewhere, African countries are left with few options but to rely on aging oil fields that yield less and less each year.

For instance, Nigeria's oil production fell to record lows in recent years, unable to compete with more efficient oil jurisdictions. The struggle is not merely about maintaining output, but about surviving in an increasingly competitive and shifting global oil market landscape. A sustained fall in demand means lower revenues, making it even more difficult for the continent's oil-dependent countries to finance necessary upgrades and exploration projects.

Moreover, the impact stretches beyond mere economic concerns. With dwindling oil revenues, African petrostates struggle to fund public services, social programs, and infrastructure projects. Worse, debt levels in many African nations are already alarmingly high, often hovering around 85 percent of gross domestic product.

The reduced fiscal space from ballooning repayments curtails governments' ability to invest in alternative energy sources and sustainable development initiatives, thereby risking their long-term economic stability.

The plummeting oil demand globally and production deficits intrinsically tie these countries' fates to an increasingly uncertain oil market, raising vital questions about their future economic strategies and resilience in a transitioning energy economy.

Thus, what can African petrostates and, similarly, the continent's less affluent, oil-importing neighbors do to manage this impending crisis?

Equatorial Guinea presents a compelling case study of a petrostate grappling with the dual pressures of declining oil output and the urgent need for economic diversification. The country's economic boom, heralded by the discovery of oil in the mid-1990s, has seen a marked shift from agriculture-led growth to an economy heavily dependent on hydrocarbons. This transformation was bolstered by substantial foreign direct investment, thanks to favorable fiscal terms and promising prospects. Infrastructure projects flourished, accompanied by substantial investments in social and civil amenities. Yet, the precipitous drop in oil production in recent years paints a troubling picture of Equatorial Guinea – and by extension, other oil-dependent African nations.

African countries are left with few options but to rely on aging oil fields.

The multifaceted issues bedeviling African petrostates go beyond aging infrastructure or dwindling investments. A lack of new discoveries, and high exploration costs are also complicating prospects of even finding stop-gap solutions to this complex and enduring challenge.

In Equatorial Guinea's case, oil production has dwindled, ranking among the lowest in OPEC, primarily due to declining output from mature fields, such as Aseng and Alba. The country's production peaked just over a decade ago, but the absence of new discoveries has rendered the sector extremely volatile to the combined impact of declining output and decreasing global consumption.

Meanwhile, increased domestic demand for natural gas, contrasted with decreasing export capacity, showcases the inherent contradictions within the hydrocarbon sector. As governments scramble to attract new investments through tax incentives and policy revisions, the long-term sustainability of these initiatives remains uncertain.

African petrostates, albeit wealthier in some respects, face perplexing challenges in transitioning to low-emission economies without undermining the financial backbone provided by crude exports. It is several magnitudes worse for poorer oil-importing countries on the continent, struggling with socioeconomic challenges, complicated further by frequent climate change-induced extreme weather events – increasing pressure on oil exporters to accelerate their ambitious plans to lower their own emissions footprint. Thus, while Africa's wealthier petrostates, replete with resources, face fewer financial hurdles in funding transitions – declining outputs, revenues, and shrinking global



Nigeria oil field

demand are placing more pressure on less affluent countries.

Yet, the need for substantial investment persists. Equatorial Guinea, for instance, has embraced an "open door" policy to draw smaller players into the sector, mitigating risks of failed bidding rounds. However, this strategy, though

pragmatic, highlights the desperate measures required to maintain economic equilibrium, which may require stalling climate related interventions.

In turn, the burden of climate change weighs even more heavily on poorer African nations which contend with the worst impacts of a warming planet without the buffer of

oil wealth. Excessive rainfall, unprecedented floods, prolonged heat waves, and escalating droughts exacerbate water insecurity and food scarcity. These challenges force these countries to divert increasingly scarce resources toward immediate relief and recovery, leaving little room for building resilient, low-emission infrastructure.

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM

ITV

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WORLD

US election uncertainty clouds UN climate finance progress

WASHINGTON

COUNTRIES could use next week's UN meetings in New York to resolve big differences over boosting the world's annual goal for climate finance, but uncertainty over the US election could jeopardize progress ahead of the next UN climate summit in November.

Negotiators told Reuters that countries were reluctant to stake out their positions before knowing who might win the Nov 5 US presidential vote and be setting climate policy for the world's largest economy - and biggest polluter - for the next four years.

But by waiting until November for that answer, countries could be risking the chance of reaching a new deal before the world's current \$100 billion financing pledge expires at the end of this year, the negotiators and observers warned.

"The elections are in the calculus" of global climate talks, said finance negotiator Michai Robertson of the Alliance of Small Island States.

Governments are analyzing different scenarios for possible wins by Vice-President Kamala Harris, who along with President Joe Biden helped pass the biggest domestic climate spending bill in US history, or by former president Donald Trump, a climate denier who wants to boost fossil fuels. They're also considering a third scenario with the US in limbo for months over an uncertain or delayed election result.

"It's an unspoken understanding that

US election uncertainty is affecting how countries are positioning," Robertson said. While some wealthy countries have said they'd offer more money - they aren't saying how much more and instead want to "wait to see what direction the US will go."

Tricky target

This week's UN General Assembly marks the last all-country gathering before the COP29 climate summit begins on Nov 11 in Baku, Azerbaijan - less than a week after the US vote.

But agreeing on a new target, and whether to expand the donor base, is proving tricky. A target too high could mean countries again fail to meet the full amount, which would likely sow tension and mistrust among the developing countries relying on these funds.

A target too low would leave too many vulnerable and underserved as global warming continues to escalate. UN climate agency chief Simon Stiell has estimated the annual need to be in the trillions in order to adequately help poorer countries shift to clean energy and prepare for the conditions of a warmer world.

Failing to set a new target before the start of 2025 could jeopardize future climate negotiations, warned a senior official with Azerbaijan's COP29 presidency.

Different directions

Regardless of who wins the US vote,



Residents walk in front of a building destroyed as a result of the heavy flood in Stronie Slaskie, southern Poland, on September 18, 2024. AFP

this year's US climate negotiators are already limited in what they can pledge, although a Harris presidency would ensure more continuity.

"Negotiators work for the current administration, not a future one," noted Jonathan Pershing, a former US delegate who helped lead the country's talks at the Paris climate summit in 2015.

As candidate for president, Harris has said she supports Biden's climate negotiating positions, including a pledge at last year's COP28 in Dubai to contribute \$3 billion to the global Green Climate Fund.

Neither Biden nor Harris have offered a new finance target, but US negotiators have said that fast-growing economies should contribute funds.

Trump, on the other hand, has vowed to again withdraw from the Paris Agreement, as well as from the overarching UN Framework Convention on Climate Change that runs global climate efforts and negotiations among its 198 member states.

Marrakesh surprise

Given that US elections and UN climate summits both fall in November, this year's election uncertainty is hardly unique.

The contested 2004 US election coincided with a climate summit that reached no agreement that

year, pushing their talks into a special session held five months later in Bonn, Germany.

The next big upset came just a year after the historic Paris Agreement was signed, when US climate negotiators were caught off guard at the UN summit in Marrakesh with Trump's defeat of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for the presidency.

"The US delegation there was shattered, and negotiators were left scrambling," said Alden Meyer, a senior associate at climate think tank E3G, who has attended every COP.

This year is different, though. There is new urgency in the climate fight, negotiators said, as rising global temperatures are already triggering climate disasters and extremes.

Climate negotiators are also preparing themselves better for unexpected outcomes, said sustainable finance director Paul Bodnar with the Bezos Earth Fund who previously served as a US negotiator under former president Barack Obama.

"The difference between now and 2016 is that it was a big surprise in 2016," he said. After the Trump administration pulled back from the global climate effort, Bodnar built an alliance among the US states and cities stepping up to keep a strong US presence in global climate talks.

Russia not to participate in Ukraine peace summit

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will not participate in a possible second peace summit on Ukraine, as it is unrelated to resolving the conflict, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova said on Saturday.

Zakharova (pictured) made the remarks in response to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky's plan for a second peace summit in November, where he intended to invite Russian representatives.



"Russian representatives have not participated in any meetings under the so-called Burgenstock Process and do not plan to do so. This process has nothing to do with genuine conflict resolution," she said on the ministry's website.

The summit aims to promote the unworkable Zelensky formula as the sole basis for resolving the conflict, seeking international support and using it as a platform to issue Russia an ultimatum for surrender, she added.

Zakharova reiterated that Russia does not reject a diplomatic resolution to the crisis and remains open to discussions on serious proposals that reflect the situation on the ground, evolving geopolitical realities and the initiative proposed by Russian President Vladimir Putin on June 14.

"Without Russia and without taking its interests into account, achieving a fair and sustainable resolution is impossible," she said.

Zakharova criticized Kiev and Western nations for focusing on war rather than peace, citing recent Ukrainian attacks on the Kursk region and requests for long-range NATO weapons capable of striking deep into Russian territory.

Meanwhile, Russia's air defenses intercepted and destroyed 101 Ukrainian drones over the past night, the Russian Defense Ministry said Saturday.

The ministry noted that 53 drones were destroyed in the Bryansk region, 18 in the Krasnodar region, and several others in the Kaluga, Tver and Belgorod, Smolensk, and Kursk regions, as well as near the Sea of Azov.

In the Tikhoretsk district of the Krasnodar region, about 1,200 people were evacuated after a fire caused by two falling drones, regional authorities said.

Russian forces also carried out a group strike with high-precision weapons and drones last night on Ukrainian energy facilities, drone production workshops, and locations of personnel, weapons, and military equipment, the defense ministry said.

Porgera Mine works with UN, EPG to provide humanitarian aid to violence-stricken province

PORT MORESBY

BARRICK Gold Corporation - New Porgera Limited (NPL) is working with the United Nations (UN) and Enga Provincial Government (EPG) as part of an ad hoc crisis committee to assist with humanitarian aid to the conflict-ridden Porgera Valley in Papua New Guinea's Enga Province.

Following the committee's first meeting this Tuesday, it was agreed that a donor assessment team would travel to Porgera to make a first-hand assessment of the situation and community needs. NPL is providing logistical support, including a helicopter, to make this visit possible.

According to Papua New Guinea's Mineral Resource Authority managing director Jerry Garry, the wide-spread tribal violence in the area initially started in a dispute between two illegal miners from the Kandep and Laiagam districts which quickly escalated into local villages and the wider community.

NPL has been assisting the national Papua New Guinea government and EPG with disaster relief efforts since the deadly Mulitaka landslide on May 24 this year. NPL community relations officers were among the first on the ground after the landslide struck and have been assisting the UN and other agencies since. Senior NPL executives were also seconded to the Enga Provincial Disaster Management Committee to assist with relief work.

Barrick Gold Corporation and Zijin Mining Group - the 50:50 joint venture partners in Barrick Niugini Limited, part-owner of NPL with the government owning the rest - jointly donated \$1 million to the relief while NPL donated food, temporary shelter and other essential items to afflicted families.

Other relief measures undertaken by the mine include fencing the Mulitaka Health Centre; repairing and reinforcing the Mulitaka High School for the temporary accommodation of disaster relief teams; donating mattresses and bedding for police; establishing a temporary fuel pipeline, helicopter air bridge and working with the Porgera Chamber of Commerce to provide much-needed fuel and supplies to the community.

Agencies

Trump rejects Harris' challenge to debate again on CNN



This combo picture created on Sept 10, 2024 shows US Vice-President and Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris (R) and former US President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump participating in a presidential debate at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Sept 10, 2024. AFP

WASHINGTON

DONALD Trump on Saturday rejected another debate with Vice-President Kamala Harris before the US presidential election, hours after the Democratic candidate's campaign said she had agreed to an Oct 23 matchup with her Republican rival on CNN.

"Vice-President Harris is ready for

another opportunity to share a stage with Donald Trump, and she has accepted CNN's invitation to a debate on October 23. Donald Trump should have no problem agreeing to this debate," Jen O'Malley Dillon, the chair of the Harris campaign, said in a statement.

Trump stuck to his previous position that there would not be another debate

before voters go to the polls in the Nov 5 election.

"The problem with another debate is that it's just too late. Voting has already started," the former US president told supporters at a rally in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Harris and Trump debated each other for the first time on Sept 10, in a contest that polls showed she won.

Trump debated President Joe Biden in June.

Biden's shaky performance in that debate rattled Democrats and prompted strategists to ask whether their party should take the unprecedented step of replacing the 81-year old president as their candidate. Biden withdrew from the race for the White House in July.

22 Palestinians killed by Israeli airstrike on Gaza City school

GAZA

AT least 22 Palestinians were killed and 30 others wounded on Saturday in an Israeli airstrike on a school housing displaced people in southern Gaza City, Gaza-based health authorities said.

The school was in the Zeitoun neighborhood and most of the casualties were children and women, the health authorities said in a brief statement.

An Israeli warplane bombed the school with at least one missile, Palestinian security

sources told Xinhua.

In a press statement, the Hamas-run government media office in Gaza accused the Israeli army of committing a "horrific massacre" by bombing a school housing thousands of displaced people south of Gaza City.

The statement held the Israeli army and the US administration fully responsible for the continuation of the crime, and called on the international community to compel Israel to stop its crime.

Meanwhile, Israeli army

spokesperson Avichay Adraee said in a press statement that Air Force warplanes, with intelligence guidance, struck Hamas militants operating in a command and control complex in a school in Gaza City.

The complex was used by Hamas militants to plan and carry out "terrorist" operations against Israel and its forces, according to Adraee.

Israel launched a large-scale offensive against Hamas in the Gaza Strip to retaliate against a Hamas rampage through the southern Israeli border on Oct

7, 2023, during which about 1,200 people were killed and about 250 taken hostage.

The Palestinian death toll from ongoing Israeli attacks in Gaza has risen to 41,391, Gaza-based health authorities said in a statement Saturday.

A woman mourns as she holds the shrouded body of her child who was killed during an Israeli strike on a school housing displaced Palestinians in Gaza City's Zaytoun neighbourhood on Saturday, amid the ongoing war between Israel and the Palestinian militant group Hamas. AFP



Listen, confer, act: China's political advisory body turns 75

BEIJING

THERE is some good news for farmers in Yinjiayuan, a village in Jiangsu Province, east China. The cost of watering their land has dropped by 20 percent, and pump malfunctions have significantly decreased -- all thanks to a local political advisor.

Shi Weidong is a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the country's political advisory body.

As former president of Nantong University in Jiangsu, he is also an expert on fluid machinery. In 2023, Shi submitted a proposal through the CPPCC highlighting the advantages of using a digital twin platform -- a virtual replica of physical systems -- to improve the precision and efficiency of pump management. His suggestion resonated with a nationwide initiative to invest heavily in extensive water conservancy infrastructure.

That year alone, the country began the construction of 23,000 water supply facilities in its rural areas. Shi's proposal provides a glimpse into the important role of the CPPCC as an institutional platform for consultative democracy, an essential element of China's political system, alongside electoral democracy. According to political scientists, these two complimentary facets of socialist democracy allow China to better pool wisdom and strengths for the overarching endeavor of modernization.

Consultative democracy takes many forms in China. For example, the government listens to ideas and opinions from all sectors throughout the processes of planning, decision-making and administration. With the CPPCC celebrating an important anniversary this year, many will be reviewing its crucial role and growing list of accomplishments.

EFFECTIVE DEMOCRACY

The CPPCC plays vital roles in multi-

party cooperation and political consultation under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

Its members are drawn from political parties, people's organizations, personages without party affiliation and various sectors of society. Among the CPPCC's diverse membership are political figures, celebrities and experts.

Shi himself is a member of the Jiusan Society, a political party primarily composed of scientists and researchers. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the CPPCC. On Sept. 21, 1949, driven by great hopes for a bright future, more than 600 deputies from various sectors overcame obstacles to gather in Beijing.

Decades later, the CPPCC has now transformed and improved itself to play a more effective role in state governance. One of its most notable recent developments is the addition of the environment and resource sector to the CPPCC National Committee in 2023.

This is one of the biggest changes to the Committee's composition in 30 years. The last such adjustment was the establishment of the economic sector in 1993.

Over the past decade, China has undergone comprehensive changes in ecological and environmental protection.

The country is making unprecedented efforts to conserve its ecology. The establishment of a new sector dedicated to this initiative would help pool efforts, facilitate research and promote consultation, said experts on the CPPCC. Moreover, the consultation topics have evolved



over time to address emerging national challenges and public concerns.

Zhang Yi, a national political advisor from Shanghai, has closely examined the ethical and judicial implications of algorithms.

A partner at the law firm King & Wood Mallesons, Zhang represents the country's new social groups. Zhang submitted a proposal in March on AI algorithms governance.

He recently presented a report on social trends and public sentiment regarding privacy protection. "It's great to see how my work as a political advisor turns into policies and measures that really push forward the development of the economy and society," he said.

STRENGTHENING THE FOUNDATIONS

The CPPCC is also improving its foundational elements -- institutions, standards and procedures -- to facilitate in-depth consultations. Earlier this month, municipal political advisors in Beijing met to discuss

how the integration of AI and digital technologies could help the city respond to natural disasters and workplace accidents. It was one of 12 key topics highlighted by the municipal CPC committee and government to be included on the consultation and deliberation agenda this year.

In the summer of 2023, Beijing experienced its heaviest rainfall in more than 140 years. This year, heavy rain and gales battered the city again, uprooting trees and causing chaos across the urban road network. Political advisors began their investigation and research in March.

It included 14 collective and group studies, 13 discussions, as well as fact-finding trips to Fujian and Guangdong provinces, which were attended by non-CPC political party members, scholars and experts.

A vice mayor overseeing city administration, traffic, agriculture and rural areas attended a session on Sept. 6 to gather advice. Along with him were officials from departments including water resources, emergency response, digital resources, firefighting and meteorology.

Wei Xiaodong, chairman of the CPPCC Beijing municipal committee, encouraged participants to speak openly about issues and provide advice tailored to reality.

While most speakers focused on the application of technologies, Zhang Chengfu, a professor at the School of Public Administration and Policy, Renmin University of China, cautioned against inappropriate development practices and over-reliance on technology. A final report incorporating the session's advice is expected to feed into a government plan to

enhance the city's emergency response capabilities for the next three years.

GREATER SOLIDARITY

As a legacy of the CPC's cooperation with other political parties and social stakeholders during the revolutionary years, the CPPCC is also the patriotic united front's most inclusive organization. China is currently undergoing profound changes in areas such as social structure, relations between strata, and ways of thinking.

Coupled with drastic global shifts, these factors have made it more challenging for the country to foster unity and pool strength.

On March 5, 2023, new leaders of non-CPC political parties and the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce made a collective debut at a press conference during the first plenary session of the 14th CPPCC National Committee.

They pledged to stand in solidarity with the CPC through thick and thin, and build China into a modern socialist country in all respects. Political advisors are also key in ensuring that the frank exchange of views that build consensus and fortify unity occurs at the grassroots.

In Shanghai, they set up tables in the open air to collect public opinions about the renovation of a decades-old plaza in 2023.

They also engaged with neighborhood leaders and posted topics online. When streetlights were swiftly installed on the plaza at the request of elderly residents, "people realized that authorities are serious about their opinions," said district political advisor Li Peilei.

The prompt resolution to a community issue inspired more members of the public to get involved in decisions regarding the plaza's

logo and facilities. The plaza has now been completely revamped. More importantly, residents were made aware of the value that consultation plays in such processes.

During a 2018 trip to a village in Chongqing, in southwest China, entrepreneur Shan Yi was struck by the stark contrast of cement houses among hundreds of stilted wooden homes -- the traditional residence of the Tujia people.

This jarring sight, coupled with stagnating local tourism due to poor management and inadequate facilities, inspired him to take action. Shan himself identifies as Tujia and runs a domestic services company in town.

Leaving his business in his wife's care, Shan moved to the village. He soon set to work building a museum showcasing Tujia architecture and opened stilt-house homestays to explore successful models.

So far, the museum, featuring traditional structures, including residences and academies, is starting to take shape along the bank of a broad, winding river. And the village received over 50,000 visits in the first half of the year, generating more than 20 million yuan (around 2.8 million U.S. dollars) in revenue.

"Personal and family comfort aside, you've got to do something for society one way or another," said Shan, who became a political advisor last year. The CPPCC is also reaching out to the younger generation.

For example, two students sat in on the session of political advisors of Beijing on emergency response on Sept. 6. It was part of an experimental program that invites students from middle school to university to observe the CPPCC sessions.

Kremlin spokesman says West 'obsessed' with fighting Russia until Ukraine runs out of men

MOSCOW

THE West is "obsessed" with the idea of waging war against Russia until Ukraine runs out of men, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

He was commenting on NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg's recent statement that there is no need to be afraid of using Western weapons for strikes deep inside Russia.

"They are obsessed with the idea of fighting us to the last Ukrainian. This obsession manifests itself differently, depending on the person. With Stoltenberg, it is happening like this," Peskov said.

According to the spokesman, Stoltenberg makes such statements because he is an outgoing NATO secretary-general.

"He will soon stop working where he works. That is the reason, essentially, why he allows himself such irresponsible statements," Peskov (pictured) said.

The spokesman expressed regret that some people in Europe share NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg's opinion.

"Unfortunately, I think his attitude is shared by very many people in Europe. We have heard a lot of rabid narratives from Europe to the effect that there is no need to be afraid of Russia or Putin, and no need to take them seriously," Peskov said. --O--aam

Stoltenberg earlier said that NATO would not be part of the conflict in Ukraine if it allowed Kiev to strike Russian territory with Western weapons. Putin then called the discussion in NATO about whether to allow Ukraine to use Western weapons for strikes against Russia a substitution of concepts. He said that in fact the issue is much more serious: NATO member countries essentially are deciding whether or not to get directly involved in the Ukrainian conflict.

Kremlin: Some Western politicians understand Putin's warnings about long-range strikes

Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said there are "sober-minded" people in the West that analyze and understand Russian President Vladimir Putin's warnings about responding to long-range strikes.

He made the comment in an interview with television host Pavel Zarubin for the program "Moscow. Kremlin. Putin," according to an excerpt that the host posted to Telegram.

"There are still sober-minded people that analyze these words of our president with due attention and understand what they really mean," Peskov said.

Peskov expresses regret many people in Europe share Stoltenberg's reckless thinking

Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov



expressed regret that many people in Europe share NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg's opinion that there is no need to be afraid of using Western weapons for strikes deep inside Russia.

He made the comment in an interview with television host Pavel Zarubin for the program "Moscow. Kremlin. Putin," according to an excerpt that was posted to a Telegram channel called Vesti.

"Unfortunately, I think his attitude is shared by very many people in Europe. We have heard a lot of rabid narratives from Europe to the effect that there is no need to be afraid of Russia or Putin, and no need to take them seriously," Peskov said.

Russia sees no alternative to victory in special operation

Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Russia sees no alternative to its victory in the special military operation.

Israel wants to drag whole region into war, engages in terrorism, says Erdogan

ANKARA

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan believes that Israel acts as a terrorist organization, its target being not only the Gaza Strip but the whole region.

"I have been saying all along that Israel targets not only the Gaza Strip. The recent attacks on Lebanon have confirmed our suspicion that the Israeli leadership's plan is to spread the war to the entire region.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his gang have been staging all kinds of provocations to implement their radical Zionist ideology.

The pressure on Israel must be intensified further to prevent the region from being dragged into an even greater disaster," Erdogan told the media before flying to the United States for the UN General Assembly session.

He said he would address the UNGA on the first day to ask the participants to remember "the need for taking action against genocide in the Gaza Strip and Israel's aggressive policies."

"Once again, unfortunately, we see that Israel is carrying out attacks not as a state but as a terrorist organization. This is state terrorism. The latest digital attacks [the explosions of communication



devices in Lebanon] are a very clear confirmation of this. With this attack Israel clearly demonstrated that it does not care about civilians and will try to achieve its mean aims goals at any cost," Erdogan said.

About the schedule of his meetings on the sidelines of the UNGA Erdogan said that "at the moment there is no certainty whether there will be a meeting with US President Joe Biden," but there are events within the framework of the General Assembly where both of them would be present.

China's position on opposing Japan's discharge of nuclear-contaminated water remains unchanged: spokesperson

BEIJING

CHINA is firmly opposed to Japan's unilateral move of starting the discharge of nuclear-contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station into the ocean, and this position remains unchanged, a foreign ministry spokesperson said here on Friday.

Mao Ning told a daily news briefing that as one of the most important stakeholders, China is opposed to Japan's irresponsible move. In line with the understanding reached by the leaders of the two countries that the issue should be addressed through consultation and negotia-

tion, China has held over 10 rounds of intensive negotiations and consultations with Japan and the relevant international organization. The relentless efforts have led to an agreement released on Friday.

"China is firmly opposed to Japan's unilateral move of starting the discharge, and this position remains unchanged," Mao said. The purpose of releasing the agreement with Japan is to urge Japan to earnestly fulfill its obligations under international law and its responsibility for safety oversight, to do its utmost to avoid leaving a negative impact on the environment and human health,

and to effectively prevent the potential risk that may arise from the discharge. She said it is hoped that the international community, especially the stakeholders, will work with China to closely monitor Japan's fulfillment of its commitments.

Due to the limitations of the existing international mechanism, the current evaluation and monitoring of the discharge is incomplete and lacks transparency and credibility, and needs to be further improved and strengthened, Mao said, adding that it is especially important to establish a long-term international monitoring arrangement covering key

stages of the discharge and ensure that China and all other stakeholders can participate substantively in the arrangement and carry out independent sampling and monitoring.

She said this is the only way to obtain comprehensive, genuine and valid data and place the risks of the discharge under control. Through negotiations, China and Japan have reached agreement in this regard.

As the next step, there will be discussions on technical details such as the types of radionuclides to be monitored and testing methods, to realize comprehensive, effective and credible long-

term international monitoring, she added. How to handle the Fukushima nuclear-contaminated water properly is a political and, more importantly, scientific issue, and the China-Japan bilateral agreement has laid the foundation for the international community to handle nuclear-contaminated water in a science-based, effective and safe manner, Mao said.

She said that this is an initial achievement made by the international community, especially the stakeholders. Going forward, China will work with the international community, other stakeholders in particular, to continue to act with a great sense

of responsibility for global marine ecosystems and environment and for human health, engage in science-based dialogue with Japan, and urge Japan to address concerns over the discharge properly.

The import suspension on all aquatic products (including edible aquatic animals) of Japanese origin is a temporary emergency precaution taken in accordance with relevant Chinese laws and regulations and WTO rules, Mao said.

It is aimed at preventing risks and protecting people's health. She added that the measure is based on rules and regulations. It is an ex-

ample of the Chinese government's sense of responsibility for its people.

Reaching the agreement does not mean that China will immediately resume imports of all Japanese aquatic products. China will continue to act in accordance with WTO rules and Chinese laws and regulations, take scientific facts as the guidance, and view safety as a precondition. "We will begin to adjust the relevant measures based on scientific evidence after participating substantively in the relevant monitoring activities, carrying out independent sampling, and verifying the result," Mao said.

SPORT

Kopunovic blames tactics, player commitment for fourth draw

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

PAMBA Jiji head coach Goran Kopunovic expressed his frustration following the team's 2-2 draw against Mashujaa FC at CCM Kirumba Stadium on Saturday.

This result marked another missed opportunity for Pamba to secure their first win of the Premier League season since their return to top-flight football after more than 20 years.

Despite a commanding first half where Pamba led 2-0, they faltered in the second half, conceding two late goals to finish the match in a tie.

Kopunovic was visibly disappointed with the team's inability to maintain their momentum and close out the game.

"We had a fantastic first half and continued to dominate for the first 15-20 minutes of the second. We created great chances and could have sealed the match with a third goal.

"Unfortunately, we conceded two goals in a way I still can't explain. I'm extremely disappointed, and it's a tough pill to swallow," he said.

The Serbian coach emphasized his belief in his starting eleven but lamented their repeated mistakes.

"I've warned them countless times that leading 2-0 is the most dangerous score in football. Today, we faced a seasoned team like Mashujaa, and my warnings fell on deaf ears. It cost us the game," he said.

Under Kopunovic's leadership, Pamba Jiji have struggled, suffering their first league defeat with a 1-0 loss to Singida Black Stars and recording three draws against Azam, Dodoma Jiji, and Tanzania Prisons.

They have collected only four points from their last five matches.

Kopunovic took full responsibility for the team's inconsistent performances, questioning his fit for the role.

"Perhaps I'm not the right fit for this club. I'm a highly professional, disciplined coach who takes football very seriously. If I'm too strict or demanding, then maybe I'm not the right man for the job," he added.

Pamba Jiji's next opportunity to secure their first domestic league win will come against Coastal Union on September 28.

Judo association appeals to government for release of donated mats held at Dar Port

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Judo Association of Tanzania (JATA) has appealed to the government for assistance in releasing judo mats held at the Dar es Salaam Port for more than a year due to unpaid taxes.

The appeal was made yesterday by JATA Secretary-General Innocent Mallya during the opening ceremony of a ten-day national technical coaches course at the OLYMPIAFRICA Center in Kibaha, Coast Region.

The course, sponsored by Olympic Solidarity through the Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) in collaboration with JATA, aims to train and develop judo coaches.

Mallya revealed that the mats, donated by the International Judo Federation (IJF), are of international standards and crucial for providing a safe training surface. However, the mats have been held at the port due to unpaid customs duties, which now amount to over 106m/-.

"The mats are vital for our training, especially for practicing throws and takedowns, which carry a high risk of injury without proper equipment. The ongoing delay in their release is significantly affecting the development of judo in Tanzania," Mallya said.

He added that JATA, as a sports association, lacks the financial resources to cover the tax, making government intervention critical. He called on the government to provide tax relief or assistance in settling the dues to ensure the mats can be used for training and promoting judo across the country.

Mallya also outlined JATA's broader strategy to grow judo from the grassroots level, starting with the introduction of the sport in private schools. JATA has identified 10 private schools that will serve as the starting point for this initiative.

"We are targeting private schools initially

because they have the financial capacity to employ trained coaches. Once we've established judo there, we plan to expand to public schools," he explained.

JATA is also focused on training young athletes in preparation for the 2028 Olympic Games in the United States. However, Mallya stressed that modern training equipment is essential for this vision to be realized, highlighting the need for the release of the IJF-donated mats currently held at the port.

The opening ceremony of the coaching course was officiated by TOC President Gulam Rashid, who commended Olympic Solidarity for sponsoring the program. Rashid noted that in the past, Tanzania excelled in minority sports like judo due to the strong educational foundation provided to coaches through government-sponsored training programs.

"In previous years, the government played a significant role in sponsoring coaching scholarships both locally and internationally. This was a key factor in developing successful athletes across various sports. Unfortunately, this support has dwindled, and except for football, most national sports associations cannot afford to provide such opportunities," Rashid said.

He urged the government to reinstate or increase the availability of scholarships for sports coaches to help revive Tanzania's success in various sporting disciplines.

The ten-day judo coaching course, led by Turkish instructor Erdal Dogan, has attracted 30 participants, including two women. The participants are drawn from both Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Mallya concluded by reiterating the importance of having modern equipment and well-trained coaches if Tanzania is to produce world-class athletes capable of competing on the international stage, including the 2028 Olympics.

Zanzibar Government commits to sports development for human capital growth

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE revolutionary government of Zanzibar has reaffirmed its commitment to sports development, recognizing it as a vital component of human capital.

This declaration was made by Zanzibar's Deputy Minister of Lands and Housing Development, Salha Mohamed Mwinjuma, during the closing ceremony of a six-day open water clinic held in the isles.

The clinic saw participation from 35 coaches and 25 swimmers hailing from Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Sudan, Benin, Eswatini, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and the host nation, Tanzania.

Organized by African Aquatic and World Aquatic, the event aimed to enhance skills in open water swimming.

Deputy Minister Mwinjuma expressed the government's unwavering support for such initiatives, emphasizing their importance for human development.

"As the government, we stand behind this initiative and will continue to support it in the coming years. We are committed to the growth of sports in the country," she stated.

She also extended her gratitude to the Tanzania Swimming Association (TSA) and its partners for their contributions to the clinic.

TSA President David Mwasoyoge echoed the sentiments, highlighting the clinic's significance at a time when Tanzania needs more coaches for open water swimming.

He expressed optimism that the initiative would foster the growth of open water swimming across the African continent.

"This is the first time our country has hosted an open water clinic. Our goal is to see open water swimming flourish in Tanzania and Africa as a whole. We are grateful to Africa Aquatic and all our partners for their support, and we look forward to collaborating with more strategic partners in the future," Mwasoyoge said.

A few years ago, FINA President Husain Al Musallam visited Zanzibar and met with senior government officials, including Zanzibar President Hussein Mwinyi.

During that meeting, FINA expressed its admiration for the solid swimming foundation and strategic plans laid out by the TSA, promising assistance in constructing modern swimming facilities equipped with touch pads, diving blocks, and other essential amenities.

President Mwinyi noted that FINA's visit would significantly promote Zanzibar as a tourist destination, particularly in the realm of sports tourism.

SPORTS



Tanzania's men's cricket team players are pictured jubilating once they dismissed one of Mali's batsmen as the two teams met in the 2026 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Sub Regional Africa Qualifier A clash in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. Tanzania defeated Mali by 10 wickets. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Tanzania plots Cameroon's downfall in ICC Men's T20 WC Sub Regional Africa Qualifier opener

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

TANZANIA's senior men's cricket team will be out to stretch its winning run in the 2026 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Sub Regional Africa Qualifier A, taking on Cameroon in Dar es Salaam tomorrow.

The tournament hosts thrashed Mali by 10 wickets in the first tie last Saturday and were then expected to face Lesotho at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) venue later yesterday.

Sanjay Bom put on an impressive bowling performance as Tanzania opened its campaign in the regional showdown gallantly, hammering Mali by 10 wickets in Dar es Salaam on Saturday.

Mali batted first in the clash that took place at the UDSM venue, failing to wade off a ruthless bowling onslaught deployed by Tanzania and consequently posting 18/10 in 12.5 overs.

Mali's batting unit could hardly recover from brief spells that the opening batting pair of Theodore Macalou (two runs) and Mohamed Coulibaly (duck) managed.

The batting squad thereafter faced a batting collapse, as none of the members of the batting unit managed to notch two digits.

Skipper Yacouba Konate (three runs) and Sanze Kamate were the cricketers with the most runs in the West African

nation's squad's woeful batting spell.

Five extras conceded by the hosts' bowling unit, which consisted of one bye, one leg bye, and three wides, to some extent bolstered Mali's score.

Bom spearheaded Tanzania's bowling onslaught, raking up four wickets and leaking a mere four runs in three overs.

The senior cricketer ultimately ended with the best bowling figures to deservedly lay his hands on the Player of the Match prize.

He was ably assisted by Harsheed Chohan and youthful cricketer Laksh Snehal, who grabbed two wickets apiece.

Pacer Ally Mpeka and youthful performer Halid Amiri compounded Mali's woes, ending their bowling stints with a wicket apiece.

Needing a paltry 19 runs to secure victory, Tanzania effortlessly reached the target without losing wickets in five balls.

The openers, Zafar Khan (12 runs not out, three fours) and skipper Abhik Patwa (two runs not out), easily led Tanzania to a smooth chase.

Five extras leaked by Mali made it easier for the Tanzania batsmen to reach the easy target set by the West African nation's squad.

Two more clashes took place the same day - Cameroon took on Ghana and Malawi locked horns with Lesotho.

Richmond Baaleri had a great bowling outing, catapulting Ghana to an eight-wicket defeat of Cameroon in a tie that took place at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club.

Cameroon went in to bat first and were skittled for a mere 40 runs in 14.2 overs.

The Obed Harvey-led Ghana confidently chased the opponents' total, dropping two wickets in 8.1 overs.

Sami Sohail had an impressive day with the bat as Malawi beat Lesotho by 93 runs on the same ground.

Malawi took the crease first and ended with 144/4 in 20 overs, with batsmen deployed at the top order contributing immensely to the score.

Sohail, deployed at number three, was the batsman with the most runs for the batting squad - grabbing a 46-ball 61.

Opening batsman Donnex Kasonkho put solid shots to show as well, posting 30 runs.

Chasing 145 runs to garner victory happened to be a tall order for Lesotho, as they were skittled for 52 runs in 14.5 overs.

Suhail Vayani and Daniel Jakiel ensured Malawi successfully waded off a plan by Lesotho to reach the target after grabbing four wickets apiece.

Sunday was further than set to see Cameroon face fellow West African nation squad of Mali in the morning.

Ghana was aiming at bouncing



Traditional dance artists are pictured recently performing during the third national cultural festival going on at Maji Maji grounds in Songea, Ruvuma Region. Photo by Correspondent

'Why does he shoot?' - but stunning strike shows Nunez quality

By Matthew Howarth

LIVERPOOL head coach Arne Slot says he did not want Darwin Nunez to shoot before the Uruguayan struck a sensational goal in the 3-0 win over Bournemouth on Saturday.

Nunez, making his first start under the Dutchman, collected the ball wide on the right, cut on to his left foot and sent a magnificent, curling drive into the far corner with eight minutes of the first half remaining.

The striker's stunning effort completed the scoring at Anfield after a quickfire Luis Diaz double had given Liverpool a 2-0 lead.

Slot said: "My first instinct when he shot was, 'why does he shoot?'. I would have said, 'why don't you keep on dribbling?'. He made the ball free and I think the defender was on the ground."

"But then it was a fraction of a second later when I saw the ball go in off the post. Then I was like, 'OK, maybe you are a better football player than I was in the past'."

Nunez, whose finishing has come under scrutiny during his time at the club, has now scored 21 times for Liverpool in the Premier League.

Saturday's effort was his first for the club in five months and 17 days, since a 3-1 win over Sheffield United last season.

'Darwin also involved in clean sheet'

It was not just his goal against Bournemouth that caught his manager's eye, though. Nunez

carried out his defensive duties diligently, registering more tackles than any other player on the pitch apart from team-mate Alexis Mac Allister.

"Of course, I play a striker because I like him to score goals - but it also helps if you keep a clean sheet," added Slot, whose side top the table on goal difference from Manchester City and Aston Villa. "[In] keeping a clean sheet, Darwin was also involved."

Nunez had played just 74 minutes under Slot before Saturday, but his fine all-round display will boost his chances of featuring more prominently in the coming weeks, as Liverpool juggle Premier League, Carabao Cup and Champions League commitments.

Liverpool welcome West Ham to Anfield in the Carabao Cup third round on Wednesday, before travelling to Wolves in their next league game on Saturday.

They return to Champions League action with a home match against Bologna on Wednesday 2 October.

"I think you get consistency by two things," Slot replied when asked how the 25-year-old can establish himself as a more regular starter. "You get it by work-rate and you get it by team performance."

"If the team performance is not consistent, it's so difficult for an individual to be consistent as well. We have to create our habits day by day on the training ground."

"[Nunez] showed a good game today. Maybe he can show it again on Wednesday."

BBC

Conte's return to Juventus starts with boos and ends 0-0

MILAN

ANTONIO Conte's return to Juventus and into a packed stadium started with jeers for the former Bianconeri hero.

It ended 0-0 between Juventus and Conte's Napoli, which created the better chances on Saturday in Turin.

A third straight goalless draw for Juventus in Serie A ended a run of three wins for Napoli.

Conte, who also played for Juventus for 13 years, led the Bianconeri to the first three of its nine consecutive Serie A titles before leaving in acrimonious circumstances in 2014.

He has been back to Allianz Stadium as coach of Juve's fierce rival Inter Milan but on all three occasions there were no fans present because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The 55-year-old now coaches another Bianconeri enemy. There were loud boos when the Napoli team was read out, and that seemed to increase when Conte's name was announced.

Former Manchester United midfielder Scott McTominay was given his first start by Conte and he almost broke the deadlock in the 29th minute but Juventus goalkeeper Michele Di Gregorio did well to parry his effort and smother the Romelu Lukaku follow-up.

Di Gregorio did even better in first half stoppage time with a fantastic fingertip save to keep out a Matteo Politano free kick.

Politano almost scored a sublime goal early in the second half. He surged down the right and cut inside but his finish was just over the bar from the edge of the area.

Juve's best chance came in the 70th when Teun Koopmeiners curled narrowly over the bar.

'Horror injury'

United States midfielder Gianluca Busio helped Venezia to its first victory of the season, 2-0 over Genoa, which was shaken by a terrible injury to Ruslan Malinovskyi.

The Genoa midfielder sustained a horrific-looking lower-leg fracture early in the second half when he caught his studs on the turf and his right ankle turned under him.

Players put their heads in their hands after seeing Malinovskyi's foot facing the wrong way.

Busio won a penalty in the 58th when he was bundled over by Genoa defender Koni De Winter. Joel Pohjanpalo's spot kick was powerful and precise but was fantastically saved by Pierluigi Gollini.

However, Venezia took the lead five minutes later in somewhat fortunate circumstances. Busio put what was definitely a cross into the box but no one managed to get on the end of it and it bounced off the turf and in off the right post.

It was Busio's second Serie A goal and his first since a stoppage-time equalizer against Cagliari almost three years ago.

Pohjanpalo all but secured the win five minutes from time when he tapped in John Yeboah's cross at the far post.

'Stoppage-time drama'

Parma scored two goals in stoppage time at Lecce to snatch a 2-2 draw. Both teams finished with 10 men.

Lecce thought it won but former Lecce winger Pontus Almqvist pulled one back in the third minute of stoppage time and Antoine Hainaut headed in the equalizer three minutes later.

Lecce was leading through a first-half goal from Patrick Dorgu when defender Frédéric Guilbert was shown a straight red card for what appeared to be a slap on Parma forward Matteo Cancellieri shortly after the interval.

However, Cancellieri was sent off 10 minutes later for a poor tackle on Dorgu just outside the area as he was sprinting clear on the counter. Nikola Krstovi's resulting free kick was deflected in.

AP

Diaz strikes twice and Liverpool tops the Premier League while Newcastle loses at Fulham

BERGAMO, Italy

Diaz strikes twice and Liverpool tops the Premier League while Newcastle loses at Fulham (PI-CHA: SOKA)

LIVERPOOL, England

LUIS Díaz scored two fine goals inside two minutes as Liverpool beat Bournemouth 3-0 to move to the top of the English Premier League on Saturday.

Arne Slot's side leads Manchester City on goal difference only and the defending champion needs a draw at home to Arsenal in Sunday's big game to reclaim first place.

On a rare quiet day for team-mate Mohamed Salah in front of goal, Díaz scored off both feet to display his own finishing skills at Anfield.

The Colombia forward chased down a long pass from defender Ibrahima Konaté, controlled the ball exquisitely on his waist as he turned, and then glided past goalkeeper Kepa before sliding the ball into the bottom left corner in the 28th minute.

That was with his right foot, and his second goal came off his left in the 30th.

Liverpool broke from midfield and Trent Alexander-Arnold galloped forward before slipping the ball to Díaz inside the left of the penalty area and he clipped it neatly past Kepa.

Darwin Núñez scored a fine third in the 37th. Collecting the ball wide right he looked to cross it, before changing his mind and curling a fine shot in off the left post.

'Newcastle misses chance to go top' victory would have moved Newcastle to the top of the league but it lost at Fulham 3-1 to drop to sixth spot.

Fulham led early through Raúl Jiménez's shot into the bottom right corner and a howler by goalie Nick Pope gifted Emile Smith Rowe Fulham's second in the 22nd.

Harvey Barnes pulled one back after halftime but Reiss Nelson sealed victory in stoppage time.

'Watkins inspires Villa turnaround'

In-form England striker Ollie Watkins came to the rescue as Aston Villa bounced back to beat



Darwin Nunez's goal was his 21st in the Premier League for Liverpool [Getty Images]

rock-bottom Wolverhampton 3-1 in a fiery derby match to move into third spot.

An awful pass from Diego Carlos gifted Matheus Cunha the opening goal.

Villa struggled to create anything against a winless team before Watkins levelled in the 73rd with a deflected finish for his fourth goal in three matches.

Ezri Konsa fired in a cross by Youri Tielemans in the 88th and Jhon Duran lived up to his superb reputation by netting in stoppage time. It was the fourth time this season the Colombia forward has come off the bench to score.

There was nearly 15 minutes of stoppage time at Villa Park due to a lengthy delay while Colombia defender Yerson Mosquera was treated for an injury before being taken off on a stretcher.

Villa is level on points with City but trails on goal difference, with both two points ahead of Chelsea.

'Double delight for Jackson' Chelsea forward Nicolas Jackson marked his 50th club appearance with two early goals to inspire his team to a 3-0 win at West Ham.

Jackson added an assist for Cole Palmer against a poor West Ham side which was booed at the end of the match by home fans. New West Ham coach Julen Lopetegui is un-

der pressure after his third loss.

Chelsea's three league wins have all come away from home.

Chelsea scored in the fourth minute when Jackson played a one-two with Jadon Sancho and surged forward before cutting in from the left and firing between goalkeeper Alphonse Areola's legs.

Goalie doubled his tally in the 18th after latching onto a Moises Caicedo throughball and drilling into the bottom left corner. He turned provider in the 47th for Palmer, who fired in off the left post.

'Tottenham rallies to beat Brentford' Tottenham hit back to beat Brentford 3-1 after Bryan Mbuemo scored in the first minute for the visitors.

Dominic Solanke leveled from close range seven minutes later after James Maddison's shot was saved.

Brennan Johnson put Spurs 2-1 ahead in the 28th on a pass from captain Son Heung-Min, who set up Maddison's late goal.

'Crossbar twice thwarts United' Manchester United remained midtable after squandering a host of chances in a 0-0 draw at Crystal Palace.

After United winger Alejandro Garnacho had an early effort saved, defenders Matthijs de Ligt

and Lisandro Martinez saw efforts saved by goalie Dean Henderson.

Midway through a frantic first half, Garnacho then hit the crossbar and midfielder Bruno Fernandes did likewise when he followed up.

The result left United in 11th place and Palace in 16th.

'Still no win for struggling Saints' Southampton was denied its first win when visiting Ipswich scored in the fifth minute of injury time to draw 1-1.

Saints goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale saved Dara O'Shea's header but Ipswich captain Sam Morsy scored from the ensuing corner with a fine 20-meter strike.

Veteran midfielder Adam Lallana set up 18-year-old midfielder Tyler Dibling early on for Southampton, which is in 18th place.

'Everton again fails to protect lead'

Everton leaked again when it drew 1-1 at Leicester, where torrential rain delayed the start of the second half by six minutes.

Everton lost its previous two games despite going 2-0 up.

This time it led 1-0 through Iliman Ndiaye's 12th-minute goal only for forward Stephy Mavididi to equalize in the 73rd and leave Everton in 19th spot.

AP

Super sub Vinicius leads Real Madrid comeback win over Espanyol

BARCELONA, Spain

JOAN García showed why he is an up-and-coming goalkeeper - until Vinicius Júnior got the Real Madrid scoring machine going.

Vinicius (pictured) went off the bench to assist Rodrygo and score one of his own and Kylian Mbappé added a late penalty as Madrid topped a tenacious Espanyol 4-1 in the Spanish league on Saturday.

García made several saves for the visitors before the Olympic gold medalist started an attack with a long pass from his box that ended with an own goal by counterpart Thibaut Courtois in the 54th minute.

But García's only slip of the match let Dani Carvajal equalize four minutes later when Jude Bellingham's low pass squirmed under the goalie. The Madrid right back had to only push it over the line for 1-1.

Vinicius rested in the first half as Carlo Ancelotti rotated his attacking bunch. But the coach sent the Brazil forward on immediately after Espanyol went ahead. Vinicius then took control, curling in a perfect cross with the outer tip of his left boot for Rodrygo to score in the 75th.

Vinicius beat García in the 78th for his goal after Espanyol lost the ball and Mbappé played his attack partner clear on the break.

Mbappé converted a 90th-minute spot kick after Endrick went on late and earned a penalty from Carlos Romero.

"We made mistakes that maybe you can get away with in other games, but not here," Espanyol coach Manolo González said.

Madrid pulled to one point behind leader Barcelona before it



plays at Villarreal on Sunday.

Bellingham had a scare when he fell awkwardly on his right shoulder in the first half, but after briefly being seen by a doctor on the sideline he went back on. Ancelotti said it did not look like the England midfielder was fine.

Unsurprisingly, Ancelotti said he was satisfied with the "well-rounded" performance.

'García in goal'

After helping Spain win Olympic gold this summer, García was rumored to have been close to a move to Arsenal before finally staying put at the club he helped return

to Spain's top flight last season.

And he showed his quality at the Santiago Bernabeu.

García made at least eight saves before he turned playmaker with a booming kick from his box that launched Jofre Carreras down the left flank. Jofre won the end line before his low pass hit Courtois' leg and turned into the net.

But once Madrid started clicking, even an inspired García couldn't keep them out.

'Double deflection'

Two similar goals within three minutes of one another lifted Valencia to a 2-0 win over Girona at

home. A pair of shots by Luis Rioja and Dani Gómez in the 56th and 58th both took deflections off Girona defender Juanpe Ramirez before skirting past goalkeeper Paulo Gazzaniga.

Gazzaniga was to blame for Girona's loss at Paris Saint-Germain midweek in the Catalan club's Champions League debut. The goalie let a cross slip through his hands in stoppage time in a 1-0 loss in France.

'Can't get going'

Real Sociedad's surprising struggles continued after a scoreless draw at promoted Valladolid. The team from San Sebastian, which has consistently finished near the top of the table in recent years, has only one victory in seven rounds.

Sociedad visits Nice when the Europa League group stage opens next week.

Also, Ante Budimir earned and converted a penalty and Aimar Oroz took the winner as Osasuna beat Las Palmas 2-1 at home. The team from the Canary Islands remained in last place and without a win.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Diaz strikes twice and Liverpool tops the Premier League while Newcastle loses at Fulham

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Bulls U-13 soccer team player Ayman Ridhiwan Kikwete dribbles the ball past New Foundation player during their friendly match held yesterday at the Gymkhana grounds in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA

Premier League giants Azam and Simba take rivalry to Zanzibar

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

THE eagerly anticipated Premier League clash between Azam FC and Simba SC, originally scheduled for the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, has been moved to the New Amaan Complex Stadium in Zanzibar.

The match will now take place on September 26, kicking off at 8:30 p.m. as planned.

This change was announced by the Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) in a statement released through its Information and Communication Officer, Karim Boimanda.

The shift in both venue and time was made in accordance with the league's regulations, which allow clubs to select up to two home matches to be played outside their designated stadium.

The encounter was initially slated for the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium. However, the new decision means the match will take place at Amaan Stadium, marking another chapter in the growing tradition of hosting key Tanzanian football fixtures on the Zanzibar Islands.

Azam FC, under the leadership of new Moroccan coach Rachid Taoussi, will be looking to build on their recent victory in the Premier League.

After starting the season with two consecutive draws against JKT Tanzania and Pamba Jiji FC the 'Ice Cream Makers' finally found their rhythm with an emphatic 4-0 win over KMC FC. That result elevated them to seventh position in the league standings, with five points from three matches.

Taoussi, who took over the reins at Azam ahead of the season, will be preparing his side for their toughest test yet in this early stage of the campaign. The fixture against Simba SC, one of their biggest rivals, will be crucial for Azam as they aim to push into the top spots of the table.

The match will also be Taoussi's first taste of the fierce Dar es Salaam Derby, adding extra significance to his tactical preparations.

Simba, coached by South African tactician Fadlu Davids, have enjoyed a perfect start to their Premier League campaign.

The 'Wekundu wa Msimbazi' have won both of their opening league matches, defeating Tabora United 3-0 and Fountain Gate FC 4-0. They currently sit comfortably in the upper echelon of the standings, having yet to concede a goal this season.

In addition to their domestic dominance, Simba have been actively competing in the CAF Confederation Cup, in the preliminary stages of the tournament. With their squad bolstered by several summer signings, Simba are aiming for success both domestically and on the continental stage.

Davids, who has now settled into his first season with Simba, will be keen to maintain his side's momentum as they prepare for another challenging stretch of matches, including a high-stakes showdown with archrivals Young Africans SC (Yanga) in the coming weeks. But first, his focus will be firmly on maintaining their dominance over Azam FC in this crucial away fixture.

The upcoming clash in Zanzibar is not the first time Azam FC and Simba SC have faced off at the Amaan Stadium. The two teams last met on the island in the final of the Muungano Cup on April 27, this year, where Simba emerged victorious with a narrow 1-0 win.

The match-winning goal was scored by former Simba star Babacar Sarr, etching his name into the club's history.

In their most recent Premier League meeting, Simba convincingly defeated Azam 3-0 at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium on May 9, 2024. Goals from Sadio Kanoute, Fabrice Ngoma, and David Kameta 'Duchu' secured a commanding victory for Simba, furthering their dominance over their Dar es Salaam rivals.

Despite these results, Azam will be determined to turn the tide in their favor as they seek a crucial three points in the Premier League standings.

The decision to move the match to Zanzibar comes as part of the league's broader effort to engage football fans across the country and beyond. TPLB rules allow each club to host up to two home matches at alternative venues.

Yanga secure 30m/- from 'Mama's Goal' incentive

By Guardian Correspondent

YOUNG Africans Sports Club continue to enjoy a successful streak of financial rewards from President Samia Suluhu Hassan, following their commanding 6-0 victory against Ethiopia's CBE in Zanzibar on Saturday night.

As Tanzania's representatives in the CAF Champions League, Young Africans received a cash prize of 30m/- from President Samia as part of her "Mama's Goal" incentive for their impressive win.

With this victory, Young Africans have secured their place in the group stage of the 2024/25 CAF Champions League, marking another significant milestone in their international campaign.

In the first leg of the tie played in Ethiopia, they also won 1-0, earning an additional 5m/- from the same incentive program.

Speaking after receiving the funds, Young Africans President Engineer Hers Said emphasized the crucial role President Samia's support has played in the team's success in international competitions.

"President Samia's incentives have greatly motivated our team to perform at the highest level. Her support pushes our players to excel in international tournaments, as they understand the importance of her vision for Tanzanian football," Said remarked.

He further added: "This backing from our President is invaluable. Her belief in us drives the team to work harder and secure these big wins, knowing that she wants to see us succeed and make the nation proud."

Since President Samia introduced the "Mama's Goal" incentive, Young Africans have been enthusiastic about achieving these bonuses.

So far this season, the team has collected a total of 85m/- from the incentive program.

Gamondi confident ahead of CAF CL group stage following dominant qualification

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli & Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans made a resounding statement in the CAF Champions League by defeating Ethiopia's CBE SA 6-0 at the New Amaan Complex Stadium in Zanzibar. This impressive victory marked their entry into the group stage, showcasing their strength and determination to represent Tanzanian football on the continental stage.

The match saw Clatous Chama open the scoring in the 38th minute. Chama received a precise pass from Mudathir Yahya at the edge of the box, skill-fully maneuvering past the CBE SA goalkeeper to net the first goal. Young Africans continued to press, and their efforts paid off again in the second half when Clement Mzize found the back of the net just one minute after the break.

Substitute Stephane Aziz Ki emerged as the star of the match, scoring a hat-trick with goals in the 77th minute, and two additional strikes in stoppage time at 90+3 and 90+4 minutes. Mudathir capped off the scoring in the 90th minute, solidifying Young Africans dominance.

With this emphatic win, Young Africans qualified for the group stage with an aggregate score of 7-0 against CBE SA, having previously secured a 1-0 victory in the first leg on September 14.

Following the match, head coach Miguel Gamondi expressed his satisfaction with the team's performance.

"I am happy with how the team played," he stated. "I love possession football, and we executed that for the entire 90 minutes. My players excelled in attack, especially in the second half."

"Our players performed exceptionally well today, especially in terms of creating scoring opportunities. We were able to capitalize on many of those chances, thanks to the players' determination and hunger. This positive performance has earned us a well-deserved spot in the CAF Champions League group stage."

"We have seen significant improvement in our finishing. I believe that our players are understanding the importance of converting chances into goals, we are confident that we will continue to make strides in this area and achieve our



Young Africans midfielder Mudathir Yahya shoots to score during their CAF Champions League qualifier match against Ethiopia's CBE SA at the New Amaan Complex Stadium in Zanzibar on Saturday. Photo: Courtesy of YASC

goals," he said.

Gamondi also emphasized the significance of Young Africans' progress in the tournament.

"It's a proud moment for Tanzania to have one team in the group stage of the CAF Champions League; it's not easy," he remarked.

The Argentine tactician asserted his team's readiness to face any opponents in the upcoming group stage.

"As a big team, we cannot fear anyone, but we will respect our opponents. We will compete face-to-face. Young Africans deserve respect in African football," he added.

This victory follows Young Africans' earlier triumph over Vital'O of Burundi, where they recorded an astounding 10-0 aggregate victory, winning 4-0 in the first match and 6-0 in the second at Azam Complex Stadium.

This consistent performance underscores Young Africans' pursuit of continental glory as they aim for the prestigious CAF Champions League title.

However, the road ahead will not be without challenges. The group stage fea-

tures several formidable teams, including reigning champions Al Ahly and Pyramids FC of Egypt, along with strong contenders such as CR Belouizdad and MC Alger from Algeria, AS Maniema Union and TP Mazembe from DR Congo, Orlando Pirates and Mamelodi Sundowns from South Africa, Raja Casablanca from Morocco, and Esperance from Tunisia.

Last season, Young Africans reached the quarter-finals but were eliminated by Mamelodi Sundowns in a tense penalty shootout. Sundowns, however, were later thwarted in their quest for the final by Esperance, who ultimately lost to Al Ahly.

As Yanga SC prepares for the group stage, the team remains focused and determined to advance further in the tournament. With a blend of skill, strategy, and resilience, they are set to make an impact on the African football scene, aiming not just to participate but to contend for the title. The anticipation builds as fans look forward to seeing how Yanga SC will navigate the challenges ahead and if they can achieve their dream of becoming champions in this prestigious competition.

EATV

TONIGHT @ 9:00

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Zote Kuntu
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michzo
14:00 SKONGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Akili & Me
15:55 Dondoo Za Michzo
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo Za Michzo
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 5SPORTS
22:00 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA1(r)

5Sports
The week's local and international sporting events as well as indepth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on 5sports.

eastafrika RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM

DAR ES SALAAM

Flexibles by David Chikoko

