



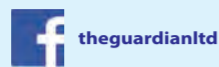
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MONDAY 25 SEPTEMBER, 2023

National Pg 3
NSSF collects 56bn/-



National Pg 4
FAO joins drive to curb WHC



National Pg 6
Govt introduces land clinics



BoT purchases gold, expects reserves boost

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

THE Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has begun implementing a plan to buy gold from small-scale miners and larger firms to simplify the country's mineral trade.

Emmanuel Tutuba, the governor, made this affirmation over the weekend when speaking with journalists at the BoT pavilion at the ongoing mining technology exhibition here.

BoT is all out to boost internal reserves and increase the country's access to foreign currency, he said, noting that the government has taken up a long time appeal from small miners and the country's gold miners to check the situation of not having a reliable market.

"We have started buying gold from small miners at the global market price," he said, affirming that even within the precincts of that exhibition, BoT has already bought 418 kgs at the main gold market.

He discounted the threat of BoT incurring massive losses like various banks that went bust after purchasing large amounts of counterfeit gold, as BoT buys processed gold at plants that add value at internationally accepted standards, thus it has no fear it will commerce with unscrupulous gold traders.

Traders and other members of the public who had deposited money in banks that went bankrupt need to take their documents to BoT to be repaid their deposits.

Dr Doto Biteko, Deputy Prime Minister doubling as Energy minister, opened the show. It was dominated by gold mining at the weekend, remarking that the central bank has been tasked with setting up the Tanzania gold reserve.

Already the government has taken a major step, asking members of the public and miners specifically to use these opportunities provided by the government to see their processed gold output.

Minerals minister Anthony Mavunde said that the mining sector's contribution to national income was growing, reaching 9.8 per cent at the end of the past year and leads in contributing to foreign currency earnings, set at 56 per cent of total earnings.

"During fiscal 2022/23 we sold gold and other minerals valued at 3.3bn/-," he said, pledging to enhance efforts to make the minerals sector increasingly the leading source of income for a breadth of the public.

Christopher Kadeo, the Geita Region Miners Association (GEREMA) chairman said that the BoT decision to start buying gold will help small miners

Tourism Day, indoor travel show on today

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

AN annual World Tourism Day memorial will be held alongside the second edition of East African's premier indoor travel and tourism show starts here today, climaxing on Wednesday.

Marcel Leijzer, the technical cooperation manager for the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is expected to be in place for this event, accompanied by top government officials from the responsible ministry, officials said.

Dustan Kitandula the Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister and permanent secretary Dr. Hassan Abbasi, are expected, hosted by the regional commissioner, John Mongela.

The high-profile congregation that draws hundreds of tourism players from around the world, are partially in a better position to appreciate the country's endowments thanks to the impact of 'Tanzania: The Royal Tour' documentary prominently featuring President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The World Tourism Day memorial and the indoor tourism and travel fair in the East Africa region are being organised by the Rethinking Tourism Africa (RTA), a travel consultancy, in partnership with the prestigious Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA).

IAA rector Prof. Eliamani Sedoyeka said that as a public academic institution IAA is duty-bound to partner with the community to share ideas, knowledge, research and innovation for sustainable development. The institute is collaborating with RTA to host events to mark World Tourism Day, he stated.

RTA official Edna Foya said that organisers are optimistic that this year's delegates and exhibitors will surpass the 400 received last year, thanks to international tourism market



Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute experts in heart surgery for children and a colleague of theirs from Poland's Jagiellonian University, Prof Tomasz Mroczek, move to repair a child's coronary blood vessels. This was at a recent five-day camp for the treatment of heart diseases among children held at the Dar es Salaam-based JKCI. The visiting professor, reckoned as one of medical specialists widely known for the particular kind of surgery, is at JKCI to see how doctors there perform the delicate surgery and how he could help in making them fare even better. Photo courtesy of JKCI

“Now is the time for new and innovative solutions, not just traditional investments that promote and underpin economic growth and productivity

recovery from COVID-19 pandemic infused doldrums.

Upwards of 450 both delegates and exhibitors are slated to take part in this year's event along with media outlets and thousands of visitors from across the region and beyond, she stated.

"This is the perfect business avenue for tourism sector entrepreneurs as they would be able to engage tourism business operators and their various associates, sales promotion personnel and relevant decision makers in the tourism industry, all under one roof," she stated.

World

TURN TO Page2

CEO seeking investments, backing for foundation

By Guardian Correspondent, London

IN an innovative move, CRDB Bank group CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela is spearheading a mission to introduce the bank and the Tanzanian financial sector to the global stage.

The CEO has been holding

meetings with asset managers, commercial bank executives and development finance institutions scattered across the United States, Britain, the European Union, the Middle East and Africa.

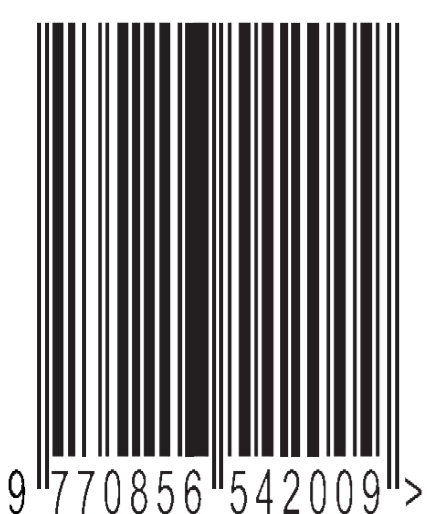
He has been seeking to put up collaborative efforts with industry

TURN TO Page2



CRDB Bank group CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela addresses one of an ongoing series of meetings with potential investors in the UK, where he is leading a team of experts from the bank in discussions with investors and financial partners. It is all part of a strategic drive meant to win Tanzania more foreign direct investments. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

“During fiscal 2022/23 we sold gold and other minerals valued at 3.3bn/-



TPHPA wipes out 5m invasive birds

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame,

Arusha

OVER five million weaver birds have been snuffed out in Manyara Region in the ongoing exercise to clear the Quelea species invading paddy farms at Magugu in Babati District.

The four-day long exercise is being undertaken by the Tanzania Plant Health and

“But we are well prepared to combat such outbreaks with modern technology such as large drones, environment friendly chemicals and manpower

Pesticides Authority (TPHPA) following the invasion of the

1000 acres placed under acute threat.

According to Gladman Mbukoi, the TPHPA Pests and Outbreaks Control expert, the destructive birds were capable of destroying over 50 tonnes of the food crops on farms per day and could clear entire farms within a very short period of time.

He said the exercise was difficult because huge swarms

of the birds had blanketed the entire area, blitzing onto the paddy farms and feeding at alarming speeds.

The agency had to deploy aerial spraying of avian pesticides dissolved in diesel, he said, noting that the work was taking place mostly during the night when the weavers settle on trees for the night.

Local farmers like Mariam

Gadiel, a rice grower in Magugu, said that the birds' invasion was out of control as hundreds of people tasked to watch the farms and drive them away the birds could not cope with the vast swarms of queleas.

Kanas Sulu, the district agriculture officer, said the birds were negatively impacting

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Tourism Day, indoor travel show on today

FROM PAGE 1

Tourism Day 2023 will be a call to action to the international community, governments, multilateral financial institutions, development partners and private sector investors to unite around a new tourism investment strategy, a preliminary profile asserts.

The international observance day for tourism will highlight the vital need to deliver investment for projects that work for people by investing in education and skills, and works for the planet by investing in sustainable infrastructure and accelerating green transformation. Prosperity is

also envisioned in such a strategy by investing in innovation, technology and entrepreneurship, it asserted.

The UNWTO has identified investments as a key priority for tourism's recovery and future growth and development, the profile noted.

For World Tourism Day 2023, UNWTO highlights the need for more and better-targeted investments for people, for the planet and for prosperity.

"Now is the time for new and innovative solutions, not just traditional investments that promote and underpin economic growth and productivity," it affirms.



Michael John, division officer for Kwekivu in Kilindi District, pictured at the weekend having a word with miners alleged to have invaded the area. This followed complaints by pastoralists that mining activities were polluting water points on which both people and livestock depend. Photo: Correspondent Dege Masoli

CEO seeks investments, backing for foundation

FROM PAGE 1

leaders such as JP Morgan, a leading investment bank in the United States, Afriexim Bank which handled import-export trade, as well as Standard Bank, a UK financial powerhouse linked with the Standard Chartered Group often operating from Hong Kong, and Stanbic Bank Group based in South Africa, with extensive operations in Tanzania.

During his extensive tour, the CEO's discussions have encompassed a wide array of subjects, ranging from Tanzania's investment opportunities, sustainable

innovative financing, boosting intra-African trade and promoting financial inclusion via the CRDB Bank Foundation.

Nsekela believes that Tanzania's friendly investment policy, peace and stability, substantial debt endurance capacity, stable inflation rates collectively render it an attractive destination for investors.

Recent data from the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) paints an encouraging picture, as the August 2023 Monthly Investment Factsheet affirms that 58 investment projects were approved, representing a total value of \$931.6m. The projects have the potential to

generate an impressive 25,731 new jobs, spanning diverse sectors such as manufacturing, transport, agriculture, tourism, commercial building, services, and economic infrastructure, it stated.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) notably constitutes upwards of 38 percent of these projects, indicating strong international confidence in Tanzania's economic horizon, it asserted.

Expected FDI flows are likely to enhance overall productivity through healthy competition, boosting economic stability in the region, it said.

Last year, CRDB Bank solidified international strategic partnerships with French investment bank Proparco, the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), and the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC), raising over 500bn/- to extend soft credits to small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

The CEO remarked that this achievement underscores CRDB Bank's global standing and its dedicated efforts to underpinning economic stability in the wake of shock waves of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He asserted that Tanzania's economic resurgence extends across commercial and industrial domains, making it an alluring prospect for a wide range of foreign investors.

He praised the far-reaching reforms taken up by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, which have significantly improved the business climate obtained the attention of numerous investors.

Facilitating meetings with key players in the global economy and foreign traders arose from the pivotal role played by these reforms, he added.

Over 10,000 Dar residents land services at a 3-day Shia medical camp

By Guardian Reporter

AT least 10,000 city residents turned up for free medical services during a three-day camp organised by the Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri society in Dar es Salaam.

During the camp, the society also educated residents about the teachings of Imam Hussain as part of commemorations to mark his death anniversary. Imam Hussein died in Iran some 1300 years ago.

Among other services, the camp, which concluded on Saturday, offered free check-ups for cervical cancer, breast cancer, mental health, blood pressure as well as blood donation.

The association's chairperson, Muhammedraza Dewji said in collaboration with the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) and the Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI) they conducted breast cancer check-ups for 241 women while 163 others underwent cervical cancer testing.

He said the three-day camp was successful as it recorded a high turnout of people who visited to get medical services and education on Imam Hussain's teachings.

"Due to this huge turnout, we think of adding three more days for next year's camp so as to help more people," Dewji stated.

He argued that due to big turnout this year it forced them to control the congestion by closing doors early in a modality of 'first come, first served.'

Dewji said they received 4000 people who were seeking eye check-up, out of which 220 were diagnosed with cataract and were referred to the society's hospitals of KSI Temeke and Medwell in Coast Region for free treatment.

On the other hand, 1871 people were found to have visual impairment and were given drugs.

On blood donation, he said they managed to collect 510 bottles which will help patients in hospitals.

"Donating blood has to be a routine for every individual because it is a humanity exercise that aims to serve lives," he said.

On his part, a specialist doctor from Ibrahim Hajji Hospital, Amir Khanji said donating blood is a good thing because it saves lives. He urged people not to wait for their relatives to get sick to donate blood; insisting the voluntary exercise should be done regularly.

TPHPA wipes out 5m invasive birds

FROM PAGE 1

the farming sector, prompting local authorities to seek help from TPHPA offices in Arusha.

"Farmers have seen 100 percent loss of harvests," he said, while Juma Mwinymkuu, the acting zonal manager, said the birds' invasion was being projected at the start of the dry season, chiefly in September and October.

"But we are well prepared to combat such outbreaks with modern technology such as large drones, environment friendly chemicals and manpower," he said.

Godlove Kirimbo, the acting supervisor for pests and outbreak control, said in undertaking such exercises, they usually rely on assistance from the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Food Program (WFP).

The Quelea birds have been known for causing serious damage to crops in Africa when they migrate, usually destroying small grains like rice and sorghum.

Queleas move in swarms as they happen to be the most populous bird species on earth with nearly 2.0bn of them sprouting in the relevant weather conditions worldwide.

Their breeding grounds are widely distributed in Tanzania and across Africa where they roost in large flocks estimated at 30m birds in kindred waves.

Nearly 8m of the birds were downing on farms in Magugu Ward, destroying rice and other crops before the agency unfolded its containment operation, officials noted.



Agricultural Seed Agency production director Dr Justin Ringo (R) briefs Umyy Nderiananga (next to him), Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), yesterday on seed processing. She was on a tour of the agency's office in Morogoro municipality to assess progress in the implementation of the national Agriculture and Fisheries Development Programme coordinated by her office. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Russian Cultural Centre organises special spiritual awareness festival

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Russian Cultural Centre has organised a special spiritual awareness festival meant to strengthen relations among people of different beliefs as well as promote peace and unity.

Held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, the event brought together clergy members of Orthodox, representatives from Roman Catholic Churches, Sheikhs and Protestant churches.

Russian Embassy Counsellor and

Director of the Centre, Alexey Bondaruk said the principal purpose of the gathering was to create a platform for a constructive dialogue between people with diverse beliefs, inclinations, traditions and customs, but walking in harmony, as it is evidenced in the Russian Federation.

Bondaruk said the idea came up after considering the general positive situation of peaceful and constructive co-existence of major world religions

in Tanzania.

He said that therefore, it was deemed prudent to organize an event that would shed light to the wide public on the social, political and religious situation prevailing in the Russian federation as well as in other friendlier countries.

"In order to give the event a befitting status, we organized a photo exhibition of Russian icon art, a physical presentation of a collection of religious icons

as well as screening of contemporary film with orthodox spiritual themes with a Russia historical background," he explained.

According to him, the Russian cultural centre runs a wide range of activities including educational, scientific, and cultural programmes.

It organizes exhibitions and presentations, scientific conferences, renders enrolment assistance to qualified Tanzanian students wishing to join univer-

sities, engages in language development (teaching and translation).

Speaking on behalf of other leaders, Sheikh Musa Kundecha, from the Inter-Religious Council commended the Spiritual Awareness Festival organised by the Russian Culture Centre saying it was a good great opportunity for them to share and learn evidence from Russia federal.

He said the event is very important to build to create a platform for con-

structive dialogue between people of diverse inclinations, and traditions as evidenced in the Federation of Russia.

"As leaders, we have a big role to ensure our people live in harmony and there are no wars or fights among the society as our friend Russia lives," he added.

Sheikh Kundecha said that Russia has many religious institutions such as Protestants, Catholic, orthodox and Muslims but they all walk in harmony.

TBS opens the fourth phase of National Awards Competition

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIA Bureau of Standards (TBS) has opened the fourth phase of the National Awards Competition for the year 2023 that aims to encourage innovation and improvement of products and services.

Opening the competition over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, Lazaro Msasalaga TBS acting Director General said producers and service providers need to build a culture of producing quality and competitive products in the country.

Msasalaga said applications for

participation in the competition started on Saturday where they can be submitted in hard copy or electronically at TBS offices in various regions in the country.

He said one of the good measures taken by the government through the Ministry of Industry and Trade to promote local product is to create a culture of appreciating the quality of products produced in the country by establishing national quality awards as part of the incentive to various producers.

He also said the goals of establishing the awards include recognising

and congratulating individuals who have made a significant contribution to improving quality infrastructure, noting that the competition also aims to recognise institutions that perform well in terms of product quality during the implementation of their product production or service delivery activities.

"Our hope is that the award competition for the fourth season in 2023, which we are launching today, will receive great enthusiasm from quality stakeholders and thus lead to productive competition in the products they produce," he said.

He said the preparation, management and evaluation of the awards are done by a special committee that involves various institutions including the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF), TBS, Zanzibar Bureau Standards (ZBS), Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA), and Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TANTRADE).

He said among the criteria used to find the winners is what is being done by the relevant institution or individual to increase the quality

of products, services, efficiency in production or work performance in general.

Gaspar Kahungya, TPSF representative said the competition is important because it will increase competition in the market, especially for producers of goods in the private sector.

He also congratulated TBS for organizing the competition, which is important for the private sector and the country as a whole, especially in ensuring the availability of quality products produced in the country.

Baraka Mbajiji, TBS coordinator

of the Excellence Awards said the process of how to participate in the competition is to fill in the forms that are available on the TBS, TPSF and ZBS websites where the participant will fill in the form and sign based on the information according to each participation group.

"We welcome entrepreneurs and businessmen to use this opportunity to participate in this competition to show the quality of their products. The doors have already opened and the deadline for receiving these applications will be October 20 this year," he said.



Azania Bank Limited's Geita branch manager, Rhoda Baluhya (L), briefs Deputy Prime Minister Dr Doto Biteko (in tie), who is also Energy minister late last week. This was at the bank's pavilion shortly after the opening of the 6th Geita Mining and Technology Exhibition. Right is Minerals minister Anthony Mavunde and to Dr Biteko's right is Geita regional commissioner Martine Shigella. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

In memory



Halima Yusuf Kasungu

In memory of our beloved **HALIMA YUSUF KASUNGU** who was called by the LORD on 24/9/2022.

Greatly missed by husband, sons, grandchildren, relatives and friends. May the Almighty accord you eternal peace.

Amen

Government unhappy with sensational reporting on the social media platforms

By Correspondent Emmanuel

Onyang'o

THE government has expressed dismay over the recent video that depicted a seven-year-old child being punished with both hands and legs being tied up and left hanging in a high compound.

Dr. Nandera Mhando, Commissioner for Social Welfare in the Ministry of Community Development, Children and Special Groups made the remarks when responding to the recent video that went viral in various social media platforms, causing pensive mood to the public.

She said that displaying such kinds of videos is a sensational reporting that portrays acts of violation and children's rights which is contrary to section 9 of the Child Act of 2009.

She said: "The government had prohibited parents and media stakeholders not to capture and post pictures which portrays cruelty against children below 18 years old in an online platform or television or published in print media."

Dr. Nandera is of the view that such kinds of videos cause shock and furthermore creates an emotional move and anger which is likely to result in bloodshed in the community or among family members, asking those who take video and post in the social media to stop doing so.

Maltin Chuwa, Chairman of the Community Development Officers Union in the country said that the woman who is alleged to have done such a thing has disappeared and is

nowhere to be seen.

"Once she is arrested, would be taken to hospital for check-up to ascertain if her brain works properly. And once is confirmed to be mentally fit, then she would be arraigned before the court of law to answer the charges which are against the section 9 of child act of

2009," she noted.

SOS Children's Village was established in Tanzania in 1991, and up to now the organization has a total five main centres. Four of which are in the mainland which are located in Arusha, Mwanza, Dar es Salaam, Iringa, and one in Zanzibar.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: No. RFP/2023/SUP/020 FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF THE DESIGN, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF AN OFF-GRID SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER PROJECT AT NYARUGUSU AND NDUTA CAMP AND THE HOSTING COMMUNITIES OF KASULU AND KIBONDO

1. Background:

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Dar es Salaam invites reputable and qualified service providers to submit firm offers for the establishment of a Contract for the Provision of the Design, Supply, Installation and Operation & maintenance of an Off-Grid Solar Photovoltaic Power Project at Nyarugusu and Nduta Camp and the hosting communities of Kasulu and Kibondo

2. Eligibility:

Suppliers duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele, and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's requirements are invited to participate in the bidding process.

Kindly download the tender documents in the below link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1djYMygeE8-eePwv87qmb7FYoYSHru-oM?usp=sharing>

If you fail to access the link, please write to ndassa@unhcr.org and copy ishobeza@unhcr.org

CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS INVITATION TO BID

Deadline for receiving requests for clarification	16 th October 2023 at 2359 hours EAT
Deadline for submission of offers	23 rd October 2023 at 1600 hours EAT

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is among the leading conservation organizations working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people. By teaming up with other stakeholders, The Nature Conservancy, is implementing the Lake Tanganyika program in four countries bordering the Lake Tanganyika. In Tanzania, TNC is actively working with Nkasi District Council to foster and enhance community-based conservation and protection of Lake Tanganyika.

The lake and its surrounding communities face a confluence of challenges that threaten the delicate balance of this ecosystem and the well-being of its inhabitants. Rapid population growth, unsustainable fishing practices, deforestation, inadequate waste management, and limited access to education and healthcare have all contributed to the complex tapestry of issues facing the area.

In response to these challenges, the Lake Tanganyika Program was established, building on a decade of experience from the Tuungane program. Covering the entire four-nation basin, this initiative aims to bring together science, local knowledge, and proven methods to address the ecological health of Lake Tanganyika while simultaneously improving the socio-economic conditions of the people who depend on its resources.

To gauge the impact of the Lake Tanganyika program, ongoing measurement and assessment are crucial. Furthermore, it highlights the intricate link between ecological well-being and human prosperity, emphasizing the importance of harmonious coexistence for present and future generations.

It is in that context that TNC wishes to hire a Vendor whose responsibility will be to conduct a baseline social-economic survey of 500 households in nine villages of Nkasi District Council, conduct focus group discussions to learn more about local issues, and provide village feedback sessions to better understand the survey results.

The deadline for submission of proposals is set on **02nd October 2023 at 10:00 am EAT.**

Interested and technically vendors are encouraged to reach out to TNC to get the full request for proposal via the e-mail: procurement.lake@tnc.org



Muheza District Traffic Police Commander Leonard Bandora conducts a road safety education and sensitisation campaign at Mpakani yesterday. This came in the wake of a call by residents of the village for the installation of humps and zebra crossings as a way of making roads in the area safer. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

RC gives RUWASA three days to connect water to villagers

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

NJOMBE Regional Commissioner Anthony Mtaka has given three days to the Rural Water and Sanitation Authority (RUWASA) in Ludewa District to make sure it connects water services to the project initiated by the people at Luvuyo village.

The project was suspended to pave way for the big Igomwi Water project that supply Njombe town in the region.

The RC issued the ultimatum at a public meeting at Luvuyo village held at Madope Ward in Ludewa District.

RC Mtaka said Luvuyo village already had enough water hence before the water is pumped to other areas, RUWASA is required to make sure water is available in the village within three days.

"Since the water here does not need miracles as it is always available, stop the water supply so that it first comes here to enable the residents to use the commodity," said RC Mtaka.

He added that the government cannot ignore the villagers' expectations in regard to water while the possibility for its supply exists as they have reliable water sources.

Ludewa District RUWASA manager, Eng. Jeremiah Maduhu said Luvuyo village has an old water project built under Roman Catholic Church sponsorship in 2012.

Maduhu added that the project's water

source was developed in tandem with another project at Igomwi and the villagers had thought that probably the water was being pumped to other areas while they they have no water.

Some Luvuyo villagers in Madope Wtd, Ludewa District, Aneth Sang'anile, Nico Mgogo and Adelina Mtega thanked the government by its intervention in the long time water challenges facing the village.

"We raised funds from among ourselves so that the project is completed but we are surprised to see the government building another project from our own water source higher up thereby denying us with water supply," Mtega said.

For her part, Matrida Mgimba said water challenges in the village had also been affecting students as they are forced to miss classes owing to walking long distances to fetch water from the river while lessons were ongoing.

For his part, the director of Jobee General Contractors Co Ltd, Adam Simba implementing the big Igomwi water project said residents have prevented them from going on with the project since January this year.

"No work is being done by us but from our expertise we decided wait for the villagers to allow us to continue, we have not been aggressive since we have remained idle for a long time, we ask them to allow us to proceed and finish the project," Simba said.

FAO joins Tanzania's move to address WHC

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Morogoro

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism has entered into a special agreement with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations to counter the wildlife-human conflicts (WHC).

Dr. Edward Kohi, director of training and statistics, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism made the remarks over the weekend when open-

ing the session for the development of the publications. The idea is aimed to develop professional publications that will be used to roll out the said education throughout the vital programme.

He said the robust programme is meant to educate the public on proper ways to protect themselves from the damages of wild animals, noting that the implementation of the programme is aimed to lessen a spate of WHC.

"The core vision is to ensure wild-

life are being protected and preserved professionally whereby the communities alongside the wildlife corridors remain safely and more friendly to the wild animals," he said.

Dr Kohi said that to have the vision materialising, we have realised over the need to launch a special programme for creating awareness towards the communities dwelling adjacent to the wildlife corridors on how they can protect themselves and their properties against the wild animals.

"Wildlife have great potential for

our country's economic gains but there's need to ensure they're not turning into a bad ghost that killing the citizens, as well as destroying properties," he insisted.

For instance, he said it was disconcerting to see the way elephants are killing the people, while on the other hand they (jumbos) are very meaningful when it comes to tourism attractions.

"The ministry is currently working to promote the tourism sector through using all kinds of methods

and resources that the country has been endowed with, including the wildlife," he added.

Beatha Fabian, FAO's National Advisor to support the management of conflicts between wildlife and humans expressed that implementation of the timely program would play key role to support the government's efforts in dealing with the challenges of the wildlife in the country.

"Tanzania has been blessed to be the home of a number of national parks and other game reserves that har-

bouring potential and rarely found animals, thus this program will compliment a ray of efforts so far initiated by the government to assure the sector is being handled more professionally," she added.

Others stakeholders who participated in the meeting to share their inputs for the development of the said publications include Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA), Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI), and Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA).



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Chemonics International Inc, a U.S. based international development consulting firm, seeks a **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)/Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) Director** for the USAID Tanzania Lische Mtambuka Activity, also known as the Regional Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Activity. The five-year project aims to strengthen health and food market systems that promote the adoption of optimal nutrition-related behaviors across a range of stakeholders in targeted regions in Tanzania. We are seeking individuals who have a passion for making a difference in the lives of people around the world. *This position will be based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.*

Responsibilities include:

- Finalizing and overseeing the Lische Mtambuka Activity's knowledge and learning plan and Activity Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan (AMELP), and designing and operating the activity's MEL system.
- Integrating CLA principles throughout implementation to promote learning and build the MEL and CLA capacity of our consortium and stakeholders through training and knowledge transfer.
- Collaborating with Lische Mtambuka technical staff to develop and manage tools for data collection, storage, and analysis.
- Performing data analyses, generating reports of findings, and creating data visualizations to contribute to Lische Mtambuka's reporting requirements and communications products.
- Collecting and disseminating lessons learned and sharing successes during project implementation. In conjunction with activity leadership, helping Lische Mtambuka's team learn from its data.

Qualifications:

- Master's degree in statistics, quantitative/qualitative data analysis or management, program management, anthropology/social sciences, or related field.
- Minimum of 12 years of experience in utilizing tools for data collection, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of donor-funded projects.
- Prior work experience on USAID-funded projects working with results frameworks, indicators, and targets required.
- Demonstrated knowledge of integrating CLA into project interventions to inform decision-making and incorporating CLA into capacity building for program monitoring requirements.
- Demonstrated experience with quantitative and qualitative research methods, including developing surveys and holding focus groups and capacity building for CLA.
- Excellent interpersonal and communications skills, with demonstrated diplomacy and the ability to communicate effectively in a cross-cultural environment.
- Demonstrated leadership, versatility, and integrity
- Excellent written and verbal communications skills in English.

Application Instructions

To apply, please submit your CV and application through [this link \(https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/8bbd42e5ecdc49c3955a19f61a0d6b36\)](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/8bbd42e5ecdc49c3955a19f61a0d6b36). Applications must be submitted by **Wednesday, October 4th, 2023**, however, please submit your application as soon as possible, as candidates will be contacted on a rolling basis. No telephone inquiries, please. Finalists will be contacted.

Chemonics is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its selection and employment practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factors.

21764397



I-TECH TANZANIA (INTERNATIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION CENTER FOR HEALTH) PREQUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR PROVISION OF GOODS AND SERVICES FOR THE YEAR 2023/2024.

Background

I-TECH is a center in the University of Washington's Department of Global Health. I-TECH has projects in more than 20 countries, and its worldwide staff work in partnership with local ministries of health, universities, non-governmental organizations, medical facilities, and other partners. I-TECH supports development of skilled work forces and overall health systems strengthening with a focus on sustainability and transition to local ownership. I-TECH is committed to being anti-racist and promotes health and equity in health for all people worldwide.

I-TECH TANZANIA invites applications from qualified vendors/suppliers and service providers to apply for Prequalification for the provision of goods and services as listed below:

Category number.	Description
Category 1	Supply and delivery of IT related supplies (Computers, software and hardware)
Category 2	Supply and delivery of stationery and office consumable supplies (Cartridges, Ream papers and other related stationery items)
Category 3	Provision of Motor Vehicles repair and maintenance services
Category 4	Supply of vehicle accessories
Category 5	Provision of office cleaning services
Category 6	Provision of courier service - Local & International
Category 7	Provision of Internet services
Category 8	Provision of booking ticketing service/Air agency services - Domestic
Category 9	Provision of chauffer driven car hire and rental services
Category 10	Provision of Legal services
Category 11	Provision of conference services
Category 12	Provision of accommodation services in Dodoma, Morogoro, Kigoma, Shinyanga, Pwani and Tanga
Category 13	Provision of maintenance for office copiers, printers and scanners
Category 14	Provision of phone airtime and LUKU token services
Category 15	Provision of Payroll Management and Tax Advisory Services

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Interested suppliers are advised to include the following information in their applications:-

- Brief overview of the company and key staff (Company Profile) including physical business address.
- Price list for goods and services indicating price before and after tax.
- Latest Business Registration Certificate or Certificate of Incorporation
- Latest Copy of TIN, VAT registration certificates and evidence of tax compliance (Tax Compliance Certificate) in Tanzania.
- Written endorsement of at least three reputable customers dealt with in the past two years.
- Operating licenses / certificate for the services or goods you are applying.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Eligible suppliers meeting all stated requirements are requested to:

- Submit one application for each lot they are applying for. If a supplier is applying for two different categories, each category should have a separate application document with supporting evidence specifically for the respective category.
- Interested, eligible suppliers.
- All quotes must be in Tanzania Shillings.
- This call for application is free and no fee will be charged at any stage of the application
- Existing suppliers who wish to be considered are also encouraged to apply.

The deadline for the submission is 1600hrs East African Time on **October 06, 2023**.

All applications should be emailed to info@itech-tanzania.org clearly specifying the category you are applying.

21764401

Weholite Tanks: A Transformative Tale of Clean Water in Uvinza, Tanzania

Uvinza, Tanzania - In the heart of Tanzania's Uvinza region, where water scarcity has been a pressing challenge for generations, a remarkable story of transformation is unfolding. The villages of Kandaga and Mlela, once burdened with the arduous task of fetching water, now rejoice as the burden has been lifted with the installation of Weholite Tanks. This innovative water storage solution has not only reduced the villagers' travel time significantly but also epitomizes the power of collaboration and innovation in creating lasting change.

For years, the villagers of Kandaga and Mlela had no choice but to trek long distances, spending hours each day, to fetch water for their families. The absence of nearby water sources meant that clean and safe water was a precious commodity, often out of reach. The toll on the villagers' health and daily routines was evident, prompting calls for a sustainable solution to their water woes.

Weholite, a high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe emerged as the beacon of hope for the villages. Its durability, flexibility, and non-corrosive properties made it the perfect fit for the challenging environmental conditions of Uvinza. Moreover, its lightweight construction facilitated easy transportation and installation in the remote villages, offering a promising long-term solution to the water scarcity problem.

The dream of bringing clean water closer to the villagers became a reality through the collaborative efforts of both urban and rural water authorities. The pooling of resources, expertise, and knowledge resulted in an efficient plan to deploy the Weholite Tanks. This synergy exemplifies the strength



The 300,000 litre Weholite Tank fully installed and safely secured.

of partnerships between different stakeholders to tackle crucial issues affecting underserved communities. Witnessing the completion of the project, Juma Aweso, the Minister of Water, couldn't hide his excitement.

He praised the dedication of all involved parties and stated, "The successful implementation of Weholite Tanks in Kandaga and Mlela showcases the transformative power of innovation. It highlights the impact that collaborative efforts can have in bringing clean water to the doorstep of those in need."

At the forefront of implementing the Weholite Tanks project was Plasco Ltd., a company renowned for its commitment to creating positive

change through sustainable solutions. With passion and expertise, they ensured the quick and high-quality installation of the tanks, leaving a lasting impact on the communities they served.

With the Weholite Tanks in place, the lives of the villagers in Kandaga and Mlela have been forever changed. The burden of fetching water for hours each day has been lifted, allowing them to focus on other aspects of life, including education and livelihoods. Clean and safe water is now accessible to all, making it a fundamental right for these villages.

The success of the Weholite Tanks project in Uvinza sends a powerful message to other regions facing water

challenges. Clean and safe water is a basic human right, and innovative solutions like Weholite offer hope for communities worldwide.

It is a reminder that, through collaboration and innovation, we can create a brighter future, where clean water is within reach of every person on the planet.

As the sun sets over Kandaga and Mlela, the smiles on the faces of the villagers tell a heartwarming tale of transformation - a tale of how the power of innovation and collaboration can bring clean water to the heart of even the most remote communities, providing hope for a better, healthier, and more sustainable tomorrow. The Public Relations and Marketing

Manager of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA), Mr. Athumani Shariff, states that "The construction schedule for water tanks is often significantly prolonged. Establishing adequately sized tanks in elevated regions is crucial for proper water storage and equitable distribution among citizens. The construction process usually demands an extended period due to the meticulous attention it requires. The advent of plastic tank construction technology has been highly beneficial, as it shortens the time required for completion and commissioning. Additionally, this technology has eased apprehensions by ensuring the tanks' safety in terms of their dimensions."



Weholite Tanks are made in Plasco Ltd's World class factory in Dar es Salaam, truly Tanzanian.



Weholite Tanks are lightweight and quick to install.



Delivery of the first, factory fabricated tank section.



Local residents inspect the high quality 300,000 litres Weholite Tank.

PLASCO
WE STAND FOR QUALITY

Factory & Sales Office
Plot No.112, Mbozi Road, Chang'ombe
P.O. Box 19956, Dar es salaam, Tanzania.
Sales hotlines: +255 717 752 762 | +255 686 350 543
+255 769 756 495
Email: info@plasco.co.tz
Website: www.plasco.co.tz



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF COMPANIES FOR TROUBLESHOOTING & REPAIR OF SITE WIDE TWO-WAY RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM – GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA.

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") is in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of prequalifying Companies for Troubleshooting & Repair of Site Wide Two-Way Radio Communication System and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible companies to submit an Expression of Interest for this service as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE. QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of Supply:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01788	TROUBLESHOOTING & REPAIR OF SITE WIDE TWO-WAY RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

I. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS (MANDATORY)	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	2%
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics	2%
Copy of Current Business Permit and Trade license	2%
Copy of Incorporation Certificate, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.	2%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate, and VRN certificate	3%
Copy of company memorandum and article of association	2%
List of Directors and Company Shareholding Structure	2%
Current NSSF Compliance Clearance Certificate	2%
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.	3%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Applicants audited financial statements for the past three consecutive years, this will confirm Supplier's experience in the business, and assist in comparability and business trend analysis.	2%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding the supplier's credit position. If any.	1%
All bank statements of the applicant's active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date	1%
A guarantee from a reputable financial institution to support any declared alternative source of funds.	1%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.5%
Environmental compliance certificate	1.5%
Workers' compensation fund certificate	1%
Safety and Environmental Policy	1%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures Dealing with Forced and Child Labor	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination, and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1%
Acceptance certificates /completion certificates (Prove of a. above where applicable)	1%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01788)	60%
Being OEM or ability to acquire dealership/representation certificate of Motorola or Danimex VHF Radio communications authorization in Tanzania with proof.	10%
Ability to provide competent engineers/technicians for installation, configuration of repeaters and services of site wide two-way Radio Communication equipment's with proof of certificates from recognized institutions. Diploma/FTC in Electronic or Telecommunication or its equivalent from a recognized institution. Or on the job training certificate from Motorola or Danimex.	15%
Effective fault finding through professional troubleshooting/diagnostic tools. To be able to tune duplexers without difficulties when needed urgently with proof of photo of tools and technical datasheet of the diagnostic tools. Fully equipped Radio communication workshop setup.	15%
Demonstrate the ability to respond to Emergency calls without delay with proof. Ref POs to show experience of sorting out radio communication problems in other sites.	10%
5 Years' experience in doing the same installations onsite or somewhere else within Tanzania with proof.	10%
Able to Explore the Licensing Requirements for Operating a VHF/UHF Two-Way Radio.	
Total	100%

Interested Companies must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting "TROUBLESHOOTING & REPAIR OF SITE WIDE TWO-WAY RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM" AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01788) on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the company, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline why GGML is of interest to work with, what you have to offer, and how your skills and experience are valuable to the company.

All LOIs and support documentation (in PDF format) must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com without copying any individual from GGML. Submission should not be later than 8.30 AM on 06TH OCTOBER 2023. (the "LOI" Submission Deadline") Without copying any individual from GGML. EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

Bagamoyo introduces land clinics to provide education to the public

By Guardian Correspondent, Bagamoyo

THE government is working to start providing education to the public on various stages towards land ownership as well as procedures for title deed transfer.

Jerry Silaa, Minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development made the remarks over the weekend when speaking at the launch of a land clinic at Mapinga in Bagamoyo District, Coast Region.

He said since the ministry is responsible for management of land issues, it has decided to embark on provision of education to Tanzanians on various matters including land ownership, transfer of title deed and land surveying.

"The education we provide to the people helps them in processing title deeds. There are those who have bought land plots from local government leaders without checking with the ministry. The law requires all the plots to be surveyed and verified by the ministry for provision of title deeds," said Silaa.

He insisted that it is important for land buyers to make verifications and ensure presence of witnesses including neighbours and local government leaders during the purchase.

"We want to ensure justice for everyone, we will carefully supervise the sector for buyers to get what they deserve. It is the responsibility of citizens to respect country laws and defend their rights," he added, noting that land officers in big cities such as Mwanza, Dodoma Arusha, Dar, Mbeya and Coast region also conduct land clinics for purposes of providing education to the public.

Bagamoyo District Commissioner, Halima Okashi said the land clinics would also be used to listen to people's challenges on land issues. She said the clinics will be conducted in all the wards across the district.

The launch of land clinics in Bagamoyo District followed the introduction of similar clinics in Kigamboni and Temeke districts in Dar es Salaam Region. Its main purpose is to find solutions to challenges facing citizens as well as provision of education on land issues.



Khoja Shia Ithnashar Community chairman Mohammedraza Dewji (4th-R) with Nyota Foundation leaders during the hand-over of wheelchairs to children with disabilities held at Mnazi Mmoja grounds in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

JKCI, TCS organise two-day camp to diagnose people with heart problems

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI), in collaboration with the Tanzania Cardiologists Association (TCS) have planned to run a two-day camp to diagnose people with heart problems.

The service will be provided as part of the celebration of World Heart Day which takes place on 29th every September under the motto "Use Your Heart, Protect Your Heart"

According to the JKCI statement, people who will benefit from the service are residents of the Dar es Salaam Region and neighbouring regions who have been asked to show up in large numbers to enjoy this rare opportunity that does not happen often.

The diagnosis will be held at JKCI Dar Group Hospital located at TAZARA, Temeke District in Dar es Salaam for two days from the 29th to the 30th in the morning until in the evening.

It said that in this diagnosis there will be nutritionists who will provide nutrition education that will give people understanding and follow a better lifestyle and avoid non-communicable diseases including heart disease that can be avoided by following professional advice.

"We are asking people to come out in large numbers to check your health to find out if you have heart problems in order to start early treatment for those who are found to be sick. This service will be provided to children and adults free of charge," said the statement.

It said that this celebration will coincide with a four-kilometer walk to encourage the community to exercise to avoid non-communicable diseases, including heart disease.

It stated that the walk will start from the National Stadium and end at JKCI Dar Group will be held on 30/09/2023 starting at 12.30 in the morning. We ask the citizens to join us in this walk so that we can do joint exercises that will help us protect ourselves from heart diseases," said the statement.

Prime minister to unveil TIC 'working tools' in Dar today

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa is today expected to unveil the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC)'s working tools as part of its unrelenting campaign to educate the public and especially stakeholders in the investment sector.

TIC Executive Director Gilead Teri said in a statement yesterday that the tools as Tanzania electronic Investment Window (TeIW), Guidelines to Investors' Service Providers and Tanzania Investment Promotion Campaign.

"We are unveiling this special campaign in to further keep members of the public informed of our activities and responsibilities, more so, local and foreign investors and stakeholders in the investment sector," Teri said.

On the TeIW the statement says the launch is important because the window has a lot to do with the current reforms in law, policy and the service delivery. These elements, it says, are important in attracting investments and winning investors' confidence.

He said that the guidelines will help investors in registering their projects with the TIC and make it easy for them to get documents because they will be available in its one-stop centre.

The Tanzania Investment Promotion Campaign has to be sustained, the statement says, because the national projection is to get roughly 10 billion US dollars annually.

Established in 1997, TIC is the primary government's agency that meant to coordinate, encourage, promote and facilitate investment in Tanzania and to advise the Government on investment policy and related matters.

The agency deals with all enterprises whose minimum capital investment is not less than USD500,000 if foreign-owned or USD100,000 if locally-owned. TIC grants Certificates of Incentives under authority conferred upon it by Part III, Section 17 (1-8) of Tanzania Investment Act, 1997. Holders of a certificate of incentives are entitled to various investment incentives as stipulated in the Investment Act, 1997



We are unveiling this special campaign in to further keep members of the public informed of our activities and responsibilities, more so, local and foreign investors and stakeholders in the investment sector



National Social Security Fund director general Masha Mshomba (with microphone) pictured yesterday briefing Deputy Prime Minister Dr Doto Biteko, who doubles as Energy minister, on the services rendered by the fund. It was at the ongoing 6th Geita International Mining and Technology Exhibition. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NSSF collects 56bn/- from Geita Region's members contributions

By Guardian Reporter, Geita

THE National Social Security Fund (NSSF) has collected contributions totalling 56bn/- from Geita Region in the financial year that ended June 2023.

NSSF Director General, Masha Mshomba said this when briefing the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Energy, Dr Doto Biteko who visited the fund's pavilion at the ongoing Sixth International Exhibition of Mining Technology at EPZA grounds, Bombambili in Geita Region.

NSSF is taking part at the exhibition because it is the only fund responsible for registering members from the private and informal sector which includes small-scale miners.

This year's theme for the exhibition is "The use of the right technology in uplifting small scale miners economically and protecting the environment".

"When President Samia Suluhu Hassan came to power, NSSF was collecting 29m/- from member's contributions in Geita Region alone, the amount has doubled in two years of the sixth phase government; this is a great success and we are optimistic that the amount will continue to increase in coming years," said the NSSF boss.

He noted that in the financial year that ended in June 2023, the value of collected contributions was 1.66trn/- which is higher compared to 1.48trn/- in the financial year ended June 2022.

Mshomba said the value of the fund has continued to grow rapidly according to audited reports. He said as of June 2022, the value of the fund was 6.08trn/- and that by June 2023, the value of the fund has reached 7.6trn/-, according to financial reports which are being audited.

"This is a huge growth to be recorded since President Samia came to power. Before Samia took over as the President, the value of the fund was 4.8trn/-," said Mshomba attributing the increase of the fund's value with efforts by the Head of State in attracting investors.

He added that since the mineral exhibition started, they have seen an increase in members and contributions, commending the leadership of the Geita Regional Commissioner, Martine Shigela for the great cooperation they provide to NSSF.



When President Samia Suluhu Hassan came to power, NSSF was collecting 29m/- from member's contributions in Geita Region alone, the amount has doubled in two years of the sixth phase government

USAID intervention to reduce ectopic pregnancy incidents in Itilima district

By Francis Kajubi, Itilima

ITILIMA District Council has embarked on a reproduction sensitisation campaign on family planning among the Sukuma tribe targeting at controlling ectopic pregnancy incidents occurrence.

The district has between January and August this year recorded ten ectopic pregnancy incidents of which one expectant mother lost her life. Briefing journalists yesterday in Itilima District, Magreth Mabebe, Itilima District reproductive and child health coordinator said that ectopic pregnancy incidents in the district are attributed to poor adoption of family planning methods whereby the majority of women conceive within twelve months after giving birth.

According to her, adoption of family planning methods has jumped to 32 percent in August this year from 27 percent in August 2022 following the intervention of the USAID Afya Yangu-Reproductive, Material, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) project.

The district targets at attaining 45 percent of family planning methods uptake by 2025 as stipulated in the National Health Policy 2007.

The USAID Afya Yangu-RMNCAH is a five-year project implemented between January 2022 and January 2027 in collaboration with the government at the tune of \$66,835,592 (167.153bn/-).

"Ectopic pregnancy incidents have been happening because men don't give their wives enough time to recover from delivery."

With facilitation from the USAID Afya Yangu-RMNCAH the district is sensitising men on the implications of conceiving before the recommended two-year lactating period after having birth," said Mabebe.

According to her, the district council in collaboration with USAID had in April this year trained four medical doctors and three midwives on professional skills required in attending women with ectopic pregnancy.

The experts have in turn extended the same skills to 30 health experts including nurses, midwives, community health workers and a few medical doctors on best practices of taking care women with ectopic pregnancy.

"The sensitisation campaign and training also targets at encourage pregnant women to start attending clinical sessions at earlier stages of pregnancy," said Mabebe.

She said ectopic pregnancy incidents are likely to be contained by giving mothers enough time to recover from delivery.

Mabebe asserted that the trained health experts came from Ikindilo Health Center, Nkoma Health Center and Itilima District Council Hospital. She said the district fertility rate stands at 1:8 which means one woman gives birth to an average of eight children.

Mabebe said the district fertility rate is supposed to be 1:5.

"We now have trained health experts to deal with ectopic pregnancy cases. We have so far attended one woman with ectopic pregnancy case," said Mabebe.

Nseka Ndabuya (30), a resident of Lung'wa village, 44 kilometers from Itilima town was last month treated from ectopic pregnancy at Ngungu Health Center, another health facility with trained health experts.

She said on 9th August around 10pm she felt abdominal pains that led to bleeding through are sexual organs. She was immediately rushed by her brother to Neema dispensary 20 kilometers away from the village.

She was further referred to Ngungu Health Center in the midnight.

"I was bleeding all the way on a motorcycle to the health center. I finally fainted and found myself in caecilian room the next day," said Ndabuya.

She said that her pregnancy was coming close to three months. Her husband was away on the day of the incident.

"I thank God for saving my life. I further thank the USAID Afya Yangu-RMNCAH for the intervention that had facilitated the training on ectopic pregnancy treatments know about to the district health experts," said Ndabuya.

Kinyawanga Ndabuya (28), Nseka's brother said that his sister's treatment cost the family over 300,000/-.The treatment took two weeks and Nseka is capable of conceiving.

"My sister has three children. The last one is about to turn three years old. She now okay. We are grateful to USAID for the training to health centers health experts," said Ndabuya.

Kwandu Kidayi (22), Lung'wa village Community Health Worker said that her role is to sensitise the community on the importance of family planning for the women's health and prevention of ectopic pregnancy incidents.

"It's my hope the community will keep changing the perception towards family planning," she said.



Policy brief

TRANSFORMING MATERNAL CARE IN TANZANIA THROUGH A DIGITALLY-ENABLED DEMAND-SIDE FINANCING MODEL

Data from 3-year maternal care program shows improvements in key maternal health indicators:



These results indicate that existing funding for maternal care could yield better results if switched from 'supply-side' to a 'demand-side' financing model

THE CHALLENGE: FINANCING QUALITY MATERNAL CARE FOR ALL IN TANZANIA

Tanzania has made huge progress in recent decades in improving maternal, neonatal and child health (MNCH) care, with programs such as routine immunization and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. Yet, Tanzania's Maternal Mortality Ratio remains stubbornly high at 524 per 100,000 live births - far above the UN Sustainable Development Goal target (70 deaths).

The government has implemented several policies to advance Universal Health Coverage (UHC). In 1992, cost sharing was introduced, with several health reforms adopted since then, including health insurance for the formal sector (National Health Insurance Fund - NHIF) and informal sector (Improved Community Health Fund - ICHF). These schemes have ensured financial protection for millions, however, ICHF's package does not cover antenatal care (ANC) and while the NHIF's package does, it only covers 8% of the population¹. In total, only 15%² of Tanzanians have health insurance and Out-of-Pocket (OOP) health expenditure has recently increased³ to 25%.

Along with care for the elderly and children under 5, maternal services are free in Tanzania, funded through taxes and donors through the basket fund. However, the current 'supply-side' financing model comes with leakage, inefficiencies and poor tracking of resources. For many low-income mothers, this means that services and funds are not available when they need them. Staff and commodities are often unavailable, equipment may be dysfunctional, and women therefore turn to private facilities where they are often required to pay to access parts of the services. This combination increases women's distrust towards service quality, while costs make them delay or forego seeking services, contributing to poor outcomes for mother and child.

For government, healthcare providers and partners, there is also limited reliable data on the financing and delivery of maternal care services. Data which is urgently needed to prevent health complications and ensure that scarce funds are maximized and channeled efficiently to those that need them most.

- 1 Tanzania Demographic Health Survey (TDHS) from 2015-16
- 2 National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) Tanzania Annual Report (2021)
- 3 The Citizen, NHIF estimates that only 15% of the population have health insurance (2023)
- 4 Tanzania National Health Account (Preliminary) Report 2023

APPROACH

To improve MNCH indicators, mothers need access to quality, affordable and regular ANC visits, skilled-birth delivery and post-natal care (PNC) in a way that is transparent to all actors in the health ecosystem. In 2019, the development organization PharmAccess launched 'MomCare' in Northern Tanzania to achieve precisely this. The alternative financing model was implemented together with local government in the Manyara and Kilimanjaro Regions, at 40 healthcare facilities (public and faith-based). The following sections highlight the results and the key lessons learned for healthcare policy.

INTRODUCING THE MOMCARE MODEL

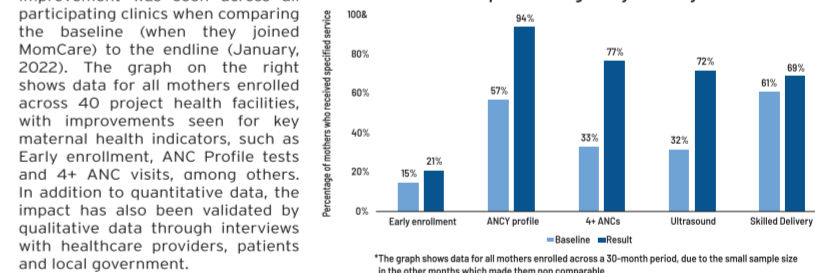
MomCare is a digitally-enabled 'care bundle' that expectant mothers can sign up for. Once enrolled in the program, women received a MomCare card which is linked to a prepaid virtual money account. With this card, pregnant women could access quality maternal care services throughout their entire pregnancy, including facility-based delivery and postnatal care. In essence, MomCare is a 'smart-contract' between expectant mothers, contracted clinics, and health service funders at predetermined cost and quality. Adherence to contract conditions is made transparent to all stakeholders using digital tools, and generated data triggers actions to providers and patients to improve the care process.

Mothers know up front which services they are entitled to and are empowered to choose where they want to access care. Healthcare providers use the MomCare card to charge for the services they have provided, with all services captured in a digital application. After submitting digital claims to the administrator, facilities are paid based on pre-agreed prices and services. All data submitted for payment were also analyzed and used to monitor the services provided to ensure it adhered to clinical guidelines, while helping medical staff uncover health disparities and manage high-risk patients. Since healthcare facilities were precontracted, they could use payments to purchase medical supplies and commodities for maternal care from MSD or a prime vendor, knowing they will attract more women to their facility for providing quality care.

RESULTS

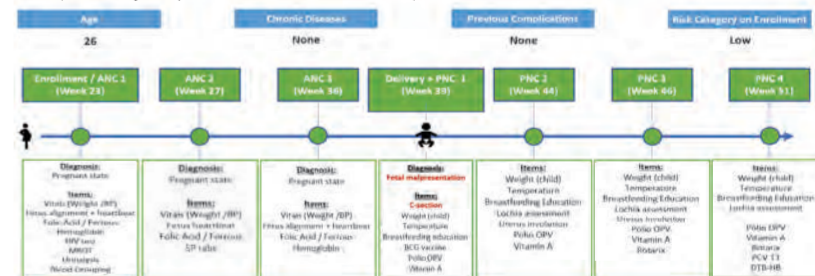
Overall, the data showed that women enrolled in the MomCare program have safer pregnancy journeys due to the continuity of (quality) care, by following maternal guidelines and ensuring that clinics are continuously working and investing in quality improvement. MomCare thus contributed to better and safer antenatal and postnatal care, as well as an increased and improvement of referrals and skilled deliveries, reducing the risks of harm for both mothers and babies.

MomCare Results: Improved Pregnancy Journeys in Tanzania



"Previously, some mothers were afraid of coming to the hospital because of the costs they thought they could incur. However, with MomCare, mothers can now pay for all of the required tests and supplies with their MomCare card. As such, we have seen that women are more motivated to continue attending appointments and coming to deliver at health facilities, leading to better health outcomes."
-Hilda Mtomo, Nurse at Siba District Hospital and District Coordinator Community Based Health Services - Siba District Council, Kilimanjaro

Example of Pregnancy with Late Enrollment and Complications



The figure above shows an example of the available disaggregated data per patient, to guide healthcare providers. This example shows a 26 year old high-risk patient at Charlotte Hospital in the Kilimanjaro Region (June - Oct 2020).

CONCLUSION AND LESSONS LEARNED

The MomCare model has shown a proof of concept for how a digitally-enabled demand-side financed model can provide an efficient and transparent way of financing maternal care while empowering tens of thousands of women and improving key maternal health outcomes.

Crucially, the model provided accurate data, which can be used to track individual pregnant women (see Figure 1 above) or provide aggregated data for pregnant women accessing services at a facility or administrative area. The availability of these data is important to track quality of services provided to women and cost of care at individual level.

By paying facilities directly based on services they provide, we also found that healthcare providers are empowered to purchase required supplies as per their needs and minimize supply chain challenges, hence ensure availability of stock at all times. Furthermore, the direct payment has allowed facilities to make long lasting investments to their infrastructure and equipment, to ultimately strengthen the entire healthcare system. And, as services improved, patients' trust towards these services increased, making them more likely to access services in the future and increasing their willingness to contribute towards health insurance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Since independence, the government has implemented several strategies to reduce maternal deaths in the country. Although there is recorded improvement, the number of maternal deaths is still disturbingly high. So far, the maternal care financing in the country has been using supply-side model since independence. The results from MomCare suggest that perhaps it is time to think about changing the current model to a (digital-enabled) demand-side financing model. With the digital developments, it is now possible to target women and make sure the funds reach their digital wallet at almost zero costs.

The model also shows how mobile and digital technology can serve as an enabler to accelerate UHC and build trust and transparency in the healthcare system for healthcare providers, payers and patients. If scaled further, digital models such as MomCare should be integrated with government's digital systems (including electronic medical records) for interoperability, while government will also need to invest further in digital infrastructure in line with the National Digital Health Strategy 2021-2024.



For more information about MomCare, please email Dr. Heri Marwa (Country Director, PharmAccess Tanzania) on: h.marwa@pharmaccess.or.tz

VP was spot on: Global war economy crushing the poor

IT is not new that statesmen all over the world as well as researchers in international peace and security raise concern and even alarm over massive production of weapons and skyrocketing military spending. The argument is that this tendency fuels armed conflicts and has habitually compromised national visions and global promises made to the most vulnerable portions of humanity. They see their lives worsening, and at times the sky just caves in.

Vice President Dr Philip Mpango has made similar observations when addressing the 78th plenary session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Thursday. He pointed at what the massive trade in weapons and upsurge of wars around the world means for the most affected, who are children, women and the aged, who depend on the utmost efforts of others to have tolerable lives. He said that efforts be directed to build a better world and create opportunities for all, referring to the UN theme of leaving no one behind.

There are things that the VP mentioned which need some explanation, and that is also to say without facing a few issues in the face, finding a way to reaffirm global peace as a United Nations vocation is on trial. The VP said peace is being threatened by various factors including the withering away of historical solidarity and commitment to the principles of non-interference. The principle of equality between nations bequeathed by UN founding fathers is threatened.

He similarly referred to the paralysis in multilateralism, with the shocking result that the world is witnessing shifting geo-

political tectonic plates and the creation of new blocs. They seek to replace the now obviously dysfunctional world order, on the basis of his remarks, but there is an ironical touch to it, that if the world order founded on UN principles is dysfunctional, it has to be reinforced.

There are advocates of a multipolar world order, where the term polarity if taken a bit loosely, as they don't quite admit it means using other principles than equity, human rights and sovereignty. It means there are variable standards as to what is good conduct at global level, which is often tolerated when it comes to economic policies, not when it means caring or not caring if one million people or slightly fewer will die in a conflict. It is to chuckle at evil.

Admittedly, as the VP was underlining, this is where the world is standing, and expressions that many countries including Tanzania are ready to help in peace keeping and conflict resolution are of scant help. The question is how such wars are prevented in the first place, and the UN General Assembly is unlikely to have answers. Peace studies say wars arise from traditional authoritarianism.

If one pays close attention to what the VP says, it is clear he wishes for ways to restore trust among states, to stop the current erosion of the rule of law and also revitalise multilateralism. He wishes for effectiveness of the UN system and multilateral financial institutions now being intensely questioned. Yet the solution is in the problem itself, that the UN system is based on a global working market economy where countries are more and more open, and more democratic. Nationalism militates against these principles and foments chaos.

If pleas for patriotism don't work, some systemic changes would help

A FLURRY of scaring news items on the way corruption is raging in various public institutions has caught the public eye lately, calling for answers that hardly anyone is in a position to provide. There were sharp remarks by a senior cabinet minister on how far people go about in paying millions of shillings to get jobs in the central bank or revenue authority. President Samia Suluhu Hassan raised public concerns over the way a syndicate was formed to interfere with a digitised revenue collection system in Mbeya Region; examples abound.

Similar observations were made by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa when ending a three days tour of Kigoma Region, directing his office to form a probe team to investigate the use of funds meant for various development projects in the regional municipality. There were unavoidable impressions of vast graft where the two examples the premier cited add up to nearly one billion shillings. It follows that appeals to patriotism and good governance fall on deaf ears; that miscarriage of development oversight needs strong arm rule to fully dissipate.

One area where problems are rife is the position of the district executive director, whom the current format of local government makes him a czar in the use of funds. How does one explain that the municipal council had received 500m/- from the ministry (President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Governments) which remained in the account and later disappeared to an unknown direction? It means no one in the place, or region, could follow it up.

Similarly, the sum of 447m/- was disbursed but its withdrawal was blocked by the DED and more than one year later the government is following up with previous district council leadership as to what happened to the funds. It is a sort of indication that even 500m/- disbursed to the district is their secret and can use it in the way they wish, and if misused, it takes a year for anyone to notice. What is remarkable is that no stakeholders are known to question this system.

There is a theme running as an undercurrent of global development partnership summed up by the notion of good governance, whose central aspect is civic rights, and belatedly, the fight against corruption. Usually the latter is grasped in terms of actually bribing public officials for personal advantage, but the way holders of public office, especially at executive level, gang up and sabotage public finances is singularly unknown in this outlook. It looks like an accident.

Owing to community and even political solidarity, punishing graft in public office has routinely proved to be a problem. Academic researchers and even administrators are aware that the more an operation is conducted entirely between public agencies, the easier it is for gross misconduct to be tolerated. When the private sector is involved, errors and misconduct are possible but on a much lower level; public agencies tend to be more eagle eyed in that direction.

Adding to remarks by the premier that there are people who paid each other 11m/- as allowances for a trip to Dodoma, spent 6m/- for vehicle service, one wonders if there is need for development funds to be administered at district level. Is this not actually designed to please districts, win votes at that expense?



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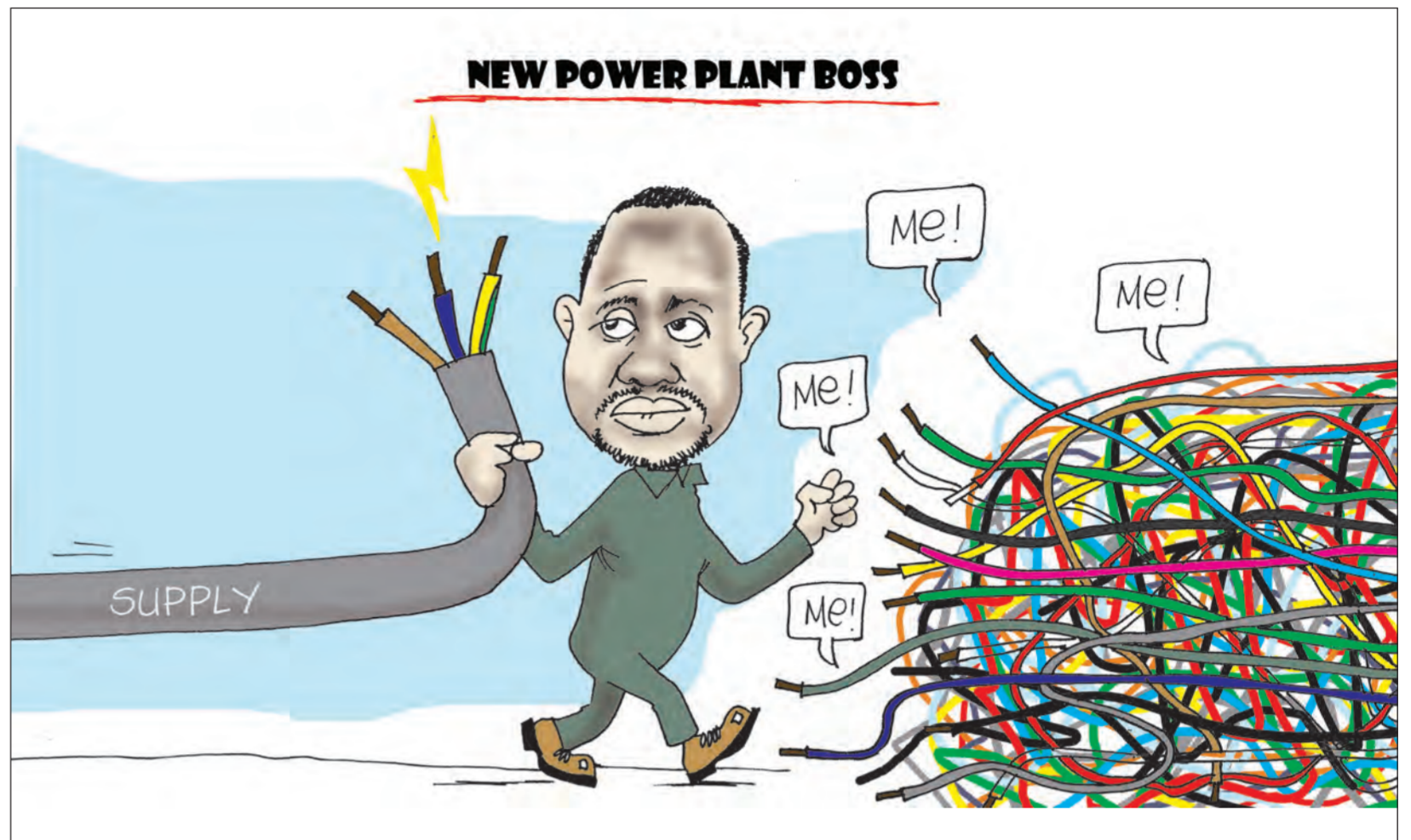
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Ten years on, China-Tanzania Belt and Road cooperation has yielded fruitful results

By Chen Mingjian

IN September and November 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed the building of the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road successively, which are known as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Focusing on policy coordination, facilities connectivity, unimpeded trade, financial integration and people-to-people bonds, the BRI has been transformed from ideas into concrete actions and from an initiative to an international public good as well as a platform for global cooperation with worldwide popularity.

Up to now, China has signed over 200 cooperation documents with 152 countries and 32 international organizations under the BRI framework.

The BRI originated from China, but its opportunities and fruits belong to the world. In the past decade, world-class major projects have been completed one after another under the BRI framework.

They include the China-Laos Railway, Jakarta-Bandung High-speed Railway, the Hungarian-Serbia Railway, the Haifa Port of Israel, and the Piraeus Port of Greece.

The industrial chain and supply chain cooperation has become increasingly closer. From 2013 to 2022, the annual import and export volume of trade in goods and non-financial direct investment between China and the countries along the Belt and Road had increased by 8.6 per cent and 5.8 per cent on average, respectively, while the cumulative two-way investment had exceeded US\$270 billion.

According to a report of the World Bank, the BRI increased the trade volume and foreign investment in participating countries by 4.1 per cent and 5 per cent, respectively, and increased the GDP of low-income countries by 3.4 per cent.

Africa is an active and important BRI participant. During the past decade, the cumulative volume of China-Africa trade has exceeded US\$2 trillion, and China's imports of African agricultural products have grown at an average annual rate of 11.4 per cent.

Sixteen agricultural products from 11 African countries have gained access to the Chinese market through the "green lanes", and 21 African countries have been granted zero-tariff treatment for 98 per cent of their taxable items exported to China.

Over the past ten years, China's FDI flows to Africa have exceeded US\$30 billion in total, and Chinese companies have participated in the construction of over 6,000 kilometers of railways, 6,000-plus kilometers of roads and more than 80 large-scale power facilities in Africa.

China and Tanzania have been strengthening their Belt and Road cooperation in recent years. The Chinese



President Samia Suluhu Hassan and her Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, meet on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Johannesburg on August 24, 2023. Photo: Xinhua

government and the three successive governments of Tanzania led by President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President John Pombe Magufuli, and President Samia Suluhu Hassan, in that order, have been firmly supporting each other, increasing high-level exchanges, and promoting synergy between the BRI and Tanzania Development Vision 2025, thereby providing strong political driving force to the development of bilateral relations and the economic and trade cooperation.

In particular, during President Samia Suluhu Hassan's historic visit to China in November 2022, President Xi Jinping and President Samia Suluhu Hassan jointly announced the elevation of China-Tanzania relations to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership.

They also agreed to deepen the high-quality Belt and Road cooperation between the two countries, thereby ushering in a new stage in the development of the bilateral relations and friendly cooperation.

In addition, China signed memorandums of understanding with Tanzania on strengthening investment cooperation in the field of the digital economy and deepening cooperation in the blue economy.

In the field of infrastructure building, we have created landmark projects, and achieved fruitful results in facilities connectivity.

Chinese firms have participated in such strategic infrastructural projects as the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), Julius Nyerere Hydropower Station, the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), and the J. P. Magufuli Bridge.

Additionally, Chinese companies have completed with high quality a series of major infrastructure projects in Tanzania.

These include the Mtwara-Dar es Salaam Natural Gas Pipeline, Upgrading and Expansion of Dar es Sa-

laam Port, Terminal 3 of Abeid Amani Karume International Airport in Zanzibar, Tanzanite Bridge in Dar es Salaam, and the National ICT Broadband Backbone Network (NICTBB). These are making outstanding contributions to the improvement of infrastructure in Tanzania.

Currently, China, Tanzania and Zambia are exploring ways to revitalise the TAZARA (Tanzania-Zambia) Railway. It is hoped that this "Friendship Railway" will gain new vitality in the future and become a major transport corridor of the region as well as a "Development Railway".

In the field of the economy and trade, we have deepened cooperation and improved both quality and efficiency. In 2022, our bilateral trade volume reached US\$8.31 billion, up by 23.7 per cent year-on-year and by 125 per cent over the past decade.

China has remained Tanzania's largest trading partner for seven consecutive years. It has granted zero-tariff treatment to 98 per cent of Tanzania's taxable items exported to China and approved Tanzania's export of avocados, wild aquatic products, and high-quality and featured agricultural products to China.

As a result, the volume and value of Tanzania's exports to China have continuously expanded. Meanwhile, China's investment in Tanzania has achieved remarkable results. By the end of 2022, China's investment stock in Tanzania grew to 2.5 times that of 2012, thus providing a large amount of funds for the development of such industries in Tanzania as manufacturing, mining and agriculture.

In recent years, the investment volumes of many Chinese-invested projects, such as Keda Ceramics, Maweni Limestone Ltd., and Sapphire Float Glass Factory, have all

exceeded US\$100 million, creating a large number of jobs for the locals.

In the field of people-to-people exchanges, we have promoted personnel exchanges and further consolidated the foundation for popular support and public opinion.

With the help of China, Tanzania is implementing the National Occupational Standard Development Project, which will train a large number of technical talents for its industrialisation.

Cultural exchange brands such as Luban Workshop and Confucius Institute have gradually taken shape and are effectively enhancing understanding and communication between our two countries. The "Small but Smart" development aid projects have also yielded fruitful results.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, China donated 5.61 million doses of Covid vaccines to Tanzania, effectively supporting that country's drive to fight the pandemic.

Over the past decade, China has implemented a large number of urgently needed livelihood projects for Tanzania, including the Kagera Vocational Training and Service Centre and the University of Dar es Salaam Library.

Since 2013, China has meanwhile provided a total of 3,489 degree-programme scholarships and short-term training opportunities to Tanzania.

In October this year, China will host the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, and the delegates of partner countries will gather in Beijing to discuss development and cooperation plans. It is hoped that the convening of this forum will offer guidance and blueprints for China-Tanzania and China-Africa cooperation in the new era.

At present, geopolitical conflicts are intensifying, the global economic recovery remains weak and the world has entered a new period of turbulence and transformation.

China is willing to take the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation as an opportunity to address challenges and seek common development together with Tanzania - and write a new chapter in China-Tanzania cooperation.

We are ready to deepen "hard connectivity" in infrastructure and enhance "soft connectivity" in rules and standards with Tanzania.

We will also increase the volume and value of imports from Tanzania, expand mutually beneficial cooperation in such areas as green development, the digital economy and the blue economy as well as raise the level of bilateral economic and trade cooperation.

I believe that, with our joint efforts, the China-Tanzania Belt and Road cooperation will carry great practical significance, progress steadily, and endure in the long run.

***The writer is the Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania.**

The ocean offers very rich solutions for climate change

By Wavel Ramkalawan

FOR the people of Seychelles, the ocean is more than just a source of livelihood. It is also a way of life. About 80% of our homes and infrastructure are located along the coast and those homes and infrastructures are impacted by the ocean in various ways.

We depend on our ocean and we need to figure out how to make this relationship work. The relationship I believe should be reciprocal where we continue to understand our actions towards our ocean and eventually what our oceans can do for us.

As one of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS), we face a unique set of vulnerabilities that impede our ability to achieve sustainable development.

Structural factors, including our size, remoteness, limited resource base, market size, exposure to climate risks and natural disasters, influence socio economic outcomes and our ability to achieve the SDGs.

Coordinated international actions, including dedicated international financing mechanisms, are needed to address the vulnerabilities of the SIDS.

The main threats facing Seychelles and other small island developing states are credited to climate change. These include: changes in rainfall patterns leading to flooding or drought, increase in sea temperature, changes in acidity and damage to marine ecosystems, increase in storms and storm surges and sea level rise to name a few.

In order to counter these global threats, a collaborative approach is needed, particularly where mitigation and adaptation efforts are concerned. One key driver to assist in the fight against these threats is how we collaboratively manage our ocean.

The ocean must be a key piece of this collective action. It is our planet's greatest connector and offers solutions to reducing emissions, addressing vulnerability, and building resilience.

The issues that SIDS faces today require innovative solutions pushing us to rethink the way we go about our daily activities. Major climate change actions are required in terms of where and how we focus our finite resources, especially our ocean resources.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are suffering the consequences and the cost of human-induced climate change and yet we are the least responsible for these.

A recent report commissioned by the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy (Ocean Panel) found that climate solutions from the ocean can deliver up to 35% of the annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emission cuts needed in 2050 to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C.

This is based on solutions that are ready-to-implement now, not future solutions we may achieve if the technology catches up. The world cannot fail in finding solutions to this global crisis. The major actors need to step-up and play a more significant role in the development of innovative solutions that will allow small islands state to survive.

If not addressed, economic activity within the Seychelles will be diminished, lost beneath the rising tides, along with the coral islands of the archipelago that make up our Republic.

From the people on the front line of this crisis, our message is simple: We must act now.

As SDG 14, the ocean goal, remains the least funded of all the SDGs, investments must also increase significantly. The Ocean Panel report estimates that fulfilling the ocean's potential in emissions reductions will require a global trajectory towards US\$2 trillion of targeted investment into sustainable ocean solutions between 2030 and 2050.

As an island state, the Seychelles has been resilient in its approach and has taken numerous steps to deal with the different challenges brought about by climate change and other ocean related matters.

This month, the Seychelles became the 18th member of the Ocean Panel. I'm proud to be joining like-minded nations in shaping policies and initiatives that protect the world's oceans, foster sustainable economic growth and advance climate action to ensure the well-being of our citizens and future generations.

While our nation may be modest in size, we are custodians of a significant portion of the Western Indian Ocean. Often described as "a small island state but a large oceanic state," the Seychelles holds a treasure trove of marine resources and ecosystems. And we are utilizing these resources to ensure a healthy ocean for people, nature, and climate.

Efforts include launching the world's first Sovereign Blue bond with the World Bank which acts as a pioneering financial instrument designed to support and transition to sustainable marine and fisheries projects.

This combined public and private investment to mobilize resources to empower local communities and businesses alike. It supports island and coastal nations to use debt solutions to create long-term sustainable financing that can help protect 30% of our global ocean while achieving sustainable economic development and adapting to climate change.

We also prioritize ocean literacy and awareness in schools, to engage young people in the significance and myriad benefits that the ocean brings. This helps to strengthen our nation's own connection with the ocean but also contributes to a global conversation on the importance of preserving this invaluable resource.

Moreover, the challenges we face know no borders, which is why collaboration with our neighbors and those around the world is so critical. The Joint Management Area shared with Mauritius, not only promotes ecological harmony but also underscores the profound potential for nations to unite in safeguarding our oceans while reaping the benefits of shared resources for generations to come.

In joining the Ocean Panel, we take collaboration even further, joining a common vision for the protection and sustainable development of our oceans. Together, we can work towards the responsible utilization of marine resources, help stabilize the climate, generate sustainable ocean revenue that bolsters economic growth and safeguard marine ecosystems.

This will help the Seychelles to both strengthen our own ocean management capabilities and also contribute significantly to the global effort of allowing our oceans to thrive and prosper. **IPS UN Bureau**



Wavel Ramkalawan, President of the Seychelles. Credit: United Nations



INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Background

I-TECH is a center in the University of Washington's Department of Global Health. I-TECH has projects in more than 20 countries, and its worldwide staff work in partnership with local ministries of health, universities, non-governmental organizations, medical facilities, and other partners. I-TECH supports development of skilled work forces and overall health systems strengthening with a focus on sustainability and transition to local ownership. I-TECH is committed to being anti-racist and promotes health and equity in health for all people worldwide.

The organization wishes to invite competent, highly qualified, experienced and dedicated professionals to fill the positions below. All positions are based in Dar es Salaam with a starting date of October, 2023

1. Data Quality Assessment Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (1)

The incumbent provides overall technical guidance and support to DQA of indicators reported under Afya Hatua program activities leading to achievement of the 95-95-95 goals for HIV epidemic control in Tanzania. S/he will develop, implement, and monitor Data Quality Assurance and Program Evaluation activities in Tanga Shinyanga, Pwani and Kigoma Regions. S/he is fully responsible for technical leading the development/adaptation and implementation of SOPs and other tools related to Afya Hatua evaluation and DQA. The DQA Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist will work in close collaboration with the Country Representative, Seattle based Evaluation Leader, Senior Program and Grant Manager, HIV Technical Officer -DQA Officer and Data Manager and Analyst to develop responsive methodologies to assess and verify priority indicators reported at facilities to determine if it is of the type, quantity, and quality needed and ensure verification of reported data to provide clear indication of strengths and/or gaps in the system and to assist in planning to improve data quality.

Key Responsibilities Include:

DQA Technical Support 60%

- Develop, regularly update, and oversee quarterly DQA activities plan for the DQR team.
- Serve as technical expert in developing/adapting detailed methodologies/approaches and supporting tools to apply during DQAs.
- Oversee the development or revision of data collection tools and SOPs
- Critically review DQA Officers reports, activity briefs, and other relevant documents before sending to THPS or CDC
- Develop and recommend data quality improvement plan for the regions based on results from DQA reports.
- Ensure all DQA activities are in line with standard practices as per DQA National Guideline.
- Build capacity and provide technical expertise to the team on all technical aspects of program implementation, from design to planning, implementation, monitoring & evaluation, status review and progress of the program.
- Contribute to development of work plans developing that align with budget.
- Represent I-TECH to the funder, MOH and stakeholders' meetings with key experts in HIV care and treatment clinics in Tanzania.
- Provide technical support in adaptation and implementation of the program's monitoring and evaluation framework including understanding and integrating set performance indicators in routine facility meetings.
- Lead training and mentorship of new staff for DQA and evaluation activities
- Identify and solve issues related to DQA and evaluation together with the Team.
- Correspond with the Evaluation Lead and Senior Program Manager (US based) and Country Team with Afya Hatua project updates.
- Provide updates on implemented activities at weekly program meetings (Tanzania) and all team meetings (Tanzania and US Teams)

Evaluation Technical Support 30%

- Provide overall M&E technical guidance to technical team, specifically ensuring adherence to the evaluation protocol
- Draft and/or revise proposals, protocols, and instruments for selected assessments and evaluations included in the I-TECH Tanzania annual work plan.
- Develop operational plans for the evaluation, including sampling strategies, data collection timelines, with guidance from the Evaluation Lead
- Identify and communicate technical challenges to Evaluation Lead/Technical Team and implement solutions
- Train/orient new I-TECH staff and data collectors in evaluation protocols, SOPs, and tools
- Ensure on time collection and reporting of routine data in REDCap
- In collaboration with Data Manager/Analyst conduct data quality checks and verification of evaluation data for presentations and reports
- Ensure data collectors adhere to evaluation protocol and SOPs
- Contribute to analyses of evaluation data for reports and manuscripts, with guidance from the Evaluation Lead
- Contribute to development of work plans, review plans with team against targets, and implement adjustments as needed

Reporting and Dissemination 15%

- Draft/compile reports to THPS, donors, and in-country stakeholders (facilities, etc.) according to agreed timelines and formats
- Co-Facilitate Evaluation Committee Meetings
- Develop abstracts and manuscripts related to this project, with coaching from Evaluation Lead
- Develop and deliver scientific presentations to local, national, and international audiences.

Other duties as assigned 5%

- Perform other technical duties as assigned

Requirements:

- Masters in strategic information (SI), Monitoring and evaluation (M&E), biostatistics or related courses. Health qualifications (MD, Nursing, Public Health equivalent)
- At least 5 years' experience directly implementing HIV care, treatment, and prevention services in Tanzania.
- A minimum of five years of experience in M&E, preferably in PEPFAR-funded activities, research and data collection techniques, required.
- Previous experience assisting DQA teams, preferred.
- At least 3 years working with Quality Improvement and/or public health evaluation projects, and knowledge of monitoring and assessment techniques, procedures, and protocols.
- A minimum of five-year of experience in undertaking DQAs for PEPFAR or its implementing partners, including planning, methodology, data collection, analysis and reporting
- Demonstrated experience conducting quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis in development sector required
- Ability to collect, organize, analyze, and disseminate large amounts of information with attention to detail and accuracy required
- Proficiency using Microsoft Office Suite required
- Knowledge in PEPFAR reporting system (DATIM) and MER indicators.
- Knowledge in Tanzania HIV data management systems especially CTC-2, CTC-3, and DHIS-2.
- Demonstrated clear and concise writing and communications skills. Experience with report and publication layouts, newsletters, report writing, editing, or article publication desired
- Fluency in verbal and written English as well as strong writing skills in English
- Ability to travel.
- Demonstrated commitment to valuing diversity and contributing to an inclusive working and learning environment.
- Demonstrated ability to facilitate communication between professionals in a manner that respects cultural differences and contributes to effective partnerships;

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience in PEPFAR or other US government-funded programs is an advantage

2. The Data Manager and Analyst (1)

The Data Manager and Analyst is responsible for conducting programmatic data analysis on a routine basis to identify gaps, strengths, and trends from implementation of Data Quality Assurance and evaluation of the Afya Hatua program. S/he provides technical assistance to I-TECH program staff, R/CHTs and Healthcare Workers (HCWs) to analyze program data and use data for real-time decision making. The Data Analyst develops visual tools, reports, and graphics to summarize analyses into format that is easily understandable to the program team and other stakeholders.

Key Responsibilities Include:

Technical Assistance, Collaboration, and Support 40%

- Implement project activities in collaboration with Ministry of Health (MoH) Tanzania Health Promotion Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other Implementing Partners
- Represent I-TECH at M and E, DQR meetings and consultative meetings with key experts in HIV care and treatment clinics in Tanzania.
- In collaboration with technical team, coordinate all program's data and reports from all supported regions
- Prepare reports and presentations for regular data review with local, regional, national, and global partners as required

Data Management and Analysis 40%

Data Quality Assurance

- Develop data abstraction tools and/or reporting tools to complete Data Quality Assessment (DQA) activities
- Conduct on site and remote DQR according to national guidelines and this SOW
- Work with technical team in monitoring the implementation of corrective and preventive action plans to address identified data quality issues where necessary
- Recommend course corrections or redesign strategies and interventions to ensure consistently high-quality data related to all community- and facility-based services
- Lead/co-lead trainings of new staff, facility teams, etc. on DQR, COI, and routine data analysis tools as needed
- Participate in monthly and quarterly project planning and evaluation meetings with THPS, CDC staff and local partners, as needed
- Conduct data triangulation, analysis and validate the predefined indicators to ensure consistency, integrity, and accuracy of data as part of indicators performance tracking.
- Actively participate in internal and external DQR meetings, trainings, and workshops for QI and DQA

Evaluation-related data management and analysis 10%

- Review and update the data collection tools in REDCap according to group decisions from the prior field experience and or suggestions from Evaluation Lead or stakeholders.
- Manage REDCap database, including configurations, creating new forms, updating forms, tracking duplicates/errors, with support from the Evaluation Lead as required
- Perform data quality checks according to SOPs
- Generate weekly reports of progress and preliminary results during data collection
- Ensure all raw and analysis datasets are backed up on the UW cloud server per SOPs
- Ensure data collector compliance with SOPs for filling in data are being observed
- Identify data irregularities and implement solutions to correct them
- Conduct analyses for reports and manuscripts under guidance of Evaluation Lead

Reporting 5%

- Contribute to writing reports, abstracts, and manuscripts for I-TECH, THPS, CDC, and other stakeholders as needed.
- Respond to ad-hoc reporting requests from funders and stakeholders
- Contribute to the development of annual project work plan following consultations with other I-TECH colleagues, MOH, CDC, and other stakeholders/donors

Other duties as assigned 5%

- Perform other professional duties as assigned.

Required Qualifications

- Master's degree or higher in data management, monitoring & evaluation, statistics, health informatics or related field; preference given to those who have experience with large-scale health projects with community- and facility-level
- Minimum 6 years' work experience in monitoring and evaluation of large-scale health or development projects, including: Experience with health services and integration of data from diverse sources preferred.
- Excellent quantitative, problem-solving, analytical skills
- Experience conducting analyses in Stata and/or Excel
- Strong knowledge in PEPFAR reporting system (DATIM) and MER indicators.
- Strong knowledge in Tanzania HIV data management systems especially CTC-2, CTC-3 and DHIS-2.
- Ability to translate data into visual outputs (graphs, charts, diagrams, tables, etc.)
- Demonstrated clear and concise writing and communications skills. Experience with report and publication layouts, newsletters, report writing, editing, or article publication desired
- Fluency in English and Swahili
- Ability to travel

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in PEPFAR or other US government-funded programs is an added advantage

3. HIV Technical Advisor -Data Quality Assessment (DQA) (2)

Position Purpose

HIV Technical Advisor -Data Quality Assessment (DQA) is responsible for insuring data quality control, assessment and audit at health facilities in Shinyanga, Pwani, Kigoma and Tanga. He/she will be accountable for a range of monitoring and evaluation process from validating data, monitoring and periodic DQA reporting. He/She is also responsible for implementation progress, timeliness of activities, overall quality, accuracy, and reporting of regional implemented activities. He/She is responsible ensuring consistent, high quality HIV QI routine data assessment, analysis, and presentation needed to improve growth of the AFYA Hatua Program.

Key Responsibilities Include:

HIV Technical Advisor -Data Quality Assessment (DQA) will be responsible for the following.

Technical Assistance, Collaboration, and Support 50%

- Review of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) quality standards and data metrics against quality standards and complete a DQA checklist.
- Regularly review documentation related to data recording practices according to National Guidelines and data quality SOPs of Tanzania
- Apply DQA quality metrics, tools and approaches to assess the quality of recorded and reported data to ensure they are in line with national data quality guidelines and SOPs.
- Conduct monthly data quality audits of enrollment, transfers, defaulters, and deaths in the AH program using CTC2 analytic.
- Conduct onsite data quality checks and assessment at the selected facility level at least once per quarter.
- Prepare reports summarizing findings from the data quality assessment, including providing recommendations on how data quality can be improved.
- Compile, sort, and verify accuracy of data entered into registers, CTC2 data base and DHIS2.
- Review submitted data to detect accuracy problems, anomalies and its sources and propose mitigation plans.
- Conduct data analysis and prepare presentation needed to improve growth of the AFYA Hatua project.
- Resolve data questions, inaccuracies, and inconsistencies, and retrieve missing data from facility data sources.
- Ensure data triangulation between source registers, cards and forms against database or reporting system.
- Work with I-TECH Program team to implement course of corrections or redesign strategies and interventions to ensure consistently high-quality data related to all community- and facility-based services.

Project Management 35%

- Support Planning, organizing, and implementation of high-quality project activities in a timely and on-budget manner.
- Support the preparation of materials and data management for quarterly data quality assessment.
- Proactively collaborate with HQ office, MOH, THPS, CDC, and other stakeholders to implement project activities.
- Support development of annual project work plan and M&E plans with other program staff in Country and HQ
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge regarding DQA, DHIS2, and all the HIV indicators to be tracked. Differentiated HIV care, Continuous Quality Improvement, Comprehensive Management of HIV and AIDS, Task sharing and routine Cryptococcal infection screening and treatment among People Living with HIV approaches worldwide and in Tanzania

and ensure project activities' relevance considering the strategic direction communicated by MOH, CDC, and other stakeholders/donors.

Reporting 10%

- Maintain thorough documentation of activities and deliverables.
- In collaboration with the I-TECH CO office and HQ, write program report to funders with data and lessons learned from implementation of regional activities.
- Respond to ad-hoc reporting requests as needed.
- Collaborate with other program staff to frame, document, and disseminate lessons across the I-TECH portfolio.

Other duties as assigned 5%

- Perform other professional duties as assigned.

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree or higher in strategic information, Monitoring and Evaluation, Clinical Medicine, public health, Nursing, or other related fields.
- At least 5 years of experience in monitoring and evaluation, preferably in the field of health systems data management
- Knowledge of COI, DSDMs, ART, PMTCT, TB/HIV and other HIV treatment approaches in Tanzania or other East and/or Sub-Saharan African countries is an added advantage.
- Experience working with Quality Improvement projects.
- Knowledge of monitoring and assessment techniques and procedures
- Ability to translate data into visual outputs (graphs, charts, diagrams, tables, etc.)
- Demonstrated clear and concise writing and communications skills.
- Fluency in English and Swahili
- Strong interpersonal skills to work collaboratively in a diverse environment.
- Ability to travel.

Preferred Qualifications

Experience in PEPFAR or other US government-funded programs is an advantage.

4. The Data Quality Management Officer

The Data Quality Management Officer is responsible for conducting programmatic data analysis on a routine basis to identify gaps, strengths, and trends from implementation of Data Quality Review/Assessment for HIV prevention, testing, care and treatment services. S/he provides technical assistance to I-TECH program staff, to analyze program data to be used for real-time decision making. The Data Management Officer will support Data Manager to develop visual tools, reports, and graphics to summarize analyses into format that is easily understandable to the program team and other stakeholders.

Key Responsibilities Include:

The Data Quality Management Officer will be responsible for the following:

Technical Assistance, Collaboration, and Support 40%

- Implement project activities in collaboration with Ministry of Health (MoH) Tanzania Health Promotion Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other Implementing Partners
- Upon request represent I-TECH at M and E, DQR meetings and consultative meetings with key experts in HIV care and treatment clinics in Tanzania.
- In collaboration with Data Manager/Analyst, coordinate all program's data and reports from all supported regions
- Support Data Manager to prepare reports and presentations for regular data review with local, regional, national, and global partners as required

Data Management

Data Quality Review/Assessment 40%

- Work with Data Manager/Analyst to develop data abstraction tools and/or reporting tools to complete DQR activities
- Conduct on site and remote DQR according to national guidelines for data management, SOPs, and program SOW
- Work with technical team in monitoring the implementation of corrective and preventive action plans to address identified data quality issues where necessary
- Recommend course corrections or redesign strategies and interventions to ensure consistently high-quality data related to all community- and facility-based services
- Support trainings of new staff, facility teams, etc. on DQR, COI, and routine data analysis tools as needed
- Participate in monthly and quarterly project planning and evaluation meetings with THPS, CDC staff and local partners, as needed
- Conduct data triangulation, analysis and validate in relation to the predefined indicators to ensure consistency, integrity, and accuracy of data as part of DQR tracking.
- Actively participate in internal and external DQR meetings, trainings, and workshops for QI and DQR

Evaluation-related data management and analysis 10%

- Work with Data Manager to compile edits needed to REDCap tools.
- Assist to perform data quality checks according to SOPs
- Support Data Manager to generate weekly reports of progress and preliminary results during data collection
- Ensure data collector compliance with SOPs for filling in data are being observed
- Support the Data Manager/Analyst to identify data irregularities and implement solutions to correct them

Reporting 5%

- Contribute to writing reports, abstracts, and manuscripts for I-TECH, THPS, CDC, and other stakeholders.
- Assist to ad-hoc reporting requests from funders and stakeholders
- Contribute to the development of annual project work plan following consultations with other I-TECH colleagues, MOH, CDC, and other stakeholders/donors

Other duties as assigned 5%

- Perform other professional duties as assigned

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree or higher in data management, monitoring & evaluation, statistics, health informatics or related field; preference given to those who have experience with large-scale health projects with community- and facility-level
- Minimum 5 years' work experience in monitoring and evaluation of large-scale health or development projects, including: Experience with health services and integration of data from diverse sources preferred.
- Experience developing data quality assurance procedures and tracking progress
- Experience with monitoring or analyzing routine program data from national, regional, and or facility-level databases for data quality assurance and evaluations excellent quantitative, problem-solving, analytical skills
- Experience conducting analyses in Stata and/or Excel
- Strong knowledge in PEPFAR reporting system (DATIM) and MER indicators.
- Strong knowledge in Tanzania HIV data management systems especially CTC-2, CTC-3 and DHIS-2.
- Ability to translate data into visual outputs (graphs, charts, diagrams, tables, etc.)
- Demonstrated clear and concise writing and communications skills. Experience with report and publication layouts, newsletters, report writing, editing, or article publication desired
- Fluency in English and Swahili
- Ability to travel

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience using REDCap or Open Data Kit or other electronic data collection software
- Experience in PEPFAR or other US government-funded programs is an added advantage.
- Preferred: master's level degree or higher.

How to apply:

I-TECH is an equal opportunity employer. Interested applicants should send their applications to Info@tech-tanzania.org by **October 06, 2023 at 4.00pm**. In your application only include cover letter and CV indicating the position you are applying on the subject line. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. If you do not hear from us two weeks after the specified deadline, please consider yourself unsuccessful.

Reading: The lost culture we must rebuild by all means possible

By Adonis Byemelwa

It is widely rumoured that we as a society have no reading culture, namely reading as a habit. Simply put, many of us read mandatorily for educational purposes meaning upon graduation, we say bye to books.

But according to experts, this is bad for our personal as well as national development. This is so much so in a fast-changing globalized world where things and concepts are introduced every day.

Experts say reading is good because it improves one's focus, memory, empathy and communication skills. It can reduce stress, improve mental health and hence help a person live longer. It is only through reading that one can acquire new skills that improve work and relationship with others.

A reading culture is an environment where reading is championed, valued, respected, and encouraged. When there is no reading culture, the people and society remain static instead of dynamic, conservative instead of liberal, archaic instead of modern and hence underdeveloped.

Education minister Prof Adolf Mkenda was recently quoted expressing his disappointment with the declining reading culture in the country. Speaking in an interview with reporters, the economics guru said there was a need to prioritize books over buildings when it comes to libraries.

The minister's remarks came at a time when reports from academic corridors show that pupils and students spend a lot of time on social media via their smartphones and other electronic gadgets instead of reading books available either in soft or hard copies.

According to the latest study, in Sub-Saharan Africa, the old habit that used to involve turning the page over with a flick of the finger, not the click of the mouse is slowly dying a natural death.

Reading has faded alongside moral values because much of the morals are found in books. The bad news is that the habit does not develop suddenly; it increases gradually depending on exposure and background. This exposure can be through, for instance, people reading for leisure, knowledge, information or interest. In order to develop a reading culture in a society, people require knowledge to utilize existing information materials and resources.

Attitudes towards information use are vital to improving the reading culture in Tanzania. Reading culture determines the success of a person and the nation as a whole, signaling the need to explore opportunities for developing a reading culture among students.

Reading culture in Tanzania is affected by the education system which hardly outlines policies and strategies that support reading among students as an important aspect of education curriculum, thanks to the newly proposed competence-based curriculum.

Reading has been associated with passing examinations and seen as a way of accomplishing academic success. This view does not inspire students to read during their free time since they associate reading with school.

Generally, people see reading as an activity they are forced to do in a school environment, meaning after school, one regains the lost freedom and books become a reminder of the painful past.

In my opinion, our exams-oriented education system is one of the obstacles to creating a reading culture. Being a professional teacher, having sat before academicians for most of my life starting from pre-school through primary, secondary and tertiary education, I have gathered enough knowledge to arouse a debate among teaching professionals.

I strongly believe that for most of those who attended primary and secondary education before the advent and widespread of television, pupils and students moved around with story books in their bags or had them at home. People used to exchange books and there were many reading clubs.

It was common to hear people speak about the books they had read and those they were looking forward to reading in the near future. There were many book lov-



ers and book shelves were a must somewhere in the house.

As a result of this spontaneous reading competition, it was a challenge to writers who worked hard to meet the demands of their readers. Thus, you had publications like those of the African Writers Series where you got works of great writers like Chinua Achebe, Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Okot p'Bitek and Wole Soyinka to mention but a few.

From my point of view, the fiction books by these writers served some major functions that I see missing in the current society. The main missing contribution is the promotion of writing creative stories that are not only entertaining but also educating.

Through reading the story books either in Kiswahili or English, some readers discovered and developed their talents for writing creative stories too. This is largely in the bygone era reading as a habit.

Together with the writing talent building, reading story books served as a way of developing creative thinking in a person. Most of the stories acted as a medium for imparting cultural knowledge to a new generation. That is also gone.

Besides the above-mentioned benefits of reading story books, there is also the aspect of language improvement. Fiction writers usually apply formal language when explaining events and only in rare

cases they use colloquial language, especially in conversational instances.

In this way, language was improved whereby many readers applied the new vocabularies or expressions they had read from the various books to everyday usage. As a result of that, even someone who had not read that word or was oblivious of it became aware of it.

Sadly, the situation is totally different in this world of electronic moving-picture stories. The culture of reading books, let alone school books, has greatly been curtailed.

Our pupils and even university students read only for the sake of exams. This has become a big problem because all knowledge has to come from the teacher. The atom bomb to the love of reading is the stories narrated through movies. A story that would take one a week to finish, takes only one and a half hours.

So, a person basically sees no reason to spend days scrutinizing a 120-page book when it could only take him or her two hours at most to digest the whole story. It is a good way of time use and get the required entertainment but it greatly affects true knowledge acquisition.

This poses a challenge to education experts who are endowed with the appropriate knowledge to devise better ways of enticing learners to develop love of reading not only for the sake of exams but also for discovering new ideas for their own as

well as for the society's benefits. Since literature courses at higher level of secondary education have proved unattractive to students, another method should be employed.

I am of the opinion that literature lessons should begin at an earlier level in one's education journey. Preferably, this can begin from standard five where pupils should be given a good number of story books to go through for each year until standard seven. This should continue up to secondary level.

I believe in so doing, by the time they finish standard seven, pupils will have developed the habit of reading for the sake of knowledge acquisition and not only embracing curricula-stipulated books where they only search for where possible questions would come from and read only those pages.

There is a need to have an environment that supports reading culture or road map to counter the effects of education system on the reading culture amongst pupils and students.

The reading enabling environment should include provision of supplementary readers involving stakeholders who support reading programmes and allocating a lot of time to class timetables for reading lessons. Eventually, this will lead to improved literacy, lifelong learning, language development and high performance in class amongst students.

Promotion of a reading culture in Tanzania and other African countries must therefore go hand in hand with the promotion of reading as a pleasurable activity which means that pupils and students must start to read for fun and not just because they have to prepare for examinations.

Additionally, experience shows that a child who views reading as entertainment, instead of an activity through which certain skills are taught, would have a more rapid development in relation to literacy.

To support the idea, Prof Mkenda advocates for a shift in priorities. He said the key role of the Tanzania Library Service Board (TLSB) should be to ensure libraries are well stocked with enough and relevant books to enable Tanzanians access knowledge. Instead of allocating funds for the construction of new library buildings, the focus should be on acquiring and distributing books to libraries across the country. I agree with him.

Adonis Byemelwa is an international relations expert, teacher and author based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at adonisbyeme@yahoo.com

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

Govt vows to continue working closely with mining companies

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

THE government has reiterated its commitment to continue to work closely with mining companies to stimulate growth of the sector while making sure that Tanzanians benefit from the country's resources.

Deputy Prime Minister and minister for Energy, Dr Doto Biteko made the assurance over the weekend when he visited the Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML)'s pavilion at the sixth Geita Mining & Technology Exhibition in Geita Region.

Dr Biteko urged the company's management to provide close cooperation support to the new Mineral Minister, Anthony Mavunde, so as to enable the government achieve the set goals of transforming the sector.

He also said the company has become a great partner to the government, but it's also reassuring that GGML is an active partner through its corporate social responsibility programme.

He assured players in the sector that they have got a new leader who is competent and has a mild-mannered approach ready to bring major changes in the sector.

"So, provide the minister all the needed cooperation so as to make sector grow better, because GGML mine is an example for all mines in the country, so if we don't do well, Geita and other mines will underperform, the whole sector will benefit if you (GGML) shows the way. I congratulate you very much for what you have done in our community," Dr Biteko said.

GGML Managing Director Terry Strong thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her efforts to improve the investment environment in the country.

Strong said that President Samia's efforts to closely monitor and address the challenges facing the private sector and the mining sector have raised



Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko (2nd-R) receives a briefing from the AngloGold Ashanti's Vice President (Sustainability) for Ghana and Tanzania, Simon Shayo when he visited the GGML pavilion at the weekend. He presided over the opening of the sixth Geita Mining and Technology exhibition, which began on September 20. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

the hopes of many stakeholders in the country.

"GGML can be a role model because of this new spirit, having received sufficient cooperation from the government, particularly in the implementation of the new mining law," he said.

He said the law had provided a guide for the management of the mining sector in terms of taxation, royalty payments and the application of corporate social responsibility, while also emphasising local content.

"We are relieved to say that over the past five years, GGML has collaborated extensively with the office of the Geita Regional Commissioner by providing more than 46bn/- through the Social Responsibility Fund (CSR). These funds have contributed to the implementation of several community projects, including the construction of a modern market and health centres, including educational infrastructure to meet local needs," he said.

He further added that this year GGML as the main sponsor of the exhibition, the company feels comforted to see that Geita Region is making progress and becoming a major centre for business and investment, especially after GGML used the improvement of the 200-acres Export Production Zone Authority (EPZA) area.

More Ghanaians benefit from free cataract surgery by Chinese doctors

ACCRA, Ghana

IT is an early September morning in the Ghanaian capital of Accra, where many people are engaged in their daily chores to earn a living.

In the theater of the city's LEKMA hospital, commonly known as the China-Ghana Friendship Hospital, two Chinese ophthalmologists are attending to patients.

In a single morning, the pair has already performed free cataract surgeries on three patients to restore their vision, which had been impaired by the eye disease.

Lei Peng, the eye specialist from the Guangdong Second Provincial General Hospital, has teamed up with her colleague Tang Xiaodi, a member of the 12th Chinese medical team in Ghana, to perform free phacoemulsification cataract surgeries for locals since Sept. 11.

The two-week outreach programme is part of a free cataract surgery project named "Seeing The Beautiful World," initiated by the previous Chinese medical team in November of last year, with support from various Chinese businesses. The pair said that Saturday, they had completed 71 surgeries, bringing the figure closer to the project's target of 100 cases.

Lei was a member of the Chinese medical team that worked in Ghana in 2016, and out of his love for the West African country, he decided to return to support the current team in performing more free cataract surgeries.

"Cataract surgery gives people light. If they are completely blind, they become a burden to their family. But if they can now see, they can work and bring income to the family. That

makes a huge difference," he said.

Since 2009, China has dispatched 12 medical teams to Ghana, comprising over 100 medical professionals who have provided vital assistance to the West African country.

Georgina Addy, 79, was one of the Ghanaian beneficiaries of the free surgery to reverse the cataract she had developed five years ago. Addy said that after undergoing her procedure that she had sought help at other hospitals for her eye problem, but the high cost had prevented her from having the surgery.

"My eye has been painful, and a neighbor recommended the LEKMA Hospital to me. I visited here in August and reported with my laboratory reports yesterday. Today, they brought us to the theater, and they performed the surgery for me, and I am okay now," she said.

The pensioner expressed her gratitude to the Chinese doctors who attended to her medical needs promptly. "I am relieved from my financial burden. They are helping Ghanaians, so we thank them sincerely."

Cataract is a reversible cause of visual impairment and a common disease among Ghanaians. The high cost of the surgery, however, prevents many low-income locals from accessing the treatment to restore their vision. The free surgeries performed by the Chinese medical team, therefore, provide great relief to the beneficiaries and their families.

"Doctor Lei worked with us in 2016 and then returned to China but decided to come back to help us perform more surgeries. The results are good, and our clients are satisfied with the outcome," said Senam Aidam, head of the ophthalmology unit at LEKMA Hospital. "They are all very happy," Aidam added.



A Chinese doctor performs surgery on a local cataract patient at the LEKMA hospital in Accra, Ghana

Sino-African palace of culture and art, a bridge between two cultures

BEIJING

ACROSS the People's Palace and the Martyrs Stadium, two landmarks in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), sits another China-aided project - Central African Cultural and Arts Center that is taking shape, which, according to Alexis Gisaro Muvuni, Minister of State for Infrastructure and Public Works of the country, is "another flagship project for the cooperation between the two countries."

"My father once worked and lived in Africa, so I have felt some kind of connection with the continent. When I heard this project in Africa, I really wanted to be part of it," said Chinese architect Tang Wensheng, chief designer of the project in Kinshasa, the Congolese capital.

Tang works for Central-South Architectural Design Institute Co., Ltd., which undertakes the design work of the China-aided centre.

Most striking in Tang's office is a series of design blueprints and panoramic renderings showcasing the ingenious architectural concepts of central buildings such as theaters and school facilities.

The main structure of this building consists of a cultural center and National Institute of the Arts, which includes a large theater with a seating capacity of 2,000, a smaller theater with 800 seats, and a campus for the National Academy of Arts that can accommodate 2,000 students.

The exterior design of the core building, the cultural center resembles the shape of a round African drum, which comes from Tang's

own experience.

Tang learned about African drums from his father, who assisted with the construction of farms in Somalia in the 1980s as a member of the Chinese engineers' team.

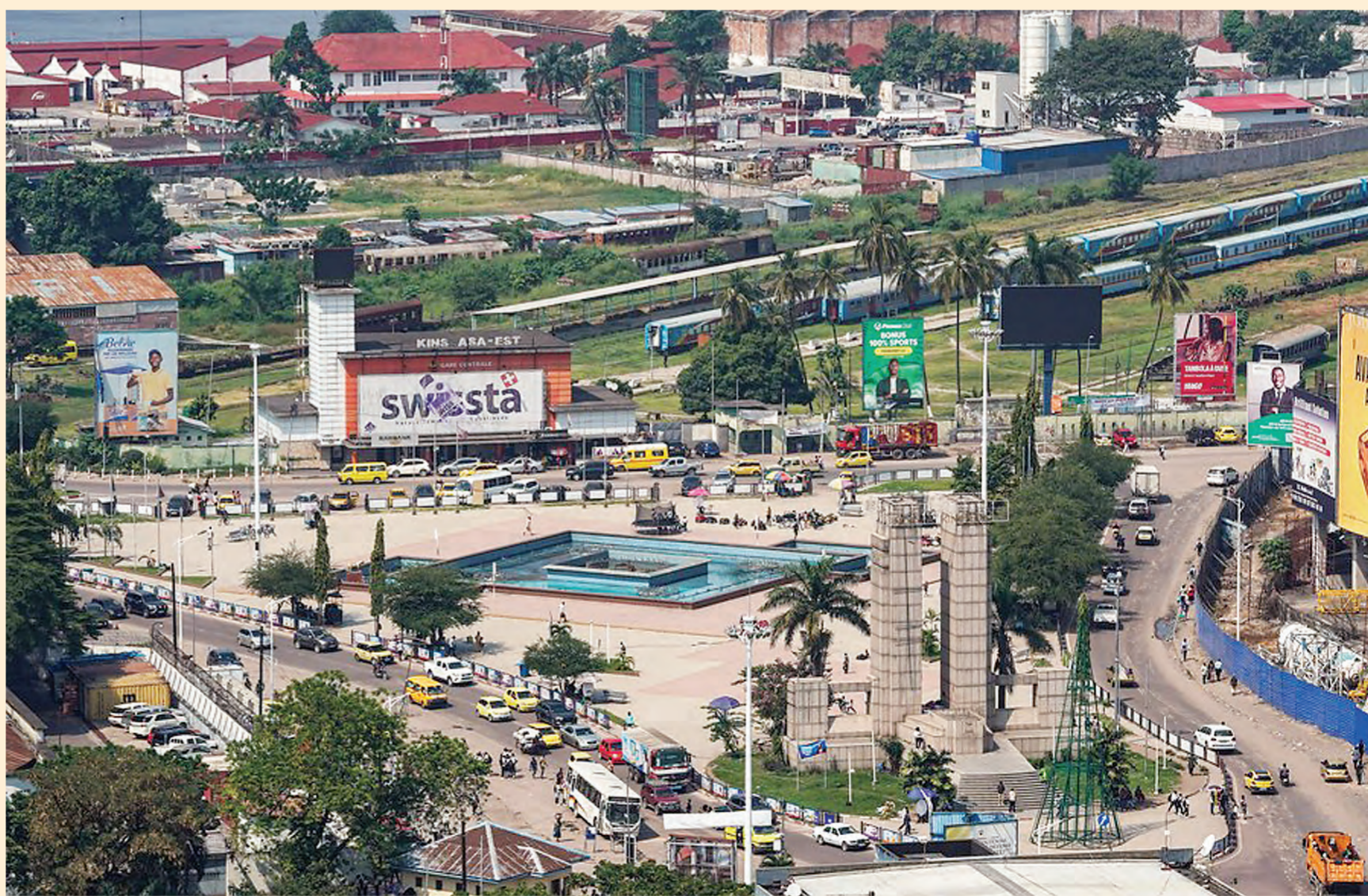
"In Chinese culture, the circle represents reunion. As the project is an embodiment of China-Africa friendship, I think the shape of a circle is most fitted to this project," he said.

The design of the National Institute of the Arts also exudes a harmonious blend of Chinese and African elements. The Chinese design team found that incorporating traditional Chinese designs can make the spatial layout of the school buildings better suited to the local climate and environment.

The traditional Chinese sheltered walkways provide both rain shelter and sun protection, together with the modified narrow courtyard, which was originally supposed to be broad, rightly suitable for the local hot and rainy climate with strong sunlight.

On the facade of the buildings, the local river sand from the Congo River was used as part of the wall paint. For interior decoration, local craft of copperplate etching, based on rich copper resources, is widely applied, reflecting the local artistic style.

As a key project of "eight major initiatives" put forward at the Beijing summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation held in 2018, the Central African Culture and Art Center project has long been highly prized by the Congo side, with President Felix Tshisekedi personally laying its foundation stone in 2019.



Kinshasa Central Railway Station (back) and Independence Square (C, front) in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

After that, the president paid several visits to the project and the construction personnel. In 2021, Tshisekedi said during a visit that he believed that the project, when completed, would play an important role in cultural exchanges between Africa and China.

In May, during Tshisekedi's state visit to China, the two countries announced the decision to upgrade bilateral ties to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership with the DRC side highly appreciat-

ing China's support for the project of Central African Cultural and Arts Center.

"We are looking forward to moving to the beautiful building," said Mwendanga Musengo Desire-Salomon, General director of National Institute of the Arts, adding that he is deeply impressed by the architectural design of the center that combines cultural richness and practicality.

Once the center is completed, the faculty and students of the academy will move there to work and

study.

Culture and art possess a profound power that can bridge the hearts and minds between peoples, Mwendanga said, adding that the project will play a significant role in nurturing more artistic talents and promoting international cultural exchanges in the future.

He voiced hope that artists from Africa and China will have the opportunity to perform together and engage in artistic exchange in the building.

UN meets on effective responses to loss and damage ahead of COP28

By Joyce Chimbi

AFRICAN countries are increasingly in the eye of deadly climate-induced disasters. Recent devastating extreme events include intense shattering earthquakes in Morocco, followed shortly by catastrophic floods in Libya this September that left 11,300 people dead, according to Libya's Red Crescent.

A quarter of Libya's Port City of Derna - the epicentre of this tragedy - was wiped off the map. Planet warming pollution made the tragedy in Libya 50 times more likely to occur and 50 percent worse.

"As global warming intensifies, the outlook worsens, losses and damages increase and become increasingly difficult to avoid, the projections are dire - regional disparities and food security are poised to affect tens to hundreds of millions of people in low- and middle-income countries, flood risk is anticipated to result in an additional 48,000 deaths of children by 2030," said Dr Adelle Thomas, lead author on the Sixth Assessment Report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) - the sixth in a series of reports which assess scientific, technical, and socio-economic information concerning climate change.

"For small islands and coastal communities, both slow onset and extreme events threaten to render these places uninhabitable. In this context, we find that current financial and institutional structures are failing to comprehensively address losses and damages, particularly in vulnerable developing nations. More than 50 percent of the debt increase in vulnerable nations is linked to funding disaster recoveries and reconstruction. It is an unjust and unsustainable predicament with those least responsible for climate change are shouldering the burdens and costs of loss and damage."

Speaking during a special UN meeting on loss and damage on September 20, 2023, Amina J Mohammed, the Vice Secretary-General of the United Nations, said that this is an issue that the Secretary General of the United Nations "always got fire under our feet for and to make sure we deliver as we go to COP28. The imperative to act urgently and collectively, we all know, cannot be overstated, and this special meeting is taking place on the margins of the secretary general's Climate Ambition Summit."

Stressing that the global community must come together, redouble its efforts in rapidly reducing greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Paris Agreement and significantly enhancing adaptation resilience in the face of these inevitable changes. It is also equally imperative that the global community address the irreversible impacts that have already been set in motion.

"Many nations, particularly those which are least responsible for the current climate crisis, find themselves at the frontline of its effects. To address the climate injustice, a historic decision was taken at COP27 to establish new funding arrangements, including a fund for loss and damage. It is possible to have a world that is secure, where no one is left behind. Keeping the promise of the 2030 agenda and also of the Paris Agreement," Mohammed emphasised.

The special meeting on loss and damage supported efforts by the Transitional Committee in line with the mandate that was given to them by the parties of the Paris Agreement. Emphasizing that urgent action was needed as the least polluting countries were in the frontline of a



deadly climate crisis.

"More than 110 million Africans are being directly affected by climate and water-related hazards in 2022, and that caused more than 8.5 billion dollars in economic damages. Our global projected economic cost of loss and damage are to be in the range of hundreds of billions by 2030," Mohammed expounded.

At the same time, unsustainable debt burdens, spiralling inflation and currency fluctuations are adding to the difficulties and hardships that the most vulnerable countries face. Initiatives such as the SDGs Stimulus to Deliver Agenda 2030 are now in place to keep the 2030 promise by offsetting challenging market conditions faced by developing countries and accelerating progress towards the SDGs.

Genaro Matías Godoy González, a youth representative from YOUNGO - the official children and youth constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) emphasised that climate inaction

should pay a price and that "the call for loss and damage finance is inherently a call for both climate action and climate justice. It means the hope of reparations for the billions of people whose livelihoods are lost and the responsibility of decision-makers to fix the pathway of a monetary and financial system that helps our world to expand its growth but fails to account for planetary boundaries on how we should direct growth."

González spoke of the need for transformative change - recognising the climate and ecological debt to the people and ecosystem. To rebuild and regenerate the lost livelihoods - international financial institutions have a moral imperative to be part of the transition and transformation of our global financial system.

"Central banks must include the risk of financial inaction in the risk assessments of its monetary policy, report accordingly, and the right incentives put in place. Climate financing for addressing loss and damage must not come at

the expense of other forms of climate financing to support comprehensive climate action. It must be new and additional and aligned with SDGs, conservation of nature and climate resilience development. They should not create more debt burden for developing countries that are already trying to survive the climate crisis while being strangled by debt and being forced to extract nature," he said.

To underpin the need for effective financial models for loss and damages, Thomas delivered a dire warning from the heart of the Sixth IPCC assessment report - "Human-induced climate change has inflicted widespread and severe losses and damages - disproportionately affecting developing countries and the most vulnerable among us. The numbers paint an alarming picture - about 3.3 billion people reside in highly vulnerable countries, exposing them to the most severe climate impacts. Human mortality from extreme events was 15 times higher in highly vulnerable re-

gions." "Millions of people are grappling with acute food insecurity, concentrated in Africa, Asia, Central and South America, least developed countries and small islands. Severe droughts have resulted in nearly six million children in the developing world becoming underweight. Extreme events are resulting in billions of dollars in damages - at times, exceeding the GDP of developing countries," Thomas added.

Losses and damages have wrecked greater economic havoc and impoverished regions and among more vulnerable populations, including the poor, women, children and indigenous peoples. The scientific evidence is undeniable - urgent, comprehensive and transformative action is imperative to respond to the escalating levels of loss and damage.

IPS UN Bureau Report

Police to probe pipeline 'sabotage' after major Durban water outages

By Tony Carnie

THOUSANDS of homes were left without water for at least five days this week after water pressure failures in several parts of the city stretching from Durban North to Umhlanga.

While water flow resumed in several areas late on Friday (September 22) numerous homes on higher ground were still dry last night (September 23).

Now it has emerged that a number of pipeline valves regulating water flow may have been damaged or tampered with deliberately.

In a statement, the city said law enforcement agencies were being engaged and that "the elements of sabotage are suspected after technical teams discovered an air valve in a water pipeline that was tampered with and another valve was vandalised".

"This comes as our technical teams continue with an assessment on the Northern Aque-

duct to ascertain the root cause of the reduced flow resulting in the interruption of water supply in Umhlanga, Durban North and surrounding areas."

No "major" water leaks or burst pipes supplying these areas had been detected, the city noted.

It is understood that the police were called in after Ward 35 Councillor Nicole Bollman and fellow Democratic Alliance councillors drew the city's attention to at least one case of interference with a pipeline valve in a remote but publicly accessible location in the Parlock area.

Bollman told Daily Maverick she was accompanying Ethekwini Water and Sanitation (EWS) staff on a pipeline route inspection on September 21 when a former Ethekwini official noticed that a valve had been tampered with.

"That's when we started saying 'something funny is going on here' and decided to march to City Hall to request senior of-

ficials to investigate," said fellow DA official and former Ethekwini executive committee member Heinz de Boer.

Bollman said she had seen clear evidence during her inspection that water infrastructure had been tampered with, creating havoc for residents of large parts of the city.

According to the City, the affected areas have included Durban North, Redhill, Beachway, Umgeni Park, Athlone, Japanese Gardens, Riverside, Beachway, Glen Anil, Glen Hill, Umhlanga Rocks Drive, parts of Umgeni Park, Blackburn Road, Parkhill, certain roads in Effingham, the Umhlanga CBD, La Lucia, Glenashley, Glen Anil and Somerset Park.

While homes in lower-lying parts of the affected area continued to receive water, residents living at higher elevations were left without any water in their taps. They had to resort to buying bottled drinking water, collections from municipal water

tankers, boiling swimming pool water or collecting groundwater made available by the Musjidur Rahman mosque in Kenneth Kaunda Road in Durban North.

Bollman said an analysis of census data suggested that there are more than 100 000 people living in the suburbs affected by the cut-offs and low water pressure problems.

She was hesitant to speculate on who might be responsible for the apparent sabotage, while noting that: "We all know that there are two different (ANC factions) and that there are elections next year, but I don't know and cannot say who might be behind this."

Other sources, however, have pointed towards the possibility of vandalism or theft by scrap metal thieves, along with the long-standing neglect of municipal water structure that has led to a situation where 57% of water purchased by the city from the Umgeni Water utility

group is now classified as non-revenue water because it is either leaking out of pipes or not paid for.

A former engineer with long experience of the city's water infrastructure suggested that - whatever the cause of the recent pressure and supply failures - it was vital for the city to establish a formal high-level inquiry.

"No matter how bad the truth might be, you have to find out the root cause and deal with it," he said.

Other sources have suggested that whoever was responsible for the apparent tampering or sabotage appeared to have some knowledge of the geographic location and purpose of valves that were allegedly sabotaged, while certain municipal staff and other parties could potentially stand to benefit from overtime payments or water tanker contracts when there were supply problems.

On September 21, members of the SA Municipal Workers

Union (SAMWU) also staged a protest march to the Durban City Hall to present a memorandum of work grievances to city officials that included demands for performance bonus payments and access to proper tools of the trade to perform their work.

However, SAMWU's Ethekwini regional secretary Xolani Dube has rejected speculation about any connection between the union's recent protest march to the city hall and the recent water cut-offs.

"SAMWU has a legitimate grievance against the employer (Ethekwini municipality) and this was communicated through the proper structures, including the (KZN) Premier, the City Manager and the Mayor," he told Daily Maverick when contacted for comment.

"Whatever the issues (with water infrastructure failures) SAMWU will not venture into commenting on this. This is our work. If infrastructure is dam-

aged, this interferes with our livelihoods. We don't conduct ourselves in that way.

"So, we won't be drawn into any speculation - and we condemn what (may have) happened. Our infrastructure needs to be protected and maintained . . . and we would urge law enforcement to bring the culprits to book (if there has been deliberate sabotage)."

In the interim, the city said senior officials would also be meeting with Umgeni Water to implement alternative supply options.

"Reservoir outlets have been opened. However, the situation is still critical due to unstable outflows on the aqueduct feeding to the reservoirs . . . Residents are therefore requested to please use water sparingly to prevent reservoirs from running empty as this may prolong the recovery period."

Water tankers would continue to supply residents until the system recovered fully - **DM**

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
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BUSINESS

Chinese lenders service over half of EACOP 'debt'

DSE's Q3 turnover surpasses Q2, ahead of quarter ending

By Guardian Reporter

With only one week ahead of the end of the third quarter, the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) total turnover has reached 29.4bn/-, which is slightly higher than 28.6bn/- recorded during the second quarter.

The market report shows that during the third quarter, local investors are dominating both selling and buying activities, with 97.26 percent and 52.47 percent of total values respectively.

However, total turnover for the third quarter of this year is still lower than 40.1bn/- recorded during similar quarter of last year.

The market report shows, foreign investors have so far recorded a net outflows amounting to 13bn/-, after selling shares valued 13.8bn/- against buying value of 805mm/-.

During the second quarter of this year, foreign investors bought shares valued 16.9bn/-, which was equivalent to 59.20 percent of total buying value and they sold shares valued 17.2bn/- or 60.32 percent of total value of shares sold, which translated into 300mm/- net outflows.

The largest transactions during the ending quarter were conducted on Wednesday, 20th September, after recording a turnover of 7.1bn/-, which was nearly 25 percent of the current quarterly total market turnover.

During the day, the market report shows, on block trade pre-arrangement board, Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) counter transacted a block of one million shares valued 6.5bn/- traded in two deals, at a discounted price.

In the same day, Tanzania Cigarette Company (TCC) counter also transacted a block trade of 30,770 shares, while Vodacom Tanzania counter traded a block trade of 670,000 shares.

The market report shows, foreign investors sold shares valued 313mm/- during the day, which was equivalent to 4.36 percent of total value of shares sold and all shares were bought by local investors by 100 percent.

Market analysts are expecting continued sellout by foreign investors due to foreign exchange (shortages of US dollar), increased interest rates in developed world's financial markets and prevailing global economic conditions.

NBC sets out to promote businesses prosperity between SA and Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has reiterated its commitment to promoting business prosperity between Tanzania and South Africa by enabling businesses from both countries to expand and seize more opportunities beyond the borders.

Peter Nalitoela, bank's director and head of treasury and markets highlighted this when speaking at the South African Business Forum in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. The event was also attended by Nolutshando Malepe, the South Africa High Commissioner to Tanzania.

He said that the move follows the Africa Union's inclusion as a permanent member of the European Union's G-20. Nalitoela mentioned that NBC, through its various financial services such as capital financing, securities, foreign exchange services, and the bank's latest digital payment product called 'NBC Connect', is determined to facilitate more efficient business operations for corporates from both countries. The move will enable them to competitively participate in the new global opportunity.

"We are pleased to see that Her Excellency High Commissioner Malepe has also encouraged businesses to fully embrace this new G-20 market. NBC also assures them that we are prepared to work closely with them to achieve this through our essential financial services designed to meet their needs. These include loans, securities, foreign currency access, and our digital payment product, 'NBC Connect', which allows for seamless transactions, including government payments and fees," he stated.

He further emphasized that NBC has

long been a key partner for businesses between South Africa and Tanzania.

Nalitoela mentioned several sectors that the bank has closely focused on, including agriculture, transportation, communications, business, and mining.

Speaking at the forum, Ambassador Malepe referred to Tanzania as one of the best countries for investment, highlighting the numerous business opportunities available. She also emphasized the presence of peace in the country and the longstanding historical cooperation between Tanzania and South Africa as crucial factors in promoting business prosperity between the two nations.

"I urge you to take full advantage of the peace and cooperation we have witnessed with our Tanzanian counterparts to develop your businesses. Whenever you encounter challenges, we welcome you to the embassy for discussions on how to resolve them, as well as explore more opportunities," Ambassador Malepe emphasized.

Manish Thakrar, Chairman of the South African Business Forum in Tanzania, stated that the forum's goal is to support the government's efforts in attracting more foreign investors to invest in Tanzania. He highlighted the importance of reliable financial services in achieving this important agenda.

"However, the good news is that our longstanding partnership with NBC Bank continues to assure us of excellent financial services. We are further pleased to hear that NBC is encouraging our participation in the G-20 market, ensuring more efficient access to capital and numerous other financial services," said Thakrar, who also expressed interest in NBC Connect - the bank's latest online payment product.

KAMPALA

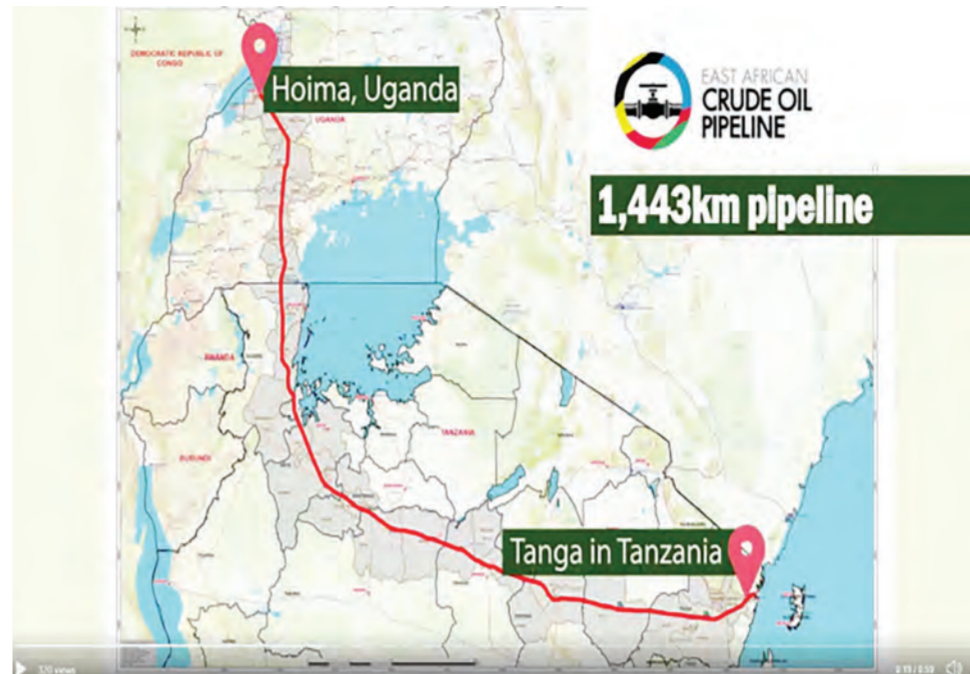
Chinese lenders will provide more than half of the US\$3 billion debt that Uganda requires to build a crude oil pipeline after financiers from the West backed out following strong opposition from environmental groups.

According to Uganda's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, the East African nation expects to finalise talks with the China Export & Credit Insurance Corporation (Sinocure) and the Export-Import Bank of China (Eximbank) by next month to finance the construction of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP).

Irene Bateebe, the ministry's permanent secretary, said Sinocure, the Chinese state-owned provider of export credit insurance, is working with Eximbank to provide funding for the pipeline, which "is the largest portion - above 50 per cent of the debt".

Do you have questions about the biggest topics and trends from around the world? Get the answers with SCMP Knowledge, our new platform of curated content with explainers, FAQs, analyses and infographics brought to you by our award-winning team.

"We are at the tail-end of the discussions [with Chinese lenders] for financial close. We are confident that by the end of October of this year, we will close the debt component and we would have mobilised most of the funding for the project," Bateebe said on Friday.



Uganda needs about US\$5 billion for the pipeline running from Lake Albert's oilfields to a storage and loading terminal in the Tanzanian port of Tanga.

Financing is set at a 60:40 debt-to-equity ratio, meaning US\$3 billion will be secured as debt with the remaining US\$2 billion to be financed by shareholders through equity contributions.

TotalEnergies controls a 62 per cent interest in the pipeline; the Uganda National Oil Company holds 15 per cent; Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation has 15 per cent; leaving 8 per cent for Chinese oil giant China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC).

The 1,443km (896-mile)

pipeline would transport crude oil from Uganda's Lake Albert oilfields in northwest Uganda to Tanga in Tanzania on the Indian Ocean where the oil would then be sold onwards to world markets.

Besides the Chinese lenders, Bateebe said Uganda expects to get some funding from Saudi Arabia's Islamic Development Bank and some African banks, including the African Export-Import Bank.

Bateebe said initially many Western-backed lenders had expressed interest in financing the pipeline but pulled out due to strong opposition from environmental and human rights groups who have said the oilfields and pipeline threaten the region's fragile

ecosystem and the livelihoods of thousands of people. Further, environmentalists say Uganda is going against the global push for energy transition away from fossil fuels.

"We did see some Western banks withdrawing from supporting the project but we always say look at your other friend. We had other friends who were willing to come on board. We became East-looking," Bateebe said. She added that, previously, a large portion of the debt was to come from Western lenders.

In 2006, British company Tullow Oil discovered commercially viable oil deposits on the shores of Lake Albert in western Uganda at the border with

the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Uganda has an estimated 6.5 billion barrels of crude oil - the equivalent of 1.4 billion barrels of recoverable oil.

But it was only last year that the partners announced a US\$10 billion final investment decision for the project, which includes the oilfield development and the construction of the pipeline to carry crude oil harvested from Hoima in western Uganda.

CNOOC operates the Kingfisher oilfield, located on the eastern shores of Lake Albert in Uganda. It will invest an estimated US\$2.3 billion to develop the oilfield that would produce 40,000 barrels per day at peak production.

The other, larger oilfield is the Tilenga, operated by French oil multinational TotalEnergies, which is estimated to cost between US\$4 billion and US\$6 billion to develop. It will produce 190,000 barrels per day.

In support of Uganda's projects, the Chinese embassy in Uganda last year criticised the European Union for trying to interfere with the development of Uganda's oil ambitions. Chinese ambassador to Uganda Zhang Lizhong said the EU "should not use the excuse of environmental and human rights issues to block development" of the oilfields and the pipeline.



The Director and Head of Treasury and Markets at NBC Bank, Peter Nalitoela, presents the bank's corporate products to members of the South African Business Forum in Tanzania at the forum meeting in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. The event was sponsored by NBC Bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

Singapore emerges as largest property investor in Japan

SINGAPORE

Singapore became the biggest investor in Japan's real estate sector this year, lured by the yen's weakness and growing demand in logistics and hospitality industries, according to Knight Frank LLP.

Inflows from the city-state totaled almost \$3 billion so far in 2023, followed by investors from the US, Canada, and the United Arab Emirates, according to a report published this month.

Singapore's sovereign wealth fund GIC Pte's purchase of six warehouses in Japan from Blackstone Inc. for \$800 million contributed significantly to that, said Christine Li, Knight Frank's head of Asia-Pacific research, in the report.

GIC Chief Investment Officer

Jeffrey Jaensubhakij recently described Japan as a "very cheap" market where value can be realized, and with a long way to run. International investors are also attracted to its low borrowing costs, and putting more money into hotels because of a post-pandemic tourism boom.

Foreign investors, including Goldman Sachs Group Inc., KKR & Co., Blackstone Inc., have spent a combined \$2 billion on hotel deals in Japan so far in 2023, the most compared with any other sector in Asian commercial property, according to MSCI Real Assets.

Japan's surge in hybrid work arrangements and rising supply has eroded investors' appetite for the office sector, Knight Frank said in the report.



The Head of Legal and Company Secretary for KCB Bank Tanzania, Frida Shirima (2nd L), who was representing the acting East Africa Regional Business Director of KCB Group, signs a memorandum of understanding with the VETA acting Director General Anthony Kasore (2nd R) to upskill 5,000 youths in Tanzania (starting with 500 in Dar es Salaam). Left is KCB Bank Tanzania Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs, Christina Manyenye. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

Schools advised to establish entrepreneurship clubs

By Correspondent Joseph Mwenda-pole

The college of Business Education (CBE) has advised schools in the country to establish entrepreneurship clubs in order to prepare the students to be self-employed when they finish their studies.

The call was made over the weekend by the Deputy Rector of the college, Administration, Research and Consultancy, Dr. Nasibu Mramba, during the 23rd Green Acre school graduation ceremony held at the school premises Mbezi Beach Salasala.

He said that CBE decided to come up with the idea of entrepreneurship clubs in schools after seeing how big the employment problem was in the world for students to finish college education and struggling to find

employment.

He said that CBE teachers have been visiting the clubs and giving the students who are members of the clubs business education while at school.

He said they felt it was important to start giving students life skills to know entrepreneurship at a young age so that they grow up with business education skills and eventually become self-employed and employ other when they finish their studies.

"CBE started these entrepreneurship clubs in secondary schools last year and they have been a great help in building the ability of these students to do small businesses even while they are still studying and they have been a great help," he said.

He said even if a student misses a chance to join higher education but has entrepreneurial education, he can get rid of it by doing various

businesses instead of struggling to ask for employment.

"We teach the students when they finish their studies how to use the things they have to make products that will help them get rid of themselves economically and support the government's efforts to fight the employment problem," said Dr. Mramba.

He said that they have succeeded in establishing entrepreneurship clubs in many secondary schools in Dar es Salaam and that until now there are requests from many schools that want to establish such clubs.

He said that next year the university hopes to start such clubs in different regions to enable the students of those regions to have entrepreneurship education.

Dr. Mramba congratulated Green Acres schools for their great academic

success and asked them not to relax but to continue to maintain their position to ensure that the schools continue to hold high positions nationally.

"I have heard from the school principal how you are doing well now, the task is to protect the success you have achieved so that you do not go back, make sure you continue to be at the top," said Dr. Mramba.

The principal of the school, Minani Kafugugu said that his school has already started a program to teach its students entrepreneurship education to prepare them to depend themselves when they finish higher education.

He said that they decided to come up with the plan as part of building them confidence to do business and finally be able to be self-employed and employ their colleagues instead of struggling to find employment.

"We give our secondary school

students entrepreneurship education so that even those who do not have the opportunity to go to the A Level and finally university will have business skills that will help them to be self-employed and employ their colleagues," he said.

He said they have been teaching students entrepreneurship through gardening and vegetables adding that they have been engaging them with successful businessmen to give them their experience and motivate them.

The first entrepreneurship club was launched by (CBE), in Temeke secondary school in Dar es Salaam and has benefited hundreds of students of the school until now.

He said they will start with the regions where CBE has its campuses such as Mbeya, Mwanza, Dodoma and Zanzibar.

Digital assets markets shaken by hawkish Federal outlook

By Samuel Haig

Digital assets tentatively sold off this week in response to the Federal Reserve indicating another rate hike may come this year, despite deciding to keep interest rates steady on Wednesday.

Projections released by the central bank show median rates of 5.6 percent before year's end, up from the current range of 5.25 percent to 5.5 percent. The suggested hike garnered support from 12 Federal Reserve officials and opposition from 9.

"We want to see convincing evidence really that we have reached the appropriate level, and we're seeing progress, and we welcome that," Fed chair Jerome Powell told reporters at a press conference following the decision. "But, you know, we need to see more progress before we'll be willing to reach that conclusion."

According to CoinMarketCap, \$30B was wiped from the combined capitalization of crypto assets, which now sits at \$1.05T following the 3 percent retracement. BTC has since dropped 2.5 percent, and ETH is down 3 percent after both assets regained 1 percent in the past 24 hours.

September's close will also coincide with the expiry of \$3B worth of quarterly BTC options and \$1.8B in contracts tracking Ether.

Luuk Strijers, the chief commercial officer at crypto options exchange Deribit, told The Defiant that quarterly contracts are typically "the most significant in terms of volume and value," estimating institutions represent 85 percent of activity.

However, Strijers said he does not expect to see "strong market moves in the coming week" based on the current positioning of market participants.

September has been the weakest month for Ethereum's on-chain activity this year.

According to Ultra Sound Money, more than 13,000 ETH (\$21M) was added to Ether's supply since the month began – meaning Ethereum's burn mechanism failed to offset new ETH entering supply as rewards for validators amid the slump in activity.

The low activity has been attributed to the prolonged downturn in the NFT market and the buzz surrounding memecoins dying down.

However, the retracement in on-chain activity coincides with Layer 2 transaction throughput setting new highs multiple times in recent weeks. Ethereum's L2 ecosystem processed an average of 64.2 transactions per second (TPS) on Sept. 14, compared to 12.4 TPS on the Ethereum mainnet.

around the region will draw attention before the release of the euro-zone report, another data highlight will be Germany's latest Ifo business confidence reading.

Europe's biggest economy may be contracting at present, and the index – due Monday – will show whether there's any sign of optimism of growth improving.

In the UK meanwhile, which last week surprised investors by keeping rates on hold instead of an increase, final GDP data for the second quarter will be released on Friday.

Turning east, Hungary's central bank is poised to cut its key rate by a full percentage point for a fifth month on Tuesday. The next day, Czech officials may stay on hold.

In Russia, macroeconomic data is published Wednesday including industrial production figures that will likely show a strong rebound as Putin's war economy intensifies defense output to support his invasion of Ukraine.

The next day, the Bank of Russia's Governor Elvira Nabiullina, Kremlin economic aide Maxim Oreshkin and Finance Minister Anton Siluanov are scheduled to speak at the Moscow Financial Forum. exchanges.

Core inflation rate gauges are falling in US, Europe zone

LONDON

Policymakers on each side of the Atlantic are likely to take comfort this week from a slowdown taking hold in key underlying measures of consumer-price growth.

In the US, the annual core metric that strips out food and energy from the Federal Reserve's preferred inflation measure may have fallen below 4 percent in August for the first time in nearly two years.

Meanwhile the euro region's own annual gauge of underlying price growth is expected to have slowed to 4.8 percent in September – a 12-month low.

Such coinciding evidence would reassure officials from the Fed and the European Central Bank after a week when each signaled monetary tightening may be done or at least paused for now, shifting focus to keeping interest rates durably high to fully squash inflation.

They do have reason for caution however, with the prospect that crude oil heading toward \$100 barrel could yet fuel further price growth.

Some recent increases in energy costs are already having an effect. The overall personal consumption expenditures price index that the Fed favors is expected to pick up on a monthly basis to one of the strongest readings this year when that report is released on Friday.

Headline euro zone inflation, which will be released the same day, is still likely to have weakened drastically however – reaching 4.5 percent, a two-year low.

"The Fed's optimism isn't likely to be dented by data in the coming week. Even as income and spending rose at a decent clip, August PCE inflation likely continued at a pace close to the Fed's 2 percent target for a third straight month. That said, we do expect to see further signs of labor-market weakening in the consumer confidence report," said Anna Wong, Stuart Paul and Eliza Winger, economists.

Elsewhere, appearances by the Fed and ECB chiefs, along with rate decisions from Hungary to Mexico, will keep investors busy.

US and Canada

In the US, the PCE report may be the last government figures that policymakers see for some time ahead of a likely shutdown that would start Oct. 1. When the government was closed in 2013, figures like the employment report and others were delayed.

Other data this week include those on new-home sales, consumer sentiment and durable goods orders. The Census Bureau will publish its third estimate of second-quarter growth as well as benchmark revisions.

Fed Chair Jerome Powell will host a town hall with educators, while his colleagues Neel Kashkari, Austan Goolsbee, Thomas Barkin and John Williams are scheduled to speak at separate events.

In Canada, gross domestic product data for July will be released after preliminary data earlier suggested the economy was flat that month, supporting the central bank's decision to hold rates steady at 5%.

Payroll and job vacancy data is expected to show the labor market continues to ease although wage growth remains strong.

Asia

The Bank of Japan's Governor Kazuo Ueda and his deputy Shinichi Uchida will both be speaking on Monday following the central bank's latest policy decision Friday.

This week the world's third largest economy will also be reporting on a host of data on Friday, including Tokyo inflation, retail sales, industrial production and labor market related figures.

In a week when the European Commission's Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis will be visiting China, investors will also be closely watching the country's PMI data starting Friday to parse the latest state of China's economic slowdown.

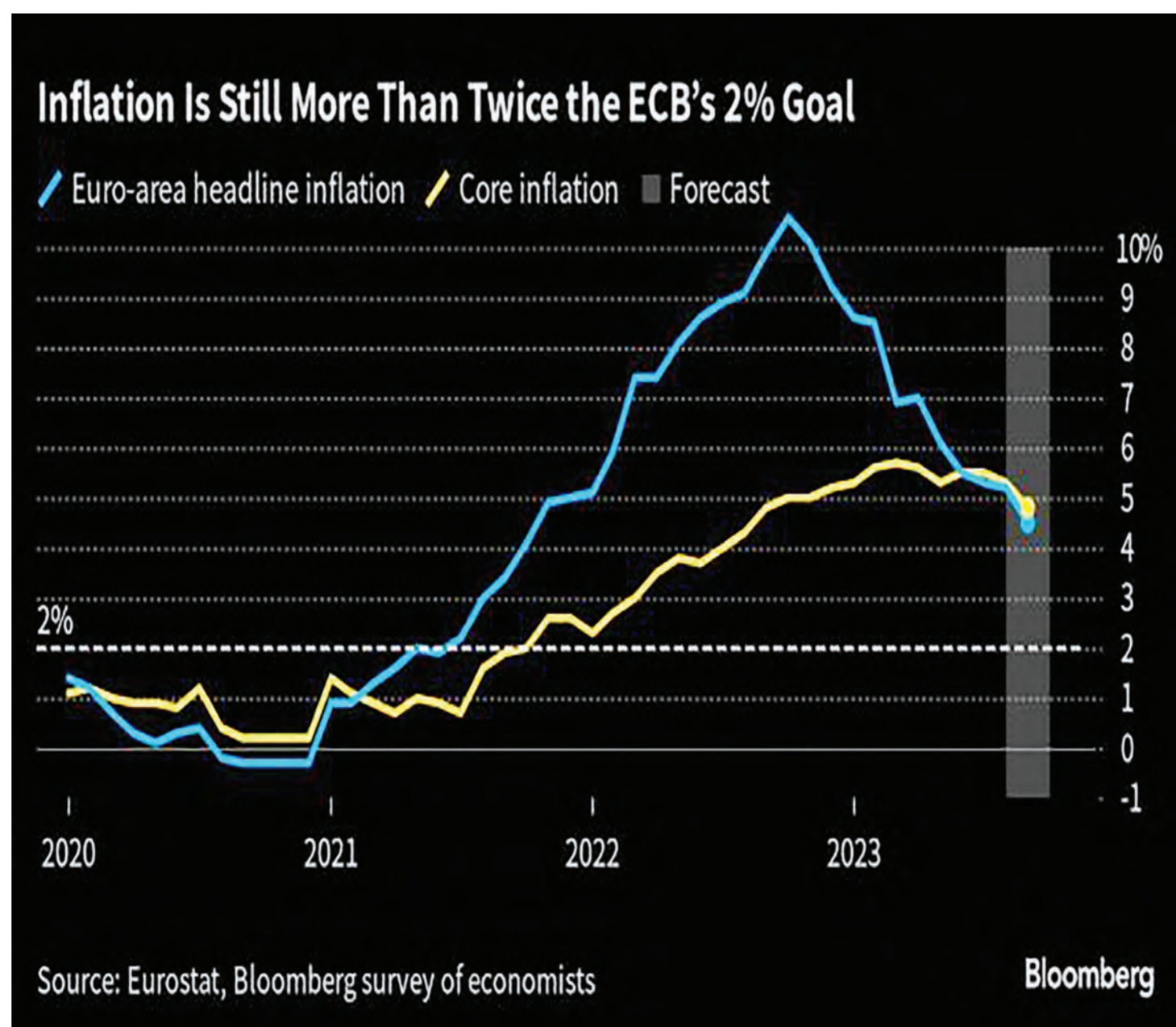
Australia reports on its latest inflation figures Wednesday and retail sales data Thursday – both will feed into the Reserve Bank of Australia's policy decision the following week.

Meanwhile Thailand's central bank is expected to continue to raise rates on Wednesday, after which the country is expected to show slightly better trade results Friday.

Elsewhere, Singapore has inflation data due Monday that



Nayma Ismail, tax administration officer, Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) (R) provides tax education to coiffeur in Kiborloni, Moshi district in Kilimanjaro region as part of implementing the authority's door-to-door tax awareness programme. Photo by Miraji Masala



is likely to show a further slowdown, while Hong Kong reports on trade Tuesday.

Europe, Middle East, Africa

ECB President Christine Lagarde will testify

in the European Parliament on Monday, in a session likely to touch on last week's close-run decision to raise rates again.

Other colleagues scheduled to speak in

coming days include Bank of France Governor Francois Villeroy de Galhau and ECB Chief Economist Philip Lane.

While national inflation numbers from

Ford offers Unifor wage increases up to 25pc

BENGALURU

Ford Motor has offered Canadian union Unifor wage increases of up to 25 percent in its tentative agreement, the union said on Saturday.

The agreement provides a 10 percent wage increase for the first year followed by increases of 2 percent and 3 percent through the second and third year and a \$10,000 productivity and quality bonus to all employees on the active roll of the company, Unifor said.

The proposals also include an increase in the monthly basic benefit and special allowance in all class codes across defined benefit and hybrid pension plans and investments to help transition from traditional internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle production to electric vehicle (EV) assembly facilities.

Unifor, which represents about 5,600 Canadian auto workers, on Friday said that its Ford leadership group has voted unanimously to support the tentative agreement.

Ford is also in the midst of contract negotiations in the US with a strike by the United Auto Workers (UAW) union at its at the automaker's Wayne, Michigan assembly plant.

The UAW began strikes on Friday against 38 parts distribution centers across the United States at GM and Stellantis, extending its unprecedented, simultaneous strikes that began with one assembly plant each of the Detroit Three. The addi-



tional facilities added about 5,600 workers to the 12,700 already on strike.

The UAW said on Friday that Ford had improved its contract offer, including boosting profit sharing and agreeing to let workers strike over plant closures but said the union still has "serious issues" with Ford and its workers would remain on strike at the automaker's

Wayne, Michigan assembly plant. Unlike UAW, Unifor chose one of the Detroit Three as a "target" to negotiate with first - in this case, Ford - in a pattern bargaining tactic used to set the tone for subsequent deals with other companies.

UAW President Shawn Fain said in a Facebook live event that by targeting distribution centers the strike becomes a nationwide event.

He said he expected talks to continue through the weekend.

The standoff is fueling worries about prolonged industrial action that could disrupt production and dent US economic growth. A Reuters/Ipsos poll released on Thursday showed significant support by Americans for the striking auto workers.

US President Joe Biden said in a

social media post on X, formerly known as Twitter, that he would come to Michigan on Tuesday "to join the picket line and stand in solidarity with the men and women of UAW," while former President Donald Trump, who is seeking a new term, will be in Michigan on Wednesday to address auto workers, his campaign said.

London-listed miner says Mali Lithium project not hit by law

BAMAKO

London-listed Kodal Minerals said its lithium project in Mali won't be impacted by new legislation that entitles the state to a greater share of the West African nation's mining assets.

On August 29, Mali's military head of state Assimi Goita signed the law, which doubles the stake the authorities can acquire to 20% and sets aside an additional 5% of shares for "national investors." The authorities had already said the updated law won't apply to the established gold operations that have long dominated the country's mining industry - such as Barrick Gold Corp.'s Loulo-Gounkoto and B2Gold's Fekola assets.

Mali's National Directo-

rate of Geology and Mines has confirmed that Kodal's license to mine the Bougouni lithium project will be "administered in accordance" with the terms of the previous law, the firm said in a statement Friday.

The boom in lithium, a key battery metal, has kicked started a race for deposits. Mining heavyweights, battery manufacturers and automakers from Rio Tinto Plc to Tesla Inc. are chasing deals as they look to secure future supplies.

Kodal is vying with Australia's Leo Lithium Ltd. to bring Mali's first lithium mine to production. Kodal was awarded its license in late 2021, while Leo Lithium was given the right to develop the Goulamina asset in August 2019.



China stimulates Ghana's gas sector

ACCRA

China has made significant contributions to Ghana's utilization of natural gas resources, which has acted as a catalyst for improved economic development, a Ghanaian energy official has said.

Victor Sunu-Attah, general manager of the state-owned Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC), made the remarks during the 2023 Ghana Oil and Gas Conference in Accra, the capital of Ghana, Tuesday.

In an interview with Xinhua, Sunu-Attah commended China for its financial support and technical expertise in helping establish Ghana's first gas processing plant, Ghana Gas, located in the Western Region. This facility, along with associated gas pipelines, transports natural gas to thermal plants in various parts of the country.

"Gas utilization is one of the success stories of Ghana's oil and gas sector. When we were building Ghana Gas, we had a facility from China, and they helped us build the gas infrastructure," he said.

The official highlighted the China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Sinopec) as a leading partner in building this world-class gas processing facility, saying the Chinese firm not only helped construct the plant but also trained local Ghanaians in managing it, ensuring that Ghana could harness natural gas to power its economic activities.

Sunu-Attah also noted that the Chinese firm played a pivotal role in developing the local human resource base necessary for the ongoing and future management of

such a facility.

"When Sinopec completed the construction and operation of the facility after several years, they transferred knowledge to our Ghanaian operators, technicians, engineers, as well as individuals in the legal and finance sectors. Today, when you visit Ghana Gas, you will find that the workforce is predominantly Ghanaian, and Ghana has benefitted immensely," the official added.

He emphasized that initial collaborations with countries possessing expertise, including China, have enabled Ghana to acquire knowledge and use it as leverage to build local capacity.

Sunu-Attah described the development of gas resources as a game changer for the country in various aspects, especially its contribution to the stability of power generation.

One of the challenges the country faced was the cost of fuels to power electricity plants, he said, adding that these plants used to rely on light crude oil or diesel, which was expensive, and as soon as gas became available, the country could build the gas processing plant and pipelines.

Although the gas sector is relatively new in Ghana, the country has efficiently harnessed its resources, making it one of the success stories of the oil and gas industry and a significant driver of economic development.

"Ghana may not have abundant gas resources like Nigeria or Equatorial Guinea, but we are making excellent use of the resources we do have to support economic activities," Sunu-Attah concluded.



MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM

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WORLD

Lavrov describes Western world as 'empire of lies' that fails to fulfill its commitments

UNITED NATIONS

THE United States and its European allies are an "empire of lies," which is eager to undertake commitments that it is not going to fulfill, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told the general political debate of the 78th General Assembly of the United Nations.

"The Americans and the Europeans, who are used to looking down their noses at the rest of the world, are eager to make promises and undertake commitments, including written and legally binding ones, but are reluctant to fulfill them," Lavrov (pictured) said.



"As Russian President Vladimir Putin has said, the West is truly an 'empire of lies,'" the top Russian diplomat continued.

Lavrov went on to say that many

of those who spoke from the UN rostrum before him expressed the idea that "the planet is going through irreversible changes."

"A new world order is being born right before our very eyes," he added. "The future is taking shape in the process of a standoff between the global majority, which demands fairer distribution of global riches and advocates diversity within our civilization, and between the few who employ neo-colonial methods of subjugation in an attempt to save their fleeting dominance."

Agencies

World leaders call for faster progress for achieving SDGs

UNITED NATIONS

WORLD leaders attending the 78th session of the UN General Assembly's general debate have emphasized the need for intensified efforts toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with midpoint assessments falling short.

The UN Secretary-General's 2023 SDGs Report: Special Edition shows that about 12 percent of targets are on track; more than half, though showing progress, are moderately or severely off track. Some 30 percent have seen no movement or regressed below the 2015 baseline.

On Friday, Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stated that the prolonged impacts of the pandemic and the consequences of the climate crisis have significantly hindered the attainment of SDGs in developing countries.

Looking ahead to next year's Summit of the Future to reset the global push to attain the SDGs, she said: "We must make all efforts to collectively address the common challenges of humanity to secure a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable future for all."

"Are we going to be too late for the SDGs?" Prime Minister of Barbados Mia Mottley questioned on Friday, urging leaders to "summon the determination to make the fundamental governance changes."

Highlighting the SDGs as "the conferral of dignity on our people," she expressed concerns about achieving the goals given the challenges like the climate crisis and rising global hunger.



Barbados Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley, Co-Chair of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advocates group, speaks at the opening session of the second SDG Summit on Sept 18, 2023 alongside Ajay Banga, President of the World Bank Group, ahead of the 78th United Nations General Assembly. AFP

Addressing the UN General Assembly on Thursday, Pushpa Kamal Dahal, Prime Minister of Nepal, urged greater international support through development, technical assistance and foreign direct investment to overcome shocks induced by the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and geopolitical tensions.

"To ensure sustainability and ownership of our desired developmental goals, we have engaged in extensive consultations at all levels," President Tanieli Maamau of Kiribati said on Thursday.

Speaking at the UN General Assembly on Wednesday, African leaders expressed their dedication to sustainable development and advocated for a world that embraces equity and prosperity.

President Salva Kiir of South Sudan on Thursday said South Sudan has developed a SDGs rescue plan focusing on seven SDG targets.

"This plan provides a roadmap of a better future for our people," he said, noting, for example, that the constitution guarantees all children free access to education in South Sudan.

Seychelles' President Wavel Ramkalawan emphasized the need for joint global efforts to achieve transformative progress towards the SDGs.

"Sierra Leone raises its voice alongside our Economic Community of West African States community, expressing unequivocal dissent towards any extra-constitutional changes of Government," said Sierra Leone's President Julius Maada Bio. Xinhua

Canada needs 'foreign policy reset' amid worsening ties with major powers-report

OTTAWA

AMID worsening bilateral ties with New Delhi in the wake of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegation of Indian involvement in the killing of Sikh separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar, it is perhaps time for Canada to implement a 'foreign policy reset', shedding off its 'middle-power approach' and focussing more on 'Indo-Pacific diplomacy', Japan Times reported.

Prime Minister Trudeau's allegation of an Indian role in the assassination of Khalistani leader Nijjar on Canadian soil, triggered a broader deterioration in relations between Ottawa and New Delhi, the report noted.

Notably, a similar episode also led to a deteriorating trend in China-Canada relations, the report stated, adding that Michael Spavor, a businessman, and Michael Kovrig, a former diplomat, were arrested by Beijing on espionage charges. The two were arrested following the detention of Huawei executive Meng Wangzhou in December 2018 at the request of the United States, Japan Times reported.

This was followed by serious accusations of Chinese electoral interference and threats against Canadian lawmaker Michael Chong, the report stated, adding that this translated into record-low favorability ratings of China in Canada and an atmosphere in



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

which discussing anything about engagement between the two nations is "radioactive".

Canada's relations with Russia are also no better as Ottawa continues to provide deep support for Ukraine in the ongoing conflict, the Japan Times reported.

Ottawa has manoeuvred itself inadvertently into the position where it has alienated the first and second most populated nations on the planet and Russia, a declining but disruptive power determined, to weaken the international rules-based order that Canada relies on for its peace and prosperity, the report stated.

Another major concern for Canada is the possible return of Donald Trump and his 'America First' policies in the US in 2024, the Japan Times reported, adding that if Trump wins the presidency, Canada could be faced with a situation in which its most important economic, security and political partner may not be aligned with its goals, the second largest economy on the planet could become alienated and a country that is critical for Canada's Indo-Pacific strategic engagement may become estranged if relations between the two countries deteriorate.

Further, according to the Japan Times report, Canada needs a "realistic, pragmatic, and interest-based ap-

proach" to how it's engaging in the Indo-Pacific and more broadly on the global stage. Ottawa can no longer pursue a foreign policy based on an outdated idea of a middle-power identity that is based on values-oriented diplomacy. This is a practice that evangelizes ideas and values that continue to be important for Canada's domestic audience but not so much for those in the Indo-Pacific region, it added.

Canada also needs to strengthen partnerships with reliable allies and friends such as Japan, South Korea, Australia, and Singapore, in order to avoid mistakes of the past and to be an effective and dependable partner in the broader Indo-Pacific region, the report noted. ANI



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar (L) meets his Ugandan counterpart General Odongo Jeje on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) meeting, in New York on Saturday. ANI

India's recent G20 Presidency marked historic milestone - UNGA

NEW YORK

UNITED Nations General Assembly President Dennis Francis on Saturday (local time) said that India's recent G20 Presidency marked a historic milestone due to inclusion of African Union as a permanent member.

While addressing the India-UN for Global South: Delivering for Development event in New York, Francis said, "India's recent G20 presidency marked a historic milestone. Being the first to usher the African Union into the group as a permanent member. A strong symbol of solidarity and cooperation across the Global South."

Francis said that India plays an "unparalleled role" in global mission for better and more sustainable world. He called India's legacy of contribution a "guiding light" and encompassing endeavours like championing democracy, promoting women-led development.

"India, home to one-sixth of humanity, plays an unparalleled role in our global mission for a better, more sustainable world. India's legacy of contributions serves as a guiding light, encompassing endeavors such as championing democracy, promoting women-led development, and being among the pioneers in adopting the UN's global goals. Indeed, it is a matter of great honor for me to follow in the footsteps of Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, the first ever female President of the General Assembly, whom India proudly entrusted to the United Nations," Dennis Francis said.

He stressed that the partnership between India and UN serves as an "inspiration" to Global South. He said that India-UN for Global South: Delivering for Development event echoes the message of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. UNGA President said that multilateral organisations including the United Nations need the reform to fully recognise and leverage the significance of the Global South.

"Our enduring partnership from the



India's recent lunar mission, landing on the Moon's South Pole, showcases the power of science and technology and what can be achieved when all countries have access to them

A dedicated Asian Flower Theme Park featuring over 200 varieties of flowers held its grand opening in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang province; the torch relay for the Hangzhou Asian Games passed through 11 cities in the province; preparations for catering services have been completed...

With the countdown to the opening of the Hangzhou Asian Games underway, Hangzhou is making final preparations, pulling out all stops to refine organizational details and raise service standards.

From venue maintenance to

Gathering at Hangzhou Asian Games for better future

support services, and from cultural exchange to atmosphere building, Hangzhou welcomes guests from all over the world with great passion and vibrancy.

After the 1990 Beijing Asian Games and the 2010 Guangzhou Asian Games, the Asian Games torch will be lit up in China for the third time.

Over the past 33 years, the Asian Games has witnessed the vigorous development of China's sports undertakings, and recorded China's steady march forward. Since Hangzhou won the bid

to host the Asian Games, the city and the 5 co-host cities of Ningbo, Wenzhou, Jinhua, Shaoxing, and Huzhou have upheld the concept of "green," "intelligent," "frugal," and "civilized" in organizing the Games. They are committed to delivering a splendid Asian Games with Chinese characteristics and Asian styles.

It will be a green Games, with the fruitful outcomes of the green development philosophy.

All the Asian Games venues and offices use green electricity, helping create the first carbon-

neutral Asian Games in history. Electric power networks deliver green power from thousands of miles away to the venues of the Asian Games; electric vehicles running the streets help foster a new fashion for green transportation; ingeniously designed Asian Games venues utilize technologies to reduce energy consumption and enable sustainability. The "Green Asian Games" matches words with action, reflecting China's ethos of protecting the ecological environment and caring for the planet.

It will be an intelligent Games, with technological innovation to be seen in every aspect.

At the Asian Games information technology management center located in Binjiang district of Hangzhou, energy consumption of venues, real-time conditions, passenger flow, traffic flow and other information are shown clearly.

On the roads outside the Shaoxing Baseball & Softball Sports Center, autonomous buses decorated with Asian Games elements stand ready to welcome

spectators...

Thanks to the extensive use of technologies, venue management for the Hangzhou Asian Games is much more refined, and services comprehensively upgraded, allowing spectators to have better experiences.

It will be a frugal Games, embracing "simple yet sophisticated" as both the pursuit and course of action.

The vast majority of venues for the Hangzhou Asian Games are reconstructed and renovated rather than newly built. For ex-

ample, the squash venue of the Asian Games is temporarily converted from an exhibition hall at the Hangzhou International Expo Center. The LED screens, spectator seats, and fire equipment inside the venue are rented, so after the Games ends, the venue can be dismantled in the shortest time to restore the exhibition hall to its original function.

A frugal Games does not mean abandoning innovation or lowering standards, but spending less, doing more, and doing things well, following the principle of "substance over extravagance."

People's Daily

South Korea opposition leader ends 24-day hunger strike

SEOUL

SOUTH Korea's opposition leader ended a 24-day hunger strike on Saturday, a party spokesperson said, two days after parliament voted to let prosecutors serve an arrest warrant against him for alleged bribery.

Lee Jae-myung, (pictured) leader of the Democratic Party of Korea, will maintain a schedule including court attendance while hospitalized for the time being, the spokesman told reporters.

Prosecutors this month sought the warrant in an investigation into bribery allegations concerning a development project.

Prosecutors accuse Lee of asking a company to illegally transfer \$8 million to North Korea when he was the governor of Gyeonggi Province.

He is also accused of breaching his duty over losses of 20 billion won (\$15 million) by a municipal development corporation when he was mayor of Seongnam city.

Lee, who lost South Korea's presidential election to conservative Yoon Suk-yeol last year, has denied wrongdoing, calling the allegations "fiction" and a "political conspiracy".

He began his protest on Aug 31, citing the government's economic mismanagement, threats to media freedom and the failure to oppose Japan's release of wastewater from the wrecked Fukushima nuclear plant, among other reasons.

Thursday's surprise vote by parliament, controlled by Lee's party, has caused an uproar among his supporters.

Police on Saturday detained a man in his 40s who had posted the names of more than a dozen lawmakers outside Lee's party faction, writing "gotta search for the sniper rifle at home", said an official with the Gyeonggi Nambu Provincial Police. Police will seek an arrest warrant against him for intimidation, the official said.

South Korea is to hold parliamentary elections in April. Agencies



Horn of Africa nations urge action on climate change

UNITED NATIONS

DURING the 78th session of the UN General Assembly's general debate on Saturday, nations from the Horn of Africa passionately called for action to combat the imminent climate threat and to overhaul the currently outdated and unjust global financial framework.

Leaders from Somalia, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Eritrea depicted a bleak scenario of a world severely affected by climate change. Their message was unequivocal: This pressing crisis requires a swift and united effort.

Hamza Abdi Barre, prime minister of Somalia, highlighted the "power of solidarity and cooperation" in an interconnected world and urged leaders to accelerate action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

For his part, Ethiopian Deputy Prime Minister Demeke Mekonnen Hassen asked world leaders: "Do we have the necessary political will to choose global partnership over geopolitical competition (and) are we prepared to work together towards a promising age of shared prosperity?"

Hassen pointed out the unsettling reality that current policy decisions are heightening tensions, with poverty and hunger rising and the SDGs being undermined.

He showcased Ethiopia's efforts for sustainable development and climate action, noting that its 10-year development plan aligned with the SDGs and the national Green Legacy Initiative to ensure development through rural and urban green programs.

Regarding global security, the leader from Ethiopia underscored the importance of a system that honors the sovereignty of UN member states and prevents conflicts.

"Reforming the Security Council is not a choice but an absolute necessity," he stressed, calling for permanent seats for Africa.

Mahamoud Ali Youssouf, Djibouti's foreign affairs minister, highlighted the importance of bolstering multilateralism and global collaboration.

There is a tendency to "group together into clubs," Youssouf said, adding that this "minilateralism" results in resistance to change in international institutions, thus worsening inequality and compounding geopolitical competition.

Although this trend isn't irreversible, he noted that it demands significant investment to establish a system that reflects present geopolitical dynamics and strengthens close collaboration.

Foreign Minister Youssouf also mentioned that Djibouti has achieved significant strides in diminishing mal-



Somalian Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre addresses the 78th United Nations General Assembly at UN headquarters in New York City on Saturday. AFP

nutrition, managing the pandemic and synchronizing national strategies with the SDGs despite an uncertain global economic environment.

The government also emphasized reducing poverty, fostering sustainable economic development, ensuring access to clean water and sanitation, and investing in renewable energy and climate adaptation measures.

Youssouf underscored the recent launch of Djibouti's inaugural 'wind park,' set to pro-

duce 60 megawatts of renewable energy.

Osman Saleh Mohammed, Eritrea's Foreign Affairs Minister, emphasized that the United Nations needs to upgrade its structure and mandate to effectively fulfill its historic purpose.

He emphasized that reforming the Security Council should not be limited to expanding membership.

Xinhua

PM Modi flags off nine Vande Bharat Express trains

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi yesterday virtually flagged off nine Vande Bharat Express trains, and said that the speed and scale of infrastructure development are matching with aspirations of 140 crore Indians.

"The speed and scale of infrastructure development are matching with the aspirations of 140 crore Indians. Today people of Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar, West Bengal, Kerala, Odisha, Jharkhand and Gujarat will get the facility of Vande Bharat Express trains. These new Vande Bharat Express trains depict the new energy of the country," PM Modi said while speaking at the launch of new trains.

PM Modi said that 25 Vande Bharat Express trains are already running, now nine more will be added to them.

"The popularity of Vande Bharat trains is constantly rising. Over 1.11,00,000 crore passengers have already travelled on them," he added.

The launch of these trains will connect religious and tourist destinations across 11 these states, a PMO statement said earlier.

The new trains are Udaipur - Jaipur Vande Bharat Express, Tirunelveli-Madurai-Chennai Vande Bharat Express, Hyderabad -Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express, Vijayawada - Chennai (via



Renigunta) Vande Bharat Express, Patna - Howrah Vande Bharat Express, Kasaragod - Thiruvananthapuram Vande Bharat Express, Rourkela - Bhubaneswar - Puri Vande Bharat Express, Ranchi - Howrah Vande Bharat Express and Jamnagar-Ahmedabad Vande Bharat Express.

These Vande Bharat trains will be the fastest trains along the routes of their operation and will help save considerable time for the passengers.

As compared to the current fastest train along the route, the Rourkela- Bhubaneswar - Puri Vande Bharat Express and Kasaragod - Thiruvananthapuram Vande Bharat Express will be faster by about 3 hours.

Hyderabad - Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express by more than 2.5 hours; Tirunelveli-Madurai-Chennai Vande Bharat Express by more than 2 hours.

Ranchi - Howrah Vande Bharat Express, Patna - Howrah Vande Bharat Express and Jamnagar-Ahmedabad Vande Bharat Express by about 1 hour; and Udaipur - Jaipur Vande Bharat Express by about half an hour. ANI

Russian forces destroy Western-made weapons in Kherson area

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Battlegroup Dnepr has destroyed Ukraine's Western-made weapons in the Kherson area, the Russian Defense Ministry said in a statement.

"Russian artillery units continue to perform their combat mission in the special military operation, hitting the Ukrainian armed forces' artillery positions, wiping out defenses, suppressing enemy command points and firepower. Msta-B crews of Battlegroup Dnepr destroyed Western-made weapons and equipment of the Ukrainian army by counter-battery fire in the Kherson area," the statement reads.

The Defense Ministry added that Russian forces were using high-precision munitions to cause as much damage as possible to the enemy's armored vehicles and troops. Drone operators monitor the work of howitzer crews, adjusting fire and reporting the results of attacks to those in firing positions in real time. "[They] mostly try to cross [the Dnieper] at night; most of the action and the work take place during the night as we try to prevent the enemy from reaching this bank," said a crew commander with the call sign Cuba.

The Msta-S is a self-propelled 152 mm howitzer designed to wipe out and suppress various types of enemy combat hardware and troops, destroy defensive sites and deny the maneuver of enemy infantry and tank reserves. The Russian Defense Ministry has repeatedly released video footage showing these howitzers hammering enemy targets in the special military operation in Ukraine. Agencies

UN: Ethiopia struggles to cope with effects of Sudan conflict

ADDIS ABABA

THE United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) said Friday that conflict, displacement, climate-related shocks and persistent disease outbreaks continue to be the major drivers of need in Ethiopia.

The UNFPA said in its humanitarian response situation report issued Friday evening that malnutrition remains a public health problem in various regions of the East African country plagued by food insecurity, inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene services, and disease outbreaks.

According to the Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 for Ethiopia, over 20 million people are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance, including 4.5 internally displaced persons (IDPs).

UNFPA said cholera cases continue to rise and spread with outbreaks reported in many Ethiopian regions.

It said climate-related events caused by heavy rainfall and floods have resulted in new displacements in the Oromia region while water shortage due to drought continues to impact the Somali region.

It said climate-related shocks, particularly associated with



Ethiopian Deputy Prime Minister Demeke Mekonnen addresses the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly, on Saturday at United Nations headquarters. AP

Ethiopia's ongoing main rainy season, have brought torrential rain and flooding impacting several parts of the Oromia region, and some one million people face water shortage due to drought in over 323 locations across the Somali region.

The UNFPA further said since the onset of the crisis in Sudan, the influx of people to Ethiopia mainly through Metema and Kurmuk in the Amhara and Benishangul regions, respectively, has exceeded 80,000

people.

In Amhara, a region already grappling with widespread cholera outbreak, at least 225 cases and seven cholera-related deaths were confirmed at the Kumer site, which hosts close to 10,000 refugees and asylum seekers who fled the crisis in Sudan.

It warned that protection risks are reported to be high for women and girls due to the lack of food, water, and proper sheltering options.

Hamas: Israeli forces kill two Palestinians in West Bank raid

WEST BANK

ISRAELI forces killed two Palestinians, including a fighter from the Islamist group Hamas, during a raid on a refugee camp in the occupied West Bank early yesterday, emergency workers and Hamas said.

Israeli forces raided the Nur Shams camp near the city of Tulkarm and a gun battle ensued with Palestinian fighters, medic Najeb Adeeab said.

The Israeli military said it conducted "counterterrorism activity" in the camp, dismantled an operational command center, and uncovered dozens of explosive devices and bomb-making components.

"During the activity, suspects opened fire and hurled explosive devices at the forces, who responded with live fire. Hits were identified," the military said in a statement.

Hamas said one of those killed belonged to its armed wing. There was no immediate word on the identity of the other man reported to have been killed.

The military said an Israeli soldier was moderately wounded.

Violence in the West Bank has raged for more than a year, with stepped-up Israeli military raids, increased settler assaults on Palestinian villages and a spate of Pales-

tinian attacks on Israelis.

As day dawned on the Nur Shams camp, residents took stock of the roads, infrastructure and buildings damaged during an operation that witnesses said lasted around six hours.

The military said special engineering vehicles dug up roads in the camp, uncovering a large number of concealed bombs and setting off at least one roadside bomb.

Some 13,519 people are registered in Nur Shams camp with the UN agency for refugees, descendants of Palestinians who were forced out or fled their homes during the 1948 war surrounding Israel's creation.



During the activity, suspects opened fire and hurled explosive devices at the forces, who responded with live fire. Hits were identified

BRICS members strongly condemn terrorism in all forms, commend India's G20 Presidency

NEW YORK

THE Foreign Ministers of BRICS member nations held their annual meeting on the margins of the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 20, chaired by the Russian Federation in its capacity as the incoming BRICS Chair for 2024.

The Ministers expressed their firm view that the G20 should continue to function in a productive manner and also commended the successful hosting of the 18th G20 Summit in New Delhi under the Indian Presidency. They also welcomed the African Union as a permanent member of the G20.

"They noted the opportunities to build sustained momentum for change by India, Brazil and South Africa presiding over the G20 from 2023-2025 and expressed support for continuity and collaboration in their G20 presidencies and wished them all success in their endeavors. Therefore, they reiterated their commitment to a balanced approach by continuing to amplify and further integrate the voice of the global South in the G20 agenda as under the Indian Presidency in 2023 and the Brazilian and South African Presidencies in 2024 and 2025," the media statement read.

The Ministers expressed strong

condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations whenever, wherever and by whomsoever committed. They recognized the threat emanating from terrorism, extremism conducive to terrorism and radicalization.

They committed to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the cross-border movement of terrorists, and terrorism financing networks and safe havens. They reiterated that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group.

"They reaffirmed their unwavering commitment to contribute further to the global efforts of preventing and countering the threat of terrorism on the basis of respect for international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations, and human rights, emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility in combating terrorism with the United Nations continuing to play central and coordinating role in this area," the statement read.

The Ministers also stressed the need for a comprehensive and balanced approach of the whole international community to effectively curb terrorist activities, which pose a serious threat, including in the present-day pandemic environment. They rejected double standards in coun-



tering terrorism and extremism conducive to terrorism. "They called for an expeditious finalization and adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism within the UN framework and for launching multilateral negotiations on an international convention for the suppression of acts of chemical and biological terrorism, at the Conference of Disarmament. They welcomed the activities of the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Working Group and its five Subgroups based upon the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Action Plan. They looked forward to further deepening counter-terrorism cooperation," the statement added.

The Foreign Ministers also supported a comprehensive reform of the UN, including its Security Council and supported the legitimate aspirations of Brazil, India and South Africa, to play a greater role in the UNSC.

"The Foreign Ministers also supported a comprehensive reform of the UN, including its Security Council, with a view to making it more democratic, representative, effective and efficient, and to increase the representation of developing countries in the Council's memberships so that it can adequately respond to prevailing global challenges, and supported the legitimate aspirations of emerging and developing countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America, including Brazil, India and

South Africa, to play a greater role in international affairs, in particular in the United Nations, including its Security Council," the statement further added.

The Ministers recalled the consensus during the 15th BRICS Summit on guiding principles, standards, criteria and procedures on the BRICS expansion process and the decision on inviting the Argentine Republic, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to become full members of BRICS from January 1, 2024.

During the meeting, the ministers were also briefed on the preparations for Russia's upcoming BRICS Chairship in 2024.

"Brazil, India, China and South Africa extended their full support to Russia for its BRICS Chairship in 2024 under the theme 'Strengthening of multilateralism for the purposes of just global development and security' and the holding of the 16th BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia," the media statement read.

The statement added that the Foreign Ministers look forward to the standalone meeting of BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs/International Relations in Russia in 2024. ANI



Dar es Salaam's draughts players put their skills to show in a tournament that took place at Kitunda on the outskirts of the city recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Infrastructure to boost East Africa's 2027 AFCON hosting bid, says official

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi & Agencies

THE Federation of Uganda Football Associations (FUFA) Head of Marketing and Broadcasting, Rodgers Byamukama, believes Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania's infrastructure gives East Africa's pursuit of hosting the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), known as 'East Africa Pamoja Bid', a huge boost.

Speaking on the recent developments within the region, Byamukama stressed that even if the region fails in the bid, which he is 'sure' will go through, the level of sporting infrastructure would move up another level.

"Even if we do not win the bid, which I am sure we will win, the works that are ongoing in terms of stadium infrastructure improvement will ensure that it does not stay the same, it will improve," Byamukama said.

Byamukama borrowed a leaf from Kenya's bid to host the 2018 Africa Nations Championship (CHAN), which allowed for the construction of stadiums such as Kinoru in Meru and Bukhungu in Kakamega.

The official noted: "When Kenya bid to host CHAN, that is when we saw stadiums like Bukhungu coming up, that is when we saw Kinoru Stadium in Meru coming up."

"They may not have been complet-

ed in the proverbial 100 days, but you can see every country is doing a football facility. The bid is about improving facilities."

Byamukama also believes that some of the medical facilities in the region do not compare to the rest of Africa, which will give it an edge in the battle to win the bid.

"Apart from stadiums, we have all the other necessities in East Africa, be it hotels, security, hospitals. A lot of people come from all over Africa to come and get treated here," the official said.

"Some of them never make it back, but they come here. There's a lot of medical service on offer here."

The official noted: "In Tanzania, Muhimbili Hospital is the only facility that gives heart transplants, did you know that? So we have a lot of capacity to do it."

Byamukama dismissed people who are pessimistic about the region's chances of hosting the tournament without 'even understanding' the criteria that could make CAF award the bid to the region for the 2027 AFCON.

The official noted: "We find ourselves disappointed to see people who do not believe in this bid without even understanding what it is in the bid. But we are on track and we look forward to enjoying the extravaganza in 2027."

Pundits divided over German coach bolting from Singida Fountain Gate FC

By Correspondent John Kimbute

SHOCK was written all over the faces of members of the Premier League fraternity in Tanzania as German coach, Ernst Middendorp, resigned from his position as head coach of Singida Fountain Gate FC, two weeks after his arrival.

There were murky circumstances of his departure, worsened by the inability of the club's officials to say precisely what happened, at the time that the news leaked he had departed.

He then talked to the South African media where his remarks went viral and aired everywhere.

A section of the pundits, the main part as it would appear, were in acute agreement with the coach, a 64-year-old German national who is a legend as coach for major South African outfit, Kaizer Chiefs.

Reports say he was sacked from that side in 2021 after failing to win the Premier Soccer League title.

There was, hence, no doubt that he has coached far better teams than the incoming CAF Confederation Cup contenders, and with that experience, ought to have had his way in team selection.

The issue is why his erstwhile employers did not see as much as that, but they explained it later.

A South African online chronicler, FarPost, said that Middendorp decided to step down after the management questioned some of his decisions, in the wake of a narrow 1-0 win over Egypt's Future FC at the Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam last week.

The two sides clashed in a second preliminary round match of the CAF Confederation Cup, with club sources admitting that the disagreement arose from management questioning team selection.

The clash centered on benched star Morice Chukwu, a bit surprisingly, the media outlet appeared to say that the side had played a weak team from Egypt (Future FC), highlighting



Ernst Middendorp

that the coach played three players out of position.

Someone who was speaking the management's view rather than as a technical director said the club has a player who has not played for two seasons (Gadiel Michael), who is a left-back but the coach played him as a defensive midfielder.

That would not have been an issue if he had not benched club star Morice Chukwu 'who is experienced in that position'. Management could not stand that.

Anyone familiar with the roles of fullbacks and halfbacks (or midfielders like holding or defensive midfielders) would realize that this is nothing to write home about.

Yet the club's information officer insists that Middendorp just messed up every-

thing.

They say the one-goal win they obtained was due to the management intervening.

The narration affirms that the coach had a telephone call at half-time from top management regarding his selection, elaborating that 'he made changes, and the team was able to score one goal'.

To underline that position, the club source asserted that the side 'could have won by a bigger margin if he had done his selection right'.

That may not exactly be the case but it is possible as the coach was new to the team, and he might just admit Chukwu contributed to the win.

What was more surpris-

ing was that he did not admit his newness to the club as having contributed to his selection, or the management was not present in the few days of training he supervised, to see who was best fit to play.

There is a situation of 'your guess is as good as mine' in sorting out whether team selection arose from the fact that the coach was new, and even less, whether they won due to compelled alterations.

But if the changes were right and won the game, why should the coach be so furious?

Is it a matter of principle, or he did not like the game pattern later?

It is somewhat likely that this was an issue of principle, which can also mean an issue of temperament,

that is, how one takes that principle.

"In the meeting with the management after the game, he angrily said in his entire career that spans over 30 years he had never seen such interference."

That cannot be the case, rather it is also possible in his entire career he has always refused to tolerate such interference - as this is more suited to the circumstances.

Chances of not being interfered with in a South African side are not too high as we do have considerable resemblances.

It is also a matter of conjecture when a top coach starts being responsible for the selection, and whether indeed the phrase 'being new and not knowing the players as yet' means anything technically, and more so, tactically.

If a coach sees a player for 90 minutes thrice, even in training, is he not capable of making his selection?

Knowing in this case suggests developing the right sympathies about the players - and that is exactly where the shoe pinches, irrelevance of sympathies.

An auxiliary issue is whether the Singida club's management will learn a thing or two, or remain adamant about their positions.

What cannot be sorted out is how far the Future FC game was vital in Middendorp's outlook, whether he was gunning for a win at all costs or his mind was parked somewhere, in the mood of starting a club with apparently usable players placed differently.

If the coach gave them the right tactics, it is one thing but a simple experiment is out of context.

It is this implication the management feared, of experimenting in a crucial match.

Simba SC's Tanga fans saddened by Henock Inonga's injury

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

SIMBA SC's fans in Tanga have received with sadness an injury that the outfit's defender, Henock Inonga, sustained during the third-round tie of the 2023/24 NBC Premier League against Coastal Union, which was played in Dar es Salaam last week.

The clash, which ended with the Msimbazi Street club cruising to a 3-0 victory over Coastal Union, witnessed the Congolese center-back leaving the pitch in the first period after the player had been on the receiving end of Coastal Union forward Hija Ugando's harsh tackle.

The supporters disclosed that an injury plight is still lurking around the Msimbazi Street giant.

The clash took place at Uhuru Stadium and saw forward Jean Baleke score a hat-trick to propel Simba SC to second position in the Premier League table.

The Msimbazi Street club has amassed nine points and netted nine goals - staying two goals adrift of the league leader, Yanga, who has notched 11 goals in three fixtures.

Inonga met a tackle by the Coastal Union forward, Ugando, as the former attempted to kick the ball a few meters from his out-

fit's box in the 28th minute of the game, while under pressure from the advancing attacker.

The injury forced Inonga to leave the pitch, despite having first aid, as he was rushed to hospital by an ambulance for further check-up.

The supporters mentioned Simba SC players who sustained injuries from last season to this season's NBC Premier League as Zambian striker, Moses Phiri, number one goalkeeper Aishi Manula, and Inonga.

"Although in the game anything might happen in an attempt to win, actually it is not good news for us," one of the supporters, Ali Athumani, stated.

"If he will be found to have sustained severe injury, his absence might weaken the squad because it is participating in various continental tournaments and NBC Premier League," Athumani said.

Apart from taking part in the NBC Premier League, Simba SC is featuring in the 2023/24 CAF Champions League and is also scheduled to compete in the African Football League.

The African Football League will have Simba SC coming up against Egypt's Al Ahly in the opening tie slated to take place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar

es Salaam on October 20.

On October 1, Simba SC is scheduled to take on Zambia's Power Dynamos in the rematch of the 2023/24 CAF Champions League's Second Preliminary Round.

The first leg involving the clubs, which took place at Levy Mwana-wasa Stadium in Ndola, ended in a 2-2 draw.

Athumani further pointed out that Inonga's injury misfortune started during this season's Community Shield mini tournament in Tanga when he injured his shoulder during the semi-final versus Singida Fountain Gate FC - a situation that led him to miss the final match against Yanga.

Goalie Manula - who recently returned to the squad after having been out of action for almost six months - was injured on April 7 during the Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) quarterfinal tie pitting Simba SC against Ihefu SC.

The shot-stopper sustained an injury on his hip muscle and had undergone surgery.

Another Simba SC fan, Omari Mkuu, said Phiri is the best striker at the Msimbazi Street outfit but, due to injuries, his performance has been affected and the situation has prompted the outfit's coach to, now and then, use the attacker as a substitute.

Namungo FC still hard nut to crack for Yanga

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga



Namungo FC's head coach, Cedric Kaze. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NAMUNGO FC

NAMUNGO FC has, once again, proved to be a hard nut to crack for Yanga, as the former conceded a slim 1-0 loss to the latter in a third-round clash of this season's NBC Premier League that took place at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam last week.

The records show that Namungo FC and Yanga have met head-to-head nine times and, on five occasions, the two clubs' ties ended in a draw.

In the other four encounters, Yanga emerged victorious in all four, with the clashes happening to be tough.

In this season's NBC Premier League third-round tie, Namungo FC played the kind of game that repelled all attacks deployed by Yanga.

Namungo FC's head coach Cedric Kaze used the 3-5-2 pattern by setting up three defenders, five midfielders, and two strikers whilst Yanga's head coach Miguel Gamondi opted for the 4-4-2 pattern.

Burundian Kaze's techniques seemed to be a thorn in Yanga midfielders' flesh, given Maxi Nzengezi and Stephane Aziz Ki had many of their attempts going off

target, much as the midfielders made forays into Namungo FC's penalty area on several occasions.

According to a soccer analyst, Kaze is an experienced and brilliant coach who has, for most of his stint in Tanzania, worked for Yanga.

The Burundian coach had earlier worked as the Jangwani Street side's head coach and he thereafter worked as an assistant to Belgo-Tunisian coach, Nasreddine Nabi, and that is why he knows a lot about Yanga.

"Kaze showed high resistance against Yanga because he had coached them and things have not changed that much since he left the outfit," Elisha John, a former player for Tanga's African Sports Club, pointed out.

Namungo FC has yet to register a victory in three Premier League duels the club has participated in, managing one point in the three ties.

It kicked off the season with a 1-0 defeat to promoted JKT Tanzania at Majaliwa Stadium in Ruangwa.

The Lindi side, then, settled for a 1-1 draw with Kinondoni Municipal Council FC at the same venue, and, in the third tie, the former went down 1-0 to Yanga.



Xavi hails Barca's new 'winning character' after 'epic' Celta comeback

BARCELONA

BARCELONA coach Xavi Hernandez praised his side's "winning character" after a sensational 3-2 comeback to beat Celta Vigo on Saturday and move top of La Liga.

The coach, who signed a new deal until 2025 this week, celebrated with his 50th victory in La Liga, as Robert Lewandowski's brace and Joao Cancelo's late winner helped his team triumph despite entering the final 10 minutes two goals behind.

Jorgen Strand Larsen and Anastasios Douvikas struck for the visitors, who seemed on course for a surprise win against the champions, but Barcelona produced a comeback which Xavi called "epic".

"We didn't play well (but) came up with the epic, showing winning character," Xavi told reporters. "Historically we have lacked that ... this shows the generational change we have, they didn't give up, two nil down at home."

"I think this generation fights until the end ... what happened today is a tremendous turning point of winning character, we didn't play well but it's about character, faith, the epic."

Wily Celta coach Rafa Benitez set up in his typically defensive fashion, unlike Barcelona's recent visitors Real Betis and Royal Antwerp, whose attacking intent made them lambs to the slaughter.

Barcelona hit 10 goals in their previous two matches, with Xavi saying it was the best they had played in his reign, but this performance was largely at the other end of the spectrum.

"(Winning) tastes good, but is it better than the day against Betis or Antwerp? No, because this is not our path," said Xavi. "Our path is the other day, playing well, moving the ball around high up the pitch -- when we lower our intensity, this team suffers a lot."

- Celta counters -

Barcelona controlled the opening stages, albeit without creating much danger, but Celta Vigo pushed ahead against the run of play after 19 minutes.

Andreas Christensen played Strand Larsen inside after a corner was only partially cleared, and the Norwegian forward finished clinically past Marc-Andre ter Stegen.

At the other end Joao Felix could not control a nicely scooped Frenkie de Jong through pass, before the Dutch midfielder sustained an ankle problem and was replaced by tenacious teenager Gavi.

Spanish reports said De Jong would be sidelined for up to five weeks, potentially missing the Clasico clash with Real Madrid at the end of October.

Celta frequently caused problems on the counter-attack and Ter Stegen foiled Strand Larsen and Jonathan Bamba.

Eventually Benitez's side grabbed their second through new signing Douvikas, who swept home after running on to Iago Aspas's perfectly weighted ball.

However Barcelona hit back swiftly, with Lewandowski flicking the ball over the head of Villar and in off the crossbar after Felix cleverly chipped a ball to him over the top.

It sparked a fire previously lacking in Barcelona's performance, with Lewandowski netting the second four minutes later after Cancelo cut the ball back into his path.

Cancelo won Barcelona the game, dispatching Gavi's excellent cross past Villar with the prowess of a striker.

"I was making a lot of technical errors, that's not normal in my game -- I have to improve, we all have to improve," Cancelo told Movistar. "It's always better to play badly and win, than to play well and lose, the three points are the most important thing."

- 'Take a screenshot' -

Earlier Girona romped to a 5-3 win over Real Mallorca to move temporarily top of La Liga before Barca knocked them back down to second on goal difference.

Michel's unbeaten side have started the season in superb form, with five wins from six matches.

"Let's all take a screenshot and see if this lasts more than an hour and a half," joked Girona coach Michel.

Real Madrid, third, who boast a 100 percent record, face Atletico Madrid on Sunday in a derby clash where they could reclaim top spot, currently trailing the top two by a point.

Valencia, fifth, were held to an entertaining 2-2 draw by bottom-of-the-table Almeria.

Sevilla drew 0-0 with Osasuna at El Sadar and continue to languish just above the relegation zone.

AFP

Ten-man Man City extend Premier League lead, Man Utd bounce back at Burnley

LONDON

MANCHESTER City moved five points clear at the top of the Premier League despite having Rodri sent-off in a fiery 2-0 win over Nottingham Forest on Saturday, while Manchester United snapped their losing streak by beating Burnley 1-0.

Phil Foden and Erling Haaland struck inside the first 15 minutes as City extended their perfect start in the Premier League to six games.

Pep Guardiola's men have now won 20 consecutive home matches in all competitions, but were made to work much harder by Rodri's moment of madness.

The Spaniard grabbed Morgan Gibbs-White around the neck less than 60 seconds into the second-half and could face a costly suspension as a three-game ban would see him miss the Premier League visit to Arsenal next month.

"An exceptional game in the first-half. Exceptional game in the second for our resilience and our work because we played 52 minutes 10 against 11, so it was not easy but we were fantastic," said Guardiola.

"Hopefully Rodri will learn. He has to control his emotions."



Manchester City's Norwegian striker #09 Erling Haaland misses this chance to score during the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Nottingham Forest at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, north west England, on September 23, 2023. - AFP

City were at their ruthless best early on to seemingly put the game to bed.

Foden smashed home a sweet volley from Kyle Walker's cushioned cross to open the scoring.

City's injury problems handed Matheus Nunes a chance to make his first league start since joining from Wolves and he made a positive impact by setting up the second goal.

Nunes played a neat one-two with Foden before chipping the ball across for

Haaland to power home his ninth goal of the season.

The European champions did not appear in any danger until Rodri lost his cool.

Taiwo Awoniyi had Forest's best chance to get back into the game when the in-form Nigerian lifted over under pressure from Ederson.

City, though, restored order as Guardiola switched to a back five to withstand an aerial bombardment

from the visitors.

Liverpool can cut City's lead back to two points when they face West Ham on Sunday, as can the winner of the north London derby between Arsenal and Tottenham.

- Fernandes fires for Utd -

United remain nine points adrift of the leaders, but eased the pressure on Erik ten Hag after three consecutive defeats.

One moment of world class quality from Bruno

Fernandes got the Red Devils back to winning ways as the Portuguese volleyed home Jonny Evans' pass just before half-time.

The Red Devils had to survive a few nervy moments at Turf Moor as Zeki Amdouni hit the post in the first-half, but the Clarets remain without a win on their return to the Premier League.

"Today was must-win," said Ten Hag.

"You have to fight and find a turning point. It

shows the dressing room is together. They fight together."

Struggling Everton beat Brentford 3-1 to earn their first league win this term and climb out of the relegation zone.

Sean Dyche's side took the lead through Abdoulaye Doucoure's sixth minute strike.

Mathias Jensen equalised for Brentford against the run of play after 28 minutes, but James Tarkowski restored Everton's advantage with a header from Dwight McNeil's corner in the 67th minute.

Substitute Dominic Calvert-Lewin wrapped up Everton's long-awaited three points with a cool finish four minutes later.

Luton picked up their first ever Premier League point but let a huge opportunity slip in a 1-1 draw at home to Wolves.

The visitors at Kenilworth Road were reduced to 10 men when Jean-Ricner Bellegarde saw red on 39 minutes.

Pedro Neto still fired Wolves in front early in the second-half, but Carlton Morris' penalty salvaged a point for Luton.

Crystal Palace and Fulham remain in the top half after a 0-0 draw at Selhurst Park.

AFP

After £175m spent this summer Man Utd look to Jonny Evans for inspiration against Burnley

By Mike McGrath

AFTER spending £175 million on signings this summer, Manchester United's inspiration to end their run of worrying defeats came in the form of Jonny Evans, their 35-year-old free agent who had been back at Carrington in pre-season while he looked for his next club.

Erik Ten Hag had been looking for players to step up to the challenge after almost a month of tasting only losses and few would have thought Evans could turn their campaign around. Yet the veteran defender, in his first United start since 2015, provided the assist for Bruno Fernandes' goal that calmed nerves at Turf Moor.

"That was my 200th game for Man United, I never thought I would ever reach that figure - the best night of my life," said Evans. "I loved every minute of it. Before the game you get a feeling, I couldn't wait, just pure excitement. Coming up here on the bus I was buzzing."

United were not fluent but these will be small steps to recovery after their problems had been so ruthlessly exposed by opposition in their previous three matches. Vincent Kompany helped turn Manchester blue in the last decade during his glittering career at City, but his Burnley team were perhaps the best opposition for United in their predicament.

His Burnley team had the youngest average age of the Premier League this season and at times were exciting but also naive. At this stage, though,



Jonny Evans started against Burnley but emerged from the game with credit. Agencies

a win is a win for Ten Hag and he will take any victory he can get. Home matches against Crystal Palace and Brentford followed by a trip to Sheffield United offer other chances for United to recapture the form they showed at times last season.

United's backline looks makeshift, with short-term solutions covering for their injury worries. But Evans brings a familiar assuredness to this struggling team. The only survivor of the Sir Alex Ferguson era, he was in the United turn Manchester blue when Burnley were first promoted to the Premier League and Robbie Blake scored a famous winner. "Jonny Evans is a red..." chanted United fans when he was subbed in the final moments.

"He gave the team calmness. His skills were brilliant, as with the goal." was the assessment of Ten

Hag. "We have problems with injuries but we are very happy that he comes in and has character and a skillset. Even when things are against you, you can bounce back."

Evans, 35, was only back at United this summer to keep fit while he looked for a new club but ended

up staying to make up the numbers for pre-season.

It says plenty about Ten Hag's backline that the manager pushed for a one-year deal for the veteran, who was handed his first United start in more than eight years. Lisandro Martinez had been added to Ten Hag's injury list,

with Harry Maguire also sidelined.

Organisation. Communication. Solidity. They were the attributes that explained Ten Hag's decision when asked about Evans. It was a desperate attempt by Ten Hag to breathe life into United's season after such a poor run of games, where even victories against Wolves and Nottingham Forest have been unconvincing.

"I wasn't consciously thinking I would sign [after getting the first call]," admitted Evans. "When you get to a certain age you start to wind down your career. I got the call and didn't have another option, so I just took it and tried to do my best in training and take my chance. You then just hope your body sees you through."

"It was never a thought that I would come in and be a starter, I was told that my role would be to provide competition and that is how I have approached it. With a few injuries I then had the chance to start." Evans thought he

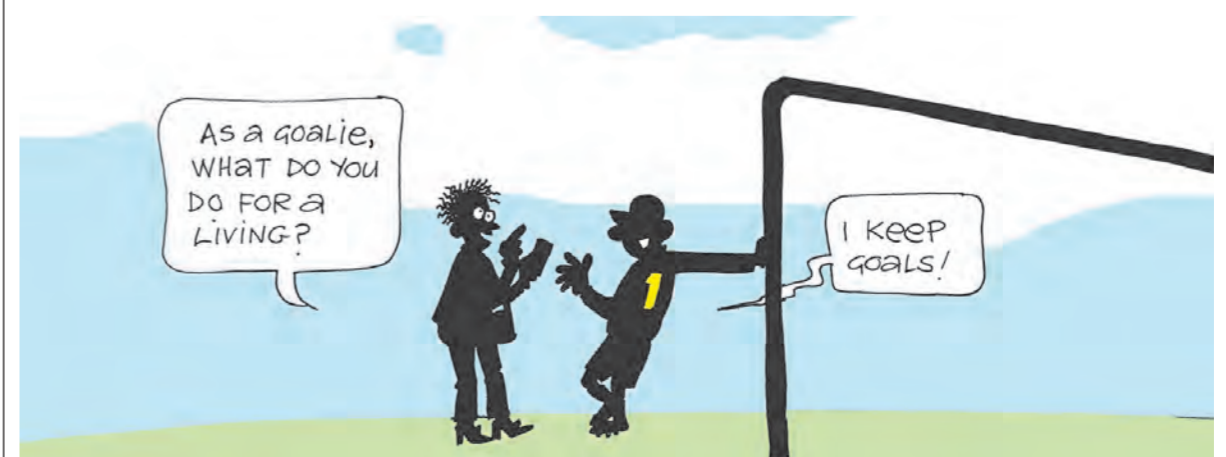
had given United the lead when he nodded in Sergio Reguilon's corner. Replays showed that Rasmus Hojlund was stood in front of Burnley goalkeeper James Trafford and in an offside position. Ten Hag's look on the touchline suggested it never rains but it pours.

But the moment of magic arrived just as the clock ticked into first-half stoppage time. Evans was involved, lofting a ball behind the Burnley defence that invited a first-time volley from his captain. Bruno's finish struck sweetly off his laces, arrowing into the bottom corner. He covered his ears with his celebration. Goals are the only way United will cancel the noise this season.

"This was a must win and we knew that. The team spoke on the pitch. You could see the characters in the dressing room," said Ten Hag. "This is only one win but what we have seen is that there is togetherness and fight, there is really good spirit in the dressing room."

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Ten-man Man City extend Premier League lead, Man Utd bounce back at Burnley

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Chinese children are pictured dancing during a previous Mid-Autumn Festival. GETTY IMAGES

Youths ought to preserve tradition, customs - call

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

TANZANIA'S youths have been urged to preserve tradition and customs in their families because these practices serve as the link to the past, a source of identity, and a foundation for a brighter future in the rapidly changing world.

Cultural Counsellor of China's Embassy in Tanzania, Che Zhao Guang, made the call soon after gracing the Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as Mooncake Festival, which took place in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

It is a festival of many customs and traditions in which Chinese people express gratitude to the moon and celebrate the bountiful harvest of their crops and they also have to pray for better luck and engage in moon gazing.

"The family unity serves as the cornerstone of society and, with its intimate confines, lies the root of culture, traditions, and identity whereby over the generations families have passed down customs, rituals, and values that define their unique heritage," he noted.

"Traditions and customs within the families serve as the bridge to the past as they are the living records of the experiences, beliefs, and values of our ancestors," he noted during the event at the China Cultural Centre in Tanzania.

The official, also serving as Director of the China Cultural Centre in Tanzania, further noted that through these practices family members gain a deeper understanding of their heritage.

Such practices allow them to connect with the struggles and triumphs of their forebears because a family's traditional holiday celebration may include recipes passed down through generations, with each dish carrying with it a piece of history and the love of those who came earlier.

The official noted that families ensure that the stories of their ancestors continue to be told and cherished because of preserving these customs.

"Family traditions and customs provide a sense of identity and belonging and help family members develop a strong sense of who they are and where they come from in a world that often emphasizes individualism... these customs create a sense of unity and shared purpose," he commented.

"Children raised in families with strong traditions are more likely to have a solid sense of self and feeling of belonging to a larger community whereby this sense of identity can bolster self-esteem and resilience, helping individuals navigate the challenges of life," he noted.

You Baoming, First Secretary of the China Cultural Center in Tanzania, added that family traditions also create opportunities for bonding and connections as they provide occasion for family members to come together, share experiences, and strengthen their relationships.

Such occasions could be a weekly family dinner, an annual vacation, or a religious ceremony because these customs foster a sense of togetherness that transcends the day-to-day challenges of life in a world where people often lead busy, fragmented lives, these moments of connection are invaluable.

Thadeo Mateo, a Chinese teacher at Zanaki Secondary School in Dar es Salaam, said that traditions and customs within the family act as a stabilizing force in an ever-changing world.

"As societies evolve, traditional values can provide a moral compass and a sense of continuity like customs that emphasize the importance of respect, honesty, and cooperation can help instill these values in younger generations, contributing to the betterment of society," he noted.

"When families uphold their customs, they contribute to the preservation of cultural diversity enriching the tapestry of human civilizations," he commented.

Shime calls for concentration and discipline ahead of 2024 WAFCON Qualifiers decider

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S senior women's national team coach Bakari Shime has urged his players to concentrate and have discipline to overturn results when the squad confronts Ivory Coast in the rematch of the first round of the 2024 Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) Qualifiers in Dar es Salaam on Friday.

The national women's squad, popularly known as Twiga Stars, fell to a 2-0 loss to the hosts, Ivory Coast, in the first-leg clash at Yamoussoukro Stadium in Ivory Coast last Friday.

On Friday, Tanzania will entertain Ivory Coast in the reverse fixture at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam, with the winner on aggregate slated to face either Djibouti or Togo in the next round of the qualifiers.

The tactician said: "I am satisfied with the performance of my team and I have strong belief that we are going to score three goals at home. This is possible because we are now aware of their strengths and weaknesses."

Shime stressed: "In Ivory Coast, we went with a plan to defend and use counterattacks to search for goals but, at home, we will be attacking throughout while, at the same time, not giving them a chance to get an away goal."

Ivory Coast women's squad's 2024 Paris Olympics African Women's Qualifying showdown's first-round clash against Sierra Leone was canceled.

It was a match that would have provided a glimpse of how Head coach Clémentine Touré organizes her team led by captain Cynthia Djohoré.



Tanzania's senior national women's squad, Twiga Stars, in a group photo ahead of 2024 Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) Qualifiers' clash against Ivory Coast in Yamoussoukro last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

Shime also said he would emphasize more concentration among his players after they conceded two goals in a space of two minutes - something that will kill the momentum of the game if it happens in the reverse fixture.

"I want to impart more discipline and concentration because those two quick goals destroyed our game plan as we had to defend a lot to avoid conceding extra goals and we succeeded on that," Shime said.

The 2024 WAFCON will comprise a total of 12 teams that will qualify for the group stages, automatically qualified hosts Morocco.

The teams were seeded according to the FIFA Women's

World Ranking released in June 2023 and their performance in the previous edition that took place in 2022.

Should Twiga Stars emerge as the aggregate winners of the two-legged qualifier, they will face either Djibouti or Togo in the second round, slated for November 27 and December 5.

The 2024 Women's Africa Cup of Nations is officially known as the 2024 TotalEnergies Women's Africa Cup of Nations for sponsorship purposes and as WAFCON 2024 for short.

The showpiece will be the 15th edition of the biennial African women's football tournament organized by the Confederation of African Football.

It will be hosted by Morocco

in consecutive editions, having hosted the previous edition two years before. South Africa, also known as 'Banyana Banyana', is the defending champions.

Morocco qualified automatically as hosts, while the remaining spots will be determined by the qualification rounds, whose draw was conducted on July 6, 2023, at the Mohammed VI Complex in Rabat, Morocco, and commenced in August.

Nigeria is the most successful nation in the history of the tournament since it became full-scale in 1998, winning 11 of the 14 editions so far.

Equatorial Guinea won as hosts of the 2008 and 2012 editions and incumbent champions, South Africa, with one title.

Dar artist urges schools to allocate more time for sports



Tanzanian artist Salmin Ismail, popularly known as 'Kusah', is pictured entertaining students and guests at Green Acres' graduation ceremony that was held at the school's premises at Mbezi Beach Salasala in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MWENDAPOLE

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIAN artist Salmin Ismail, popularly known as 'Kusah', has asked schools in the country

to allocate enough time for sports so they can nurture students' talents.

The Bongo Flava singer made the remarks in Dar es Salaam last

weekend immediately after performing at the 23rd graduation of the pre-primary, primary, and secondary school of Green Acres located at Mbezi Beach Salasala in

the city.

He said arts are important because some people in the world have turned into famous personalities and got rich due to their talents in music, football, swimming, and various sports.

"There might be a student that may not be very good in class but he is very good at either singing or playing football, so his talent must be discovered early and nurtured because a person may find that is his reward given to him by God," he said.

"There are students who are very good in studies, let's let them continue (doing well), but not every student has to excel in studies, there are others like us who are lucky to have singing talent and we use it to earn a living," he noted.

He said he was happy to see that the school had a program for discovering and developing its students' talents, so, he called on other schools to emulate it.

'Kusah' said that he did not succeed academically

but, after realizing that he has a talent for singing, he managed to develop it and now it is the one that helps him achieve success in his life.

"All students can't become engineers, lawyers, accountants, there are others with talent in football, music, drama, and so on, so the government and other stakeholders should develop students' talents," he said. The school's Principal, Minani Kafugugu, said his school has continued to prioritize sports to discover the school's students' talents.

"Green Acres has been doing well academically but we thought we should give sports priority because there is a student who may have a talent that will help him become famous and generate income through it," he said.

He advised schools in the country to set aside time for sports to bring out children's talents, adding that sports moreover make students relax their minds after a long time of attending studies.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

FIVE ENGLISH WORDS NOBODY USES!

BRABBLE
CRAPULOUS
CHORK
SNOLLYGOSTER
KERFUFFLE

I KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES