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**National Pg 3**  
WRRB pays 274bn/- to farmers

**National Pg 4**  
Forum to debate of ICT revolution

**National Pg 5**  
RC gives one week to tobacco firms

**National Pg 6**  
Youth urged to be well-equipped with skills



## All geared for Mbarali MP, six councillors' election today

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbarali

A TOTAL of 216,283 voters registered in the permanent voters register are expected to come out for the Mbarali constituency by-election and ward councillor seats in six wards of the Mainland.

National Electoral Commission (NEC) chairman, Judge Jacobs Mwambegele (pictured), said here yesterday that the voting will involve 580 voting centres, grouping

Nala ward in Dodoma city, Mfaranyaki ward in Songea Municipality, Mwaniko ward in Misungwi district, Old Moshi West ward in Moshi District, Marungu Kitowo ward in Rombo District and Mtyangimbole ward in Madaba District.

He reminded political parties, candidates, party agents, voters and other members of the public to make sure they do not campaign on polling day as doing so is against the law.

"Political party emblems, flyers, flags and outfits will not be used on polling day,"

**Some of the alternative IDs that voters can use are passports, driving licences and NIDA card**

he cautioned, underlining that voting will be done at designated polling centres used in the 2020 elections. The centres will be opened at 7:00 am and close at 4:00pm, he stated.

In case people already on the queue at closing time and arrive before 4:00 pm, they will be allowed to cast their ballots, but those arriving after 4:00 pm will not be allowed to queue up, he said.

Those allowed to vote will have their names shown in the permanent voters register and have voters' cards, he said, affirming that NEC was adhering to Section 61(3) of the National Elections Act (chapter 343 of the laws) at section 62(1) of Local Government Elections Act (chapter 292 of the laws), allowing voters who had lost their voters cards or with cards that are partly destroyed to use alternative identity cards.

"Some of the alternative IDs that voters can use are passports, driving licences and NIDA card," he specified.

At the polling centres priority will be accorded to the sick, people with

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# 'Public officers lack insurance awareness'

By Carlos Banda



Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) Commissioner of Insurance Dr Baghayo Abdallah Saqware pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday addressing editors from various media houses on a wide range of issues relating to the agency's activities. Photo: Carlos Banda

INSURANCE commissioner Dr Baghayo Saqware has expressed the need to increase the number of insurance users by 50 per cent and raise insurance literacy to upwards of 80 per cent by the year 2030.

The top regulator who is head of the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) told journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the sector was implementing strategies to educate the public, engaging stakeholders in the sector, to reach 80 per cent of Tanzanians aged 18 and above.

TIRA is executing strategies to enhance awareness among ministerial departments and various public institutions to take up provisions of the 2009 Insurance Act (chapter 394 of the laws of Tanzania), along with the Procurement Act, law number 7 of 2011.

Various categories of the population come under the national insurance education strategy, he said, noting that TIRA has started to roll out that exercise from the top.

The regulator believes that top public officials, service providers and the media need to have better understanding, making it easier for the community to comprehend issues pertaining to insurance.

The objective of the strategy is to cultivate awareness in public agencies and other institutions so that they take up requirements of the Insurance Act, article 133 and 140 and the public law number 7 of 2011 at article 4(2)(b), he stated.

**Thanks to the strategy, service providers are undergoing training to upgrade their delivery effectiveness**

## Fertiliser subsidy not for keeps, hints Samia

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday cautioned that the fertiliser subsidy scheme has an end, affirming that farmers would be required to buy the farm-input at the real market price.

In public meetings in Ruangwa District, Lindi Region on another leg of a working tour of the southern regions, the president urged farmers to cultivate the habit of saving money earned after crop sales to improve their livelihoods.

She said the subsidy programme would one day cease, tasking farmers to use the fertiliser

**...the government has done a tremendous job financing various development projects in the new district**

subsidy open window wisely, as it's not a permanent arrangement.

"It is important to make good use of money generated from agriculture," she said, underlining that it is the only way farmers can develop the sector and also improve livelihoods. This way people will be able to buy inputs on their own, she stated.

The government allocated 150bn/- during fiscal 2022/23 for the subsidy scheme, to raise farm inputs used to 0.5m tonnes during the farming season, she stated.

During the farming season for 2021/22,

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## AfDB roots for greater private sector inclusion

By Guardian Correspondent, Busan

INVOLVING the private sector is essential in implementation of strategic projects in African countries to enhance the pace of project start and implementation, the African Development Bank (AfDB) has stated.

AfDB president Dr Akinwumi Adesina (pictured) made this assertion when speaking on the sidelines of the 7th Korea-Africa Economic Cooperation (KOAFEC) conference taking place here, in remarks relating to lending operations in the region.

The AfDB is expected to assist in financing



the standard gauge railway (SGR) project for the Tabora - Kigoma section (lot 6) and Uvinza - Malagarasi (lot 7), with a commitment for \$3.05bn for the SGR project and \$60bn for feasibility studies on the Mangapwani port project in Zanzibar.

The bank president affirmed this commitment over the weekend after talks with Dr Saada Mkuya Salum, the Finance and Planning state minister in the Zanzibar President's Office.

He said AfDB is working on the availability of \$3.03m in time to enable the implementation of the SGR project for the benefit of Tanzania and neighbouring countries.

He stressed the need to develop the private sector as it is essential for fast economic growth, similarly advising that the government makes use of the AfDB non-sovereign window, which basically caters for private sector borrowers for state-related

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Up to July 2023, TIRA officials had visited the ministries like Agriculture, Energy, Transport, Works along with Regional Administration and Local Governments (PO-RALG), and intend to visit other ministries, departments and various institutions.

TIRA's research department working with other institutions have discovered three key areas affecting public understanding on insurance, setting these parameters as public institutions, insurance service providers, the media and the general public.

Three problematic areas were identified in relation to public understanding of insurance, with government entities made up by public officials at all levels identified in the strategy as the core awareness raising area.

This requires visiting ministries, public agencies and other institutions to improve understanding of insurance in those areas, he said.

Service providers who are expected to educate other people are part of the problem, where TIRA is supposed to work for improvements in that regard. "Thanks to the strategy, service providers are undergoing training to upgrade their delivery effectiveness," he said.

Another area of concern was media outlets and journalists, where with the help of the Financial Sector Development Trust (FSDT), TIRA had in 2020 started offering training opportunities to journalists. Strategies are being pursued to train journalists on

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## Fertiliser subsidy not for keeps, hints Samia

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upwards of 360,000 tonnes of fertiliser was used, with the government pushing to take fertiliser uptake to 800,000 tonnes by 2025, she said.

She similarly appealed to farmers to make more effort in the production of pigeon peas, sesame and cashew nuts, while being careful with middlemen who end up tying them to unscrupulous pricing.

In other remarks, the president said the government will intensify mining research to help artisanal miners get new technological applications to improve productivity.

She said Ruangwa District was rich with various natural resources where artisanal miners are the foremost beneficiaries, referring to studies on the extent of minerals endowment of the area.

Ruangwa District received 37bn/- during the past financial year for development projects, with greater disbursement expected during the current financial year, she specified, pointing at strategies laid out for the district to improve the agriculture sector, and raise prices for cashew nuts.

The government will closely work to regulate prices of cash crops grown

in the district and elsewhere, for sisal, cashew nuts and pigeon peas to motivate people to expand their farms to extend benefits.

A major cashew processing factory is lined up for Mtwara and another in Lindi to enhance the value of the crop, she said, alluding to government efforts to address challenges in the prime minister's constituency. The work the premier was doing was huge, she said, insisting that the government needs to make his constituency work easier.

The president laid a foundation stone for Ruangwa-Nanganga road, a 53 kilometre stretch being built at tarmac level.

While at Kilimahewa grounds, the president said the government was doing a great job to ensure that farmers work in a conducive environment, including issuing subsidies and looking for markets for their crops.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa summed up government efforts addressing environmental challenges in Ruangwa District, pointing at road construction and water accessibility.

The premier, doubling up as Ruangwa MP, said the government has done a tremendous job financing various development projects in the new district. This has changed lives and the wider atmosphere, he added.

## 'Public officers lack insurance awareness'

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insurance and reward them for outstanding reporting on insurance issues, he stated.

TIRA plans to start rewarding journalists beginning next year for exemplary reporting on insurance to educate the society. These rewards will be substantial, he added.

## All geared for Mbarali MP, six councillors' election today

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disabilities, pregnant women and those breastfeeding and accompanied by the children, he elaborated.

The law requires that after casting their ballots people should go back to their homes and should not remain in the vicinity of the polling centres, he

stated.

A total of 17 political parties are participating in the by-elections, including AAFP, ACT-Wazalendo, ADA-TADEA, ADC, CCK, CCM, CUF, Demokrasia Makini, DP, NLD, NRA, SAU, TLP, UDP, UMD, UPDP and NCCR-Mageuzi, with Chadema being the notable absentee, observers noted.

## AfDB roots for greater private sector inclusion

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projects.

AfDB was ready to further assist Tanzania make development strides especially in agriculture projects, he said, citing the Building a Better Tomorrow (BBT) project that provides employment for many youths and increases the country's food production.

For her part, the Zanzibar state minister who was leading the

Tanzanian delegation in place of Union Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba thanked AfDB for its enhanced financial assistance through the AfDB non-sovereign window, from \$218m to \$756m, in the past few years.

Due to the importance of projects which AfDB has shown interest to sponsor, especially the Mangapwani port project, the Zanzibar authorities want the bank to source funds to implement the project before 2025, she added.

## Libya's flood-ravaged Derna in grisly hunt for hundreds missing

DERNA

Rescuers sifted through mud and rubble Friday in their search for people missing from the tsunami-sized flash flood that swept the Libyan port city of Derna, killing more than 3,000.

The surge of water burst two upstream dams on Sunday, turning Derna into an apocalyptic wasteland with entire city blocks and untold numbers of people washed into the Mediterranean.

The United Nations launched an appeal for more than \$71 million to assist hundreds of thousands in need and warned the "extent of the problem" remains unclear.

An AFP journalist in Derna said central neighbourhoods on either side of the river, which normally dries up at this time of year, looked as if a steam roller had passed through, uprooting trees and buildings and hurling vehicles onto the port's breakwaters.

"Within seconds the water level suddenly rose," said a survivor, who was swept away with his mother in the late-night ordeal and injured, before they both managed to scramble into an

empty building downstream.

"The water was rising with us until we got to the fourth floor, the water was up to the second floor," the unidentified man said from his hospital bed, in testimony published by the Benghazi Medical Center. "We could hear screams. From the window, I saw cars and bodies being carried away by the water. It lasted an hour or an hour and a half - but for us, it felt like a year."

Officials in the east of the divided country give different toll estimates, with one speaking of at least 3,840 dead. "We don't know the extent of the problem," UN aid chief Martin Griffiths said Friday in Geneva, as he called for coordination between Libya's two rival administrations - the UN-backed, internationally recognised government in Tripoli, and one based in the disaster-hit east.

While most fear the death toll will be much higher, Tamer Ramadan of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said there was still hope of finding survivors but declined to give a figure.

AGENCIES



Residents of Ruangwa in Lindi Region in celebratory mood yesterday as they welcomed President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who was due to address a rally shortly later as part of her five-day tour of Lindi and Mtwara regions that began on Friday. Photo: State House

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda,

Mwanza

MAJOR rehabilitation of a state-owned wagon ferry operating on Lake Victoria—MV Umoja has been completed by 100 percent, Eric Hamisi, managing director, Marine Services Company Limited (MSCL) said yesterday.

Addressing a press conference in Mwanza, Hamisi told journalists that the contractor—S-M Solution from South Korea will soon hand over the ferry to the government.

Funds for the rehabilitation work (21bn/-) were disbursed

## 'Rehabilitation of Lake Victoria's cargo ship 100 percent complete'

in the 2022/2023 financial year, said Hamisi, adding the work also involved installation of two new engines and two generators.

He said with the improvements, the wagon ferry will now be able to accommodate 22 wagons of 40 feet each while previously it had the capacity to accommodate 19 wagons.

The MSCL Managing Director called upon the business community and the general public to use the

ship for transporting huge cargo of up to 1,200 tonnes.

"Last week, Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) re-surveyed the ship prior to issuance of seaworthiness certificate (SWC). We anticipate receiving the certificate before the end of this week", he noted.

He said they are expecting to commence trials between Mwanza and Port Bell in Uganda.

MV. Umoja, according to him, is currently the biggest cargo ship plying on Lake Victoria, insisting after trials it will be officially launched as per government procedures.

Tanzania's major ports surrounding Lake Victoria include, Mwanza, Musoma, Bukoba and Kemono while in Uganda they have Port Bell and Jinja. There is also a port on the Kenyan side of the lake—Kisumu.



Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Ewura) director general Dr James Andilile (in tie) speaks at a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday, chiefly in connection with the banning of three filling stations on account of the hoarding of fuel. He is flanked by Ewura Fuel director Gerald Maganga (R) and Ewura Communications and Public Relations manager Titus Kaguo. Photo: Correspondent Chtristina Mwakangale

## EWURA suspends three filling stations hoarding fuel

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has suspended operations at three filling stations for six months for hoarding fuel.

The move makes a total of five filling stations after the authority suspended operations of other two fillings stations in Morogoro Region over illegal trading practices.

The filling stations are Petcom-Mbalizi Petrol Station in Mbeya, Camel Oil Gairo Petrol Station in Morogoro, and Rashal Petroleum Ltd-Mkalama in Singida Region.

Early this month, EWURA suspended operations of two fuel filling stations—Camel Oil in Msamvu,

Morogoro, and Matmeba in Turiani Morogoro Region.

Dr James Andilile, EWURA director general told journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the decision came after the authority verified that they were hoarding the precious liquid.

He said the authority placed under investigation six filling stations whereas three of them have been temporarily suspended from providing services.

He said: "We are still investigating the other three filling stations to see whether they operate under the set procedures. If proven to violate the country's laws, they will be punished accordingly."

Dr Andilile linked the hiking fuel

prices with illegal trading practices by some unfaithful fuel station operators and traders. He said some filling stations have enough stock of fuel by hoarding it intentionally.

The EWURA boss noted that they have started working on recent directives issued by the board of directors and management as well as those given by Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Dotto Biteko during his familiarization tour.

Some of the directives include the review of importation premiums, prices settings and issuance of licenses to filling stations' owners and traders.

According to him, the authority is working to ensure a fair business environment between suppliers and users. He said they are going to re-

look the set conditions for issuance of licences for purposes of controlling the fuel business in a fair manner.

"The right of the ultimate users is important and must be protected by avoiding illegal business practices," he noted.

He emphasized that legal action will be taken against any individual or entity found in possession of fuel in violation of established procedures, including fuel station owners, storage facility owners, and licensed fuel importers.

To alleviate concerns about fuel supply, he assured the public that there are sufficient fuel reserves. He said EWURA remains committed to ensuring a stable fuel supply by taking action against any illegal practices.

By Francis Kajubi, Bunda

# US-funded project improves caesarean services in Bunda

EXPECTANT mothers with birth complications in Kisorya village, Bunda District Council can now breathe a sigh of relief as caesarean delivery services are now offered at Kisorya health centre.

The service was made possible with interventions of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Afya Yangu ("My Health") - Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) project.

The USAID Afya Yangu-RMNCAH is a five-year project (January 2022-January 2027) that supports the governments to increase use of demand for and access to quality integrated RMNCAH services. The project will cost \$66,835,592 million (167.153bn/-).

The caesarean delivery services

that began on 30 December, 2022 at Kisorya health centre marks the end of frustrations to expectant mothers who were forced to travel long distances of up 90 kilometres to Bunda District council hospital, Kibala hospital and Kasahunga hospital.

Hemed Hassan, Health Facility in Charge at Kisorya health centre said the facility was upgraded from a dispensary in 2018 but due to lack of caesarean equipment and experts it failed to start offering the reproductive service.

According to him, upgrading of

the health centre went together with construction of an operating theater, maternity ward and a laboratory block.

"The health centre lacked equipment such as operating table, anaesthetic machine, concentrator and blood storage facilities. Through this project we have acquired all the necessary equipment and have already started to offer the service," added Hassan.

He asserted that prior to introduction of the caesarean delivery services, the health center used to attend a maximum of 50 pregnant

women a month but the number has now doubled as it provides service to more than 100 patients.

At times, pregnant women were forced to travel to Ukerewe District hospital in search of caesarean delivery services, he remarked, noting the facility has only two anaesthetists and two medical doctors, hence the need

to increase the number of experts to serve the increasing number of patients.

Hellen Magare, Bunda District Council Nursing Officer said although the facility has started offering the service it faces a shortage of experts. She said the centre has two professional doctors who can conduct

caesarean delivery service while the requirement is six doctors.

"The health centre needs five nursing officers, 15 assistant nursing officers and 15 midwives. There are three assistant nursing officers and five midwives," said Magare, adding there is not a single nursing officer.

Kasenda Kaguba (32) was lucky to be the first pregnant woman to undergo a caesarean delivery section on December 30th, 2022.

"We are thankful to USAID for improving delivery services at our health centre. Women in Kisorya village have been relieved from traveling long distances in search of quality caesarean services," she stated.



Dongjin Son (L), head of research and development at South Korea's Hyundai Rotem, briefs Finance ministry deputy permanent secretary Amina Khamis Shaaban (R) when a Tanzanian delegation visited the company at its base in Changwon city yesterday. Hyundai Rotem manufactures rolling stock, defence products and plant equipment. It is a part of the Hyundai Motor Group. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# WRRB pays 274bn/- to farmers in Mtwara region during 2022/23 FY

By Guardian Correspondent,

Mtwara

THE Warehouse Regulatory Board (WRRB) paid up to 274bn/- to farmers in Mtwara region directly engaged in producing crops that are under the warehouse licensing system, including sesame, chickpeas and cashew nuts during 2022/2023 Financial Year.

Asange Bangu, WRRB acting managing director unveiled this yesterday when speaking at the launch of the warehouse Licensing system building in Nanyumbu District, Mtwara Region where the President Samia Suluhu Hassan officiated the new facility.

Bangu said his board during the 2022/2023 financial year produced 17,000 tonnes of sesame, 16,000 tonnes of chickpeas and 93,000 tonnes of cashew nuts in Mtwara region during the past season.

"The amount of 274bn/- was paid directly to farmers. We are able to get all this data since we are using the warehouse licensing system now," he said.

Bangu noted that the prices of sesame and chickpeas have been rising recently noting an example of the price of chickpeas which has risen from 500/- per kilo before the warehouse licensing

system to 2000/- now. "We had a challenge on the price of cashew nuts due to the fact that the market was not good the last season, but we anticipate to do better during the next season," said Bangu.

Bangu urged that plan of his board is to escalate the warehouse licensing system throughout the country as part of its efforts to ensure that the system benefits many farmers across the country.

On his part the Tanzania Initiative for Preventing Aflatoxin Contamination (TANIPAC) Coordinator Clepin Josephat during the event said that the TANIPAC project which is worth 78.9bn/- is jointly funded by the Government of Tanzania in collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and will be implemented in both the Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.

"So far we have built 14 warehouses in general, 12 in the mainland Tanzania and the rest in Zanzibar. All the warehouses have been completed and are at the highest standards," he said. Josephat said that project under his institution in Nanyumbu district, Mtwara Region has been built in a modern way and has modern facilities noting that it will also be operated with the warehouse licensing system.

THE LAND REGISTRATION ACT (CAP334)  
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**POSITION: FOOD SAFETY AND HYGIENE ADVISOR**  
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**JOB DESCRIPTION:**  
Position Overview: The food safety and hygiene Advisor will be responsible for ensuring the provision of nutritionally balanced, safe, and hygienic meals to SOJO site workers in accordance with established guidelines and regulations. This role will involve close collaboration with the food vendor's team and regular assessments of food services to drive continuous improvement. It will also be the responsibility of the advisor to support all Hygiene inspections and management for the Kitchens, accommodation, and any external accommodation such as Hotels. The advisor will further support the overall HSE team in day-to-day general HSE matters.

**Key Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Menu Planning:**
  - Conduct assessments of the dietary needs and preferences of construction site workers to create menus that cater to their nutritional requirements.
  - Review and modify menus to meet nutritional guidelines and dietary needs.
  - Incorporate a variety of food options, considering special dietary requirements and preferences as per client needs.
  - Ensure a diverse range of food options to prevent menu fatigue and accommodate different tastes and cultural backgrounds.
- Nutritional Assessment:**
  - Evaluate the nutritional content of meals, making recommendations for improvement.
  - Monitor portion sizes and nutritional balance to prevent food wastage and promote healthier eating habits.
- Food Safety and Hygiene:**
  - Ensure that the food vendor follows Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) principles to identify and mitigate food safety risks.
  - Enforce strict food safety and hygiene practices in the kitchen and during food transportation.
  - Conduct regular inspections on food vendor and on site to ensure compliance with HACCP standards and local regulations.
  - Develop and oversee sanitization protocols for kitchen equipment, utensils, and food preparation surfaces.
- Quality Control:**
  - Monitor the quality and freshness of food ingredients.
  - Ensure proper storage, preparation, and serving of food at safe temperatures.
- Allergen Management:**
  - Implement strict procedures for handling and labelling allergenic ingredients to prevent cross-contamination and allergic reactions.
  - Identify and manage potential allergens in menu items.
  - Communicate allergen information to kitchen staff and consumers.
- Staff Training:**
  - Train kitchen staff on the safe handling, storage, and preparation of food to prevent contamination and foodborne illnesses.
  - Develop and deliver training programs for kitchen staff on food safety, nutrition, and hygiene.
  - Maintain ongoing staff education to ensure compliance with best practices.

**7. Documentation and Record Keeping:**

- Maintain accurate records of food safety inspections, nutritional guidelines, and training sessions.
- Prepare reports and documentation for audits and compliance purposes.

**8. Client Communication:**

- Communicate regularly with the client and project management regarding menu changes, food quality, and safety improvements.
- Address client concerns and provide updates on nutrition and food safety initiatives.

**9. Monitoring and Evaluation:**

- Establish a system for regularly assessing food services, including nutrition, safety, and hygiene aspects.
- Implement corrective actions and improvements based on assessment findings.

**10. Feedback Mechanism:**

- Encourage feedback from construction site workers regarding food quality, variety, and safety.
- Use feedback to make continuous improvements to food services.

**11. Budget Management:**

- Manage resources and procurement within budget constraints.
- Source high-quality ingredients while maintaining cost-effectiveness.

**12. Collaboration with Food Vendor:**

- Collaborate closely with the food vendor's team to ensure seamless integration of nutrition and food safety standards into their operations.

**13. Compliance and Regulations:**

- Stay informed about local and international regulations related to food safety and nutrition.
- Ensure all operations adhere to legal requirements.

**14. Emergency Response:**

- Establish emergency response procedures in case of food safety incidents or outbreaks and ensure staff are trained accordingly.
- Develop contingency plans for food-related emergencies.
- Ensure staff are trained to respond appropriately in emergency situations.

**15. General support:**

- Attend daily JSA and Toolbox talks.
- Support the HSE team with general observation and inspection when necessary.

**16. Continuous Improvement:**



- Identify opportunities for innovation and improvement in nutrition, food safety, and hygiene practices.
- Implement necessary changes to enhance services.

**Qualifications and Requirements:**

- Registered Nutrition and Food Safety Advisor/Nutritionist status.
- Relevant qualifications and experience in food safety and nutrition.
- Proficiency in HACCP standards and food safety regulations.
- Strong communication and leadership skills.
- Readiness to work overtime, Saturday and public holidays as may required

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## TIC registered 2.3trillion/- worth projects in August

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) has set a record of its kind by registering 58 projects worth \$ 931.6 million (2.3trn/-) in August, this year.

The centre's monthly fact sheet for August shows that a total of 25,731 jobs would be created during its implementation.

Dar es Salaam region topped the list by registering 22 projects worth \$11.76 million that are expected to create 1,778 jobs while Coast Region registered nine projects worth \$307.93 million which will create 285 jobs.

According to the document, 44 per cent of the registered projects are fully owned by locals while 14 percent of them will be implemented through joint ventures (JV). Foreigners own 42 percent of all the registered projects.

The statement showed that Dodoma region registered six projects worth \$45.85 million which are expected to create 580 jobs, Mwanza registered five projects worth \$22.41 million to

generate 440 jobs, Kagera registered two projects worth \$226.57 million (1,0120 jobs), Njombe registered one project worth \$ 0.54 (30 jobs) and Ruvuma registered one project worth \$33.71 million (1,292 jobs).

Morogoro registered one project worth \$100 million (1, 0100 jobs), Mtwara registered one project worth \$1.07 million, Lindi registered one project worth \$ 0.98 million (80 jobs), Tanga registered two projects worth \$50.50 million (411 jobs), Kilimanjaro registered one project worth \$8.45 million (182 jobs), Arusha registered one project worth \$0.90 million (30 jobs) and Mara Region that registered one project worth \$1.19 million that will create 76 jobs.

The statement showed that Manyara region registered one project worth \$2 million (11 jobs), Geita registered one project worth \$1.50 million (54 jobs), Singida registered one project worth \$11.25 million (180 jobs) while Mbeya registered one project worth \$5 million that is expected to generate 80 jobs.

## CDC-T to integrate NCDs interventions for PLWHA

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Tanzania is set to roll out a programme to integrate non-communicable diseases (NCDs) interventions to HIV patients through the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).

Dr George Mgomella, CDC-Tanzania's associate director of programmes, revealed this at a media workshop held ahead of the 10th anniversary of Tanzania Health Summit (THS).

Dr Mgomella said after successes in reducing HIV related deaths by 75-percent and new infections by 60-percent in the last 10 years, NCDs were now the new challenge whereby one in four HIV patients suffer from NCDs mainly hypertension.

"Talks are at an advanced stage with the government and other key stakeholders so that we roll out the programme by early October but we have already started cervical cancer screening to HIV positive women," he said.

According to him, the situation has emerged because HIV patients are now living longer compared to 10 years ago when related deaths were higher.

"We were not seeing this because they were not living longer, plans are underway to integrate HIV related interventions with NCDs," he said.

He said in implementing this, CDC will use the same HIV clinics to offer counselling and lifestyle modification

knowledge.

"There are those who will be managed at lower level stages but we will also be carrying out screening, counseling and referral to those in serious conditions," he said.

CDC through PEPFAR has been supporting Tanzania for the last 10 years to a tune of \$6.6 billion to ensure that HIV as an emergency problem is taken care of.

Access to Primary Healthcare services (PHC), the need for strengthening Tanzania's health system and strategies for achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) are the major issues expected to take center-stage during the 10th anniversary (THS) which will host close to 1,000 delegates from local and international organizations

This year's theme is: Strengthening Health Systems for UHC, focusing on Primary Health Care.

With 34 forums to be held and over 300 abstracts to be presented, the summit will ignite constructive discussions about healthcare in Tanzania and engage various stakeholders in shaping the national health agenda.

Speaking on the same, Coordinator for health financing, in the department of health, social welfare and Nutrition in the President's Office- Regional Administration and Local government Dr Dustan Mshana said the government has lined up a number of strategies to facilitate proper implementation of the envisaged Universal Health Coverage (UHC).



Ilemela district administrative secretary Mariam Msengi (R, in cap) takes part in an environmental hygiene operation near the Butuja estuary in Mwanza city at the weekend. Left is Butuja locality chairperson Kitonge Mwita. Photo: Correspondent Vitus Audax

## Mwauwasa switches on the first pump in Butimba water project

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

MWANZA Urban Water and sanitation Authority (MWAUWASA) has conducted initial tests by switching on one of the five water pumps of the Butimba Water Project that produce 48 million litres of water per day expected to serve 250,000 residents.

The test aims to reduce water scarcity in various areas of Mwanza city.

In his statement on the project at

the weekend, MWAUWASA Acting Director, Nely Msuya said the project is now 96 per cent complete and will alleviate water changes facing the city.

He said water supply services will be improved for residents of Nyegezi, Luchebele, Buhongwa, Buswelu and Butimba as and when the water pumps will be switched on.

He added that the project, costing 70bn/- is an alternative to the Capripoint project whose daily water production was only 90 million litres

per day, short of the required 165 million litres for residents of Mwanza city.

"We have started the initial test that are expected to end in October and the entire project will be handed over October 31, when more than 48 million litres of water will be supplied to over 450,000 residents thereby alleviating the water scarcity that has been affecting them for a long time," explained Msuya.

Switching on the pump, Mwanza

Regional Commissioner, Amos Makalla commended the milestone and called on for increased water production to solve water scarcity facing many Mwanza residents.

He added that the government has allocated funds for a contractor to improve the Capripoint water source to produce 52 million litres per day thereby ending water scarcity in Mwanza Region.

He also revealed that there will be another phase to be conducted in the Butimba Water project that will have the capacity to produce 48 million litres of water per day and appealed to the people to take precaution because the water supply is in test runs, it is not entirely safe and called on those concerned to closely supervise every step of the project's implementation.

## ICTC plans forum to debate of Tanzania ICT revolution

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

INFORMATION and Communication Technologies Commission (ICTC) expects to hold a five-day forum to debate and spur Information and Communications Technology (ICT) revolution in the country including the use of artificial intelligence.

ICTC Director General Dr Nkundwe Mwasaga revealed this here yesterday in an interview with this paper in regard to the forum slated for October 16 to 20 this year adding that

it will bring together local and foreign experts in order to gain technology experience as used in other countries including Artificial Intelligence (AI) in order to create job opportunities for the youth to spur economic and social development.

He said so far 10 firms from Egypt, Estonia, USA and Europe have confirmed participation.

He said the Commission plans to make sure ICT experts are empowered to create artificial intelligence technology that will be using the Kiswahili language.

"In the forum participants will be

ICT experts and there has been a big response of foreign participants, there will be many topics for discussion including artificial intelligence as it touches many sectors - education, banking, health, roads, transport and many more," he said.

He added: "In the forum we shall look into achievements and challenges of ICT to women and the youth, various experts will come, and what I see there are many achievements for women in ICT," he added.

In regard to the 6th Forum of 2022, Dr Mwasaga said they had discussed

on the digital revolution and the cost of distributing internet services in the country.

He said they had also discussed the issue of artificial intelligence by starting to empower experts.

"There are many people we have empowered and now we have AI community of more than 300 hence in the coming forum we shall display many things which Tanzanians can create through innovation," he said.

He added: AI is important since the machine has the ability to think and perform that a human can do, this is a great revolution in technology."



### TANZANIA FOREST CONSERVATION GROUP

#### STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

This publication of the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure is per regulation 13(a) of the Non-Government Organization Act (Amendments), Regulation 2018, which requires Non-Government Organizations receiving funds exceeding TZS 20 Million to publish bi-annually the funds received and its expenditure.

| DETAILS  | ACTUAL – TZS            |
|--|-------------------------|
| <b>RECEIPTS</b>  |                         |
| Opening fund balance   | (8,065,552.00)          |
| Disbursement from Donors                                       | 2,192,935,231.00        |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM DONORS</b>                              | <b>2,184,869,679.00</b> |
| <b>PROGRAMMES EXPENDITURE</b>                                  |                         |
| Participatory Forest Management                                | 443,293,304.00          |
| Environmental Education  | 328,551,152.00          |
| Community Development (Poverty reduction in rural communities) | 318,090,710.00          |
| Research   | 75,060,189.00           |
| <b>OTHER PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE</b>                             |                         |
| Institution Development and Resources Mobilization             | 297,768,658.00          |
| <b>TOTAL PROGRAMMES EXPENDITURES</b>                           | <b>1,462,764,013.00</b> |
| Deferred Income  | 722,105,666.00          |

\*\*Deferred Income represents the obligation to conduct Donor-Funded activities per Contractual commitments made between Donor/Development partners and the organisation/recipient, where funds have not been transferred, and such activities have not yet occurred.

Executive Director  
Tanzania Forest Conservation Group  
Plot 323, Msasani Village  
Mwaikibaki Rd, P.O. Box. 23410  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited director Benoit Araman briefs journalists in Zanzibar at the weekend on plans to merge Oryx Gas Zanzibar Limited and TP Company Limited Zanzibar. The latter is a subsidiary of Vigor Turkey's Group of Companies. The idea is to enable Zanzibar residents to get LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) at a lower price than is now the case. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Dr Asser Mchomvu, Director of Dar es Salaam's Kairuki Hospital, has a word with doctors at the weekend during infertility and IVF-assisted reproduction training organised by the hospital and held in the city's Bunju A Mianzini suburb. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

## RC issues seven-day ultimatum to tobacco firms to pay farmers

SHINYANGA Regional Commissioner Christina Mndeme has given one week to two tobacco buying firms - Mkwawa and Voesdesel to make sure they pay tobacco farmers for the crop purchased else stern measures will be taken against them including prohibiting them from buying tobacco. The RC issued the ultimatum at the weekend soon when addressing tobacco and cotton farmers in Kahama District soon after visiting the cotton ginners owned by Kahama Cooperative Union (KACU).

She said she was distressed to hear complaints from tobacco farmers that they were yet to be paid their money after selling the crop while the season

had long passed by and called on the two firms to pay them by September 22, this year before the government takes steps.

"Such firms that humiliate farmers need to be banned from buying tobacco, they are supposed to be blacklisted if they do not pay the money in the given period," RC Mndeme stressed.

She also instructed the PCCB to investigate and take appropriate steps against primary cooperatives officials from 12 AMCOs who have occasioned

bank losses as well as farmers for not paying their bank loans for purchasing farm inputs in time.

Meanwhile, RC Mndeme prohibited the creation of new AMCOs, instead those which have remained idle should be revived.

She said the government will continue improving the farming environment and defend farmers' interests from humiliation from crops buying firms.

She also called on KACU to establish a garment factory and that the

government will provide a plot in the Buzwagi area.

She also called on cotton farmers to stop the habit of contaminating their cotton crop by missing it with sand in order to increase its weight.

Emmanuel Marcos, a tobacco farmer said the delay for payment of their money is a loss to farmers as they fail to make early preparations for the coming season as well as lacking money to run their families and called for the government's prompt intervention.

## Medical specialists implore Tanzanians to make regular screening to keep NCDs at bay

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIANS have been urged to make regular and early medical check-ups as the country witnesses increased challenge of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) including diabetes and high blood pressure.

Medical specialists made a call yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the free medical screening organised by Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat in honour of Imam Hussain, the grandchild of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W).

NCDs specialist from the Ibrahim Hajji Hospital, Dr Ameir Khanji said the three-day disease screening camp was a success.

"There are some people who visited the centre for medical tests without knowing what they were exactly suffering from. However, the testing and screening enabled them to know their status and receive adequate treatment," he said.

"Increase in NCDs such as diabetes and hypertension suggests that people should undergo early and frequent visits to healthcare centres for medical examinations and diseases screenings," he added.

He said over 300 people were discovered to have cataracts, noting that the institution has referred them to its hospitals located in Temeke and Kibaha in Dar es Salaam and Coast regions for eye surgeries.

Dr Khanji said during the three-day exercise, citizens were also screened against breast and cervical cancer, noting that they were also involved in voluntary blood donation.

"The community should build a tradition of carrying early medical tests and screening to enable them to get early knowledge of their status," he said.

According to him, citizens should also have the tradition of voluntarily donating blood to support needy citizens who are receiving treatment in different hospitals in the country.

He said the institution's hospital in

Temeke District can attend 150 patients per day, and carry eye surgery to over 100 patients a week.

Mohammedraza Dewji, the Dar es Salaam Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat chairman, insisted on the need for early disease testing and screening.

"This will enable people who have been discovered to have certain diseases to start treatment earlier and increase the possibility of being cured," he said.

He said in the three days camp, the institution collaborated with different stakeholders including the National Blood Transfusion Service (NBTS) and the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH).

Dewji mobilized for mental health screening which is considered as a neglected health concern, saying stigma was another issue that should be fought collectively.

"Mental health patients should be cared for by humanity in order to reduce the disease magnitude in the country," he said.



**There are some people who visited the centre for medical tests without knowing what they were exactly suffering from. However, the testing and screening enabled them to know their status and receive adequate treatment**



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### CORPORATE PROGRAMS

|    | PROGRAM   | DETAILS   | DAYS      |
|----|---|---|-----------|
| 1  | <b>Transforming Organizational Culture for Maximum Results.</b>   | Culture is the bedrock upon which an institution lays its strategy. It is the software (beliefs- mindsets, values, attitudes, and behavior of the staff) that drives the team and ultimately the institution. The culture of any organization depends on the attitude of those within. <u>Attitude Is Everything</u> and it has been shown that <b>success</b> is 80% psychology (attitude) and 20% mechanics (knowledge). Dealing with negative attitudes in the workplace is one of the biggest challenges facing managers, businesses and employees. | PROCESSES |
| 2  | <b>The Ultimate Team.</b>   | "You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together we can do great things" – <i>by Mother Teresa.</i> This is designed to help a group function as a cohesive team and draw the many benefits that are not available to the individual for the organization's mutual growth.   | 2         |
| 3  | <b>Peak Performance Strategies for Optimal Growth.</b>            | We all have unlimited potential to achieve true success and fulfillment. Are you tapping into this potential? Are you getting maximum returns from your staff members?  | 2         |
| 4  | <b>Unleash your Sales Potential.</b>                              | Would you like to increase your sales by more than 50% in one month? Are you getting the results you want from your sales team? Would you like to be ahead of the competition?  | 2         |
| 5  | <b>The Ultimate Customer Care.</b>                                | Considerable amounts of resources are used to get customers. Customer satisfaction is the ultimate goal of any organization. How do you maintain these customers? The quality of the thinking of your staff determines the quality of service they will give to your customers.   | 2         |
| 6  | <b>Wealth Creation – Your journey to financial freedom.</b>       | It's unfortunate that some people lead a life of shortage; just working to pay their bills while a few others enjoy the abundance of life. You too can enjoy the life that just a few do experience – ABUNDANCE.  | 2         |
| 7  | <b>Rapid Planning and time Management for Guaranteed Results.</b> | Would you like to achieve higher results for yourself and/or your organization in a far much shorter time? Discover the 20% activities that bring in 80% of the results you desire.   | 2         |
| 8  | <b>Effective Public Speaking and Presentation Skills.</b>         | Many opportunities are lost due to the inability to effectively present our ideas to others due to fear, nervousness, poor preparation, lack of knowledge on the use of presentation tools, poor physiology and voice quality etc. Concur this.   | 3         |
| 9  | <b>The Ultimate Leadership.</b>                                   | The success of any organization highly depends on the quality of its leadership. A leader's responsibility is to inspire others into action by creating a vision for all.   | 3         |
| 10 | <b>Pre-retirement Preparation Program.</b>                        | All workers regardless of age are destined to retire at some point. However, very few organizations and individuals prepare for this, leading to reduced productivity in the final years at work, lack of focus, poor health and early death in retirement.   | 5         |

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## JOB VACANCIES

### About Us

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) is a global community conservation organization that advances the vision and work of Dr. Jane Goodall by conserving chimpanzees and inspiring communities to conserve the natural world we all share, we improve the lives of people, animals, and the environment. We strongly believe everything is connected and everyone can make a difference.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) is a reputable and rapidly expanding non-governmental organization committed to wildlife research, conservation, socio-economic development, and environmental education. The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) was founded in 2001 by Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE. The JGI Tanzania with its partners makes a difference through community centered conservation, chimpanzees research projects, youths' environmental education, the innovative use of science and technology, we work closely with local communities in Tanzania, inspiring hope through a collective power of individual action.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to support implementation of the new USAID funded project, Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo (TKV) is currently seeking to recruit a suitably qualified and competent Tanzanian to fill the following vacant positions:

**Job Position:** GIS Analyst  
**Program:** Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo (TKV)  
**Duty Station:** Kigoma

### Job Summary:

The GIS Analyst will work closely with the Data Management person to enhance an integrated science and knowledge management system, capacity, and resources designed to execute a holistic, collaborative, and systems-based approach supporting all aspects of data collection, analysis, and use, generating actionable insights, and improving decisions across the entire project. The job holder will leverage and use JGI's Science and Knowledge Platform powered by Esri's ArcGIS Online and other technologies to provide standards, protocols, databases, workflows, solutions, and tools, and enable data collection, management, analysis, and use. The job holder will work with all project IRs and cross-cutting elements to customize and use JGI's Science and Knowledge Platform by supporting the following activities:

- **Data Collection** focus on properly engaging, active listening, and understanding decision-making processes and information needs while providing data standards, data collection protocols, and data models, technologies, and tools to assure that ongoing conservation decision-making processes are evidence-based.
- **Data Management:** working closely with the Data Management person to ensure that project data are standardized, cleaned, organized, and stored in appropriate databases online and integrated and centrally managed as part of JGI Science and Knowledge Platform.
- **Data Analysis and Modeling:** to integrate data across the entire project and ask questions and test hypothesis in a more holistic way, better supporting individual IRs and cross-cutting elements.
- **Data Visualization, Sharing and Use:** to fully leverage and use the JGI Science and Knowledge Platform and work closely with all the IRs and crosscutting elements to make complex and dynamic data and information accessible for users of all experience levels.

### Essential Functions:

Main responsibilities will include but not limited to:

- Support Mapping tasks
  - o Work closely with Program GIS Officer and Land Use Planning Officers in supporting planning, mapping tasks particularly Land Use Plans.
- Forest and chimp habitat monitoring:
  - o Apply Remote Sensing Technology to utilize available satellite images and operating UAVs to monitor forest and chimp habitat and provide update on status to government authorities and project management.
  - o Provide regular technical support and advice to Village Forest Monitors (FMs) across the project area particularly during data uploading and sharing of data.
  - o Consult with FMs to ensure that their efforts in monitoring village forests are consistent as agreed to avoid gaps which could be used by trespassers to encroach reserved village forest reserves.
  - o Organize short term trainings to FMs to improve their monitoring and data collection skills using Survey 123 and smartphones.
  - o Analyze and produce FM Quarter Report showing status and trend of wildlife and threats within village forests and corridors.
- Prepare and submit activity reports in a timely manner.
- And any other job as may be assigned to you by your supervisor or his/her designee.

Minimum Job Qualifications and other Requirements:

- o Graduate degree in GIS, Geoinformation, Geography & Environment Studies, or related field with practical experience in using GIS Software particularly ArcGIS.
- o At least 3 years working experience in Geospatial Technical support to large conservation programs particularly community conservation projects.
- o Ability to use GIS Applications preferably ArcGIS Pro and ArcGIS Online.
- o Experience with using Postgres databases and managing data in a cloud environment (Azure or AWS).
- o Experience in using R and Python and in using data manipulation libraries (e.g., pandas, tidyverse).
- o Ability to customize electronic data collection, integration, management and sharing tools such ArcGIS Online, Survey123, Field Maps, Quick capture, dashboards, story maps etc.
- o Should be experienced drone pilot with a certificate authenticating his/her ability to fly drones issued by TCCAA.
- o Ability to work under pressure, tight deadlines and less supervision, self-motivated person, team player, reporting and presentation skills.
- o Good Communication skills - fluent in Swahili and English, both verbal and written.
- o Other relevant tasks as assigned by the JGI Chief of Party or his/her designee.

**Job Position:** Data Management Analyst

**Program:** Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo (TKV)  
**Duty Station:** Kigoma

### Job Summary:

The Data Management Analyst (DMA) will work closely with the GIS Analyst to provide technical capacity in designing and administering data collection tools, support data collection and knowledge management system. The job holder will make use of science and knowledge management system, capacity, and resources designed to execute a holistic, collaborative, and systems-based approach supporting all aspects of data collection, integration, analysis, storage, sharing and use, to steer actionable insights, and improving decisions across the entire project. The successful candidate will work in the Data and Knowledge Management section supporting all IRs and crosscutting aspect of the project customize and use JGI's Science and Knowledge Platform by supporting the following activities:

- Develop an Integrated Database: The database that need to integrate all collected data from all IRs and Cross-cutting activities serving the needs of Monitoring Evaluation and learning (MEL) and all the intermediate Results (IR) and activity managers to follow project implementation more closely.
- Data Collection: Together with MEL section, support development of appropriate data collection tools that will focus on required data for project use in decision-making processes and information needs while providing data standards, data collection protocols, and data models, technologies, and tools to assure that ongoing conservation decision-making processes are evidence-based.
- Data Management: In collaboration with GIS Analyst, ensure that all data are standardized cleaned, organized, and stored in appropriate databases online and integrated and centrally managed as part of JGI Science and Knowledge Platform.
- Data Analysis and Modeling: Integrate data collected by IRs using JGI Science platform and knowledge, ask questions and test hypotheses in a more holistic way.
- Data Visualization, Sharing and Use: Leverage and use the JGI Science and Knowledge Platform, which already supports the DSS in collaboration with GIS analyst, and make complex and dynamic data and information accessible for users of all experience levels.

### Essential Functions:

Main responsibilities will include but not limited to:

- On monthly and or Quarterly bases, produce processed data over indicators for quarterly reporting.
- Work with MEL Specialist and Monitoring Officer in supporting planning, implementation leaning and adopting.
- Ensure data collection forms are digitized using the agreed data collection tools.
- In collaboration with MEL Specialist and Monitoring Officer, design, and implement specific surveys.
- Take part in orientation of data enumerators on use of tools and methods for data collection.
- Other relevant tasks as assigned by the JGI Chief of Party or his/her designee.

Minimum Job Qualifications and other Requirements:

- o Graduate degree in Statistics/ Computer Science/data Science or related discipline.
- o At least 3 years working experience in designing/developing database and Data management supporting reputable Conservation organization with good performance record.
- o Solid experience with managing Postgres databases and importantly experiences in managing data in a cloud environment (Azure or AWS).
- o Strong proficiency in R and Python, with expertise in data manipulation libraries (e.g., pandas, tidyverse).
- o Ability to customize electronic data collection, integration, management and sharing tools such ArcGIS Online, Survey123, Field Maps, Quick capture, dashboards, story maps etc.
- o Ability to work under pressure, tight deadlines and less supervision, self-motivated person, team player, reporting and presentation skills. Able to spend extended periods in rural settings.
- o Good Communication skills - fluent in Swahili and English, both verbal and written.

### Application Procedure:

All applications should be submitted together with the most recent Curriculum Vitae (CV)/resume, copy of relevant academic certificates & transcripts, testimonials, three names of reputable referees, day-time telephone number or e-mail address, and should be send to the following e-mail address: [recruitment@janegoodall.or.tz](mailto:recruitment@janegoodall.or.tz)

Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted for the interview and provided with interview feedback.

**Deadline:** Seven (7) days from the first date of advertisement.

JGI Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and considers all applicants on the basis of merit without regard to race, national or tribal origin, religious belief, gender, and marital status.

QUALIFIED FEMALE APPLICANTS ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

## Tanzanians encouraged to submit applications for 2023/24 Chevening scholarship programme

By Getrude Mbago

TANZANIANS have been encouraged to submit their applications for the 2023/24 Chevening scholarships programme before November 7, 2023.

Chevening Scholarships are awarded by the United Kingdom (UK) government to individuals from all backgrounds who can demonstrate that they have the commitment and skills required to become good future leaders.

In a statement availed to the media yesterday, British High Commissioner to Tanzania, David Concar said: "If you are someone who is passionate about driving change, whether on a local or global scale, if you want to be the best at what you do and if you have the

imagination to inspire others, then a Chevening Scholarship could be the perfect opportunity for you."

He said that the scholarships offer full financial support for scholars to study for any eligible master's degree at any UK university whilst also gaining access to a wide range of exclusive academic, professional, and cultural experiences.

"We get successful applications from people of all backgrounds and ages. We want to see that you have curiosity, compassion, a clear vision for your future and the ability to achieve your goals."

He said that since 1983, over 300 alumni from Tanzania are leading positive change in their communities and sectors, as part of the UK's ongoing

commitment towards developing the leaders of tomorrow.

"When you return home after your studies you should feel well-equipped to join that network and make a real difference in Tanzania. There is a lot to gain from submitting a thoughtful application, so if you have what it takes to be a Chevening Scholar, I would encourage you to apply before November 7," he said.

He observed: "Candidates must show how a UK master's degree will help them to create positive change in their country. The scholarship offers full financial support to study for any eligible master's degree at over 150 UK universities whilst also gaining access to a wide range of exclusive academic, professional and cultural experiences."



CPS chief operations officer Katrin Dietzold speaks at Fumba Town in Zanzibar at the weekend during a ceremony to congratulate students who had just completed a CPS-sponsored programme meant to empower female University of Dar es Salaam STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) graduates. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Yet another major score for leading bank as it gets global finance award

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank has bagged another major honour at this year's Global Finance Awards for its supportive services to general enterprises and financing of the SME sector.

The lender emerged tops in the SME Financier of the Year - Africa categories, winning a silver award.

The award coordinated by the SME Finance Forum was presented at this year's edition of the Global SME Finance Forum, held from September 12 to 14 in Mumbai, India.

Like their predecessors, the Global Finance Awards 2023 (GSMEFF 2023) recognises financial institutions and fintech companies' commitments and achievements in delivering outstanding products and services to their SME clients.

This year's Global SME Finance Forum theme, "Digital Ecosystems and the Future of SME Financing," aligned

with NMB's commitment to SMEs as it explored how digitalization is changing the economic growth landscape.

Commenting on the new award, Chief Executive Officer Ruth Zaipuna said the honor was another testimony of the bank's relentless efforts to close the SME finance gap in Tanzania.

"These accolades appreciate the bank's role in fostering SME finance in the country and its investment in impactful digital innovation," she added.

The bank has at heart the promotion of SMEs' growth due to their critical role in economic and overall national development by creating jobs, spurring growth, and boosting household incomes.

"The awards and the recognition are evidence of NMB Bank's proven track record of service excellence and its strong commitment to innovation," Zaipuna stated in the statement to announce the accomplishment.

## Sendiga wants youth to be well-equipped with skills

By Guardian Correspondent, Hanang

MANYARA Regional Commissioner Queen Sendiga has tasked youth to be well-equipped with essential skills that will make them excel in the current competitive labour market.

RC Sendiga made the call over the weekend here when speaking at the launch of the 'Learning for Life Programme' for the youth in Hanang District that has been made possible by Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL).

The initiative underscores brewer's commitment to empower more than 400 youth in the district to empower them with essential skills and knowledge for personal development, entrepreneurial prowess, financial management, and effective business planning.

She remarked: "I am thrilled to see the Learning for Life Training taking place in Hanang District. This initiative holds great significance for our region and aligns perfectly with Hanang District's vision to

excel in providing high-quality and sustainable services by 2025."

The programme will not only empower our youth but also contribute to the economic growth and development of Hanang District. "It will create a pool of skilled and resourceful individuals who can drive positive change and innovation in our community," RC Sendiga said.

According to her, Tanzania boasts a youth population of approximately 64% of the total, yet youth unemployment remains a critical concern, with rates as high as 13.6% for those aged 15-24. Limited access to quality skills training compounds this issue, particularly in Hanang District, where the youth comprise about 70% of the population. It is imperative to address this challenge head-on.

In line with the programme, SBL has organized a four-day training started yesterday, which aligns seamlessly with Hanang District's vision to excel in providing high-quality and sustainable services by

Now in their sixth year, the Global Finance Awards were established in 2018 by the SME Finance Forum, whose strategic mission is to expand access to finance for small and medium businesses.

The CEO of the SME Finance Forum, Matthew Gamser, congratulating this year's winners, said the competition was the toughest ever as it involved more participants and many countries.

Noted incoming CEO Qamar Saleem: "While all participants are winners in their rights, I want to congratulate awards recipients for leading the way in the industry. By supporting SMEs, we are not just providing access to financial services; we are also changing lives," he noted.

The SME Finance Forum, managed by the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC), was established in 2012 by the G20's Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPII).

As the world's leading SME finance network, it shares knowledge, spurs innovation, and promotes the growth of SMEs worldwide.

2025.

"By equipping our youth with the necessary skills, we contribute to the district's mission of enhancing socio-economic services through optimal resource utilization," the RC said.

The "Learning for Life" initiative offers a transformative workshop designed to empower the youth with skills for self-employment and job creation. Serengeti Breweries Limited primary goal is to assist them in identifying opportunities and effectively harnessing them. The workshop facilitates networking, learning from experts, and gaining practical insights into various industries, all with the aim of reducing unemployment, alleviating poverty, and creating a brighter future for the youth of Hanang District.

Rispa Hatibu, SBL's communications and sustainability manager said: "The brewer believes that investing in the youth is securing the future of our community. Through the Learning for Life programme, SBL is not only imparting skills but also nurturing the potential of Hanang's young people to be leaders, entrepreneurs, and contributors to the growth and prosperity of the district."

# TPA offers five delivery beds, bed sheets to newly completed Ndadaro dispensary

By Guardian Correspondent, Kyela

TANZANIA Ports Authority (TPA) has provided five delivery beds and 200 bed sheets to the newly completed Ndadaro dispensary, Kyela District to mark the country's 'Ports Week.'

Lake Nyasa ports handed over the items here at the weekend while workers from Lake Nyasa ports cleaned the dispensary surroundings as part to mark the event.

Gasaya said TPA has resolved to provide the assistance as part of their corporate social responsibilities to the

community.

"The decision also aims to support efforts of Ndadaro ward residents to construct the dispensary before the government chipped in," he added.

Receiving the items on behalf of Kyela District Executive Director, the district medical officer, Dr Swaam

Kumbisaga said the assistance will help the new dispensary to start its services right away in order to reduce congestion of patients at Kyela District hospital and added that the dispensary has been strategically built for that purpose.

She explained that the construction

of the dispensary was completed recently and inaugurated by the national Uhuru Torch race leader last week, hence it needs great assistance in regard to medical equipment to start its services.

Dr Kumbisaga appealed to the people to assist in the availability of

medical equipment to enable it to serve the people.

Some residents of Ndadaro ward said the completion of the health facility will reduce inconveniences of having to travel long distances for medical services at Kyela District hospital.

Sekela Nkanda, Ndaro Ward resident said the dispensary will be of great benefit to them as it has brought medical services closer to their area.

The construction of Ndadaro dispensary was recently completed and before it started operations. It was inaugurated by the national Uhuru Torch race leader a week ago.



Specially invited guests join pupils of Dar es Salaam's Msasani 'B' Primary School in celebrations at a ceremony held at the school on Saturday to bid farewell to Standard Seven leavers. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



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# Progress in repair of MV Mapinduzi II leaves Zanzibar second VP impressed

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdulla has expressed his satisfaction with the revamping of MV Mapinduzi II which has suspended operations between Unguja and Pemba.

The vessel is now docked at Malindi port undergoing maintenance after it broke down.

Speaking during his inspection tour of the vessel, the second Vice President said the Zanzibar government has decided to conduct maintenance to the vessel to enable the people, particularly those of Pemba and Tanga to have reliable and safe sea transport.

He said he was pleased to see maintenance work was going on well and reached 70 per cent and is expected to be back in operation after a couple of months.

He added that its completion will reduce inconveniences facing people who have been depending on its services.

Hemed also called on engineers and vessel experts to closely oversee the vessel's maintenance work and abide by the work contract.

He said the government is spending a lot of money towards its maintenance hence it cannot tolerate shoddy work.

For his part, the Minister for Works and Communications, Dr Khalid Salum Muhamed said the ministry, through Zanzibar Shipping Corporation (ZSC), is closely monitoring the ship's maintenance work so that it is completed by

December this year.

He said during the period, his ministry was faced with challenges regarding spares from Germany as they were forced to route them through Korea before coming to Zanzibar, the fact that

For his part, ZSC Director Makame Hasnuu Makame said so far maintenance work has reached 70 per cent complete as the repair work to the vessel's engine is expected to be completed by October this year.

KATIKA BARAZA LA ARDHI NA NYUMBA WILAYA YA KINONDONI MWANANYAMALA

SHAURI LA MADAI NAMBARI 426 LA 2014

SAGO WILDEN SAGO.....MUOMBAJI/WAOMBAJI

DHIDI YA


RID MAJOR JOHN J. MKONO...MDAIWA/WADAIWA

WITO/KUTWA SHAURINI

RID MAJOR JOHN J. MKONO - POPOTE ULIPO/MLIPO

SAGO WILDEN SAGO amefunqua/wamefunqua shauri mbele ya Baraza la Ardhi na Nyumba lillopo Kinondoni (Mwananyamala). Shauri husika limepangwa kutajwa tarehe 12/10/2023 saa 3:00am Asubuhi/Mchana mbele ya Mh. J.W. SILLAS. Hivyo unamiriwa kuhudhuria mbele ya Baraza siku hiyo bila kukosa. Imetolewa na kutiwa Salini na Mhuri wa Baraza hii leo tarehe 18 Mwezi wa 09/2023.

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MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT  
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|------------------------------|--|---|------------------------|
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| DOMNIC MILLING GROUP LIMITED | Landed Property with Plant & Machinery in CT No 176972, LO No. 694494, Plot No 204 Block 'A' | Zagereni Industrial Area Kibaha Township        | 11/10/2023<br>10:00 AM |
| DOMNIC MILLING GROUP LIMITED | Landed Property with Plant & Machinery in CT No 16947-MBYLR, LO No. 295853 Plot No 3         | Mponela Village, Mbozi District, Songwe Region. | 16/10/2023<br>10:00 AM |
| DOMNIC MILLING GROUP LIMITED | CT No 53535, LO No. 175330 Plot No 91 Block E  | Meamvu Village, Morogoro Municipality           | 13/10/2023<br>10:00 AM |

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- Inspection of the property will be made on the day of auction.
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## BRI partnership is still alive, even with fresh orientations

SENIOR officials of organisations responsible for carrying out major projects earmarked in key cooperation agreements between China and various African countries, including Tanzania, have lately been reflecting on the ten years of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). This initiative is the hallmark of a policy drive by Chinese President Xi Jinping, since coming into office in 2013, placing China in the centre of globalisation as an actual project with visible, physical links. Despite that it is being remodeled, it has left an imprint, chiefly in Africa.

One such organisation is the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC), playing a crucial part in expanding economic links with Africa and elsewhere. A top official of that organisation made an update on BRI projects with an African journalists gathering in Beijing, in the presence of top Chinese diplomatic personnel involved in the training and exposure of the large batch of African journalists. Tanzanian projects came out quite significantly as without any doubt at all, our relations with China have all along been somewhat special.

A clear message and indeed theme of that address was intent of the Chinese government agencies to accomplish on-going projects for railway, bridges, water supply and drainage work, as scheduled. While the official was somewhat limited in his exposition of those projects, a slight look into other data shows the wider context of cooperation, as the ten year old initiative has helped to accelerate cooperation in railways, roads, ports, real estate and communications development. It is in the latter aspect that the role of Chinese firms has been crucial, as Huawei and ZTE have established more than 40 third-generation telecom networks in more than 30 African countries. It isn't

ready to replace that projection by haphazard commercial operations without strategic accords.

In that context, the fact that Sino-African relations are moving more deftly in the direction of private enterprises taking up opportunities in the various countries, there is no doubt that they are partly laying eggs on a nest created by BRI projects. Transportation and communications in Africa are not what they were ten years ago, which is in considerable measure credited to the BRI era, for instance the two being at the centre of building national fiber-optic networks and e-government facilities for more than 20 African countries. A huge input.

Merely reading out the designation of those involved at the exposure briefing enables one to catch a glimpse of the changes taking place. For instance a keynote presentation was made by Wen Kai, the CCECC enterprise culture department manager. This designation suggests that capacity building is afoot in major development cooperation entities to grapple with market ways, fruitfully.

Two projects that were given significant mention, apart from others, include the Kigongo-Busisi Bridge, while the Tanzania-Zambia Railway (TAZARA) still earns respect in Chinese civil engineering and diplomatic memories as a major feat of cooperation. During the mid-1960s it was a gesture of solidarity against perceived adversaries supporting minority rule in Southern Africa, while the fibre optic project, a softer version of the thousand miles railway, paves the way for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). This latter orientation was a result of dreams of African unity in part, but also the needs of diverse trade partners whether with China or with the West, for a borderless trade zone.

## Ending initiation rites causing girls to drop out: It can be done

WHEN President Samia Suluhu Hassan makes regional tours on various occasions, often she had to address specific local problems apart from explaining wider policy action as it is seen from that particular area. The president has lately been in Mtwara Region where she picked up the issue of girls dropping out of school after being prepared psychologically by traditional ceremonies triggering child marriages and pregnancies. Quite apart from dormitory space shortage for secondary school goers; it isn't the big issue.

As the president explained when addressing residents in Masasi at the end of a four day working tour, a section of parents prioritise sending their young girls to traditional ceremonies instead of focusing on school. The problem is massive during harvests as families are eager to receive bride price, much as this differs from one region to another. The southern regions don't give out girls for the dowry firstly but really to avoid children being born in a non-accountable way.

In that sense the problem lies with the realization that as initiation rites are by and large unavoidable in the context of local culture, what follows is marriage as in default, child pregnancies arise. As marriage law is tripartite in this country, those ceremonies prepare girls for marriage on condition that they are finished with school. This has touched off a variety of reactions, including scribbling balderdash and insults so that a pupil is on no account selected for secondary school, as in large measure this phase rivals with traditional roles.

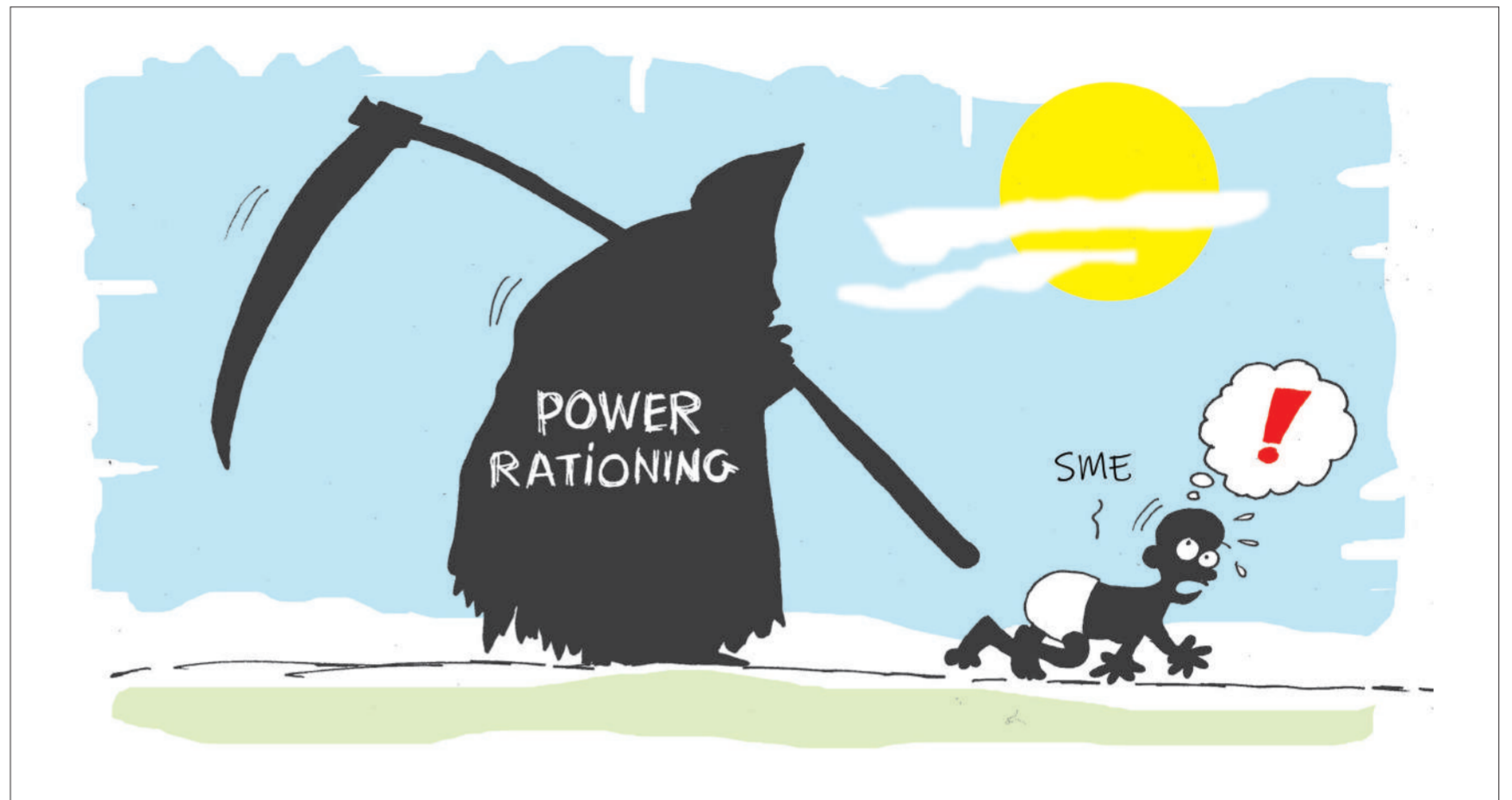
There is some kind of parallel between those initiation ceremonies and the once rife annual rite of

removals of genital parts of girls, fought with zest first by non-governmental organisations and then this was codified into law. One method to end this practice that NGOs used was to seek out the elderly women charged with the work, to provide with seed capital to start doing something else instead.

It is a matter of conjecture how behavioural shift can be extracted among southern regions' elders, to skip these rites and organise a different kind of festival, for instance focusing on traditional games, storytelling, athletics, etc.

Meanwhile it is altogether likely that occasions of this sort could still be used to create talking groups of various sorts, even hushed in houses of specific individuals with core participation, even if not as freely as before. That means the problem of early marriages and dropping out of school may not end in one fell swoop, so other adaptation methods are needed.

The most significant would be to spread out opportunities for community training on usable skills for young women put in the family way, as well as start-up capital to venture out. At times they simply resume studying as it is just psychological readiness that they need.



By Gabrielle Lynch

THE international reputation of the Kenyan judiciary is running high following a raft of judicial reforms brought on by the 2010 constitution. The reforms, displays of judicial independence, and largely positive personal experiences might lead one to expect that public trust in the courts has increased. But among the Kenyan public it has not.

High-profile Supreme Court judgments have showcased a newfound judicial independence. The most notable include the nullification of a presidential result in 2017, the rejection of government efforts to force through constitutional changes in 2021.

Personal experience of the courts is also largely positive. In March 2023 I commissioned Trends and Insights For Africa, a market research company based in Nairobi, to add questions on the Kenyan judiciary to a nationally representative face-to-face survey. It revealed that 18.7 per cent of respondents reported having been involved in a case in a Kenyan court room. Of these, 43.4 per cent rated the experience as very positive, 25.1 per cent as quite positive. Neutral responses made up 11.9 per cent; 6.3 per cent were quite negative; and 11.9 per cent were very negative. Of the overall sample, 12.8 per cent had a positive personal experience of the courts, and only 3.4 per cent a negative one.

Public perceptions of the Kenyan judiciary have been tracked for nearly 20 years. According to 2021 data from the independent research network Afrobarometer, 16.9 per cent of Kenyans had no trust in this key institution, up from 11.4 per cent in 2003. The only time that public trust was clearly lower was in 2008. This followed the 2007 election and post-election crisis, which drew attention to a perceived lack of judicial independence.

More worryingly still, a majority of respondents in my March 2023 poll thought that Supreme Court judges were very often or sometimes bribed (58.1 per cent) or intimidated (59.4 per cent) to give a verdict unsupported by the evidence. There was hardly any distinction between public perceptions of the Supreme Court, High Court and magistrates.

This confidence crisis is a problem because people need to believe the judiciary is acting independently if it is to play its role. For example, the fact that the Kenyan opposition did not trust the courts in 2007 led them to protest about the election on the streets, rather than bring a petition. It sparked the country's worst crisis.

I am a political scientist who has studied Kenya for 20 years. My current research focuses on the critical role of the judiciary, which is relatively understudied.

## What shapes perceptions

It's important to try to understand

## Kenyans don't trust the courts: Major factors behind this trend



the confidence crisis.

Despite reforms there are still regular reports of judicial bias and corruption. There are also interactions that suggest a "cosy relationship" between the judiciary and the political elite. This casts a shadow over the whole judiciary.

Public perception reports must also be considered in context. The year 2003 was a time of great optimism in Kenya. It followed the landslide victory of Mwai Kibaki over the party that had ruled the country since independence. Kenyans were the most optimistic citizens in the world at the end of 2002. Public confidence in other key institutions - including the president, parliament, electoral commission, police, and army - was higher in 2003 than any subsequent round of the Afrobarometer.

Optimism soon turned to pessimism and finally deadly violence following the disputed election of 2007. A new constitution in 2010 failed to provide "quick fixes". Governance and socio-economic problems persist.

Scholars and the international observers have high regard for the Supreme Court's 2017 presidential petition ruling and subsequent bold decisions. But public opinion in Kenya is divided. My March 2023 poll asked people whether there was a Supreme Court case that they disagreed with. Ordinary citizens cited exactly those cases that have been internationally lauded: 47.4 per cent referred to the gay rights of association case (freshly concluded in February 2023); 21.2

per cent cited the 2022 presidential petition, 8.6 per cent the 2017 petition, and 5 per cent the 2013 petition.

People's views on these cases differ depending on their own views and interests, the opinion leaders they listen to, and their expectations of how a court should behave.

For example, of the 26.3 per cent of respondents who said they were dissatisfied with the way the Supreme Court handled the 2022 presidential petition, 43.8 per cent said one of the reasons was that the decision was not based on evidence or was biased; 11.3 per cent cited outside interference or coercion and 32.8 per cent bribery. And 18.2% said that they were annoyed because the court didn't nullify the election.

However, 24 per cent said that they were dissatisfied because the court was rushed or had insufficient time and 10 per cent because the ruling used rude or dismissive language. Those who cited time issues or language as one of the reasons for their dissatisfaction were a minority but they remind us of how public perceptions are informed not only by the substance of rulings, but by how judges behave.

It also means that acts that have attracted public criticism - such as the chief justice and deputy chief justice lining up alongside politicians to welcome President William Ruto to the opening of parliament in September 2022 - have helped to reinforce popular perceptions of a judiciary that is biased or liable to being bribed or intimidated.

## The role of the media

High profile and highly divisive cases, such as presidential petitions, receive much traditional media coverage of the proceedings and associated allegations of injustice. This coverage places the Supreme Court in an almost impossible situation, earning the public ire of either the opposition (for example, the 2022 petition).

At the same time, an increasing number of Kenyans gain their political news from social media either directly or indirectly by sharing online stories offline. Traditional media are relatively careful about what they say about ongoing cases or judges - lest they be held in contempt of court or be sued for libel. Discussions on social media are not as regulated. It has become commonplace for opinion leaders to publicly attack the judiciary.

The allegations range from those likely to have some basis to misinformation. Views in 2023 are likely coloured by the failure of reforms to bring significant socio-economic change, and by a cost-of-living crisis. In this situation, negative information is more likely to resonate.

This interplay of factors helps to explain why public trust in the courts is lower than in 2003 after years of reform and investment, improved judicial independence and largely positive personal experiences.

Gabrielle Lynch, the writer of this article, is Professor of Comparative Politics at the University of Warwick.



# Inside South Africa's Operation Dudula: 'Why we hate foreigners'

**S**OUTH African anti-migrant group Operation Dudula has become notorious for raiding businesses belonging to foreign nationals and forcing shops to close. BBC Africa Eye has gained rare access to members of the country's most-prominent anti-migrant street movement.

**Short presentational grey line**  
In a school kitchen in Kwa Thema, a township east of Johannesburg, Dimakatso Makoena is busy making sandwiches. The 57-year-old single parent of three has been a cook there for more than 10 years.

"To tell you the truth, I hate foreigners. How I wish they could just pack and go and leave our country," she says, fighting back tears.

It is hard to understand the strength of this hate until Ms Makoena pulls out her phone to show a picture of her son. Emaciated with a glazed look in his eyes, angry burn scars spread over his body, up his arms and across his face.

"He started smoking drugs when he was 14 years old," she says, explaining how her son often goes out to steal things to feed his habit. One day he had tried to take some power cables to sell when he got electrocuted and burned.

Her son uses crystal meth and nyaope, a highly addictive street drug that has devastated communities across South Africa. It is not until she blames foreigners for selling the drugs that her reasoning and support for Operation Dudula becomes clear.

"Dudula, that's the only thing that keeps me going," she tells the BBC.

Operation Dudula was set-up in Soweto two years ago, the first group to formalise what had been sporadic waves of xenophobia-fuelled vigilante attacks in South Africa that date back to shortly after white-minority rule ended in 1994. It calls itself a civic movement, running on an anti-migrant platform, with the word "dudula" meaning "to force out" in Zulu.

Soweto was at the forefront of anti-apartheid resistance and home to Nelson Mandela, South Africa's first democratically elected president. Now, the township has become the home of the country's most-prominent anti-migrant group.

With one in three South Africans out of work in one of the most unequal societies in the world, foreigners in general have become an easy target.

But the number of migrants living in South Africa has been grossly exaggerated. According to a 2022 report by the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), an independent research organisation based in the capital, Pretoria, there are about 3.95 million migrants in South Africa, making up 6.5% of the population, a figure in line with international norms. This number includes all immigrants, irrespective of legal status or where they come from.

The xenophobic rhetoric used by some public officials, politicians and anti-migrant groups has helped fuel the myth that the country is overrun with migrants. The South African Social Attitudes Survey for 2021 found that almost half of the population of 60 million people believed there were between 17 and 40 million immigrants



in the country.

Current polling suggests support for the governing African National Congress (ANC), the party once led by Mr Mandela, could fall below 50% for the first time.

Operation Dudula has ambitions to fill that vacuum and has now transformed itself from a local anti-migrant group into a national political party, stating its aims to contest next year's general election.

Zandile Dabula, who was voted in as president of Operation Dudula in June 2023, is calm, charismatic and emphatic about the group's message: "foreigners" are the root cause of South Africa's economic hardship.

When it is put to her that this campaign is based solely on hate, she tells the BBC: "We must be realistic here that most of the problems that we have are caused by the influx of foreign nationals."

"Our country is a mess. Foreign nationals are working on a 20-year plan of taking over South Africa."

When challenged on the veracity of this 20-year plan, she admits it was a rumour but says she believes it is true. "You see drugs everywhere and most of the drug addicts are South African rather than foreign nationals. So, what's happening? Are they feeding our own brothers and sisters so that it can be easy for them to take over?" she says.

Yet the anger meted out to migrants can be on those who are in the country legally and working in legal occupations. A Nigerian market trader, who was the target of a raid by Operation Dudula members in Johannesburg earlier in the year, tells the BBC that the two women who tasered him and destroyed his clothes by throwing them in the gutter did not stop to ask questions.

As they shot he says they swore at him, saying: "You must go to Nigeria... We are Dudula, we are South African."

With no stock, he is now sleeping on the streets: "I vote in this country. I am a citizen here. I've never seen a country treating people like this. If I'm doing something illegal, fine. Deport me. But I'm not doing anything illegal. Now you make my life miserable, I can't pay my rent. I want to go, it's too much."

Operation Dudula maintains it is concern over the huge influx of drugs into South Africa's most deprived communities that is their most pressing complaint, but there is no data to back up the claim that people who sell drugs are not South African citizens.

Comparative statistics are not available for drug crimes, though the ISS report quotes the justice minister as saying that immigrants made up 8.5% of all convicted cases in 2019 and 7.1% in 2020. The ISS adds that 2.3% of inmates incarcerated each year are undocumented foreigners.

In Diepkloof, in eastern Soweto, the BBC joins a so-called Dudula taskforce. Men in trucks are going to confront a Mozambican shopkeeper who a South African landlady alleges has not paid his rent.

It is supposed to be a negotiation but quickly descends into a confrontation where one of the men, Mandla Lenkosi, threatens to beat him up. When the BBC asks them about their thuggish behaviour, they maintain they are enforcing the law.

Mr Lenkosi, also from Soweto and out of work, takes part in raids on migrant homes and workplaces, people who are suspected of anything from drug dealing to remaining in the country past their visa date.

"We grew up in apartheid times, where things were much better than what it is now," he says, pointing to the drug problems. "The law was the law [then]."

His fellow Dudula supporter, Cedric Stone, agrees: "South Africa needs to go back to the old South Africa that

we know.

"Our fathers started the tuck shops but today all those tuck shops are all foreigners, especially, Bangladeshis, Somali and Ethiopians. Why?"

President Cyril Ramaphosa has spoken out against anti-migrant protests, and condemned vigilante groups for harassing and attacking migrants. He has likened their behaviour to strategies adopted by the apartheid regime to oppress black communities.

In 2019 he launched the National Action Plan to combat racism and xenophobia, yet campaigners want the government to do more.

Annie Michaels, an activist from the Johannesburg Migrants Advisory Panel, says South Africans are blaming the wrong people for their ills and should in fact admire migrants for their survival skills.

"Stop sitting and complaining and dying in that corner and waiting for the government that is failing you on a daily basis," she tells the BBC.

"The migrants... are the poorest of the poor. They would rather go to them and rattle them, instead of rattling the cages of the guys living in the glass houses."

For her part, Ms Dabula says critics of Operation Dudula who maintain it is a collective of violent vigilantes are wrong.

"We don't promote violence and we don't want people to feel harassed," but adds: "We cannot be overtaken by foreign nationals and do nothing about it."

Hundreds of supporters travelled to attend its first national conference in Johannesburg in May, where members voted to register the group as a political party.

Waving South African flags, dancing and singing their way through the streets to the City Hall, it feels like a celebration.

However, the songs they are singing carry a threatening message: "Burn the foreigner. We will go to the garage, buy some petrol and burn the foreigner."

The military clothing harks back to South Africa's liberation struggle. It all communicates a readiness for battle.

Ms Makoena is also there, smiling and dressed in her party T-shirt. "Operation Dudula is going to make history today," she says.

On stage, Isaac Lesole, Operation Dudula's technical adviser, has a question for the cheering supporters: "Do we make peace with illegal foreigners?"

"No," the audience shout back in unison.

According to South African law, registering a party does not mean it will automatically qualify to contest an election - it has hoops to go through.

Operation Dudula does not have a manifesto or any policy other than its stance on foreigners, though Ms Dabula maintains it has a presence in every province except Northern Cape.

Supporters of the new party who spoke to the BBC appear to genuinely want things to be fixed in their communities. They reflect a change of mood in South Africa's political landscape with people fed up with the status quo.

However, a toxic mix of poverty, drugs and fear has resulted in a blame game where migrants have become the scapegoats.

# 'The nightmare is over': Americans freed by Iran in prisoner swap

By Lyse Doucet

**F**IVE Americans jailed for years in Iran and widely regarded as hostages are on their way home to the United States.

The last pieces in a controversial swap mediated by Qatar fell into place when \$6bn (£4.8bn) of Iranian funds held in South Korea reached banks in Doha.

It triggered the next step - to allow the four American men and one woman in Tehran, who are also Iranian citizens, to board a flight to Qatar's capital.

They will be met by senior US officials and then flown to Washington.

The Americans are reported to include 51-year-old businessman Siamak Namazi, who has spent nearly eight years in Tehran's notorious Evin prison, as well as businessman Emad Shargi, 59, and environmentalist Morad Tahbaz, 67, who also holds British nationality.

The US has said its citizens were imprisoned on baseless charges for use as political leverage.

In the first indication a deal was reached, they were moved in mid-August from Evin to a safe house in Tehran.

Five Iranians imprisoned in US jails, mainly on charges of violating US sanctions, are also being granted clemency as part of this swap. Not all of them are expected to return to Iran.

They have been named by Iran as Reza Sarhangpour, Kambiz Attar Kashani, Kaveh Lotfolah Afrasiabi, Mehrdad Moein Ansari and Amin Hasanzadeh.

Who are the dual nationals jailed in Iran? "The Americans' nightmare is finally over. The solitary confinement, the not knowing, the lost days, the incredibly difficult disruption to the rhythm of life," reflected Iranian-born Professor Mehran Kamrava, who now teaches at Georgetown University in Qatar.

The deal comes after months of indirect talks mediated by Qatar, which began in February last year.

A source briefed on the negotiations say there were at least nine rounds of difficult

discussions in Doha, with the American and Iranian delegations staying in separate hotels. Senior Qatari officials also shuttled between Tehran and Washington.

"I think there's a little bit of a win for both sides," Prof Kamrava told the BBC in Doha. "For [US President Joe] Biden, heading into the election, he's bringing Americans home and for Iran, there's the release of Iranians in prison in the United States, but it's that six billion [dollars] that's a big win."

Iranian officials have repeatedly declared they will spend their money as they wish. But sources involved in this process insist these funds will be strictly controlled.

"No funds will go into Iran," they emphasised. "Only humanitarian transactions, including food, medicine, agriculture, paid to third party vendors, transaction by transaction."

Sources told the BBC this money was not part of Iranian assets frozen by sanctions. The money in South Korea, revenue from Iranian oil sales, had been available to Tehran for bilateral and non-sanctioned aid, but was not spent for various reasons including difficulties of currency conversion.

Leading US Republicans have denounced the deal as a ransom payment and sanctions relief. The Republican chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Michael McCaul, castigated the US government for transferring funds to "the world's top state sponsor of terrorism".

The enormous relief that some prisoners are finally coming home is tempered by the knowledge that more may be seized in future. There are still other dual nationals behind bars in Tehran.

"The Iranian government has become a hostage-taking government," explains Sanam Vakil, director of the Middle East and North Africa programme at Chatham House, a London-based think tank. "They have been using people as pawns, and that's part of their leverage against the West."

Qatar is hoping this rare moment of co-operation will help to catalyse progress on other long-standing disagreements and



(Left to right) Siamak Namazi, Morad Tahbaz and Emad Shargi are to be freed from prison under the deal

disputes, including the 2015 nuclear deal regarded as all but dead after the then-US president, Donald Trump, pulled out of it five years ago. Others remain sceptical.

"There is no deal or even serious talks, even though the Iranians claim they want to begin a serious diplomatic process," insists a Western official familiar with this file with barely concealed frustration. "They have taken some steps, but we have told them, through the Omanis, what they should do to set conditions for diplomacy to have a chance."

On the nuclear front, sources say Iran appears to have slowed its production of 60%-enriched uranium - a step back from weap-

ons-grade levels of 90%, but higher than the limits agreed in the 2015 accord.

But there's still deepening concern about Iran's lack of transparency on its nuclear ambitions.

On Sunday, the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Rafael Grossi, issued a statement strongly condemning Iran's "disproportionate and unprecedented" withdrawal of most IAEA inspectors. The move, while formally permitted under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), was called "another step in the wrong direction".

Last week in Vienna, 63 countries also co-signed a statement condemning Iran's lack of co-operation

with the NPT Safeguards Agreement.

"Nobody should have any illusion this deal will positively transform the US-Iran relationship," underlines Karim Sadjadpour, a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a Washington-based think tank.

"As long as Khamenei rules Iran, the Islamic Republic will continue to maintain strategic enmity with the United States," he says in a reference to Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. "It serves his interest to have an external adversary and it's part of the regime's identity."

President Biden has long been urged to bring the Americans home. Earlier this year, Siamak

Namazi wrote to him from prison, imploring him to do more to honour the promise of the former Obama administration to bring him "safely home within weeks". He described himself as having the "unenviable title of the longest held Iranian-American hostage in history".

He was arrested during a 2015 business trip to Tehran and convicted of co-operating with a hostile government - in other words, the United States. His father Baquer was also detained and convicted on the same charge when he went to Tehran to try to secure his release. But he was freed last October, ostensibly on medical grounds. The US said they were both unjustly detained.

Morad Tahbaz and his family were also left feeling angry and abandoned after receiving assurances from the British government that he would return to Britain last year along with two other British-Iranians who were detained arbitrarily, Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe and Anoosheh Ashoori.

This swap comes at a time when Iran is under mounting pressure from the crippling impact of international sanctions, and a year of unprecedented protests sparked by the death in custody of Mahsa Amini, after she was detained by Iran's morality police.



**Nobody should have any illusion this deal will positively transform the US-Iran relationship," underlines Karim Sadjadpour, a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a Washington-based think tank**

# The case for Afghan women and girls: How international criminal court investigation could expand human rights

UNITED NATIONS

**T**WO years have passed since the Taliban re-assumed power in Afghanistan, and women and girls have yet to return to work or school. Can the international justice system now come to their defense? Experts say a case for Afghan women and girls has the potential to change the way the legal community thinks about human rights abuses. Will it?

### Crimes Against Humanity

Gordon Brown, the United Nations special envoy for global education, says Taliban leaders should be prosecuted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for denying Afghan women and girls education and employment.

"Afghan girls and Afghan women ... have been fighting the most egregious, vicious, and indefensible violation of women's rights and girl's rights in the world today," Brown told journalists in August.

Such acts constitute crimes against humanity if they meet the ICC's definitions set forth in Article 7 of the Rome Statute. The acts must be part of a "widespread or systematic civilian attack directed against any civilian population." The charges must also be brought against an individual or group of individuals, like Taliban authorities, who had knowledge of and perpetrated the crimes. The Taliban's policies that specifically target all women and girls provide clear evidence of all these elements, a Human Rights Watch (HRW) report has found.

According to HRW, Taliban authorities are specifically responsible for gender persecution. This persecution has been imposed through spoken and written decrees that have restricted women's and girls' movement, expression, employment, and education.

Persecution must also occur in connection with another recognized crime against humanity to be considered by the ICC. HRW's report cites instances of women who protested discriminatory policies being detained for up to 40 days without communication as evidence of the crime of "imprisonment."

David Cohen, Director of the Center for Human Rights at Stanford University, adds that the severe restriction of women's movement might be seen as "imprisonment" itself.

"A creative argument would be that Taliban increasingly confining women to their homes and preventing their free movement... is a severe deprivation of physical liberty," Cohen said.

Another type of crime is described as "inhumane acts" that cause "great suffering."

HRW explains that cutting off women and girls from their livelihoods and opportunities for the future has had a "devastating impact on the mental health of many women and girls" would also qualify.

### Expanding Notions of Human Rights Law

Under these grounds for investigation, an ICC case for Afghan women and girls could have broader implications.

For one, the case presents an opportunity for the court to move beyond looking at individualized actions and begin looking at broader policies, Tayyiba Bajwa, a clinical supervising attorney in the International Human Rights Law Clinic at the University of California, Berkeley, explains.

"A crime of persecution is a particularly important crime within the ICC's mandate because it really speaks to systemic discrimination," HRW's International Justice Director Elizabeth Evenson said. "We're talking about actions that are designed to deprive individuals of fundamental rights - in this case by virtue of their gender identity - and so, in a way, it really gets at the worst kinds of discrimination."

It could also set more precedent for the future. Most ICC cases in the past have focused on crimes like torture, disappearances, and extrajudicial killings. A 2018 case involving forced marriage and sexual violence in Mali was the first in which an ICC prosecutor charged the crime of gender persecution.

However, prosecuting more cases of gender persecution is a priority for ICC Chief Prosecutor Karim Khan, Evenson notes. Khan's office has released multiple



Flashback to a time when women and girls were able to attend school. UNICEF supported Zarghuna Girls School with educational supplies, teachers' training, and assists in repairing the infrastructure. Credit: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

publications on gender-based crimes in the past year, including a policy on the crime of gender persecution.

Kelli Muddell, the director of the gender justice program at the International Center for Transitional Justice, suggests that investigating incidents of gender persecution can help the international community consider new aspects of the law.

"I think the sort of innovative and maybe provocative thing about this case, if it were to go forward, is that it really centers around this expanding of crimes against humanity to look at social, political and economic and civil rights," Muddell said.

Bajwa also recognized that ICC investigations can be leveraged to impose broader sanctions or restrictions. However, she expressed concern that focusing on the prosecution of Taliban leaders as a means of delivering justice may ignore the responsibility of other powerful actors, especially those in the Global North.

"One of the other real concerns I have about this is that prosecuting an individual from within the Taliban, in isolation, to me, ignores the long history and responsibility of Western countries for how and why the Taliban are in government in the first place," Bajwa said. "If the ICC is truly to have legitimacy, it needs to stop being so myopic."

Bajwa encouraged the public in influential countries to put pressure on their governments to take tangible actions, like working to make it impossible for Taliban officials to travel.

This is not the first time an ICC case involving Af-

ghanistan has been considered. In 2021, Khan resumed an investigation of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by both the Taliban and United States armed forces. Bajwa said she thinks any potential case on behalf of Afghan women and girls would be an expansion of the preexisting investigation, which doesn't have an end date.

Still, Cohen says the chances of a case going to trial are "slim." Even if there was a successful investigation, Taliban authorities would have to respond to an arrest warrant and sit for trial. The ICC prohibits trials in absentia.

Regardless, the symbolic value of an investigation alone may be significant enough, especially for victims seeking justice. Many experts agree that even without a conviction, the discussion facilitated by the global spotlight of the ICC can be a useful advocacy tool.

### Beyond the ICC

The education envoy also addressed other ways international institutions have tried to support Afghan women and girls beyond the ICC.

There are workarounds to the education bans, like online learning and underground schools. However, these alternatives are another burden on a budget already spread thin. According to Brown, women and girls in Afghanistan fight for their rights while also facing extreme poverty.

Only 23 percent of the required funds for Afghanistan's humanitarian response plan have been received,

with 50 million people failing to receive the aid they need. As more girls flee to neighboring countries like Pakistan, even more funding will be needed to support refugees.

At the same time, Brown has called on individual governments to sanction the Taliban. UN education aid has been suspended until schools are reopened for girls.

Brown said he believed there was a split in the Taliban regime, with some important voices, especially in the Ministry of Education, still in favor of education for all. He encouraged the leaders of Muslim-majority countries to use their position to persuade Taliban leaders to remove bans on girls' education and women's employment, which he said "has no basis in the Quran or the Islamic religion."

International bodies continue to monitor human abuses under other UN treaties ratified by Afghanistan, like the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Women.

"We know that if we allow oppression to go unchallenged in Afghanistan, it could spread to other countries," Brown warned.

Still, he spoke about the importance of seeing the resilience of Afghan women and girls as a sign of encouragement: "They can close down the schools girls go to, but they cannot close down their minds."

IPS UN Bureau Report

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

| MONDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME  | TUESDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME   | WEDNESDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME   | THURSDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME   | FRIDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME  | SATURDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME   | SUNDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME   |
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

# NIT embarks on special drive to produce more female engineers

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Institute of Transport (NIT) has set strategies to continue supporting the government's initiatives towards producing more female engineers. Dr Prosper Mgaya, NIT Deputy Rector (Academic, Research and Consultancy) unveiled in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the just-ended 20th Annual Engineers Day that was organised by the Engineers Registration Board (ERB).

Dr Mgaya said the institute will continue to support the government initiatives to produce more female engineers, stressing their numbers are set to increase in a few years.

The NIT statement came after Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa directed universities and colleges to produce more female engineers.

The Premier said the government through the Ministry of Works will set out experimental projects for women engineers who have established construction companies to demonstrate their competence, saying the move is a gateway to job creations.

He said that NIT with the support from World Bank's East Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP), the institute has established the Transport Excellence Scholarship (TES) programme intending to increase access and enrolment of Tanzanian female students in a niche to produce more women engineers especially in the aviation industry.

"We have established the Transport Excellence Scholarship to support female students who want to pursue aircraft engineering programmes, we understand that the nation has a limited number of female engineers in the area of aviation, hence the need to increase their number," he remarked.

Dr Mgaya added: "We have placed academic and financial position as basic criteria for awarding the scholarship. We will give priority to girls from poor families. The scholarship will cover all direct costs for students pursuing Diploma and Bachelor's Degree programmes as stipulated in the institute's fee structure."

The scholarship will also cover research costs and books for Tanzanian students pursuing Master's degree programmes, citing some criteria for students to get scholarships as the applicant's outstanding academic achievement, leadership potential, financial need, applicant's career goals, motivation, and integrity.

Dr Mgaya said that in ensuring more females study science subjects, the institute visited secondary schools in Mtwara and Lindi regions to sensitize female students in the area to study science.

He noted that the institute introduced the female scholarship programme to the girls whereas upon completion of their studies they are willing to join long-term and short-term professional courses in aviation, logistics, management, and other allied sciences.

Some female engineers who pursued their engineering programmes at NIT urged universities and colleges in the country to give priorities to women when enrolling students.

Subira Mwakoyoma, a former student from NIT who is now working with Air



NIT Deputy Rector (Academic, Research and Consultancy), Dr Prosper Mgaya (4th L) in a group photo with outgoing NIT staff and engineering students at the 20th Annual Engineers Day celebrations organised by the Engineers Registration Board.

Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) as an aircraft engineer said: "NIT should continue to give priority to women when enrolling students for aviation engineering courses."

She added: "Enrolling more students in aviation engineering will impart knowledge to female students hence dispelling the notion that the profession is for masculine."

She pointed out that the aviation engineering course that she took at NIT made it easy for her to join ATCL.

She said the programme has also enhanced her skills as well as connecting her with a number of professionals in the industry.

Another NIT alumnus, Juma Hamis said: "We need to show that engineering is an accessible and exciting career by prioritizing girls when enrolling students."

He noted: "We need to be talking to kids in primary school about what engineering is and what engineers do, particularly to girls. Girls can make up

to half of the population of engineers in the country."

Eng Gerwarda Migh, NIT tutorial assistant in transport engineering said: "We are encouraging more girls to study engineering courses at our institute; since the programmes are not only for men as many think."

NIT is a public higher learning institution established in 1975 as a training wing of the then National Transport Corporation (NTC).

Its responsibilities include strength-

ening human resource capabilities of transport operatives and middle level managers of subsidiary companies of NTC. The subsidiary companies are the National Bus Services Limited (KAMATA), Usafiri Dar as Salaam Limited (UDA), Regional Transport Companies (RETCOs).

It is the only training Institute in sub-Saharan Africa with the exception of South Africa that offers training in transport and communications.

# Tanzania vows to achieve generation equality by enhancing women's access to economy

By Carlos Banda

TANZANIA has expressed its commitment towards achieving generation equality through empowering women's access to economic empowerment, access to economic justice & rights and addressing gender-based violence (GBV).

Dr Doroth Gwajima, Minister

for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups made the government's commitment when speaking ahead of the Generation Equality Forum Midpoint Conference in New York, US.

In her statement, Dr Gwajima stated that at the global level, statistics show that the total of women is 3.99 bil-

lion, where Tanzania has a total of 31.67 million according to the 2022 housing and population census, her ministry is solely responsible for dealing with issues concerning women who are considered as a special group.

She said that the government recognizes and takes care of women through placing efforts

to address the challenges they face, noting that President Samia Suluhu Hassan is also the Champion for Equal Economic Rights in the implementation of the Generation Equality with the goal to ensure equality among women and men in the economic issues for the well being of the family and the nation as a whole.

"The creation of the Tanzania Generation Equality Program (TGEP) implemented by the Sectoral Ministries for a period of 5 years from July 2021/22 to June 2025/26 with an effective strategy aimed at bringing changes in the quality of life of Tanzanian women and girls by strengthening justice and Economic Equality without leaving men and

boys behind by building awareness so that they can participate in the nation's development. She also highlighted that in implementing efforts for generation equality, the appointment of officers from council levels, regional secretariats and ministries responsible for managing the execution of justice and economic equality in their areas.

Dr Gwajima also called on stakeholders and the media to support the government to unearth violation of rights against women and girls so that justice can prevail, including advancing efforts to combat gender-based violence and empowering women to become economically capable to take care of their families.

# Fisheries sector gears up for change with the launch of Kilwa fishing port

By Guardian Reporter

SIGNALING a bright new dawn for Tanzania's economy and a significant boost to the nation's fisheries sector, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has initiated a colossal project that seeks to usher in a new era of prosperity and employment.

Today President Samia is poised to set a significant milestone, heralding a fresh chapter in the fisheries sector with the groundbreaking ceremony for the Kilwa Masoko Fishing Port, remarked Abdalla Ulega, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries remarked in a statement yesterday.

Central to this historic project is the establishment of a state-of-the-art fishing port at Kilwa Masoko, a venture predicted to reinvigorate the Tanzanian fisheries sector, paving the way for unprecedented growth and technological advancements. Minister Ulega asserted that the initiative stands as a beacon of hope and opportunity, potentially generating over 30,000 jobs for the locals, thereby integrating new skills, technologies, and expertise within the community. The Minister emphasized the critical role that the sector plays, supporting over 5 million individuals in varying capacities such as fishermen, boat repairers, and net sewers, amongst others.

"We stand at the cusp of a significant shift in our nation's trajectory," Ulega proclaimed, highlighting the government's ambitious goals to catapult the fisheries sector's contribution to the national GDP from a mere 1.8% to a staggering 10% by 2036.

Backing these lofty ambitions is a substantial budget increment for the fiscal year 2023-2024, with the Ministry receiving a hefty 295bn/-, a notable jump from the previous allocation of 176bn/-. This boost reflects President Samia's unyielding resolve to foster sustained growth in crucial sectors such as fisheries and livestock, fostering socio-economic development for all



Tanzanians.

Enhancing the industry's infrastructure, the initiative also heralds the arrival of modern fish-

ing vessels equipped with state-of-the-art GPS and Fishfinder technology, aiding fishermen in locating prosperous fishing zones. These boats,

varying in size from 5 to 14 meters, boast a substantial storage capacity of up to 1.5 tons, optimizing the fishing process and poten-

tially boosting yields.

In a move championing gender inclusivity, the initiative encompasses provisions catering to women, particularly those involved in seaweed farming. These women will receive 5-meter boats to facilitate and enhance their farming practices.

Minister Ulega stressed the transparent approach of the initiative, noting that public announcements would delineate the criteria for stakeholders' participation, with verification at the village and council levels to ascertain genuine beneficiaries.

He underscored President Samia's commitment to not only bolstering infrastructure but fostering holistic socio-economic development for the Tanzanian populace, with a particular focus on coastal communities heavily reliant on the fisheries sector. He elucidated: "We are committed to unlocking the immense potential of both capture fisheries and aquaculture, envisioning them as pillars sustaining our economic growth, and ensuring employment, wealth, and food security for our citizens."

The minister referred to the Tanzanian Fisheries Sector Master Plan (2021/22-2036/37) as a strategic roadmap designed to spur economic resurgence through sustainable exploitation of the country's marine resources.

The master plan delineates ambitious objectives, including a significant boost in fish production to 1 million tonnes by 2037, enhancing the role of aquaculture, and reducing post-harvest losses.

The blueprint foresees a vibrant sector, promising not only economic gains but also a socio-economic renaissance, envisaging the creation of 1 million new job opportunities, marking a promising future for the Tanzanian fisheries sector.

# Ethiopia: A tumultuous year

By Ashenafi Endale



**T**HE conclusion of the Ethiopian calendar year 2015 (or 2023/24) marks a significant turning point for the nation. As the year began, Ethiopia faced the challenges of a two-year-long conflict in the northern region, pushing the country to its limits. However, amidst these difficulties, a notable shift took place, reshaping the nation's approach to the longstanding internal conflicts that had persisted since Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) came into power.

The government, known for its strong belief in "might makes right," took a surprising step by initiating dialogue with the members of the TPLF (Tigray People's Liberation Front), signaling a willingness to seek reconciliation. This unexpected move prompted observers to take note, as it defied expectations and demonstrated a potential for progress.

Advertisement -Members of Parliament, who had previously been staunch supporters of the government's military campaigns against the TPLF, calmly acknowledged the significance of the Pretoria agreement. The Parliament also took the step of removing the TPLF from the list of designated terrorist organizations, although it should be noted that 61 out of the 288 MPs expressed their objections during the voting session.

The government's decision to engage in negotiations with armed groups in different regional states also had a positive impact on the nation. The Pretoria agreement served as a catalyst for both the government and the TPLF to reassess their perspectives and adopt a more cooperative approach.

The Pretoria peace accord, inked in November 2022, offered a much-needed respite for a country grappling with deteriorating security, diplomatic challenges, a turbulent political environment, and a struggling economy. This agreement, although its full impact is yet to be realized, served as a lifeline for a nation that had already endured immense hardships.

Tragically, the toll of the war amounted to the loss of countless lives, with the economy suffering a substantial 27 percent decline in GDP due to the crippling damages inflicted. Moreover, the year shed light on a multitude of human rights abuses that had been hidden beneath the veil of the northern conflict, prompting the international community to demand accountability from both the government and armed groups involved.

Amidst the war-ravaged economic landscape, the country experienced the strain of dwindling foreign exchange reserves and an alarming inflation rate of 37 percent. The challenges of stagflation, high unemployment, budget deficits, migratory pressures, stalled capital budgets, and suspended international financial support further compounded the nation's difficulties.

While the Pretoria agreement brought a glimmer of hope for peace and stability, this newfound progress was disrupted by the eruption of fresh conflicts in Amhara, exacerbating the ongoing protracted conflict in the Oromia region.

As the nation stands at a critical juncture, contemplating its future and grappling with the choice between rejuvenating the nation-building process or facing potential disintegration, the government has implemented several measures in an attempt to address the challenges at hand.

One notable measure implemented by the government has been the dismantling of the regional special forces structure and introducing a survey report that sought to gauge the sentiments and opinions of the people regarding the ethnic provisions outlined in the constitution.

As the Ethiopian calendar year draws to a close, and the New Year approaches, The Reporter provides insights into the events and developments that have unfolded during this period, as a reminder of the challenges faced, the decisions made, and the potential turning points that have shaped the nation's trajectory.

## September 2022

Bill surfaces to open-up banking sector for foreign competition

In a noteworthy development, Ethiopia embarked on a transformative journey in September 2022 by introducing a bill aimed at liberalizing the banking sector and inviting foreign competition. Prime Minister Abiy's cabinet approved a new policy, charting a distinct path for the ruling Prosperity Party, which had previously upheld a protective stance under the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF).

The groundbreaking policy was swiftly followed by the introduction of the Banking Open-up Proclamation, outlining four modalities for foreign banks to enter the Ethiopian market. These modalities encompassed the establishment of subsidiary firms locally, the opening of branches, the creation of commercial representative offices, and the acquisition of stakes in local banks.

However, the draft proclamation set a prudent limit, allowing foreign bankers to acquire a maximum of 30 percent ownership in local banks, ensuring a balance between external expertise and the preservation of domestic control.

The policy's far-reaching objectives sought to enhance competitiveness and efficiency within the financial sector, ensuring a robust and diversified supply of financial resources while facilitating foreign currency availability.

While the potential benefits of their entry into the Ethiopian market, including improved access to finance, increased foreign exchange reserves, and the introduction of cutting-edge technology and corporate management practices, were widely acknowledged, the actual implementation by foreign banks remained a matter of observation and speculation.

## October 2022

Finance Minister's remark over M-Pesa license confuses central bank

In 2021, Safaricom made headlines when it secured a telecom license in Ethiopia. Following this achievement, Safaricom engaged in discussions with the Ethiopian government to explore the possibility of becoming the country's first foreign fintech operator. However, the progress of the licensing process

was faced with uncertainties, as the statements of Ethiopian government officials seemed contradictory.

On October 7, a significant announcement was made by Ahmed Shide, the Ethiopian Minister of Finance. During the launch ceremony of Safaricom Ethiopia at Friendship Square in Addis Ababa, the Minister declared that the Ethiopian government and Safaricom had reached a mutual agreement to grant Safaricom a license for mobile money services.

The announcement took place in the presence of esteemed guests, including Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, the recently elected Kenyan President William Ruto, Safaricom CEO Peter Ndegwa, and other prominent officials.

The impact of this news reverberated beyond the ceremonial stage. Safaricom's shares experienced a surge of over nine percent in Kenya's stock market, reflecting the market's positive response to the company's expansion into Ethiopia. Analysts also projected that the acquisition of the M-Pesa license would significantly expedite Safaricom Ethiopia's path to profitability, reducing the break-even period from the previously estimated five years to a more favorable two-year timeframe.

However, the Minister's announcement appeared to be slightly disconnected from the progress made by the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), the regulatory authority responsible for licensing mobile money operators.

The NBE needed to amend the existing National Payment System Proclamation, which had been in effect since 2011. Although the draft proclamation had been finalized by the central bank, it still awaited ratification by Parliament, despite receiving approval from the Council of Ministers.

Finally, in May 2023, the NBE granted the coveted Payment Instrument Issuer License to Safaricom M-PESA Mobile Financial Services Plc, two years after Safaricom initially obtained its telecom license, signaling a new era for mobile financial services in Ethiopia.

## November 2022

Federal gov't, Tigrayan forces reach peace accord

The last New Year holiday (Enkutatash) in Ethiopia, celebrated on September 11, 2022, was tinged with a mix of emotions as the country grappled with a devastating conflict in northern Ethiopia. Millions of

people remained displaced, and the atmosphere was somber. However, a glimmer of hope emerged as the warring parties finally agreed to engage in peace talks facilitated by the African Union (AU).

After ten days of intense negotiations held behind closed doors in South Africa, a significant breakthrough was made with the signing of the Pretoria agreement, exactly two years after the outbreak of the war in Tigray, which later spread to other regional states.

The Cessation of Hostility Agreement (CoHA) amounted to the gradual cessation of active military engagements in Tigray. The devastation caused by the two-year conflict resulted in the loss of countless lives, millions of internally displaced persons (IDPs), and a dire need for humanitarian assistance.

While some expressed criticism towards the international community for what they perceived as a delayed response, the signing of the CoHA brought a palpable sense of relief to the warring parties. It offered a respite from the horrors of the deadliest internal conflict in over a century.

## December 2022

Ethiopia loses second attempt to defund resources for UN rights experts

Ethiopia's draft resolution requesting the UN General Assembly's Fifth Committee to withhold resources for the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia (ICHREE) was defeated by a vote of 71 against and 32 in favor, with 50 member states abstaining. This marked the second unsuccessful attempt by Ethiopia to defund the UN rights experts appointed to investigate human rights abuses related to the conflict in Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian government had opposed the establishment of ICHREE and voted against UN funding for the commission, but were unsuccessful. The Commission proceeded to present its first report to the UN Human Rights Council in September 2022, outlining initial findings on the conflict in Tigray and Amhara regions.

According to the report, there were reasonable grounds to believe that a range of violations, including extrajudicial killings, rape, sexual violence, and the use of starvation as a method of warfare, had taken place in Ethiopia since November 3, 2020. The report also suggested that these violations potentially amounted to war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The report attributed grave human rights violations to various actors, including the Ethiopian National Defense Forces, Eritrean Defense Forces, Amhara region forces (including militias and the irregular armed group Fano), as well as the Tigrayan forces involved in the conflict.

The mandate of ICHREE is set to expire in December 2023. Human rights organizations continue to advocate for an extension of ICHREE's mandate. However, the Ethiopian government maintains that it has already initiated a domestic Transitional Justice initiative and considers ICHREE redundant. The government has also accused the ICHREE of being influenced by foreign powers and politicized.

Meanwhile, the US, EU, and international financial institutions remain steadfast in their position to withhold financing until the Ethiopian government allows the ICHREE to operate and ensures accountability for the two-year conflict in the northern part of the country, as well as addressing the ongoing human rights violations in parts of Oromia.

## January 2023

Budget squeeze lax expenditure and tax rush strain economy

In response to the financial strains caused by the northern Ethiopia war and the need to meet the growing budget demands, the Ethiopian government has initiated efforts to increase tax revenue. The government, determined to refill the state's coffers, introduced new legislation aimed at tapping into every sector of the economy.

Recently, the government revealed that a substantial USD 28 billion is required for the reconstruction of the war-torn economy.

While seeking USD 12 billion in support from international financial institutions, a significant portion of the funds is expected to be generated through domestic mobilization. Simultaneously, the government hopes to negotiate debt restructuring with foreign creditors.

To bridge the widening gap between a growing government spending and diminishing external sources of finance, comprehensive revisions are being made to various tax laws, including income tax, excise tax, and Value Added Tax (VAT). Behind closed doors, officials are diligently working to finalize these changes, aiming to broaden the tax base and bolster the

federal government's revenue stream.

However, these measures have placed a heavy burden on citizens already grappling with soaring inflation, unemployment, and a challenging business environment.

In addition to the tax reforms, the government introduced a property tax, adding financial pressure on citizens.

Despite implementing measures to contain budget expansion for the upcoming fiscal year 2023/2024 to a modest two percent and deciding against commencing new capital projects, these efforts alone are insufficient to address the prevailing financial challenges.

## February 2023 Historic referendum results: New region established

The National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) announced the results of a momentous referendum held in the Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR). On February 6, the people residing in six zones and five special districts exercised their democratic rights to decide on the establishment of a new region in southern Ethiopia.

After careful scrutiny and verification, NEBE declared that the majority of voters in Gamo, Gofa, South Omo, Gedee, and Konso Zones, along with Burji, Basketo, Ale, Amaro, and Derashe special districts, voted in favor of coming together to form the newest state in Ethiopia—Southern Ethiopia Region.

However, it is important to note that the outcome in the Gedee zone differed, with a notable number of voters expressing their opposition to the establishment of the new region. It is worth noting that the Gedee zone demonstrated significant opposition to the establishment of the new regional state, with 46,749 people voting against it out of 241,695 valid votes.

Nevertheless, the majority of participants across the other zones and districts overwhelmingly supported the formation of the Southern Ethiopia Region.

While the referendum process proceeded smoothly in most areas, NEBE acknowledged that certain polling stations in the Wolaita Zone experienced operational irregularities.



# RATIBA YA VIPINDI

## JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

| MONDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME              | TUESDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME             | WEDNESDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME           | THURSDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME            | FRIDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME              | SATURDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME            | SUNDAY<br>TIME PROGRAMME              |
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**Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One**






Global mobile phone giants' rivalry

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Oryx invests in Zanzibar LPG supply, distribution

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KCB Bank joins efforts to support education sector

Page 15

# Uncertainty surrounds Kagera Sugar's plans to acquire SA's Tongaat Hulett

By Mnaku Mbani

UNCERTAINTY still surrounds plans by Kagera Sugar Limited (KSL) to acquire the South Africa's ailing Tongaat Hulett Limited (THL) and its subsidiaries, with the host government and losing bidders there feel unfairly treated.

Reliable sources have told The Guardian that the losing bidders are now claiming that the deal has all the 'hallmarks of irregularity' and 'underhand dealings' to rail road Kagera as the winning bidder.

The proposed transaction will comprise the acquisition of the complete sugar division of Tongaat Hulett Limited (THL) in South Africa and the investments in Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Botswana (Tonga Sugar Assets). "The deal resisted in two of the jurisdictions that Tongaat Hulett operates - Zimbabwe and South Africa - because losing bidders there feel unfairly treated and on the other side, the host government was not involved," said a source.

The source said Tongaat needs skills, experience, technical capacity of which, he claimed, "Kagera does not have these requirements".

In a meantime, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) announced yesterday that is currently conducting a forensic audit of complaints lodged by losing bidders to acquire ailing sugar producer Tongaat Hulett.

In July this year, the ministry of finance and economic development of Zimbabwe wrote a letter to the Business Rescue Plan (BRP) questioning why the deal has been conducted

without inviting the country's Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF) to participate as part of a consortium, or have any transparency into the process by which they selected KSL in spite of various discussions in April this year regarding their participation in bidding processes.

"In the light of historical connections and the Fund's good faith participation in negotiations, it is concerning that BRP has selected the Strategic Equity Partner (SEP) that does not appear to have operations in any of the countries where Tongaat has assets. The update contained no information on price and whether Kagera has not laid out any plan, other than desire to bring efficiencies. It is unclear if Kagera is willing to dedicate the necessary financial resources," said a letter signed by G.T Gumatanga, secretary for finance and economic development.

One of the losing bidders, Terris Sugar, has claimed that the deal was compromised by South Africa Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), the financier of the rescue plan, in favour of Kagera Sugar Limited, without doing a due diligence to know its financial capacity.

Terris claims the business rescue plan came to them in July to up the bidding price, but didn't tell them by how much and why.

"It seems that Kagera Sugar Limited (KSL) gotten this deal because they had a bid R400 million higher than Terris Consortium, as they upped their bid to R3.5 billion," the source says.

Terris Fund, Ramoggo (Mauritius) PCC, The Guma Group Pty Limited and Almoiz Group forms the complaining Terris Sugar Consortium.



The source told The Guardian that KSL has a previous relationship with IDC, due to US\$70 million funding of its Tanzanian project, and it is now questioned on why the corporation didn't declare this relationship before.

According to the source, KSL was nominated as the winner of the bid due to a financing conditional letter from IDC, since the corporation's board had not approved the financial request.

The corporation has, as an interested party, been supportive of the business rescue proceedings, but has not provided funding nor any guarantee to the winning bidder prior to the company's selection as preferred SEP, but was currently evaluating a funding request, the source said.

"We also understand that Bosch, which at that point was technical consultants to the IDC, were also and remain technical consultants to Kagera, which probably explains why Kagera conducted very little due diligence of THL's operations during the entire SEP process. Isn't that a conflict of interest?" the source claims.

"Why fund one bidder who doesn't even have local representation or Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) component, over others, who have local representation. Why didn't IDC tell all bidders there's money available?"

Terris Consortium also claimed that they were compromised because they presented their business plan to IDC who might have shared it with Kagera Sugar.

After Kagera Sugar was announced as the winner of the deal, Terris wrote a letter to IDC and Chairperson B.A Mabuza asked executives to brief the financial support regarding the award of strategic equity partner to Kagera sugar limited.

The letter dates August 9th, 2023, written by Terris Sugar Limited to South Africa Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) obtained by The Guardian, says: "at the time of being selected, Kagera was producing 150k tons of sugar against 650k tons being produced by Almoiz and 540k tons being produced by THL South Africa (1.1M tons for of the whole THL group)".

"To our knowledge Kagera has no experience of running a sugar refinery with 5 and 3 refineries at Almoiz and THL respectively and has little experience working with diverse culture amongst growers and employees - Almoiz works with over 40,000 small holder farmers (avg. holding of 2 ha each) across its 5 mills utilising a core agri support team of over 150 experts (which swells to over 350 in crushing season)," reads part of the letter.

"We have recently learnt that IDC staff members only recently visited Kagera's operations for the first time, which was post the IDC's board approval or consideration of the Kagera's status as a chosen Strategic Equity Partner (SEP)."

The letter went on saying, "please further confirm if indeed it is the case that at the time of bidding, the IDC had committed or offered to assist Kagera to raise more than ZAR2 billion from its own funds and/ or from other institutions and, if so, on what conditions as well as the reasons why the IDC would do so only for Kagera using government funds?".

On August 10, IDC issued an acknowledgment letter, signed by M Kganedi, IDC Group Company Secretary, to Terris Consortium saying "the Chairperson has noted the contents on the letter and has since requested a comprehensive brief from management on the issues raised. The IDC, either through the Chairperson or management, will revert after the requisite consultations have been concluded".

Tonga went into business rescue in October last year after the banks pulled out of the funding facility due to long term debt amounting ZAR7 billion.

When the banks pulled out, IDC came in, paid the banks and put the working capital facility.

Tonga was founded 148 years ago and developed into one of South Africa's largest farming companies.

## Arming women ex-prisoners with entrepreneurship skills

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIA Prisoners Hope Foundation (TPHF) has come up with a new comprehensive programme aimed at training women ex-prisoners on entrepreneurship skills, women rights and how can access affordable loans to enable them start their own business and avoid reoffending mistakes.

Lucas Mwimo TPHF's executive director said this last week at the just-ended one day workshop on women ex-prisoners that took place at CBD Hotel with funding from Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFTT).

To start with, 33 women ex-prisoners from Segerea and Ukonga Prisons were trained on principles of entrepreneurship, business management, financial management, emotional intelligence, how can access affordable loans from the banks and counseling.

"As TPHF, we want them to be economically independent, generate income, support themselves and their families, give them confidence they need and help them to reintegrate into society," he said.

He lauded WFTT for their financial support that in-turn has helped them to meet with women ex-prisoners, identify the main challenges they have, what they carry out in their localities, know each other, understand what they need, give them training and hope to starting a new life and plan for their future.

"We have decide to support women after discovered that women ex-prisoners who released from prison face numerous barriers in community such as mental health issues, lack of access to health care, employment services, posttraumatic stress disorder and others," he said.

TPHF is therefore looking for donors to support the foundation to obtain funds that will be used to issue capital for women ex-prisoners who will be released from prison to avoid reoffending mistakes, to start with, they need at least 50mn/-.

The training was offered free of charge on Friday last week by experts from different organizations to help them develop new skills and start new projects to avoid recidivism mistakes or reoffending mistakes.

The workshop was officially inaugurated by Edward Mpagolo, Ilala District Commissioner and attended by Robert Masali, Regional Prison



Madeo Finance Limited trainer Kilasi Michael (standing), trains women ex-prisoners on entrepreneurship skills

Office, Assistant commissioner of Prison (ACP), Hamida Matimba, Segerea Women Prison Superintendent of Police (SP), TAG Dar es Salaam International Church (DIC) Pastor Ray Sengenge, Dr. Dinah Mmbaga, education and women affairs expert, Ilala District social welfare officer and others.

TPHF was officially established on April 2022 to address challenges facing prisoners and ex-prisoners in Tanzania.

Since its inception, the foundation has been able to donate various items to prisoners and ex-prisoners at Segerea and Ukonga Prison.

The foundation donated 288 sanitary pads, five cartons of soap, one television, offer counseling to 1,800 prisoners, 50 mattresses, 500,000/-, National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) card and others.

"Before TPHF intervention, we visit in areas where they are, have a face-to-face discussion and see the main challenges they encounter in the society and later on come up with new programme to train them on entrepreneurship skills," she said.

For his part, Kilasi Michael, Madeo Finance Limited trainer added that for achievement in business women ex-prisoners should understand principles of entrepreneurship

"Entrepreneurship is not just about making or securing money, you need to solve people prob-

lems in accordance with their needs and demands, create change and then you will earn a lot of money," he said.

Also they should be innovative, understand their customer's needs and challenges, their business should easily be accessible to their target customers and always give their customers room for feedback or suggestions on how their products or services can be better or if they meet their needs.

He also advised them to have a vision for their business, choose the right team to work with.

"Your team should have the same drive, perseverance, an underlying belief in themselves and the value they can add to the success of the business and must be motivated and dedicated and this will help you to survive and grow in your business," he said.

According to him, successful entrepreneurs are those who were able to transform their vision into reality, so it's a time for you to put into practice what you have learnt today, never give up for what you planned to carry out.

He also recommends them to focus on one business instead of too many businesses because when you will focus on too many businesses at once, you will not be able to give enough attention to each one and this will lead to a lot of problems in your business.

## Oil closer to \$95 a barrel with global markets getting tighter

SINGAPORE

OIL crept higher toward \$95 a barrel, extending a powerful surge that has been driven by bumper demand and supply cuts from OPEC+ leaders Saudi Arabia and Russia.

Global benchmark Brent added 0.3 percent, after a three-week rally that boosted prices by 11 percent. The gains have in recent days been accompanied by a jump in key timespreads that suggest the market is undersupplied, while bullish call options are also getting more expensive.

Crude in London is up almost 10 percent this year as the OPEC+ linchpins curb production and the demand outlook brightens, with the US potentially avoiding recession just as refiners in China go all-out.

Against that backdrop, crude stockpiles have dropped, while speculators boosted net-bullish wagers on Brent and US benchmark West Texas Intermediate to a combined 15-month high.

Oil's surge looks set to fan inflationary pressures around the globe just as central bankers, including

those at the US Federal Reserve, try to determine whether they have already done enough to beat back the pace of price gains by hiking interest rates. It'll be an important week for monetary policy, with decisions due from the Fed and the Bank of England, among others.

"We have long argued that the oil market would be increasingly tight in the second half of 2023," said Arne Lohmann Rasmussen, head of research at A/S Global Risk Management. "That tightening has now arrived, and it only seems a matter of time before we see a test of \$100 a barrel."

With Saudi Arabia and Russia prolonging supply curbs to year-end, Saudi Energy Minister Abdulaziz bin Salman Al Saud is set to be among keynote speakers at the World Petroleum Congress in Calgary later on Monday.

In the physical market, refined products like diesel are increasingly flashing warning signs, with the world's refineries proving powerless to make enough of the industrial fuel. Prices have far outstripped those for crude.



## DIGITAL MARKETING

## Global mobile phone giants' rivalry

By Alley Mtatya

THE technology giants Apple and Samsung engage in fierce competition in the digital space. Samsung has run campaigns comparing its Galaxy smartphones to Apple's iPhone. Meanwhile, Apple often showcases its products' unique features and user experience in its digital marketing.

It's important to note that this rivalry goes beyond just legal disputes; it's about market share, innovation, and consumer preference. Both companies have had a significant impact on the smartphone industry and have driven each other to continuously improve their products. The Apple vs. Samsung rivalry has shaped the smartphone landscape over the years and still does right to this day.

The digital marketing rivalry between these mobile phone companies has been a notable aspect of their competition in the smartphone and consumer electronics markets. Consider their advertising campaigns: both Apple and Samsung have launched extensive advertising campaigns to promote their products. Apple's marketing often focuses on the design, user experience, and ecosystem, while Samsung emphasizes features and innovation. Apple is known for its emotionally resonant adverts, such as the "Shot on iPhone" campaign. Samsung's ads often highlight specific product features and benefits.

The launch events for either new iPhone or Galaxy smartphone models are highly anticipated these days. Both companies use live streams and social media to create buzz around their product



unveilings. Apple's, "One More Thing" events and Samsung's "Unpacked" events are widely covered in the media and generate a significant online presence. Both companies maintain active social media profiles on platforms like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. They engage with their audiences by sharing product updates, customer stories, and promotional content.

Samsung has often used digital marketing to directly compare its products to Apple's, highlighting features like larger screens, more camera options, faster processors and my favorite one long charging time. You may recall the visual advert by Samsung that illustrated its quick charging system when all iPhone users at the airport where stuck to the airport sockets leaning or sitting against the walls interacting with their mobile phones as the iPhones took long to charge.

Apple's marketing, on the other hand, often focuses on the unique

qualities of its design and the emotional connection customers have with the brand. Both companies collaborate with influencers and celebrities to endorse their products on social media platforms. This strategy helps reach a broader audience and promote brand loyalty. Over the years we have seen the addiction of the users of both devices finding it difficult to switch to the other brand or brands. Users often anticipate or are keen to get their hands on the latest model of their brand.

Apple encourages users to share their own content created with Apple products, like photos and videos shot on iPhones. This user-generated content is often featured in Apple's marketing campaigns. Samsung also promotes user-generated content, showcasing the capabilities of its devices. Apple has gone as far as venturing into original content creation with its Apple TV+ streaming service. It uses digital marketing to promote its exclusive shows and movies.

Samsung, with its wide range of consumer electronics, promotes its content services like Samsung TV Plus and partnerships with streaming platforms. Both companies use digital marketing to highlight their environmental and social initiatives, such as sustainability efforts and commitments to renewable energy. This is the 360 degree of advertising, when you go beyond the advertising of your brand through normal campaign channels, but you also leverage it through environmental and social initiatives.

These global mobile phone giants digital marketing rivalry is not just about promoting products, it's also about shaping brand perception, engaging with customers, and creating emotional connections digitally, in order to achieve a greater market share or be the leading brand in the market. That is why the rivalry will never end until one is driven out of the market, as we have seen in the past with brands like BlackBerry, Phillips, Siemens, Motorola and so forth.

Both companies leverage their respective strengths and strategies to maintain a strong presence in the market and capture consumer attention.

Alley Mtatya (pictured) is the founder of Eyeland Advertising and Analytics based in Dar es Salaam

## Oryx invests in Zanzibar LPG supply, distribution

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

Oryx Gas Zanzibar Limited has teamed up with Zanzibar-based TP Company Limited, a subsidiary of the Vigor Group of Companies (Vigor Group), to strengthen LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) supply and distribution to the archipelago, a move centred on the creation of the islands' first LPG terminal.

It forms part of Oryx Energies group's wider commitment to the energy transition agenda, which involves securing provision of LPG to African markets and specifically to Tanzania and the Zanzibar archipelago.

In a two-part deal, TP Company Limited is building with the assistance of Oryx Energies, Zanzibar's first-ever LPG terminal facility, with a capacity of 1,300 MT, according to a statement issued yesterday by Oryx Energies.

Scheduled for completion in the fourth quarter of 2023, the new terminal will be operated exclusively by Oryx Gas Zanzibar Limited on a long-term basis, thereby ensuring a dedicated and enduring partnership. At the same time, Oryx Gas Zanzibar Limited is acquiring 100 percent of the LPG business assets of TP Company Limited, currently branded and operated under the name VGAS.

The assets will be progressively rebranded to Oryx Energies. In return, TP Company Limited is taking a 30 percent stake in Oryx Gas Zanzibar Limited.

The statement says the transaction has unique characteristics, highlighting the commitment of Oryx Energies as a group to support local initiatives and the development of local partnerships.

As the operating company of the new LPG terminal, Oryx Gas Zanzibar Limited will supply other

customers as well, thereby helping to ensure a reliable, sustainable and seamless supply of LPG to the Zanzibar population.

The move also addresses the historically complicated nature of local LPG supply, whereby multiple handling procedures have driven up costs for Zanzibarians and often led to bottlenecks.

Shuwekha Khamis, General Manager of Oryx Gas Zanzibar Limited, commented: "This collaborative development with a major local business underlines our wide-ranging commitment to give the local population access to cleaner energy sources. LPG plays a major role in Zanzibar's energy mix, ensuring all-important energy security for cooking as well as supporting the development of the local tourism sector."

Benoit Araman, Managing Director of Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited, added: "We have long been

laying down the foundations for this expansion, having delivered LPG to the Zanzibar archipelago from Tanzania since 2010. This collaboration marks an important step-up, further strengthening the supply of LPG in Zanzibar."

Abdallah Salim Turkey, CEO of Vigor Group, said: "The creation of the new LPG terminal fits perfectly with our vision to be a local pioneer in offering top-notch products and services from the international markets to the general public at prices they can afford. It will help improve standards of health and welfare in Zanzibar and will also help protect the environment by providing a safe and reliable alternative to charcoal and wood." He added: "To achieve this, we are delighted to enter into partnership with Oryx Gas Zanzibar Limited. The company and its teams have established themselves as a well-recognised player on the retail trade market."



From-L: Toufiq Salim Turkey (Chairman of Vigor Group), Benoit Araman (Managing Director of Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited), Shuwekha Omar Khamis (General Manager of Oryx Gas Zanzibar Limited), Abdalla Salim Turkey (CEO of Vigor Group) soon after signing a deal. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

## Small-cap stock surge adds \$318bn to emerging markets

LONDON

WITH the final quarter of 2023 approaching, one winning strategy in emerging markets is becoming clearer: buying shares in smaller companies.

The trade has produced an extra gain of 12 percentage points over the MSCI large-cap index so far this year, on course for the second-best relative returns in the past 14 years. Part of the reason is that large-cap companies are more likely to be exposed to China's economic troubles.

Small-caps, on the other hand, are benefiting from local growth stories such as India's as well as the craze for investing in young companies in artificial intelligence and electric vehicles.

"Small caps in EM have rallied relative to the large caps since the end of the Covid drawdown, in line with previous historical instances when small outperforms large coming out of recessions," said Jitania Kandhari, deputy chief investment officer at Morgan Stanley Investment Management, which has more than \$1 trillion in assets under management. "Strong domestic recovery cycles drove the initial outperformance and the underperformance of the mega-caps has driven it further."

The MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap Index, which includes 1,905 stocks with an average market value of \$583 million, is up 14.2 percent so far this year. That compares with a 1.8 percent gain in its large-cap counterpart, where the average size is \$7.9 billion.

Growth Stories

Individual small stocks are producing some impressive returns: Taiwan's Wistron Corp. and Global Unichip Corp. have soared 244 percent and 125 percent respectively this year, on the back of their links with artificial intelligence development. Stocks like Jindal Stainless Ltd. and Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. are at least 100% higher, riding India's economic growth, the fastest among major economies.

South Korea's Ecopro BM Co. notched the best gains on the Bloomberg Electric Vehicles Index, up 204 percent. Brazilian education company Yduqs Participacoes SA has soared 120 percent, rewarding investors who had bet on its turnaround from a post-Covid slump with an emphasis on digital revenue.

China dominates the large-cap index with 375 entries, well over half the total. That means drops in large Chinese companies including Meituan, down 30 percent this year, and JD.com Inc., down 45 percent, pull the entire index down. India's Adani Group companies, too, weighed on the gauge after a short seller's report alleged governance and transparency issues.

"The outperformance of small caps in emerging markets over large caps is more explained by the country skew," said Ashish Chugh, a money manager at Loomis Sayles & Co. Portfolios that went underweight China and prioritized India, Taiwan and Korea would have done well in either category, he said.

But sky-high returns also mean enhanced risk for investors. Emerging-market small caps are notoriously volatile and are the first to be sold off when risk sentiment sours. They handed investors deep losses during the 2000 dot-com bust, 2008 financial crisis and 2018 US-China trade war, with the MSCI small-cap index underperforming its large-cap peer by about 30% on each of those occasions.

Lower levels of regulation, political interference and governance issues dog the small-cap sector. Even in large economies like India, such stocks are the target of market manipulators, leaving retail shareholders with dud investments.

For small-cap stocks with a sound management and business plan, the next boom may come from central banks that are preparing to cut interest rates. A new growth cycle can extend their outperformance and counter investors' concern over the impact of China's slowdown on larger stocks, said Nenad Dinic, an equities strategist at Bank Julius Baer in Zurich.

"The backdrop of lower borrowing costs benefits small caps significantly, as they often rely more heavily on debt financing than large-cap counterparts," Dinic said.



CURRENT NEWS

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## Gold firms in range-bound trade as investors look to Fed decision

NEW DELHI

GOLD hit one-week highs on Monday ahead of US Federal Reserve's policy decision this week, where it is overwhelmingly expected to keep interest rates steady, but investors will be watching the central bank's language on

future rates.

Spot gold gained 0.2 percent to \$1,926.71 per ounce by 1027 GMT. US gold futures were up 0.1 percent to \$1,948.20.

Investors over the week would be looking at policy decisions by the Fed on Wednesday, the Bank of England on Thursday and the

Bank of Japan due on Friday. [MKTS/GLOB] "So far, due to the resilience of the U.S. economy and high levels of inflation, investors are not yet sure that we've reached the interest rate peak," said Carlo Alberto De Casa, market analyst at Kinesis Money. "There are good chances

that rates are going to remain elevated for long time and this is negative for gold," he said, adding that only a clear surpass of \$1,950-1,952 levels can give fresh fuel to gold prices.

Non-yielding gold tends to fall out of favour among investors when interest rates rise. Traders have priced in a

99 percent chance of the Fed leaving rates unchanged on Wednesday, but there's around 31 percent probability of a rate rise in November, according to the CME's FedWatch Tool.

"Gold has seen limited investor appeal this year as the market consensus shifts to soft landing expectations," analysts

at investment bank SP Angel wrote in a note.

Chinese gold prices hit record highs last week, extending a months-long rally as consumers snap up the safe-haven asset to offset a depreciating yuan.

Physical gold premiums also soared to new highs. [GOL/AS] "While the developments in

China are worth watching, we currently do not believe that this will change the outlook for the gold market," said Julius Baer analyst Carsten Menke.

Spot silver climbed 0.8 percent to \$23.19 per ounce, platinum gained 1 percent to \$934.68 and palladium rose 0.1% to \$1,249.96.

# KCB Bank joins efforts to support education, skills



Education, Science and Technology minister Prof Adolf Mkenda holds talks with a KCB Bank delegation led by Christine Manyenye (3rd-R), Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs and Betty Muruve (2nd-R), KCB 2jijiri project manager. Right to the minister is permanent Secretary, Prof Carolyne Nombo. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

KCB Bank has joined forces to supporting education sector through exploring area of collaboration with the ministry of Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology.

This comes after the bank's officials held a talk with the Minister of Education, Science, and Technology, Prof. Adolf Mkenda recently to discuss areas of collaboration in supporting education in the country.

KCB Bank officials held talks with the aim of exploring areas of collaboration in support of the community, especially in KCB's 2jijiri project to support 5,000

youth through skills development in Tanzania.

The support is provided under the KCB 2jijiri program, which seeks to upskill youth as a way to curb unemployment challenges in Tanzania. The meeting held in Dodoma last week witnessed the two parties agreeing on some areas for potential partnership and collaboration.

The Minister of Education, Prof. Adolf Mkenda expressed his commitment to supporting education transformation in the country and commended KCB Bank for the initiative that will transform the lives of many in the near future.

The 5,000-youth program under KCB Bank Tanzania will support skills development for the beneficiaries through vocational training under VETA, SIDO and FDC in six regions as well as Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba).

Youth account for 34 percent of the total population in Tanzania (2022 Census); hence, investing in this group remains critical for achiev-

ing national development plans.

"We thank the Ministry for their commitment towards this initiative that is vital for country's development. KCB Bank remains committed to supporting our people, especially youth, to increase employability and improve their income," said Christine Manyenye, the Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs at KCB Bank Tanzania.

The KCB 2jijiri program is a community investment initiative that was established in 2016 and has so far supported 1,579 Tanzanians by giving them the necessary skills that foster enterprise development. Now the Bank is set to support 5,000 more.

The Permanent Secretary, ministry of education, science and technology Prof. Carolyne Nombo affirmed on the Ministry's commitment to support the initiative on a number of aspects that would ensure the program is well executed.

## Higher interest rates signal end of one-stop shop banks

NEW YORK

In early February, the St Louis branch of the Federal Reserve published a blog post warning that higher interest rates could "complicate" banks' finances.

The post was as prescient as it was optimistic. The Fed's supervisors said rising interest rates created both "challenges and opportunities for banks". They suggested that banks should carefully analyse the situation, but also said there were several steps banks could take to mitigate any issues.

Less than a month later, Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) failed, largely due to the effect of sharply higher interest rates, kicking off the worst period of banking turmoil since the Great Financial Crisis. Signature Bank quickly followed into the abyss. Shares of dozens of banks plunged in value, raising questions about their survival, too. In Europe, UBS bought the long-suffering Credit Suisse in a government-backed deal that saved its rival from collapse.

Emergency measures from the Federal Reserve, billions of dollars from the federal deposit insurance fund, and tens of billions of loans from the government-backed Federal Home Loan Banks quelled the crisis. Few, if any, banks now seem at risk of failing. However, while the crisis has passed, the challenge from higher interest rates, as the St Louis Fed warned in May, has not.

Higher interest rates have ushered in a new normal in the banking industry. A slowing economy and higher scrutiny from regulators following recent bank failures have largely capped the amount of lending that banks are able to do at elevated rates.

And banks are seeing the effects of higher rates on borrowers, particularly those in commercial real estate. Defaults on corporate loans, which generally carry interest rates that float – meaning they automatically adjust with market rates, not just when the borrower refinances – are also on the rise.

Banks in turmoil  
The European Central Bank warned in May that European lenders, such as SVB and other US banks that ran into trouble, would see the value of their assets fall faster, on average, than the value of their debts – a particularly bad scenario for a bank if interest rates continued to rise. For the average bank, the central bank concluded, the drop in book value would be a very manageable 4 per cent. But the ECB also found that, for a quarter of European banks, the hit from rising interest rates would be high enough to force those banks to take steps to mitigate the damage.

Already, a number of institutions, including Citigroup and Goldman Sachs, appear to be abandoning the notion that the best model for a global bank is to offer all services to everyone – the supermarket model of bank-

ing – something that seemed to be banking gospel just a decade ago.

"You have to look at each business from the ground up and not bottom down at this point," says Greg Hertrich, who is the head of deposit strategy at Nomura. "Twenty-five years ago, everyone wanted to be a one-stop shop, and that has changed."

The biggest effect of rising rates, at least so far, has been on the banks' bottom lines. For much of the past decade, banks have been one of the biggest beneficiaries of low interest rates, and essentially – at least for them – free money.

With interest rates near zero, depositors had nowhere else to go with money that they did not want to risk in the market. As a result, customers had to accept – and eventually got used to – receiving no interest on their accounts. The rise of internet banking, along with ATM and other account fees, made bringing in customers and their deposits all the more lucrative for banks.

That started to change in early 2022, when the US Federal Reserve began raising interest rates to slow quickly rising inflation. In the first quarter of last year, the average US bank had an annual-equivalent funding rate – that is how much in interest it paid compared with its total assets – of 0.15 per cent. That funding rate has jumped nearly 12 times to just under 2 per cent in the past 18 months, mostly driven by the rising costs of deposits, with some banks offering interest rates on accounts in the 5 per cent range. Lending income is rising as well, but not nearly that fast.

In the second quarter of 2023, the average bank saw its interest income rise just 8 per cent from the quarter before. Interest expense, however, jumped 27 per cent.

"It is the fact that funding costs have gone up and your assets, your loans and bond investments are worth less," says Hertrich. "My guess is that they are going to pull every lever that they can."

Some banks are already starting to retreat from, or even exit, consumer banking.

Bank of America chief executive Brian Moynihan had long talked about the importance of bank branches. But even BoA is cutting branches at a time when the cost of bringing in new deposits, and holding on to the ones you have, is much greater than it has been for some time. Last year, the number of BoA branches fell to 3,900, down 7 per cent from the year before. It was the first time the bank had fewer than 4,000 branches since shortly after its merger with NationsBank in the late 1990s.

## GLOBAL MARKETS:

### Asian shares decrease as investors brace for central bank-packed week

SYDNEY

ASIAN shares fell and the dollar was firm on Monday as investors looked ahead to policy meetings from the Federal Reserve, the Bank of Japan and other central banks this week.

Europe is set for a subdued open, with EUROSTOXX 50 futures off 0.1 percent. S&P 500 futures advanced 0.2 percent while Nasdaq futures edged up 0.1 percent.

Oil prices hit fresh 10-month peaks, further stoking inflationary pressures. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude futures gained 0.8% to \$91.52, their highest level since November, while Brent crude futures rose 0.7 percent to \$94.55 per barrel.

In Asia, MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan fell 0.7 percent. Japan's Nikkei is closed for a public holiday.

Technology shares in the region retreated, with Taiwan's TSMC, the world's top contract chipmaker, falling 3 percent after Reuters reported that it has told its major suppliers to delay the delivery of high-end chipmaking equipment.

In China, better-than-expected factory output and retail sales in the world's second largest economy have aided Chinese bluechips which were up 0.4 percent.

But property sector woes dragged Hong Kong's Hang Seng 1 percent lower. Zhongrong International Trust, which has exposure to Chinese property developers, said over the weekend it was unable to make payments on some trust products on time.

"Despite the encouraging sign of stabilization, the property market continues to be the missing puzzle piece in the economic picture," said Tommy Xie, head of Greater China Research at OCBC Bank.

"The on-the-ground feedback indicates a rise in property viewing activities; however, most prospective buyers are not in a hurry to finalize deals due to the increasing supply of apartments post relaxation."

Shares in embattled China Evergrande Group fell as much as 25 percent after police in southern China detained some staff at its wealth management unit, though they later pared losses to be down 1.6 percent.

This week, global central banks will take centre stage, with five of those overseeing the 10 most heavily traded currencies holding rate-setting meetings. A swathe of emerging market central banks will also hold meetings.

Markets are fully priced for a second straight pause from the Fed on Wednesday, with its targeted range expected to be unchanged at 5.25 percent to 5.5 percent, so the focus will be on the updated economic and rates projections. They see about 80 basis points of cuts next year.

"In theory, the FOMC meeting should be a low-volatility affair, but it is a risk that needs to be managed," said Chris Weston, head of research at Pepperstone.

Weston added that if the Fed revises up its rate projections for 2024, that would see rate cuts being priced out, resulting in renewed interest in the U.S. dollar and downward pressure on global shares.

On Thursday, Bank of England is tipped to hike for the 15th time and take benchmark borrowing costs to 5.5 percent.

Bank of Japan is the key risk event on Friday. Markets are looking for any signs that the BOJ could be moving away from its ultra-loose policy faster than previously thought, after recent comments by Governor Kazuo Ueda sent yields much higher.

Last Friday, Wall Street ended sharply lower as US industrial labour action weighed on auto shares. Rising Treasury yields also pressured Amazon and other megacap growth companies.

Cash Treasuries were not traded in Asia with Tokyo shut. Treasury yields edged higher on Friday, with the two-year above the 5 percent threshold.

In the currency markets, the US dollar was still standing strong near its six-month top at 105.25 against a basket of major currencies.

The euro gained 0.1 percent to \$1.0667, after slumping to a 3-1/2 month low of \$1.0632 last week as the European Central Bank signalled its rate hikes could be over.

The price of gold was 0.2 percent higher at \$1,928.13 per ounce.

VIEW FROM THE TOP



Emmanuel Kishosha (L) manager for NMB Bank Nelson Mandela branch in Moshi municipality presents a prize to Moshi Municipal Mayor Juma Raibu (2nd L) on his recognition to his contribution to society. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

## WORLD

## Kim Jong Un thanks Putin for hospitality, wishes prosperity to Russia – radio

TOKYO

NORTH Korean leader Kim Jong Un thanked Russian President Vladimir Putin, people and authorities of Russia for hospitality, wrapping up his “official and friendly” visit in Russia, before departing on a special train from Vladivostok, the Voice of Korea radio reports.

“Kim Jong Un (pictured) expressed his sincere gratitude to Russian President Putin, authorities and people of Russia for paying special attention and generous hospitality throughout his stay in the Russian Federation.

He wished prosperity to Russia and welfare to its people,” says the report on the North Korean leader’s visit, which “opened a new era of intense



development and strengthening of Korean-Russian relations.”

The farewell ceremony for the North Korean leader was attended

by Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Alexadner Kozlov, Primorsky Region Governor Oleg Kozhemyako, Artyom Mayor Vyacheslav Kwon, and Russian Ambassador to Pyongyang Alexander Matsegora.

Following the visit to the Vostochny spaceport, where he had talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Kim Jong Un arrived in the Primorsky Region on September 16.

There, he visited the Knevichi airport, where he was met by Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu. On September 17, Kim Jong Un visited the Far East Federal University, and factories of the Arnika Group, which specializes on fodder and food materials and ingredients.

Agencies

## UNESCO registers Ethiopia's Gedeo cultural landscape as world heritage

ADDIS ABABA

THE United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has registered Ethiopia's Gedeo cultural landscape as a world heritage.

The registration of Gedeo Cultural Landscape was announced on Sunday at the 45th extended session of the World Heritage Committee being underway in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in the presence of Ethiopian Minister of Tourism Nasse Chale, the Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) reported.

According to the ministry, following the entry of Gedeo cultural landscape' entry into UNESCO's heritage site, the number of UNESCO-inscribed cultural and natural heritages in Ethiopia has reached 10, the 100th in Africa.

The heritage comprises forest, which has been protected through generations, ENA quoted Chale as saying during the session.

She said the site is also known for its multi-layer cultivation which has been practiced for centuries by the Gedeo people who are also exemplary for their indigenous knowledge in conservation of the ecosystem and soil fertility.

The landscape has over 6,000 megalithic stelae with their attractive images for researchers, foreign and local visitors, Chale said.

Highlighting that the inscription of the Gedeo cultural landscape by UNESCO will enable the heritage to get sustainable protection, members of UNESCO heritages committee affirmed that the registration will also help it become a great tourism attraction.

The Gedeo cultural landscape lies along the eastern edge of the Main Ethiopian Rift, on the steep escarpments of the Ethiopian highlands. The World Heritage Committee meets once a year, and consists of representatives from 21 of the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention elected by their General Assembly for a four-year term.

Xinhua



Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin and Uzbek Prime Minister Abdulla Aripov

## Ill-wishers' attempts to hamper Moscow-Tashkent relations unsuccessful, says Russian prime minister

MOSCOW

MOSCOW and Tashkent are developing cooperation, despite attempts by other countries to cause discord between them, Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin said yesterday. He was speaking at a meeting of a joint commission at the level of heads of government of Russia and Uzbekistan.

“Together we are intensively developing trade and economic cooperation, effectively resolving all the issues that exist between us, despite the attempts of ill-wishers to cause discord in our joint work,” he said.

He called Uzbekistan “one of the leading economic partners in the Central Asian region.” However, the Russian Prime Minister is confident that “the potential of the economies of Russia and Uzbekistan is much higher, there are many opportunities for developing cooperation in new areas.”

“It is important to take our relations to a qualitatively new level,” Mishustin stressed. According to him, “the common task is to jointly bring trade and economic cooperation to a higher level in the near future on the basis of equality, mutual respect, and consideration of each other's interests.” “I'm absolutely sure we can do it,” he said.

At the meeting, the Russian Prime Minister proposed to determine “prospects for further interaction in the highest priority areas in the trade, economic, investment, scientific, technical, cultural and humanitarian spheres,” paying special attention to “expanding cooperation in industry, agriculture, energy, high technology, education, medicine.”

Mishustin noted that “despite the difficult international environment, both economic and investment ties between the two countries are consistently strengthening.” He recalled that in 2022, mutual trade turnover increased by more than a quarter, and in January-

July of this year - by another 14%.

The Russian Prime Minister believes that Uzbekistan's involvement in Eurasian integration “will provide favorable conditions for the development of the national economy, improvement of the well-being of citizens, business and investment activity.” He emphasized that “integration interaction mitigates the impact of negative external conditions through the creation of strong production and logistics chains, the use of modern technologies, and the advantages of the digital economy.”

## Business contacts and joint projects

“We consider it possible to increase business contacts between our entrepreneurs,” the Russian Prime Minister said. He drew attention to the fact that the largest Russian companies are expanding their presence in Uzbekistan, their total investments account for a fifth of the total volume of foreign investments.

“The number of joint projects is steadily growing in industry, the agro-industrial sector, the textile industry, and transport infrastructure,” he said adding that energy as one of the most promising areas of cooperation.

As an example, he referred to the creation of a modern gas processing complex at the Kandym group of fields, the development of other fields and plans to build a nuclear power plant in Uzbekistan using Russian technologies.

“The difficulties with energy supply that Uzbekistan experienced last winter confirmed the correctness [of the nuclear power plant project] and the relevance of the choice in favor of peaceful nuclear energy.

Implementation of the project will help meet Uzbekistan's needs for electricity, create thousands of new jobs, and unlock the industrial potential of Uzbekistan,” the Russian Prime Minister said.

Agencies

## Somali forces kill 30 al-Shabab militants in central region

MOGADISHU

THE Somali National Army killed more than 30 al-Shabab fighters on Saturday evening in operations in central Somalia.

“The operation resulted in the death of 30 fighters, the destruction of four vehicles, and the seizure of two more vehicles and weapons,” the Ministry of Information, Culture, and Tourism said in a statement released on Saturday evening in Mogadishu. “We are grateful to the brave citizens who chose to stand against the enemy. We are united in our mission to eradicate al-Shabab,” it added. The ministry also confirmed that Mohamed Bashir Muse, a

senior al-Shabab leader, was among the 30 fighters killed during the operations.

It said the joint military operations are underway in areas under Mahaday district in Middle Shabelle region targeting senior al-Shabab fighters hiding near river banks. Residents said the armed forces and the local forces have taken full control of Sargo and Qodqod villages in the region of Mudug.

The move came as the African Union Transition Mission is expected to scale down its troops this month by a further 3,000 personnel after successfully withdrawing 2,000 troops and handing over six military bases to the Somali side in June.

IN recent years, the United States has always emphasized “competition” when discussing China-U.S. relations, as if competition has become the dominant theme and even the sole focus of the relationship.

From the “competitive, collaborative and adversarial” rhetoric to the “invest, align and compete” strategy, competition has become the main tone of U.S. policy towards China.

The various measures taken by the United States clearly demonstrate that the so-called “competition” has become synonymous with comprehensive containment,

## Defining entire China-US relationship as competition is serious misjudgment

unrestricted suppression, and relentless pressure on China.

As two major countries, it is normal for China and the United States to compete in areas such as trade and technology. Such competition should be fair and reasonable, conducted in a benign and regulated manner, with boundaries and prohibited areas. It should not disregard the rules of the market economy and basic principles of international relations. Core interests should not be used as tools for competition or provocative means. The United States, under the

guise of competition, has used its national machinery to suppress other countries, attempting to sacrifice the interests of other nations and hinder their development and progress in order to seek its own competitive advantage. This approach completely deviates from the true essence of competition and only exposes a zero-sum mindset and Cold War mentality.

The United States shows no intention of engaging in fair competition. It recklessly wields the stick of sanctions, forcefully promotes “decoupling” and so-called “de-risk-

ing.” Driven by ideological bias, it generalizes the concept of national security, imposes excessive regulations and scrutiny, and builds “small yard, high fence” around its own interests. It fabricates a false narrative of “democracy versus authoritarianism,” creates an encirclement against China, coerces other countries to take sides, and incites confrontation, disruption, and undermines peace.

It constantly provokes China on core issues such as the latter's political system and territorial sovereignty, seriously violating the

basic principles of international relations and damaging the political foundation of China-U.S. relations.

The United States employs all means to hinder China, essentially aiming to deprive the Chinese people of their right to choose their own development path, their right to pursue a better life, their right to achieve legitimate development, their right to build national unity, and their right to develop normal relations with other countries.

America's perception of competition as the entirety of its relationship with China is fundamentally

flawed, and this stems from a directional problem in its understanding of China.

The United States consistently portrays China as the “most serious competitor,” the “most significant long-term challenge,” the “most significant geopolitical challenge,” the “most significant systemic challenge,” and the “only competitor with both the intention and capability to reshape the international order.”

It is using its own template of hegemony to mirror China and misjudging China based on the

trajectory followed by traditional Western powers.

Viewing the world from a zero-sum perspective, one sees division, competition, and conflicts; viewing the world from a perspective of shared destiny, one sees openness, cooperation, and win-win outcomes. The erroneous perceptions and actions of the United States not only disregard the reality of interdependence between China and the United States, but also distort the history of cooperation and mutual benefit between the two countries, dangerously impacting China-U.S. relations.

People's Daily

## Climate change hitting fight against AIDS, TB and malaria

LONDON

CLIMATE change and conflict are hitting efforts to tackle three of the world's deadliest infectious diseases, the head of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has warned.

International initiatives to fight the diseases have largely recovered after being badly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the Fund's 2023 results report released on Monday.

But the increasing challenges of climate change and conflict mean the world is likely to miss the target of putting an end to AIDS, TB and malaria by 2030 without “extraordinary steps”, said Peter Sands, executive director of the Global Fund.

For example, malaria is spreading to highland parts of Africa that were previously too cold for the mosquito carrying the disease-causing parasite.

Extreme weather events like floods are overwhelming health services, displacing communities, causing upsurges in infection and interrupting treatment in many different places, the report said. In countries including Sudan, Ukraine, Afghanistan and Myanmar, simply reaching vulnerable communities has also been immensely challenging due to



This photo dated Aug 24, 2023 shows medical personnel at work in the respiratory disease department, which treats patients suffering from illnesses caused by air pollution, at Persahabatan Hospital in Jakarta. AFP

insecurity, it added.

There are positives, Sands said. For example, in 2022, 6.7 million people were treated for TB in the countries where the Global Fund invests, more than ever before, and 1.4 million more people than in the previous year. The Fund also helped put 24.5 million people on antiretroviral therapy for HIV, and distributed 220 million mosquito nets.

Sands added that innovative prevention and diagnostic tools also provided hope. This week, there is a high-level meeting on TB at the UN General Assembly, and advocates hope for more

of a focus on the disease.

The Global Fund has faced criticism from some TB experts for not allocating more of its budget to the disease, as it is the biggest killer of the three diseases the fund focuses on.

“There's no doubt that the world needs to devote more resources towards fighting TB... but it is not as simple as comparing annual deaths from each disease,” said Sands. For example, he said, many countries with the highest burden of TB are middle-income countries that have more capacity to fund health services domestically.

Agencies

## UN revises toll from Libya floods to 3958, over 9000 injured

DERNA

THE United Nations has amended the previous death toll from Libya floods, stating that at least 3,958 people have died instead of 11,300 as was earlier reported by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), CNN reported.

According to the revised report updated on Sunday morning from the OCHA, the UN has now pegged the toll at 3,958, citing the World Health Organization (WHO).

As per the updated report, over 9,000 people are still missing, according to CNN.

However, the OCHA, in its previous report, said at least 11,300 people died in Derna due to devastating flooding, citing the Libyan Red Crescent figures for Saturday's report, according to CNN.

Farhan Haq, deputy spokesman for the UN Secretary-General, told CNN on Sunday, “We're going with figures just verified by WHO.”

However, earlier, the Libyan Red Crescent Society told CNN that it never released the high death figure tolls



Rescuers and relatives search for bodies of the flood victims at the Corniche of the city of Derna, Libya, Sept 15, 2023. AP

to the UN from the flooding in Derna.

On why the UN cited the death toll incorrectly, Haq said, “In a lot of different tragedies we end up revising our numbers. So that's just what's happening here.”

He added, “Standard procedure is

we work with different parties trying to make sure our numbers are cross-checked. Whenever we do these revisions it's because our numbers are being cross-checked.”

The deputy spokesperson said the death toll figures are fluid and “can go

upward or downward.”

Moreover, on Derna's seafloor, where the aftermath of the disaster is evident, rescue teams were working tirelessly to clear the way for further relief efforts. A helicopter scanned the sea for bodies, and diggers strove to remove obstacles obstructing rescue operations.

In Derna, which has an estimated population of at least 120,000, entire districts were swept away or buried in brown mud after two dams south of the city broke, releasing torrents of floodwater down a usually dry riverbed.

The UN's humanitarian affairs office said it had initiated an appeal for USD 71 million to aid those affected by the disaster. The World Health Organization has also taken action, flying in emergency aid to reach nearly 250,000 people in eastern Libya, providing essential medicines, surgery supplies, and body bags.

Saudi Arabia and Russia have contributed aid flights, including mobile hospitals, while an Italian naval ship arrived in Derna with supplies such as tents, blankets, water pumps, and tractors.

ANI



# UK opposition leader Starmer vows to improve Brexit deal

LONDON

BRITISH opposition leader Keir Starmer has promised to improve the country's trading relationship with the European Union in 2025 if his Labour Party wins the next election.

Starmer told the Financial Times he would seek closer ties with the bloc when the partnership comes up for review in 2025 but reiterated that he did not want to take Britain back into the single market or customs union.

Instead, Labour would seek to improve the 2021 Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) struck by former British Prime Minister Boris Johnson. The FT said Starmer talked about wanting closer ties in areas such as security, innovation and research.

Labour has long said it wants better relations with the EU, including a deal that would cut the need for checks and paperwork for animals and some foods, plus closer ties in professional and financial services.

But the party says it will not renege-

on the TCA, only improve it.

"Almost everyone recognises the deal Johnson struck is not a good deal - it's far too thin. As we go into 2025 we will attempt to get a much better deal for the UK," the FT quoted Starmer as saying. The Bank of England has said Brexit has reduced the capacity of Britain's economy to grow, weighing on investment and productivity.

Earlier this year, the BoE's deputy governor Ben Broadbent said the impact of leaving the EU had fed through into the economy faster than the central bank had expected, although the effects had not been larger than anticipated. Labour has a roughly 20 point lead in opinion polls over Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's Conservative Party before an election expected next year.

Polls also show most British people think Brexit was a mistake. However, Starmer is under pressure to strike the right balance between seeking better economic ties without handing firepower to Brexit supporters and critics who accuse him of wanting to



UK Labour Leader Keir Starmer speaks to the BBC at the Global Progress Action Summit on Friday in Montreal, Canada. AFP

reverse the 2016 Brexit referendum.

Britain's pensions minister Laura Trott said on Monday Starmer had changed his

position on Brexit multiple times, including previously pushing for a second referendum.

"I think the question is,

what price is he willing to pay to reopen that trade deal? And it's something that I'm very concerned about," she told LBC Radio. **Agencies**

# Morocco earthquake: The scars, the rubble and the spirit to rebuild

Amizmiz

THE earthquake just over a week ago maimed a six-century-old mosque in one Amizmiz's oldest neighbourhoods, taking a bite out of the pinky brown minaret.

A nearby row of shops appeared untouched - until I saw the vertical scar, as if a giant axeman had tried to cut two shops apart, nearly succeeding. The entrails of a nearby building were on show.

"You should see the really bad ones round the corner," said Abdi, man outside the mosque.

He was right. Those houses didn't really exist, though you could see the remains of a television jutting out of the rubble.

In Amizmiz, many died and some bodies still haven't been recovered.

Next to the shops, another man was methodically piling up his possessions in the small square, the sofas and cupboards exposed to the elements. I wished him courage, and he managed a polite smile.

Not all of Amizmiz has been hit quite as hard as this neighbourhood. But everyone living here has been affected.

The buildings are not safe and so almost everyone has left their homes.

The lucky ones have been given shelter by the government. I could see a long line of yellow tents on the opposite hillside, and blue ones nearer the middle of town.

A hotel allowed anyone to stay for free, an example of the Moroccan sense of solidarity I came across so often this week.

It was at the hotel that I met Abdelali, a friend of a friend of a friend. A secondary school teacher wearing a lilac shirt and sunglasses, he seemed relaxed - until he started talking about



Almost all residents in the Moroccan town of Amizmiz were forced to leave their homes following the earthquake

his ordeal.

Many of his students and friends had died in the earthquake.

He had been celebrating his daughter's 21 birthday on what he now calls "black Friday". As soon as she blew the candles out, the ground started to shake. A birthday she will never forget, a moment that changed everything. The whole family now lives in a tent.

"We need a new word," Abdelali said, his voice rising with each phrase, "that is even stronger than horrific, than horrible, than disastrous, than catastrophic. Violent is not a good description, terrifying does not describe the situation."

The school he was so passionate about might not open for months and classes would be held in tents, risking the chances of a whole generation of students. His bank had been destroyed, meaning he had to travel dozens of kilometres to get

money out.

His real fear, though, was the winter, when temperatures plunge and snow covers the slopes. What will he and his family do if they are still living in their thin tent when the snow comes?

This part of Morocco is one of the poorest and least developed in the country.

The government's response to this crisis was too slow, many told me. Morocco has always been a bureaucratic, hierarchical country. I approached a succession of officials for an interview, in hospitals and makeshift camps for the displaced; all refused, saying they didn't have permission from their boss.

Morocco has also declined offers of help from the former colonial power France, at least until now, though foreign support will surely be needed for a reconstruction job this big. At the hotel, I asked Shaimaa, one of many residents made

homeless by the quake, whether she believed the government would be able to help her. She laughed, said she doubted it, but added she had faith in the Moroccan people.

Ever since the earthquake struck, Moroccans have clubbed together to buy water and juice, cooking oil and bread, sanitary products and blankets, everything that the survivors might need.

They have driven into the heart of these mountains, along roads where an aftershock could send rocks raining down from the steep hillsides, to provide help to people like Shaimaa and Abdelali.

Back near the mosque, Abdi motioned me and my colleagues over.

"You must eat," he said, and produced a dish of perfectly steamed vegetables on top of fragrant yellow grains of couscous.

Moroccan hospitality is unescapable, even in the most challenging of circumstances; Moroccans' spirit has not been crushed under the weight of the earthquake.

Amizmiz is - I should say was - a pretty little town.

It follows the curve of the road from Marrakech into the mountains, with incredible views across the valleys that turn a gentle shade of peach when the sun begins to set. Foreign tourists have come here for decades to hike in the hills, and Moroccans for a bit of respite from the hectic urban charms of Marrakech.

Not anymore.

**Agencies**

# Officials call for precaution as first death due to West Nile Virus reported in New Jersey

NEW YORK

THE New Jersey Department of Health and Environmental Protection has urged residents to take precautions after the state reported the first death of the year due to West Nile virus, the New York Post reported.

New Jersey's first West Nile virus death of the year was reported Friday, officials said. The death, in Bergen County, is among eight cases reported this year due to the mosquito-borne virus across the Garden State, six of which have required hospitalization, New Jersey's Health Department said.

"New Jersey is reporting eight cases and unfortunately one death associated with West Nile Virus (WNV) this season. The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) urge residents to take precautions to protect themselves from mosquito-borne diseases and to reduce mosquito populations on their properties,"

the Health Department said in a statement.

Notably, in comparison to five-year averages, more mosquito pools infected with the virus have been identified this year, the New York Post reported citing state officials. No West Nile virus deaths have been reported in the Big Apple so far this year.

As of Friday, 16 cases had been reported across all five boroughs, the vast majority in Queens, New York Post reported citing the city's Health Department.

Meanwhile, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, West Nile virus is the leading cause of mosquito-borne disease in the US, with cases occurring during the summer and fall.

However, only one in about 150 people develops severe illness, with symptoms including fever, headache, altered mental status, muscle weakness, and paralysis.

Last year, New Jersey recorded 20 human West Nile virus cases, four of which proved fatal, the New York Post reported. **ANI**

# EU tourism at decade high in first half of 2023

BRUSSELS

THE EU tourism industry is experiencing a strong recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the first half of 2023, the number of nights spent in tourist accommodations reached its highest level in the past decade, signalling a notable resurgence in the industry's performance in many countries, according to Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.

In the first half of this year, there were 1,193 million nights spent in tourist accommodations, marking an increase of nearly 11 million compared to the same period in 2019 (1182 million, +0.9 per cent). Additionally, there were 136 million more overnight stays than in the first half of 2022 (1057 million, +12.9 per cent). In comparison to 2021 (406.8 million), this year recorded 786 million more overnight stays, and compared to 2020 (474.7 million), 718 million more overnight stays were recorded.

All months surpassed the previous year's figures, with the highest increase recorded in January (45 per cent) and February (27 per cent).

Looking at the country data, all member states have seen an increase in overnight stays compared to 2022, with Hungary being the sole exception, experiencing a slight decrease of -0.3 per cent. Cyprus (39.3 per cent), Malta (30.5 per cent), and Slovakia (28.7 per cent) stand out with the most substantial increases in overnight stays. However, about half of the countries have yet to reach the figures recorded in the first half of 2019. Notably, Latvia (-23.8 per cent), Slovakia (-16.0 per cent), Hungary (-12.2 per cent), and Lithuania (-11.7 per cent) are still to get close to 2019 figures.

A strong boost to this year's numbers came from the recovery of international tourism. In comparison with 2022, there was a 22.5 per cent increase in the number of nights spent by foreign tourists, while domestic tourism saw a 5.8 per cent increase.

In total, foreign tourists accounted for 545 million nights in the first half of 2023 or 46 per cent of all overnight stays. In recent years, the proportion of foreign tourists has been significantly impacted by the pandemic.

**ANI**

# Virtual power plants make energy use greener



Photo shows a photovoltaic farm in Wenshan, southwest China's Yunnan province. File photo

IN recent years, China's power load has continued to grow, and extreme weathers have become more frequent, making it more difficult to ensure power supply during peak periods.

In response to the continuous growth in power load and other challenges, many regions in China are actively promoting the construction of virtual power plants to strengthen power supply during peak periods.

With no towering chimneys or plant buildings, and consuming no coal or other fuels, virtual power plants are invisible and intangible, yet possess some of the attributes of physical power plants, such as peak shaving and frequency regulation services.

Yang Kun, Executive President of the China Electricity Council, introduced that a virtual power plant is a smart energy system that aggregates distributed energy sources, power users, energy storage, and electric vehicles. Through coordinated optimization and control, it not only meets the energy demands of users, but also participates in the operation of power system and electricity market transactions.

At 20:00 on July 24, peak load approached in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui province. Chen Lu, who works for the State Grid Hefei Power Supply Company's Power Dispatch and Control Center, issued instructions of load adjustment to 25 electric vehicle battery swapping stations of an auto manufacturer

through a virtual power plant. In just one minute, the power grid saw its load reduce by 13,000 kilowatts, equivalent to the electricity load of over 2,000 households.

"After receiving the instructions, the battery swapping stations experienced a decrease in their average power output, which led to a slight increase of approximately 5 minutes in the charging time for each battery. However, this didn't affect the time it would take for car owners to swap their batteries at these stations," said an execu-

tive of the auto manufacturer.

Companies joining peak shaving services can receive certain benefits. So far, Hefei's virtual power plants have been connected to various types of loads, including photovoltaic power stations, electric vehicle charging and swapping stations, energy storage stations, and air conditioning systems of buildings, with a total capacity exceeding 240,000 kilowatts.

In recent years, China has generally experienced an ample power supply but tightness during peak periods, which

not always lasted long. Studies showed that for most provinces, the total duration when the power load exceeds 95 percent of the maximum load is only dozens of hours each year.

According to calculations, it could take several hundred billion yuan to build power plants and supporting grids in an attempt to ensure power supply in peak periods, but an alternative approach using virtual power plants could significantly reduce the cost to only 10 percent to 20 percent of what would be required for tra-

ditional power plants, said Sun Siyang, a researcher with the Energy Development Research Institute, China Southern Power Grid.

He believes that virtual power plants not only help gather decentralized demand-side resources, which eases supply-demand contradictions, but also save investment in traditional power plants and grids, allowing participating users to obtain certain incentives.

Apart from tapping into the potential of power load on the demand side, virtual power plants also improve the utilization efficiency of new energy from the supply side.

In Quzhou, east China's Zhejiang province, photovoltaic power generation accounts for over 40 percent of the province's total installed capacity. However, the reliance of photovoltaic power generation on weather conditions once posed a challenge to the stable operation of the power grid.

Recently, a "hydro-photovoltaic-storage" intelligent and flexible system was launched in the city, with over 300 hydropower stations, photovoltaic power stations and energy storage stations connected

to a large virtual power plant. When there is excess power generated by photovoltaic systems, it is stored for later use. Conversely, when the capacity of photovoltaic power generation is insufficient, the stored power is utilized to fill the gap.

"In the past, dispatchers could only passively adjust resources after load fluctuations occurred based on their experience. Now through virtual power plants and technologies like big data and artificial intelligence, they can control hydropower, photovoltaic power and energy storage in an integrated manner, so as to predict and generate dispatching strategies in advance, preparing before problems arise," said Wu Chang, who is in charge of grid operation models at State Grid Quzhou Power Supply Company.

At present, China is accelerating the development of new energy. By the first half of this year, the installed capacities of wind power and photo-

voltaic power reached 389 million kilowatts and 470 million kilowatts, accounting for about 32 percent of China's total installed capacity.

As the proportion of new energy continues to increase, its intermittency, randomness, and volatility make grid regulation more difficult, and the balancing and security issues of the power system become more prominent.

Distributed photovoltaics developed rapidly, accounting for more than half of the newly installed photovoltaic capacity in the first half of the year, said Sun, adding these distributed new energy sources have been directly integrated into the distribution network, and when the scale reaches a certain level, they will pose certain challenges to the safe and stable operation of the grid.

He noted virtual power plants can help the grid absorb more fluctuating new energy sources, thereby enhancing the real-time balancing and security of power supply of the power system, and promoting green energy use.

**People's Daily**

# SPORT



Dar es Salaam's junior footballers showcase their skills at a training that took place at Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park's ground recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## Youths should invest in entertainment activities - call

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

TANZANIA'S youths have been reminded to invest in entertainment activities because they play a major role in enriching people's lives, promoting social cohesion, as well promoting the overall well-being of the people.

StarTimes Director of Marketing and Content, David Malisa, issued the call during the launching of a contest, known as 'Bingwa Season 2', which took place yesterday.

Malisa disclosed that entertainment is a fundamental aspect of human life and its importance cannot be overstated.

He further noted 'Bingwa Season 2' has officially started and all 24 contestants will coexist in a house for 72 days ultimately users will vote for the winner who will walk away with a prize that will help him/her make a good living.

"The second season of 'Bingwa Season 2' has officially started and it is going to air for six days straight from Sunday to Friday at 2200hrs through TV3 from StarTimes channel number 197 for dish users and channel number 137 for antenna users," he noted.

"All contestants staying in the house will be rewarded by the day you spend in the building so you can see everyone win regardless," he said.

He further noted that entertainment is pivotal because it serves as a source of relaxation and stress relief for the citizens.

According to the official, in today's fast-paced world, people are constantly bombarded with work and responsibilities, for that matter, the need for leisure and relaxation is greater than ever.

"Entertainment fosters creativity and imagination, literature, theatre, and arts which encourage people to explore new world, ideas, and perspectives which inspire citizen to think critical and engage in intellectual discourse", he noted.

Comedian Jackson Supakilla, known by his stage name 'Mkali Kwanza', who is also one of the contestants said that people should see entertainment as either an opportunity or platform for carrying them through because while a comedian is entertaining others, he/she can make money which will help him/her and his/her family.

"Engaging in enjoyable activities allows individuals to escape the pressure of daily life because this mental break does not only reduce stress but also rejuvenate the mind and body enabling the citizens to return to their duties with renewed energy and focus," he noted.

## Russell Brand behaviour was an open secret, says one accuser

LONDON

ONE of the women who has accused entertainer Russell Brand of sexual assault when she was 16 has said his behaviour was an "open secret".

The woman, known as Alice, added that allegations against him have been "a long time coming".

The comedian and actor has been accused of rape and sexual assaults between 2006 and 2013, which he denies.

Speaking for the first time since accusations became public, she said his denial is "laughable" and "insulting".

"It feels quite honestly surreal at the moment to see my story everywhere and even elements of my story on the front pages of publications that I hadn't spoken to," Alice told BBC Radio Four Woman's Hour presenter Emma Barnett. "And it feels like it was a long time in the coming."

"But it also felt like something that would never be realised for me, and so I'm just I can't say that I'm glad because it's been an unpleasant experience. But I hope that we can have conversations that can lead to protecting people in the future."

Brand has denied all claims of misconduct, saying he's a subject of "a coordinated attack" involving "very serious allegations that I absolutely refute." He said his relationships have been "always consensual".

Alice said she found his response to be "insulting" but unsurprising. "And it's laughable that he would even imply that this is some kind of mainstream media conspiracy," she continued.

"He's not outside the mainstream. He did a Universal Pictures movie last year, he did Minions - a children's movie. He is very much part of the mainstream media. He just happens to have a YouTube channel where he talks

about conspiracy theories to an audience that laps it up. And it may sound cynical, but I do think that he was building himself an audience for years of people that would then have great distrust of any publication that came forward with allegations. He knew it was coming for a long time."

She added: "And as for him denying that anything non-consensual happened, that's not a surprise to me. These men always denied that any of these allegations brought to them. I knew he would."

"He didn't deny that he had a relationship with a 16-year-old."

Alice went on to say her mother did everything in her power to warn her daughter, then still at school, off the entertainer, then in his 30s.

"She followed all those motherly impulses. She took my phone away. She grounded me... she would try to keep me confined to the house," she explained.

After a few days of the relationship, Alice claimed, Brand told her his management had told him not to be seen out with her in public, while not illegal, it "wasn't a good look for him and his career".

A spokesman for John Noel management, who represented the star at the time, told the documentary makers that for "legal reasons" on which they "cannot elaborate" they "were not in a position to respond to questions".

Alice went on to say she had been "groomed" and felt "cheaper", developed an eating disorder and that her experience had affected her future relationships.

"It's the biggest open secret going - you don't have to be an investigative journalist to have conversations with somebody who has an awful experience with him or somebody knows something."

SPORTS

## Yanga impressively triumphs while Simba SC draws in a stalemate

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

LAST Saturday, the campaigns of Simba SC and Yanga in the hugely cherished CAF Champions League got up and running to the excitement of unbridled football aficionados in our neck of the woods.

For Simba SC's part, the Msimbazi Street side was up against Zambian giants, Power Dynamos, in the latter's backyard, Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola, while Yanga headed into battle against Sudanese team Al Merrikh in Kigali, Rwanda.

It should be noted here that last weekend's encounters were merely the first legs of Simba SC's and Yanga's CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round ties.

Ultimately though, Simba SC was unable to garner a valuable win against their hosts Power Dynamos, which means that the Msimbazi Street side unfortunately failed to break the jinx as the local juggernauts have not claimed a victory on Zambian soil since 1979 to date.

Indeed, in what was a pulsating clash, Simba SC and Power Dynamos ended up sharing the spoils in a 2-2 stalemate, which sets up a high-stakes second-leg showdown here in the country.

In the second leg here at home, Simba SC should strive to ensure that their defense is watertight as conceding any goals could throw a spanner in the works of the club's plans to excel in the CAF Champions League this season.

As for Yanga, they are in a completely different boat as the Jangwani Street outfit impeccably gained a sublime 2-0 win against the Sudanese club Al Merrikh in the away first leg in Kigali, Rwanda last Saturday.

Yanga, which does not have a flattering track record in the CAF Champions League, will be seeking that much-needed killer instinct in the second leg here at home so that they will be able to oust their Sudanese



Tanzania's Yanga attacker, Clement Mzize (L), dribbles past Sudan's Al Merrikh fullback, Mustafa Karshoum, when the clubs met in the first leg of the 2023/24 CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round which took place at Kigali Pelé Stadium in Rwanda last Saturday, ending in a 2-0 victory for Yanga. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

counterparts from the competition.

It should be recalled that Yanga fans will fancy their prospects of seeing off Al Merrikh, following the Jangwani Street side's sensational run to the final of the CAF Confederations Cup last season, which they sadly lost in gut-wrenching fashion to Algerian titans USM Alger.

Admittedly, while the CAF Champions League is an entirely different kettle of fish from the CAF Confederation Cup, legions of Yanga fans will be encouraged by their team's overall sterling performance in the CAF Confederation Cup last season, which they will likely feel ought to stand them in good stead for their blockbuster second leg clash against Al Merrikh.

Thus, with a berth in the next round of the CAF Champions League at stake, one fervently hopes that Yanga will be home and dry at the end of the second leg, which will ensure that their quest for continental football glory continues.

Speaking of glory, it is doubtlessly true that the African-American teenage sensation, Coco Gauff, is still basking in

the glory of her remarkable US Open triumph which happened a little over a week ago. Indeed, the gutsy African-American teenage tennis star, whose career is still in its nascent stage, has won many plaudits for her breakthrough grand slam success recently.

Thus, after having claimed her first grand slam trophy, it is hoped that Coco can continue to produce the goods, which will ensure that she is rightly viewed as an inspiration to all young black girls and women throughout the globe.

## Eight teams confirmed for 2023 CAF Women's Champions League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi & Agencies

THE 2023 CAF Women's Champions League defending champion, Morocco's AS FAR Women's FC, and the maiden showdown's champions Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies FC of South Africa will form part of a new exciting line-up of teams that have qualified for the tournament's finals set to be played in Cote d'Ivoire.

The third edition of the continental competition is set to kick off on November 5 and stretch for two weeks until November 19.

Tanzania's JKT Queens will represent the CECAFA region having won the regional qualifiers held in Jinja, Uganda in August.

Last year, Simba Queens, also from Tanzania, represented the CECAFA region after defeating She Corporate FC of Uganda 1-0 in the Zonal Qualifiers' final in Dar es Salaam in August last year.

Kenya's Vihiga Queens failed to make their second appearance in the continental showdown after being

bundled out of the qualifiers by Ethiopia CBE Women's FC in the semi-finals. Huracanes FC from Equatorial Guinea completed the line-up of teams at the end of last week when the squad won the Central African Football Federations' Union (UNIFFAC) Qualifiers.

The Equatorial Guinea outfit had defeated the regional showdown holders, TP Mazembe Women's FC of DR Congo, to secure their ticket to their first-ever appearance at the main event.

As tournament hosts, Athlético Abidjan will be hoping to make the host nation proud in their first attempt at continental glory.

The Ivorian nation is currently continuing to build on the exciting mood now enjoyed across the nation in welcoming Africa to 2023 TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations to be held next year.

Reigning champions, AS FAR Women's FC, will be hoping to defend their crown, while Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies FC, who clinched the COSAFA Zonal Qualifiers' title without a single loss, will be hoping to reclaim the title they won in 2021.

Both AS FAR Women's FC and Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies FC return for their third appearance of the tournament, having qualified for each edition since the tournament's 2021 inception.

The eight confirmed clubs are defending champions, AS FAR Women's FC of Morocco, Morocco's Sporting

Club Casablanca (UNAF Zone winner), Mali's AS Mandé (WAFU A Zone winner), and hosts Athlético Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire).

Ampem Darkoa Ladies FC of Ghana (WAFU B Zone winner), JKT Queens of Tanzania (CECAFA Zone winners), Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies FC of South Africa (COSAFA Zone winner), and Huracanes FC of Equatorial Guinea (UNIFFAC Zone winner) wrap up the list.

In line with CAF president Patrice Motsepe's commitment to growing the women's game in Africa, CAF has set the Women's Champions League's winners' prize money to USD 400,000.



Footballers and officials making Tanzania's JKT Queens jubilate shortly after the side triumphed in the 2023 CAF Women's Champions League CECAFA Zonal qualifiers, defeating Ethiopia's CBE Women's FC 5-4 in a penalty shootout of the final which took place in Uganda recently. AGENCIES

## 'Fans can do what they want' says Pochettino after Chelsea jeers

LONDON

MAURICIO Pochettino insisted he would not condemn the Chelsea fans who booed his team after Sunday's drab 0-0 draw against lowly Bournemouth.

The Blues have made their second worst ever start to a Premier League campaign following a lacklustre performance at the Vitality Stadium.

With just one win from five league games, Chelsea are closer to the relegation zone than the top four.

It has been a wretched start to Pochettino's reign after his close-season appointment and for the second successive game his team were booed off by angry supporters.

Chelsea defender Ben Chilwell appeared to endure extra abuse when he went towards the Blues fans in one corner of the stadium at the final whistle.

Despite a spending spree of over £1 billion since Todd Boehly's consortium purchased Chelsea from Roman Abramovich in 2022, the west London club are in a bigger mess than ever.

Despite an injury crisis that forced Pochettino to name three outfield players aged 19 or under

on the bench as well as two goalkeepers, the Argentine said he couldn't complain about the fans' jeers.

"What can we do? For me, I have nothing to say. The fans can do whatever they want," he said.

"We know what we need to do, we are strong in our belief. We have 12 injured and today we had three or four young guys and two keepers on the bench.

"I'm going to cry? I'm going to complain? To who? I need to accept this, the challenge and keep being positive."

Asked whether he was sympathetic to the reaction of the supporters, Pochettino added: "What I can tell the fans is there are circumstances that we cannot change.

"We have too many players injured. We're a team that would be strong if we are together. Manchester City, Arsenal, when they have all the squad fit, they can compete for everything.

"Why is it different for us? It's because of what? We don't have all the squad available from the beginning of the season.

"These are the circumstances we need to accept and be positive, patient."

AFP

## Madrid comeback to stay perfect, Ramos enjoys Sevilla return

MADRID

REAL Madrid came from behind to beat Real Sociedad 2-1 and climb back to the top of La Liga on Sunday, maintaining their perfect start to the season.

Earlier Sergio Ramos made his second Sevilla debut in a narrow win over Las Palmas, while Mason Greenwood played his first match for Getafe, on loan from Manchester United.

After Barcelona put five past Real Betis in a flashy display on Saturday the onus was on Carlo Ancelotti's Madrid side to maintain their 100 percent record and they did, against the tricky Basque visitors.

Propelled by the electric Takefusa Kubo, Real Sociedad took an early lead through Ander Barrenetxea, but Madrid hit back with goals from Fede Valverde and Joselu to earn their fifth win from five games.

England international Jude Bellingham was unable to continue his excellent goalscoring form, after netting five goals in his first four Madrid matches, but remains the division's top goalscorer.

Madrid start their Champions League campaign on Wednesday at home against Union Berlin, and despite losing Ballon d'Or winner Karim Benzema in the summer and star player Vinicius Junior to injury, remain a force to be reckoned with.

"We started by letting in a goal and the good thing is that we were capable of turning it around - the bad thing is that we have to avoid that," said Ancelotti.

"We did it thanks to the commitment, energy and will of the team, we have an intensity that opponents find hard to cope with for 90 minutes."

The Basque visitors went ahead at the new-look Santiago Bernabeu after only five minutes, when Kubo stroked a fine pass into Barrenetxea's path.

Kepa Arrizabalaga kept out his first effort with a fine save but could not claw out the second.

Kubo then beat the goalkeeper with a brilliant strike but it was disallowed for offside.

Joselu hit the crossbar with the goal gaping and Alex Remiro denied Dani Carvajal as Madrid found their footing.

Valverde slammed Real Madrid level less than a minute into the second half, lashing Fran Garcia's cut-back in off the post from outside the area.

The left-back created the second goal too, crossing for target man Joselu to nod the hosts ahead at the back post.

Spain international Joselu was

immediately taken off for Eduardo Camavinga, as Ancelotti sought more control of the game.

The Italian got it too, with the visitors effectively shut down, no longer finding spaces between Madrid lines.

"This is the Bernabeu and with our fans we turned it around," said Joselu. "We're doing a bit of everything, we're confident in ourselves, there's a lot of quality in the squad and we came from behind again."

Madrid lead Barcelona by two points, with both of Spain's giants unbeaten, although the Catalans drew their opening game against Getafe.

- 'Die happy' -

Sergio Ramos played for Sevilla for the first time since he left the club in 2005 as they earned their first win of the season over Las Palmas.

The 37-year-old centre-back started in the 1-0 victory at the Ramon Sanchez-Pizjuan, following his arrival from Paris Saint-Germain this summer.

Ramos, who left Sevilla for Real Madrid 18 years ago to the ire of many supporters in Andalucia, was cheered on his return.

Belgian winger Dodi Lukebakio sent Sevilla ahead after 71 minutes and with Ramos patrolling, they kept their first clean sheet of the campaign.

"I felt a lot of emotion ... it was amazing to find my people again, my home, my fans, it's unique," Ramos told Movistar.

The defender admitted some nerves about how fans would treat him after playing at a rival club for so long. "I had a few doubts at first but the reception I had on my arrival, I will take to the grave ... now I can die happy," he added.

Elsewhere Pacheta got off to a winning start as Villarreal's new coach thanks to Alexander Sorloth's 94th minute winner against Almeria in a 2-1 victory.

Getafe edged Osasuna 3-2, with Greenwood making his debut, and his first appearance since January 2022.

The English striker, on loan at Getafe from Manchester United, was charged with attempted rape and assault in October 2022 but the charges were later dropped.

Getafe coach Jose Bordalas sent Greenwood on in the 77th minute to applause from home fans at the club's Coliseum Alfonso Perez stadium. A group of Osasuna supporters greeted the 21-year-old's arrival to Spanish football with chants of "Greenwood, die".

"I didn't hear them so I have nothing to say," said Bordalas. "I am very happy with the kid's debut."

AFP

# Arsenal have fixed one major weakness - not that woeful Everton tested them

By Jason Burt

PRIOR to kick-off Mikel Arteta talked about "rotations" as he justified his decision to drop goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale and give a first start to new signing David Raya.

The Arsenal manager may well have played himself in goal - so unambitious and frankly awful were Everton - but it is the strength in depth he has steadily accumulated in his impressive squad that ultimately proved to be the difference and may be of even greater significance during the course of this season.

It was a blow to lose Gabriel Martinelli in the first-half to an apparent hamstring injury, soon after his goal was ruled out for a questionable offside following a Var check, but it was his replacement, Leandro Trossard, who scored the only goal that secured the points and a rare victory at Goodison Park.

Despite Arsenal's absolute dominance, and despite that strength, there was a danger that they lacked a cutting edge until Trossard's smart intervention. That concern appears to be the main threat to their top four and Premier League title hopes.

In truth, Trossard's wonderful goal lit up the duller of encounters and this was as abject as it gets from Everton under Sean Dyche with his woefully unambitious, one-dimensional team understandably booed off. If this is the game-plan the manager wanted then he really has to go back to the drawing board. This is not how to coach in the Premier League.

Everton's only hope was to hold on and gamble that Arsenal could not take advantage of their utter superiority but Trossard ended that with an accomplished finish after fine build-up play involving Declan Rice, Martin Odegaard and Bukayo Saka.

In fact it was the third game in a row that a substitute has scored for Arsenal and that feels like a telling trend. It also came from a short corner with Arsenal shrewdly deciding not to go long,



Leandro Trossard became the third Arsenal player to score off the bench in as many games. Agencies

given the height of the Everton team, but there was some frustration from Dyche that 28 seconds elapsed before they took it.

In truth Trossard has been something of a bit-part player for Arsenal since his move from Brighton & Hove Albion. Indeed despite this being his fourth appearance for his club this season he has made only one start and has actually played more minutes (145 to 142) for his country, Belgium, during the recent international break.

Trossard's goal was also his first in the league since February, 219 days ago, following his £27 million move which only went through after Arsenal missed out on Mykhailo Mudryk to Chelsea.

Even so there is no doubt which has proved to be the better deal and while Trossard may not have played as much as he would surely have wanted he has certainly contributed - not least with a hat-trick of assists last March

against Fulham.

The 28-year-old will have to remain patient. Martinelli's injury may give him a chance, not least with the Champions League tie against PSV Eindhoven coming up on Wednesday, although even then he faces competition.

Arteta left out Ramsdale and later interestingly talked about possibly substituting his goalkeeper during games but he also dropped one of his big summer signings, Kai Havertz, who also came on off the bench. It is remarkable what Arsenal now possess in reserve.

So far Havertz has been a disappointment but his replacement, Fabio Vieira, did well while the changes Arteta was able to make showed the options he has. This time it was Eddie Nketiah's turn to disappoint, and he did not get a sniff as he started at centre-forward, but that did not matter in the end as he was replaced by Gabriel Jesus who instantly pepped up the attack.

Similarly the manager was able to bring on Takehiro Tomiyasu to take over from the tiring Oleksandr Zinchenko while he did not even have to use Emile Smith Rowe, Jorginho, Jakub Kiwior or Reiss Nelson. And so that bench looked far more formidable than any he has previously been able to call on.

Talking about the squad as a whole - with starters and finishers (rather than substitutes) - has been a theory first developed in rugby union, under former England coach Eddie Jones in particular, but is now prevalent in football.

Arteta has argued that Arsenal need two players for every position if they are to go the distance and now, pretty much, they have it. He has also consistently targeted players with Premier League experience - three of his four big summer signings possessed it - while last January it was Jorginho and Trossard.

Unfortunately for both they have found themselves largely in the shadow XI but Trossard took his chance here, opening up his body smartly to side-foot in off the far post, with a first goal since scoring in the Community Shield against Manchester City.

Before that it looked like Arsenal would again be frustrated in a stadium where they have not won since 2017 - including defeat here last season in what was Dyche's first game in charge.

Despite the closeness of the scoreline there was never any chance of a repeat of that with Raya not having a single save to make on an afternoon where all he could do was join in the build-up play which is one of his strengths over Ramsdale.

Arsenal really would have been kicking themselves had they not won with Odegaard and the flawless Declan Rice running the midfield. Trossard made sure that did not happen while Arteta made his point while collecting the points. The substitutes (finishers) made the difference and that could be the difference.

THE TELEGRAPH

## From renaissance to current mess, Manchester United in trouble ahead of Bayern Munich test

By Richard Jolly

DANNY Schwarz is the manager of Homburg now and Tim Walter is the manager of Hamburg. Sebastian Hoeness has followed in Walter's footsteps for a second time by taking charge of VfB Stuttgart. Coaching Bayern Munich it tends to be a stepping stone to a senior job. But not normally one of this magnitude.

When Erik ten Hag goes to the Allianz Arena on Wednesday, it should be a triumphant return. He was nicknamed "mini Pep" in his time at Bayern but was a lower-profile figure in a lower-profile job. Now he is manager of one of the few clubs in world football who might be bigger even than Bayern. It is a personal triumph for a manager who described his decision to quit a first-team job at Go Ahead Eagles, who he had led to promotion, to go to Bayern's youthful reserve team as an "unlogical move". The danger, however, is that it becomes an unenjoyable reunion.

For Manchester United, thoughts of Bayern are indelibly associated with memories of 1999, with the goals from Teddy Sheringham and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer that rendered them treble winners and champions of England and took their unbeaten streak to 33 games. Now they head to Bavaria with three losses in four, with the setbacks still outnumbered by the problems, with issues in every department of the side. They have lacked form, changed formation, fielded the untried, the understudies, the out of position and the out of sorts. They have called upon Jonny Evans, who first played for them in 2007, and conceded to Danny Welbeck, who first scored for them in 2008. Under Ten Hag last season, they seemed to benefit from clarity of thought and unity of purpose. Yet they seemed to have a manager who could turn United back from a soap opera to a football club.

Now United again feel a mess, with Ten Hag unable to control everything



Paul Pogba may have landed himself in very hot water. Agencies

from the mildly ridiculous to the more harrowing. When Anthony Martial appeared to turn up several hours early for training on Thursday, it was a harmless irrelevance, but sadly typical at United right now; it also prompted the thought that Martial's timing has been poor for quite some time. But while Martial's de facto replacement, and Ten Hag's £72m striker Rasmus Hojlund faces comparisons that are both inevitable and unfair with Harry Kane on Wednesday, Ten Hag's costliest buy will be

missing.

Antony's leave of absence stems from serious allegations of assault by three women, which he denies but which follows United's aborted attempt to bring back Mason Greenwood. That prompted suggestions they had mislaid their moral compass. Thus far, Ten Hag has been more critical of the banished Jadon Sancho than Antony.

Without both, United lost to Brighton, whose starting 11 cost £17m, about 20 percent of Antony's fee; Ten Hag's

chosen 11 came in at £347m and his explanation that prices are inflated when United come calling scarcely accounted for the differential. Last week, statistics from the CIES Football Observatory showed United have the most expensive squad in world football, at almost £1bn.

But the two most dearest members of the current squad are unavailable; the third priciest, Hojlund, has nine senior goals in major European leagues to his name. VAR denied him a strike on his full debut against Brighton which could have relieved some of the pressure conferred by the price tag. The young Dane has at least offered some encouragement in his first two appearances; the boos that greeted his substitution were the first indication Ten Hag's decisions are being disputed by the crowd.

The other 2023 arrivals have had troubled starts. Mason Mount may be back for Bayern but his opening two games suggested he was miscast in midfield. Evans came on against Arsenal and, while it was not entirely his fault, United soon conceded twice. Sergio Reguilon had a difficult debut against Brighton and could be sent out to face Bayern's band of wingers. Andre Onana has passed the ball well but conceded 10 goals in his last four games. A patched-up, slipshod rearguard is the major cause

**Gwiji** by David Chikoko



# SPORT

**Arsenal have fixed one major weakness – not that woeful Everton tested them**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Tanzania's Singida Fountain Gate FC forward, Elvis Rupia (C), seeks to get the better of Egypt's Future FC defenders during the 2023/24 CAF Confederation Cup Second Preliminary Round's first leg that took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday, culminating in 1-0 win for Singida Fountain Gate FC. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SINGIDA FOUNTAIN GATE FC

## Singida Fountain Gate FC players laud Middendorp's tactics

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Singida Fountain Gate FC players have poured praise on head coach Ernst Middendorp's tactics following the squad's 1-0 win over Egyptian outfit, Future FC, in the first leg of the 2023/24 CAF Confederation Cup Second Preliminary Round at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

Middendorp made a few changes in the squad including playing left-back, Gadiel Michael, as a defensive midfielder, while another left-back, Yahya Mbegu, made his debut for the club in the position.

Newly-signed Kenyan marksman Elvis Rupia who scored the lone goal stood up front with Brazilian midfielder, Bruno Gomes.

Speaking on behalf of Singida Fountain Gate FC's players, assistant captain Michael said: "We had very intensive preparations for the match, we watched various video footage of Future FC's games and the gaffer said there is a need to twist in formation, and structure within the field of play."

The defender noted: "When he approached us during training it wasn't so hard because we were ready, I was playing as a defensive midfielder, and he gave me few instructions on how to move with the ball and without the ball while reading my teammates movements, with that, it was easy playing defensive midfielder."

Duke Abuya, naturally deployed as an attacking midfielder, played as a winger to bring the numerical advantage of midfield footballers when launching attacks, whilst all defending in a high line.

The club's Head of Information and Communication Hussein Masanza thanked fans who went to the stadium to support his club and conceded that the rematch is still open, and they have intensive work to put in.

"We are delighted fans came to our match and it is very promising in the upcoming fixtures if we are to progress, we still have work to accomplish in the second leg, a win in the first leg is a boost for us," the official noted.

Masanza poured praise on newly signing Elvis Rupia-the KFK Premier League top scorer 2022/23 with 27 goals for his former club, Kenya Police FC, now linking up with his compatriot and former teammate, Abuya.

Rupia was on duty with Kenya's senior national team in the just-concluded week of FIFA international friendlies and continental qualifiers, joining his new outfit last week but he was drafted straight into the first team.

Masanza revealed: "I don't remember when we had a top goal scorer who scored 27 goals in our league, we have signed a talisman that will put many balls behind the back of the net, we are pleased to have a dangerous striker in our team."

Singida Fountain Gate FC will play against Azam FC in an NBC Premier League match at Azam Complex Stadium on September 21 in quest of their first top-flight win at the venue before their continental outing.

The Singida outfit will travel to Egypt on October 1 for the Second Preliminary Round return leg, carrying a slim advantage as the club looks to make it to the Group Stage for the first time.

Posting a draw in the rematch will be enough to see Singida Fountain Gate FC sail through to the second tier of continental showdowns' Group Stage.

*"We are delighted fans came to our match and it is very promising in the upcoming fixtures if we are to progress, we still have work to accomplish in the second leg, a win in the first leg is a boost for us"*

## Simba SC midfielder optimistic of improvement in attacking

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC midfielder, Clatous Chama, is convinced the side's 2023/24 NBC Premier League match versus Coastal Union, to be played at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Thursday, is vital for addressing the former's attacking woes.

The weakness in the striking force was in view when Simba SC locked horns with Zambia's Power Dynamos in a 2023/24 CAF Champions League's Second Preliminary Round match in Zambia last Saturday.

Msimbazi Street side drew 2-2 with Power Dynamos, Zambia Super League's defending champion, at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in the first leg of the premier continental club tournament's quest for qualification for the Group Stage.

Chama considers the next game of the NBC Premier League against Coastal Union on Thursday will be part of correcting their mistakes before the rematch of the CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round against Power Dynamos set for October this year.

Chama equalized both goals for Simba SC in the 2-2 draw, with the club coming from behind against Power Dynamos last weekend.

The Zambian midfielder revealed: "On Wednesday we will play against Coastal Union at Uhuru Stadium, we focus our mind and energy on that game so that we can correct our woes in defense and attacking, and begin our preparations knowing we are out to see off our mistakes and fight for a victory to qualify for the Group Stage of the CAF Champions League."

"Coastal Union versus Simba SC has been a tough match and we have to be ruthless to notch three points, but also against Power Dynamos, we will fight more in Dar es Salaam, anything can happen in football," Chama noted.

"A draw was not our goal, we are going to be more clinical in the return leg match," the former Premier League MVP said.

He added that the match was difficult and the players fought to make sure they were in control but Power Dynamos changed, pointing out the outfit's pattern was different from how it played in the Simba Day festival match against Simba SC at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, Dar es Salaam.

Chama lauded his team for a top-notch mentality that forced the draw, saying after scoring the first goal and falling 2-1 they managed to prepare mentally and physically by motivating each other to fight until the last minute and later equalized to force the 2-2 draw.

"I applaud all my teammates for the hard-fought draw. It is very important to play to the needs of the team, and the coach and make our fans who have been with us at every stage happy," the footballer disclosed.

"We cannot tell them with words but we make sure we make them happy with good results on the pitch," Chama noted.

Simba SC won 3-1 against Coastal Union in the last round match of the Premier League last season and, this season, the former has already won two games while Coastal Union managed to notch a draw in one game and conceded a loss in two games.

## Gamondi calls on Yanga's players to switch focus to 2023/24 PL tie against Namungo FC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA's head coach Miguel Gamondi has emphasized focusing on the outfit's 2023/24 NBC Premier League match against Namungo FC, slated to take place in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday.

The NBC Premier League defending champion is now amidst jubilation of the outfit's 2-0 win over Sudan's Al Merrikh in the first leg of the 2023/24 CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round.

Jangwani Street-based Yanga moved closer to securing Group Stage football after Kennedy Musonda and Clement Mzize scored two second-half goals for the side to help it pick up an important away win.

The two teams are set to meet again for the rematch in two weeks at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam for the decisive fixture to determine the winner.

As for Al Merrikh, the club needs to win by either a three-goal margin to book a ticket to the Group Stage or seal a 2-0 victory to force the game into spot kicks which will settle the two-leg tie.

The Argentine noted: "I don't see a reason to continue celebrating the victory against Al Merrikh when we still have 90 minutes left, I have told my players to stop thinking about the results and focus on the Premier League game against Namungo FC because it is a tough league match and we should pay attention to it."

"After finishing the game against Namungo FC we can focus on the return leg of the CAF Champions League because Al Merrikh is a good team and will come tough because it has nothing to lose now after failing to pick good results," Gamondi stated.

Yanga will entertain Namungo FC at Azam Complex Stadium on Wednesday, seeking to stretch the former's impressive record in the Premier League, as the club boasts two wins, 10 goals, and a clean sheet in the first two matches.

Namungo FC is yet to defeat Yanga as, in the last five encounters bringing together the two outfits, Yanga has won three games, and two games have ended in a draw.

Namungo FC arrived in Dar es Salaam last week and camped for the squad's meeting against Yanga, focusing on early arrival and playing



Yanga's head coach, Miguel Gamondi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

a few friendlies to keep the club's players in good shape ahead of the coming duel.

The Lindi club had a slow start in the league following the team's 1-0 loss to pro-

moted side, JKT Tanzania, at Majaliwa Stadium in Ruangwa and later settled for a 1-1 draw with Kinondoni Municipal Council FC at the same venue.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**MJADALA**

**EATV TUESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Mpera Mpera  
13:30 Kati Za Wana  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
14:00 SPORTS (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
17:00 SILEET  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kati Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 MJADALA  
21:30 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa  
23:05 EATV SAA 1

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shaping process.

**eastafrika RADIO**

05:00 Supa Breakfast  
09:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
19:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**