



National Pg 3

Fuel Prices drop in Tanzania



National Pg 4

Call for reforms to reduce reliance on hazardous pesticides



National Pg 6

REA to spend 11.18bn/- to light up 90 villages



Motorcycle crashes: Helmets use mandatory in law reform

"We are now in the final stages, ready to bring the bill to Parliament for processing"

By Augusta Njoji, Dodoma

The government is in the final stages of preparing a bill for the National Assembly to amend the 1973 Road Safety Act to include a requirement for commercial motorcycle riders, the passengers and drivers, to always wear helmets.

Daniel Sillo, the Home Affairs deputy minister, made this affirmation in the National Assembly yesterday when responding to an additional question from Asha Abdallah Juma (Special Seats).

The MP had asked when the government would introduce a provision in road safety law mandating helmet use for both passengers and the motorcycle drivers, to which he said that the current law has shortcomings and does not make helmet use for passengers mandatory.

He told MPs that the issue has been addressed in the proposed amendments as now wearing helmets will be mandatory, while in the main question Amina Ali Mzee (Special Seats) asked when the government would begin implementing better laws and coordination

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A motorbike rider carries four passengers, all of whom are without helmets, in Dar es Salaam recently, posing a danger to public safety. Photo: Guardian Library

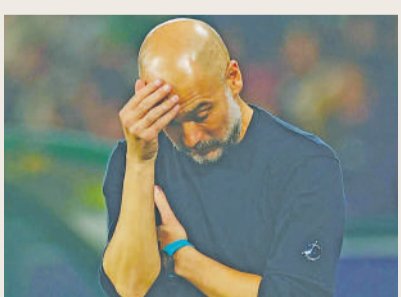
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Yanga seek redemption against Tabora United after Azam debacle

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Guardiola comes out fighting as Man City hit 'dark place'

Auctioning 26 oil/gas blocs for next March

By Guardian Correspondent, Cape Town

TANZANIA is set to auction 26 petroleum exploration blocks in the country's fifth licensing round set for March next year.

Dr James Mataragio, the Energy deputy permanent secretary for oil and gas, revealed this plan in a presentation on Tanzania's oil and gas sector and investment opportunities at the African Energy Week here yesterday.

The conference in Cape Town, the

These datasets are readily accessible for viewing and purchase by interested investors

South African legislative capital, brings together public policy makers on energy, investors and other executives working in the sector, as the week highlights the latest energy innovations and strategies, seen as critical to Africa's sustainable development.

A total of 23 blocks are located offshore in the Indian Ocean, while three are within Lake Tanganyika, a rift lake to the west of Tanzania, he said, inviting investors to link up with the Tanza-

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Govt projects tax cuts on gas-using vehicle imports

While most facilities currently convert petrol vehicles to natural gas use, plans are underway to establish facilities for diesel conversions as well in collaboration with the private sector

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE government is considering further reduction of import taxes on

gas-powered vehicles to promote the use of natural gas.

Judith Kapinga, the Energy deputy minister, made this affirmation

yesterday while responding to a basic question from Grace Tendega (Special Seats-Opposition), who demanded to know government plans to reduce some taxes to encourage more people to import gas-powered vehicles.

The deputy minister stated that in the 2023/24 budget estimates, the government provided a 25 percent customs duty exemption on natural

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As key mercury control project ending, digital waste lined up

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE World Bank has pledged to fund Tanzania's upcoming electronic waste management project, following implementation of a five-year mercury control project, set to be concluded late next year.

Jane Kibbassa, senior environmental specialist at the bank's country mission, affirmed this commitment at a meeting focused on mercury control and electronic waste management in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) housed at the global lender, is overseeing a mercury control initiative across Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Senegal, and Ghana, where Tanzania is credited with having made notable progress in mercury control.

This has positioned the country to be lined up for an electronic waste management project, already granted to other countries, she stated, elaborating that while the four others received funds for both mercury and electronic wastes, Tanzania focused first on mercury control. Finding for its electronic waste project can now proceed, she stated.

Underlining that electronic waste is an escalating global issue, she stressed the urgency for countries to take action to safeguard the environment, human health and wildlife.

For the mercury control project, the lender selected countries prepared to implement specific controls and the five countries are finishing up their projects next year.

Global 2023 data shows that approximately 62,000 tons of electronic waste remain unmanaged worldwide, with 20 percent being disposed of safely without impacting human or environmental health, she said.

"In Tanzania, many dumping sites lack waste separation systems, leading to harmful waste accumulation. When burned, this mixed waste poses significant health hazards," she specified.

International collaboration and engaging electronic device manufacturers, encouraging them to take responsibility for the end-of-life management of their products to reduce environmental harm is entailed in the project, she stated.

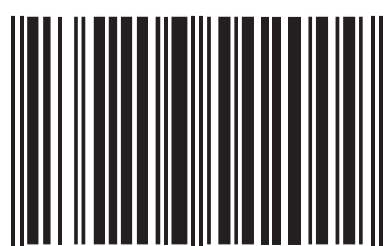
Lilian Lukambuzi, the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) acting director general, acknowledged that NEMC has prepared a proposal for funding an electronic waste project.

Increased electronic device usage driven by population growth is intensifying the need for effective

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Motorcycle crashes: Helmets use mandatory in law reform

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to reduce road accidents arising from driver negligence.

He said that the traffic police overseeing road safety using the Road Safety Act, Chapter 168 of 1973 as amended in 2002 need wider leverage to enforce vital regulatory requirements.

"As part of efforts to improve this law and reduce road accidents, the government has gathered input from stakeholders and is now finalizing these changes," he said, noting that the bill will be presented to the legislature once it is completed.

A follow-up question had the MP asking what measures the government was taking to control reckless drivers and whether the government sees the need to expedite amending this law to curb road ac-

cidents.

The deputy minister explained that the government takes action against reckless drivers by revoking their licenses and bringing them to court for legal proceedings, pointing at the government's strategy to reduce accidents by amending the 1973 law.

"We are now in the final stages, ready to bring the bill to Parliament for processing," he stated, while in a related question, Kinondoni MP Abbas Tarimba questioned the government's stance on "the growing disorder among bodaboda drivers."

There was an increase in accidents, he said, pointing at a recent incident in which an MP was involved in a motorcycle accident, to which the response was to urge road users to adhere to road safety laws to avoid accidents.

Govt projects tax cuts on gas-using vehicle imports

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gas-powered vehicle engines when imported into the country.

She said the government is also actively promoting private sector investments in the manufacturing of parts for gas-powered systems for vehicles and machinery within the country.

Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, the Finance minister, affirmed that the government had tax reductions for gas-powered vehicles and parts in the 2024/25 fiscal plan, and was

considering further adjustments for fiscal 2025/26.

Additional measures are in line with facilitating the cleaner energy drive by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, he said, with the deputy minister addressing concerns about the lack of facilities for converting diesel vehicles to gas.

While most facilities currently convert petrol vehicles to natural gas use, plans are underway to establish facilities for diesel conversions as well in collaboration with the private sector, she added.

As mercury control project ends, digital waste lined up

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waste management solutions, she stated, noting that Tanzania updated its environmental policy in 2007 and in 2021, introducing an elec-

tronic waste management aspect.

"In 2021, we also enacted regulations specifically for electronic waste control, equipping us with policies and frameworks to address this critical issue," she added.

Govt considers local content policy to reserve more job slots for Tanzanians

By Guardian Reporter

THE government announced yesterday that it is in the process of Drafting Local Content Policy aimed at empowering Tanzanians to actively participate in various economic activities across multiple sectors.

Speaking at the National Business Council (TNBC) Business Environment Committee meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Dr Jim Yonaz, Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office for Policy, Parliament, and Coordination, emphasized the importance of implementing an inclusive approach across both the public and private sectors.

He stated that establishing a national policy that creates more opportunities for Tanzanians to participate in the country's economic development is essential.

"The goals of the policy, among other things, include enhancing participation of Tanzanians and institutions in various economic activities as suggested by stakeholders," said Dr Yonaz, who also chairs the TNBC's task-force.

He explained that through the policy, the government intends to improve systems and regulations to create a competitive business environment for Tanzanians in the marketplace.

Additionally, he noted that the policy's goal is to digitalize various government operations through the Government Online Authority (e-GA), making them more efficient and accessible.

"Tanzania is moving towards creating a better business environment with the introduction of the

policy," he stated.

The recommendations from the committee are part of the implementation of directives given by President Samia Suluhu Hassan during a meeting held at State House in Dar es Salaam earlier this year.

Godwill Wanga, TNBC Executive Secretary, mentioned that by creating an enabling environment for doing business in the country, the policy would help local businesses gain a competitive edge in both domestic and international markets.

"This is a major step and through this process, we expect a better policy that will bring together all the economic stakeholders to participate in the development of the national economy," he said.

Participants noted that the policy would help Tanzanians fully engage in economic activities and facilitate recognition of the informal sector, enabling it to participate more effectively in the country's economy.

Mercy Sila, Chairperson of Women Entrepreneurs Chamber, praised TNBC for bringing together both the private and public sectors to discuss the draft of the policy which is expected to create an enabling environment for Tanzanians to conduct business.

"This will particularly benefit special groups such as women and people with disabilities by providing them with better opportunities to participate in various economic activities," she said.

Vincent Minja, co-chair from the private sector, praised development of the policy, noting that it is stakeholder-inclusive.



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango signs the condolences book for the late John Tutuba, father of Bank of Tanzania (BoT) governor Emmanuel Tutuba (L), shortly after arriving in Kibondo District, Kigoma Region, to attend the funeral yesterday. Photo: VPO

FROM PAGE 1

nia Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) to explore promising blocks in Eyasi-Wembere, Mnazi Bay North, and Songo Songo West.

Comprehensive data sets, including gravity, magnetic and seismic data (both 2D and 3D), plus survey logs are available for these blocks with datasets varying by block in terms of type and coverage, he stated.

These datasets are readily accessible for viewing and purchase by interested investors. He said, noting that the auction is part of government efforts to create a favour-

Auctioning 26 oil/gas blocs for next March

able investment climate for the licensing round.

Key changes under review include the model production sharing agreement to make contractual and fiscal terms more attractive, along with adjustments to royalty rates, cost recovery limits, profit oil/gas split, state participation,

rental fees, bonuses and other taxes.

He said that Tanzania is an appealing destination for oil and gas investment as it has extensive experience in the petroleum industry, with survey starting over 70 years, while in the past two decades it has set up a viable petroleum explora-

tion and regulatory systems.

Ongoing efforts by the government to improve the broader investment environment and implementing large-scale projects in electricity generation, power diversification, are set to drive energy and infrastructure development for a while, he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa shares a light moment with Songwe MP Philipo Mulugo at National Assembly grounds in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: PMO

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa and Britain have agreed to boost trade and defence cooperation, the two countries' foreign ministers said after meeting on Tuesday.

South Africa is already Britain's biggest trading partner on the African continent and Britain is among the top five destinations for South African exports, which include precious metals, cars and agricultural products.

Bilateral trade between the two countries totalled about 133 billion rand (\$7.62 billion) last year, according to South African Revenue Service data.

South Africa, Britain pledge to fortify trade, defence ties

"We've committed to a UK-South Africa growth plan that will drive economic development and deepen our trade and investment ties," British Foreign Secretary David Lammy said, speaking alongside his South African counterpart Ronald Lamola.

He did not give details about the plan, although his office had said it would include a programme to increase the number of agricul-

tural jobs in rural South Africa, boosting exports to Britain.

Lamola said ahead of the meeting that the countries' trade and investment relationship had stagnated due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges and that it needed a "reset".

"I am pleased that we have reaffirmed the importance and the strength of our bilateral trade and investment relationship," he

said. On defence, the two countries committed to deepen their cooperation on counter-terrorism and also discussed their shared goals for a just energy transition, Lammy said.

Lammy, who is on his first official visit to Africa as foreign secretary, visited Nigeria on Monday where he also agreed to strengthen economic and security ties.



Dr Lightness Chuwa, a paediatrician at KCMC Hospital, leads a team of doctors yesterday conducting an echocardiography (ECHO) test to assess heart function during a five-day training session for healthcare professionals from various hospitals. The training is being held at the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) in collaboration with the Paediatric Association of Tanzania and the German Tropical Paediatrics consortium. Photo: JKCI

Govt reports job creation between January and July at over 600,000

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE government facilitated creation of 607,475 jobs between January and July this year as part of efforts to meet its target of creating eight million jobs as outlined in the 2020-2025 CCM Election Manifesto.

Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office for Labor, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities Patrobas Katambi shared the information in Parliament while responding to a follow-up question from Special Seats MP Esther Maleko.

Maleko asked what strategies the government is employing to ensure that many Tanzanians find employment abroad and meet the manifesto's goal of eight million jobs.

In response, Katambi stated that the government aims to create 1.2 million jobs each year.

"The second approach involves using our embassies to seek job opportunities for Tanzanians abroad. The Tanzanian diaspora is also part of our strategy for accessing employment opportunities for Tanzanians," he said.

Katambi added that Tanzanians find employment abroad through personal efforts based on their educational qualifications or other factors such as being athletes or possessing various talents.

"Another approach is through educational institutions and ministries where some Tanzanians secure jobs abroad, including research positions and opportunities through United Nations organizations," he said.

Katambi also mentioned that the government would conduct an in-

tegrated Labor Force Survey (ILFS) and Employment Income Survey through the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the World Bank.

In another follow-up question, Special Seats Grace Tendega asked about the government's strategy to identify employment opportunities abroad and communicate them to Tanzanians.

Responding, Katambi said the government has already initiated a special plan through Tanzania Employment Services Agency (TaESA) to identify jobs advertised online and make them accessible to Tanzanians through a database, providing training to help them qualify for the positions.

In her primary question, Special Seats MP Shally Raymond inquired about the number of college graduates engaged in volunteer work and those who have gained employment or self-employment after volunteering.

Katambi explained that the government officially began coordinating implementation of the National Internship Programme in 2019/20. Since the programme's inception, 21,280 graduates have benefited, including 11,281 men and 9,999 women.

He noted that among the beneficiaries, 3,772 have found employment: 2,265 men and 1,507 women.

"The second approach involves using our embassies to seek job opportunities for Tanzanians abroad. The Tanzanian diaspora is also part of our strategy for accessing employment opportunities for Tanzanians"

By Augusta Njaji, Dodoma

Ensure fair allocation of teachers to protect rural areas, DEDs told

THE government has directed all district executive directors (DEDs) nationwide to ensure a balanced allocation of teachers to prevent rural areas from being underserved as teachers tend to gravitate towards urban centers.

Zainab Katimba, Deputy Minister in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government), issued the directive yesterday in response to questions from Tabora Urban MP,

Emmanuel Mwakasaka (CCM), regarding the government's strategy to address teacher shortages in primary schools.

The MP expressed concerns about the severe shortage of teachers in primary schools, particularly in peripheral areas. He noted that Tabora Urban, with 29 wards, is especially affected and

inquired about the government's plan to deploy teachers to the rural areas.

In response, Katimba acknowledged the tendency of teachers to prefer urban locations and instructed DEDs to ensure equitable teacher distribution.

She also assured MPs that efforts were underway to improve

working conditions in rural areas by ensuring availability of all essential services, encouraging teachers to remain in rural posts.

Earlier, the government announced plans to recruit 11,015 teachers in 2024, including 3,370 for primary schools, with assignments to follow once the recruitment process is complete.

Ease for motorists as petrol, diesel prices slump slightly

By Guardian Reporter

ENERGY and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Ewura) has announced a reduction in petrol and diesel prices for November compared to October 2024.

The price adjustment comes amid a complex mix of global market dynamics, including fluctuations in international oil prices and varying costs of fuel imports.

According to Ewura, the price of petrol at Dar es Salaam port has dropped from 3,011/- per litre in October to 2,943/- in November, representing a decrease of 2.26 percent. At the Tanga port, the price fell from 3,016/- to 2,948/- per litre, while in Mtwara, the price saw a minor reduction from 3,016/- to 3,015/- per litre. Despite this, petrol prices remain relatively high in some regions compared to others.

For diesel, retail price per litre in

Dar es Salaam decreased slightly from 2,846/- to 2,844/-. In Tanga, the price dropped from 2,859/- to 2,855/- per litre. However, in Mtwara, diesel price saw a small increase, rising from 2,862/- to 2,916/- per litre, a change of 1.89/-.

Dr James Mwainyekule, Director-General of Ewura, explained that the price reduction is primarily due to the combined effect of lower international oil prices, adjustments in importation costs, and exchange rate fluctuations.

"Despite the global price increase in petrol and diesel compared to September 2024, local prices have been positively affected by changes in the importation costs," he said.

He noted that compared to September 2024, the global price of petrol has risen by 1.56 percent while the price of diesel has increased by 4.99 percent. The increases in global oil prices, combined with fluctu-

ating premiums (the cost associated with importing fuel) have contributed to varying price changes seen across the country. In particular, diesel premiums have risen sharply by 14.48 percent which may impact future price adjustments.

Ewura has also cautioned fuel dealers to adhere strictly to the maximum price limits set by the authority to ensure that consumers are not overcharged.

The regulator further emphasized the need for transparency, urging fuel stations to display clear and visible price signs to promote fair competition and protect consumer rights.

"With the continued volatility in international oil markets, Ewura remains committed to monitoring trends and implementing measures to stabilize fuel prices while ensuring interests of consumers are safeguarded," he said.



Residents of Masuguru village in Kwamkabara ward in Muheza District, Tanga Region, queuing up to fetch water yesterday due to scarcity of this essential resource in their village. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

PUBLIC NOTICE



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DETAILS OF THE INITIAL PUBLIC OFFER FOR THE FUNDS:

Fund	Offer Amount (TZS)	Price per Unit (TZS)	Minimum Investment (TZS)	Subsequent Amount (TZS)	Disbursement after Repurchase	Investment Options
iCash	10,000,000,000	100	100,000	10,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry or exit load
iGrowth	10,000,000,000	100	100,000	10,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry load and exit load of 1%
iIncome	10,000,000,000	100	100,000	100,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry load and exit load of 1%
iSave	2,000,000,000	100	100,000	10,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry load and exit load of 1%
Imaan	5,000,000,000	100	100,000	10,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry load and exit load of 1%

OFFER TIMETABLE:

Event	Date
Opening of the Offer	04th November 2024
Closing of the Initial Sale	29th November 2024
Approval of Unit Holders Register by CMSA	13th December 2024
Notification of Results	17th December 2024
Scheme Opens for Subsequent Sale	17th December 2024
Opening of Repurchase Operations	17th December 2024

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Research recommends reforms to control hazardous pesticides

By Correspondent James Kandoya

A NEW study by Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) has recommended urgent need for regulatory reforms to reduce reliance on hazardous pesticides to protect public health and the environment in Tanzania and East Africa.

Dr Aiwerasia Ngowi, Senior Researcher at MUHAS, unveiled the findings of the study during an interdisciplinary symposium held in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The symposium brought together researchers, medical professionals and academics to discuss the critical public health and environmental risks associated with pesticide use in the region.

The event was centred on the theme 'Pesticides and Health in East Africa: Breaking the Invisibility of Pesticide-Related Effects on Human Health in the Era of Climate Change'.

Dr Ngowi pointed to a concerning trend in the increased use of highly hazardous pesticides on food crops, which has significantly raised the risk of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as cancers, respiratory diseases and neurological disorders.

The study which forms part of a wider compendium calls for stricter regulatory measures, including enforcement of bans on dangerous chemicals to reduce public exposure.

"The escalating use of pesticides, especially those classified as highly hazardous, is directly linked to the rise in non-communicable diseases," Dr Ngowi stated. Adding "The chemicals pose both acute and chronic health risks to humans and the environment, particularly in agricultural communities where pesticide use is most intensive."

The study advocates for a shift toward safer, more sustainable pest control methods, including organic farming practices and non-chemical pest management solutions.

To mitigate the risks posed by pesticides, Dr. Ngowi called for collaboration between health authorities, regulatory agencies and international partners to ensure

that pesticide regulations are aligned with public health goals and environmental sustainability.

Joseph Birago, Team Lead for Occupational Health at the Ministry of Health, who represented Chief Medical Officer, praised MUHAS and its partners for their role in raising awareness and advocating for improved pesticide management.

"We recognize the importance of this research in shaping policies that protect both our population and the environment," he said. "The Ministry of Health is committed to supporting efforts that address public health risks associated with pesticide use."

Prof. Apollinary Kamuhabwa, Vice Chancellor of MUHAS, echoed Birago's sentiments, emphasizing that the compendium addresses critical public health and environmental challenges caused by pesticide use in Tanzania.

He called for a paradigm shift in the country's approach to pesticide regulation, stressing the importance of prioritizing human health and environmental protection over "pesticide politics."

"The time has come to change the narrative and put public health and environmental protection at the forefront of pesticide regulation," he said.

"This requires not just policy reform but also a concerted effort to educate and engage all stakeholders in addressing the risks posed by pesticides."



The chemicals pose both acute and chronic health risks to humans and the environment, particularly in agricultural communities where pesticide use is most intensive

UNIDO recommends innovation to quicken industrial growth in Africa

By Special Correspondent

AFRICAN countries should leverage innovations and emerging technologies like artificial intelligence to hasten industrial growth, as well as tackle poverty, unemployment and inequality, a United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) official said on Tuesday.

Tally Einav, UNIDO representative to Kenya, Eritrea, South Sudan, Seychelles and Comoros, said that for African nations to sustain industrialization, harnessing local innovations and sharing of best practices and skills development is critical.

Speaking at a forum here ahead of the African Industrialization Week, which will be held in Kampala from November 25 to 29, Einav said the continent is on the cusp of an industrial takeoff that promises shared prosperity, competitiveness of locally manufactured goods and job creation.

"We acknowledge that industrialization is vital to addressing socioeconomic challenges including poverty, unemployment and inequality," Einav said.

Sustainable industrialization must be at the core of Africa's efforts to meet the sustainable development goals and achieve the aspirations of Agenda 2063, she added.

This year's Africa Industrialization Week will be held under the theme of "Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Green Industrialization to Accelerate Africa's Structural Transformation."

Einav said that multilateral institutions have rallied behind the continent's industrialization agenda that seeks to boost value addition and exports besides injecting vitality into supply chains.

According to Einav, harnessing innovations and cleaner technologies will ensure that Africa's industrialization agenda promotes climate response, inclusive growth and intra-continental trade.

She observed that the AU Agenda 2063 and the African Continental Free Trade Area are roots for value addition, cross-border trade and strengthening regional value chains to accelerate growth.

Developing a robust indigenous manufacturing sector is paramount to cushion African countries from disruptions in the global supply chains occasioned by geopolitical tensions and climatic shocks, Einav said, who suggested African countries should diversify their industrial base by leveraging their vast natural resources endowment alongside youth bulge and growing middle class.

She also called for investments in supportive infrastructure and skills development while roping in the private sector to foster innovation and competitiveness in the continent's industrial sector.



...multilateral institutions have rallied behind the continent's industrialization agenda that seeks to boost value addition and exports besides injecting vitality into supply chains



Amos Makalla, the National Executive Committee (NEC) secretary for Ideology, Publicity and Training, addresses party members and leaders in Ilala District yesterday. Photo: Correspondent

Govt refutes rumours about deferment of visa-on-arrival

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has announced that the visa-on-arrival service for foreign nationals remains operational at Tanzania's entry and exit points despite recent rumours suggesting a potential suspension.

The move, according to the Immigration Department, aims to ensure that the country continues to facilitate ease of entry for foreign visitors.

The department has urged all travellers to take advantage of the country's online e-Visa system by applying for their visas in advance.

"The new directive aimed at streamlining the immigration process", the department said in a public notice yesterday.

The notice emphasized the numerous benefits of applying for e-visa prior to arrival, including reducing waiting times at entry points and ensuring a smooth overall travel experience.

The e-Visa system is easily accessible, secure, and allows travelers to receive approval ahead of their journey, which helps avoid delays at border entry points.

"The Immigration Department strongly encourages foreign visitors to apply for their visas

via e-Visa platform to ensure seamless travel experience," said Paul Mselle, spokesperson for the Immigration Department.

He added "This will significantly reduce congestion and long waiting times when arriving at Tanzania's border posts."

In addition to supporting smooth arrivals, the notice reassured travellers that Tanzania remains open to visitors for various purposes, including tourism, business and education.

The department reaffirmed its commitment to providing high-quality services that meet both national and international standards.

The notice underscored that the e-Visa application process is not only a practical measure for easing the flow of visitors but also a strategic effort to maintain an organized, efficient immigration system.

By encouraging travellers to apply in advance, the department aims to manage visitor traffic more effectively, ensuring that Tanzania's entry points remain orderly and efficient.

"As the country continues to attract international visitors, the department remains dedicated to improving its services and enhancing travel experience for everyone."



Mussa Azzan Zungu (R), the deputy speaker of the National Assembly, leads discussions grouping the MPs' Network on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and visiting MPs from the Democratic Republic of Congo, its parliamentary network on SDG issues, in the capital yesterday. Photo: Parliament

By Guardian Reporter

CHINA has launched a new version of training programme in Zanzibar to improve paediatric treatment capabilities and reduce child mortality rates.

This year's version of the training programme, hosted by the Ministry of Commerce of China and organized by Hunan Children's Hospital, began at the Lumumba District Hospital based in Unguja, Zanzibar.

Fifty trainees from Unguja and Pemba islands attended Tuesday's opening ceremony of the month-long session. They were all paediatric medical workers in local hospitals, including paediatricians, surgeons, anesthesiologists and pediatric nurses.

"Improving the level of

China unveils training to boost paediatric services in Zanzibar

paediatric medical care and protecting children's health are our common responsibility and mission," said Zhang Ming, acting consul general of the Chinese Consulate General in Zanzibar, while addressing the opening ceremony.

Zhang said the China-Zanzibar paediatric cooperation has enjoyed a good foundation and yielded preliminary results, and it also embodied the attention and expectations of senior leaders of the two sides.

Deputy Director of Hunan Children's Hospital Qu

Shuangquan said in his speech that the hospital attaches great importance to the training project, adding that they had held several meetings to review the project implementation plan and selected a team of paediatric experts with rich foreign aid experience and professional background to perform the training task.

He stressed that the training course is a result of the joint expectations of both sides, and Hunan Children's Hospital will do its best to provide comprehensive and systematic training for the improvement of Zanzibar's

paediatric capacity without reservation.

Zanzibar Deputy Minister for Health Hassan Khamis Hafidh expressed high appreciation for China's support, looking forward to further cooperation between China and Zanzibar in paediatric services. The deputy minister also called on doctors and nurses to cherish the training opportunity by studying hard.

Hunan Children's Hospital has sent expert groups to Zanzibar to carry out paediatric training since 2017 and has trained 120 medical experts.



Joseph Nganga, the Labor, Youth and Disabled Persons employment department director in the Prime Minister's Office, takes the podium in a debate on labour migration to promote safe and decent employment for local migrants, and reducing various risks, held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

Cashew farmers block main road in protest of 'delayed payments'

By Guardian Correspondent, Masasi

CASHEW farmers in Ndanda Ward, Masasi District, Mtwara Region, yesterday blocked the main road connecting Masasi to Lindi and Mtwara regions to protest delayed payments for their cashew sales.

Despite selling their produce at the first, second and third auctions of the season, the farmers have yet to receive any payments.

Speaking to reporters at the scene, the farmers expressed frustration over the delayed payments and demanded that the Masasi-Mtwara-Nanyumbu Cooperative Union (MAMCU) honours its usual payment schedule.

The farmers blocked the road with logs and stones, halting traffic for nearly three hours and causing a major disruption between Masasi, Lindi and Mtwara.

They criticized the union for failing to pay them on time despite having sold their cashew nuts early in the season.

Juma Athumani, a farmer from Ndanda Ward, called on the government to intervene. "We decided to block the road to pressure the government and relevant authorities to pay us.

We won't leave until this issue is resolved," he said.

Ayubu Michael, another farmer, said many farmers have not been paid for sales made in the first three auctions and were uncertain about the cause of the delays.

Asha Salumu, also a farmer, expressed frustration, questioning why, after selling their nuts, they still haven't been paid, even though the payment deadline has passed. She noted that farmers in nearby cooperatives had received their payments on time while those in Masasi are still waiting.

Masasi District Commissioner Lauter Kanoni arrived at the scene and appealed for patience, assuring the farmers that the government was addressing the issue.

"The government is aware of the problem and is actively working to resolve it. Some farmers have already begun receiving their payments, so I ask you to remain calm," Kanoni said.

He further explained that the government had held meetings with cooperative leaders, bank officials and mobile network representatives involved in processing the payments to discuss the challenges behind the delays.

Test soil before using fertiliser, farmers told

By Correspondent Elizabeth John, Njombe

FARMERS in Makambako Town Council, Njombe Region, have been advised to test their soil before planting to determine appropriate type and amount of

fertiliser needed. This approach aims to increase productivity while minimizing costs.

Beatrice Tarimo, Head of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries Department at Makambako Town Council, shared this advice recently while briefing journalists. Tarimo said that the council offers soil

testing services free of charge and emphasized that understanding soil health allows farmers to apply the correct amount of fertiliser.

She explained that due to high acidity levels in the soil, testing is essential for farmers to achieve bumper and cost-effective yields.

"When a farmer tests soil, they

can make informed decisions on the appropriate fertiliser for their land. Instead of applying 10 bags, they might find that only three bags are needed," she said.

Tarimo also urged farmers to consider the weather forecast, advising them to take advantage of early rains for cultivation.

Moderate to above-average rainfall is expected, although fewer rains are anticipated from this month to January 2025.

Several farmers in Makambako, including Faraja Luvanda, praised the soil testing initiative, noting it would significantly improve their productivity. "The government has

supported us with this soil testing so we farmers can benefit. We hope for prompt provision of inputs for this season," said Luvanda.

Makambako Town Council has registered over 22,000 farmers who expect to benefit from subsidized fertiliser for the 2024/2025 agriculture season.

Cholera cases in Sudan rise to 30,880, dengue fever to 6,011- health ministry

PORT SUDAN

THE number of cholera infection cases in Sudan has climbed to 30,880, while dengue fever cases reached 6,011, Sudan's Health Ministry said on Tuesday.

"The epidemiological situation report revealed the registration of 138 new cases, including two deaths, bringing the total to 30,880 cases, including 887 deaths," the ministry said in a statement.

The ministry said 72 out of the 138 new cases were recorded in Gedaref State in eastern Sudan.

In addition, 91 new cases of dengue fever were reported, all in Kassala State, raising the total number of dengue fever cases in the country to 6,011, including 12 deaths.

Kassala State is experiencing high rates of both cholera and dengue fever, attributed to waves of displacement from the eastern Gezira region in central Sudan, as noted by Al-Fadil Mohamed Mahmoud, director general of the ministry's Health Emergencies and Epidemic Control Department.

The marked increase in cholera and dengue cases is part of a broader health crisis in Sudan, where fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces has raged since April 2023. Other epidemic diseases, including malaria and measles, have also been spreading.

The ongoing conflict in Sudan has resulted in over 24,850 deaths and displaced millions of people, according to the latest estimates from international organizations.

The marked increase in cholera and dengue cases is part of a broader health crisis in Sudan, where fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces has raged since April 2023. Other epidemic diseases, including malaria and measles, have also been spreading

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
(COMMERCIAL DIVISION)**

AT DAR ES SALAAM

MISC. COMMERCIAL CAUSE NO.9 OF 2023

IN THE MATTER OF COMPANIES ACT [CAP 212 R.E. 2002]

AND

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION MADE UNDER SECTION 281(1) OF THE COMPANIES ACT [CAP 212 R.E. 2002]

AND

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR WINDING UP OF KATAVI AND KAPUFI LIMITED

BETWEEN

KATAVI MINING COMPANY LIMITED PETITIONER

VERSUS


SEBASTIAN SIMON KAPUFI 1ST RESPONDENT
KATAVI AND KAPUFI LIMITED 2ND RESPONDENT


NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CONTRIBUTORIES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all CREDITORS and DEBTORS of KATAVI AND KAPUFI LIMITED and the GENERAL PUBLIC that KATAVI AND KAPUFI LIMITED is undergoing Court Liquidation under the appointed liquidator **JOSEPH NUWAMANYA (ADVOCATE)**.

All debtors of the company and persons holding in their possession any assets/properties of the company to pay their debts to the liquidator at the address below not later than **18th day of November 2024** and to surrender the assets and the said properties to the liquidator at the address below not later than **18th day of November 2024**.

All creditors of the company are hereby given notice that they should submit their claims with supporting documents to the liquidator at the address below not later than **18th day of November 2024** without fail.


JOSEPH NUWAMANYA (ADVOCATE)
THE LIQUIDATOR
Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road, Conservation House Plot No. 245
P.O. Box 4490, Dar es Salaam - Tanzania
Telephone/Facsimile: +255 222664692
Mobile: +255 767 607 107 / +255 785 564 192
Electronic mail: joseph.nuwamanya@mawalla.co.tz



BARRICK

NORTH MARA

REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following service:

SAG Mill Liners Performance Trials

Tender Ref: NM029/2024

No.	Reference no.	Description of work	Qualification Criteria
1	NM029/2024	SAG Mill Liners Performance Trials Specs: i. FE liners ii. Shell liners iii. DE liners iv. Fasteners	i. Company Profile and project profiles over the last five years for assessment as well as manufacturing capacity supplied per month for the last 10 years. ii. Supplier should be an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) or Authorized Distributor iii. Supplier should provide OEM or Authorized distributorship Letter iv. Share the manufacturing QAQC document. v. Warranty & Guarantee of the liner's performance vi. Provide other clients reference contacts. vii. Provide the Safety, Health, and Environmental ISO compliance certificates. viii. Local Content Regulations compliance.

Submission of Proposals
If your company meets the qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the RFP package (BOQ, Technical Specs, etc.), send your request along with all requested documents to nm.proposal@barrick.com

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

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

Qualification of any company submitting a "proposal" shall be at the sole discretion of NMG.

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

Key Dates

- Last Date to Submit RFP Package request **13 November 2024**

North Mara Gold Mine Limited

Study links good infrastructure to brisk women empowerment

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE University of Dodoma's College of Business and Economics has underscored the need for the government to allocate more funds to improve infrastructure to enable more women to engage in economic activities seamlessly.

Acting College Deputy Principal Ismail Juma made the call yesterday in a meeting to unveil findings of a research.

The research explored the impact of increasing the government's budget allocation by seven per cent for infrastructure improvement. The report assessed how such an increase could improve economic activities, particularly for women.

He said the study found that enhancing infrastructure, especially road networks, would significantly reduce the time women spend travelling to markets where they engage in economic activities.

The improvement would empower women by allowing them to participate more effectively in the economy, ultimately increasing their income and economic contributions.

He recommended that the government considers scrapping some taxes on registered companies to encourage them to hire more women in the formal sector, helping them to become more economically active.

"As you know, women are heavily involved in many domestic activities; so, if infrastructures, particularly roads, are not improved, it means women will spend a lot of time travelling to markets. The time spent travelling contributes to the disadvantages women face. So, improving infrastructure could empower women significantly, enabling them to compete more effectively," he said.

The research findings were presented to government officials and members of parliament for them to consider incorporating the findings in the long-term plans for women economic empowerment.

The study provided crucial

insights into how infrastructure investments can lead to greater economic empowerment for women.

The researchers and community advocates hope that the government will take the findings seriously and work towards implementing the recommendations to support women's economic development.

"The research findings suggest that if the measures are implemented, there is a significant possibility that by 2030, we will have greatly improved economic activities and empowered women to engage more in economic matters," he said.

UDOM senior lecturer, Dr Joel Johnson Mimas, advised the government to increase funding for infrastructure development by seven per cent in empowering women economically.

"We have found that increasing the government's budget by seven per cent could create a conducive environment for businesses, especially for women. It would reduce the time women spend travelling from one place to another, enabling them to participate more in economic activities and generate more income. It would also increase productivity for the government as more people would be able to engage in economic activities."

Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Community Development Fatma Toufiq said the findings will greatly assist them as policymakers in advising the government.



...So, improving infrastructure could empower women significantly, enabling them to compete more effectively



May Hassan, an intellectual property consultant and trainer at the Egyptian National Intellectual Property Academy (NIPA), makes a presentation during the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) training of trainers programme at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

REA to spend 11.18bn/- to lit up 90 villages in Shinyanga Region

THE Rural Energy Agency (REA) has commenced implementation of an 11.18bn/- project aimed at distributing electricity to 90 villages across Shinyanga Region.

Robert Dulle, REA Western Region Project Manager, said this during a meeting with Shinyanga Regional Commissioner Anamringi Macha yesterday, saying that a total of 2,970 households will be reached.

He introduced the contractor for the project as Derm Group (T) Limited, a Dar es Salaam-based company.

"We are grateful to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for approving the allocation of the funds to extend electricity to 90 villages in this region. Preliminary preparations have already begun, and today we are introducing the contractor," Dulle said.

Dulle outlined the current status of electricity distribution

in Shinyanga, noting that out of 2,703 villages in the region, 930 have already been connected to the national grid. The 90 villages covered by the new project will further expand electricity access in the region.

He said the project, which began on September 3, 2024, is set to be completed within 24 months benefiting villages in Shinyanga, Solwa, Kishapu, Msalala, Ushetu and Kahama districts.

Dulle further said that the region has made significant strides in improving rural electricity access.

"Of the 506 villages in the region, 485 are already connected to the grid, equating to a 96 percent electrification rate. The remaining 21 villages, located in Kahama District, are at various stages of connection under the ongoing REA3R2 project, led by Tontan

Project Technology LTD JV Group Six International," Dulle said.

RC Anamringi Macha praised the REA for its transparency in the project's rollout and commended its systematic approach in introducing contractors to local leaders across the country.

"This is excellent news for the development of our region. Alongside other vital community services, electricity is a priority for the government. It is the engine of the economy—this is beyond dispute," Macha said.

He added: "With growing economic activities in Shinyanga, including mining and rice farming, the demand for electricity has risen significantly."

He said that Shinyanga witnessed rapid growth, and many local industries now require reliable electricity to support their

operations.

He emphasized the need for farmers to add value to their crops locally, particularly rice, by setting up milling operations to increase profits and create job opportunities in rural areas.

The RC also urged Derm Group to ensure that the project is completed on time and meets the highest quality standards. "We are pleased to see Tanzanian companies like Derm Group executing important projects," Macha said.

Justinus Mutalemwa, Derm Group project manager, assured the Regional Commissioner that the company was fully prepared to implement the project.

He said that the company had already completed necessary preliminary steps, including site inspections, and was ready to begin work immediately.

Agency trains 814 head teachers in Ruvuma to boost education quality

By Correspondent Gideon Mwakansoya, Songea

THE Agency for Development of Educational Management (ADEM) has trained 814 primary school head teachers in Ruvuma Region to enhance quality of education.

Dr Maulidi Maulidi, ADEM Chief Executive unveiled this here on Tuesday when wrapping up the three-day training which was held across all councils in the region.

He explained that the purpose of the training was to build capacity of head

teachers, enabling them to manage their schools effectively, particularly in ensuring that teaching and learning activities are carried out with the required quality and efficiency.

"A total of 814 head teachers from government primary schools in Ruvuma Region participated in the training with a 100 percent turnout which deserves commendation for their commitment to attending leadership and school management training," Dr Maulidi said.

Asha Kamando, Coordinator of Training at ADEM's Mbeya Center,

mentioned that the training would help strengthen leadership and school management across the region.

"A team of experts carefully prepared for the training, equipped with competent facilitators who ensured the training was conducted professionally, efficiently, and hence beneficial to primary school headteachers," she said.

She highlighted key topics covered, including school leadership, management and administration, good governance in education, managing head teacher's office, record keeping in

schools, data collection, overall school development planning and motivating school staff.

Edith Mpinzile, Ruvuma Regional Education Officer, commended the government for prioritizing construction of school infrastructure across the country.

Mpinzile encouraged primary school teachers to maintain school facilities and acknowledged the government's commitment to supporting infrastructure development in various areas.

Katavi liaises with scribes to create jobs via intangible cultural heritage

By Guardian Correspondent, Mpanda

AUTHORITIES in Katavi Region have reiterated their commitment to supporting the media to promote intangible cultural heritage in the region to enhance employment opportunities for women and youth.

Carol Stephen, Katavi Regional Sports, Cultural and Youth Officer made the statement in Mpanda yesterday at the capacity building workshop for community radio journalists and digital platforms in the area.

Conducted by the Tanzania Media for Community Development under UNESCO Alwaleed Philanthropies project, the session was meant to empower community radio journalists to use their stations and digital platforms to promote intangible cultural heritage to enhance employment opportunities for youth and women in the region.

He said the capacity building on intangible cultural heritage came to the region at an opportune time as media is a pillar for development as one can never go without it, expressing the region's commitment to supporting women, youth and the media.

"Tanzania is the only country in the world that still embraces its culture and whoever does so is bound to survive," said Stephen.

The session brought together community radio journalists in Katavi Region, digital platforms as well as artists from University of Dodoma.

Katavi Region is located in the southwest of Tanzania about 900 Km from Dar es Salaam, former capital and current commercial hub of Tanzania and is among top five in terms of food production in Tanzania.

According to Katavi investment opportunity profile, the region has a total area of 45,843 sq km inclusive of land mass and large lakes Tanganyika and Rukwa, with a population of 1,152,958 people.

The region is endowed with agriculture, fishing, mining and tourism opportunities, with huge potential in cultural tourism which largely remains untapped.



Tanzania is the only country in the world that still embraces its culture and whoever does so is bound to survive

UNCLASSIFIED



Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Dar es Salaam



British High Commission Dar es Salaam

The German Embassy and The British High Commission Dar es Salaam

Remembrance Day at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery

On Sunday 10th November 2024, 8 a.m., Remembrance Day will be observed at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in remembrance and commemoration of the end of the First World War.

In the course of the service, wreaths will be laid on the Commonwealth War Memorial and the German Memorial by Tanzanian Institutions, Diplomatic and Consular Missions, Veterans' organisations and others. The service will commemorate all victims of war.

The event is being jointly organised by the German Embassy and the British High Commission in Dar es Salaam.

Press is most welcome

Africa Energy Expo calls for shared solutions to power continent's future

KIGALI

PARTICIPANTS at the inaugural Africa Energy Expo 2024, underway in Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, called for sustainable energy solutions across the continent to power its future.

The three-day event, running until Wednesday, gathered government officials, regulators, industry leaders, and energy experts under the theme "Investments, Integration, Infrastructure, and Governance to Fuel the Energy Transition."

The expo aims to tackle Africa's energy challenges while advancing the continent's goals under the Africa Power Vision and Sustainable Development Goal 7, which focuses on affordable and clean energy.

Speaking at the event, Olivier Kabera, Rwanda's minister of state in the Ministry of Infrastructure, underscored the critical role of sustainable energy in Africa's development.

"This summit is both timely and significant as we navigate one of the greatest challenges and opportunities facing our continent-sustainable energy development. Africa holds immense natural wealth, yet we face real challenges in meeting the energy needs of our rapidly growing populations and dynamic economies," he said.

Kabera highlighted Rwanda's commitment to universal electrification, noting the country's achievement of an 80 percent access rate through a combination of on-grid and off-grid solutions. "Energy is not merely a commodity but a catalyst for development, innovation, and social equity. Our progress is part of the broader picture of African energy aspirations," he added.

Discussions at the event also explored various approaches to closing Africa's energy gap. Panels focused on identifying energy-deficient areas, promoting renewable sources like wind and solar, and ensuring last-mile electrification in remote communities. Key topics included the need for infrastructure upgrades to create resilient, interconnected grids and establishing successful public-private partnerships.

Ibrahim Matola, Malawi's minister of energy, underscored the private

sector's vital role in bridging investment gaps, noting that increased private sector investment in transmission, distribution, and generation infrastructure is crucial to meeting Africa's energy demands.

Ade Yesufu, with the exhibition organizer Informa Markets, praised the collaborative atmosphere of the expo, highlighting its unique position as an energy platform "designed for Africans - in Africa - by Africans."

"The Africa Energy Expo is a dynamic display of the need for transformative solutions to Africa's energy needs and the willingness of senior stakeholders on the continent to come together to provide meaningful, sustainable solutions," he added.

Participants at the event called for a robust policy framework to leverage the African Single Electricity Market, emphasizing that regional cooperation and integration are crucial for establishing a sustainable energy market. They also highlighted the importance of effective regulatory frameworks to attract private investors to clean energy projects, alongside capacity-building initiatives to support local entrepreneurship in the sector.

The expo features over 120 exhibitors from the renewable energy, transmission, distribution, and energy management industries, showcasing the breadth of Africa's rapidly expanding energy sector.



The Africa Energy Expo is a dynamic display of the need for transformative solutions to Africa's energy needs and the willingness of senior stakeholders on the continent to come together to provide meaningful, sustainable solutions

IOM intensifies response to cholera disaster in S. Sudan

JUBA

THE International Organization for Migration (IOM) announced on Tuesday that it had intensified its response to cholera outbreak in South Sudan's Renk, a primary arrival point for hundreds of thousands fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan.

IOM noted that the outbreak in Renk, declared on Oct. 28 by the Ministry of Health, poses a serious risk to vulnerable populations already facing severe challenges.

"The response team on the ground is working tirelessly to ensure that those affected receive the necessary care and support, while preventive measures are being implemented to limit further spread," Aaron Adkins, IOM's emergency response coordinator in South Sudan, said in a statement issued in Juba, the country's capital.

The outbreak was declared after six cholera cases were confirmed in Renk, which also hosts a transit center sheltering over 13,000 arrivals. The Ministry of Health has reported 59 suspected cases, underscoring the critical nature of the situation.

The IOM said the influx of displaced individuals arriving in overcrowded conditions with limited access to clean water and sanitation has heightened the risk of cholera transmission in transit centers and surrounding

host communities. In response, it has launched comprehensive emergency measures in close coordination with local health authorities and partner organizations.

More than 684,000 people fleeing the conflict in Sudan have arrived through the Wunthuo Point of Entry (PoE) in Renk, where the IOM has established a presence to support disease surveillance and identify suspected cholera cases. IOM-trained clinicians are stationed at the point and in transit centers in both Renk and Malakal to facilitate rapid detection and reporting.

To provide immediate care, the IOM has set up oral rehydration points at both the PoE clinic and the transit centers, offering life-saving hydration to those affected. "IOM's multi-faceted response, working with other humanitarian organizations under the coordination of the public health emergency operations center, aims to contain the outbreak and protect those most at risk," it said.

Additionally, the UN agency has strengthened local response capacity by training clinicians on case definitions, identification, and the use of rapid diagnostic tests. "These trainings are crucial for prompt detection and response to cholera cases, ensuring that patients receive timely and effective care," it said.



Hassan Khamis Hafidh, the Health deputy minister for Zanzibar, addresses health professionals when opening a training programme for doctors organized by the ministry in collaboration with the Hunan Children's Hospital, a Chinese medical facility, at the Lumumba Hospital in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

Zimbabwe to host extraordinary SADC summit on regional issues

HARARE

ZIMBABWE will host an extraordinary Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit of Heads of State and Government later this month in Harare to discuss emerging issues of regional significance, a cabinet minister has said.

Jenfan Muswere, minister

of information, publicity and broadcasting services, said at a post-cabinet media briefing that the gathering is scheduled from Nov. 16 to 20.

"The summit is expected to be briefed on political events in the region, including the recent elections in Mozambique and Botswana and the upcoming polls in Namibia," Muswere said.

Preparations for the extraordinary summit are at an advanced stage, with technical sub-committees expected to ride on the already established protocols that facilitated the successful hosting of the 44th Ordinary SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Harare in August when Zimbabwean President Emmerson

Mnangagwa assumed the SADC rotating chairmanship.

The SADC is a 16-member Southern African regional bloc, whose member states include Angola, Botswana, Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



Salome Mnyawi (R), the Mirerani ward councillor in Manyara Region, shows Simanjiro District Commissioner Faki Lulandala (2nd L), areas affected by flooding during recent heavy rains. On the left is Endiamtu ward councillor Lucas Zacharia. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Zambian firm to entice Chinese market at CIE

LUSAKA

A ZAMBIAN company specializing in precious stone mining, honey production and handmade crafts aims to leverage the 7th China International Import Expo (CIIE) to tap into China's vast market.

Gilly's Trends Enterprise, one of nine Zambian companies

participating in this year's CIIE, said that the expo is among the largest in the world, attracting extensive participation from diverse sectors. The company said the event is an invaluable opportunity to network with a wide array of enterprises.

Changa Nkowani, chief executive officer of the company who will attend the CIIE for the first time, told Xinhua on Monday that "the

market in China is large, and that is why we always accept the invitation to attend."

Nkowani said that the company is keen to forge collaborations and explore partnership opportunities with those interested in its products, aiming to expand its reach in the Chinese market. Moreover, she said she is interested in partnering with Chinese

companies to enhance value addition for her products.

Nkowani also praised China's zero-tariff treatment for all tariff lines from least-developed countries in Africa, describing it as a boost for exports from small and medium enterprises in these nations.

The 7th CIIE will take place in Shanghai from November 5 to 10.

THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER, 2024

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

COP29 climate meeting projects limited in scope

SOME evaluation is likely to be conducted among environmental stakeholders and academic observers on the details of government plans to present proposals for major strategic projects at the 29th conference of the parties to the Climate Change Convention (COP29). The global jamboree set for the Azerbaijan capital of Baku starting early next week will be used essentially by the Vice President's Office (VPO) to seek to raise money for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects. There is a strategic suitability issue.

For one thing it is unlikely that discussion involving national leaders and experts at the conference will succeed to establish a common position on various environmental protection issues. The conferences have never achieved as much but intensity of discussion and urgency of the issues compel 'the parties' to agree to a set of minimal 'to do' issues that provide the framework for global dialogue and action parameters for the next year. When making decisions, each country takes note of credibility to its climate promises.

Take for instance the inclusion of a rapid transit expansion project for Dar es Salaam, which appears to be tied up with plans to purchase more than 600 buses for the rapid bus transit project.

A better idea for a global conference would be to improve the rapid transit to rail connections rather than gas guzzlers approaching a thousand units at a go. When it comes to clean cooking energy the focus is on awareness and the relevant technologies, whereas a global conference needs systematic shift to biogas, while manufacturing such equipment locally on a public-private partnership, say for schools,

prisons, hospitals, etc.

The point is that while at the local level we can largely talk policy on the basis of what can be done on a household level, like shifting to gas, when we have a case to make at an international gathering we need to go 'the next level.'

What seems to be the case at VPO is that the current agenda of shifting to natural use at home also coincides with its general outlook, whereas at an international conference that is a fossil fuels path, a mild change. Biogas is the most available among clean energy technologies and is essentially small scale.

Problems can arise out of habit, that the two agencies for electricity connection, rural and urban, basically wish to connect poles (which are heavily paid for by all sorts of clients or consumers. They have never expressed the will, intention or familiarity with biogas, and as electricity is highly priced, policy advisers tout natural gas as a replacement of firewood and charcoal, whereas with any PPP matrix biogas can make the difference in rural as well as urban areas. So the energy shift agenda is compromised by narrow parastatal strategies.

It is difficult to speak of a project to withstand the effects of floods in vulnerable areas whereas the floods that Tanzania has seen are modest by world standards.

That would at best be a widening of irrigation projects by building dams or water retainers in flood-prone rivers where people could pump water into tankers and direct it at relatively dry areas with horticultural produce for instance. There are plenty of agencies to look into such projects, such as food security global networks recently up and running, not at the Baku platform.

Intellectual property legal instruments best checked with localised industries

DEVELOPMENTS in science and technology applications are touching off vibrant pursuits of a quasi-legal character, for instance at a rather high flung regional meeting on the matter. Reports said that least developed countries (LDCs) (where Tanzania is strictly speaking a past member) need to update intellectual property (IP) policies to keep pace with the rapidly evolving global landscape. This is true but one can't adapt to everything, and it is thus from investment needs, or formulating regulations, that the matter may arise.

There was a World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) training-of-trainers session in Dar es Salaam, intended to facilitate the setting up of an IP hub for Eastern Africa. This isn't objectionable as there can be several hubs within a given area, where for all intents and purposes Rwanda had progressed fast in that area, whereas Nairobi has a big lead in setting up renewable energy plants and moving to add this sphere of electricity generation into the market. Doing things practically enables a country to solve problems as they come up, not preparing a legal or regulatory framework first before work begins on the ground.

A top academic administrator noted that global markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, so poor countries need to ensure their IP frameworks align with international standards. This enables them to compete effectively in the global economy and facilitate participation in trade, on the basis of his remarks, whereas a more articulate position is how far we can adopt certain technologies without falling foul of global IP

conventions, rapidly. Seeking to ensure that the local regulatory framework is at par with any other country could place the bar too high, mistaking what role we play in that sphere.

Effective IP management is crucial for economic transformation of developing countries, definitely, for all industrial innovation and investment itself involves the use of some patented work. The issue for instance comes up in manufacturing mass use instruments like biogas units, wind energy systems, drones, robots and some say, electric cars - how much of other people's intellectual property we need to use and how we hedge for it, etc. The issue isn't sui generis creation of an innovation and seeking to patent it, but in its application, and more significantly applying innovations of others without taking risks.

Definitely 'strong' IP policies can drive economic growth by fostering innovation and attracting foreign investment, which the varsity administrator said it creates a more favorable environment for businesses and startups. Yet stringent IP regulations can hinder such businesses (or startups as the case may be) to put into use other innovations, thus the need for reciprocal agreements on IP issues which often have to do with removal of trade barriers, etc. Otherwise the IP holder is invited on a PPP framework to facilitate industry, but this isn't where policy advisers are focused. They are rooted on the ground, advocate frameworks fostering local industry growth, supporting research and development; they wish to enable inventions move into commerce, not external inventions being absorbed.

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How blue carbon ecosystems are saving the Philippines' sinking Islands

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia

IMAGINE living with water up to your knees for half of the year, where homes are flooded, and people constantly fear that the sea might one day engulf the town and everyone in it.

This is the reality for the sinking islands in the Philippines—a cluster of four island barangays in Tubigon located in the south-central region of Bohol. Here, the sea level is rising at an alarming rate of 10.8 millimeters per year, three times faster than the global average. If this continues, these islands could disappear by 2100.

Tubigon sank by one meter after being hit by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake over a decade ago. While still recovering, the islands were devastated by a super typhoon in 2021, unleashing four-meter-high tidal waves that destroyed over 1.7 million homes and displaced more than 3 million people. This year, the islands were declared uninhabitable by the government.

Existential Climate Threats to Coastal Communities

Coastal communities like the Philippines are severely threatened by accelerating sea level rise compounded by extreme weather events. Similar to small island developing states, also known as SIDS, low-lying coastal areas are the most vulnerable to climate change.

Their geographic location leaves them highly-exposed to natural disasters and hazards like cyclones and tidal flooding. These vulnerabilities exacerbate coastal communities' unique development challenges.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports that with the current 1.5 degree temperature increase, global sea levels will continue to rise and low-lying coastal regions are to experience extreme sea events such as storm surges and massive tides annually by 2050.

SIDS, including Tuvalu and the Maldives, along with the sinking islands of Tubigon, are proof of the existential threats of climate change. These communities are at risk of vanishing unless urgent action is taken.

Bouncing Back from Climate Risks

While island communities are under threat, they are not powerless. Many of them have shown commitment to addressing climate-related risks in their national climate action plans. Their goal is to build climate resilience.

The term "resilience" is often mentioned in climate change discussions, but what does it really mean? It comes from the Latin verb *resilire*, meaning "to bounce back." Resilience refers to the



Submerged structure in Tubigon, Philippines. Credit: Greenpeace

ability to recover from risks, which, in the context of climate change, is determined by the degree of vulnerability and exposure to climate-related threats.

For coastal communities and low-lying islands, rising sea levels pose a significant risk, so they must build resilience to endure and recover from climate-related hazards and disasters.

Turning to Blue Carbon Ecosystems for Solutions

Many SIDS set a good example in piloting measures to build resilience and adapt to the impacts of climate change. Similarly, the residents of Tubigon, many of whom are fisherfolks, have learned to adapt to the rising tides.

The local community has developed resilience strategies and initiatives to help them sustain their lives on the islands. One promising solution involves utilizing the sea and its resources, part of what is called the blue carbon ecosystem.

Blue carbon ecosystem is a collective term for natural marine resources such as mangroves, seagrasses, and marshes known for their ability to capture and store carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Research shows that these coastal resources can transfer and store carbon ten times more effective than tropical forests.

These ecosystems also support fishery production, protect shorelines and reduce flooding, and provide habitats for wildlife and migratory species. Studies indicate that conserving blue carbon ecosystems is a timely and cost-effective strategy to help coastal communities adapt to climate change.

Harnessing Coastal Resources

for Climate Change Adaptation

Tubigon and the Bohol region have long implemented measures to protect their blue carbon ecosystems, helping residents adapt to climate-related risks. Their strategy is two-fold: eliminating destructive fishing practices and conserving coastal resources particularly mangroves.

The local community has designated *bantay dagat* (which translates literally to sea protectors) to patrol its marine area spanning 156 hectares of coral reefs and 335 hectares of mangroves. These protectors report illegal fishing activities and safeguard the mangrove forests.

Over time, many locals have transitioned from destructive fishing methods, such as dynamite and cyanide use, to more sustainable aquaculture and alternative livelihoods, including crab and squid jiggling, grouper farming, and ecotourism.

Moreover, particular focus is given to mangrove conservation. The vast mangrove area in Tubigon is considered a valuable blue ecosystem resource playing an important role in sequestering carbon. Experts estimate that a 4-decade mangrove plantation can store over 370 tons of carbon per hectare.

Additionally, mangroves act as natural seawalls, reducing wave energy and shielding residents from rising sea levels and tidal flooding. By investing in the preservation of blue carbon ecosystems, coastal communities like Tubigon tap into an essential resource that supports their livelihoods and enhances their resilience to the effects of climate change.

Turning the Tide

The islands of Tubigon stay afloat amidst the intensifying battle against climate threats. Most recently, the Philippines joined an alliance to build the resilience of coastal communities. It was also selected as the host of a fund dedicated to supporting countries to respond to loss and damage, enabling them to recover and rebuild from the adverse effects of the climate crisis.

Allowing islands to sink and entire communities to disappear is unimaginable, especially when we have the resources and tools to address the planet's most significant crisis. Time is running out, but there is still hope to turn the tide.

This article is originally published in Global Dev as part of its Climate Resilience series.

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IPS UN Bureau

Using technology to enhance learning, create an effective and inclusive education system

EDUCATION serves as the cornerstone of solving a number of challenges in our society, thus making it essential for nations to establish effective educational systems suited to the demands of the modern era.

Schools play a pivotal role in preparing individuals for today's fast-paced world, which requires teachers to focus on delivering a high-quality education.

In pursuit of this goal, the government continues to review and come up with new education policies, with a strong emphasis on integrating technology in teaching.

The rapid evolution of technology has embedded it into nearly every aspect of life, underscoring the importance of integrating digital tools in the classroom to better prepare students for the future.

Technology is essential in teaching and learning because it enhances engagement, access to information, and personalizes education, thus enabling students to learn more effectively and teachers to teach more efficiently.

It offers engaging tools, such as videos, animations, and simulations that make learning more dynamic and interactive. These resources help capture students' interest, making complex or abstract concepts easier to understand.

Digital tools provide support for learners with varying abilities and backgrounds, such as text-to-speech functions for visually impaired students or language translation tools for non-native speakers.

Exposure to technology in school prepares students for future work environments, teaching them essential skills like using software, conducting online research, and collaborating virtually.

Technology fosters problem-solving and critical thinking by providing interactive tasks that require analysis and decision-making, which are essential skills in many modern careers.

Through technology it becomes easier for both teachers and learners to get instant feedback, allowing students to learn from their mistakes right away and helping teachers identify areas where students may need extra support. With digital assessments and data-tracking tools, teachers can analyze students' performance data to pinpoint strengths, weaknesses, and trends, allowing for more targeted interventions.

The priority for technology aligns with the growing need for a workforce capable of using technology to address complex global issues, making technology a crucial component of education.

Incorporating technology in education, however, requires adequate infrastructure. Digital literacy, internet access and devices such as projectors are indispensable for utilizing technology effectively in classrooms.

As the government and institutions invest in traditional educational facilities, equal efforts are needed to establish the technological infrastructure necessary for modern teaching.

Technology in education extends beyond internet access alone. While the internet offers vast resources, learning can also flourish through books, educational cards, and other hands-on



teaching aids. Teachers can integrate these resources by balancing digital and physical tools.

For example, a teacher might use a projector in one lesson and, in the next, guide students to explore additional materials in a computer lab, encouraging independent research.

It is crucial to avoid misinterpreting technology as the sole source of educational content. Teachers may feel compelled to rely heavily on online videos or materials, potentially overlooking the importance of aligning content with the curriculum.

The primary objective of education should not be overshadowed by an overreliance on technology. A well-rounded approach empowers students to seek knowledge independently, fostering critical thinking and self-directed learning.

Digital literacy, particularly computer skills, enhances teaching and learning in several ways: Improving time management, teaching students computer skills reduces teachers' dependence on setting up devices every lesson. Frequent setup times can cut into valuable instructional time, so having digitally literate students helps maximize learning periods.

While technology is an excellent tool, it should complement, not replace, other effective teaching aids. Digital literacy allows teachers to blend traditional tools with technological resources, enriching the learning experience.

With computer skills, students can engage in self-directed learning outside the classroom. Digital devices often captivate young learners, stimulating intrinsic motivation and providing a founda-

tion for lifelong learning.

Digitally literate students can reduce the need for additional equipment, like projectors and screens, especially if a computer lab is available. This can lower operational expenses without sacrificing educational outcomes.

Achieving optimal educational results depends on clear, feasible education policies. Technology-rich teaching requires sufficient resources and infrastructure to meet policy goals. Effective policies should account for the logistical needs of schools, ensuring that infrastructure and resources are in place.

When students are empowered to be digitally literate and independent, education systems move closer to achieving the full potential of a technology-enhanced learning environment.

CLASSROOM MATTERS
By **Thomas Lyimo**
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Challenges faced by PWDs in accessing healthcare services

By Guardian Reporter

GOOD infrastructure in healthcare centers is essential for people with disabilities (PWDs) to ensure they can access and receive healthcare services safely, comfortably, and with dignity.

Healthcare centers across the country are struggling to provide quality services to people with disabilities due to numerous challenges. Most of the facilities lack essential infrastructure accommodations, including accessible stairways, specialized adjustable delivery beds, accessible toilets, and comfortable seating in waiting areas.

Accessible infrastructure—such as ramps, elevators, wide doorways, and accessible bathrooms allows PWDs to move freely and independently within healthcare facilities. This prevents the physical and psychological discomfort of having to rely on others to assist them.

Proper seating, adjustable beds, and accessible waiting areas provide comfort and uphold the dignity of PWDs while they wait or receive treatment. Good infrastructure also helps healthcare staff and caregivers in their role by providing the necessary tools and spaces to assist PWDs safely.

This lack of inclusive infrastructure at healthcare facilities limits access for those with mobility challenges and creates an unwelcoming environment.

There is also a scarcity of trained sign language interpreters to assist patients with hearing and speech impairments. This absence often results in a communication barrier between these patients and healthcare providers, making it difficult for them to receive adequate care.

Rosemary John, a visually impaired woman from Bukombe District, shared her experience with The Guardian, revealing that healthcare staffs often avoid assisting people with disabilities due to communication challenges.

Rosemary, who serves as the chairperson for the blind in her district, explained that in many health centers, disabled patients are perceived as "troublesome" or demanding, with some even experiencing harassment, particularly pregnant women with disabilities. "Nurses often call social workers to attend to us, claiming they cannot manage," she said, describing the experience as both isolating and stigmatizing.

It was only after securing funds from donors to train healthcare workers on how to attend to people with disabilities that Rosemary and others began to see positive changes in how they were treated at health centers.

Tungi Mwanjala, Deputy Chairperson for the Federation of Disabled People, known as SHIVYAWATA, shared her own life-threatening ordeal during childbirth. Due to her speech impairment, she faced significant communication barriers when she encountered complications. Without proper communication, her experience high-



The disability inclusion consultant, Magdalena Maige speaks to outreach team leaders and assistants during a recent workshop in Dodoma Region.

lighted the critical need for trained staff and inclusive care during medical emergencies.

These challenges underscore the need for greater government and private sector intervention to ensure healthcare inclusivity for people with disabilities.

In response, Marie Stopes Tanzania recently organized a disability inclusion workshop in Dodoma, aimed at equipping healthcare workers with skills to better serve patients with disabilities. This training involved team leaders and outreach assistants from across the country, who learned basic sign language and strategies to overcome common barriers faced by disabled patients.

Zawadi Lubaga, Outreach Lead at Marie Stopes Tanzania, noted that the training is part of an initiative to extend healthcare services to remote areas, ensuring that people with disabilities have access to essential healthcare, including family planning and preventive care. This

training followed a study conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, which identified skill gaps among healthcare workers in serving patients with disabilities.

Shida Masumbi, a nurse and outreach team leader from Kishapu, noted that the training has reshaped her perspective on serving disabled patients.

"The training has helped me understand and address the myths and misconceptions around disabilities. Now, I am more aware of the specific challenges people with disabilities face, from communication barriers to transportation issues," she said.

The government is also taking steps to address these challenges. According to Wambura Kizito, Acting Director for Persons with Disabilities in the Prime Minister's Office, the government recognizes

the obstacles people with disabilities face and is working to improve services across health centers nationwide. At the national level, policies, laws, and guidelines are being developed to create a more inclusive healthcare system.

"Communication barriers have often led to serious errors in the health sector, including cases where patients received incorrect treatment due to misunderstandings," said Kizito. He emphasized the importance of patient privacy and the need for healthcare staff to communicate effectively with all patients, without requiring third-party assistance.

According to the 2022 Tanzania Population and Housing Census, nearly 5 million people in the country live with some form of disability. Improving accessibility and inclusivity in healthcare is essential to ensure that these individuals receive the quality care they need and deserve.

CHIMANIMANI, Zimbabwe

As forests felled wood shortage hits villagers in Zimbabwe

LINET Makwera (28) has a baby strapped on her back as she totters barefoot, picking tiny pieces of wood on both sides of a dusty and narrow road, peering fearfully at people passing by along the road in Chimanimani's Mutambara area in Gonzoma village located in Zimbabwe's Manicaland Province, east of the country.

Her fears, Makwera says, are the patrolling plain clothes police officers, who often target people, cutting down the few available trees in search of firewood.

In the midst of firewood shortages countrywide, more than 300,000 trees were destroyed between 2000 and 2010, according to Zimbabwe's Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.

In fact, in 2011, the Forestry Commission of Zimbabwe found out that the country was losing about 330,000 hectares of forests per year. According to Global Forest Watch in 2010, Zimbabwe had 1.01 Mha of natural forest, extending over 2.7 percent of its land area. In 2023, it lost 4.67 kha of natural forest, equivalent to 3.27 Mt of CO₂ emissions.

A slight drop from the previous one, currently, Zimbabwe's annual deforestation rate is estimated to be at 262,348.98 hectares per annum, the Forestry Commission says.

According to UNDP in 2022, the use of local forests for fuel wood has also been one of the many drivers of deforestation in the country.

UNDP has been on record, saying presently, fuel wood accounts for over 60 percent of the total energy supply in the country and almost 98 percent of rural people rely on fuel wood for cooking and heating.

The Forestry Commission says up to 11 million tons of firewood are needed for domestic cooking, heating and tobacco curing every year in Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe is ranked top of the United Nations-ranked Least Developed Countries (LDCs) that have battled the highest rate of deforestation in the world, as many rural dwellers here depend on firewood for cooking.

Yet still, even as the felling of trees for firewood gets worse and worse in Zimbabwe, it is a crime for anybody to be found cutting trees for any purpose without the authorities' blessing.

If caught on the wrong side of the law, a wood poacher can be fined USD 200 to 5,000.

Like many villagers domiciled in her remote area, Makwera has to battle with firewood deficits as the forests disappear under massive deforestation.

But the laws prohibiting people from cutting down trees have also meant hard times for many, like Makwera.

Yet despite her struggles to find firewood often in order to cook food for her family, she (Makwera) has had to soldier on, just like many other villagers in her area.

With even the hills and mountains now running out of firewood in Makwera's village, life has never been the same for the villagers, as they do not have electricity, which, even though it might have been there, would not have saved any purpose amid daily power cuts gripping the Southern African nation.

"Finding firewood is now a huge challenge. Yes, we buy. We have no choice. We suffer to find the firewood. In the hills and mountains where we used to find firewood, there is now nothing," Makwera told IPS.

Named using vernacular Shona, a tsotso stove typically is a tin with holes pricked into it, with a few tiny sticks stashed inside the home-made stove to produce some fire heat needed for cooking.

Stung by the growing firewood deficits, Zimbabwean villagers are even resorting to buying firewood from woodpoachers moving around in scotch carts touting for customers.

Such are many, like 33-year-old Tigere Mhike, also a resident of Gonzoma village, who said he has been for a long time earning his living through selling firewood to the desperate villagers.

He does this illegally, and in order to escape the wrath of law enforcers, Mhike said he and his assis-



Cart laden with firewood in Gonzoma, Zimbabwe. Woodpoaching for household fuel is having an impact on forests in Zimbabwe. Credit: Jeffrey Moyo/IPS

tant often operate under the cover of darkness in their search for the wooden gold.

"Where we live here, there are now too many people who are crowded. Some pieces of land that had plenty of firewood are now occupied by more and more people. We now have to travel very long distances, waking up very early in the mornings sometimes at 2am to go and search for firewood so that we deliver to the villagers wanting the firewood. We sell one scotch-cart full of firewood at 25 (US) dollars," Mhike told IPS.

Amid incessant droughts actuated by climate change that have also led to the gradual disappearance of Zimbabwe's forests, with the use of tsotso stoves requiring fewer wood sticks to produce the cooking heat, villagers here have said they are gradually adapting to

the crisis.

Even to environmental experts like Batanai Mutasa, part of the panacea to surmount firewood deficits has turned out to be the now popular tsotso stoves in the face of Zimbabwe's laws forbidding the cutting down of trees.

Mutasa is also the spokesman for the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA), a non-governmental organization comprising of legal minds fighting for this country's environment.

As the trees disappear amid firewood poaching in Zimbabwe's villages like Gonzoma in Manicaland Province, Mutasa has a piece of advice.

"My advice to people struggling to find firewood in remote areas is that they should work together to find other means that protect our trees from being damaged, things

like using biogas or stoves that don't require much firewood like tsotso stoves," he (Mutasa) told IPS.

In worst case scenarios, said Mutasa, to preserve forests as they search for firewood, people should resort to just plucking off branches from the surviving trees to use these to make fire, leaving the trees alive.

Mutasa said: "Mainly, people should make it their habit to plant and replant trees. People can team up with authorities in their villages to fight off woodpoachers in their areas."

Another Gonzoma villager, Mzilikazi Rusawo, in his early sixties, said faced with desperate times in their search for firewood as the few forests are jealously guarded by law enforcers, they now have to seek permission from authorities before they cut selected trees for

firewood.

"The law does not allow us to just cut down trees for firewood anyhow. We actually seek permission from authorities before cutting trees for firewood, which we do with care—sparsely cutting down the trees in order to leave many other trees standing," Rusawo told IPS.

For the Zimbabwean government, the options are, however, fast running out as rural dwellers battle with firewood shortages.

Some of the options can not be afforded by many residents in rural areas in a country where more than 90 percent are jobless, according to the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU).

"Firewood shortages are a huge challenge for all people living in rural areas, but it is not only firewood that can be used for cooking. People can also use biogas," Joyce Chapungu, spokesperson for the Environmental Management Agency (EMA), told IPS.

With the retail price of biogas in Zimbabwe going for approximately two dollars per kilogram, not many rural residents can afford buying the cooking gas.

IPS

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Chinese-funded bamboo project brings relief to flood-ravaged Kenyan communities

NAIROBI

FOR decades, Francis Mayobo's farm, located along the Nzoia River in western Kenya, was repeatedly inundated by floods that destroyed his crops and pushed him to the brink of poverty.

A retired public works official, Mayobo's farmland is near the river, which originates in Kenya's northwestern highlands and drains into Lake Victoria, Africa's largest freshwater body.

Four years ago, Mayobo took a proactive step by planting hundreds of bamboo trees on his farm after learning about the tree's flood-mitigating potential.

"I was motivated to venture into bamboo farming after training and research on how it could protect my farm from floods," Mayobo told Xinhua in a recent interview.

Today, the bamboo trees not only shield his farm from seasonal floods but have also rejuvenated the soil, allowing him to grow

crops such as maize, legumes, bananas, and millet.

Mayobo is one of many smallholder farmers in western Kenya's flood-prone areas set to benefit from a bamboo agroforestry initiative funded by the Chinese Academy of Sciences through its Sino-Africa Joint Research Center.

The project is implemented by the United Nations Environment Program's affiliated International Ecosystem Management Partnership (UNEP-IEMP), in collaboration with local partners.

Dubbed "Ecosystem Restoration for Enhancing Livelihoods and Addressing Climate Change: China-Kenya Cooperation on Bamboo Technology Transfer," the project promises flood protection, income generation, and improved resilience for local farmers and fishermen.

Under this initiative, Mayobo and other farmers have received training on bamboo cultivation, helping them establish nurseries and secure seedlings for replanting in



Green bamboo plant stems

flood-prone zones.

Samuel Juma Magoba, an elderly farmer involved in the project, has cultivated bamboo on his one-acre farm and found new income opportunities by selling bamboo for furniture, ornaments, utensils, and compost.

He recalled the severe flood damage he witnessed in his youth in his village near the Nzoia River basin -- a devastation that has notably decreased since local farmers started planting bamboo along the

riverbanks.

According to Dennis Otieno Ochuodho, a senior researcher at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology in Kenya, a project partner, the bamboo agroforestry project offers an effective, nature-based solution to climate-induced flooding.

Ochuodho said the project aims to expand research, training, and technology transfer in bamboo farming, restore the degraded Nzoia River basin, and enhance

food security through mixed cropping systems. A large-scale bamboo plantation, he added, will protect native species, serve as a carbon sink, and supply raw materials for herbal medicine, supplements, and roofing.

Despite her advanced age, Alice Makhulo's passion for cultivating bamboo on her seven-acre farm near a swamp remains undiminished, thanks to the economic and environmental benefits she has reaped from

the trees. "Even my children and grandchildren appreciate the cool breeze from the mature bamboo trees. I have also been selling the bamboo stems to local furniture makers," Makhulo said.

As part of the China-funded bamboo agroforestry initiative, more than 200 farmers will receive training in sustainable bamboo cultivation, which also includes a 25-hectare demonstration site to showcase ecological restoration through the planting of this iconic tree species.

Guoqin Wang, program manager at UNEP-IEMP, emphasized that by stabilizing the Nzoia River banks, the project not only curtails flooding but also enhances local livelihoods by combining food crops with bamboo and creating natural products for sale.

Leveraging Chinese bamboo technology and expertise, the initiative aims to regenerate degraded landscapes, conserve water sources, and improve climate resilience for river communities, Wang added.

Symprose Anyango, coordinator of Eco Green Kenya, a conservation lobby, noted that communities along the Nzoia River have embraced the project, particularly women, saying that "bamboo has in particular been of huge benefit to women who suffer most from climate change. They are using bamboo to revive traditional weaving and earn an additional income."

HakiArdhi: Spearheading advocacy for change of policy and land laws to enhance secure land tenure

By Correspondent Deodatus Mfugale

THIS year marks the 30th anniversary of HakiArdhi, and land rights and research organization that has played a leading role in fighting for land rights of Tanzanians particularly those in the rural areas. While laws and policies governing land administration have existed in the country even during colonial times, these did not pay much attention to rural areas where communities had abundant land the administration which was mainly customary. However with developments in communication and transport, business and economy as well as industrial production, rural became exposed to grabbing in the guise of agricultural development to meet food security and raw materials, among others. The change in global economic outlook made land owned by villages vulnerable to uncharted misappropriation by the reach and powerful. The survival of the rural poor was at stake as they were systematically being dispossessed of their only source of livelihoods. Thus came The Land Act No.4 of 1999 and The Village Land Act No.5 of 1999.

"HakiArdhi was the brain behind the enactment of these laws. We thought that conditions existing in the 1990s when free economy was introduced in the country required a fresh look at our land administration system with special attention to land tenure systems, the public land notion, land certification and trusteeship," explains Cuthbert Tomitho, HakiArdhi Executive Director.

At 30 years, HakiArdhi boasts of making significant contributions to land laws and their subsequent amendments, advocating for land rights particularly for the poor and marginalized in the rural areas and raising awareness among communities of their right to own land. "Today we are celebrating 25 years since enactment of the land laws and 23 years since their enforcement. But we are also celebrating the strides Tanzanians have taken in demanding for their right to own land and secure tenure for that land. We are celebrating the awareness of land issues and the courage they have built to speak for their rights whenever they feel that they are being infringed," he said.

"Although we have laws and policies related to land governance, land disputes remain widespread. Conflicts still exist between farmers and pastoralists, wildlife conservators and local communities, investors and citizens, and issues of double land allocation are not rare. These conflicts need collective efforts and strong political will to resolve," explained the HakiArdhi Executive Director.

Speaking at the National Land Forum 2024 and 30th Anniversary of HakiArdhi held in Bagamoyo recently, the Tanzania Land Coordinator (TALA), Bernard Baha said that 30 years of HakiArdhi are synonymous to the struggle for land rights in Tanzania. "The institution has been in the centre of advocacy for land rights especially for the rural community. Today we are gathered here, representatives from villages, communities wards, districts, regions and government ministries because we have the knowledge and awareness of land issues. The existence of healthy discussions on various issues of land among and between a cross section of Tanzanians can be traced back HakiArdhi for building the capacity of Tanzanians to know their land rights and defend them. Today we can talk about equitable land ownership rights and secure land tenure for women and the youth; smallholder producers and all other land as a result of advocacy led by HakiArdhi. We are united in ensuring that every



Land rights organisations must advocate for the right of small producers to discuss and make decisions on ownership and secure tenure of their land.

Tanzania has access to land and freedom to use that land to improve their lives," he said.

The Outreach Director for Landesa Africa Dr. Monica Mhoja congratulated HakiArdhi on their celebrations of the 30th anniversary, recognizing the institution's relentless efforts to advocate for land rights and secure tenure for rural Tanzanians. She commended the organization for envisaging a society with a socially just and equitable land tenure system.

"30 years of HakiArdhi marks the unwavering commitment to land rights, a legacy of resilience, justice, and empowerment for small-scale producers. For three decades, HakiArdhi has championed equitable land access, ownership, and use, securing community rights for a protected future," said Dr. Mhoja in a message she sent to HakiArdhi executive Director.

Speaking on the sidelines of the National Land Forum and 30th Anniversary of HakiArdhi, the Executive Director of Tanzania Grassroots Oriented Development Organisation (TAGRODE) Zubery Mwachulla explained that HakiArdhi has been in the forefront in educating rural communities about their land rights; the right of each and every individual to own land. Small producers have been educated to treasure land as an asset

that can help to improve their lives economically and socially. The organization has also built the confidence small producers to express views and opinions regarding the fate of their land. They are ready to speak and demand for their land rights and secure tenure and are ready to protect the same.

"But it is not just about ownership and secure tenure, it is also about managing land so that it can yield more benefits. This includes maintaining soil fertility through the use of crop and farm residue and other organic material, conservation of the environment by protecting water sources, forests and natural vegetation all of which add value to the land the individual owns," explained Mwachulla.

According to the Executive Director, in its 30 years of existence HakiArdhi has also raised awareness of small producers about impacts of climate change and what adaptation measures they can take in order to protect their land and maintain resilient economies at family level. "During the three decades, HakiArdhi has strived not only to advocate for equitable land rights and the protection of those rights but also to raise awareness among communities of the need to add value to the land they own so that it becomes their

lifeline now and in future," he added.

TAGRODE has wide experience in working with communities in issues of land rights and land management. Since 2003 the institution has implemented six land reform related projects covering 34 villages in Morogoro and Iringa Regions. The focus of these projects has been on land rights and secure tenure, improved livelihoods of rural communities, inclusive land use planning as a means to climate adaptation and resilient economies at family level.

The executive Director of Parakuiyo Indigenous Community Development Organisation (PAICODEO) David Ole Mwarabu says that in its 30 years of work, HakiArdhi has identified itself as an advocate of land rights for the poor and marginalized who live in the rural areas. It has stood for the land rights of communities of small producers, women and the youth and helped them protect these rights through secure tenure. "It has taken leadership in training, educating and raising awareness among communities in demanding their rights to own land and how to protect these rights. But it has gone further than that; it has raised awareness among communities to cherish the fact that land is the only natural resource that provides diverse sources of livelihoods," he explained.

The importance of land is not revered in isolation from other resources and protecting ownership and secure tenure alone may not always guarantee owners of maximum benefits. "When ownership of land has been secured, people need to manage it so that the benefits they enjoy are sustainable. This requires proper man-

agement of the environment and all other natural resources. HakiArdhi has always stood for meaningful ownership of land that takes into consideration conservation and protection of all other natural resources," he said.

In the course of its existence HakiArdhi has raised awareness of land laws and policies among small scale producers and how the same affect their land rights. In the long run small producers have built confidence to speak for their rights and point out sections of laws and policies which they think infringe their ownership of land and their freedom to use it in order to better their lives. "Today, many small producers understand issues relating to land ownership rights and are ready to advocate for amendment of laws or review of policy where the same do not respond to current demands and cannot address challenges on the ground," he said.

Looking ahead, there is still a lot to be done by HakiArdhi regarding land rights and secure tenure. People are still worried about tenure of their land as current legislation allows government to take away land from them and change its use. "Conflicts still exist between small producers and investors and between government and small farmers. There are also conflicts between villages and between one district and another. These conflicts are a result of either infringement of land rights of insecure tenure. HakiArdhi must stand firm and lead advocacy for amendment of current laws so that those who own land do not live in fear of losing it for whatever reason," stressed Ole Mwarabu.

Israel's moves to ban UNRWA—signals uncertainty for affected Palestinians

UNITED NATIONS

THE decision of Israel's parliament, the Knesset, to adopt two laws that would severely limit or outright ban UNRWA has the potential to set a dangerous precedent, where countries can simply implement their own justification to ban the activity of the United Nations, even if it violates their obligations under international humanitarian law. Even with the rest of the world condemning this course of action, for Israel, this has been a long time coming and they are unlikely to back down.

Before the laws were adopted on October 28, fifty-two global humanitarian organizations, such as Human Rights Watch, Oxfam and ActionAid, released a joint statement calling on world leaders to protect UNRWA and to "use all diplomatic means" to prevent the legislation from going through. The organizations also condemned Israel's course of action during the current war waged in Gaza since October 2023.

"These actions are part of the wider strategy of the government of Israel to delegitimise UNRWA, discredit its support for Palestine refugees, and undermine the international legal framework protecting their rights, including the right of return," the statement reads.

What seems certain is that more than 2 million people in Gaza will face greater hardships than they do now if UNRWA is no longer able to provide aid and public services. While the Knesset's new legislation only applies to UNRWA in Israel and the occupied territories, this raises the possibility of a wider impact on the Palestinian community.

UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini said in a statement issued on X (formerly Twitter) that these bills would only increase the suffering of Palestinians and that they are "nothing less than collective punishment."

Michael Omer-Man, Director of Research for Democracy for the Arab World Now (DAWN), says that it is "difficult to fathom the scope of the downstream consequences of Palestinian refugees everywhere."

Speaking to IPS, Omer-Man warned that the new Knesset laws would likely be the first of many in the future that will come to shape the legislative framework of Israel-Palestine relations. Israel's campaign against UNRWA has been in the making for decades now, as it has claimed repeatedly that UNRWA is a terrorist organization and too deeply under the influence of Hamas.

The current war in Gaza has been justified to the Israeli public as a method to starve out the Palestinian refugees in the region. Israel accused that at least a dozen UNRWA staff members were involved in the Hamas terrorist attack on October 7, 2023.

As an entity of the United Nations with a mandate from the General Assembly established in 1949, UNRWA has largely been funded by other member states, though it has been seeing a funding shortfall over the last decade.

This is in spite of the agreement between Israel and UNRWA established in 1967, where Israel had committed to facilitating UNRWA's work. Without the organization's presence to meet the needs of the population in Gaza, it should fall on Israel, as the occupying power, to take that responsibility.

As was pointed out by Chris Sidoti, a commissioner of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, there is some irony in this ban on UNRWA, for the organization has saved Israel billions of dollars in taxpayer money that would have gone towards providing aid and essential services to the Palestinian community.

In reality, it is unlikely that Israel would assume that responsibility now. However, supposing that Israel were to cooperate and take a more direct hand



Danny Danon, Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations, addresses the Security Council meeting on the situation in the Middle East. Credit: UN Photo/ Evan Schneider.

in providing aid and services to Gaza and the West Bank, it would not be a popular move among its civilians. Omer-Man said that among some members of the government, there is a fear of severe backlash from its citizens, given that they have been fed this justification for the war, given the claims that Gaza would be forced to starve and thirst away. A reversal of that stance could be seen as betrayal. Any economic pressure put on Israel to abide by international law may not reverse the tide of war or sway public opinion.

This was only reinforced when Israel sent a letter addressed to the President of the General Assembly over the weekend, announcing its intention to withdraw from its 1967 agreement with UNRWA effectively immediately. UN Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric told reporters on Monday that as of now UNRWA is continuing to operate.

In the wake of the new legislation coming to pass, several countries have condemned this action, with a coalition of 52 countries

and two organizations, which included Türkiye, China, Russia, Brazil and Saudi Arabia, issuing an appeal to the Security Council to enact an arms embargo on Israel.

The UN Ambassador in New York, Danny Danon, has said that Israel would "continue to facilitate humanitarian aid in Gaza according to international law." He added that other UN organizations, such as the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) would be able to take over in providing aid in the way that UNRWA has. Israel's letter to the General Assembly also reiterates this claim, noting in it that they would continue to "ensure the facilitation of humanitarian aid to civilians in Gaza in a way that does not undermine Israel's security".

This has been refuted by the UN and its agencies, who have stated on multiple occasions that there is no alternative to UNRWA. They and other humanitarian organizations have argued that few other groups have the knowledge

to navigate the Palestinian territories like UNRWA. They warn that a ban on UNRWA would create further obstacles to addressing what is already a severe humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Despite assurances from Israeli officials, this raises the question of whether this should mean that other UN agencies and humanitarian groups will not be targeted or discredited, much in the same way that UNRWA has been since the start of the war last October.

Since the start of the war, nearly 200 UNRWA facilities have been damaged or destroyed entirely by repeated, targeted attacks and crossfire by the IDF. 237 UNRWA staff members have been killed. Separate from that, there have also been cases of aid convoys or vehicles bearing the sigil of groups such as WFP that have been shot at by Israel's armed forces, forcing the targeted groups to temporarily suspend their activities out of safety concerns.

"What I would take from this... is that they're looking for a piecemeal solution to keep people alive to ensure that they seem like they are doing just enough to abide by international humanitarian law," said Omer-Man.

The laws that would ban UNRWA are set to come into effect in January 2025. The Israeli Foreign Ministry has stated that "UNRWA is part of the problem in Gaza—not part of the solution," and that "claims that there is no alternative to UNRWA are unfounded."

"Despite the substantial evidence we provided to the UN demonstrating Hamas's influence over UN-

RWA, no measures were taken to acknowledge or alter the situation. As I have repeatedly emphasized, UNRWA is under Hamas's control in Gaza. Israel will continue its cooperation with humanitarian organizations but not with those that serve terrorism against Israel," Danon remarked.

Suffice to say, Israel's actions go against its obligations under international law. To say nothing of Israel's actions in the current war, as the IDF's campaign in northern Gaza has devastated the area and left the humanitarian response on the ground scrambling. It also challenges the Palestinian question that has been in debate for decades and the two-state solution that the international community wants to work towards.

Israel's actions in recent weeks only show, as Omer-Man warned, that rather than answer the question, they want instead to erase the question, to dismantle it.

IPS



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






Thursday 7 November 2024

BoT spends 2.1trn/- to boost banking liquidity

By Guardian Reporter

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has said it injected a total of 2.1trn/- in September this year through revised repurchase agreement (REPO) to improve the liquidity condition, nearly double of the amount it spent during August.

In its monetary policy statement for October, the central bank said the liquidity remained relatively tight in September 2024 due to seasonal demand associated with the crop purchasing cycle, which increased cash requirements.

As a result, the 7-day IBCM rate averaged 8.58 percent, slightly above the previous month's 8.17 percent and the upper limit of the CBR corridor of 8.0 percent.

"To address these conditions, the Bank injected liquidity amounting to 2,160bn/- through reverse REPO, compared to 1,113.1bn/- injected in the previous month," the review states.

The central bank says it continued its monetary policy operations during the review month, maintaining the 7-day Interbank Cash Market (IBCM) rate within a corridor of +/-200 basis points around the Central Bank Rate (CBR) of 6 percent set for the quarter ending September 2024.

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to maintain the Central Bank Rate (CBR) at 6 percent for the quarter ending December 2024.

The decision was made at its quarterly meeting held on 2nd October 2024, after considering that inflation is forecast to remain low, consistent with the target of 5 percent.

The MPC also projected growth to be steady in line with the improving domestic and global conditions.

Therefore, the central bank says will implement monetary policy to ensure the 7-day Interbank Cash Market (IBCM) rate moves within +/- 200 basis of the CBR.

In the quarter ending September 2024, liquidity in the banks was observed to be lower compared to the preceding quarter,

mainly due to higher than projected demand for shilling for purchasing crops.

The decline in the liquidity condition was reflected in the low levels of banks' clearing balances, an increase in banks' access to the Lombard facility, and a rise in the inter-bank interest rates.

The interbank cash market (IBCM) continued to facilitate the distribution of shilling liquidity across banks. In September 2024, total transactions amounted to 1,564.7bn/-, lower than 2,038.8bn/- traded in the preceding month.

According to BoT, during September, there was also an increase in banks' appetite towards foreign exchange portfolios, which was reflected in increase in balances at the central bank and holdings of foreign exchange abroad, and net open position of most banks turned to positive.

The central bank review reports that bank interest rates on loans showed a marginal uptick in September 2024 compared to the preceding month.

The overall lending rate rose to 15.53 percent, from 15.26 percent in August 2024, while negotiated lending rates increased to 12.92 percent from 12.79 percent.

Deposit rates also experienced a slight increase, with the average overall deposit rate rising to 8.20 percent from 7.98 percent in the prior month.

As a result, the spread between short-term lending and deposit rates narrowed to 6.49 percentage points, from 7.02 percentage points recorded in the same period in 2023.

This reflects evolving market conditions and increased competition among banks.

Private sector credit growth remained strong, rising to 17.5 percent from 16.7 percent in the preceding month.

The level was lower than the 19.5 percent growth registered in the similar period in 2023.

Agriculture continued to register the highest credit growth, at 34.8 percent, on the back of the ongoing government efforts to improve productivity, followed by trade, at 12.7 percent and building and construction, at 21.8 percent.



The interbank cash market continued to facilitate the distribution of shilling liquidity across banks

As for the share of credit allocation, the structure remained unchanged, with personal loans dominating the outstanding loan portfolio at 37.2 in September 2024, followed by trade and agriculture at 12.7 percent and 11.8 percent, respectively.

The risk on lending remained low, reflected by improvement in banks' asset quality, with the NPL ratio decreasing to 3.9 percent in August 2024 from 5.1 percent in the corresponding month of 2023.

The central bank said it expects the private sector credit growth to remain high as global and domestic economic conditions continue to improve, coupled with supportive policies intended to boost economic growth.

Global economic growth showed signs of improvement, inflation declined, and

financial conditions eased in the third quarter of 2024.

As a result, central banks in some advanced economies began cutting policy rates. Some central banks in the EAC and SADC also eased their monetary policy stance.

The IMF World Economic Outlook of July 2024 projects a growth rate of 3.2 percent in 2024 and 3.3 percent in 2025, while the World Bank Global Economic Prospects projects growth of 2.4 percent and 2.7 percent. The growth will remain driven mostly by emerging market economies.

Bloomberg reports show steady growth, in advanced and emerging market economies. The downward risk to growth includes geopolitical conflicts, volatility in oil prices, and climate change.

FSD Africa seeks to unlock finance for carbon projects

By Guardian Correspondent, Nairobi

FSD Africa has launched The Carbon Accelerator Programme for the Environment (CAPE), a pioneering initiative designed to catalyse investment into high-integrity nature-based carbon projects across Africa.

CAPE addresses two critical challenges: the lack of investment flow into projects that tackle climate change and biodiversity loss, and the need to build confidence in Africa's nature-based markets.

The programme aims to provide direct support to projects that have significant potential but are struggling to secure full funding.

By leveraging a combination of high-quality carbon credits and biodiversity improvements, CAPE seeks to demonstrate that there is a viable commercial business case for investors while offering a solution to integrity challenges in nature-based markets.

CAPE will be delivered in partnership with Finance Earth, a leading independent impact investment advisory firm, as the implementing partner, and the Africa Natural Capital Alliance (ANCA), a collaborative coalition focused on mobilising private capital for nature-based solutions in Africa, as a core partner.

Nature-based carbon project developers are invited to register interest in the programme following this link, to receive an Expression of Interest form in the coming days. Following the selection process, CAPE will deliver project development funding and technical support to up to 5 projects for a year from Spring 2025.

CAPE's unique approach targets projects that are technically feasible but have yet to reach financial close.

Through the provision of transaction advisory services and technical project development support, CAPE will create demonstration cases to show how joint carbon financing and nature-positive ventures can be investable.

By integrating carbon credits with biodiversity conservation, CAPE addresses revenue issues in biodiversity projects and offers investors practical guidance on harnessing the potential of nature-based solutions. CAPE is positioned to demonstrate how these models can scale to meet investor demand for high-integrity projects.

One of the key features of CAPE is the creation of a "living lab", where knowledge and best practices will be open sourced for the benefit of the wider market.

This will provide a platform for developers to learn from peers who have successfully navigated similar challenges and will include templated guides and resources to help other projects advance towards financial close.

By building this ecosystem, CAPE is ensuring that a pipeline of high-integrity nature-based carbon projects can be replicated and scaled.

Reshma Shah, Lead Carbon Markets, FSD Africa stated: "Having just returned from COP16 Biodiversity, the urgency of accelerating nature-based solutions that address both climate change and biodiversity loss is more evident than ever. CAPE, with its dual focus on carbon and biodiversity, offers the perfect platform for deepening our understanding of how to implement these solutions effectively. It not only highlights the importance of these initiatives but also showcases their investability, paving the way for impactful projects that can transform our relationship with nature."

Dorothy Maseke, Head of the ANCA Secretariat explained: "At ANCA, the launch of the Carbon Accelerator Programme for the Environment (CAPE) is a pivotal moment in advancing Africa's nature-based markets and living to the principles and actions of the ANCA Nature Voices Pledge. CAPE reflects months of consultations with ANCA members and key stakeholders through FSD Africa's work, aiming to tackle two core challenges: the limited investment flow and the confidence gap in Africa's nature-based solutions. By partnering with FSD Africa and Finance Earth, we are supporting high-potential projects that struggle to secure full funding. CAPE will make a compelling case for investment in these vital markets, catalysing long-term support for sustainable projects across the continent."

Richard Speak, Managing Director, Finance Earth said: "The launch of CAPE comes at a pivotal moment to mobilise the investment needed to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss across Africa. We are thrilled to partner with FSD Africa and ANCA to deliver CAPE, providing support in the critical phase of the journey to unlocking investment in high-integrity nature-based carbon projects. By working closely with project developers and openly sharing what works, we will not only create individual success stories - we're aiming to build a community of practice that can accelerate financing for nature, climate and communities across Africa."

Accelerated investment - by demonstrating the financial viability of projects that combine carbon credits and biodiversity conservation, CAPE will unlock new flows of capital into unfunded areas.

Increased project integrity - CAPE's rigorous approach ensures that projects are of high integrity, addressing long-standing challenges in the carbon markets.

Market-building resources - the open-source nature of CAPE's "living lab" will help replicate success and scale the market for nature-positive carbon projects across the continent.

Azania Bank's net profit hits 24bn/- in 9 months

By Guardian Reporter

AZANIA Bank has reported a net income of 23.6bn/- during the first nine months of this year, an increase from 20.2bn/- recorded during similar period in 2023.

The bank's unaudited financial statements for the third quarter of this year show 8.5bn/- were recorded during the third quarter.

The increase of net profit resulted from the growth of both funded and non-funded incomes, which translated into an operating profit of 32.1bn/- during the first three quarters of this year.

Net interest income went up to 75bn/- during the first three quarters of this year, of which 24bn/- were recorded during the third quarter, from 66.5bn/- recorded during the first three quarters of last year, while non-interest income grew to 37.4bn/- from 26.3bn/-.

The increase of non-interest income resulted from the growth of foreign exchange profit, which amounted to 19.4bn/- during the first nine months of this year from 11.1bn/- during similar period of last year as well as fees and commission which slightly went up to 13.4bn/- from 12.2bn/-.

Other operating income also increased to 4.4bn/- from 2.8bn/-, while dividend income amounted to 90m/- from 83m/-.

Earnings per share also went up to 169/- during the end of September last year from 146/- earned during the end of September last year.

The bank also managed to increase the number of branches to 27 from 25, which translated into increase of employees to 663 from 611.

The bank also managed to grow its balance sheet, after total assets jumped to 2.34trn/- at the end of September,

from 2.30trn/- at the end of June, 2024 due to increase of loans issuance, investment in government debt instruments and interbank loans receivables.

Lending to various sectors of the economy amounted to 1.78trn/- at the end of September this year from 1.73trn/- at the end of June, while investment in government debt instruments grew to 252.3bn/- from 237.7bn/- respectively.

The report shows the bank has managed to reduce the rate of non-performing loans to 7.80 percent during the third quarter of this year from double digit of 18.4 percent in Q3, 2022, which indicates an improvement of the bank's asset quality.

Customer deposits amounted to 1.65trn/- at the end of September, which is more than doubled, when compared to 828bn/- recorded during the third quarter of 2022.

The statements show the bank's total shareholders' fund increased to 316bn/- at the end of September from 307.4bn/- at the end of June, driven by the increase of profit account to 23.6bn/- from 15bn/-, amid decrease of retained earnings to 62bn/- from 89.7bn/-.

Azania Bank is one of the largest commercial banks in Tanzania that offers various banking services, including retail, corporate, and investment banking. Established in 1995, Azania Bank has grown significantly, expanding its branch network and digital services to reach more customers across the country. It caters to individuals, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as well as large corporations.

Additionally, Azania Bank has been focusing on technological advancements, offering online and mobile banking solutions to enhance customer convenience.



Esther Mang'anya, Azania Bank Managing Director

AfDB's financing expands youth businesses, nutrition in S. Sudan



JUBA

THREE years ago, Amaka Scovia's small fruit and juice business in South Sudan's capital, Juba, was stuttering. Her prospects looked bleak as she faced constant challenges.

The small rented retail space she operated in could only fit ten people at a time, making growth difficult.

Today, Scovia (pictured) is the proud owner of a thriving fruit and juice business on one of Juba's bustling streets. Her shop now accommodates three times the original seating capacity, and the 27-year-old warmly welcomes a steady stream of customers.

Scovia has also expanded her team, employing four women in her shop and two male motorcycle couriers who deliver fresh juice and fruit across the city.

"When I started [my business], I did not have enough capital. The place was too

small. Things changed after I received a loan, and I managed to extend the place and renovate the shop," she recalls.

Scovia's journey is a rare example of entrepreneurial resilience and growth in Africa, where obstacles often halt progress. She says that her determination wasn't enough; financial support was crucial. Her breakthrough came when she secured an interest-free loan through the Youth Enterprise Development and Capacity Building project, financed by the African Development Bank Group's Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation Multi-donor Trust Fund. The project aims to boost employability and job creation for South Sudanese youth aged 18-35 by strengthening private sector capacity, building entrepreneurial skills, and creating a more supportive business environment.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) implements the project, with Stanbic Bank and M-gurus, South Sudan's pioneer mobile money platform, handling loan disbursement and repayments.

"Our work in South Sudan ensures that the young entrepreneurs play a critical role in improving the food and nutrition security in the country," said Martha Phiri, the Bank's Director for Human Capital, Youth and Skills Development. "This complements the Bank's work of supporting young people to start and scale up their businesses in sectors, such as agribusiness, that have the potential to create jobs," she added.

Scovia's \$6,000, coupled with business skills workshops offered by the UNDP, was transformative. "We were trained in budgeting, planning, management, and how to control business finances," she said. "I have not only expanded my business but can now support my family. The four women I work with can pay for their education and health needs."

Scovia is ambitious about the future. She plans to open more branches in Juba and even dreams of establishing a juice processing plant to serve markets across East Africa. Her journey serves as an inspiration to other young entrepreneurs. "Young people should be focused, set goals, and strive to achieve them," she says. "Empowerment comes from within, and entrepreneurship offers a pathway to self-sufficiency and prosperity."

Entrepreneurs across Africa face barriers to growing their businesses, including limited access to capital, rising inflation, and market access challenges. The continent's women entrepreneurs also face gender-specific challenges, such as pressure to balance the demands of a business and a household.

The African Development Bank's work in South Sudan and across Africa helps to boost the diversity, nutrition, affordability, accessibility, and safety of food for the benefit of people in Africa. Its support for youth entrepreneurs such as Scovia contributes to strengthening food and nutrition security in their communities.

Multipolar sovereignty

The Brics declaration envisions a multipolar financial system that stands free from the dominance of traditional international monetary structures. Central to their vision is prioritising regional autonomy and financial sovereignty, which directly challenges established global payment systems, such as Swift.

At the heart of this strategy lies the Brics cross-border payments system designed to facilitate transactions in local currencies, reducing reliance on dominant international currencies (once the sterling and now the dollar) and the extensive dollar-centric financial infrastructure. This move aims to shield participating nations from the potential 'weaponisation' of reserve currencies and geopolitical pressures.

In contrast, the IMFC communiqué underscores the value of the existing monetary and payments system, reinforcing its role as a stabilising force amid global economic uncertainties. Acknowledging challenges like inflation, rising debt and geopolitical tensions, the IMF's message remains one of cautious continuity, emphasising stability over transformation.

Double alignment

With its rapidly growing economic influence and expanded membership, Brics is increasingly positioning itself as an alternative voice and a formidable player with the potential to reshape the international financial order.

However, the dual memberships of many Brics countries in other global economic bodies, including the IMF, World Bank, Financial Stability Board and G20, create a strategic positioning dilemma. Rather than pursuing an exclusive alignment, Brics members may engage in 'double alignment,' where they balance the benefits of dollar stability while exploring pathways to financial independence. This delicate balancing act raises the question of whether Brics, as it expands, can maintain cohesion amid diverse national interests and priorities.

For instance, Brazil and India's nuanced positions - supporting regional co-operation within Brics while remaining committed to Western trade ties - highlight the bloc's internal diversity. While Russia and China advocate for rapid de-dollarisation and the creation of parallel financial systems, India favours a more measured approach that preserves its integration with global markets. These internal divergences underscore the complexities of Brics' mission and raise questions about its ability to drive systemic change in the international financial order.

The three communiqués reveal fundamental policy divergences across four critical areas: macroeconomic stability, debt sustainability, climate finance and financial infrastructure.

Macroeconomic stability and debt Both Brics and the IMFC/Development Committee acknowledge the growing pressures on emerging economies, aggravated by escalating debt servicing burdens. The IMF's response has been to expand concessional lending through the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust - a vital mechanism to support vulnerable economies within the existing dollar-centred monetary framework. The IMF's coordination with the World Bank's International Development Association fund replenishment also seeks to provide structured financial support with attached policy conditions, reinforcing a framework prioritising policy continuity and fiscal discipline.

In contrast, Brics aims to expand the reach of its New Development Bank, which provides loans with fewer policy conditions. The appeal of the NDB lies in its flexibility, enabling countries to retain control over their development agendas without the rigorous reforms often mandated by IMF and multilateral lending. By including new members like Egypt, Ethiopia and the UAE, Brics signals a commitment to building an alternative financing model that champions policy sovereignty and gives developing nations more agency in their development pathways.

Climate finance

Ideological differences also surface on the issue of climate finance. While both Brics and the IMF/World Bank emphasise the importance of climate action, their approaches diverge markedly. The IMF's communiqué promotes a standardised, multilateral approach, channelling resources through frameworks that align with global climate targets and metrics. For instance, the World Bank's pledge to

double agri-finance commitments by 2030 aims to enhance climate resilience in agriculture through globally standardised frameworks and metrics.

In contrast, Brics supports a decentralised model via the NDB, allowing member nations to fund climate projects tailored to their national needs. Countries like India and Brazil argue that standardised frameworks can overlook emerging economies' unique priorities and capacities. Brics' flexible approach to climate finance empowers countries to align investments with their specific developmental paths, avoiding a one-size-fits-all model often favoured by multilateral institutions.

Financial infrastructure

One of the most ambitious initiatives in the Brics communiqué is a cross-border payment system designed to operate independently of Swift. This effort emphasises the bloc's frustration with advanced markets' control over global financial infrastructure, which Brics countries view as susceptible to geopolitical pressures. The bloc seeks to foster financial autonomy by promoting regional trade in local currencies and reducing exposure to the dollar-dominated system through initiatives like the Brics Interbank Cooperation Mechanism and a proposed Brics Reinsurance Company.

Meanwhile, the G20 is advancing its own vision for cross-border payments reform. In collaboration with the IMF, World Bank and Financial Stability Board, the G20 has outlined a roadmap focused on enhancing the existing payment system. Unlike Brics, the G20 initiative aims to incrementally improve the current system through technical upgrades, prioritising faster and more transparent cross-border transactions while continuing to use Swift (at least for now). This divergence represents two competing visions: Brics' push for a multipolar financial infrastructure versus the G20's aim to strengthen and modernise the current dollar-centred system.

Navigating a bifurcated financial landscape

The 2024 communiqués from Brics, the IMF and the World Bank represent two diverging visions for global finance. While Brics promotes a multipolar model grounded in financial autonomy, the IMF and World Bank remain committed to continuity within the existing frameworks. As the stakes increase, the influence of these statements - often fraught with contradictions and ambiguous messages - creates uncertainty for investors and policy-makers alike. This unpredictability is unsuitable for global markets or investment flows, particularly when international coherence is needed to address fragile economic growth and mounting social challenges.

For those who monitor the fine print of these communiqués, the messages conveyed can be at odds: a Brics advocating for regional sovereignty, a G20 emphasising cohesion and an IMFC endorsing stability. Yet, without a governance structure that holds these bodies accountable for consistency - especially given the significant overlap in member countries - this fragmented communication risks exacerbating global financial instability. Such inconsistencies sow confusion when both democracy and capitalism are under critical scrutiny, making it essential to communicate a unified approach to pressing global challenges.

As we anticipate further statements from the 11th G20 and COP29 in November 2024, the global financial community will be watching to see whether common ground emerges in areas like sustainable development, trade, climate finance, financial stability, cross-border payments and digital finance. These discussions could pave the way for a more harmonious global economic order or underscore an increasingly divided landscape. While Brics' calls for a multipolar world may appeal to many developing countries, the entrenched dollar-based system remains a stabilising force that cannot be overlooked. How these bodies address and articulate their differences could determine whether the world heads towards co-operation or confrontation in the coming years.

Udaibir Das is visiting professor at the National Council of Applied Economic Research, senior non-resident adviser at the Bank of England, senior adviser of the International Forum for Sovereign Wealth Funds, and distinguished fellow at the Observer Research Foundation America.

BRICS' daringly autonomous model for financial sovereignty



By Udaibir Das

IN the rarefied world of economic policy-making, where the public and markets are distanced from complex decision-making, communiqués serve as windows into the ambitions, hesitations and geopolitical leanings of powerful economic blocs. Released in October 2024, three influential documents from Brics, the International Monetary Fund's International Monetary and Financial Committee and the World Bank's Development Committee each offered a distinct view of the global economic landscape.

While the IMF and World Bank

communiqués aim to reinforce established frameworks and shape policy discourse, Brics presents an alternative vision. With an expanded bloc representing over 32% of global gross domestic product and projected by the IMF to control one-third of global output by 2028, Brics is asserting its place in global growth dynamics.

This enlarged group now includes the founding five - Brazil, China, India, Russia and South Africa - alongside the newly admitted Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia

(as an invited country) and the United Arab Emirates. Through a dense 134-point communiqué, the Brics bloc articulates its stance on economic and financial sovereignty with increasing clarity and determination.

This latest vision from Brics could be read as an intent to gradually dismantle or, at the very least, challenge the long-standing post-second world war frameworks governing international monetary and financial systems. Or perhaps, more moderately, it signals a

loud call for fundamental reform - seeking an 'inclusive and just' international financial architecture that better serves emerging and developing economies. Underlying this demand is a palpable distrust in the current system and how global policies are decided.

Are the paths outlined in the IMF and World Bank communiqués and the Brics declaration truly so divergent? Do they not all, in some sense, seek continuity within change or is the world moving towards an institutionalised, bifurcated economic order?

Amana Hospital received 10m/- to boost service delivery

By Guardian Reporter

AMANA Regional Referral Hospital has received a donation valued 10m/- from Bank of Africa, as part of the bank's efforts to enhancing healthcare services.

Dr. Bryceson Kiwelu, Medical Officer in charge at Amana Referral Hospital, expressed gratitude for the bank's continued partnership and contributions.

He shared that the hospital, established in 1954, has been serving the community for almost 70 years and currently has around 32 specialists in fields such as ENT, ophthalmol-

ogy, and orthopedics.

"We are deeply grateful for the unwavering support from Bank of Africa Tanzania. Their generosity significantly aids our efforts to expand and equip our facilities, ensuring improved care for mothers and children in the country," Dr. Kiwelu noted.

Despite infrastructure challenges, he mentioned that the government has equipped the hospital with modern facilities, including a CT scanner and digital X-ray.

Nandi Mwiombella, Head of Marketing and Communication at the bank, stated, "We are committed to being part of the commu-

nity. We will continue to support government efforts to improve health, education, and the environment as part of our mission to foster social and economic development in the country."

"We understand that a healthy community is the foundation of a prosperous society," she added. "This aligns with our bank's sustainability agenda of promoting a better society in the regions where we operate. It is a privilege for us to support Amana Regional Referral Hospital and contribute to improving healthcare services for mothers and children."

Mwiombella highlighted the bank's dedi-

cation to supporting Tanzania's health sector, noting a longstanding relationship with Amana Regional Referral Hospital. The "Rafiki wa Amana" initiative focuses on raising funds for the rehabilitation, expansion, and equipping of the hospital's mother and child wing, which serves as a vital healthcare facility in the region.

"These efforts are aligned with the government's goal to provide better health services for all Tanzanians. The bank is committed to collaborating with the health sector in campaigns and projects that improve citizens' well-being," she said. "Our goal is to ensure

that every Tanzanian receives the best health services, especially for mothers and children, as they are the foundation of the nation's future."

Mwamvua Majeshi, the bank's Head of Retail Banking, highlighted some of the bank's products and services, such as housing finance, personal loans, equity release, and children's savings accounts—all designed to uplift Tanzanians out of poverty.

'Trump trade' surges as he claims victory

NEW YORK/SEOUL

INVESTORS bought dollars, bitcoin and stocks, and sold bonds as Donald Trump claimed victory in the U.S. presidential election and Republicans took control of at least one chamber of Congress.

US stock futures hit record highs, the dollar surged and Treasury yields jumped, while bitcoin broke \$75,000 for the first time - all moves flagged by investors as likely should Trump win over Democrat Kamala Harris.

"Not only are markets positioning themselves for a comfortable Trump victory in the electoral college, but the prospect of a Republican-controlled Congress," said Matthew Ryan, head of market strategy at Ebury.

The results so far underscore how one of the most unusual presidential elections in modern U.S. history could have far-reaching implications for tax and trade policy as well as U.S. institutions.

The results affect assets globally and will determine the outlook for U.S. debt, the strength of the dollar, and a host of industries that make up the backbone of corporate America.

Leading into Tuesday, polls showed a dead heat between the former president and the current vice president. But by 2 a.m. ET, Trump had won the swing states of North Carolina and Georgia and was leading in several others, according to Edison Research.

Fox News projected he had won the presidency.

Republicans also won control of the US Senate, ensuring they will dominate at least one chamber of Congress next year.

Growing confidence

Assets whose prices could be helped by Trump's pledges to raise tariffs, cut taxes and slash regulations shone, while dealers said cash was flowing out of emerging markets and U.S. Treasury bonds tanked in anticipation of a ballooning deficit.

"The consequence is a higher path of rates," said Nick Ferrer, chief investment officer at Vantage Point Asset Management in Singapore.

He was buying Asia-Pacific bank shares in anticipation that higher



Donald Trump and his wife Melania

yields and stronger growth would benefit their earnings.

Bank stocks rose 4.4 percent in Tokyo and outperformed the market in Australia.

Ten-year Treasury yields - which move inversely to prices - flirted close to 4.5 percent.

"A lot of this is based on investors' view that Trump would cut taxes or at least keep tax rates low. Now that it's likely to be looking like a red sweep (of the White House and Congress) - additional cuts are possible," said Ken Peng, head of Asia investment strategy at Citi Wealth in Hong Kong.

"Deregulation is another major positive for the economy and markets, particularly for the financial, energy, and tech sectors," he said.

Bitcoin surged to a record high, betting on a softer line on cryptocurrency regulation.

'Volatile night'

Tariff-exposed sectors fared less well. The Mexican peso, which could be hit by tariffs, sank to a two-year low, about 3 percent weaker than its closing price from the previous session.

The euro headed towards its biggest one-day drop since 2020 and German government bond yields staged their largest one-day drop since January, as investors priced in a sharp slowing in the economy.

In Asia, exporters' shares slid in Hong Kong, pulling the Hang Seng index down 2.7 percent and leaving investors girding for a bumpy future.

"With Trump, market volatility is likely to pick up," said Rong Ren Goh, portfolio manager at Eastspring Investments in Singapore.

"Right now the markets are focusing narrowly on the prospect of tariffs because it is the easiest lever to pull," he said, but broader trade conflict was possible. "From this perspective, I think a foreign investor is likely to position more defensively towards China-focused risk."

Shares in Tesla rallied sharply in Frankfurt, ahead of the US premarket. Elon Musk, Tesla's top shareholder, has supported Trump throughout his electoral campaign.

Shares of Trump Media and Technology Group surged 10 percent in extended trade.

Elsewhere some bankers, investors and analysts said they were waiting out the count - in some cases anxiously - with friends and family.

Joe McCann, CEO of Asymmetric, a macro hedge fund that trades primarily in cryptocurrencies, said he has been tracking election news on several TV screens and monitoring market movements in his 50th floor Miami penthouse.

"We have not left this room all day," he said. "We are expecting a volatile night."

BANKING & FINANCE

UK provides \$5.2m to support Kenyan SMEs

NAIROBI

THE British High Commission Nairobi has provided US\$5.2 million fund (KSH 667 million) to support Micro, Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Kenya, in another example of the UK being a long-term partner providing long-term investment solutions that deliver growth and jobs.

The 'Listed SME Debt Fund', sponsored by FSD Africa, aims to mobilize up to US\$300 million (KSH 38.85 billion) of sustainable finance to provide affordable credit to Micro, Small and Medium Sized enterprises.

Of this amount the funds targets to raise US\$240 million from domestic institutional investors and the rest from foreign investors.

The fund will support at least 10,000 MSMEs; 50,000 households; create, protect and support over 89,000 jobs; and improve access to basic services for over 200,000 people.

The fund is not specific to a sector, so will meet the needs of Kenyan business owners ranging from fundis to financiers to farmers, by lowering the cost of borrowing money.

The fund will be listed and managed in Kenya. It aims to provide an attractive investment opportunity for Kenyan investors, by de-risking investments in MSMEs, whilst still offering attractive returns.

Currently, SMEs in Kenya face inter-

est rates of up to 40 percent - making it hard for businesses to grow and create jobs. It will also encourage pension funds to invest in sectors that support the flow of goods, services and labor in Kenya.

The first close is targeting US\$100 million. Kenyan institutional investors including pension funds have assets under management in excess of US\$30 billion and despite regulatory approval allowing investment of up to 30 percent in alternative assets, many are yet to take advantage of this window.

The SME listed fund provides with a new asset class, helping diversify and stabilize their portfolio. This aligns with FSD Africa's mission to deepen and diversify capital markets through innovation.

SMEs are crucial to Kenya's economic growth - they account for 98 percent of businesses (and about 24 percent of Kenya's gross domestic product).

Beyond their economic impact, SMEs also serve as vital engines of employment generation, particularly for marginalized groups such as youth, women, and persons with disabilities, accounting for 14 million (30 percent) of jobs.

The announcement was made at a major pan-African Capital Markets conference organized by FSD Africa - a specialist development finance institution fully funded by the UK Government.



Trust invests 25m/- on village water project

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Chemba

The Agriculture Markets Development Trust (AMDT) has invested 25m/- million to fund a water well and irrigation infrastructure project in Porobanguma village, Kwamtoro Ward, Chemba District, Dodoma region.

The project, developed in partnership with RIKOLTO and SIMUSOLAR, aims to provide clean water for 300 households and empower residents to expand their agricultural activities.

Delta Shila, AMDT's Monitoring and Results Measurement Officer, noted that the project has helped farmers form a working group to facilitate large-scale crop production using the new irrigation system.

"With reliable water access, villagers here have started cultivating key crops such as pulses, peas, and vegetables," Shila stated.



Women farmers at the Porobanguma village of Kwamtoro Ward, Chemba District seen in joyful mood after their village being supported with a water well by the Agriculture Markets Development Trust (AMDT). PHOTO: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

The project also aims to improve local livelihoods and nutrition in an area that has

long faced water scarcity. To help farmers maximize their yields, AMDT has established a

demonstration plot where they receive training in agronomic practices suitable for the area's

crops. This plot, part of the Vision for Adaptive Crops and Soils (VACS) project funded

by USAID and supervised by the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), offers hands-on guidance.

In partnership with government extension officers and BEULA SEED COMPANY LIMITED, AMDT is also promoting the use of improved seed varieties to boost productivity.

Kwamtoro Ward Councilor John Konkoli praised AMDT for the essential project, noting that despite the area's fertile land, past efforts to establish a reliable water source were stymied by financial constraints.

"Since 2015, we designated 200 hectares for agriculture. World Vision Tanzania (WVT) supported drilling a 110-meter water well, but financial challenges prevented completion," Konkoli said.

Dodoma Regional Assistant Administrative Secretary Aziza Mumba encouraged villagers to use the water facility to improve their lives. She urged them to

consider additional economic activities such as poultry and dairy farming, which could provide funds for further community improvements.

"This well can be a foundation for further development," Mumba said, praising AMDT for supporting government efforts to extend water services to rural areas.

Mumba also highlighted AMDT's role in registering the farmer group with the National Irrigation Commission, a move expected to ensure the project's sustainability.

Hawa James, a resident of Porobanguma, said the new water source has transformed the community, which previously had to walk four to five hours to find water.

AMDT, a Tanzanian trust, is dedicated to improving agricultural market systems, productivity, and market access for small enterprises, with the broader goal of poverty reduction in Tanzania.

WORLD

Trump's Republicans win control of US Senate, make gains in

WASHINGTON

DONALD Trump's claimed US presidential election victory on Wednesday will essentially end the criminal cases brought against him, at least for the four years he occupies the White House.

The first former US president to face criminal charges, Trump for much of this year faced four simultaneous prosecutions, over allegations ranging from his attempt to cover up a hush money payment to porn star Stormy Daniels during his 2016 campaign to his attempts to overturn his 2020 election defeat. A New York jury in May found him guilty of falsifying business records tied to the Daniels payment, making him the first former US president convicted of a felony.

Trump, a Republican, told an interviewer on Oct 24 that he would fire US Special Counsel Jack Smith -- who led the federal prosecutions over his attempts to overturn his election defeat and retention of classified documents after leaving office -- "within two seconds" of being sworn in.

Trump pleaded not guilty to all charges and cast the prosecutions as politically motivated.

"The American people have heard these Democrat prosecutors' cases against President Trump and they're still going to elect him anyway," said Mike Davis, the founder of the Article III Project, a conservative legal advocacy

group.

While Trump as president will have the authority to fire Smith and shut down the federal cases against him, he will not have the same control over the New York hush money case or Georgia's prosecution of him for trying to overturn his 2020 loss in that state. But his unique role as president makes it unlikely he will face legal consequences in either case during his term in office.

"He was properly charged with crimes within the system we have," said Kristy Parker, a special counsel at Protect Democracy, an advocacy organization dedicated to countering what it calls authoritarian threats to the US. Parker said if Trump does shut down the cases, "that won't mean it was the right thing."

One more court date is scheduled before he is due to be sworn in on Jan 20, though legal experts said that was unlikely to go forward.

New York hush money case

In New York, Trump's lawyers are expected to ask Justice Juan Merchan to delay his sentencing currently scheduled for Nov 26 - in which he could face up to four years in prison. Sentencing a president-elect ahead of Inauguration Day would be unprecedented in US history, and legal experts expect the hearing to be delayed.

Merchan has already twice postponed Trump's sentencing, which was initially scheduled for July 11, in part due to a



Former US President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during an election night event at the West Palm Beach Convention Center in West Palm Beach, Florida, yesterday. AFP

July US Supreme Court ruling finding that presidents have broad immunity from prosecution over their official acts. Trump argues the case should be dismissed based on the ruling, which prosecutors dispute.

Trump has vowed to appeal his conviction once he is sentenced. Separately, his lawyers have asked the 2nd US Circuit Court of Appeals to move the case to federal court. Such a move, if successful, could create new legal obstacles for the case.

Federal prosecutions

Trump faces four charges in federal court in Washington accusing him of spreading false claims of election fraud to try to block the collection and certification of votes following the 2020 election, which Trump lost to Democrat Joe Biden.

Smith had also charged Trump with unlawfully holding onto classified documents after his first term ended in 2021 and obstructing efforts by the US government to retrieve the records.

Florida-based US District Judge Aileen Cannon, who was nominated to the bench by Trump, dismissed all charges in July after finding that Smith was improperly appointed to the role and did not have the authority to bring the case.

Smith's team is appealing the ruling, but Trump's vow to fire Smith

immediately upon taking office likely signals the end of the case.

Georgia racketeering case

Prosecutors in Fulton County, Georgia, last year used state racketeering laws -- developed to fight organized crime -- to charge Trump in an alleged conspiracy to reverse his defeat in the battleground state in the 2020 election.

Trump will not be able to end the prosecution, but his lawyer has already said in court he will seek to pause any activity related to Trump based on an argument that a president should not face the burden of a criminal prosecution while in office.

Trump and eight of his 14 co-defendants in the case are asking a Georgia appeals court to disqualify the lead prosecutor, Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, over alleged misconduct stemming from a romantic relationship she had with a former deputy. Oral arguments are scheduled for Dec 5.

If that effort fails, the case will be able to proceed against the other co-defendants, who include Trump's former personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani and White House chief-of-staff Mark Meadows. But legal experts expect that the case against Trump will not progress while he remains in the White House.

Agencies

Israel's new defence chief sees return of hostages from Gaza as top priority

TEL AVIV



ISRAEL Katz, who has been appointed as Israel's defense minister by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, sees the return of hostages held in Gaza as a top priority, as he himself said.

"I would like to thank Prime Minister Netanyahu for the trust he placed in me in appointing me to the position of defense minister. We will work together to march towards victory over our enemies and achieve the goals of the war: the return of those kidnapped, which is the most important mission, the destruction of Hamas in Gaza, the defeat of Hezbollah in Lebanon, the containment of Iran's aggression and the safe return of residents of northern and southern Israel to their homes," Katz wrote on the X social media platform.

On Tuesday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dismissed Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and appointed Foreign Minister Israel Katz to replace him. He also offered Gideon Saar, a minister without a portfolio, to take the position of the country's foreign minister. According to the Ynet news outlet, the new appointments will be submitted to the government for approval on November 7.

Tensions flared up again in the Middle East on October 7, 2023, when Hamas militants staged a surprise attack on Israeli territory from Gaza, killing residents of Israeli border settlements and taking over 250 hostages. Hamas described its attack as retaliation for the aggressive actions taken by Israeli authorities against the Al-Aqsa Mosque on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's Old City. In response, Israel declared a total blockade of the Gaza Strip, launching air strikes on Gaza as well as some parts of Lebanon and Syria before starting a ground operation in the Palestinian enclave.

According to the latest data from Israel, radicals still hold 101 hostages in Gaza.

On September 23, Israel launched Operation Northern Arrows against the Lebanon-based Hezbollah Shia movement, carrying out massive airstrikes on its military targets.

The stated goal is to create safe conditions for the return of local residents to Israel's northern border areas. A September 27 strike on Beirut killed Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah. The Israeli army announced the start of a ground operation in the border areas of southern Lebanon on October 1.

Putin reiterates Russia's willingness to engage in talks with Ukraine

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has once again reiterated Moscow's readiness for talks with Kiev.

"I have said it more than once that Russia is not just ready for talks but has already held such talks at a certain point, specifically at the very beginning of this conflict," he stated during a ceremony of receiving credentials from foreign ambassadors. "Those talks even resulted in a mutually acceptable treaty, which was initiated by the Ukrainian side."

"But the Ukrainian side rejected that treaty on the advice of external parties, as confirmed by Ukrainian officials," the president recalled.

Nearly three hours of talks between Russian and Ukrainian delegations in Istanbul on March 29, 2022, yielded principles for a potential agreement, including Ukraine's commitment to maintain a neutral, non-aligned status and its pledge to refrain from deploying foreign weapons, including nuclear weapons, on its territory.

However, after Russia withdrew its forces from the Kiev and Chernigov regions, the settlement talks were frozen. According to President Putin, Kiev rejected the agreements. The Ukrainian side has claimed that the rejection was made on the advice of then-British Prime Minister Boris Johnson.



Hurricane Rafael barrels through Cayman Islands

HURRICANE Rafael is passing through the Cayman Islands in the Caribbean and is forecast to rapidly intensify before making landfall in western Cuba, according to the US National Hurricane Center.

Rafael was blowing maximum sustained winds of 80 mph (130 kph) after skirting past western Jamaica around mid-day. The hurricane was located about 60 miles (95 km) east north-east of Grand Cayman, according to the NHC's latest advisory.

Residents in Jamaica hunkered down, with four emergency shelters activated, according to authorities. No deaths or injuries were reported as bursts of heavy rain dumped on the island.

As Rafael chugged toward the Cayman Islands, the British territory was setting up its own preparations and bracing for damages to infrastructure, power lines and water systems, the government said in a statement.

Premier Juliana O'Connor-Connolly told Radio Cayman that schools would remain closed on Wednesday.

Rafael could briefly weaken over Cuba but is then expected to emerge into the southeastern Gulf of Mexico as a hurricane, the NHC said.

In Cuba, officials quickly worked to collect garbage and clear drains, particularly in the capital Havana on the western end of the island, according to state media outlet Granma.



Fishermen remove their boats from the water ahead of the arrival of tropical storm Rafael in Havana on Nov 5, 2024. (PHOTO / AFP)

After passing Cuba, tropical storm conditions could come to the Florida Keys, the NHC's forecast showed.

Oil and gas producers began shutting in

US Gulf of Mexico output and pulling workers off platforms ahead of hurricane Rafael's approach. Production may be reduced by between 3.1 million and 4.9 million barrels

of oil and 4.56 billion to 6.39 billion cubic feet of natural gas, researchers predicted.

Lebanon files new complaint against Israel at UN

HONG KONG

LEBANON'S Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants announced on Nov 6 that it has submitted, through its permanent mission to the United Nations in New York, a new complaint to the UN Security Council over Israeli attacks between Oct 25 and Nov 1.

According to a report by Lebanon's National News Agency, the Foreign Ministry condemned Israel's continuous aggression against Lebanon, the violation of its sovereignty, ground infiltration of its terri-

tory, the "perpetuation of more massacres", and the "persistent and systematic destruction of the border villages".

The complaint also highlighted that the "systematic destruction" indicates the Israeli army's endeavor to "turn the border line into an uninhabited buffer zone" and the continuous targeting of crowded residential buildings as well as places of worship and shrines and putting archeological sites in Tyre and Baalbek at risk.

"...Lebanon renewed calls to condemn Israel's hostile acts and take measures to halt

them, in addition to holding it fully responsible for the massive losses of lives and properties, and demanding its full and unconditional withdrawal of the occupied Lebanese lands and the full implementation of UN Resolution 1701," it concluded. The UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1701 in 2006 which is aimed at keeping peace on the border between Lebanon and Israel.

The new complaint comes just after the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on Nov 5 launched a federa-

tion-wide Emergency Appeal for \$115 million amid an escalation of hostilities that has so far seen more than 3,000 deaths and more than 13,000 injuries.

In its press release, the IFRC said it aims to provide immediate and long-term relief to around 600,000 people affected by the conflict there and to support the critical ambulance services of the Lebanese Red Cross, whose volunteers have been on high alert since October last year.

"The severe escalation of hostilities has led to widespread destruction and mass

displacement in Lebanon, exacerbating an already dire socio-economic situation, and necessitating a new appeal to address the rapidly evolving humanitarian situation there more effectively," the press release read.

With winter approaching, many people are now homeless or crammed in living conditions without proper heating.

"We are seeing a huge need for basic goods to help the hundreds of thousands of people who have fled their homes. Many are now staying

with family members or living in temporary shelters, such as schools," said Lotte Ruppert, IFRC's operations manager in Beirut.

"Going back to their houses is not an option at this moment, as the conflict areas are still very dangerous. On top of that, we are concerned for the safety of all health workers, including LRC volunteers, especially in the south of Lebanon."

On a visit to Beirut to launch the appeal and meet with the LRC, Jagan Chapagain, IFRC's secretary general, said the humanitarian needs in Lebanon

"are growing by the day" and that the funds raised in the appeal would support the Lebanese Red Cross' life-saving programs.

In parallel, the press release concluded, the Middle East Complex Emergency Crisis Appeal will remain active until December 2025, covering the Red Cross and Red Crescent response across the region. From November 2024, contributions to support the response efforts in Lebanon "should be directed through this new Lebanon Complex Emergency Appeal".

Agencies

China import expo attractive to global exhibitors as country pledges further opening-up



This photo taken on Nov. 5, 2024 shows the Tanzania Pavilion during the seventh China International Import Expo (CIIE) in east China's Shanghai. (Xinhua/Yin Gang)



A visitor takes photos of a plane model at the China Pavilion of the 7th China International Import Expo (CIIE) in east China's Shanghai, Nov. 5, 2024. (Xinhua/Du Xiaoyi)



A visitor learns about a bronchoscope robot at the exhibition area of Intuitive Fosun during the seventh China International Import Expo (CIIE) in east China's Shanghai, Nov. 5, 2024. (Xinhua/Zhang Cheng)



Volunteers learn about handicrafts in the exhibition area of Tanzania at the 7th China International Import Expo (CIIE) in east China's Shanghai, Nov. 5, 2024. (Xinhua/Yin Gang)

SHANGHAI

CHINESE Premier Li Qiang pledged to open the country's huge market further to share more growth opportunities with the rest of the world on Tuesday as the seventh edition of the China International Import Expo (CIIE) opened in Shanghai.

The business exhibition of the world's first national-level exposition dedicated to imports has attracted about 3,500 exhibitors from 129 countries and regions this year. Notably, a record high of 297 Fortune 500 companies and industry leaders are attending the six-day expo. And more than 400 new products, new technologies and new services are unveiled.

Experts believe the large scale of the expo highlighted the global companies' confidence in the Chinese market and their commitment to further development in China despite the sluggish global economic recovery.

ENORMOUS MARKET

China is willing to open up its enormous market further and will continue to expand market access to sectors including telecommunications, the internet, education, culture and healthcare in an orderly fashion, Premier Li said in a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the 7th CIIE.

The sound fundamentals of the Chinese economy remain unchanged, according to Li, adding that the country's new growth drivers are fast-growing, with double-digit investment growth in high-tech industries and development booms in emerging industries including artificial intelligence, advanced manufactur-

ing and the green economy.

During a meeting on Monday with select exhibitors and buyers attending the expo, Li said that China is able to sustain steady economic recovery, improve the quality and capacity of its market, and provide more extensive growth space for global businesses in terms of trade, investment and innovation. He added that the Chinese market is still one of the best choices for companies worldwide.

The keen interest from global participants has shown the growing influence of the CIIE and the charm of the Chinese market and also highlighted China's determination to push forward the building of an open world economy, said Zhao Fujun, a researcher with the Development Research Center of the State Council.

In 2018, China inaugurated the CIIE to build an open platform for international trade cooperation and to support free trade and economic globalization, making it a "golden gateway" to the world's second-largest consumer market. More than 420 billion U.S. dollars worth of tentative deals were signed at the CIIE's earlier six editions since 2018. Beyond the event, global companies can reach a larger customer base and make further investments in the country.

Toshinobu Umetsu, president and CEO of Shiseido China, said he is very inspired and encouraged by Premier Li's emphasis on China's commitment to continuing high-level opening-up and to sharing development opportunities with the rest of the world.

The Japanese cosmetics giant will continue to strengthen its long-term investment in



Chinese Premier Li Qiang delivers a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the seventh China International Import Expo and the Hongqiao International Economic Forum in east China's Shanghai, Nov. 5, 2024. (Xinhua/Wang Ye)

China. It has never wavered in its confidence and determination to invest in China, as the incredible vitality and resilience of the Chinese market make it a very important international market, Umetsu said.

German healthcare and agribusiness giant Bayer AG is among more than 180 companies and institutions that have attended all seven editions of the CIIE since 2018.

Bayer's participation at the expo demonstrates its unwavering commitment to this important market, said Bill Anderson, chairman of Bayer AG Management Board.

"International cooperation and economic globalization are important factors in the world's development. That's why Bayer is glad to be part of the expo for the seventh consecutive year," said Anderson.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The CIIE unlocks new opportunities for the world, Bayer said, adding that it will actively leverage this vital platform to continuously unleash its innovative potential while looking forward to forging partnerships with global collaborators.

Penne Kehl, Asia Pacific Group president of Cargill Agriculture and Trading, expects a very busy schedule at the import expo, including meeting with customers and partners and signing a few important deals and partnerships. U.S. food giant Cargill has participated in CIIE for seven consecutive years.

As its influence grows, the expo is attracting new foreign enterprises over the years. Canadian sportswear giant Lululemon is among the first-time participants.

The Chinese mainland is

Lululemon's largest market outside of North America and is also one of the most dynamic and exciting ones, which is key to driving the company's international business, said Calvin McDonald, CEO of Lululemon.

"It's an exciting opportunity to showcase the brand, drive awareness to our growth story and what we have planned for the future," said McDonald. He added that Lululemon will continue to open more stores in the country, adding to its current 137 stores in 41 cities.

China offers free booths and other support measures to 37 least-developed countries to help them showcase their products at the import expo. It also expanded the exhibition area for African agricultural products.

China has been opening up its market to Africa, enabling transformation on the African continent, said Peter Kagwanja, founder and president of the Africa Policy Institute.

Xinhua



International cooperation and economic globalization are important factors in the world's development. That's why Bayer is glad to be part of the expo for the seventh

SPORT

Role change limits Fei Toto's goals, boosts playmaking impact for Azam

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

AZAM FC's midfielder Feisal Salum, popularly known as 'Fei Toto,' has provided insight into his reduced goal tally this Premier League season, attributing the change to a shift in his playing role under Moroccan coach Rachid Taoussi.

Last season, Fei Toto (pictured) played as a primary striker and netted an impressive 19 goals, falling just two short of the top scorer Stephane Aziz Ki, who led the charts with 21 goals.

However, the 2024/25 season has seen him record a single goal alongside four assists in ten appearances, marking a slower start than his previous output.

The 26-year-old explained that his current role emphasizes creating goal-scoring opportunities for his teammates rather than being the main finisher.

"If you look at my position last season, I was playing up front, which allowed me to score a lot more. This season, I'm positioned behind the strikers," Fei Toto stated, indicating that his responsibilities have shifted significantly.

While he has only scored once so far, Fei Toto has proven valuable in a playmaker role, registering four assists that have contributed to Azam FC's offensive efforts.

"I'm a player who can adapt to different positions as needed," he explained. "The most important thing is that the coach trusts me. I'm happy to be in the starting eleven, and wherever I'm assigned, I give it my all."

Reflecting on the adjustments he has made in his new role, Fei Toto acknowledged that he is more focused on creating goal-scoring chances for other players.

"I am dedicated to my new duties, and that's why I have been able to assist four goals. Scoring is mostly about utilizing



chances, and if I get those opportunities, I will definitely take them," he said.

The experienced midfielder noted that last season's high goal tally was partly due to a string of injuries among Azam's key forwards, including Franklin Navarro and Alassane Dia. As a result, Fei Toto was called upon to step in as the primary goal threat.

"Last season, I was pushed forward due to injuries in our front line, which allowed me to score regularly," he said. "Now that we have talented options like Nassor Saadun, Jhonier Blanco, and Adam Adam up front, I can return to my natural position as an attacking midfielder."

Fei Toto's remarks come amid a highly competitive Premier League season, with several clubs showing strong form early on.

Despite his reduced goal tally, he is optimistic about Azam FC's chances of finishing in a high position, which could potentially secure a spot in next season's international competitions.

"This season has been challenging, with many teams starting well and showing impressive competitiveness," he said. "But I believe our team's quality, the dedication we bring, and our coaching methods will produce positive results."

With confidence in Azam's squad and the guidance of coach Taoussi, Fei Toto expressed his determination to help the team return to the continental stage.

"Despite the challenges, we have great confidence that we can secure an international spot next season," he asserted. "Our squad and technical bench have the capability to make that happen."

The season's rigorous competition has underscored the importance of preparation and adaptability, according to Fei Toto, who credits Azam's strong start to the squad's depth and the strategic approach taken by the coaching staff.

"Good preparation, the quality of the team, and effective coaching methods are key contributors to our success," he added.

As Fei Toto continues to adapt to his new role, his contributions as a creator rather than a scorer highlight his versatility and team-first mindset.

While his goal tally may not mirror last season's impressive figures, his playmaking skills have been crucial in Azam's campaign, keeping them in contention for a top finish in the league.

After streak-ending loss, Yanga target quick rebound vs. Tabora United FC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AFTER a narrow 1-0 defeat to Azam FC that ended their impressive 50-match unbeaten home streak, Young Africans are determined to regain momentum as they face Tabora United today at the Azam Complex.

The team's focus remains on leading the league table as the first half of the season draws to a close.

Despite last week's setback, Young Africans are committed to maintaining their top spot. Their upcoming FIFA break provides a chance for players to rest and recharge before the busy schedule resumes, which includes Tanzanian Premier League games, the Federation Cup, and CAF Champions League clashes.

The club's media and information manager, Ali Kamwe, emphasized the importance of bouncing back strong against Tabora United to build momentum heading into the international break.

"Since the loss to Azam FC, we've been working hard in training to prepare for the match against Tabora United. We aim to regain our top position in the league before the break," Kamwe said.

"A strong performance will not only solidify our standing but also help us maintain confidence as we move forward in both domestic and

continental competitions.

"Tabora United will be a tough opponent, especially after their recent win. Their interim coach will be looking to build on that success, so we need to be prepared for a challenging game," he added.

Kamwe expressed pride in the team's recent 50-match unbeaten home run, while also viewing the defeat to Azam as a valuable learning experience.

"We're proud of our team's exceptional talent. Even with a setback, we're confident in our title defense. The Azam FC match taught us valuable lessons. Playing with ten men for much of the game, we still showed resilience and created chances. This speaks to the strength and maturity of our squad," he said.

Young Africans currently lead the league with 24 points from nine matches. Singida Black Stars follow closely with 23 points from ten games, while Simba SC hold third with 22 points from nine games. Azam FC sit fourth with 21 points from ten matches.

As Young Africans take on Tabora United today, fans anticipate a determined performance as they aim to return to winning form and secure their position at the top of the standings.

SPORTS

Making sense of Prince Dube slow start at Yanga

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AFTER an outstanding season last year, where Young Africans secured both the NBC Premier League title and the Federation Cup trophy by defeating Azam, the addition of Prince Dube and Clatous Chama was expected to make the team virtually unstoppable.

However, despite winning their opening eight out of nine games, Miguel Gamondi's side are relying on their stingy defence to see out matches.

They have scored just 13 league goals, and the defence has done enough to win matches and distract from some of the offensive weaknesses.

When Dube (pictured) transferred to Young Africans all the buzz was about the potential offensive quartet of Dube, Chama, Stephane Azizi Ki and Pacome Zouzoua.

Nine games into the season and it is Maxi Nzegeli who has led the way in attack, bagging three goals and one assist, while Ibrahim Bacca and Zouzoua have each scored twice.

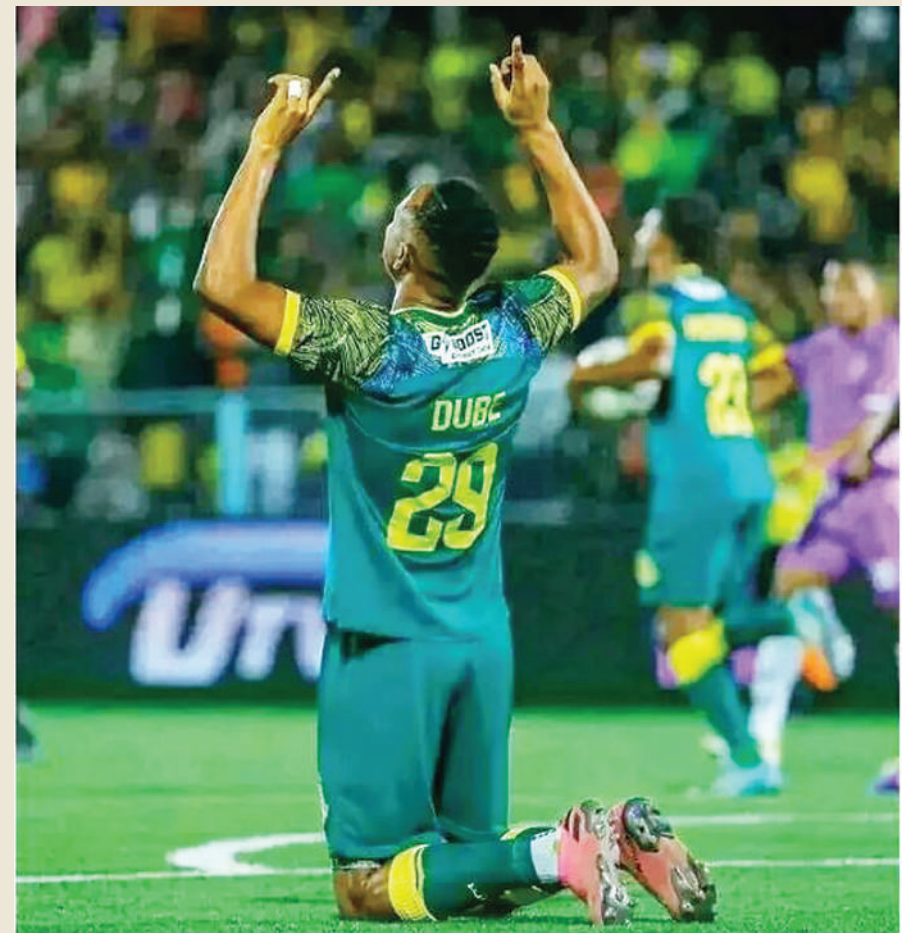
Surprisingly, Dube is nowhere in the goal scorers list, which is unexpected given his strong performance in the Community Shield. The 27-year-old has featured in eight league matches so far but is yet to score or provide an assist.

Dube hasn't been invisible that is why he started in all but one of the nine games. The only logical conclusion as to why he has eight straight starts for Young Africans is that he is doing what Gamondi wants him to do.

If Dube wasn't meeting Gamondi's grade, there is simply no way he would have started as much as he has. There is Clement Mzize and Jean Baleke as options for his position.

However, one thing is clear, he has been extremely wasteful. Can we really draw conclusions after only eight games? It is too early in the campaign to condemn Dube or write him off but it's hard not to feel a bit disappointed so far with his end-product.

The signing of Dube was billed as the final piece of Young Africans' attacking



puzzle because when they were bagging goals for fun last season, it was not due to the proficiency of a striker but rather Azizi Ki, an attacking midfielder.

Despite winning the Community Shield and Young Africans dominant start to the season, on an individual level basis, Dube's first early months at Young Africans have not gone according to the script many had imagined.

This slow start contrasts sharply with his debut season at Azam, where he scored 14 goals and provided five assists in 22 league matches.

Young Africans paid a king's ransom primarily for Dube's end-product. His all-round skill set will be of great use, but above all, it's goals and assists that are needed from him.

Despite being one of the best players in the league, Dube may need time to

adapt at Young Africans. One, moving to a new team is not always easy. One thing that will help is that he appears to have the backing of Gamondi - who will hope he can find his scoring form soon.

Two, we also have to note that he missed nearly half of last season. He never played competitive football after falling out with Azam in February, so there might just be natural teething problems settling back in and playing again, which is natural and completely fine.

The Zimbabwean international will get a chance to score his first league goal when Young Africans host Tabora United in the evening.

The pressure is immense for him to get that league goal and doing it against his former bosses comes with premium joy.

JKT Tanzania resume light training as team recovers from bus accident

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

JKT Tanzania players have begun light training sessions as they prepare to return to the Premier League, with their next match scheduled for November 24 against Tanzania Prisons at the Major General Isamuhyo Stadium.

This return follows the team's recovery from a serious bus accident on October 27, this year.

The accident occurred while JKT Tanzania's team, including players, coaching staff, and other personnel, was en route from a match against Dodoma Jiji, which they lost 1-0 the day prior.

Multiple players sustained injuries and remain under medical supervision. Key players affected include Dany Lyanga, John Bocco, Salum Gado, Gamba Matiko, Said Ndemla, Yakoub Suleiman, Hassan Dilunga, Maka Edward, Hassan Kapalata,

Hassan Machezo, and Mohamed Bakari.

Following the incident, the Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) postponed JKT Tanzania's upcoming matches against Simba SC and Namungo FC, allowing the team adequate time to recover.

JKT Tanzania spokesperson Masau Bwire provided an update on the recovery process, sharing optimism about the team's return to league action.

"After consulting with team doctors, I'm pleased to confirm that we've resumed light training," Bwire said. "The players and coaching staff are using this international break to recuperate and prepare for our comeback. As we approach our next match, we'll gradually increase training intensity."

Bwire expressed hope that the full squad will be fit to return after the international break, adding: "Our goal is to regain momentum and improve our

results, especially after our recent losses."

Before the accident, JKT Tanzania faced consecutive defeats to Dodoma Jiji (1-0) and Young Africans (2-0) following a 4-2 victory over Tabora United.

TPLB will reschedule the postponed matches with Simba and Namungo FC after the international break, considering Simba's CAF Confederation Cup schedule and Tanzania Prisons' other domestic fixtures.

JKT Tanzania have struggled defensively this season, conceding eight goals across nine matches, leading to three losses and four draws. They have managed only two wins, scoring a total of seven goals.

The upcoming match against Tanzania Prisons represents a crucial opportunity for JKT Tanzania to strengthen their position and work toward a more successful season.



Barefooted youths pictured on Monday playing soccer at the Jakaya Kikwete Sports Park in Dae es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Ancelotti 'worried' after another poor performance by Real Madrid

MADRID

THERE were plenty of jeers at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium on Tuesday.

Before the match, when the Champions League anthem was played. And after the match, when Real Madrid saw its 15-game unbeaten run at home in the Champions League come to an end.

Madrid fans still appeared upset by Vinicius Junior not winning the Ballon d'Or ceremony, and also with yet another poor performance by the team.

Madrid followed up its 4-0 loss to Barcelona in the Spanish league "clasico" with a 3-1 defeat against AC Milan in the Champions League, and coach Carlo Ancelotti didn't hide his concerns.

"We need to be worried, we are not showing the best version of ourselves," Ancelotti said. "We are not compact as a team and we need to change that. We lack order in the team and, as a result, we're conceding too many goals."

Madrid, the European powerhouse that has a record 15 Champions League titles, has now conceded seven goals in four matches in the competition, with its other loss coming in a 1-0 defeat at Lille. It has trailed in its last three games in the competition, though it rallied to beat Borussia Dortmund 5-2 in its other home game after conceding first.

"It's normal to be worried in this situation," Ancelotti said. "We'll endure long nights, but we have to work on improving things and find that solidness that we've have for so long and that now we don't have it."

AP

Wife of Real Madrid midfielder lashes out at Carlo Ancelotti after half-time substitution

Madrid Universal

REAL Madrid are facing a challenging period, highlighted by the wave of criticism following recent performances. Among the voices expressing disappointment is Mina Bonino, the wife of midfielder Fede Valverde.

Bonino's frustration became clear on social media, where she voiced her displeasure over coach Carlo Ancelotti's decision to bench Valverde for the second half in their recent defeat to AC Milan.

"If I say what I think, they'll take me to jail," she wrote on her social media channel.

"Bonino's displeasure

She went on to respond to a fan by emphasising that Valverde performs best as a midfielder, not as a winger. Her frustration seemed to stem from what she views as a mismanagement of Valverde's positioning on the field.

She expressed a belief that his skills are underutilised when he is played out wide, a position that demands a different style of play from the midfield role where Valverde has proven to be highly effective.

"Fede plays best as a midfielder. What are you talking about? When are they going to understand once and for all that Fede isn't a winger?"

In the aftermath of Madrid's recent defeat to Milan, criticism extended to Valverde's involvement in one of Milan's goals, specifically the one scored by Alvaro Morata.

A fan blamed Valverde, which prompted Bonino to defend her husband, noting that he had been playing out of his natural position as a winger.

"He's playing as a winger. Did you know? Because I never see forwards being reproached for not dropping back, but the idiot who is everywhere is," she wrote.

"Ancelotti's comment

When asked about Bonino's comments, Ancelotti shared that Valverde wasn't at full fitness during the game.

He explained that Valverde had been dealing with back issues, though he seemed to be in better condition during training.

Despite this, Ancelotti felt that Valverde wasn't physically prepared to perform at his best, leading to his substitution.

"I took him off because for me he wasn't 100 per cent, he had back problems, it seemed like he had recovered because he trained well yesterday but it seemed like he wasn't at his best physical level, that's why I changed him," noted the manager.

AGENCIES

Slot outshines Alonso at Anfield as dream start continues

By Phil McNulty

WHEN Jurgen Klopp made the shock announcement in January that he would be leaving Liverpool in the summer, only one name played across the lips of the huge majority of supporters.

Xabi Alonso was the chosen one, a Champions League and FA Cup winner with Liverpool who had become Europe's hottest young coaching property by leading Bayer Leverkusen towards the Bundesliga and German Cup double in an unbeaten domestic season.

In the background, however, Alonso had made it known he would not be one half of what seemed to be a football marriage made in heaven, choosing instead to remain in Germany rather than take the road back to Anfield.

Step forward Arne Slot, the 46-year-old quietly building a stellar reputation at Feyenoord, regarded as having the ideal personality and footballing philosophy to take on what many regarded as the impossible job of succeeding the iconic Klopp.

Liverpool's new hierarchy of sporting director Richard Hughes and chief executive Michael Edwards had full confidence in Slot, the only contender offered the job despite Manchester United-bound Ruben Amorim also being touted.

Slot was considered calm enough to deal with the inevitable heat and scrutiny of following Klopp, while his belief in pressing intensity - bolted on to a more ordered strategy - was regarded as something that would take the best of what he had inherited and add new dimensions.

And on the night when Alonso did make a return to the technical area - albeit on the left-hand side reserved for the visitors - understated Dutch head coach Slot provided further evidence of the wisdom of Liverpool's decision.

BBC

Guardiola comes out fighting as Man City hit 'dark place'

By Simon Stone in Lisbon

MANCHESTER City manager Pep Guardiola has come out fighting as he contemplates his side's worst sequence of results since 2018.

The 4-1 Champions League defeat by Sporting in Lisbon was City's third loss in a row.

Only once during Guardiola's reign have City lost three times in a row in a single season.

Although he rejected skipper Bernardo Silva's post-match assertion that the club is currently in a "dark place", Guardiola also accepted after a defeat of this size, words are largely meaningless.

However, he is not backing away from the challenge.

"We knew it would be a tough season at the start," he said. "I like it. I love it. I want to face it and lift my players."

"I won't give up, that's for sure."

Few will have sympathy with City over their current injury issues.

Guardiola's decision to hand a first start to FA Youth Cup-winning skipper Jahmai Simpson-Pusey, a day after his 19th birthday and less than a week after his senior debut, underlined the issues he is dealing with in central defence.

Neither John Stones nor Ruben Dias made the trip, while Nathan Ake remained on the substitutes bench throughout.

Rico Lewis played at right-back in the absence of skipper Kyle Walker and Kevin de Bruyne was only risked for the final six minutes.

Defensive midfielder Rodri is, of course, out for the season.



Pep Guardiola has lost three successive games for the first time since 2018 [Reuters]

Guardiola says the current experience feels like his debut campaign in 2016-17, when City struggled for consistency and were fifth after a 4-0 defeat at Everton in January before embarking on a run of one loss in 17 league games, which eventually led them to finish in third spot.

"It happened in my first year," he said. "Sometimes it does."

"I have to try to find an explanation but sometimes it's just football so you have to accept it. Sport is that. Life is that. Sometimes we have bad moments but we face the reality."

"Everyone has to try to be better and we will find it. We are still alive in all competitions and we continue."

City have another tough away trip to Brighton on Saturday.

It is not entirely clear who Guardiola will have available but he will be desperate to avoid a fourth straight reverse.

For Silva, it is a tough time.

"It's difficult to find the reasons why what is happening to us now," he said. "In seven and a half seasons, I don't remember three in a row."

"We're in a dark place. Everything looks to be going the wrong way."

"The good thing is even though we lost three games we're in good positions in the Premier League and Champions League. We're still fighting for everything, but we need to do better. It's just not good enough at the minute."

City are second in the Premier League, two points behind leaders

Liverpool but four clear of third-placed Nottingham Forest and sixth in the expanded Champions League table.

However, they are likely to drop outside the top eight when the second set of matches in the fourth round of fixtures are played.

Nevertheless, at least they are competing, unlike Manchester United, which Guardiola pointed out when he was asked about the prospect of coming up against Ruben Amorim when he moves in at Old Trafford next week.

"Yes, he will be United manager and we will face him two times in the Premier League and maybe the FA Cup. In the Champions League it is not possible."

BBC

The curious case of Ruben Amorim, Hugo Viana, their wives and the Manchester rivalry

BY MIKE MCGRATH

IT will be an emotional farewell at Estádio José Alvalade when Rúben Amorim takes charge of his final home game as manager of Sporting. He will wave goodbye to the fans but it also marks the end of a partnership that has changed the face of Portuguese football in the last four years.

Working quietly in the background in Lisbon while Amorim has delivered two Primeira Liga titles has been director of football Hugo Viana, the former Newcastle United midfielder who has been hugely successful in recent seasons at finding players and making huge profits for Sporting.

They were former team-mates at Braga, both have ties to lower-league Belenenses FC, and are so close that their wives are business partners together as interior designers. But now Amorim is heading to Manchester United for the ultimate football renovation project, while Viana is joining Manchester City in the summer.

Even Amorim himself sees the quirk of facing City in the Champions League in his final home match for Sporting. After facing Braga in a domestic game, he starts at Man Utd during the international break and will attempt to break City's dominance in the Premier League.

"If the result [against City] is negative, expectations will drop; if we win they will think that the new Alex Ferguson has arrived," he said ahead of facing Pep Guardiola's team. "We expect a very difficult game, from the best team in the world, from the best coach in the world. An exciting, difficult game and we want to be competitive and win."

"Everything they touched turned to gold

Amorim's appointment at Sporting four years ago was on Viana's watch, when the young coach was in his early 30s and only had Casa Pia, hastily taken coaching badges and a short spell at Braga on his CV. The pair had been team-mates at Braga, at their famous stadium with a cliff edge on one side.

Viana's early steps as a director of football was at Belenenses FC, where Amorim had started as a youth player. When Viana took up his role at Sporting, he was part of the team that recruited Amorim and everything they have touched since has turned to gold.

The list of transfers who have seen their valuations soar include Pedro Porro, whose deal was struck when



Rúben Amorim (left) is soon to become the Manchester United manager, while Hugo Viana will replace Txiki Begiristain at Manchester City. Composite: Getty Images

he was on his holidays. Porro turned up to his unveiling in his denim beach shorts, which was the basis of memes when he started superbly in Portugal. Fans joked he had forwards in the pocket of his shorts.

Porro went to Tottenham Hotspur without much change from £40 million. Manuel Ugarte was taken from Famalicão and sold to Paris Saint-Germain for €60 million and will be reunited with Amorim at United. Amorim will also face one of his former players against City in Matheus Nunes, who moved to Wolverhampton Wanderers after his spell at Sporting.

Their current team includes Viktor Gyokeres, signed from Coventry City and now among the most sought-after strikers in Europe. Ousmane Diomande, 20, was brought over from Midtjylland, while Morten Hjulmand came from Italian club Lecce. "Manchester are in good hands," said the Denmark midfielder, scorer of the equaliser against England at the Euros.

"Pair formed perfect working relationship

Hjulmand was talking about United but the topic of conversation could easily have been City. Txiki Begiristain's shoes are huge to fill as City's director of football but Viana has built a strong reputation, having underwhelmed in the Premier League as a player with Newcastle.

While he scored a free-kick to ensure Champions League football, and also netted in the famous comeback against Feyenoord at Europe's top table, he never lived up to his billing as one of the best young players in the world when he arrived on Tyneside.

His move to the Etihad Stadium has been built on his work with Amorim over the last four years, with the pair forming a perfect working relationship. Amorim would take the limelight, while Viana was happy working away quietly. He does not give interviews, while Amorim has been the front of house for Sporting.

But Viana is known to be seen on the training pitches, watching sessions and maintaining his strong relationship with staff. As a negotiator, he

has been very effective. Sporting and Brighton were in for Conrad Harder from Nordsjælland in the last window and Viana flew out to Denmark on the day after the English deadline had passed to secure the deal. There was still time in the Portuguese window but Viana did not want any clubs coming in and landing him for the January window.

Ahead of facing Sporting, Guardiola said: "I'm looking forward to speaking with him [Viana]. He is in touch with Ferran Soriano and Txiki [Begiristain] a lot and maybe in the next months or weeks we will be in touch. Hugo was the first choice, I didn't intervene with this matter."

The Manchester derby is less than six weeks away and while Amorim and Viana are in opposite corners now, their families will remain working together. Amorim's wife, Maria João Diogo, owns Dois Tons with Viana's wife, Raquel Gomes.

Dois Tons' mission statement is to "create spaces with a unique identity" through their use of "color palette, textures and which are an extension of their history". Amorim and Viana have been creating something unique at Sporting. Before Viana arrived at the club, they had not won a title in 18 seasons.

They leave with two titles won together and an open invitation to stay in Lisbon. "I spoke with the president," said Amorim, on his decision to leave for United. "Whatever you decide, you always have the possibility to continue. If you change your mind can always speak to us."

After their work in the last four years, Sporting's duo could have worked together for years if Manchester had not come calling.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Guardiola comes out fighting
as Man City hit 'dark place'

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Minziro credits players' discipline for Pamba Jiji's breakthrough victory

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

PAMBA Jiji FC celebrated a crucial breakthrough, securing their first Tanzania Mainland Premier League victory of the season with a 3-1 win over Fountain Gate FC at Tanzanite Stadium in Manyara on Tuesday.

Head coach Fred Felix Minziro (pictured) attributed the win to his team's discipline and strict adherence to tactical instructions, which he credited as key to clinching the three points.

"I knew the game against Fountain Gate would be challenging, but we planned thoroughly to get the victory," said Minziro. "The team is improving daily. We fought hard, and I believe we'll continue to perform well in our upcoming games."

This long-awaited victory moves Pamba Jiji FC to the 15th spot in the league with eight points, a morale boost as they aim to climb further up the standings.

Minziro expressed optimism, praising his players' progress and commitment to turning their season around.

"Today's win is a significant step forward. The players showed commitment to improvement and to achieving results," he said.

Meanwhile, Fountain Gate FC, despite the loss, remains in fifth place with 17 points.

The match began with Fountain Gate FC taking an aggressive approach, dominating possession and creating early chances. Their efforts paid off in the 28th minute when Elie Mokono opened the scoring from a well-placed corner by Aron Lulambo, giving Fountain Gate a 1-0 lead and seeming to set the tone for the game.

Pamba Jiji FC, however, responded swiftly, and in the 34th minute, forward James Mwashinga leveled the score at 1-1. His goal invigorated the team and supporters alike, setting up an intense contest.

The game took a pivotal turn in the 39th minute when Fountain Gate's Abdulkassim Sueleiman was shown a red card for a harsh challenge, leaving his team down to ten men.

Pamba Jiji took full advantage of this, pressing their numerical superiority. In stoppage time just before the break, Salehe Masoud added another goal, putting Pamba ahead 2-1 as they entered halftime.

Despite being a player short, Fountain Gate pressed hard in the second half in search of an equalizer, but Pamba Jiji's defense held firm.

The match was ultimately sealed in the 86th minute when a miscalculated clearance by Fountain Gate's goalkeeper allowed Pamba to score a third goal, finalizing the scoreline at 3-1.

With this decisive victory, Pamba Jiji FC ended their winless streak and displayed resilience and spirit, which will be invaluable as they continue their campaign.

The current league standings show Young Africans leading with 24 points, followed by Singida Black Stars at 23 points, and Simba SC in third with 22 points.

Pamba's win positions them at 15th, and the team hopes to build on this success in upcoming fixtures.

Buoyed by their renewed confidence and momentum, Pamba Jiji FC now aim to keep climbing the league table, seeking a stronger finish this season.

Msuva, Manula, Kapombe back for Tanzania AFCON qualifiers



By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE senior men's football coach, Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman, has announced a 26-man squad for the upcoming 2025 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers.

Striker Simon Msuva (pictured), who missed the opening four AFCON qualifiers fixtures, has returned to the squad after settling down in his new club in Iraq.

Also, returning to the squad are the Simba duo of Shomari Kapombe and Aishi Manula.

Right fullback Kapombe has not featured for the Taifa Stars since March last year while goalkeeper Manula last played against Mongolia in an international friendly in Mongolia in March before his re-integration in the CHAN qualifiers against Sudan.

Turkey-based midfielder Novatus Dismas is also back while Azam youngster Abdulkarim Kiswanya has also been included in the squad for the first time after starring in the CECAFA U-20 tournament last month.

Group H of the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations qualification is one of twelve groups that will decide which teams will qualify for the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations final tournament in Morocco.

The group consists of four teams, Tanzania, DR Congo, Ethiopia and Guinea.

Taifa Stars are set to face Ethiopia and Guinea on November 16 and 19 respectively. Taifa Stars will travel to DR Congo where Ethiopia have picked as their home venue before hosting Guinea in Dar es Salaam.

Tanzania currently finds itself third in Group H, two points behind second placed Guinea.

Guinea will face the already qualified DR Congo side on November 16 before travelling to Dar for the final showdown.

Tanzania will need to win against Ethiopia while praying for a Guinea loss to DR Congo to stand a chance in the final home game of the campaign.

Named players are:

Goalkeepers: Aishi Manula (Simba SC), Zuberi Foba (Azam FC), and Metacha Mnata (Singida Black Stars)

Defenders: Lusajo Mwaikenda (Azam FC), Shomari Kapombe (Simba SC), Mohamed Hussein (Simba SC), Paschal Msindo (Azam FC), David Bryson (JKT Tanzania), Ibrahim Hamad (Young Africans), Dickson Job (Young Africans), Ibrahim Ame (Mashujaa FC), Abdulrazack Hamza (Simba SC)

Midfielders: Adolf Masingwa (Azam FC), Novatus Dismas (Goztepe, Turkey), Habib Khalid (Singida Black Stars), Mudathir Yahya (Young Africans), Feisal Salum (Azam FC), Abdulkarim Kiswanya (Azam FC U20), Idd Nado (Azam FC)

Forwards: Mbwana Samatta (Paok FC, Greece), Clement Mzize (Young Africans), Kibu Dennis (Simba SC), Simon Msuva (Al-Talaba, Iraq), Ismail Mgunda (Mashujaa FC), Cyprian Kachwele (Vancouver Whitecaps, Canada), Nasoro Saadun (Azam FC)

Yanga seek redemption against Tabora United after Azam debacle



By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans (Yanga) are determined to rebound from their first NBC Premier League defeat of the season as they prepare to face Tabora United at Chamazi Stadium this evening.

Young Africans' recent 1-0 loss to Azam last weekend ended an impressive unbeaten run, but the team still holds the top position in the league with 24 points from nine games.

Having won their opening eight games of the 2024/25 campaign, Young Africans now face intensified competition as title rivals Simba SC close in.

Head coach Miguel Gamondi

(pictured) acknowledged that his team cannot afford any more slip-ups if they wish to maintain their lead.

Speaking to reporters, Gamondi highlighted the significance of today's match against Tabora United, while noting his expectation for a challenging contest.

"We are determined to return to winning ways," said Gamondi. "We analyzed Tabora United closely and are prepared to give our best performance at Chamazi tomorrow to go into the FIFA break at the top of the table."

Gamondi emphasized the need for his players to make the most of their scoring chances to open up the game, as Tabora United has shown a cautious style under their new coach.

"Tabora United aren't high scorers,

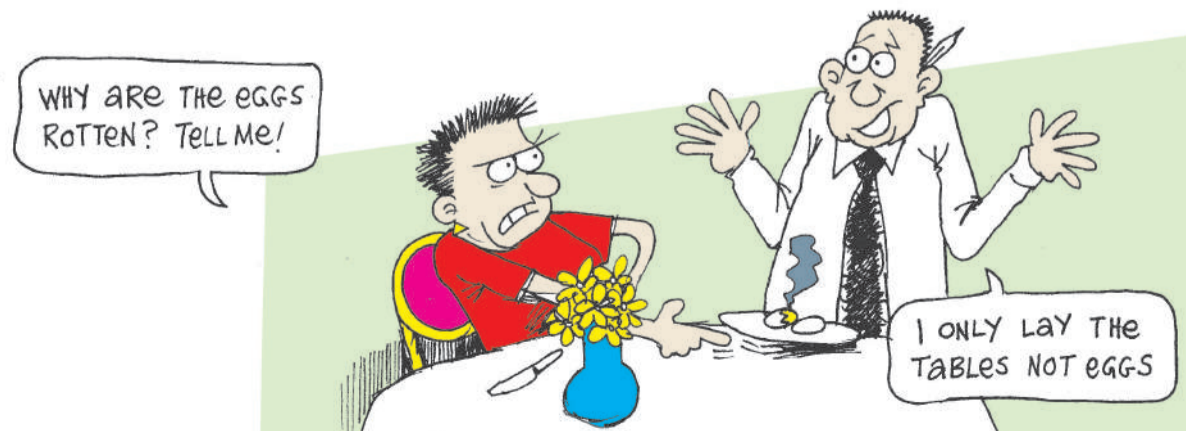
with nine goals in ten games, and they tend to struggle away from home. They won their last two games through penalties, both at home, so we expect a cautious approach," Gamondi added.

The coach also confirmed Young Africans will be without Nickson Kibabage, who is serving a suspension, and Kouassi Yao, who is sidelined with an injury.

Tabora United, who narrowly avoided relegation last season by defeating Championship side Biashara United, have had an encouraging start this season.

With 14 points from ten matches, they currently sit in seventh place. Their record includes four wins, two draws, and four defeats, while they have scored nine goals, with contributions spread across the team.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



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Turkey-based midfielder Novatus Dismas is also back while Azam youngster Abdulkarim Kiswanya has also been included in the squad for the first time

