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## TAHA unveils macadamia drive as export value chain

After six years of rigorous scientific experiments, hard work and significant investor funding, the macadamia crop is now ready for commercial-scale farming

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE horticultural industry in Tanzania is experiencing rapid changes as it turns its attention to the macadamia nut—a perishable but nutritionally rich and commercially valuable crop.

Dr. Jacqueline Mkindi, the Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA) chief executive officer, declared over the weekend that macadamia presents a new value chain in the horticultural sub-sector, thanks to more than six years of dedicated research and considerable investment.

For years, TAHA has quietly collaborated with strategic investors to establish a macadamia value chain in northern Tanzania and is now confident that the nut can be grown on a commercial scale, she stated.

“After six years of rigorous scientific experiments, hard work and significant investor funding, the macadamia crop is now ready for commercial-scale farming,” she affirmed at a press conference here.

Macadamia trees thrive in agricultural zones with altitudes between 1,000 and 1,500 meters above sea level, complemented by average rainfall and temperate climates—conditions found in regions in three northern regions, the southern highlands and partially the Lake Zone, she stated.

Climatic and soil conditions are suited for macadamia cultivation in many regions, capable of producing remarkable yields of 42 nuts per tree bunch compared to the average 22 nuts with the right inputs, she said.

Cultivating macadamias is not a soft option as establishing orchards requires substantial investment and solid commitment, as trees take about five years to yield a worthwhile harvest, she said, pointing at optimal costs for one acre at \$2,400 and potentially capable of earn \$12,000 in the season if the harvest and marketing are right.

“Investing \$24,000 to plant ten acres of macadamia can yield returns of \$120,000 per year once the nuts are ripe,” she further noted, describing macadamia as “truly the crop of the future.”

TAHA will provide tailored practical guidance to help those taking up the crop to navigate the complexities of commercial cultivation in the burgeoning industry, she stated.

Hussein Gongga, a pioneering farmer in the new field, said that despite their premium pricing, macadamias’ high cost is justified by their exceptional nutritional value and limited supply.

Growing on trees like most nuts, the crop require a considerable lead-time from planting to harvest, taking five to six years to reach maturity and begin yielding nuts.

The high-value nut is most sought in China, the United States and Europe, he added.



Explore opportunities in energy sector, Tanzania's youth told Page 3



Govt, AKHS join forces to combat neonatal mortality Page 4



K'njaro Film Festival 2025 to present Tanzanian films globally Page 6



In his capacity as Chancellor of Mzumbe University, Dr Ali Mohamed Shein confers an Honorary Doctorate in Leadership on President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the university's 23rd graduation ceremony held on the outskirts of Morogoro municipality yesterday. Dr Shein was Tanzania's Vice President from 2001 to 2010 and Zanzibar's President from 2010 to 2020. Photo: State Housey

## Mzumbe hands out first honoris causa, to Samia

STORY ON PAGE 2

## Muhimbili sets liver transplant surgery, invites Indian operator

By Correspondent Christina

Mwakangale

MUHIMBILI National Hospital (MNH) has announced plans to start offering liver transplant services next year, in response to the growing number of patients attending the hospital's liver clinic.

Prof. Mohamed Janabi, the MNH executive director, shared this update at a city press conference yesterday, affirming that over 5,000 patients have liver-related ailments where 2,333 were diagnosed with liver tumors in a span of one year.

We've worked with experts from Fortis Hospital in India, who have spent three days with our doctors, assessing patients with liver diseases and evaluating the availability of medications, laboratory infrastructure and ICU facilities required for this service

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SPORTS Page 20

Coach Ramovic promises Yanga will 'give everything' to beat Al Hilal



SPORTS Page 18

Things beginning to fall nicely for Azam

## Kariakoo: TPA waives fees on victims' goods

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) yesterday pledged to waive storage fees on goods imported by tenants of a building that collapsed in Kariakoo here a week ago, killing 20 people and damaging goods worth millions of shillings.

Abed Gallus, the TPA acting director, announced the move at a city press confer-

Legitimate claimants should quickly report their cases to the agents, who will sort out their problems with us

ence over the weekend focused on port concerns on the business side of those affected by the Kariakoo disaster.

He said legitimate claim-

ants should provide requisite details to their clearance agents, who will in turn submit the details to TPA, to benefit from the decision to waive charges on goods of

the legitimate claimants.

This has been done many times in the past, he said, explaining that such waivers are not exclusive to TPA as other public institutions would usually do the same.

“Waiving storage fee on goods in our custody on circumstances of this nature is routine policy, aligned with

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## Kariakoo: TPA waives fees on victims' goods

FROM PAGE 1

Tanzania's culture of showing solidarity with victims of understandable disasters.

"Legitimate claimants should quickly report their cases to the agents, who will sort out their problems with us," he emphasized.

The four-storey building collapsed on a Saturday killing 20 people while dozens escaped death virtually by a miracle, upon which the gov-

ernment appointed a 19 man team of experts to investigate the reasons for the fateful accident, tainting the image of Kariakoo as a metropolitan business centre in the city of Dar es Salaam.

At midweek President Samia Hassan toured the site of the accident and addressed a public meeting at the nearby Mnazi Mmoja grounds, then proceeded to visit accident victims admitted at the Muhimbili National Hospital.



Tanzanian experts' team leader Samwel Katambi (L) and his Burundian counterpart, Maj Gen Mbonimpa Maurice, pictured in Tanzania's Kigoma-Ujiji municipality yesterday exchanging MoU documents on the strengthening of relations along the common border between the two neighbouring countries. It was at the conclusion of a meeting of the Joint Technical Committee involving Tanzania and Burundi. Katambi is Assistant Director in the Survey and Mapping Department of the Lands, Housing, and Human Settlements Development ministry. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

## Mzumbe hands out first honoris causa, to Samia

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has been conferred an honorary doctorate degree in leadership by Mzumbe University, marking the sixth honorary degree awarded to the president since assuming office.

Vice Chancellor Prof. William Mwegoha made this affirmation at the university's graduation ceremony in Morogoro on Friday, where President Samia was the chief guest.

He said the decision to honour the president stemmed from carefully

evaluating the solid contributions during the three years she has been at the helm of the state.

"This doctorate serves as recognition of the president's efforts toward sustainable development in Tanzania and beyond," he said, noting that the president made history as Tanzania's first woman taking up as top national leader, as vice president and then as president.

During the three years of her leadership significant achievements have been realized, making the president a deserving recipient of the honorary doctorate.

He commended President Samia for being a role model in leadership at the domestic and even at an international level, pointing out that before this recognition, the Head of State had already received five honorary doctorates.

These awards relate to various disciplines, awarded by local and foreign universities, where the Mzumbe VC said that this was the first time the president is offered an honorary doctorate exclusively for exemplary leadership. Earlier citations for the doctorate honoris causa were conferred by

the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), the State University of Zanzibar (SUZA), the Jawaharlal Nehru University in India, Ankara University in Turkey, and the Korea National University of Aviation.

In the latest citation, the decision also marks the first honorary doctorate to be awarded by Mzumbe University, where Prof. Cyriacus Binamungu, rector for the Mzumbe University Dar es Salaam campus, elaborated on the rationale for awarding the citation.

He pointed at the president's leadership successes across various

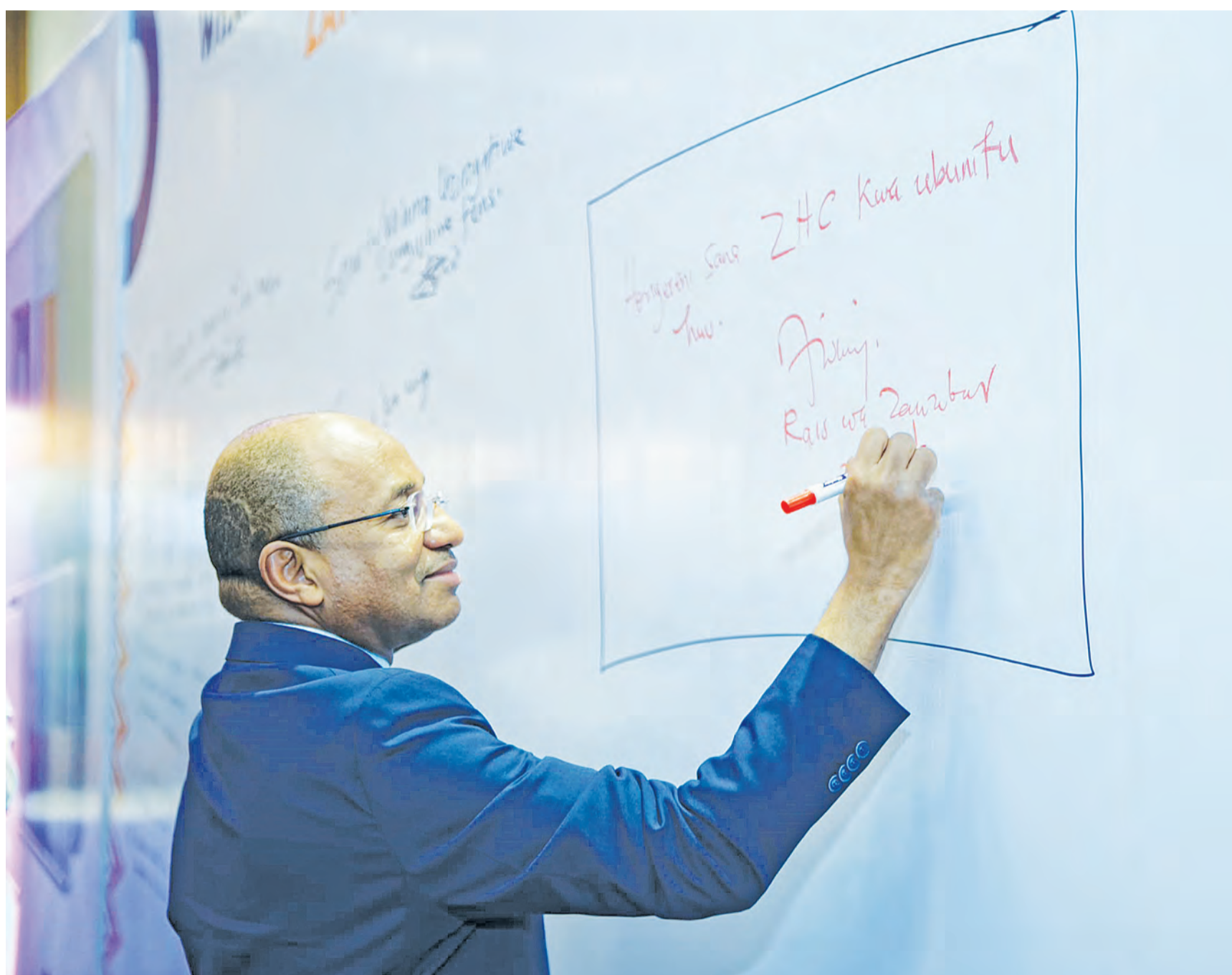
sectors, including health, education, infrastructure, diplomacy, the economy and democracy.

Her three years of tenure so far as president has seen the government introduce the R4s philosophy - reconciliation, resilience, reform and rebuilding - laying the foundation for good governance, he stated, similarly expressing admiration for the move to set up the Criminal Justice Commission, along with other transformative initiatives. "These are just a few of the milestones achieved under President Samia's leadership,"

he said, stressing on her spirit of dedication to improving the welfare of Tanzanians.

Prof Saida Yahya-Othman, who chairs the council of Mzumbe University, described the conferring of the honorary doctorate as "a unique milestone for both the recipient and the institution."

This was Mzumbe's first honorary doctorate, underscoring its significance as a salutary move to recognize the work of a sitting national leader who is also an alumna of the university, the don added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi pictured at Chumbuni in Zanzibar on Saturday gracing the launch of a sales project involving houses being built by the Zanzibar Housing Corporation. Photo: Zanzibar State House

## Mpox is still clear health emergency, states WHO

LONDON

THE Mpox outbreak continues to represent a public health emergency, the World Health Organization has said.

The WHO first declared the emergency in August, when an outbreak of a new form of mpox spread from the badly-hit Democratic Republic of Congo to neighbouring countries.

The WHO had convened a meeting of its Emergency Committee and, agreeing with its advice, the WHO Director-General has determined that the upsurge of mpox continues to constitute a public health emergency of international concern.

The decision is based on the rising number and continuing geographic spread of cases, operational challenges in the field and the need to mount and sustain a cohesive response across countries and partners, the WHO said.

Mpox is a viral infection that spreads through close contact, and typically causes flu-like symptoms and pus-filled lesions. It is usually mild, but it can be lethal.

This year, there have been more than 46,000 suspected cases across Africa, mainly in Congo, and more than 1,000 suspected deaths.

The label of "public health emergency of international concern" is the WHO's highest form of alert, and was also applied to a global outbreak of a different form of mpox in 2022-2023.

The alert issued this year followed the spread of a new variant of the virus, called clade 1b.

Cases of this variant have been confirmed in the UK, Germany, Sweden and India, among other countries.

In September, after facing criticism on moving too slowly on vaccines, the WHO cleared Bavarian Nordic's

## Muhimbili sets liver transplant surgery, invites Indian operator

FROM PAGE 1

A total of 607 patients were identified as having liver cancer or cirrhosis, requiring liver transplants, he said, explaining that the hospital has been preparing to launch this service over the past two years, in collaboration with Indian specialists.

"In the past two days, we've conducted screenings at the outpatient department and identified over 100 patients with liver complications," he said, referring to the

consultation as part of the institution's capacity-building process.

MNH needs nurses and qualified specialists in this field, he declared, asserting that India's expertise in liver transplantation dates back to 2002, while the collaboration move is projected to have the service operational in the next few months.

Stressing the importance of bringing such services closer to the people, he said that many patients have to travel abroad for

treatment due to a lack of expertise, diagnostic equipment and proper infrastructure.

"We've worked with experts from Fortis Hospital in India, who have spent three days with our doctors, assessing patients with liver diseases and evaluating the availability of medications, laboratory infrastructure and ICU facilities required for this service," he stated.

Jennifer Choudhary, the Vaidam Health

business director, an Indian medical enterprise, expressed excitement at being part of the preparations, asserting that providing the service requires careful planning.

It may go through several stages before liver transplants can begin, she said, explaining that the Indian team was there to lay the groundwork, setting up modalities for patient assessments and identifying resources needed for the next phase.

Dr. Gaurav Gupta, top consultant at the

Fortis Hospitals system in India, said that liver transplantation is a complex process that requires the right equipment and experts for success.

Dr. Kitembo Salumu, a digestive system and liver surgeon at MNH, asserted that the hospital's records show over 5,000 patients reported having liver ailments, with 2,333 showing liver tumours and 607 diagnosed with liver cancer, mostly requiring liver transplants.



Japhet Senyinah (L), a project manager with the National Irrigation Commission, signs a 10.496 billion/- agreement with Otonde Construction and General Supplies Limited contractor Amos Milanzi in Iramba District on Saturday for the implementation of Masimba irrigation scheme. Photo: Correspondent Thobias Mwanakatwe

## Explore opportunities in energy sector, youth told

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TANZANIAN youth have been urged to take advantage of opportunities existing in energy sector that offers a broad scope for creating jobs and self-employment.

Ambassador John Ulanga, Director of Department of International Trade Coordination and Economic Diplomacy in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, made the call here at the weekend when speaking at a conference themed 'The Role of Youth in the Energy Sector and Its Transition in Africa' which was organized by the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project at the University of Dodoma (UDOM).

Ulanga said that the sector currently requires skilled youth to play key roles in building the economy, noting that many universities across Africa, along with technical colleges, offer training in areas such as renewable energy, engineering and environmental conservation, providing youth with opportunities to succeed in the fields.

He encouraged young people who represent a large portion of the population, to seize the opportunities and contribute to economic growth and increase their chances of employment after graduation. "Currently, the renewable energy agenda is a global priority. If youth effectively engage in universities,

conferences and workshops to enhance their knowledge, they will have opportunities to be employed or even self-employed hence contribute significantly to national income," he said.

He cited an example of the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) and the African Development Bank's (AfDB) Jobs for Youth in Africa initiatives which both aim to empower young people professionally to become leaders in the energy sector.

"I commend EACOP project for conducting various training sessions related to energy sector for university and technical college students in our country," he said. "I am confident that the discussions arising from workshops and meetings will inspire youth to fully participate in this sector and contribute to the country's economic growth."

Guillaume Dolout, EACOP Chief Executive Officer, stated that the project which involves transporting crude oil from Hoima in Uganda to the coast of Chongoleani in Tanga, has been offering energy trainings through both online and practical sessions to university and technical students in both Tanzania and Uganda.

"Through these training sessions, some graduates have been employed in various areas of the project while others have received certificates that enable them to either self-employ or find employment within the sector anywhere in the world," said Dolout.

## Call: Prioritise mineral value addition to turn Tanzania into Africa's mining hub

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Deputy Speaker of the Zanzibar House of Representatives, Mgeni Hassan Juma, has stressed the need for establishment of facilities that add value to minerals for the country to achieve its goal of becoming Africa's mining hub.

Juma made the remarks on Thursday when closing the 2024 International Mining Investment Conference, held for three days in

Dar es Salaam. The Deputy Speaker represented Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi.

She emphasized that value addition to minerals is crucial, insisting stakeholders should be encouraged to invest in supporting such kinds of activities.

"Discussions held during this conference focused on finding solutions to challenges facing the mining sector, particularly in the areas of capital and modern tech-

nology for mineral value addition. For the sector to create more jobs and increase its contribution to national income, minerals must undergo value addition," she said.

She noted that the government has created a conducive environment for both domestic and foreign investors, something which will help grow the mining sector. Minister for Minerals, Anthony Mavunde, highlighted significant achievements of the conference, which attracted over 1,500

participants from Africa and beyond.

"Given the large turnout of participants, we consider having a dedicated venue for mining sector conferences similar to the Mining Indaba in South Africa. I urge regional commissioners to allocate special areas in their regions for such conferences," he said. Speaking on the mining sector in Zanzibar, Mavunde said: "When people hear about Zanzibar, they think of tourism only but a few months ago, a mineral survey report

revealed the presence of heavy mineral sands in Zanzibar, specifically in Pemba. With these resources, we believe significant investment will come to Pemba, benefiting both the economy and islanders."

Zanzibar Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals Shaib Hassan Kaduara stressed the importance of strengthening collaboration in conducting in-depth mineral research for the benefit of all parties.

Earlier, Deputy Minister for Miner-

als Dr Steven Kiruswa said the conference's theme 'Mineral Value Addition for Socioeconomic Development' aimed to promote activities that enhance the value of minerals in the country.

Dr Kiruswa said the theme aligns with implementation of the 2009 Mining Policy which requires the government to ensure minerals produced in the country undergo value addition before they are exported.



Yohana Luhemeja (2nd-L), CCM's candidate for Kigamboni District's Mbawamaji Street chairmanship in this Wednesday's countrywide local government elections, is introduced at a campaign venue yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## CCM predicts landslide win ahead of civic polls

By Guardian Reporter

CCM's Secretary for Ideology, Publicity and Training, Amoss Makalla, has said that the party takes no chances when it comes to retaining power and is fully prepared to secure a landslide victory in this year's local government elections.

Makalla made the remarks in Dar es Salaam at the weekend while addressing residents of Kibamba Constituency as part of his ongoing campaign meetings for village, mtaa and hamlet elections scheduled for November 27.

He said the party was actively campaigning, having officially launched its campaigns on November 20 across all regions and expressed confidence that CCM candidates would emerge victorious by a significant margin.

"In this year's local government election we aim for a landslide victory. The way CCM is prepared, it's safe to say the future is promising," he said.

He emphasized the importance of the election, noting that CCM treats it with great significance because the role of a political party is to take and hold power which starts with winning local government elections.

"The aim of a registered political party is to ensure it holds power. Preaching about going to heaven is the responsibility of religious leaders. Recognizing the importance of holding power, CCM has fielded candidates at 100 percent: there is no mtaa, village or hamlet without our candidate," he said.

With only three days remaining in the cam-

paign period, Makalla reiterated that CCM would close its campaigns as strongly as it launched the same, having made good preparations.

"Since we launched our campaigns, they have been progressing well, with thousands of opposition supporters returning to CCM. Even candidates from other parties have expressed interest in joining CCM. We will conclude our campaigns just as powerfully as we began," he said.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE - CORRECTIONS**

On Monday November 18, 2024 we published tender for PRE- QUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR PROVISION OF GOODS AND SERVICES NOTICE FOR THE YEAR 2024/2025

IDT  
TENDER NUMBER 01/FY2024-25/0001 with wrong closing dates and deadline. The correct information is as follows:

The deadline for the submission of proposals is 100hrs East Africa Time on **28<sup>th</sup> November 2024**.

Question and clarification are due on **27<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 0400hrs** East Africa Time through Email: at [idtprocurement@gmail.com](mailto:idtprocurement@gmail.com) with the subject line "Request for Clarification"

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IDT will open all bids on **29<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 1205hrs** in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend. The present Bidders' representatives shall sign a register evidencing their attendance.

The terms of reference (TOR) for more details can also be accessed through ([www.aictanzania.org](http://www.aictanzania.org))

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**MWALIKO WA KUSHIRIKI MKUTANO WA PILI WA JUMUIYA YA WAHASIBU WAKUU WA SERIKALI AFRIKA-AAAG**

Tanzania inatarajia kuwa mwenyeji wa Mkutano Mkuu wa Wahasibu wa Serikali wa Afrika mwaka 2024 (AAAG) utakaofanyika jijini Arusha kuanzia tarehe 2 hadi 5 Desemba, 2024.

Mkutano wa pili wa Jumuiya ya Wahasibu Wakuu wa Serikali Afrika utakuwa na mada mtambuka ambazo zitasaidia watumishi wa kada mbalimbali kuwaoonzeza ujuzi na Maarifa.

Pia Mkutano huu utasaidia Viongozi na Watumishi wa Tanzania kupata nafasi ya kubadilishana uzoefu na kupeana fursa na Viongozi na Watumishi toka nchi nyingine za Afrika, Benki ya Dunia na IMF. Mgeni rasmi anatarajwa kuwa Mheshimiwa Dkt. Samia Suluhu Hassan, Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania.

Ada ya ushiriki ya mkutano ni **Shilingi za Kitanzania 1,300,000/=** kwa kila mshiriki. Hivyo, Mamlaka husika zinaombwa kuwaruhusu na kuwalipia Wahasibu, Wakaguzi wa Ndani, Maafisa Usimamizi wa Fedha, Maafisa TEHAMA na watumishi wa kada nyingine kuhudhuria mkutano huu.

Washiriki wote wanatakiwa kuanza kijasajili kupitia lango (portal) ilifuatalo: <https://conference.aaag.org.zm> kuanzia sasa hadi tarehe 01 Disemba, 2024 na ada ya ushiriki ilipwe kupitia **akaunti namba 9924915301 yenye jina African Association of Accountants General (AAAG)**.

Aidha, kwa Taasisi za Umma, Kampuni mbalimbali na watu binafsi wanaotaka kudhamini Mkutano huu kwa lengo la kujitangaza kibiashara na kufanikisha Mkutano huu; Wizara ya Fedha inawakaribisha.

Kwa mawasiliano zaidi piga Namba ya simu +255 713 525 592 barua pepe, [veronica.kishala@hazina.go.tz](mailto:veronica.kishala@hazina.go.tz) na [evans.sayile@hazina.go.tz](mailto:evans.sayile@hazina.go.tz) Sanduku la Posta ni Katibu Mkuu, Wizara ya Fedha S.L.P 2802, Dodoma.

Pia kama muombaji amesahau namba ya simu, barua pepe na Sanduku la Posta anaweza kupata mawasiliano kupitia wakuu wa Hazina Ndogo waliopo kila mkoa Tanzania bara na Ofisi ya Mhasibu Mkuu wa Serikali Zanzibar.

**Kwa Nakala Ngumu tafadhali wasilisha kwa anuani ifuatayo:**

**Sekretariati ya Kamati ya Maandalizi Mkutano wa AAAG, Wizara ya Fedha Idara ya Mhasibu Mkuu wa Serikali Jengo la Hazina (Ghorofa ya Pili), 18 Barabara ya Jakaya Kikwete, S.L.P 2802, DODOMA.**

**Tangazo hili limetolewa na:**

**KATIBU MKUU - HAZINA**  
**Novemba, 2024**

## RPC calls for more chemical safety education

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

DODOMA Regional Police Commander, George Katabazi has called on both government and private institutions to enhance efforts in educating the public on the safe and proper use of chemicals.

RPC Katabazi made the remarks in Dodoma Region over the weekend as he closed the first phase of a public education campaign on the safe transportation of sodium cyanide.

He emphasized the campaign's importance in equipping stakeholders with the knowledge and skills necessary to handle the safe transportation of the chemical.

"Institutions like the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) are leading by example, offering vital education and training to various groups, including small-scale entrepreneurs, gold miners, chemical supervisors, drivers, and the general public. I urge other organizations, both public and private, to follow GCLA's impactful approach," he said.

Commander Katabazi also highlighted that the campaign was part of a broader national effort to safeguard public health, protect the environment, and raise safety standards within the mining industry.

He emphasized the importance of collaboration among stakeholders to ensure effective management of hazardous chemicals while promoting sustainable development in critical

sectors.

Daniel Ndiyo, Director of Regulatory Services at GCLA, outlined the core goals of the campaign which focuses on educating the public about the safe transportation of Sodium Cyanide, a chemical essential to gold mining.

He said sodium cyanide was among harmful chemicals that if not taken and protected properly might harm the users.

"This initiative is crucial to ensuring stakeholders are equipped to safely handle Sodium Cyanide," he said, stressing the importance of educating the community about the chemical's risks and its vital role in gold extraction.

Joseph Mbanya, Transportation Supervisor at Barrick Gold Mining Company, expressed gratitude to all participants and organizers of the campaign. He expressed confidence that the knowledge shared would be spread to a wide range of stakeholders, empowering them to further educate their communities.

"This campaign has laid a strong foundation. I believe the insights shared here will help promote chemical safety within their areas of influence," he said.

Last year, GCLA launched a campaign to increase awareness on the safer use of sodium cyanide in eight regions.

The campaign was part of the authority's effort to improve the implementation of the Industrial and Consumer Chemicals (Management and Control) Act, 2003.



Charles Mwamaja (in scarf), Commissioner for the Development of the Financial Sector in the Finance ministry, checks furniture at the College of Planning and Rural Development (in Dodoma Region) in the course of a graduation ceremony held yesterday. Right is the college's Vice Chancellor, Prof Hozen Mayaya. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

## Nchimbi challenges graduates to focus on innovation, tech to tackle unemployment

By Henry Mwangonde, Morogoro

CCM SECRETARY General Dr. Emanuel Nchimbi has urged graduates to embrace innovation and entrepreneurial mindset in order to navigate the ever-evolving global labour market which is being reshaped by technological advancements for them to address challenges of unemployment.

Speaking at the 24th Convocation and Annual General Meeting of Mzumbe University in Morogoro at the weekend, Dr. Nchimbi emphasized the transformative power

of education, innovation and creativity in revolutionizing Tanzania's and global job market.

He highlighted the crucial role of youth in harnessing artificial intelligence (AI) and innovative thinking to redefine career paths and drive Tanzania towards a more prosperous future.

Dr. Nchimbi described the global labour market as dynamic and heavily influenced by rapid technological advancements, including AI and green technologies.

He called on graduands to lead the transformation journey with

an entrepreneurial spirit, warning that the future belongs to those willing to challenge the status quo.

"The world needs more than just workers; it needs bold visionaries who lead the transformation journey. You are not merely inheriting the world as it is; you are called to shape it into what it can be," he said.

He emphasized that technology and AI are powerful tools capable of addressing Tanzania's unique challenges and urged graduands to go beyond being consumers of technology. Instead, they should

become innovators creating home-grown solutions.

"In this digital age, we need Tanzanian graduates who are creators: pioneers of solutions that can tackle Africa's challenges," he said.

Dr. Nchimbi also called on universities to prioritize research and development that addresses the country's national needs, encouraging collaboration with factories to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and workplace practical skills.

He stressed the importance of rethinking traditional employment

models, urging graduands to view challenges as opportunities for innovation and job creation rather than simply seeking roles in established companies.

"The future of Tanzania's economy lies in creating new opportunities, industries and enterprises. Your entrepreneurial spirit and determination will drive our nation forward," he said.

Dr. Nchimbi also highlighted the government's commitment to youth empowerment, praising President Samia Suluhu Hassan's initiatives aimed at fostering inno-

vation and entrepreneurship.

He assured graduands that the government was working to create an environment conducive for innovation, job creation and economic growth.

"The government has launched several initiatives to support start-ups and empower youth to ensure that graduates have the tools and networks needed to thrive," he said.

"Tanzania's future rests in your hands. Your creativity and vision will be the driving force behind our nation's progress," he said.



Truck and long-distance bus drivers donate blood at the Mbezi Mwisho bus terminal in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Police assure journalists' safety during civic polls

By Correspondent Nebart Msokwa, Mbeya

AS local government elections approach on November 27, Police in Mbeya Region have assured journalists of their safety while performing their duties.

The law enforcers have provided specialized training for journalists to help them carry out their work without harm during election campaigns, voting and post-poll environment.

Speaking during the training session at the weekend, Mbeya Regional Police Commander Benjamin Kuzaga emphasized the critical role of journalists and the need to protect them.

"We have trained journalists to ensure they understand how to perform their duties safely, especially in sensitive situations. Journalists are key stakeholders; you should not worry about your safety," he said.

Kuzaga noted that before the journalists' training, similar sessions had been held for political party leaders to ensure the elections proceed peacefully without disruptions.

"The Inspector General of Police instructed all Regional Police Commanders to de-

velop strategies for ensuring peaceful elections. We have started by training key stakeholders, including journalists," he added.

Regional Head of Operations and Training ACP Charles Kinyongo assured journalists of the police's commitment to maintaining peace and security throughout the election process.

He advised journalists to contact police when working in risky areas to ensure their protection and safe execution of their duties.

Some journalists expressed concerns about past incidents whereby they were arrested while on duty despite having identity cards. Anthony Komba shared an incident when journalists were detained during main opposition Chadema rally and had their equipment confiscated.

"We request that police provide special identification that they recognize since our work IDs are sometimes disregarded, leading to our arrests," he said.

Kenneth Ngelesi called for training for lower-ranking officers who are often tasked with arrests but may not fully understand their legal boundaries.

## World Prematurity Day highlights usefulness of prenatal clinic visits

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has identified lack of awareness about the importance of prenatal clinic visits as a major barrier to reducing neonatal mortality.

Dr. Aisha Zuheri, Dar es Salaam City Council Medical Officer, made the statement at the weekend during commemoration World Prematurity Day

organized in collaboration with Aga Khan Hospital Dar es Salaam. The event highlighted the critical role of awareness to safeguard health of mothers and their newborns.

Dr. Zuheri said that Dar es Salaam City Council has made notable progress in tackling the challenges, particularly through enhanced care for premature babies. Key initiatives include educating mothers on

the importance of early prenatal clinic visits and providing parents with essential knowledge on newborn care.

Efforts have also focused on improving facilities such as Kangaroo Mother Care units which provide life-saving support for premature infants.

"We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the leadership of Aga Khan Hospital for their unwavering commitment. This

event underscores the critical importance of neonatal care," she said.

She noted the tangible impact of the initiatives, citing a dramatic reduction of premature infant mortality rates. During the July-September quarter, mortality rates dropped from 40 percent to 12.98 percent.

"This remarkable progress reflects the power of collective action and prioritization of

neonatal care. As we celebrate today's achievements, let us reaffirm our commitment to ensuring every child, regardless of their circumstances at birth, has the chance to live," she said.

"As someone born prematurely, I feel immense pride and hope witnessing the significant strides being made to help today's children achieve milestones we once dreamed of."

Dr. Yaser Abdallah, neonatol-

ogist at Aga Khan Hospital, Dar es Salaam emphasized the urgent need for universal access to high-quality neonatal care to prevent unnecessary deaths of premature newborns.

He noted that around 500 babies are born prematurely in Tanzania each year, making up the majority of infant deaths within the first month of life.

"As we observe World Prematurity Day 2024, we stand

in solidarity with families in Tanzania and across the globe affected by preterm birth. This day reminds us of the urgent need for equitable access to quality neonatal care regardless of where a baby is born," he said.

"Let us unite in our mission to give every preterm baby a healthier, brighter future," he urged.



**Daniel Malanga (L), Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority's (TCAA) acting Director General, presents a token of appreciation to Mbarouk Hamad, former principal air traffic controller, management officer and Zanzibar's Abeid Amani Karume International Airport manager, in recognition of his services to the Tanzania Air Traffic Controllers Association. This was at the association's general meeting held in Dar es Salaam on Friday. Photo courtesy of TCAA**

## Dr Shoo condemns abductions, killings of innocent Tanzanians

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

CHAIRMAN of Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) and former head of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) Bishop Dr. Fredrick Shoo has condemned abductions and "brutal" killings of innocent Tanzanians, including senior member of the main opposition party Chadema who was recently kidnapped and murdered.

Addressing fellow clerics from Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Singida, Arusha, and Manyara regions during their interfaith meeting here on Friday, Dr Shoo denounced the "brutal acts" and called for investigations into such murders.

"You will all remember that in September this year, Mohamed Ali Kibao, 69, was forcibly removed from a bus by suspected security agents while traveling from Dar es Salaam to his hometown of Tanga. His death has raised concerns among the opposition and human rights groups about the clampdown on political activity. My appeal to my fellow clerics is to denounce such incidents affecting our followers," he said.

The meeting, organized by the Kilimanjaro Regional Interfaith Committee and sponsored by Norwegian Church Aid (NCA-Tanzania), was held under the theme "The Role of Stronger Democratic Institutions in Promoting Human Rights and Fostering People's

Participation".

"The government should take urgent steps to address the deteriorating human rights situation in the country, especially ahead of the upcoming local government elections scheduled for November 27 and next year's General Election," he said.

He emphasized the importance of unity and cooperation among members of the public, stating that it is essential for national development.

Sheikh Saad Abdallah, Chairman of the Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA) in Kilimanjaro Regions, noted that while religious leaders guide their followers to adhere to religious teachings, they should also encourage them to work towards sustainable economic development of the nation.

"As religious leaders we also have a role in supporting the needy in our communities to ensure their survival," he said. Fr. Charles Kitima, Secretary of the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC), explained that the happiness index is a better indicator of people's welfare than socioeconomic index.

"We cannot separate the happiness index from socioeconomic index as they are intertwined. As religious leaders we should emphasize to our people the importance of hard work to achieve their goals rather than resorting to theft and leaving victims in extreme poverty," he said.

## Chadema stresses need to vote for capable candidates

By Correspondent Nebart Msokwa, Mbeya

THE main opposition Chadema has called on residents of Mbeya Region to vote for competent candidates in the upcoming local government elections.

The party emphasized that local government offices play a critical role in addressing people's day-to-day challenges.

Freeman Mbowe, Chadema National Chairman, made the call here at the weekend when speaking at a campaign launch rally, highlighting that the importance of local government offices, referring to them

as the 'State House' at grassroots level.

He urged residents to vote for Chadema candidates, claiming they are better positioned to address people's grievances, noting that Mbeya is among the five regions where the party has fielded the highest number of candidates.

"If residents elect Chadema candidates, it will mark the beginning of reclaiming council seats, parliamentary representation and even securing a Chadema presidency in next year's General Election," he said. He also stated that the party aims to reclaim all the cities it governed before the

2020 General Election where it had strongholds through MPs and councillors.

"Our party has faced tough times over the past seven years. Your leaders have endured arrests, imprisonments, confiscation of properties and injuries. Yet, we have persevered. We thank the people of Mbeya for standing by us; please continue supporting us," he said.

He also recalled that the 2015 elections were Chadema's most successful, with the party leading multiple cities and securing over 80 parliamentary seats.

However, he criticized subsequent elec-

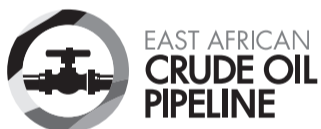
tions, claiming they lacked democracy, with Chadema and other opposition parties being marginalized. Despite the "suppression", he asserted that Chadema and ACT-Wazalendo have remained resilient, with the latter having a stronghold in Zanzibar.

Joseph Mbilinyi, former Mbeya Urban MP and current Chadema Nyasa Zone Chairman, said that many areas in the country grapple with underdevelopment due to unqualified local government leaders. He accused some leaders of mismanaging development funds and even mis-

appropriating condolence contributions meant for bereaved families.

"This is the right time to remove such leaders. Elect candidates who have been thoroughly prepared for the roles," Mbilinyi said. He urged election officials to ensure fair treatment of all candidates to prevent disputes that have historically marred elections.

Local government elections are slated for November 27 when Tanzanians will elect village and hamlet chairpersons in rural areas and mtaa chairpersons in urban areas.



EAST AFRICAN  
CRUDE OIL  
PIPELINE

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: ENGINEERING, PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMISSIONING OF A 3MWp GROUND MOUNTED ON SINGLE AXIS TRACKER PHOTOVOLTAIC FARM FOR EACOP'S MARINE TERMINAL SELF-CONSUMPTION. REFERENCE NO. REQ-0000669

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable companies or organizations to express their interest in undertaking the Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Commissioning of a 3MWp Ground Mounted on single axis tracker Photovoltaic Farm for EACOP's Marine Terminal self-consumption in Tanga.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from Lake Albert area in Uganda to eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula in Tanga, Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 296km will be in Uganda and 1,147 km in Tanzania. In Tanzania the pipeline will traverse eight (8) regions comprising of Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Manyara and Tanga, 27 administrative District Councils, and 231 Villages.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK:

##### 1. Engineering Procurement, Construction and Commissioning Scope:

- Project Management:** Overall services to meet the terms of the agreement and complete the works, including but not limited to: - Project Management, - Quality Management, - Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Management.
- Engineering and Documentation:** The design and engineering work shall include among others, the following documents as required to construct and maintain the full Project: - Engineering and Design - Procurement and Construction Documents - Certificates - Factory Acceptance Tests Documentation - Mechanical Completion Documentation - Commissioning and Testing Documentation.
- Procurement: the supply of all equipment new, complete, free, and clear from liens and encumbrances:** - PV Modules - Modules Mounting Structure - Trackers - Fences and Gates - Meteorological Stations - Electrical - Monitoring and Control System - Spare Parts.
- Construction and Installation, it includes all resources, tools, equipment, and workmanship in order to perform the correct construction, installation and testing of the Project:** signalization, security, lighting, first aid facility - Civil Works - Mechanical Works - Electrical Works - Commissioning and Testing - Interconnection Works Interface - Equipment loading, transportation, unloading, on-site storage - Labor - Cleaning and Waste Management - Maintenance before Provisional Acceptance.

##### 2. Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Scope:

Standard O&M service: for the first two years after commissioning, with Company's right for termination after the end of the second year. - Optional O&M service: Initial term of 20 years with possibility to terminate for convenience in year 2, 5, 10 or 15.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

##### Companies or Organizations expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Brief description of experience, expertise, and capacity to deliver the required scope of services.
- Details of similar projects (>3MWp) or activities undertaken which provide evidence of qualified and available team, knowledge of pipeline regions, and track record of the above listed experience.
- Certificate of Incorporation and recent BRELA search (Attach copy).
- Proof of Registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database or an approved application at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Business License.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the past three years.
- Evidence of QHSE Management system, organization, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works (ISO 9001 certificate, ISO 14001 certificate, OHSAS 18001).
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.
- Where appropriate proof of registration with professional bodies eg Engineers Registration Board or Contractors Registration Board.

Companies or organizations which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending an Expression of Interest (EOI) via email, together with the above listed documents through an email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com) (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00 hours** East African Time (EAT), on **21st December 2024** Email subject shall be: **REQ-0000669 Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Commissioning of a 3MWp Ground Mounted on single axis tracker Photovoltaic Farm for EACOP's Marine Terminal self-consumption.** Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. **All Expression of Interests should be submitted in the English Language**

**Note:** EACOP LTD will review and assess the documents provided by companies or organizations that have expressed interest in accordance with this EOI and conduct evaluations based on internal criteria to determine which companies or organizations will be included in the Prequalification process. Only the companies or organizations which have been selected following the EOI process will receive, by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to respond to a Prequalification questionnaire. EACOP LTD will review and assess the documents provided by companies or organizations who have been invited in the Prequalification process and conduct evaluations based on internal criteria to determine which companies or organizations will be included in the invitation to tender process. Only the pre-qualified companies or organizations will receive, by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to tender.



EAST AFRICAN  
CRUDE OIL  
PIPELINE

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF TEMPORARY GENERATORS/LOAD BANKS AND ANCILLARIES. REFERENCE NO. REQ-0000648

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable companies to express their interest in the Provision of Temporary Generators, Load Banks and related Ancillaries for the commissioning activities of East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from Lake Albert area in Uganda to eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula in Tanga, Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 296 km will be in Uganda and 1,147 km in Tanzania. In Tanzania the pipeline will traverse eight (8) regions comprising of Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Manyara and Tanga, 27 administrative District Councils, and 231 villages.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

EACOP Ltd as part of its construction activities across its constructions sites within the eight regions crossed by the EACOP Pipeline in Tanzania, seeks a reputable company or organizations with capabilities and capacity to provide temporary generators/load banks and ancillaries for a period of up to 22 months. The requirement for the equipment and services shall include, but not limited to:

- Provision of 14 temporary power generators sized between 75kVA and 1.5MVA including distribution boards, cables, accessories.
- Provision of approximately 5 DC Load Banks sized for UPS rating between 10 kVA and 150 kVA.
- The selected service provider will be responsible for the mobilisation, installation and demobilization of temporary power generators, load banks, cabling, distribution boards and related ancillaries.
- The selected service provider will be responsible for the temporary power generators service & maintenance.
- The temporary equipment will be required at various locations in Tanzania along the pipeline to suit the sequencing of the commissioning activities.
- All supplied equipment will be subject to certification and conformity checks in accordance with national and project standards.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

##### Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Brief description of experience, expertise, and capacity to deliver the required scope of services.
- Details of similar projects or activities undertaken which provide evidence of qualified and available team, knowledge of pipeline regions, and track record of the above listed experience.
- Business License.
- Certificate of Incorporation and recent BRELA official search (attach copy).
- Proof of Registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database or an approved application at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the past three years.
- Evidence of a QHSE Management system, organization, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.

Companies or Organizations which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending an Expression of Interest (EOI) via email, together with the above listed documents through an email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com) (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00 hours** East African Time (EAT), on **27th December 2024** Email subject shall be: **REQ-0000648 Provision of Temporary Generators/Load Banks and Ancillaries (TZ).** EOI responses should be no more than twenty (20) pages long. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.

**Note:** EACOP LTD will review and assess the documents provided by companies that have expressed interest in accordance with this EOI and conduct evaluations based on internal criteria and applicable legislation to determine which companies will be included in the list of pre-qualified companies. Only the pre-qualified companies will receive, by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to bid as a continuation of the call for tender process. EACOP LTD reserves the right at its sole discretion to make the decision to select or reject a company and maintain its decision without having to give reasons to the company concerned.

## COP29 \$300bn climate change finance sparks hope in some, outrage in others

BAKU

UNITED Nations climate talks adopted a deal to inject at least \$300 billion annually in humanity's fight against climate change, aimed at helping poor nations cope with the ravages of global warming in tense negotiations in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The \$300 billion will go to developing countries that need the cash to wean themselves off the coal, oil and gas that cause the globe to overheat, adapt to future warming, and pay for the damage caused by climate change's extreme weather. It's not near the full amount of \$1.3 trillion that developing countries were asking for, but it's three times a deal of \$100 billion a year from 2009 that is expiring. Some delegations said this deal is headed in the right direction, with hopes that more money flows in the future.

It was not quite the agreement

by consensus that the meetings usually operate with and developing nations were livid about being ignored.

COP29 President Mukhtar Babayev gavelled the deal into acceptance before any nation had a chance to speak.

When they did, they blasted him for being unfair to them, the deal for not being enough, and the world's rich nations for being too stingy.

"It's a paltry sum," India negotiator Chandni Raina said, repeatedly saying how India objected to rousing cheers. "I'm sorry to say we cannot accept it."

She said that she had lost faith in the United Nations system.

A long line of nations agreed with India and piled on, with Nigeria's Nkiruka Maduekwé, CEO of the National Council on Climate Change, calling the deal an insult and a joke.



Salum Mwalimu, opposition Chadema's Deputy Secretary General (Zanzibar), addresses a campaign rally at Kagongwa in Kahama municipality yesterday ahead of this Wednesday's countrywide local government elections. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

## Utilise ICT tools to remain competitive, CCM advised

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

DEPUTY Secretary General of CCM (Zanzibar) Dr. Mohamed Said Dimwa has urged party leaders and organization responsible for publicity, ideology and training to adapt to the evolving landscape of science, information and communication technology to remain competitive in the country's political arena.

Dr. Dimwa made the call here at the weekend when inaugurating a training session for the party's secretaries in charge of politics, publicity, ideology, motivation, youth

affairs, education and social welfare at constituency, district, and regional levels from four regions of Unguja.

Dr. Dimwa said that the leaders have a significant responsibility within CCM, including explaining policies and guidelines, mobilizing support, publicizing implementation of the party's manifesto, training members and addressing propaganda from opposition parties aimed at discrediting the achievements of the CCM government.

He emphasized that modern politics is predominantly conducted on social media, which spreads

information faster than traditional political platforms.

Leaders, he said, must keep pace with the changes to inspire citizens to believe that CCM is committed to sustainable development.

Dr. Dimwa urged the leaders to maintain the culture of countering opposition claims and clarifying implementation of the party's manifesto at constituency, district and regional levels rather than leaving the tasks solely to national leadership.

"My advice to you is to perform your duties effectively. Respond to issues with facts, not insults or

baseless rhetoric. Our party operates with practical solutions in every area. Publicize the implementation of CCM's 2020-2025 Manifesto in your respective areas so that citizens and CCM members—our political capital—understand and can vote for our candidates in the 2025 General Election," he said.

He emphasized the importance of encouraging citizens to participate in the ongoing second phase of voter register update to ensure eligible voters are registered to support CCM candidates, cautioning leaders to avoid involvement in internal factions driven by personal

interests as such behaviour creates unnecessary conflicts within the party.

Khamis Mbeto Khamis, Secretary for Ideology, Publicity and Training for (Zanzibar) stated that the purpose of the training was to enhance capacity of the secretaries to perform their roles effectively as part of preparations for the 2025 General Election.

"We test our machinery by training our political cadre because in October 2025, we will engage in a democratic battle. Based on our evaluations, including the significant implementation of the mani-

festo under the leadership of Zanzibar President Dr. Hussein Mwinyi, we are confident of victory," he said.

He advised leaders to avoid incitement that could lead to unrest but instead use available resources to foster development, focusing on competitive policies rather than inflammatory rhetoric that adds no value.

The training session covered four key topics: relations with the media, the importance of using social media, responsibilities and ethics of the party and community leaders (including voter registration preparation) and organizing meetings.

## RC commends PCCB's anti-corruption dialogues as crucial for good conduct

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

DODOMA Regional Commissioner Rosemary Senyamule has underscored the importance of dialogues conducted by the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to stimulate ethical conduct among youth.

Senyamule said this here yesterday when speaking during a forum for university and college students organized under supervision of PCCB in collaboration with Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) and the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG).

She emphasized the need to expand the initiative across all districts in the region, noting: "I highly commend PCCB in Dodoma for conducting the dialogues as they have proven effective for the society, particularly the youth."

She stressed that when young people understand the dangers of giving or receiving corruption, they can become effective ambassadors in educating the broader society on combating corruption.

Senyamule called on PCCB to continue expanding the scope of the dialogues which aim to educate the public about eradicating corruption.

Victor Swella, Head of PCCB in Dodoma Region, said that the forums were organized to bring the society closer to the bureau and enhance collaboration in the fight against corruption.

He explained that one of the topics discussed was how lack of patriotism contributes to low voter participation. The discussions, he said, help equip students with awareness on the topic.

"We are grateful to the institutions that participated in the dialogue and the six higher learning institutions that brought their students to take part," Swella said. He added that the dialogues would continue, preparing students to become effective ambassadors in the fight against corruption in the future.

Francisco Magoha, chairperson of the dialogue in Dodoma Municipality, noted that the programme began with primary and secondary schools before extending to universities and colleges.

He emphasized that the dialogues have been highly impactful, targeting groups with education on corruption and drug abuse.



Dar es Salaam Port acting director, Abed Gallus Abed (4th-R) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting personal protection equipment to the Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), Umyy Nderiananga, for use in emergencies. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Kilimanjaro Film Festival 2025 to present Tanzanian films to international audiences

By Guardian Reporter

THE first ever Kilimanjaro Film Festival (KFF) to be held next year at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro is designed to promote Tanzanian films to international audiences, an official has said.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, Vicensia Shule, KFF Director, said the festival set to run from July 2 to 6, 2025 will feature film screenings, music, dance, arts, culinary cuisines and mountain climbing competitions. The festival will merge the art of filmmaking

with the allure of Mount Kilimanjaro, offering participants and visitors a unique cultural experience.

"The festival is part of a larger initiative to connect Tanzania's film and tourism industries," she said.

She observed that Kiliman-

jaro, already a globally recognized tourist destination, provides the perfect platform to promote Tanzanian films to international audiences.

"Film industry is growing and needs systems to accelerate its progress. Kilimanjaro is renowned for tourism; so, we de-

cid to establish a film festival here to help films reach international audiences," she said.

Mount Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa and the highest free-standing mountain in the world at 5,895 m (19,341 ft) above sea level and 4,900 m (16,100 ft) above its pla-

teau base. It is also the highest volcano in the Eastern Hemisphere and the fourth most topographically prominent peak on earth.

Kilimanjaro's southern and eastern slopes served as home of the Chagga kingdoms until their abolition in 1963. Although

described in classical sources, German missionary Johannes Rebmann is credited as the first European to report the mountain's existence in 1848. After several attempts by Europeans, German geographer Hans Meyer reached Kilimanjaro's highest summit in 1889.

# Bodyright campaign : UNFPA gets into business in Botswana

GABORONE

THE United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) launched the bodyright campaign in Botswana Friday as part of this year's 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, which advocates the protection of personal photos online as copyright material.

Tlangelani Shilubane-Pietersen, the head of the Office of the UNFPA in Botswana, addressed delegates at the launch in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, stating that they are aware that gender-based violence (GBV) exists in the virtual world and online abuse violates human rights and bodily autonomy.

She emphasized that bodyright is an evidence-based worldwide campaign with the necessary resources to support its collaborative efforts to achieve meaningful results.

The campaign emphasizes that corporate logos and copyrighted intellectual property are more highly valued and better protected than images of people's bodies online. It also drives the message that women, girls, and others are violated online, calling policymakers,

companies, and individuals to account.

According to the Economist Intelligence Unit, the research and analysis division of the Economist Group, 85 percent of women with internet access have witnessed online violence against other women, with 38 percent directly experiencing it.

Furthermore, 92 percent of women report that online violence hurts their sense of well-being, and more than one-third have had mental health concerns as a result of online abuse.

To put a stop to the violation, Shilubane emphasized the need to invest more resources and generate more political will to eliminate such violence in all forms.

"As UNFPA, we are mobilizing partners, resources, and programming with the goal of making all spaces safe for women and girls, everywhere," she added.

The launch of the bodyright campaign in Botswana is expected to deepen collaboration with various partners, including the media, government, civil society, private sector, and communities, to amplify the power of actions to end online violence.



Yohana Malecela, project manager with an agency known as Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania, pictured yesterday addressing residents of Kandasikira Village in Simanjiro District mainly on how education and sensitisation efforts on ecological farming techniques, proper pasture management and maternal and child nutrition have benefited over 10,000 people from ten villages. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

# Mpox outbreak 'contained' as no new spread reports

BRAZZAVILLE

AS of 17 November 2024, just over 13,000 laboratory-confirmed mpox cases were reported across Africa with three countries—Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Uganda—accounting for nearly 97 percent of the cases.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has been instrumental in supporting African nations with outbreak control measures, including health worker training, delivery of medical supplies, and vaccine deployment plans. WHO's efforts have helped contain

outbreaks, especially in countries with sporadic cases. In Ghana, for example, after its first mpox case was reported in October 2024, prompt public awareness campaigns, risk communication, and rapid contact tracing helped prevent further spread.

WHO collaborated with the Ghana Health Service to ensure that the public, including immigration and police officials, were trained to recognize symptoms and prevent new cases from being imported.

"Without informed populations, there is a risk that infected individuals may unknowingly spread the virus," said Dr. Frank Lule,

Acting WHO Representative in Ghana.

Thanks to early intervention, Ghana has only reported two cases in 2024.

In Gabon, the country successfully contained its first mpox case in August 2024 through rigorous contact tracing and isolation protocols.

A 30-year-old man who travelled from Uganda was quickly identified, isolated, and fully recovered without further transmission. "Surveillance teams stayed in close contact with me, which helped me feel supported," said Axel Mouketou, one of the contacts monitored.

Similarly, in Guinea, after a child tested positive for mpox in September 2024, the national health authorities, with support from WHO, quickly published a response plan and conducted extensive contact tracing, ensuring no further transmission occurred.

Other countries such as Cameroon, Congo, Angola, Mauritius, Morocco, Zambia, and Zimbabwe have also successfully contained isolated cases, thanks to WHO's timely support and training in outbreak response.

However, 14 countries, including DRC, Burundi, Uganda, and Nigeria, still face active transmission and require enhanced surveil-

lance. WHO stresses the need for continued vigilance, especially given high levels of mobility and the emergence of more infectious sub variants. Dr Samuel Boland, Mpox Incident Manager at the WHO Regional Office for Africa, emphasized the importance of rapid detection and response. "The countries demonstrate the value of swift action in preventing larger outbreaks," he said.

Mpox remains a concern in Africa, but ongoing support from WHO and the swift response from affected nations have helped keep the outbreak under control in many regions.



## Expression of Interest (Eoi)

### The supply of Laptops and Tablets (IT Equipment) to GIZ Tanzania and EAC

GIZ is a federally owned enterprise operating globally, assisting the German Government in achieving its policy objectives in international cooperation. We provide demand-driven, tailor-made, and effective services for sustainable development worldwide. In Tanzania and the surrounding region, GIZ supports the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the East African Community (EAC) in reaching their development goals.

GIZ is inviting qualified suppliers to submit their Eoi to this supply with following required documents.

#### Supply of Laptops and Tablets (IT Equipment)

The prospective supplier is responsible for the supply of Laptops and Tablets (IT Equipment) as per the demand received from GIZ projects offices in Tanzania. The purchase orders may be combined, or even for a single unit as and when a requirement arises for any category of items, under the prospective framework agreement.

#### Plan Framework Agreement Period

The framework agreement provision shall commence as soon as possible latest by February 2025. The agreement will be concluded for an initial one (1) year with the option to extend the agreement for a further one (1) year.

#### Possible Ordering Process via Framework Agreement

GIZ will issue a purchase order indicating the items needed and their respective quantities. The format of the purchase order will be agreed upon after the procedure has been finalized. Once a purchase order is issued, it is the responsibility of the supplier to deliver the respective items after accepting the confirmed purchase order within up to 5 working days. It shall be the responsibility of the successful supplier to deliver the items to any of the office locations throughout Dar es Salaam and Arusha. However, GIZ's offices in Dar es Salaam will remain the major delivery points as indicated in each order.

#### Required documents

- Participating suppliers must provide the following documents:
- 2 Letters of Reference as proof of 3 years of experience in Tanzania supplying different brand/categories of IT Equipment's to major multinationals / corporates / international organizations. The supplier should prove the capacity to maintain and take care of operational activities for longer duration.
  - A valid registration certificate issued by GOVERNMENT OF TANZANIA,
  - VAT certificate (issued by TRA)
  - Latest tax clearance certificate (issued by TRA).

#### Submission of Eoi

Please submit electronically your Eoi (a list available Laptops and Tablets in PDF and Microsoft Excel File) with the required documents and it should be sent to this email ONLY: [tz\\_procurement@giz.de](mailto:tz_procurement@giz.de) latest by the 10.12.2024

After careful review of the documents, the shortlisted suppliers list will be created, and they are contacted for Framework agreement process.

Please note that you must write on each email subject this sentence: **Laptops and Tablets (IT Equipment)** without this sentence your **Eoi may not be considered.**

"GIZ Reserves All rights"



## SUPPLIER PREQUALIFICATION NOTICE 2025-2027

UAP Tanzania invites interested, qualified, technically competent, and eligible vendors to submit their interest for the prequalification to be included in UAP Tanzania database for supply of goods and provision of services for years 2025-2027 for the following categories.

#	CATEGORY DESCRIPTION
<b>SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF GOODS</b>	
1	Supply of Staff Identification Cards
2	Supply of General and Assorted Office Stationery
3	Supply of Motor vehicle Fuel
4	Supply of Computer Equipment & Major Accessories
5	Supply of Minor Computer Accessories
6	Supply of Marketing and Promotional Materials
7	Supply of Office Furniture's, Equipment's and Fittings
8	Supply of Toners and Cartridges
9	Supply of Staff Uniforms (Custom-Made T-shirts, Shirts, etc) and Office Suites
10	Supply of Motor Vehicles
11	Supply of Drinking Water
<b>PROVISION OF SERVICES</b>	
12	Provision of Repair and Maintenance of Motor Vehicles
13	Provision of Motorvehicle Assessment Services
14	Provision of Outdoor Advertising Services (Billboards, Banners and Signage Works)
15	Provision of Photography and Videography Services
16	Provision of Loss Adjusters Services
17	Provision of Towing Services
18	Provision of Auctioneering Services
19	Provision of Scrap Materials Disposal Services
20	Provision of Forensic Investigator Services
21	Provision of General Claim Investigator Services
22	Provision of Windscreen Fitters' Services
23	Provision of Risk Survey Services
24	Provision of Valuation Services
25	Provision of Local Courier Services
26	Provision of Debt Recovery Services
27	Provision of Air Travel and Ticketing Agency Services
28	Provision of Legal Services
29	Provision of Internet Services
30	Provision of Office Cleaning Services
31	Provision of Staff Recruitment Services
32	Provision of Car Hire Services
33	Provision of ICT Consultancy Services

#	CATEGORY DESCRIPTION
34	Provision of Graphic Design Services
35	Provision of Fumigation Services
36	Provision of Office Interior Design Services
37	Provision of Marketing Consultancy Services
38	Provision of Catering Services
39	Provision of Corporate Events Decor, Planning and Management
40	Provision of Website Creation and Maintenance Services
41	Provision of Real Estate Services
42	Provision of Computer Licenses and Software
43	Provision of Data Center Support Services
44	Provision of IT Security Services
45	Provision of Network Services
46	Provision of Computer Equipment Maintenance Services

The supplier prequalification exercise will be conducted online via:



TenderSure™ platform is secure, transparent and provides an efficient prequalification process. Interested suppliers may access and register on [www.tendersure.africa](http://www.tendersure.africa) under the "Available Jobs" tab. Access to the prequalification will be granted upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **TZS 70,000** per category. All payments will be made via an online payment platform during the application process. Available payment methods include Tigo, Vodacom, Airtel, Visa Card, and MasterCard amongst others. The online supplier prequalification exercise closes on **17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 10pm EAT.**

In case of any inquiry kindly contact us at [help@tendersure.africa](mailto:help@tendersure.africa) or our WhatsApp number +255 741914924.

**All existing suppliers are required to participate alongside prospective suppliers to be evaluated and considered.**

**All participants who duly complete the prequalification process online will be notified of the outcome.**

*Prequalification is not a guarantee for business opportunity, bidders will be invited to submit their quotations on need basis based on the opportunities available. UAP Tanzania reserves the right to accept or reject any bid in whole or in part at its discretion.*

# The Guardian

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MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2024

**Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

## We will never have enough of calls to arms on state of education sector

A former prime minister once spent the better part of his three-hour meeting with the editorial heads of Tanzanian media giving the government's stand on a number of recent developments in the country's education sector.

The most salient of the developments he addressed included the plight of teachers, state loans for students in universities and other institutions of higher learning and intermittent crises in schools, colleges and universities.

Part of the thrust of his remarks was on the visibly unpleasant developments at the National Examinations Council (Necta), notably stubborn cases of exam leakages and faulty marking and grading.

Considering the invaluable role education is expected - and supposed - to play in human civilisation and development, it was not by accident that the PM spoke as elaborately and passionately on those issues as he did.

It was not for nothing that former US president JFK once said he saw education as the means of developing people's greatest abilities, "because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation".

It was as understandable when distinguished Tanzanian diplomat Dr Salim Ahmed Salim once wondered aloud whether there were many enough people in our country aware that "teachers are more powerful than politicians because of the power they have of shaping minds".

Dr Salim wondered whether communities - parents, leaders, politicians, etc. - accorded teachers the status they deserve, including ensuring that they were paid on time and were operating from decent work-

places, residential environments, etc. It was obviously a rhetorical question - as he knew full well that things were bad.

To his credit, the former PM referred to above did not set out to defend the government or particular institutions like his own office, district and urban councils, the Treasury or the Education ministry in connection with the challenges that have been the lot of many teachers in the country for long.

Rather, he admitted that the situation was far from tolerable and went on to declare that his office would do the most it could to clean up the mess so that teachers and other public servants could lead lives as decent and peaceful as the country's resources could truly make possible.

He also chose to stare in the face the other cruel factors making things rough and tough in institutions of learning, all the way from primary school to university.

It was obvious from the tenor and content of his remarks that the government had decided to use a combination of diplomacy and stringent disciplinary and other measures to reach an amicable solution to each of the challenges experienced.

A keen reading of his observations showed that the government was seriously intent on making in-depth analyses of all issues in question, and then resolutely move following a carefully studied path.

Going by what was being witnessed, the government had learned crucial vital lessons from the many wars and battles where patience and strategic planning had led to victory - and was this a battle cry meant to fire the nation into further action.

The war is far from over and, accordingly, the struggle must continue - on all fronts, not only as relates to education.

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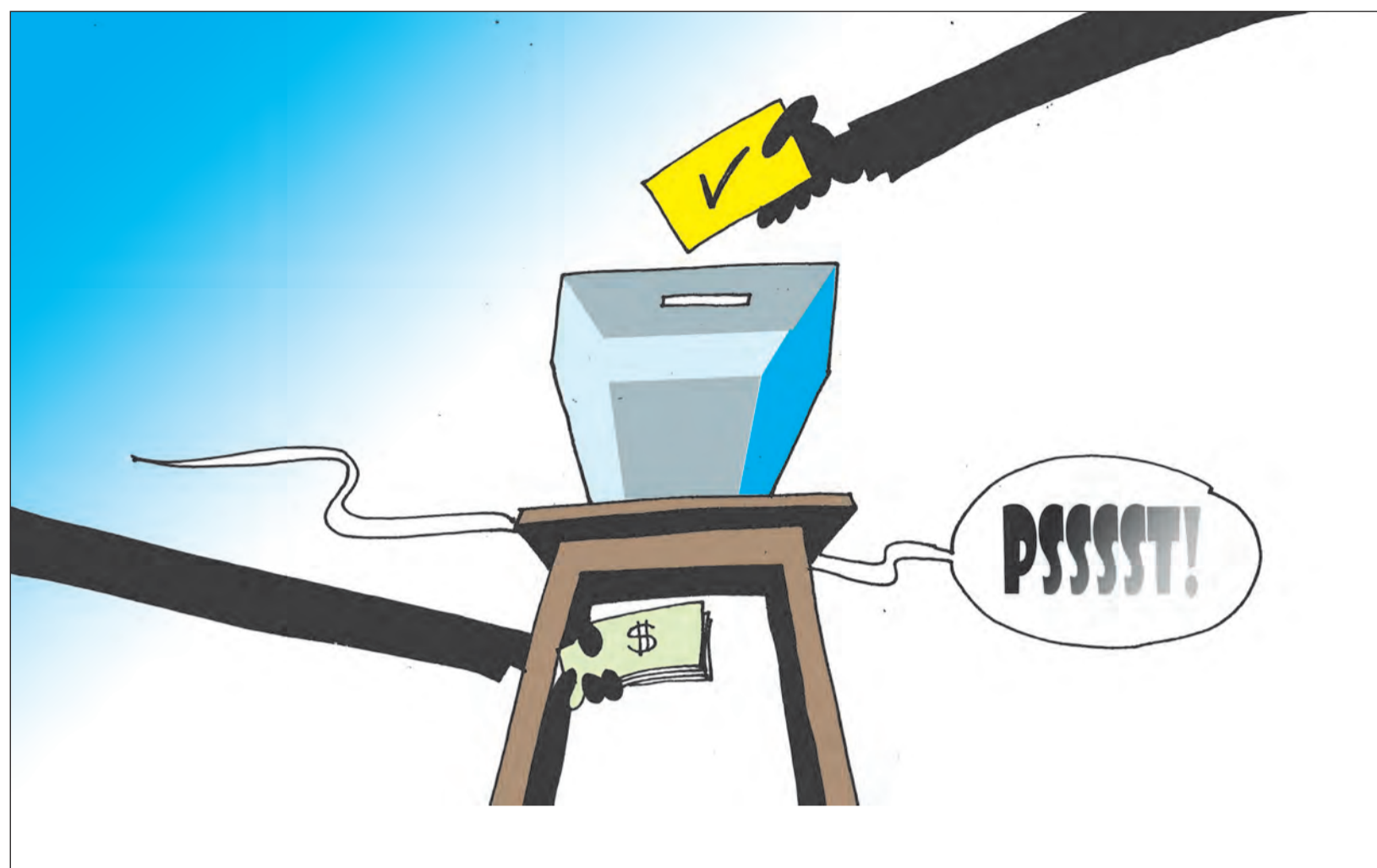
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## Insights from negotiator into how COPs move needle toward healthier, more liveable planet

By Joyce Chimbi

EVERY year, the Conference of the Parties creates a global milestone for the climate movement, setting new standards and advancing action towards a net-zero planet to sustain all life on earth. COPs provide a platform for the global community to agree on what it would take to restore planet Earth and the contributions that all signatories to the Paris Agreement should make.

The negotiations are often tense, long, and winding and, more often than not, laden with divergent views on how to build back better. As climate change takes away lives and livelihoods, leaving behind substantial loss and damage, IPS spoke to Malang Sambou Manneh, who is representing The Gambia as lead negotiator for the mitigation work program as well as the nationally determined contributions at COP29 Baku.

Sambou has seen it all, having participated at the COPs since the landmark Paris Conference and a negotiator in COP27 Sharm El-Sheikh that set the rolling for the Loss and Damage Fund, COP28 UAE, where the Just Transition from Fossil Fuel deal was struck and COP29 Baku now dubbed the Climate Finance COP.

He says ongoing negotiations started with the sixtieth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SB60) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in June 2024 and that the outcome shaped the agenda for COP29. But even then, the signs were there that the road ahead would not be easy.

"During SB60 in Bonn, we tried to ensure that the mitigation work program is adapted, but unfortunately, we did not reach any agreement, which means we ended up with Rule 16 - no consensus. But COP29 was to be a lifeline for the mitigation agenda. Still, negotiations on mitigation have not been progressive or desirable."

Stressing that while it costs resources and time to participate at any COP, it is disappointing to see some parties quickly move to Rule 16 or no consensus on critical issues such as mitigation and fossil fuels and that they were not prepared to talk. The African Group of negotiators has nonetheless remained firm and unified around the main agenda, as most of the cities and countries are in danger from climate change. But there are certainly contentious issues around, say, fossil fuels.

On fossil fuels, The Gambia has no sacrifice to make compared to other fossil fuel-rich countries in Africa. Saying, "I can talk in the Gambia's national capacity and say we will move away from fossil fuels, and our energy transition can directly move to renewables. For others, it is a tough



Malang Sambou Manneh, who is representing The Gambia as lead negotiator for the mitigation work programme as well as the nationally determined contributions at COP29 Baku. Credit: Joyce Chimbi/IPS

choice to make. The least developed countries, who are the clear victims of climate change, should be pushing for the transition, and the tripling of renewable energy deployment in Africa is there the most vulnerable."

Sambou works extensively in education, agriculture, health, and renewable energy. Observing, "I came from a little poor family who have migrated to Europe. I did all my studies, built my family studies, and came back to Gambia and then, 10 years ago, developed a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) school for young women who are in technology and installing technology. And now, with the climate promise funded by UNDP, women are becoming independent power producers and building businesses around this."

As a negotiator in climate, the TVET is a highlight of his life's work, enrolling 100 women every year. The school is called Fandema, 'Help Your-

self'. Sambou TVET activities and projects are all built around responsible and sustainable development.

Knowledge gained working with communities has enriched his capacities as a negotiator in climate talks, giving him insights into how communities are interacting with the challenges and barriers caused by climate change towards sustainable climate solutions. But he says arriving at consensus at the COPs is not always easy, despite the magnitude of climate-provoked problems facing the global communities. Already, there have been many issues of contention.

"For instance, on two occasions within my thematic discussions, we had instances where discussions stalled. Remember, these are negotiations of Parties and some have strong positions about many different issues. Very early on, some strong Parties have already stated that they are not interested in making any political

high-level messages or statements, and there are issues they do not want to see within the mitigation work program. It is a tight rope to walk," he observes.

In such cases, it means negotiators proceed in making policy messages, which are not as effective as political high-level statements. Further saying that Africa needs to be in a strategic position to interpret COP29 text contextually as it is the only way that COP decisions can translate into changing lives.

"I am very disappointed to see that coming here from a poor country is a big sacrifice, only to reach here, and the technical people are not interested in talking to each other over these issues. There has to be total consensus, so if one Party backs out of any of these issues, there is no consensus," he says.

Sambou does not like what he has seen thus far at COP29. He feels the talks lacked the push and momentum needed to deliver an ambitious outcome and especially around mitigation. He faults developing countries for their lukewarm approach and even hostile take on mitigation.

While he understands that developing countries in Africa see embracing the mitigation agenda as translating to a total change of their lifestyles and systems, "we are 58 years behind in terms of development, and it would be best to move forward with practices, lifestyles, and systems that align with the climate agenda."

"Mitigation is not a burden for us; it is an action that we must all partake in. For instance, it is about methods of consumption and production that are responsible, sustainable, and in line with the SDGs. We have to be wise enough and say, 'Let us save the planet' because we are not yet contaminated, but we can also control how the things are moving," he observes.

On what a deal of a lifetime would look like, Sambou speaks of the need for "high-level messages of commitment on mitigation from every responsible country represented at COP29. That pledges that are in place are fulfilled. Developed nations are paying the cost of climate change. More renewables and tripling of renewable energy. Climate accountability and transparency and a substantial reduction of emissions, as this will save us all from the little islands and small countries, poor and underdeveloped nations are looking at COPs for a much-needed lifeline."

## Digital business taxation format embedded in registration, levies

THE Institute of Tax Administration has been detailed to conduct targeted research to help the government effectively address challenges the taxing of online and international businesses entail.

This may initially look complicated, but then soon later one discovers it isn't that complicated - as what it all means may be that the government isn't satisfied with what currently obtains.

The pain is lack of a proper shop where the business volume is visible, or electronic receipts to which the revenue authorities would presumably be connected, meaning a much happier system.

A Treasury deputy permanent secretary laid out this task for ITA at the graduation ceremony the institute held at its premises in Dar es Salaam recently.

The official underlined the government's wish to close revenue gaps and combat tax evasion in the evolving digital economy.

Also clarified is what is ordinarily meant by 'digital economy', as it implies that the digital window or aspect of routine economic activity becomes a sphere for massive taxation schemes - or differently, massive evasion. Any commercial activity where one doesn't need to open formal shop premises which can be registered as a company and presumably show returns to the tax authorities, or permit them to assess such businesses, is located in the informal sector.

Whenever informal sector activity comes up, there is a preliminary acceptance that these people are merely eking out a living, doing much of the work at home the way many small traders in the form of vendors do their work by pacing up and down the streets.

One lesson in our recent experience before ITA academics get going on the research journey to taxing online sales relates to what happened when a Treasury brainwave settled on mobile phone cash transactions as an untaxed area.

There were people being taxed for receiving money but not for being paid a salary or selling any goods. As it is ministerial authorities that did all the thinking, there was no debate on whether such practices were justified.

There are significant parallels with efforts by a big number of Western countries to demand large amounts of revenues from big telecommunications firms that are also internet service providers.

For example, some countries have ruled that the search engine Google pay their newspapers for using their contents online, whereas those reading that content don't pay for content but for airtime.

In that case, the countries risked seeing the internet search engine shut business in such atmosphere, clearly a lose-lose situation.

In essence, the problems the government faces in that enhanced taxation mode on internet-driven business isn't much different from tagging vendors with tax bills even in the absence of shop frames for which they could still assess the business.

Internet activity is tied up with purchasing bundles, and the communications regulator must be knowing full well how much has been sold.

Both the seller and the receiver use airtime to communicate and, where they finally use hired transport to deliver the goods, the petrol or diesel is taxed and the driver pays for a licence and definitely has to be insured, etc.



By Guardian Reporter, Liwale

## Empowering communities through sustainable farming: The story of villagers in Liwale District

**A**GROECOLOGY helps rural farmers to enhance their livelihoods while promoting ecological balance and community well-being as it focuses on using natural processes, reducing reliance on industrial produced agricultural inputs like fertilizers and pesticides.

Agroecology preserves biodiversity, which supports long-term soil health and crop productivity. It is a cost effective way of farming as it minimises dependency on costly chemical inputs, thus allowing farmers to reduce expenses and increase profit. It supports small-scale farmers and champions' biodiversity, soil health, and climate resilience.

In Liwale District, Lindi Region where the German Development Agency (GIZ) in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism is implementing the Mitigation of Human-Wildlife Conflict project, farmers in 11 villages that are involved in the project have been trained on how to practice sustainable farming—the activity which is implemented by SWISSAID Tanzania.

The villages are Turuki, Kitogoro, Mtwatawa, Mtwango, Nanjejeja, Chimbuko, Mkutano, Ngumbu, Nahoro, Naluleo and Kimbamba.

Anthony Kawishe, focal person for GIZ and SWISSAID Tanzania projects in the district said the organization has been supporting smallholder farmers in Liwale District to establish vegetable gardens as a way of minimising impacts caused by Human-Wildlife Conflict.

According to Kawishe, extension officers were trained in various agroecological methods, including the use of natural pesticides to control pests and diseases, and producing organic fertilizers such as compost from plant residues and livestock manure. These practices aim to reduce chemical use, safeguard human and environmental health as well as promoting sustainable farming technologies.

Following the training, extension officers returned to the villages and were tasked with a number of activities including formation of farmer's groups. He said a total of 24 farmer groups were established, each consisting of 10 to 15 members.

These groups were trained on agroecological practices and were provided with relevant materials, such as watering cans, pesticide application tools, bio-fertilizer production equipment, and seeds for crops like tomatoes, cabbage, spinach, and green peppers.

### Success stories

Demonstration farms were established to teach agroecological methods to villagers. In Mkutano vil-



A vegetable gardens at Mtwango village in Liwale District, Lindi Region. Photo: Guardian Photographer

lage, a group of farmers has already harvested some crops, being able to save over 100,000/-. Other groups are at different stages of implementation.

Kawishe emphasized that farmers must strictly follow agroecological principles by avoiding the use of industrial fertilizers.

He added that plans are to make sure villagers apply similar farming tech-

nologies for other crops such as sesame and maize, noting SWISSAID Tanzania has shown willingness to support farmers practice agroecology for such crops in the coming framing season.

"The world is increasingly focusing on environmental conservation and protection of human health, thus making agroecology a timely solution," he added.

Mwanahamis Abeid from Mtwango village said that despite its benefits, farmers face challenges such as limited access to raw materials for organic fertilizers.

"Livestock manure is not freely available; it has to be purchased. Some farmers lack relevant equipment to produce pesticides," said Abeid whose group has 10 dedicated

members involving in the cultivation of vegetables.

Faraji Ngunde from the same village highlighted the need for further education on bio-fertilizer production and pest control. He however acknowledged that the use of smelly repellent fence has been effective in deterring elephants, which previously caused significant damage to their vegetable gardens.

### Future plans

Yunufu Luwango, an extension officer in Turuki village commended GIZ for coming up with project. He said training on preparation of smelly repellents as well as how to make fences has greatly helped farmers keep elephants away from their farms.

Deborah Missana, GIZ Technical Advisor, acknowledged the high cost of some raw materials for organic farming, encouraging farmers to focus on yields rather than costs.

Missana said they have been insisting on villagers to embark on community collaborative farming—a formal arrangement where farmers work together to cultivate crops in a community farm. This helps them to improve security as they work together to protect their crops from wild animals.

Community collaborative farming also increases productivity as farmers share resources and knowledge.

"When farmers cultivate their crops in one area it makes it easier to manage resources and enhance farm security," said Missana, adding that through agroecology they are equipping farmers with sustainable farming skills, economic resilience, and long-term environmental conservation, thus leaving a lasting impact on the community.

## Climate crisis escalates as Africa and island nations demand action, walk out in protest

By Adonis Byemelwa

**N**EGOTIATORS from some of the world's most powerful economies held a heated and divisive meeting in the early hours of Saturday 23rd November 2024 as they worked to push through a climate financing deal that could see \$300 billion per year directed toward developing nations.

This funding, aimed at helping these countries mitigate the impacts of climate change and transition to cleaner energy, had been touted as a breakthrough in global climate negotiations. However, despite hours of contentious talks, the proposal failed to break the deadlock at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

At the heart of the impasse were developing countries, particularly island nations, and least-developed countries, which argued that the proposed \$300 billion was far too little to address the scale of the challenges they faced.

These nations, already experiencing the devastating effects of climate change, pushed hard for a more ambitious figure—\$500 billion per year. They demanded this financial commitment to secure their survival and to ensure that the world's wealthiest nations lived up to their responsibility in combating the climate crisis.

"We feel as though we are left with nothing from this COP," said Cedric Schuster, the environment minister for Samoa, representing a bloc of 39 island nations. "Is this how we treat the countries with the moral high ground in the process, who stand to lose the most and have already lost so much?"

On Aljazeera, frustrated and disillusioned, island nations and least-developed countries walked out of the meeting, signaling their deep dissatisfaction with the lack of progress. The walkout left the summit on the verge of collapse, and the chances of reaching a meaningful agreement appeared slim.

As tensions reached a boiling point, European Union Climate Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra acknowledged the gravity of the situation. "It is unclear whether we will succeed," Hoekstra said, underscoring the possibility that the summit could fail to produce a



consensus.

The last COP to end without an agreement was in 2000, and a failure now could push the critical climate financing negotiations into 2025, when the geopolitical landscape may shift dramatically with the potential return of former President Donald Trump to the White House.

For African nations, the stakes were especially high. Vice President Philip Mpango, representing President Samia Suluhu Hassan of Tanzania, voiced his country's deep concerns about the lack of progress on clean energy financing.

"We cannot afford to continue to suffer in the name of development," Mpango said during a live debate on Al Jazeera. His remarks resonated deeply across the continent, as many African nations are already bearing the brunt of climate change's impact, from extreme droughts to devastating floods.

"We need financial support not just for survival but for sustainable development," Mpango continued. "Africa cannot wait any longer for climate finance that addresses its energy needs. This is a matter of survival."

The pressure on wealthier nations to increase their financial commitments has been mounting for years, with developing countries calling for urgent action to help them transition to cleaner energy and adapt to climate impacts.

Nevertheless, the negotiators from wealthier nations—especially the United States, Australia, and key European powers—have been resistant to committing more than \$300 billion annually, a figure that many developing nations see as insufficient.

The new offer of \$300 billion per year by 2035 was a significant concession, increasing from an earlier proposal of \$250 billion. Yet it still fell far short of the \$500 billion target pushed by developing countries.

This updated offer emerged after an overnight meeting that began at 1 a.m. on Saturday and stretched into the early morning hours. The negotiations were described as tense and fraught with disagreements, with "lots of shouting" according to several diplomats familiar with the discussions.

Saudi Arabia's role in the discussions was particularly controversial. The oil-rich kingdom became the focal point of anger, with critics accusing it of obstructing meaningful progress on key issues, particularly the transition away from fossil fuels. Saudi Arabia had agreed in the previous COP in Dubai to a text committing the world to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, but at COP29, it resisted any substantive action toward emissions reductions.

Saudi Arabia's representatives refused to comment on the talks during the summit, but their influence on the negotiations was clear. Their refusal to discuss emissions

reductions blocked progress on transitioning to cleaner energy, frustrating many delegates from developing countries who argued that fossil fuel-dependent nations should bear a heavier burden in financing the transition to green energy.

U.S. climate envoy John Podesta defended the size of the proposed offer, despite its limited scope. "The need is great," Podesta told reporters, defending the position of wealthy nations. "The offer on the table from donor countries is high, and it reflects the urgency we face."

However, developing nations did not share Podesta's optimism. For many, the offer on the table was far from enough. According to a report from the United Nations, the financing needs of developing countries run into the trillions of dollars annually.

While some of this gap could be filled by private capital, public funding from wealthy countries will be crucial in ensuring that developing nations can mitigate the impacts of climate change and build resilience against future disasters.

"The gap between what's needed and what's being offered is still enormous," said Dr. Rhoda Kifumbi, a climate expert from Uganda, in an interview during the summit. "Countries like Uganda are already facing the consequences of climate change, from droughts to food insecurity, and the financing that has been offered so far does not

match the scale of the crisis."

African leaders have long argued that the key to Africa's development lies in the ability to transition to clean energy. Rwanda, which has made significant strides in adopting renewable energy technologies, also voiced concerns about the lack of adequate financing to scale up these efforts.

"We are not asking for charity," said Emmanuel Mukeshimana, a climate expert from Rwanda. "We are asking for what is rightfully ours—equitable contributions to the global effort to address climate change."

For many African nations, COP29 was seen as a crucial opportunity to secure the financing necessary to support their energy transitions. The continent, which has historically been sidelined in global climate negotiations, faces a unique set of challenges. Not only must African nations transition to renewable energy, but they also must adapt to the climate impacts that are already causing widespread hardship.

The lack of a clear financial commitment from wealthy nations at COP29 could have serious consequences for Africa. Without sufficient support, the continent's ability to develop clean energy infrastructure, create green jobs, and build resilience to climate impacts will be severely hindered.

"If we fail to secure a financing agreement now, it will be a major setback for Africa's energy future," warned climate expert Rhoda Kifumbi from Uganda. "The global community has a responsibility to help us, not just because it's the right thing to do, but because our future is intertwined with the future of the planet."

The walkout by small island nations and least-developed countries emphasized their frustration with empty promises. As negotiations neared their end, African delegates expressed that they would prefer no deal over one that didn't address their needs. "This isn't just about money—it's about survival," said Carlos Fuller, Belize's UN representative.

The urgency was clear: island nations and vulnerable countries made it known that they would not accept a deal that left them alone in facing the climate crisis. With the summit's final moments approaching, the world awaited whether negotiators could bridge the gap or let COP29 collapse, risking the future of millions affected by climate change.

By Iván Paredes Tamayo

# Communities band together to save besieged reserve in Bolivia

**T**UCABACA Valley Municipal Wildlife Reserve comprises more than 2,640 square kilometers (1,020 square miles) of semi-arid forest and tropical savannah in the heart of southern Bolivia's Chiquitania region. However, this protected area and surrounding habitat is being lost to industrial agriculture and associated fires and infrastructure development.

The Tucabaca (also referred to as "Tucavaca") reserve was the first of its kind in Bolivia when it was created 24 years ago and is situated in the municipality of Roboré in the department of Santa Cruz, near the border with Brazil. It acts as a refuge for wildlife of the Chiquitano dry forest ecosystem, which connects South America's two largest biomes: the Gran Chaco and the Amazon rainforest.

Tucabaca is also inhabited by several Indigenous communities, who for millennia have protected and relied on its wetlands and rivers, forests and grasslands.

But today, Tucabaca's natural wealth is in danger. Roads and a bridge in the midst of a protected area Eder Santibáñez, coordinator of the Movement in Defense of the Tucabaca Valley, told Mongabay Latam that on June 23, he and a delegation of 10 others carried out an inspection of the Tucabaca Valley and reserve, which yielded discouraging results.

The delegation's first stop was in the area surrounding the Mennonite colony of El Roble. There they were confronted with a scene they described as alarming: piles of felled trees and dry leaves ready for burning. Santibáñez said that part of the plant material had already been burned and that there was a whole field of ashes.

"We are very concerned," Santibáñez told Mongabay Latam. "New threats have emerged, not only in the Tucabaca Valley, but also in the Tucabaca UCPN reserve, which is a very sensitive area that should be protected. We received images [in June 2024] that show that the Mennonites have made inroads into the protected area. We are talking about a stretch 800 metres long and eight metres wide. All this suggests that they want to take water from the Tucabaca River to irrigate their crops inside the protected area."

The delegation also found a bridge over the Tucabaca River made of wood, metal and concrete. Santibáñez could not find a sign or plaque indicating that it was a municipal, departmental or national project, but said he believed it was built by Mennonites.

"We realized it wasn't a project of the municipality or the [Santa Cruz] government," said Julio Zeber, also a member of the Movement in Defense of the Tucabaca Valley. "The structure has been there a year and a half and was built by the Mennonites. Does it have an environmental permit? Was an environmental impact assessment carried out, considering the size of the structure and its location inside a protected area?"

Santa Cruz government officials visited the area following the delegation's inspection and verified it was not constructed with government approval. They elaborated that the project did not acquire an environmental permit nor carry out an environmental impact assessment (EIA), both mandatory requirements in Bolivia for large structures.

Zeber said the flow of the Tucabaca River had been greatly reduced, which he blamed on diversion for irrigation of Mennonite sorghum and soy plantations. A team from the Santa Cruz Environmental Quality Service (SDCAM) confirmed that the bridge had also contributed to contamination and reduced flow of the Tucabaca River. They said local residents told them that Mennonite colonists were responsible for its construction.

Latam contacted Mennonite colonies in the area for comment, but received no response.

## Mining and 'ghost communities'

In addition to infrastructure development, deforestation and water exploitation, Tucabaca is facing another threat: gold mining.

During a visit on June 23, the delegation of the Movement in Defense of the Tucabaca Valley found evidence of mining activity inside the protected area.

"We could see mining was being carried out seven kilometres from the community of Aguas Calientes,



The ashes of trees felled and burned in the Tucabaca protected area. Image courtesy of the Movement in Defense of the Tucabaca Valley.

inside the [Tucabaca] protected area," Santibáñez told Mongabay Latam. "There have been reports of miners coming into the area since 2023."

The team from the Santa Cruz government also acknowledged the mining activity and said that the case would be referred to the relevant authority.

Mauro Mendoza, a resident of Santiago de Chiquitos, a municipality near Tucabaca Valley, was among the delegation. He said he was beside himself when he saw the deforestation that had taken place inside the protected area.

"We did the inspection and saw extensive felling of trees in the valley, but also inside the protected area," Mendoza said. "[In June, we were] experiencing a water crisis as a result of the deforestation being carried out by the Mennonites and ranch owners."

An area cleared inside the Tucabaca reserve. Image captured June 23, courtesy of the Movement in Defense of the Tucabaca Valley.

María René Barrancos, an SDCAM technician, said that during their visit the team observed the clearing of primary forest with high-conservation-value tree species on five properties. Barrancos said that the Forest and Land Authority would be informed so it could take the necessary action.

Rubén Darío Arias Ortiz, a member of the National Coordinating Committee for the Defense of Indigenous Peasant Territories and Protected Areas also expressed concern about the reserve.

Arias Ortiz, who lives in the municipality of Roboré, said that land grabs have been taking place in Tucabaca Valley for a decade and are now encroaching on the protected area.

"These men came, divided up the forest and left. They fenced the area with barbed wire, posts and railings," Arias Ortiz told Mongabay Latam. "They're people with money. They did this in the buffer zone of the protected area. What I'm afraid of is that they'll go into the reserve to extract timber; there have already been complaints [from community members] about land grabs inside the protected area."

Arias Ortiz added that "ghost communities" created in the Tucabaca Valley have now moved into the buffer zone of the protected area. He said two communities in particular are about to expand into the reserve: Túpac Amaru and 26 de Julio.

Ghost communities are communities that enter protected areas or state land to carry out illegal logging and agricultural activities.

## Ambiguous legality

The issue is complicated by the fact that encroachment of agricultural communities into the Tucabaca protected area may not be outright illegal, according to Iván Quezada, assembly member of the Department of Santa Cruz.

"The biggest problem is that there are authorizations for settlements inside the protected area [awarded by the National Institute for Agrarian Reform] amounting

to 7,000 hectares," Quezada said. "They haven't yet entered because there aren't any roads, but the door is open for them to enter legally."

Before becoming a departmental assembly member, Quezada was the mayor of the municipality of Roboré and fought against such encroachment while in office. One of these battles was in October 2018, when a group consisting of 33 families deforested 55 hectares of land, under the pretext that they had the support of INRA and the Forest and Land Authority to consolidate their community, which they called Túpac Amaru.

Quezada, together with other members of the Roboré Management Committee, managed to stop this community from going in and causing more deforestation. Despite these efforts, he said that Túpac Amaru is now encroaching into the reserve.

One of the few trees left standing in a cleared portion of the Tucabaca reserve. Image courtesy of the Movement in Defense of the Tucabaca Valley.

Pablo Sauto, Secretary of Sustainable Development and Environment of the Government of Santa Cruz, said that during an inspection carried out in the area in January 2024, community members told them they had INRA authorization to settle in the buffer zone. He showed Mongabay Latam four certificates awarded by INRA to four people, including three siblings, who were granted 8,000 hectares. In total, according to the government of Santa Cruz, INRA awarded a total of

15,000 hectares.

INRA, however, denied authorizing settlement permits both in the Tucabaca Valley and the municipal reserve itself. In an official statement, INRA urged Sauto to "avoid deflecting attention onto internal conflicts of the government of Santa Cruz, such as the temporary substitution of the governor, and focus instead on the issue of land."

Quezada said land trafficking is also taking place. He said there is a community called Tamarindos that was granted 17,000 hectares, but not a single person lives there. Quezada said that while visiting the area he found a man clearing plots and digging wells, who told him he had acquired the plots from other community members.

Quezada also said he is concerned about another ghost community called Morales, which appropriated 3,000 hectares, 500 of which are located inside the Tucabaca protected area.

"These land grabs can't be allowed," he said. "As long as INRA's resolutions still stand, we're going to fight them. We'll take action, legal measures in the departmental assembly."

A delegation from the Movement in Defense of the Tucabaca Valley arrived in the area on June 23 of this year and witnessed the destruction taking place in the Tucabaca protected area. Image courtesy of the Movement in Defense of the Tucabaca Valley.

Becker Barba Frías is a Tucabaca park ranger and said ghost communities can enter the protected area at any time and illegally extract timber. He also expressed concern about the illegal burning of nearby vegetation to prepare land for agriculture, which causes forest fires that impact the reserve. Satellite data from the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) analyzed by monitoring platform Global Forest Watch show fire activity in Tucabaca has been "unusually high" in 2024. Many of the fire alerts in the reserve appear to coincide with burning in nearby cropland, indicating they may have spread from fires set to clear land for agriculture.

Zoila Zevallos, former head of the community-based organization Tucabaca Defense Committee, said the reserve was created at the request of local residents a quarter-century ago and is now defended by those same residents.

"We've joined with other institutions seeking to defend the Tucabaca Valley, but we have no other support," Zevallos said. "We don't want mining to destroy our protected area, we don't want the Mennonites to destroy our protected area, we don't want land grabbers to destroy our protected area. We asked for the reserve and we're defending it ourselves."

# 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

## Beyond land tenure, youth land rights nurtures socio-economic development

By Correspondent Khadija Mrisho

**A**FRICA is the youngest continent in the world, with a median age of around 20. This rising generation of youth presents an enormous opportunity for socio-economic development. But for Africa's young people to unlock their full potential, they need full enjoyment of land rights - a cornerstone for economic opportunity and social empowerment.

Unfortunately, laws and customary practices related to land still pose barriers for most youth. Customary laws and traditional leadership often exclude young people from accessing land or participating in land governance, and statutory laws and policies often lack youth-specific provisions that would guarantee land rights.

In Tanzania, for example, the National Land Policy and subsequent land laws lack specific provisions on youth land rights and quotas for youth representation on land governance and decision-making processes. Inheritance laws uphold customary norms that discriminate against the inheritance rights of daughters - placing them in the 3rd tier of heirs. Young widows lack inheritance rights altogether.

In Liberia, on the other hand, the Land Rights Act, of 2018, seeks to ensure equal access and protection with respect to land ownership, use, and management, including ensuring customary land protection and equal youth representation in land management committees. Land ownership is accorded to all Liberian citizens regardless

of their identity, custom, ethnicity, tribe, gender, or age, among others. Yet, youth face massive challenges with implementation, especially within customary laws, which favor young men over young women and girls in the succession process.

Across Africa this is a critical issue, influencing diverse ripple effects on the livelihoods of young people who account for more than 400 million people aged 15-35. In fact, youth rights to land go beyond land tenure - it is the foundation for the African Union's vision for "people-driven development" as laid out in Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want.

Aspiration 6 of the AU Agenda 2063 describes an Africa where development meets the needs of women, youth and children. Member states are required to include youth and women in all aspects of decision-making to mainstream youth issues in all development agendas. This recognizes the valuable contribution of women and youth towards the development of the continent. While there are many ways women and youth can drive Africa's development, agriculture remains the largest employment sector, especially in rural areas. Thus, land rights are key, if the continent is to maximize its potential for development.

While Africa's governments are making strides in adopting policies to account for the unique needs of youth, legal and policy frameworks, customary norms, the intergenerational gap between elders and youth, and a lack of youth-centered data all persist in inhibiting youth land rights.



Godfrey Massay, Landesa Tanzania Programme Director, speaks at the just-ended CIGOFA 4 conference

To address these challenges, Landesa, a member of the Youth and Land Multi-Stakeholder Platform of Africa (YLMPA) partnered with the Youth Initiatives for Land in Africa (YILAA) and other partners to convene the International Youth and Land Governance Conference in Africa (CIGOFA4), from 20 - 24 October in Arusha, Tanzania. The event brought together youth, policy makers, CSOs and youth-led organizations, practitioners and traditional leaders from across Africa to discuss, learn

and shape youth governance issues for the acceleration of youth land rights in Africa.

CIGOFA4 offered a dynamic platform for youth-led discussion on access to land and participation in land governance, as well as facilitating intergenerational dialogue between youth and traditional leaders, some of whom express skepticism about the importance of youth land rights.

Such dialogues are vital to close the intergenerational gap,

ensuring that youth can benefit from the mentorship and expertise that elders can provide, while addressing misconceptions elders may have about a lack of interest in land rights and agricultural livelihoods among young people.

CIGOFA4's key takeaways and recommendations include developing and implementing youth-centered land laws and policies to mainstream youth land considerations in land tenure frameworks; improving efforts to collect disaggregated data on youth land rights

to better inform decision making; addressing customary norms that discriminate against youth land rights, including the rights of girls; and generating up-to-date information on the status of youth land rights at country levels.

With progress on youth land rights, we can help ensure that the next generation of young Africans will be able to secure their futures, putting the continent on the path toward socio-economic development and realizing "the Africa We Want."

## AMGC highlights achievements, vision for pan-African excellence

By Guardian Reporter

**T**HE African Mineral and Geosciences Centre (AMGC) has become a symbol of Pan-Africanism in minerals and geosciences under the leadership of its Director General, Ibrahim Shaddad.

Speaking recently in Dar es Salaam, Shaddad emphasized the centre's strides in establishing itself as a renowned continental institution, fostering technological advancement, and ensuring financial sustainability.

Since assuming office in July 2015, Shaddad (pictured) has focused on revitalizing AMGC, which he described as a "sleeping beauty."

His initiatives have enhanced the centre's infrastructure, improved staff salaries, and created a more conducive working environment that embodies the spirit of Pan-Africanism. He attributes the centre's progress to his team-oriented management style and open-door policy, fostering collaboration and problem-solving.

Shaddad has prioritized quality and discipline among AMGC staff, striving to make the centre a true leader in Africa. "We must work with dedication and share a collective vision to maintain AMGC as a Centre of Excellence," he stated.

A notable achievement under Shaddad's leadership is AMGC's commitment to empowering Tanzanian youth through training. Since 2015, 336 young Tanzanians have received free training at AMGC, with 86 of them serving as interns. Many of these interns, who receive a monthly stipend to cover transportation and food, are fresh graduates from Tanzanian universities.

Additionally, AMGC has established a program to empower women and youth with limited academic backgrounds, offering opportunities to develop economic



skills. An example is the promotion of Regina Mbwambo, who started as a volunteer ceramist and progressed to a junior technician role after enhancing her skills and qualifications.

Shaddad also underscored the centre's commitment to transparency, good governance, and zero tolerance for corruption. Reforms in financial management have optimized operations, reduced costs, and increased income generation. These measures ensure the AMGC operates efficiently while delivering specialized services to its clients.

The AMGC continues to play a critical role in supporting local value addition and sustainable development in Africa's mining sector.

Shaddad stressed the importance of economic empowerment and community engagement in driving meaningful change. By focusing on income-generating activities and maintaining high standards, AMGC aims to remain a hub of excellence and innovation for Africa's mining and geosciences communities.

Through these initiatives, Shaddad envisions the AMGC as a cornerstone for African development, ensuring it remains a beacon of Pan-African collaboration and progress.

## GRAA names 2024 winners of the African conservation awards

By Special Correspondent, Johannesburg

**T**OP Winners of the African Conservation Awards for the year 2024 have been listed during a ceremony held in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Hosted by the Game Rangers' Association of Africa (GRAA) the annual awards are described to be an opportunity to celebrate some of the outstanding work by conservationists in Africa.

The Best Field Ranger title was won by Modiki Claver, Ranger and Team Leader, Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas, in the Central African Republic (CAR).

Best Marine Ranger was Chanel Hauvette, the Senior Marine Field Ranger, Robberg

Nature Reserve and Marine Protected Area and Keurbooms River Nature Reserve of South Africa

Best Ranger Team emerged in the persons of the South Luangwa Rapid Response Unit for Human-Wildlife Conflict, South Luangwa National Park in Zambia.

Best Ranger Supporter award went to Munene Kamundi, of the Strong Ranger Initiative in Kenya.

In a poignant video message, the Patron of the African Conservation Awards, His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco paid homage to the brave conservation heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Prince Albert II solemnly honoured the memory of the



64 rangers who tragically lost their lives in the line of duty over the past year, safeguarding our planet's invaluable

natural heritage.

According to the organizers, it is the Game Rangers Association of Africa's privilege to be

able to showcase the exceptional contributions to protecting Africa's natural heritage.

In 2024, the GRAA modified

categories in this prestigious event to ensure Marine Rangers are also recognised and celebrated.

These awards continue to remind responsibility to rangers working across Africa, many of whom are working in challenging environments with a lack of resources.

Every organisation and individual nominated for these awards has displayed remarkable resilience and determination, despite their overwhelming odds and has remained steadfast in their dedication to achieving their conservation goals, inspiring us all with their unwavering commitment. Rangers should be acknowledged and celebrated.

"Every year we are reminded of the dedication, commit-

ment and resilience required to be a ranger in Africa. This year is no different and those recognised today are some of Africa's best working in seven different countries across our continent," said Andrew Campbell, the Chief Executive Officer of the Game Rangers Association of Africa

"It is particularly exciting to be recognising Marine Rangers this year, these are the people who do such inspiring work on our oceans and coastlines to conserve our marine resources," Campbell added.

The African Conservation Awards are hosted annually by the Game Rangers' Association of Africa (GRAA) and are endorsed by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment.



## Envoy underscores role of oil, gas in Tz, Uganda

By Frank Monyo

Uganda's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Fred Mwesigye has underscored the transformative role of the oil and gas sector in both nations' economies.

He highlighted the Uganda-Tanzania partnership, supported by the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), as a model for regional integration and mutual growth.

"Today's forum symbolizes the shared commitment of Uganda and Tanzania to harness the potential of our oil and gas resources for the benefit of our people. Our partnership extends beyond infrastructure; it aims to strengthen private sector connections, create jobs, and promote sustainable development," Mwesigye remarked.

He encouraged stakeholders to engage in knowledge-sharing and capitalize on the opportunities presented by the sector.

He said this during the Uganda-Tanzania Oil and Gas Networking Forum that took place on November 22, 2024, in Dar es Salaam under the theme "Driving Transformation in Uganda and Tanzania's Energy Vision."

Organized by the High Commission of Uganda in Tanzania, the event attracted key stakeholders from both countries and the broader region, aiming to foster collaboration, share insights, and explore opportunities in the oil and gas sector.

The focus was on regional integration, economic cooperation, and unlocking the full potential of the energy industry.

In his keynote address, Dr. James Mataragio, Tanzania's Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Energy, affirmed the dedication of both nations' leadership to enhancing bilateral cooperation.

He praised the visionary leadership of Uganda's President, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, and Tanzania's President, Samia Suluhu Hassan, for creating a partnership that has positioned Uganda and Tanzania as key energy players in the region.

"The East African Crude Oil Pipeline

is not just a project; it is a symbol of regional unity and a catalyst for economic growth. Thanks to our leaders, Uganda and Tanzania have cultivated an investment-friendly environment in the oil and gas sector, unlocking new opportunities for local and international investors to contribute to economic development, create jobs, and build sustainable industries," Dr. Mataragio stated. He also emphasized the importance of adopting sustainable practices and ensuring environmental stewardship in the sector.

The forum included a detailed presentation from the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) team, who provided updates on the project's progress. Milestones highlighted included advancements in pipeline construction and ongoing training initiatives designed to build local capacity and equip communities with skills vital to the sector's growth.

Looking ahead, the EACOP team outlined plans for the next project phases, which include bolstered environmental protections and strengthened partnerships with regional stakeholders.

A dynamic panel discussion also featured experts from both Uganda and Tanzania, addressing key issues like bridging skills gaps, enhancing local content policies, and improving access to financing for local businesses.

Panelists emphasized the need for a coordinated effort to ensure that the oil and gas sector contributes to long-term sustainable development.

He emphasized that the project is currently at the stage of laying pipelines, where approximately 52 kilometers of pipes have already been welded and will soon start being buried underground.

Speaking about the benefits of the project to the citizens, he said that Tanzanians have been empowered (Capacity building) in various areas and are now working on the project.

Regarding employment, he stated that the project has provided over 8,000 jobs with the goal being 10,000 jobs.

## Preparations for next national household budget survey start

By Francis Kajubi

THE National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) Zanzibar are preparing a new comprehensive national wide Household Budget Survey (HBS) to unveil the living standards and rate of poverty in the country.

The survey of which its results will come out in 2026 will be conducted across ten regions with the biggest number of population as per the Census 2022 results.

NBS Statistician General, Dr Alibina Chuwa told journalists in Dar es Salaam on Saturday that the importance of this Survey is to assess

the state of economic growth for individuals and the nation which continues to grow at an annual promising rate of 5.6 percent.

"This Survey is going to highlight the state of poverty where the last time in the 2017/18 survey it was measured at 26.4 percent," said Dr. Chuwa.

She said that until the release of the results of the Survey, the poverty indicators in cities and rural areas will have decreased further. This Survey also aims to determine the current state of food production.

Another goal of the Survey is to determine how the country has succeeded in implementing goal number one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on

zero hunger and SDG2 on poverty alleviation come 2030.

Dr. Chuwa said that this Survey has a total of 29 modules that will focus on various sectoral areas. The one-year survey will cover 16,480 households from the Islands and the Mainland.

"In this Survey, which involves the World Bank as a donor, all the information provided by the citizens will remain confidential and will be used for statistical purposes only," said Dr. Chuwa.

She said in that Survey, probability proportion to size is determined by Census 2022 which is the basis of the Sample Survey.

Salum Kassim Ali, Chief Statistician from the OCGS Zanzibar, said that in the early stages of im-

plementation the governments of the United Republic and Zanzibar have brought together the secretaries and directors of programs in different ministries to discuss the preparation of the survey.

"We have discussed the preparation stage that we have already reached so far. The expectation is that at the beginning of January 2025 we will start this Survey for selected households," he said

He explained that next month special training for researchers will be held in the districts of Moshi, Pemba and Unguja which will include 1,368 participants.

He asked the citizens to prepare to cooperate with the researchers when they arrive in their areas to collect research information.

## Truck owners eye BRT opportunities

By Guardian Reporter

The members of Tanzania Medium and Small Truck Association (TAMSTOA) have shown an interest to become potential operators of the Bus Rapid Project (BRT), which is now being implemented on sixth phase.

They showed their interest when meeting the executive director of Public Private Partnership Centre David Kafulila at the end of last week in Dar es Salaam.

One of the association members Josephat Pallangyo asked the government to prioritise local investors to operate BRT projects.

TAMSTOA officials highlighted the association's interest in collaborating with the government and private sector stakeholders to operate the BRT networks.

The move aligns with Tanzania's broader vision of providing efficient, affordable, and eco-friendly urban transportation solutions.

TAMSTOA's chairperson Chuki Shaban expressed confidence that the investment would not only benefit commuters by reducing travel time and congestion but also contribute to job creation and economic growth within the transport sector.

He said they are ready to mobilise resources within their members to purchase buses in different routes, which are currently



Ongoing constructions of BRT infrastructure in Dar es Salaam.

under construction.

The association emphasized the importance of ensuring that public transport systems meet global standards in terms of safety, reliability, and sustainability.

By investing in the BRT project, TAMSTOA aims to play a key role in shaping the future of Tanzania's urban mobility infrastructure.

Further details on the scale of investment and specific areas of involvement are expected to be unveiled in upcoming discussions with relevant authorities and stakeholders.

Responding to the interest, Kafulila said local stakeholders have the opportunity to participate in

BRT phases 3 to six, under PPP arrangement by submitting their expression of interests under unsolicited arrangement.

Tanzania's Public Private Partnership (PPP) framework is designed to foster collaboration between the public and private sectors, aiming to enhance infrastructure development and service delivery.

The centre supports public institutions in identifying viable projects that can benefit from private sector involvement. It also assists in preparing pre-feasibility and feasibility studies to ensure project bankability.

The centre also markets Tan-

zania's PPP opportunities to local and international investors, emphasizing the country's commitment to fostering a business-friendly environment.

It monitors ongoing PPP projects to ensure their effectiveness, sustainability, and alignment with contractual agreements.

The PPP Centre is instrumental in addressing funding gaps in public infrastructure projects by leveraging private sector expertise and resources.

This collaborative approach accelerates the delivery of critical infrastructure, promotes economic growth, and enhances service quality for Tanzanians.

## New agri-food project to enhance food security

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

The Netherlands Development Organization (SNV) in Tanzania is collaborating with other organizations to implement an ambitious agri-food project aimed at enhancing food security and resilience among smallholder households in five key regions of the country.

Dubbed NOURISH Tanzania, the five-year initiative (2024-2028) is led by SNV Tanzania in partnership with Farm Africa, the Research, Community, and Organizational Development (RECODA), MIICO, and T-MARC. It aims to impact 168,000 smallholder farmers, 100 micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and farmer organizations, with a special focus on vulnerable households.

The project targets regions with high rates of food insecurity and malnutrition, including Singida, Dodoma, and Manyara in the central-northern zone—areas suffering from acute food insecurity—as well as Songwe and Rukwa in the Southern Highlands, which face chronic malnutrition.

Mary Rauscher, the

Team Leader for the NOURISH Project at SNV Tanzania, explained that the initiative is designed to support smallholder farmer households heavily reliant on agriculture and struggling with food insecurity and nutrition challenges.

"Research shows that smallholder farmers in these regions often have low productivity due to limited access to quality inputs and extension services, coupled with unpredictable weather patterns that exacerbate their vulnerabilities," Rauscher said.

She also highlighted other key barriers, such as inadequate market access, insufficient nutritional knowledge, and gender inequalities, which hinder household food security.

Funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), the project seeks to address these challenges through three interconnected outcome pathways including improved climate-smart productivity, diversified food supply and market integration as well as enhanced resource utilization.

The project aims to boost climate-smart,



Lead farmers participating in the NOURISH Project in Momba District, Songwe Region, receive training on how to use a sowing machine. PHOTO: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

nutrition-sensitive agricultural productivity for 168,000 smallholder households. "This will be achieved by strengthening farmers' knowledge of climate-smart practices, enhancing their skills, and improving access to inputs and finance," Rauscher revealed.

The initiative seeks to increase and diversify food supplies in local markets by fostering collaborations among market players, promoting digital solutions, and empowering smallholder farmers and MSMEs.

Efforts will focus on promoting nutritious di-

ets, household food budgeting, and empowering women to make household decisions.

"We are focusing on improving the utilization of household resources to provide diverse and nutritious food while targeting four high-potential value chains: sorghum, sun-

flower, common beans, and vegetables," Rauscher added.

According to SNV Tanzania Communication Officer Neema Kimaro, the project has already conducted extensive training sessions for its beneficiaries. Local partners RECODA and MIICO trained

478 lead farmers, 115 agricultural extension officers, and 56 coaches in good agronomic practices (GAP), climate-smart agriculture (CSA), soil and water management, post-harvest handling, and demo-plot establishment.

"Each lead farmer will now train approximately

50 smallholder farmers in their communities and establish demonstration plots to showcase recommended techniques and inputs," Kimaro noted.

The project also partnered with the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) to provide 115 ward agricultural extension officers with training on soil health, testing techniques, and fertilizer options.

The initiative has facilitated business-to-consumer meetings across Singida, Manyara, Dodoma, Rukwa, and Songwe, connecting farmers with seed and input suppliers. "These events allow farmers to access information on available products and purchase seeds directly," Kimaro explained.

The NOURISH Project aligns with key government frameworks, including the National Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP III, 2021/22-2025/26), the Agriculture Sector Development Programme Phase II (ASDP II, 2018/19-2027/28), the National Climate Response Strategy (2022-2026), and the Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Action Plan (2022/23-2025/26).

# UN climate conference agrees to triple funding to developing nations

By Guardian Correspondent

The UN Climate Change Conference (COP29) has announced a new finance goal to help countries to protect their people and economies against climate disasters, and share in the vast benefits of the clean energy boom.

With a central focus on climate finance, COP29 brought together nearly 200 countries in Baku, Azerbaijan, and reached a breakthrough agreement that will triple finance to developing countries, from the previous goal of USD100 billion annually, to USD300 billion annually by 2035.

It was also agreed to secure efforts of all actors to work together to scale up finance to developing countries, from public and private sources, to the amount of USD1.3 trillion per year by 2035.

Known formally as the New Collective Quantified on Climate Finance (NCQG), it was agreed after two weeks of intensive negotiations and several years of preparatory work, in a process that requires all nations to unanimously agree on every word of the agreement.

"This new finance goal is an insurance policy for humanity, amid worsening climate impacts hitting every country," said Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change. "But like any insurance policy - it only works - if premiums are paid in full, and on time. Promises must be kept, to protect billions of lives."

"It will keep the clean energy boom growing, helping all countries to share in its huge benefits: more jobs, stronger growth, cheaper and cleaner energy for all."

The International Energy Agency expects global clean energy investment is set to exceed USD2 trillion for the first time in 2024.

The new finance goal at COP29 builds on significant strides forward on global climate action at COP27, which agreed an historic Loss and Damage Fund, and COP28, which delivered a global agreement to transition away from all fossil fuels in energy systems swiftly and fairly, triple renewable energy and boost climate resilience.

COP29 also reached agreement on carbon markets - which several previous COPs had not been able to achieve.

These agreements will help countries deliver their climate plans more quickly and cheaply, and make faster progress in halving global emissions this decade, as required by science.

Stiell also acknowledged that the



agreement reached in Baku did not meet all Parties' expectations, and substantially more work is still needed next year on several crucial issues.

"No country got everything they wanted, and we leave Baku with a mountain of work to do," said Stiell. "The many other issues we need to progress may not be headlines but they are lifelines for billions of people. So this is no time for victory laps, we need to set our sights and redouble our efforts on the road to Belem."

The finance agreement at COP29 comes as stronger national climate plans (Nationally Determined Contributions, or NDCs) become due from all countries next year. These new climate plans must cover all greenhouse gases and all sectors, to keep the 1.5°C warming limit within reach. COP29 saw two G20 countries - the UK and Brazil - signal clearly that they plan to ramp up climate action in their NDCs 3.0, because they are entirely in the interests of their economies and peoples.

"We still have a very long road ahead, but here in Baku we took another important step forward," said Stiell. "The UN Paris Agreement is humanity's life-raft; there is nothing

else. So here in Baku and all of the countries represented in this room we're taking that journey forward together."

A notable achievement during the past two weeks was the progress made on carbon markets. After nearly a decade of work, countries have agreed on the final building blocks that set out how carbon markets will operate under the Paris Agreement, making country-to-country trading and a carbon crediting mechanism fully operational.

On country-to-country trading (Article 6.2), the decision out of COP29 provides clarity on how countries will authorize the trade of carbon credits and how registries tracking this will operate. And there is now reassurance that environmental integrity will be ensured up front through technical reviews in a transparent process.

On day one of COP29, countries agreed standards for a centralized carbon market under the UN (Article 6.4 mechanism). This is good news for developing countries, who will benefit from new flows of finance. And it is particularly good news for least developed countries, who will get the capacity-building support they need to get a foothold in the market.

This mechanism, known as the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism, is underpinned by mandatory checks for projects against strong environmental and human rights protections, including safeguards that ensure a project can't go ahead without explicit, informed agreement from Indigenous Peoples. It also allows anyone affected by a project to appeal a decision or file a complaint.

Under the text agreed on Article 6.4, there is a clear mandate for the UN carbon market to align with science. It tasks the Body getting this market up and running to consider the best available science across all work going forward.

The work on carbon markets doesn't stop in Baku. The Supervisory Body setting up the new carbon crediting mechanism has been handed a long 2025 to-do list by Parties and will continue to be accountable to them.

## Transparency

Transparent climate reporting made big strides forward in Baku, building a stronger evidence base to strengthen climate policies over time, and helping to identify financing needs and opportunities. To date, 13 Parties have now submitted their

first Biennial Transparency Reports (BTR) - due from all Parties by the end of the year. Andorra, Azerbaijan, the European Union, Germany, Guyana, Japan, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Netherlands, Panama, Singapore, Spain, and Türkiye have led the way on transparent climate reporting, and set an example for others to follow. The list of received BTRs is continuously being updated here.

In addition, all transparency negotiating items concluded successfully at COP29, with Parties expressing their appreciation for the timely completion of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) reporting tools, the technical trainings, and the support provided to developing countries for reporting under the ETF that took place in 2024.

A total of 42 events were organized under #Together4Transparency, a UNFCCC collaborative initiative that promotes climate transparency with Parties and non-Party stakeholders. These events emphasized the vital role of transparency in preparing NDCs and net-zero pathways, as well as in recognizing climate action from non-Party stakeholders. Events included high-level sessions, mandated events and training sessions to prepare countries for their BTRs, as well as to equip technical experts for

the upcoming review process.

The critical role of REDD+ was recognized through a £3 million pledge by the UK International Forest Unit to support UN Climate Change's work over four years. This funding will bolster REDD+ activities in many countries, enabling the secretariat to create dedicated spaces for REDD+ experts to engage in technical dialogue. These efforts are expected to enhance the transparency and implementation of REDD+, in line with the Global Stocktake objective to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030.

## Adaptation

COP29 was an important moment for adaptation, with the delivery of several key outcomes. The COP decision on matters relating to the least developed countries (LDCs) contains a provision for the establishment of a support programme for the implementation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) for the LDCs. Parties extensively discussed the second five-year assessment of progress to formulate and implement NAPs, and will continue that in June 2025.

A High-Level Dialogue on National Adaptation Plans convened ministers from least developed countries and small island developing States, financial experts and international donors to address the growing urgency of climate adaptation. Their discussions focused on innovative financing, technical support, and accelerated action to meet the 2025 submission deadline for NAPs. The event concluded with a strong call to action to expedite NAPs and translate plans into tangible outcomes.

## Gender and climate change

Countries agreed a decision on gender and climate change, extending the enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and Climate Change for another 10 years, reaffirming the importance of gender equality and advancing gender mainstreaming throughout the convention.

They also agreed to develop a new gender action plan for adoption at COP30, which will set the direction for concrete implementation.

Civil society participation, children and youth

World leaders at COP29 were joined by civil society, subnationals, business, Indigenous Peoples, youth, philanthropy, and international organizations. More than 55,000 people attended COP29 to share ideas, solutions, and build partnerships and coalitions.

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

## Planning institute seeks to construct new research centre

THE Institute of Rural Development planning (IRDP) is planning to construct new research center at Nala area.

The institutes Rector, Prof. Hozen Mayaya, said the facility will be installed with the latest research facilities, to help improve academic performance.

Prof. Mayaya unveiled this over the weekend during a special launch of the 1.9bn/- Miyuji campus with an eye to promote the teaching-learning process at the college.

"We have obtained a total of 700 acres of land in Nala for the project in order to meet the fast pace of human population, which goes hand in hand with increasing of student's admission requirements in our college," he observed.

He expressed, the institute started with 14 staff and 13 students in 1979 and has kept on growing impressively to the tune it currently have a total of 400 staff members and over 14,000 students.

"This fast-growing trend alerts us over the need to work harder in order to ensure we stand ready to accommodate expanded number of students as predicted in the future," he said.

He said the college is currently implementing its well-developed



Dr. Charles Mwamwaja (L), Commissioner of Financial Sector Development in the Finance ministry unveils plaque to inaugurate the Miyuji campus of the Institute of Rural Development Planning. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

six-year strategy (2021/22-2025/26), for improving students accommodation hostels, staff structures, classrooms as well as other vital academic facilities.

Apart from receiving lucrative financial support from the government through the ministry of finance, he said they're annually setting aside at least 40 percent of its internal income for supporting implementation of diverse develop-

ment projects.

"I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for the invaluable assistance we keep on receiving from the ministry of finance which has enabled our institution to undertake numerous development projects," he said.

Apart from launching the 1.9bn/- worth structure which sits at the college's 40-acre campus in Miyuji area, Prof. Mayaya said there are a

number of projects that are going on in the area, these, according to him including phase three of construction of female hostel, fencing of the Miyuji campus, together with erection of academic block and sports grounds.

"This building we're launching today comprises a seminar hall with capacity to shelter over 400 students at ago, two class rooms with capacity to harbour over 500 stu-

dents, bringing the structure's full accommodation capacity to 900 students," he detailed.

On his side, speaking when officiating the launch ceremony of the structure, Dr. Charles Mwamwaja, the Commissioner of Financial Sector Development in the ministry of finance hailed the IRDP for implementing the project.

Together with that, Dr. Mwamwaja got the opportunity to inspect the

new structure as well as the diverse academic and human facilities that have been installed.

He expressed to have been satisfied with the speed and high standards in the implementation of the project, urged the institute which operates under the shadow of the finance ministry to continue expanding its academic structures and academic footholds.

The Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP) is a corporate body established by the Parliamentary Act No. 8 of 1980.

This Act provides a legal framework for the Institute to be established as an important national centre for provision of training, research and consultancy services in the field of rural development planning and management with main objective of alleviating qualitative and quantitative shortage of skilled manpower within the framework of sustainable capacity building directed towards reducing poverty and attaining sustainable development.

IRDP strives to enhance and strengthen capacity for rural development practitioners by providing post-secondary education and training, research and consultancy services.



## WORLD

## UN: 2024 sees worst record for deaths of global aid workers

## UNITED NATIONS

THIS year has become the worst year on record for deaths of aid workers, with 281 deaths globally, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said on Friday.

"Humanitarian workers are being killed at an unprecedented rate, their courage and humanity being met with bullets and bombs," said Tom Fletcher, under-secretary-general for humanitarian affairs and emergency relief coordinator.

"This violence is unconscionable and devastating to aid operations. States and parties to conflict must protect humanitarians, uphold international law, prosecute those responsible, and call time on this era

of impunity."

OCHA said record fatalities also were recorded in 2023, with 280 aid workers killed across 33 countries.

Stephane Dujarric, chief spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, lamented last year's record was topped, "and it isn't even December".

The humanitarian office said that the more than 320 humanitarian personnel killed since Oct 7, 2023, in Gaza, is driving up the number of global fatalities. Many were killed in the line of duty while providing humanitarian assistance, and most were staff members of the UN relief agency for Palestinian refugees, known as UNRWA.

OCHA said that most of the humanitarians killed around the world this year were



People inspect the site where World Central Kitchen workers were killed in Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip, April 2, 2024. AP

local staff members working with non-governmental organizations, UN agencies and the Red Cross/Red Crescent movement.

High levels of violence, kidnappings, injuries, harassment, and arbitrary detention of aid workers have been reported in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen, among other countries.

The office said that violence against aid workers is part of a broader trend of increasing civilian casualties in conflict zones. Last year, more than 33,000 civilian deaths were recorded in 14 armed conflicts, a staggering 72 percent in-

crease from 2022.

Despite the dangers, OCHA said relief organizations continue to deliver vital assistance, reaching nearly 144 million people in need last year. The organizations supported more than 116 million people worldwide.

The office reminded that the UN Security Council adopted in May Resolution 2730 in response to the growing violence and threats against humanitarian workers. The resolution mandates the UN secretary-general to recommend measures to prevent and respond to such incidents, enhance accountability, and improve protection for humanitarian personnel and assets.

## Wang: Xi's LatAm trip promotes friendship, cooperation, development

## BEIJING



CHINESE President Xi Jinping's just-concluded visit to Latin America is a journey of friendship across mountains and seas, a journey of solidarity to jointly promote development, and a journey of cooperation to expand partnership, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said.

From Nov 13 to 23, Xi (pictured) was invited to attend the 31st APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting and pay a state visit to Peru, and to attend the 19th G20 Summit and pay a state visit to Brazil.

During the 11 days, Xi attended nearly 40 bilateral and multilateral events and reached more than 60 cooperation documents, said Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee.

From Lima to Rio de Janeiro, Xi once again sent a clear message of firmly upholding multilateralism at the crossroads of human history, illuminated the "Latin American moment" of global governance with Chinese wisdom, and demonstrated China's image as a responsible major country with fairness, justice, courage, openness and inclusiveness, Wang said.

Xi attended the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in Lima and delivered a written speech to the CEO summit, calling on Asia-Pacific economies to continuously adhere to true multilateralism, build an open and interconnected paradigm for Asia-Pacific cooperation, make green innovation a catalyst for the Asia-Pacific, and uphold a universally beneficial and inclusive vision for Asia-Pacific development, Wang said.

Wang said that Xi has always attached great importance to the issue of development. At the G20 summit in Rio de Janeiro, Xi elaborated on China's concept of global governance in a comprehensive and systematic way, stressing the need to make global development more inclusive, beneficial to all, and more resilient, and build a just world of common development, Wang said.

Xi called for building a world economy characterized by cooperation, stability, openness, innovation and eco-friendliness, and announced China's eight actions for global development, including joining the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Wang said.

The important initiatives have responded to the strong will of the Global South to seek equality and promote change, and have defined the right direction for improving global governance, Wang said.

Wang noted that the key highlight of Xi's visit to Peru was the Chinese president and his Peruvian counterpart, Dina Boluarte, jointly attending the opening ceremony of the Chancay Port via video link. Chancay Port is the first smart port and the first green port in South America, Wang said, adding that once completed, it will bring huge revenues to Peru and contribute to establishing a new Asia-Latin America land-sea corridor with the Chancay Port as a starting point.

In Brazil, Xi and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva engaged in in-depth and amicable strategic communication, agreeing that the China-Brazil relationship is at its best in history, said Wang.

The two countries announced an elevation of their ties to the community with a shared future for a more just world and a more sustainable planet and decided to establish synergies between the Belt and Road Initiative and Brazil's development strategies, said Wang, adding that Xi's visit is an important milestone in the history of China-Brazil relations.

Wang said that Xi held more than 10 bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the multilateral gatherings. In Xi's meeting with US President Joe Biden, the two heads of state stressed the extreme importance of China-US relations, noting that a stable China-US relationship is critical not only to the interests of the two peoples, but also to the future and destiny of the entire humanity, Wang said.

Xi reiterated China's principles and positions on such major issues as Taiwan, urging the two sides to shoulder the responsibilities of major countries and keep exploring the right way for two major countries to get along well with each other and inject more certainty and positive energy into the world, Wang said.

Xi also met with leaders of France, Germany, Britain and other major European countries respectively, stressing that China and Europe should view each other from a long-term and strategic perspective, adhere to partnership, commit to properly resolving differences through dialogue and consultation, and continue to write cooperative stories of mutual achievement, said Wang.

Xinhua

## Chinese feature film awarded at Cairo International Film Festival

## UNITED NATIONS

CAIRO, Nov. 23 (Xinhua) -- Chinese film Brief History of a Family won the Network for the Promotion of the Asia Pacific Cinema Award as the best Asian feature film at the 45th Cairo International Film Festival (CIFF) concluded here on Friday evening.

"This is my first feature film ... It's a great experience. In all the competitions here, it was the only feature-length Chinese language film. So, that's very special and I'm very happy to win the award," Lin Jianjie, the director,

told Xinhua after receiving the award.

"What I want to do is to bring the Chinese film on the international stage. I think this is a very great achievement for the film," he added.

The film tells the story of a Chinese middle-class family and their son's mysterious friend, with a focus on the bonds between family members.

The jury statement said the film demonstrated a subtle exploration of emotions and the use of imagery and sound design. "They told me it doesn't look like a filmmaker's first feature. It's very mature, and it has

a very distinct artistic vision," Lin told Xinhua.

The Chinese feature will be screened on Saturday at one of the theaters of Cairo Opera House, where the 45th CIFF was held.

This year's CIFF saw a strong presence of Chinese films. A highlight of the event was the Chinese Cinema Week, during which seven Chinese features were screened. Among these were Decoded, directed by Chen Sicheng, who received the CIFF's Golden Pyramid honorary award.

"China has a great cinema industry for a long time, and

we used to watch Chinese films while learning filmmaking," said Egyptian film director Khaled El-Hagar, a jury member of the International Critics' Week Competition.

"It is important for the Egyptian and Arab audience to watch films from different cultures such as China, India, and other Asian countries, not just European and American films," he told Xinhua, describing Brief History of a Family as "very interesting and intriguing."

During the ten-day festival, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the CIFF and the Beijing Interna-

tional Film Festival to boost cooperation between the two sides in relevant areas.

"Egypt and China have very strong relations for long decades, especially in the field of arts. In fact, the cinematic and artistic experiences of both countries reflect their civilizations and show a similarity in their dramatic style," Egyptian Minister of Culture Ahmed Fouad Hanno told reporters during the closing ceremony.

He added that this artistic cooperation and closeness between Egypt and China would certainly provide a boost to bilateral cultural exchange.

## US expects Russia-North Korea cooperation to be formidable challenge in coming years

## WASHINGTON

THE US administration believes that the cooperation between Russia and North Korea will be a formidable challenge for Washington for years to come, Mira Rapp-Hooper, Special Assistant to US President, National Security Council Senior Director for East Asia and Oceania, said.

The current administration is concerned about "how far it [the relationship between North Korea and Russia - TASS] has come so quickly," she said. Speaking at a seminar at Washington's Center for Strategic and International Studies (this organization's activities are recognized as undesirable on the territory of the Russian Federation), Rapp-Hooper said that this cooperation has reached a scale that "could not have been imagined a few years ago."

She also mentioned the US administration's version, according to which North Korea has allegedly sent troops to engage in active combat in Ukraine, saying that in response "the Russians <...>



probably give the North Koreans high end technical assistance on an order, as well as protect them in international institutions and seek to legitimize their

nuclear weapons capability." "And that is going to be a formidable challenge for administrations, I suspect, for years to come," Rapp-Hooper noted.

In turn, First Deputy US Secretary of State Kurt Campbell said that the cooperation between Russia and North Korea "is not only going to be urgent, but it's going to be a growing issue that cannot be ignored."

Commenting on earlier "satellite images" released by Seoul that allegedly show the presence of North Korean servicemen in Russia, President Vladimir Putin called such photos a "serious matter." However, he emphasized that NATO servicemen have long been directly involved in the Ukrainian conflict. Putin pointed out that the strategic partnership treaty between Moscow and Pyongyang includes a clause on joint defense.

For her part, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova has said that the strategic cooperation between Moscow and Pyongyang is not unusual or extraordinary, despite the West's attempts to demonize it. She emphasized that those who are committed to peaceful cooperation with Moscow have nothing to fear.

## Namibian cultural group tackles social issues, creating opportunities with traditional dance

## WINDHOEK

ADORNED in animal-hide garments, a score of performers of the Black Melody Cultural Group (BMCG) delivered captivating performances showcasing the rich culture of Namibia's Batswana tribe as the art troupe celebrated its 32nd anniversary with dance and music in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, Friday night.

BMCG, established in 1992 by seven young members in Gobabis, about 200 km east of Windhoek aimed to engage local youth in constructive and educational activities centered around cultural heritage.

"We strive to achieve this through traditional songs, dramas, poetry, and music, particularly our style known as Borankane," said Juliette

Mogotsi, president of BMCG, Saturday.

Borankane, in the indigenous Setswana language, reflects the essence of wildlife, socialization, and the community's livelihood. The dance techniques include sliding and stomping of feet, accompanied by various body movements and a cappella singing.

Over the years, the group has addressed social issues such as poverty, HIV/AIDS, and gender-based violence through their performances.

Founded soon after Namibia's independence in 1990, the art troupe also sought to promote national unity and cultural diversity.

"Namibia faces many social problems, and our group hopes to shift mindsets and habits by intertwining

culture with contemporary life," Mogotsi said.

BMCG also works to preserve undocumented traditional knowledge. It has produced two albums in the Setswana language to help with this effort: the debut album "Tautona Pohamba" -- a track that talks about how HIV/AIDS is killing and finishing Namibian nationals, and therefore it was pleading President Pohamba to help -- released in 2009, and the second album "Letsatsi Le Dule," meaning "The Sun is out Shining," released in 2012, with its DVD launched in 2014.

According to Mogotsi, while BMCG's ideology has remained consistent over 32 years, the art troupe, which has grown to have 35 members at present, has also evolved

into an income-generating venture. On average, they charge between 3,000 Namibian dollars (about 166 U.S. dollars) and 15,000 Namibian dollars depending on the event. It also sustains its activities through fundraising events, concerts, and performances at corporate functions.

"The funds are reinvested into the group, and members occasionally receive a share of the profits," Mogotsi said.

Over the years, the group has transformed the lives of many young people. Ehrenfriede Katuuo, 25, joined BMCG in 2019 to enhance her knowledge of her culture. For her, there's limited opportunity to explore cultural history in many modern households.

"Long lectures on traditions aren't engaging. However, joining the cultural group has been a game-changer for me. I've gained a much deeper understanding of my culture and language than I ever could at home," Katuuo said. "As an introvert, I struggled to socialize, but Black Melody has helped me connect with others more comfortably and genuinely."

Like many of her peers, Katuuo has since gained valuable insights from the diverse perspectives within the group.

Manfred Gaeb, the director of National Heritage and Culture Programs in the Ministry of Education, Arts, and Culture, said that cultural groups are vital not only for transferring cultural skills across gen-

erations but also for nurturing soft skills such as teamwork, management, and discipline.

BMCG has also instilled pride in its members and provided them with opportunities. The group has toured and performed on the global stage in countries like Rwanda, Cuba, Angola, and Slovakia. This year, two members served as cultural ambassadors on a two-week cruise ship to Spain.

Despite their success, sustaining a cultural group comes with challenges, including limited space to practice and financial resources, according to Mogotsi. "Our remedy is networking and forming partnerships within the cultural sector," she said.

Xinhua



## Putin says Oreshnik missile system cutting-edge innovation by Russia, not Soviet byproduct

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Oreshnik hypersonic intermediate-range ballistic missile system is not an upgraded version of previous versions dating back from the Soviet times, and it is in the line of the latest and modern developments, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday.

"The Oreshnik system has nothing to do with the modernization of the old Soviet systems," Putin said.

"It is obvious that we were all raised watching various systems of the Soviet Union operating, we were all brought up on what was done by previous generations, and to a certain extent we used their results," Putin said.

"However, this system is indeed the prime result of your work, the work that was done in Russian times, under the conditions of the new Russia, it was waged on the basis of modern, latest developments," Putin said addressing the meeting with the Defense Ministry executive board, representatives of the military-industrial complex and missile weapon designers.

The Russian Defense Ministry announced earlier in the day that the country's latest Oreshnik intermediate-range ballistic missile hit all the targets at a major Ukrainian military-industrial enterprise in Dnepr (Dnepropetrovsk) with its MIRVed warheads.

"On November 21, 2024, in response to the use of American and British-made long-range missiles against facilities on Russian territory, the Armed Forces delivered a combined strike on one of the Ukrainian military-industrial sites in Dnepropetrovsk. For the first time, the Oreshnik hypersonic intermediate-range ballistic missile with a non-nuclear payload was employed in combat conditions in the strike. The goal of the



strike was achieved. All the warheads hit the facility," the ministry said in a statement.

On November 19, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a decree approving the Foundations of State Policy in the Field of Nuclear Deterrence, the country's updated nuclear doctrine.

The fundamental principle of the doctrine is that the use of nuclear weapons is a measure of last resort to protect the country's sovereignty.

The emergence of new military threats and risks prompted Russia to clarify the conditions for the use of nuclear weapons. In particular, the amended doctrine expands the range of countries and military alliances subject to nuclear deterrence, as well as the list of military threats that such deterrence is designed to counter.

In addition, the document states that Russia will now view any attack by a non-nuclear country supported by a nuclear power as a joint attack. Moscow also reserves the right to consider a nuclear response to a conventional weapons attack threatening its sovereignty, a large-scale launch of enemy aircraft, missiles, and drones targeting Russian territory, their crossing of the Russian border, and an attack on its ally Belarus.

## 'When youth brainstorm on taking country forward, we definitely get concrete results'

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday heaped praise on the country's youth for their contribution to the country's progress and said that when youth get together to brainstorm on ideas to take the country forward "concrete results" are obtained.

In his address during the 116th episode of 'Mann Ki Baat,' on the National Cadet Corps Raising Day, the Prime Minister recalled his own "invaluable" experience as a NCC cadet and stated that that Corps inculcated "discipline, leadership and service among the youth."

"Today is NCC day. NCC reminds us of our school and college days. I have been myself an NCC cadet, that's why I can say with full confidence that the experience gained from this is invaluable for me," PM Modi said.

He emphasized that NCC instils discipline, leadership, and service in youth.

"Be in case of a disaster, floods or any accident, NCC cadets are always present there. In 2024, more than two million youth are part of NCC. Compared to earlier, over 5000 schools and colleges are now part of NCC. And most important, girl cadets in NCC were nearly 25 per cent but now it is around 40," PM Modi said.

Further he mentioned the upcoming 'Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue' scheduled to be held on January 11-12 where almost 2,000 youth from across the country will participate.

"Youth have a big role to play in making India a developed nation. When youth come together to brainstorm on taking country forward, we definitely get con-

crete results. Swami Vivekananda's 162 birth anniversary, which is also celebrated as Youth day. On January 11-12 at Delhi's Bharat Mandapam, a large gathering of young ideas is going to take place and this initiative is called, 'Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue,' he said.

"2000 youth from across the country will participate in this. Many special campaigns will be organised across the country to connect hundred thousand youth with politics," PM Modi said.

Further, the Prime Minister praised several youths from different states for connecting the elderly with technology. A person from Bhopal has connected the elderly people with digital payments, while a youth from Lucknow has helped them in collecting digital certificates for pension.

Earlier, elderly people used to visit bank to submit their life certificate but now, it has become easier for them. A young person from Ahmedabad has taken upon himself to inform people about the danger of digital arrest. Majority of the victims of these types of crimes are the elderly. So, it is our responsibility that we make them aware and held them from getting trapped in cyber fraud," PM Modi said.

The Prime Minister also asserted about the need to repeatedly make people understand that there is no provision named digital arrest in the government. This is completely false and a conspiracy to trap people, he said on the dangers of the rising cyber scam in which fraudsters impersonate law enforcement or government officials to intimidate victims and extort money.

ANI

## World agrees on USD 300 billion climate aid for developing nations

BAKU

IN a historic yet contentious outcome at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, wealthy nations pledged to provide USD 300 billion annually by 2035 to help developing countries combat the escalating effects of the climate crisis.

Despite the agreement being lauded as a step forward, it drew sharp criticism from many vulnerable nations, which viewed the sum as inadequate given the enormity of the challenge, CNN reported.

The deal was reached after more than two weeks of heated negotiations, marred by boycotts and disagreements. Talks nearly collapsed when represen-

tatives from small island states and the least-developed countries walked out in protest on Saturday. However, after 30 hours of extended discussions, negotiators managed to finalise the agreement early Sunday morning.

Simon Stiell, head of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, described the deal as "an insurance policy for humanity," acknowledging the arduous process that led to its conclusion. "It has been a difficult journey, but we've delivered a deal," he said. The funding will assist poorer nations in managing devastating climate impacts and transitioning to clean energy.

ANI

# Green protectionism: A threat to our shared green future

By Yi Xin

WITH global leaders and environmental experts gathered in Baku for COP29, the need for decisive action against climate change is once again the focus of the world's attention. There is a resounding call for collective, robust action to combat the escalating crisis.

Yet, amidst commitments to a greener future, a troubling trend of green protectionism has emerged, threatening to undermine these efforts. Such protectionist measures, cloaked in the guise of green development, will only impede the global greening process and disrupt the multilateral trading system.

Green protectionism is hampering global progress towards a greener future. The widespread application of technologies used in electric vehicles (EVs) and photovoltaic power stations promises a significant boost to mitigation efforts. However, by imposing heavy tariffs on the import of competitive green products, green protectionism is delaying the adoption of these technologies and slowing the achievement of our mitigation goals.

Moreover, subsidies for domestic green industries in developed countries can exacerbate the gap with developing economies, which, lacking the financial means for similar subsidies, are struggling to support their own green industries. This is especially problematic when developed nations have yet to honor their promise of providing an annual \$100 billion in climate finance.

Green protectionist measures are also counterproductive for the countries and regions themselves that implement them. High tariffs push up the cost of green transition and reduce the supply of products and services in the domestic market. The increased costs will ultimately be passed on to consumers, dampening the demand for green alternatives, and the lack of competition will weaken the drive for technological innovation.

However disguised, green protectionism is ultimately a form of protectionism. It violates the rules of the World Trade Organization and challenges the free and open multilateral trading system. For example, subsidies and tax credits for American green sectors in the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act contravene the principle of national treatment, which means imported and locally-produced goods should be treated equally. Similarly, the EU's proposed border carbon tax violates the principle of most-favored-nation treatment, leading to



The electric vehicle assembly line of BYD, China's leading new energy vehicle manufacturer, at its plant in Zhengzhou City, central China's Henan Province, April 24, 2024. /CFP

trade discrimination against other countries, particularly developing ones.

These actions risk igniting trade wars, tariff wars, and subsidy wars, disrupting the international cooperation so desperately needed for global green development.

Rejecting competitive green products with green protectionist practices is essentially creating obstacles for a green future. China's export of over 1 million new energy vehicles (NEVs) in 2023 reduced carbon emissions by about 1.66 million tons annually. A study published in Nature in 2022 estimated that the global photovoltaic supply chain, led by China, saved the United States and Germany \$24 billion and \$7 billion, respectively, in photovoltaic installation costs from 2008 to 2020.

Over the past decade, the average cost per kilowatt-hour for global wind and solar power projects has dropped by more than 60 percent and 80 percent respectively, with a significant portion of these savings attributed to Chinese innovation, manufacturing and engineering.

In fact, China has done more than that. With its well-planned and arduous efforts, China is well on its way to reaching its dual carbon goal of peaking carbon emissions by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2060. From

July to September this year, the market penetration rate of NEVs in China surpassed 50 percent.

Also, China now boasts the world's largest and fastest-growing renewable energy generation capacity. As of the end of August, installed capacity using renewables topped 1.7 billion kilowatts and accounted for 54.4 percent of the national power generation capacity.

In addition to all this, China has the most extensive and fastest-growing reforestation area.

Green transition is a priority in China's high-quality development drive. China's central government released a comprehensive plan to accelerate green transition across various sectors, from industry standards, energy, transportation, urban and rural development, to consumption, green technology, and institutional support. It also includes assisting global green transition through international cooperation.

Today, humanity urgently needs the protection of green development, not green protectionism. Countries must set aside their self-interests and work collaboratively for the common good of the international community to realize a sustainable and greener future.

## Key maritime merchants forum in Hong Kong helps steer course for shipping industry

HONG KONG

THE world's first intelligent research and training dual-purpose ship is making its debut visit to Hong Kong and open for admission as a highlight of the city's maritime week, which lasted through Saturday.

One may miss the chance to board it in person, since bookings for "Xin Hong Zhuan" were instantly full days ago. The vessel, built by COSCO Shipping Heavy Industry (Dalian) Co., Ltd. for Dalian Maritime University, a key maritime institution under China's Ministry of Transport, has become the latest darling of Hongkongers.

It's far more than ordinary people who are galvanized by the latest breakthroughs in maritime technology, but business insiders and experts, who know that with combined efforts from the government and industry, the sector is gaining traction among a growing number of Chinese, particularly a new generation of successors, through increasing input in maritime education.

This is especially crucial for Hong Kong as the city redefines its role in the shipping industry amid changing global dynamics and fierce industrial competition, trying to battle the brain drain and navigate a green shift.

At the World Maritime Merchants Forum (WMMF) 2024, which convened in Hong Kong on Monday, Xinhua reporters met with a forum volunteer surnamed Ho, also a maritime studies major at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and were intrigued by her stories as she eagerly recounted what she has learned from the forum.

Echoing the view of many par-

ticipants at the forum, its fourth edition here in Hong Kong starting 2021, Ho said she noticed a much stronger call for bold actions on green transition in the maritime sector than ever before as "the clock is ticking on mandatory sustainability reporting."

Corporate responsibility on sustainability reporting has come closer into focus, transforming from a point of concern to a business imperative, and that rattles those along the shipping industrial and supply chains, insiders said.

"That's why we call it 'Maritime Merchants' and not just 'Maritime' forum," said Lothar Lam, WMMF chairman and general manager, noting that the forum mechanism is conducive to pooling resources and leveraging the role of the shipping sector as an important link along the value chain.

As the platform broadens, it is also expected to engage more businesses, boost cooperation and innovation across the industry and beyond, and jointly build a prosperous Hong Kong, Lam said.

Back in 2021, the nascent forum unfolded during the COVID-19 pandemic and at a time

when many people were keenly concerned about the prospect of Hong Kong as an international shipping center, Wang Yongxin, president of China Merchants Energy Shipping Company Limited, also the organizer of the annual forum, told Xinhua.

"As a Chinese central state-owned enterprise based in Hong Kong, we believe that the more trying the times are, the more we need to bring China's voice and China's solution to the world," noted Wang. "This is why we started the forum in the first place."

In September 2022, China Merchants Energy Shipping Company Limited launched its supertanker "New Aden," with sail wings cutting fuel consumption by over 7.4 percent on average annually, and has been striving toward the dual carbon goal.

After the first edition wrapped up successfully online and offline with solid technical support from China's tech giant Tencent, the Transport and Logistics Bureau of the HKSAR offered to cohost the second edition, and starting from the third edition, the WMMF was incorporated into the Hong Kong Maritime Week as a flagship event, sharing the opening cer-

emony with the maritime week.

Themed "Navigating the Cycles," this year's forum tackles such critical topics as the role of ship finance in industrial transformation, the implications of new carbon-tax regulations and the transformative potential of artificial intelligence in driving digital change in shipping, sending a clear and compelling statement of humanity's commitment to sustainability.

"Over the years, the forum has increasingly emerged as a signature event promoting the global shipping industry chain," said Chan Kwok-ki, acting chief executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government, when addressing the opening ceremony of Hong Kong Maritime Week 2024 cum World Maritime Merchants Forum 2024.

As a gateway to Asia as well as one of the world's busiest and most efficient ports, Hong Kong has been adjusting itself to a plethora of new requirements in the maritime industry, and has been actively engaging regional and global partners in fueling a green shift.

The WMMF, coupled with the maritime week, is just one example and a calling card of Hong Kong's maritime endeavors. In June, the HKSAR government launched the Green Incentive Scheme, the first of its kind in the world that is Carbon Intensity Indicator-related. Last week, the HKSAR government promulgated the Action Plan on Green Maritime Fuel Bunkering, mapping out a clear roadmap to build Hong Kong into a high-quality green maritime fuel bunkering center.

Agencies



Shipping containers are seen stacked on top of each other at a cargo terminal in Hong Kong on July 18, 2020. (PHOTO / AFP)



## Kamwe: Yanga target early CAF Champions League qualification

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans SC (Yanga) are determined to secure early qualification for the CAF Champions League quarterfinals by winning all their home matches, starting with tomorrow's clash against Al Hilal Omdurman.

After narrowly advancing to the knockout stages last season on the final matchday, Young Africans aim to establish dominance early this time around. With the fervent support of their home fans at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, the team is optimistic about claiming maximum points.

"This time, we absolutely don't want to rely on other teams losing for us to qualify," stated Young Africans Media and Information Manager Ally Kamwe (pictured). "Our fans must be at the stadium to push us forward. Winning all our home matches is non-negotiable."

Following a recent coaching change, German tactician Saed Ramovi has taken over from Miguel Ángel Gamondi.

Ramovi has introduced a dynamic playing style referred to as "touch and pass," which is expected to make Young Africans' gameplay more fluid and challenging for opponents.

Kamwe added: "Ramovi's system will revolutionize our style of play. Al Hilal will face a very different Yanga

this time. We need all fans to buy tickets and witness this exciting new era."

Young Africans have unfinished business with Al Hilal, who eliminated them 2-1 on aggregate in the 2021/22 CAF Champions League qualifiers. That defeat relegated Young Africans to the CAF Confederation Cup, where they reached the final but fell short of lifting the trophy.

"We've waited for this moment to settle old scores with Al Hilal. They are our biggest rivals in this group, and we're ready to show them what we're made of," Kamwe emphasized.

Domestically, Young Africans sit second in the league with 24 points, trailing the leaders Simba SC and Azam FC by a narrow margin.

Their CAF Champions League journey is a priority, as they aim to better last season's performance, where they were eliminated in the quarterfinals by Mamelodi Sundowns in a dramatic penalty shootout.

The clash with Al Hilal is the first of three home matches Young Africans hope to capitalize on to secure early qualification and avoid relying on favourable results from other group stage fixtures.

Young Africans fans are urged to turn out in large numbers to cheer their team toward a winning start in this critical group stage campaign.

## Boxing event to showcase youth talent set for Dar

By Guardian Correspondent

A THRILLING fight night aimed at promoting young talent in boxing and kickboxing is scheduled to take place in Dar es Salaam on November 30 at Pulse Hall.

Speaking to journalists, event organizer Daniel Kijo confirmed that the event will feature 12 matches showcasing fighters from Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

He added that all participants are in the final stages of preparation and will undergo weigh-ins on November 29.

Kijo emphasized that the event aligns with efforts to support President Samia Suluhu Hassan's vision of advancing sports development in Tanzania.

"Our goal is to create a platform for young people to showcase their abilities and talent. This event is not just about competition but also about nur-

turing and discovering talent for the future of boxing in Tanzania," Kijo remarked.

Karim Bhaloo, the event's initiator and one of the boxers stepping into the ring, announced that a new combat sport called Power Slash will be introduced during the event.

"I realized there is a wealth of untapped talent in Tanzania. Through this initiative, we aim to inspire interest in boxing and introduce Power Slash, a sport that is hugely popular abroad but new to Tanzania," Bhaloo said.

Hamis Mwintayi, one of the kickboxers slated to face Bhaloo, expressed his readiness and urged Tanzanians to support the initiative.

"I've trained hard and am fully prepared for this fight. I encourage all Tanzanians to come and support us as we work to elevate the sport in the country," Mwintayi stated.

## MUHAS to build state-of-the-art sports and fitness facility to combat NCDs

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) has unveiled plans to construct a modern sports and fitness center as part of its strategy to tackle the rising prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Tanzania.

MUHAS vice chancellor, Prof. Apollinary Kamuhabwa, announced the initiative during the MUHAS Fundraising Run Season 3, held over the weekend in Dar

es Salaam. The event, which featured 5, 10, and 15-kilometer races, brought together alumni and supporters to raise funds for the facility's construction.

Prof. Kamuhabwa highlighted the urgent need for action against diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular conditions, which are increasingly linked to sedentary lifestyles.

"This sports and fitness center is a crucial step towards encouraging physical activity and fostering wellness among students,

staff, and the surrounding community," said Prof. Kamuhabwa.

The facility will feature a football field, a handball court, shower amenities, and a fully equipped gym. With designs finalized and land secured, construction is set to begin next year.

The vice chancellor emphasized that the development aligns with MUHAS's mission to lead in health education, research, and public health advocacy in Tanzania and beyond.

"This center will enhance our

ability to teach, conduct research, and deliver quality healthcare services," he added, calling on sports stakeholders and philanthropists to support the project financially.

Masha Macatta-Yambi, president of the MUHAS Convocation, lauded the initiative for its potential to inspire regular exercise and improve community health.

"We are proud of this effort, as it addresses the challenges our society faces today. This facility will not only improve health outcomes but also serve as a practi-

cal example of how health professionals can actively promote physical activity," Macatta-Yambi remarked. Dr. Ntuli Kapologwe, director of Preventive Services at the Ministry of Health, also commended the project, noting that it complements the government's 'Mtu ni Afya' campaign, which advocates for physical exercise to strengthen overall health.

"Physical activity is vital for good health, and this initiative aligns perfectly with our national efforts to fight NCDs," Dr. Ka-

pologwe stated.

The proposed sports and fitness center is expected to not only provide recreational opportunities but also foster a culture of wellness in the community. With its innovative approach to health advocacy, MUHAS is setting an example of how institutions can lead in the fight against NCDs.

Construction is anticipated to commence in 2024, with MUHAS urging continued financial and moral support to bring this transformative vision to life.

## Things beginning to fall nicely for Azam

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE reason why so many people love football is the unpredictable nature of the sport. If you had mentioned the words 'title' and 'Azam' in the same sentence in September, you would have been laughed out of the room.

Following a slow start to the 2024/25 NBC Premier League season, it feels like Azam have finally turned the corner under Rachid Taoussi's watch.

On Saturday, the Ice Cream vendors secured their fifth consecutive victory - dispatching lowly Kagera Sugar 1-0 at Chamazi Complex.

As a result, they now find themselves second in the Premier League table - level with Young Africans on 24 points albeit having played one more game than the defending champions.

There is very little gap between the top four sides at the moment, with leaders Simba and fourth placed Singida Black Stars separated by just four points.

Although Azam are still potentially seven points behind Simba, there is a sense that they are heading in the right direction. Everything is looking positive for Azam at the moment. Look back to the 1-0 defeat at Simba and it appeared there was very little Azam fans were going to have to cheer about this season.

The loss at Amaan Stadium took place on the September 26 and already Azam were well out of the title race. They managed to win just two of their opening five league outings this term, registering two draws and one loss along the way.

There were problems both on and off the pitch with Youssouf Dabo axed and his



replacement looking like he would need more time than anticipated. The season seemed to be as good as over.

Since then, however, Azam have taken 15 points from a possible 15. Not only have Taoussi's men won all their

league games, but they have also kept four clean sheets in the process.

Better still, prior to the November international break, Azam delivered their best win of the campaign as they inflicted Young Africans their first

defeat of the season.

They ran out 1-0 winners and fully deserved their big win.

It could not have gone much better for Taoussi (pictured). Things look more promising and appear to be falling nicely into Azam's favour.

However, no one can deny Azam have been less than impressive to watch going forward and their 14 goals in 11 games is enough evidence that attack is one area of the team which still looks like it needs improving.

The current challenge being faced by the team is conversion of chances and shots, and eventually, they will get there.

The team is currently creating more chances regularly but the likes of Feisal Salum, Nassoro Saadun and Jhonier Blanco are struggling to bury them.

A new striker is certainly needed during the mini-transfer window. A reliable goal scorer would surely elevate Azam and boost their title race credentials.

The team has gone through a rough patch and are still not even close to their best yet, but right now, they are decent and will continue to get decent results.

They are no longer the disaster they were in the early days of the campaign and you can now put your money on them.

Now with the kind of football the team is now playing and the feeling that they can only get better and the team, and indeed the club, in general, are on the right track.

With a visit from top four rivals Singida Black Stars up next, a victory in their next game would push the club within one point of leaders Simba.

With well over half of the season remaining, who knows what Azam could achieve this season?



Dar es Salaam Region athletics team pictured recently during a training session at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA



## Why 'extra special' Nwaneri has to remain patient

BBC

WHEN you are mentioned in the same sentence as Cesc Fabregas, the future must be bright.

Arsenal returned to winning ways by overcoming Nottingham Forest 3-0 thanks to some familiar names - and an exciting 17-year-old talent.

Mikel Arteta's side had fallen away in the Premier League title race after failing to win their previous four games.

But Bukayo Saka, who pulled out of England's recent Nations League fixtures with a leg injury, set Arsenal on their way with his first goal in five matches after combining with captain Martin Odegaard.

Saka then teed up Thomas Partey to double the lead before attacking midfielder Ethan Nwaneri, who does not turn 18 until March, offered a glimpse into Arsenal's future by sealing the points with his first top-flight goal.

London-born Nwaneri (17 years and 247 days old) became the second-youngest player to score a Premier League goal for Arsenal, behind only Fabregas (17 years and 113 days in 2004), who went on to win the World Cup with Spain.

"I have seen Ethan Nwaneri a couple of times and he's extra special," former Scotland winger Pat Nevin told BBC Radio 5 Live.

"Arsenal left Kai Havertz and Declan Rice out and we hardly even noticed it."

It was the perfect way for Arteta to mark his 250th game in charge of the Gunners, who moved six points behind leaders Liverpool having played one game more.

Nwaneri became the youngest player in Premier League history when he came on in the closing moments of Arsenal's 3-0 win at Brentford in September 2022 aged just 15 years and 181 days.

"School in the morning, he's got school in the morning," sang Arsenal's travelling fans at the time.

On Saturday, tens of thousands of fans inside Emirates Stadium sang "he's one of our own, Ethan Nwaneri, he's one of our own" after he scored.

Fans have been calling for the teenager to get more minutes after promising performances in the EFL Cup, and his well-taken goal against Forest will only add to the clamour.

He has scored four goals in 238 minutes this season, with 170 of those minutes in the EFL Cup, 60 in the Premier League and eight in the Champions League.

Across the big five European leagues, Nwaneri is one of only two players aged under 18 to have scored more than once across all competitions this term after 17-year-old Barcelona and Spain talent Lamine Yamal.

Arteta explained why he was managing Nwaneri's minutes "step by step" after the win over Forest.

"He's giving us all the reasons to play, another reason to put him there," said the Arsenal boss.

"I am responsible to build a career for him. You have to do that brick by brick. Today he put another brick.

"Now we have to put cement, make sure it doesn't get dry so we can put another one and that will stick. Then we put one more layer, one more layer.

"If you want to put five in a row believe me - it won't work. We have to manage not only his expectation but his workload as well, which is really important.

"You can sense how much the crowd loves watching this kid play and the energy."

Odegaard now has two assists in his past two league appearances since returning from a serious ankle injury.

"It's not a coincidence, the team flows in a different way when he is playing," added Arteta.

"When he's in the team, you can sense something that is different. It's difficult to put a finger on it, but it's different."

Meanwhile, Saka finished the game with another assist - his eighth in the Premier League this season - as well as opening the scoring.

Arteta believes a fit and firing Odegaard and Saka can help haul the Gunners - who had dropped 10 points in their previous four league games before Saturday - back into the title race.

"There's chemistry, sometimes you meet somebody, straight away you make eye contact and something flows. That's the case with those two," said Arteta.

"When you put them together in the right spaces, things flourish and things happen naturally. With others, you try to force it and it doesn't work.

"With these two, we are very lucky to have them."

# More misery for City following rout by Spurs, Arsenal return to form

By Reuters . LONDON

**M**ANCHESTER City's calamitous spell continued with a shocking 4-0 rout by Tottenham Hotspur on Saturday, while Arsenal returned to winning ways in the Premier League with a confident 3-0 victory over Nottingham Forest.

Aston Villa's winless streak continued when they were held to a 2-2 draw at home to lowly Crystal Palace.

James Maddison scored twice while Pedro Porro also netted and Brennan Johnson added a fourth for Spurs deep in added time as the Londoners subjected City to their most lopsided loss at the Etihad Stadium.

The limp display left hundreds of shell-shocked City fans beating a hasty exit, ending the champion's record run of 52 consecutive home matches unbeaten in all competitions.

City manager Pep Guardiola, who signed a two-year contract extension two days earlier, has now lost five consecutive games across all competitions for the first time



Arsenal's Jurrien Timber scores their first goal before it is disallowed during their Premier League match against Nottingham Forest at Emirates Stadium, in London, Britain on November 23, 2024. REUTERS

in his career, and three in a row in the league in his tenure with City.

The loss left City five points adrift of league leaders Liverpool, with the Reds having a game in hand. Spurs climbed to sixth.

"In this moment we are fragile defensively," Guardiola said. "In eight years we have never lived this kind of situation. Now we have to live it and break it by winning the next games, especially the next one. Now we see things in one way, maybe in a few weeks we see it differently."

Goals by Bukayo Saka, Thomas Partey and teen-

ager Ethan Nwaneri got Arsenal back on track after four league games without a win in manager Mikel Arteta's 250th game in charge.

Arsenal stayed in fourth spot, level on 22 points with third-placed Chelsea who began the day's action with a 2-1 victory away at Leicester City, and one point behind City.

Leaders Liverpool have 28 points ahead of their Sunday clash with bottom club Southampton.

Arsenal began the day level on points with surprise package Forest but outclassed the Midlands club in the London rain.

The returning Saka and captain Martin Odegaard were hugely influential for Arsenal, combining after 15 minutes for Saka to clip a superb left-footed drive high past Forest keeper Matz Sels.

### FIRST GOAL

Partey curled in Arsenal's second after 52 minutes and 17-year-old Nwaneri, on as a substitute, put the icing on the cake with his first Premier League goal late on.

"It's not a coincidence. The team flows in a different way when (Odegaard) is playing," Arteta said of his skipper who returned from a long injury lay-off earlier this

month.

"When he is on the team you sense something different even if it's hard to put your finger on it."

Goals by Nicolas Jackson and Enzo Fernandez secured the points for Chelsea as their manager Enzo Maresca returned to haunt his former club. Jordan Ayew's stoppage-time penalty came too late for the hosts.

Aston Villa have now gone six games without a win in all competitions as their early-season surge has stalled.

They needed a late headed equaliser by Ross Barkley to take a point against a Palace side who twice led.

Ismaila Sarr gave Palace the early lead before Ollie Watkins levelled and the hosts then squandered a chance to go ahead as Youri Tielemans had his penalty saved by Dean Henderson. Justin Devenny restored Palace's lead almost immediately but the Londoners were unable to secure only their second league win.

Palace remained third from bottom with eight points but Wolverhampton Wanderers climbed out of the relegation

zone with a thumping 4-1 victory away at Fulham.

Matheus Cunha scored two superb goals to take his league tally for the season to seven and also set up a third for his side after Fulham went ahead after 20 minutes with an Alex Iwobi curler from the edge of the box.

Wolves' second league win of the season put them on nine points from 12 games and into 17th place.

Brighton & Hove Albion joined Arsenal and Chelsea on 22 points with a 2-1 victory at Bournemouth thanks to goals by Joao Pedro and Kaoru Mitoma as they maintained their best-ever start to a top-flight season.

The visitors did end with 10 men though after Carlos Baleba was shown a second yellow card on the hour.

Everton had 27 goal attempts at home to 10-man Brentford but could make none of them count as they drew 0-0 - a result that left them in 15th place in the table. Brentford played half the game with 10 men after Christian Norgaard was dismissed for a bad challenge on Everton keeper Jordan Pickford.

## 'In eight years we never lived like this' - what is wrong at Man City?

By Simon Stone

MANCHESTER City manager Pep Guardiola looked back on the stunning 4-0 home defeat by Tottenham and delivered a simple truth. "We have to accept the reality and break it," he said.

Given he began his post-match news conference by saying "when you lose 4-0 there is not much to say" before offering his congratulations to Spurs on their biggest away win at City, Guardiola then spent quite a bit of time talking about it.

How, after so much success over such a long period of time, "a dip" was inevitable.

How "little details" were the cause of major problems, due in part, but not exclusively, to the number of injuries his side are struggling to cope with.

How his belief in the players has not been shaken because of all they have achieved for him.

But also how he will not ignore the reality of five successive defeats, something he has never experienced as a manager and City as a club last went through in 2006, when Stuart Pearce was in charge.

Nether can he ignore that Liverpool would move eight points clear with a win at Southampton on Sunday - with a meeting with City at Anfield next up.

"In eight years we never lived this. I knew sooner or later we would drop. I never expected to lose three Premier League games in a row but we have been incredibly consistent again and again and again. Now we cannot deny the real-

ity that sometimes happens in football and life is here."

### 'How bad is it for Man City?'

- City's current run represents the longest losing streak of Guardiola's managerial career, and their worst since 2006 under Stuart Pearce
- This is the first time City have lost three successive Premier League games under Guardiola
- Guardiola had never previously lost a home league game by four goals in his managerial career
- This is the joint-biggest defeat for Guardiola as a manager. He also lost 4-0 to Everton in 2017 and Barcelona in the Champions League in 2016 - and with Bayern Munich against Real Madrid in 2014
- Saturday's reverse is City's heaviest defeat at Etihad Stadium
- City are the first reigning top-flight champions to lose five games in a row in all competitions since Chelsea in March 1956
- This was City's worst home league defeat since a 5-1 loss to Arsenal in 2003
- It was also the earliest City have been 2-0 down in a Premier League home game since December 2010 (19th minute v Everton)
- Guardiola has now lost to Tottenham more often than any other opponent (9).
- This was just the third time a team has won away against the reigning Premier League champions by four or more

goals.

- City had 23 shots in this game to no avail, their most in a Premier League game they failed to score in since a 2-0 loss to Manchester United in March 2021.

### 'Where are things going wrong for the champions?'

The stats show several areas - apart from just the results - where City are in decline.

City are being hit on the counter-attack much more than during any other season under Guardiola. They have faced an average of 1.17 shots on the counter per game this season. The previous highest total was 0.66 two seasons ago.

Four of Spurs' five chances in the second half were from what Opta call a fast break - including Pedro Porro and Brennan Johnson's goals.

This season, excluding penalties, they are conceding 1.25 goals a game - compared to 0.79 last term. They are only conceding a similar amount of shots per game (7.8 now compared to 7.7 last

term) - but the quality of those shots is much better with the expected goals conceded (xGC) of 1.26 v 0.8 last time.

They are struggling to cope with the absence of Rodri, the best defensive midfielder in the world and Ballon d'Or winner.

In Premier League games with him in the team since the start of last season they have won 78% of games when he plays and 50% without him. On defeats it's even starker - 0% with him and 43% without him.

An ageing squad is not helping. Some 52% of their league minutes have been played by players aged 29 or over - the highest figure of any team in this season's Premier League.

Their form has visibly dropped during the season too, with their shots on target dropping from an average of 7.3 in their first 14 games in all competitions compared to 4.8 in their five defeats - and opposition shots on target rising from 2.4 to 6.

Their goals for and against have almost reversed in that time - from

2.3-0.8 to 0.8-2.8.

"We are a bit fragile right now"

Despite a bright start, City were ultimately deservedly beaten by a Tottenham side who outplayed their hosts.

"We are a bit fragile right now, that is obvious," said Guardiola. "We struggled to score goals and after when they arrived they scored.

"We are playing with a little bit of negativity in our thoughts but this is normal. Football is a sense of mood.

"We were always a consistent team conceding few chances. Our game was about control.

"This is not a team created to do box-to-box 40 times in a game - we are not good at that. We were always a team who conceded few but now we concede more. I would like there to just be one reason but there are many."

Former England striker Alan Shearer, said on Match of the Day: "There were so many things wrong. It's not just not having Rodri, it is defenders not defending properly. They haven't got the press right all

over the park.

"There is plenty to work on, there was no protection and they were too open.

"Liverpool away is a massive game next weekend for Man City. For the first time I would have real concerns over them. I am seeing too many worrying signs. If Liverpool win on Sunday and next week, I think Man City would find it really tough."

Former Manchester United defender Gary Neville described it as a "sobering day" for the champions, while ex-Tottenham midfielder Jamie Redknapp said Man City were "too easy to play against".

Ex-Man City defender Micah Richards told Sky Sports: "I am flabbergasted. Spurs showed great quality but from Man City it was truly awful.

"They got dominated in midfield, they look like there is a lack of energy, a lack of conviction.

"I thought Pep's new contract would give them a buzz. Today it feels like more than a blip."

BBC

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

More misery for City following rout by Spurs, Arsenal return to form

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## Simba's CAF prep: Davids optimistic after narrow win over Pamba Jiji



By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA SC head coach Fadlu Davids has expressed confidence that his team's narrow 1-0 win over Pamba Jiji FC in the NBC Premier League has provided valuable preparation for their upcoming CAF Confederation Cup group stage opener against Angola's Bravos do Maquis.

The match, held at CCM Kirumba Stadium in Mwanza, showcased Simba's tactical discipline and determination.

A 22nd-minute penalty converted by Leonel Ateba, following a foul by Pamba Jiji defender Christopher Oruchum, secured the crucial victory.

Ateba confidently dispatched the spot-kick, giving Simba the lead and, ultimately, all three points.

Despite dominating the first half, Simba struggled to extend their advantage as Pamba Jiji mounted a spirited defense.

The second half saw the hosts pushing for an equalizer with quick counter-attacks, but Simba's backline and goalkeeper Moussa Camara held firm, preserving the narrow lead.

The victory elevated Simba to the top of the Premier League standings with 28 points from 11 matches, boasting nine wins, one draw, and one loss.

With domestic duties momentarily set aside, Simba now shift their focus to their continental campaign.

Simba will host Bravos do Maquis at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium on Wednesday in their CAF Confederation Cup Group A opener.

The group also features Tunisia's CS Sfaxien and Algeria's CS Constantine, presenting Simba with a challenging path to the knockout stages.

After the Pamba Jiji match, Davids (pic-

ture) highlighted the importance of the game in fine-tuning his team's readiness for continental competition.

"This game was essential for preparing the squad for the CAF Confederation Cup," Davids said. "It was a tough encounter, but the intensity and physicality were exactly what we needed to ensure the players are match-ready."

He added that while players returning from international duty would integrate soon, the rest of the squad benefitted greatly from the test.

Simba resumed training upon their return to Dar es Salaam, with a focus on refining tactics and strategies. The home advantage at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium will be crucial, as Simba aim to begin their group stage campaign with a win.

"Our group is tough, with strong opponents like CS Sfaxien and CS Constantine, but we are confident. Starting with a home win is vital, and we are ready to fight for every point," Davids stated.

Simba's rich continental experience, coupled with the form of key players like Jean Charles Ahoua, Ateba, and Che Malone Fondoh, positions them as strong contenders.

The team's recent success in the Premier League has also boosted morale ahead of their CAF campaign.

Group A promises stiff competition. CS Sfaxien, a three-time CAF Confederation Cup champion, and CS Constantine, a North African powerhouse, will be formidable adversaries. Bravos do Maquis, though less experienced, are expected to be resilient challengers.

Simba supporters, renowned for their passionate support, are anticipated to create an electrifying atmosphere at the stadium.

The Msimbazi Street giants aim to build on their impressive record in African competitions and make a strong statement in their opening fixture.

With momentum on their side, Simba are ready to prove their mettle and begin their CAF Confederation Cup journey on a high note.

# Coach Ramovic promises Yanga will 'give everything' to beat Al Hilal



By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

AS Young Africans embark on the Sead Ramovic era, their first test comes in an intriguing CAF Champions League clash against Al Hilal at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium tomorrow.

Ramovic (pictured), appointed during the international break, faces a baptism of fire as he comes up against a decent Sudanese team that knocked out Young Africans out of the CAF Champions League three years ago.

The former TS Galaxy coach inherits a team trying to recover from back-to-back defeats in the NBC Premier League prior to the international break under his predecessor Miguel Gamondi.

And now the focus of the week is on the new man in town as the Serbian boss takes charge of his first match as the head coach of Young Africans.

Ramovic has insisted his side will give everything to win against Florent Ibengé's Al Hilal side who arrived in the country last week ahead of the opening match of the Group Stage.

"I am absolutely pleased we have an amazing group of players, high quality. Now it is just about us, how fast we can implement my high intensity and attractive style of play. It takes time of course but the players have great characters and we

are on the right track.

"The Champions League is on schedule. We will try to give everything on the field for our supporters and for the club and of course for ourselves," said the coach.

He added: "We watched Al Hilal, how they play and what they do. It is a very strong team. Very physical team and we have a plan how we should approach

the game. This is how we train."

While his tactical imprint will be under immediate scrutiny against Al Hilal, Ramovic pleaded for time to implement his rock and roll style of play.

He said: "I think that every coach and everyone that is involved in this business knows that you need time. I will give you one example

so that you may see what I mean. If you go to the gym today to try to build up nice muscles, do you think you will see changes after six days?"

"Maybe after one, two to three months then you can see the right transformation in your body. Everything takes time and this is the same with players.

"My style of play is a little

bit different. I like this kind of heavy rock and roll game to attack, press and not to let the opponent breathe.

"This one takes a lot of physical work. It takes time but I am sure when we get to this stage with the individual quality of the players we have, Young Africans will have a lot of fun. This is something I can promise."

## ...relies on players' experience for CAF CL group stage success

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

YOUNG Africans SC head coach Sead Ramovic has expressed confidence in his squad as they gear up to take on Sudanese giants Al Hilal in their CAF Champions League Group Stage opener tomorrow at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The match marks Ramovic's first competitive fixture since assuming the helm at the club, and despite the limited preparation time, the Serbian tactician is optimistic about his team's prospects.

Ramovic praised the pro-

fessionalism and determination of his players, emphasizing their ability to rise to the occasion.

"It's true that it's only been a few days since I started working with the team, but I don't want to use that as an excuse for not performing well," Ramovic said. "I knew a lot about this team before I arrived, and now that I'm here, I enjoy working with players who are well-motivated, self-aware, and highly motivated to succeed."

The coach acknowledged that while FIFA international breaks have limited his ability to make tactical changes, the players' morale

and commitment have been key strengths in adapting to his methods.

Young Africans, the reigning Tanzania Mainland Premier League champions, will be looking to make a strong start in the group stage.

The team's recent history against Al Hilal has been challenging, with the Sudanese side often proving a tough opponent.

"We need to start well, especially since we are playing at home. The players will give us a good chance to do that because of their determination and hunger for success," Ramovic noted.

The team recently moved

their training sessions to the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium to acclimate to the playing surface and atmosphere, underscoring their commitment to securing a solid performance.

Young Africans' CAF Champions League campaign is a critical part of their season's ambitions. Following their historic run to the CAF Confederation Cup final in 2022/23, the club aims to solidify its position as a dominant force in African football.

"Everything we are doing is being implemented step by step, and I believe this will enable us to improve

quickly," Ramovic said.

Ramovic's appointment has generated excitement among Young Africans fans, who are eager to see the team's continental progress under his leadership.

The passionate home crowd at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium is expected to provide a significant boost as the team looks to make a statement in their opening fixture.

The match against Al Hilal not only serves as a stern test but also an opportunity for Young Africans to showcase their resilience and ambition in pursuit of continental success.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

