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## 'Investments in minerals must prepare plans to add value'

*The ministry trained 10,213 small-scale miners on safety, health and environmental conservation methods*

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

**N**O mining licences (MLs) or special mining licences (SMLs) for any kind of minerals will be issued to any investor who doesn't have a strategic plan for adding value to the minerals extracted. Anthony Mavunde, the docket minister, stat-

ed this position when tabling the Minerals budget estimates for fiscal 2024/25 yesterday in the National Assembly, tuned at 231.98bn/-. He said that current and incoming investors in the minerals sector are supposed to develop a strategic plan that identifies facilities to be set up for value addition of precious

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It's meal time for these Ihomasa Primary School pupils - at the school's own premises in Mtambula ward, Mufindi District - as witnessed by Correspondent Francis Godwin on Monday afternoon. Sources told The Guardian that it was all courtesy of joint efforts by parents/guardians and the school's management team to ensure that hunger does not stand in the way of smooth tuition at the school.


### SPORTS

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**Yanga issued with second FIFA transfer ban**

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**Terzic repays Dortmund faith before PSG semi-final clash**

## Tucta says retirement lump sum, increments key issues

By Guardian Reporter

THE Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) has declared that workers' expectations in today's May Day commemoration will focus on the new formula for computing retirement benefits. A TUCTA statement yesterday said that workers expect to hear from President Samia Suluhu Hassan on envisaged changes as they seek relief for workers in the public and private sectors. TUCTA vice president Shabani Ambindwile said in a telephone interview yesterday that workers were still grappling with low payment, seeking

that it is improved to access various services, noting also that if an employee is well paid, he/she will get good retirement benefits. Hery Mkunda, secretary general of the Tanzania Union of Government and Health Employees (TUGHE) said the union has plenty of expectations from the government. Workers responding on condition of anonymity said that the major issue during the International Workers' Day address is salary increments, expressing the feeling that President Samia will pursue changes she has regularly made, to "provide us with good news today."

The workers also want to hear about promotions and new job openings as a large group of educated youth are in the streets with no jobs, they stated. Recently, Patrobas Katambi, the Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities deputy state minister in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) cited improving civil servants' retirement benefits in its lump sum payment. Responding to labour related issues raised by MPs in the National Assembly, he said President Samia had twice issued directives to require ministers and the relevant agencies to work on the matter,

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## JKCI team, Heart Africa Foundation in 1bn/- donations event set for July 6

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

JAKAYA Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) experts in collaboration with the Heart Team Africa Foundation (HTAF) intend to organise a fundraising event for 1bn/- for treatment of children. Dr Peter Kisenge, the JKCI executive director, said at a briefing in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the fundraising will complement government efforts to assure the treatment of children with cardiac challenges, by contributing 70 percent of treatment costs. The organisers expect that the funds will be raised from various stakeholders at an event on July 6, assuring heart surgery or similar treatment for upwards of 500 children, he said, noting that scores of families fail to contribute to treatment expenses of 30 percent of cost, as heart surgery on a child is billed at 4m/- to 15m/-.

JKCI has performed heart surgeries on 357 children in the past year, where the fundraising will help increase the number of children to 500 in one year, he said. JKCI and HTAF cooperation started last year, with intent to support treating children with cardiac challenges, he said, noting that at least one in every 100 babies is born with a heart defect. Out of two million children born every year, upwards of 13,000 or 14,000 will have cardiovascular difficulties, where an estimated 4000 among them will need surgery, he stated. Dr Sulende Kubhoja, head of the cardiovascular unit at JKCI, said that population increase goes in tandem with increases of people born with cardiac challenges. From 10m people at independence the population already stood at 61.7m by August 2022, with 60 percent of the population being children under the age of 17, he

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## Britain donates 556m/- to help flood victims

*Water storage tanks, clothes, school supplies for pupils besieged by floods, raising skills on the handling of disasters, repairing toilets in affected schools, and help with restoring bridges and making roads passable in disaster hit villages*

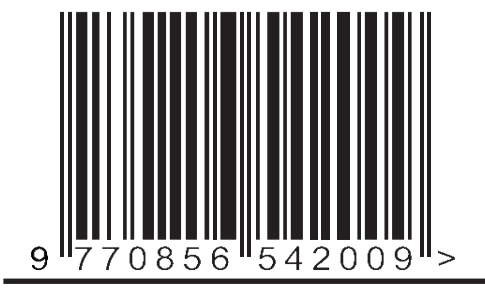
By Guardian Reporter

BRITAIN has donated euro 200,000 (556m/-) to the country to help victims of floods arising from ongoing heavy rains. The support is at present expected to benefit 41,462 listed flood victims in Rufiji, Kibiti, Lindi, Kilwa, Malinyi, Katavi and Morogoro urban areas, to access household needs to ease their hardships. Kemi Williams, the development direc-

tor at the UK High Commission, said that the money is being released through the Start Network, globally linked humanitarian agencies working with local non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The aid comes at a time when various spots in the country face disaster due to heavy rains, landslides and mudflows. Hundreds of thousands of people have been rendered homeless, with closure of schools and hampering health care work.

Rufiji and Kibiti districts in Coast Region have over 8,000 pupils missing classes, with efforts being made for them to resume learning in nearby schools. The diplomat said that ActionAid (T) will administer the funds, to provide various services to flood victims. "The aid will aim to help the communities affected by the floods with food and non-food aid such as repairing health centres, water and toilets," she explained. Elias Mtinda, the ActionAid (T) programme and partnership manager, said they will use the funds to provide humanitarian aid to flood victims in most areas the government has identified as in need of urgent support. Approximately 41,562 people of all groups, including women and children, are expected to be reached by this project directly or by extension from those reached out, he said. Water storage tanks, clothes, school supplies for pupils besieged by floods, raising skills on the handling of disasters, repairing toilets in affected schools, and help with restoring bridges and

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## 'Investors in minerals must prepare plans to add value'

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metals and stones before export.

"The main purpose of this decision is to make the nation benefits appropriately from the mineral resources," he asserted, noting that the government has also picked a zone for minerals value addition instead of relying on investors' decisions, where the selected site is the Buzwagi Special Economic Zone, stretching over 1,333 acres in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region.

Minerals value addition plants in the special economic zone will feature a multi-metals processing facility, steel balls manufacturing, mineral ore conveyor belts, solar farms and a portable water plant, he said.

During the 2024/25 financial year the government will impose a condition for issuance of primary mining licenses seeking to sell their license to other investors to observe right of first refusal for small scale miners who feature in the operating license, to buy the mine or enter an investment agreement, he further indicated.

From July 2023 to March 2024 a total of 187bn/- was disbursed in soft loans to small scale miners, from 145bn/- disbursed in the corresponding period in 2022, he said, while the mining sector created 19,356 jobs up to March 2024, with just 505 jobs going to foreign recruits.

Regulatory authorities will ensure that investors abide by corporate social responsibility (CSR) accords in the mining sector, for the benefit of the host communities, he said, pointing out that from July 2023 to March 2024 a total of 17.08bn/- was injected in CSR projects by mining sector investors.

Host communities benefiting are those near Tembo Nickel, Geita Gold, Bulyanhulu Gold Mine, North Mara Gold Mine, Williamson Diamonds, Shanta Mining Co., Dangote Cement, Uranex (T), Ruvuma Coal and Buckreef Gold Co., he said.

Minerals selling centres rose to 42 during fiscal 2023/24, with one addition to the 2020/21 number, mineral auctioning centres reached 100 from 61 earlier, with minerals valued at 2.09bn/- were traded.

The ministry trained 10,213 small scale miners on safety, health and environmental conservation methods, he added.



**During the 2024/25 financial year the government will impose a condition for issuance of primary mining licenses seeking to sell their license to other investors to observe right of first refusal for small scale miners who feature in the operating license, to buy the mine or enter an investment agreement**

## Tucta says retirement lump sum, increments key issues

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conduct assessment and increase retirement benefits, especially the lump sum payment.

While the government is working on the matter it is possible President Samia may state a clear position on May 1, at the Sheikh Amri Abeid stadium in Arusha.

In July 2022, the government started using the new formula of calculating retirement benefits where servants are paid a lump sum pension of 33 percent once they retire.

## JKCI team, Heart Africa Foundation in 1bn/- donations event set for July 6

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said.

Linda Gideon, the HTAF acting executive director, said the fundraising event will bring smiles to hundreds of children who are suffering from various heart diseases.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has an audience at Zanzibar State House yesterday with a delegation from the Dar es Salaam-based National Defence College led by NDC Commandant Major General Wilbert Augustine Ibuge. Photo: Zanzibar State House

## Britain donates 556m/- to help flood victims

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making roads passable in disaster hit vil-

lages, he elaborated.

The Tanzania Meteorological Author-

ity (TMA) has meanwhile predicted stormy weather that could face seagoing

vessels up to the weekend, for the coastal zone and Lake Nyasa riparian regions.



Chief Sheikh Abubakar Zubeir bin Ally delivers address at the 29th Al Mustafa International Festival on Quran and Hadith held in Dar es Salaam on Monday. The event was organised by the Embassy of Iran in Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## Gunmen guard cocoa farms in Uganda while prices soar

KAMPALA

SOME farmers in Uganda have hired gunmen to protect their cocoa as thieves attempt to cash in on the crop's increased value.

Global cocoa prices have reached their highest point in over a decade as dry weather hinders farming in Ghana and Ivory Coast, the biggest producers of cocoa in the world.

According to Mutanga Grace, a Ugandan cocoa farmer and CEO of Mkulima Exports Uganda, roughly 30 percent of the cocoa beans produced in the country is being stolen.

She said that farmers in the country fork out armed guards and dogs in an attempt to protect their cocoa, which is a key ingredient in products like chocolate, ice creams and cakes.

"Cocoa in the country right now is like a hotcake, someone takes little but has taken a lot, a lot of money," she said.

Cocoa prices on the New York commodities market reached a new all-time high of \$5,874 (£4,655) a tonne last week.

The cost of the key ingredient for making chocolate has now roughly

doubled since the start of last year.

Soaring cocoa prices are already filtering through to consumers and squeezing major chocolate makers.

One of the world's biggest chocolate manufacturers Hershey warned: "Historic cocoa prices are expected to limit earnings growth this year."

The company's chief executive

Michele Buck also did not rule out putting up prices for customers.

"We can't talk about future pricing," she said in a call with analysts but added, "given where cocoa prices are, we will be using every tool in our toolbox, including pricing, as a way to manage the business."

The comments came as Hershey announced its financial results for the three months to 31 December. The figures showed sales fell by 6.6 percent as inflation-hit consumers cut back spending on confectionery.

Last month, Mondelez, the company behind the Cadbury brand, identified rising costs of ingredients as one of the challenges it faced in the year ahead.

Chief financial officer Luca Zaramella said the firm had seen "significant increases in both cocoa and sugar".



**"We can't talk about future pricing," she said in a call with analysts but added, "given where cocoa prices are, we will be using every tool in our toolbox, including pricing, as a way to manage the business."**





Oryx Gas Tanzania managing director Benoit Araman (L) presents a gas cooker and a 15-kg gas cylinder to journalist Chalila Kibuda shortly after having an audience with several media practitioners at the firm's depot in Dar es Salaam's Kigamboni suburb yesterday. Other beneficiaries, apart from media practitioners, included residents of the area. The firm has been similarly supporting various groups of people, mainly in the rural areas, for quite some time now. He says the gesture is largely meant to make members of the public appreciate the importance of seeing liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) - or cooking gas - as a home-use energy source of choice. However, critics have expressed reservations over the sustainability of the move, particularly where needy families or households are concerned. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Invest less in weddings, much more in protection of youth, says Dr Mollel

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Tabora

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Godwin Mollel has appealed to Tanzanians to set aside funds to support youth and children instead of the current trend where people spend a lot of money in things such as wedding ceremonies. Representing Deputy Prime Dr Minister Dotto Biteko during Compassion International function in Tabora Region yesterday, Dr Mollel pointed out that youth and children need more support now than they ever did before. "The juvenile population in Tanzania is the most vulnerable lot and more dedicated efforts are needed to ensure that the youth are cushioned against hostile elements that the modern lifestyles throw at them," he said.

schools as well as 400 youth vocational training centres around the country.

Lema recalled that since the Christian humanitarian organization entered Tanzania in April 1999, it has rescued more than 1.2 million young people who were living under difficult conditions.

"More than 39,000 young people in Tanzania have been empowered to be self-reliant and secured employment after undergoing a series of vocational training and all of them are now well established in various careers," she said.

In addition to assisting youth and children, Compassion in Tanzania in its quarter of a century operations in the country, has also lifted over 200,000 households out of extreme poverty, empowering them economically.

"The empowerment includes training in starting and running small-scale trading ventures, farming and modern day livestock keeping as well as village community banking," said Lema.



**The juvenile population in Tanzania is the most vulnerable lot and more dedicated efforts are needed to ensure that the youth are cushioned against hostile elements that the modern lifestyles throw at them**

Tabora Regional Commissioner Paul Chacha said attending to the youth, especially in these difficult times, was a very noble mission that Compassion decided to undertake.

In undertaking the task, Compassion International Tanzania works with 128 Pentecostal church denominations as well as other protestant churches in the country.

Tabora region was selected to host the silver jubilee of Compassion International works in Tanzania. The humanitarian organization has so far managed to institute over 700 education centres around the country.

Mary Lema, Compassion International Tanzania director, said that the organization has managed to establish 300 primary

## Ministry, commission ink irrigation projects worth 275bn/-

By Guardian Reporter

THE Ministry of Agriculture and National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) have signed 20 agreements worth 275.6bn/- for the construction, renovation, feasibility study and detailed design of various irrigation projects in the country.

The idea is aimed at boosting agricultural productivity as well as making irrigation projects bring positive change in the agriculture sector.

Speaking soon after witnessing the signing of the pacts in

Dodoma yesterday, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa emphasised the government's commitment to enhancing food security and stimulating economic growth through agriculture development.

The event which was attended by a number of dignitaries and stakeholders marks a milestone in Tanzania's agriculture sector.

Majaliwa highlighted the government's dedication to ensuring food security, creating employment opportunities and driving economic growth through agriculture.

He reiterated the government's

intention to invest in irrigation infrastructure, stating that the goal is to elevate agriculture sector's contribution to the GDP from 26 percent to 50 percent by 2030, addressing challenges posed by climate change and ensuring sustainable development.

Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe praised the substantial investment in irrigation agriculture as a strategic response to climate change challenges.

He highlighted the government's ambitious goal and the significant involvement of Tanzanian firms in the signed contracts,

promising transparent project implementation and effective financial management.

"With a focus on transparency and accountability, the government seeks to involve stakeholders closely, including Members of Parliament and farmers in monitoring project execution and ensuring their success," he said.

The ceremony, which saw contracts signed with both construction and consultancy firms, aims to empower local contractors and ensure successful completion of irrigation projects nationwide.

## DRC's southern Kivu launches large-scale livestock vaccination

KIVU

OFFICIALS in South Kivu province in the Democratic Republic of Congo have started to administer vaccinations to cattle and goats, marking commencement of a crucial campaign.

The aim is to shield livestock from symptomatic anthrax and small ruminant plague. Local breeders, eager to protect their herds, flocked to participate in this vital initiative.

Bob van Romarique Katay, communication officer for PICAGL, underscored the significance of this endeavour, stating, "Breeders had long expressed the need to improve sanitary conditions in the region, as access to vaccines had become scarce. This project not only introduces new breeds, such as dairy cows, but also prioritizes the essential step of sanitary cleanup through comprehensive vaccination efforts."

In this initial phase, over 734,331 doses to combat small ruminant plague and 214,961 doses against symptomatic anthrax were made available for the five territories covered by the Integrated Agricultural Growth Project in the Great Lakes (PICAGL). Following the official launch at the Bushi dairy, veterinary teams fan out to various locations, ensuring widespread

coverage and accessibility for breeders.

Dr Safi Ngomana, a veterinarian involved in the campaign, said: "This vaccination drive offers multifaceted benefits. It not only safeguards small ruminants against diseases but also mitigates losses incurred during outbreaks. By engaging breeders and facilitating on-site vaccinations, we aim to fortify the health of livestock and foster resilience within the community."

Beyond disease prevention, the vaccination initiative holds broader implications. By reducing livestock mortality rates and bolstering the economic stability of households reliant on animal husbandry, it contributes to sustainable agricultural practices and livelihoods.

### KUPOTEA KWA KADI ZA GARI

DICKSON SILVESTER PETER

anatangaza kupotea kwa kadi ya gari aina ya TOYOTA VITS yenye usajili namba T 402.DXD na NISSAN DUALS yenye usajili namba T 127.ECF. Kwa yeyote atakaeiona atoe taarifa kituo chochote cha polisi.

POLISI TAARIFA:

PHQ/DAR/KIN/71753/2024



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### CONSULTANCY TO UNDERTAKE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT WITH GENDER AND VULNERABLE GROUPS CONSIDERATION FOR INCLUSIVE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE RUMAKI SEASCAPE AREA

WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF TCO) is currently implementing a project titled "Mangrove Management for Climate Risk Resilience and Improved Livelihoods" funded by the Norwegian NORAD and regionally implemented in Tanzania, Mozambique, and Madagascar. WWF TCO is supporting the development of local mangrove management plans that are tailored to the specific conditions and needs of each village. Such plans are essential for the sustainable use and conservation of mangrove ecosystems, ensuring their sustainability and their continued provision of important services for biodiversity and local communities. The local mangrove management plans will be developed in alignment with environmental and social assessment and associated mitigation and monitoring measures including specific measures to address gender and vulnerable groups. Through this project, WWF TCO is now looking to engage a consultant to conduct an Environmental and Social Assessment aimed at evaluating the potential environmental and social impacts of the project in the RUMAKI Seascape. The assessment will include the identification of mitigation measures and monitoring protocols to ensure the project's compliance with environmental and social standards.

Additionally, specific measures will be developed to address gender and vulnerable groups to promote inclusive development. The work will be undertaken in the project sites which covers six (6) villages including Kibiti district (Mchungu and Msindaji villages), Mafia district (Jimbo and Kanga villages), and Kilwa district (Somanga and Malendego villages).

#### HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants may get the detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and specifications through the following websites:

[https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/consultancies\\_and\\_tenders/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/consultancies_and_tenders/)

All applicants should direct their soft copy of application to the procurement: e-mail at [procurement@wftz.org](mailto:procurement@wftz.org) and or hard copy applications to the address indicated above. Deadline for submission is **14<sup>th</sup> May 2024** at 5PM EAT.

WWF TCO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the applications without assigning any reason. Late application shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstance.

WWF has a principle of zero-tolerance to fraud and corruption, if you encounter such incident, report by sending an email to [fcici@wftz.org](mailto:fcici@wftz.org).

Only successful applicant will be contacted.



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### CONSULTANCY TO DEVELOP A BUSINESS MODEL FOR CLIMATE-INFORMED SEAWEED FARMERS & ENTREPRENEURS IN RUMAKI SEASCAPE

WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF TCO) is the international conservation organization and well-integrated into the national conservation setting and deploys its human and financial resources to deliver impactful conservation in an effective and efficient manner. The organization's vision is to ensure the natural wealth and biodiversity of the country is sustained, supporting the well-being of local communities and national economic development. WWF TCO through Marine Programme is currently implementing a project titled "Mangrove Management for Climate Risk Resilience and Improved Livelihoods" funded by the Norwegian NORAD and regionally implemented in Tanzania, Mozambique, and Madagascar. In Tanzania the project is specifically implemented in the RUMAKI Plus Seascape in Kibiti district (Mchungu and Msindaji villages), Mafia district (Jimbo and Kanga villages) and Kilwa district (Somanga and Malendego villages). Through this project WWF-Tanzania aims to develop sustainable community-led enterprises and business that support coastal communities beyond the project duration. This is based on the need to ensure sufficient management capacity, incentives, and financial sustainability which will be appropriate to the mangrove community's prosperity.

The project seeks a consultant(s) to develop business models for climate-informed community-led seaweed enterprises, with a specific focus on existing entrepreneurial initiatives in the RUMAKI Seascape. The aim is to enhance the economic viability of the seaweed industry, improve the financial sustainability of seaweed farmers and entrepreneurs, and maximize the economic benefits derived from the industry.

#### HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants may get the detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and specifications through the following websites:

[https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/consultancies\\_and\\_tenders/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/consultancies_and_tenders/)

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Only successful applicant will be contacted.



## Four-year empowerment scheme targets Dar youth

By Getrude Mbago

OVER 1400 youth from various wards in Dar es Salaam Region are set to benefit from a training and mentoring programme which aims to prepare them for various economic opportunities.

Dubbed Youth Ready (YR), the four-year initiative implemented by World Vision Tanzania and various stakeholders, is designed to equip young people, especially out-of-school ones to be healthy, productive and socially engaged as positive agents of change.

Speaking during official launch of the programme in Dar es Salaam yesterday, World Vision Tanzania director James Anditi said the programme will start with youth in Kivule and Kipunguni wards in Ilala District and will later expand to other areas.

He said the programme has been inaugurated under implementation of the Accelerated Hope and Development for Urban Adolescents in Tanzania (AHADI) project, which is a gender-transformative World Vision initiative that aligns with a framework to prevent gender-based violence by working towards changing harmful social and gender norms that perpetuate gender inequality in urban areas of Tanzania.

He said the programme focuses on areas where youth are empowered for success in work and life through strengthened skills, agency, voice, vision, resilience and positive relationships.

"The empowered youth will be linked to meaningful opportunities and support to take the next steps in their personal development and livelihood pathway plans," he said.

Anditi said the programme will work closely with various partners to ensure that it is well implemented and brings intended outcomes by transforming mindsets and lives of youth where a total of 4800 youth

will be indirectly reached by the programme.

Lemlem Kebede, YR programme manager at World Vision Canada, said that the programme has come at the right time when many youth grapple with employment challenges.

She said the programme will equip young people with life and essential skills to help them to become successful in their lives.

"We prioritise out of school adolescents with economic challenges which thwart their access to education and other opportunities; we engage them and take them through participatory learning processes where they learn life skills, including how they need to change their attitudes and beliefs in order to succeed in life," she said.

Anna Masawe, community development officer for Kipunguni Ward said the project will reduce the number of unemployed youth who have been roaming the streets since they will be trained on how to initiate income generating projects within their areas.

Happiness Joseph, one of the beneficiary youth from Kipunguni Ward said preliminary training which they received through their groups has helped them widen understanding on various opportunities that surround them and how they can utilise them.

"I am happy to be part of this programme; I am sure that the life skills and entrepreneurship training which we are set to receive will not only help us in the programme but also our communities," she said.

*"The empowered youth will be linked to meaningful opportunities and support to take the next steps in their personal development and livelihood pathway plans"*

## Tanzania, Kenya resolve row over trade in poultry

By Guardian Reporter

IN a landmark two-day meeting in Arusha, Tanzania and Kenya have successfully addressed longstanding concerns regarding export of poultry and poultry products between them.

In his remarks, Rabson Wanjala, co-chair of the meeting from Kenya, emphasised the critical importance of trade between the two countries, highlighting the necessity for ongoing consultations to streamline and facilitate trade processes.

Wanjala said that both countries had committed to fostering trade relations, adding that the commitments made underscore the importance of collaborative efforts to ensure increased trade in the region.

Dr Benezeth Malinda, co-chair of the meeting from Tanzania, echoed Wanjala's sentiments, adding that Tanzania has embarked on ensuring all trade-facilitating agencies address and resolve any issues hindering trade, particularly the Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) to trade.

"We remain committed to tackling these challenges and fostering an environment conducive to seamless trade between Kenya and Tanzania," he said.

Kenya has historically been a significant exporter of poultry and poultry-related products to Tanzania, including day-old chicks (DOC), hatching eggs, parent stock and processed poultry items. However, in 2021, Tanzania imposed a ban on poultry imports from Kenya due to global outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). This ban severely impacted Kenya's poultry industry, hindering access to a vital market.

The meeting, convened on Monday and Tuesday, brought together veterinary authorities from both countries with the objective of resolving the ban on the export of poultry and poultry products from Kenya to Tanzania.

The two parties discussed their concerns and reached the following agreements regarding the trade of poultry between Kenya and Tanzania.

Contrary to previous understanding, Tanzania clarified that it had not imposed a ban on Kenyan poultry and poultry products but had implemented sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures in response to the global avian influenza outbreaks as per the World Organization for Animal Health disease notification reports. These measures aimed at safeguarding animal and public health.

Both parties affirmed that trade in DOCs and hatching eggs between the two countries was ongoing, with facilities demonstrating high biosecurity standards permitted to operate.

Any facility intending to export poultry products from Kenya to Tanzania and vice versa, may undergo a risk assessment to ensure compliance with sanitary and SPS measures.

The two states committed to enhance surveillance efforts and capacity-building initiatives to ensure timely disease detection and reporting. Further, it was agreed that small-scale poultry producers in both countries will receive support to improve biosecurity measures in an effort to enhance their export opportunities.

Recognising the importance of efficient communication, both veterinary competent authorities in the two partner states pledged to strengthen collaboration for swift issue resolution regarding SPS measures.

The outcomes of the meeting signify a significant step forward in resolving trade disputes and fostering mutually beneficial relations between Kenya and Tanzania. Both countries are committed to upholding transparency, facilitating trade, and ensuring the health and safety of their citizens.



Tundu Lissu (C, in khaki cap), opposition Chadema's Vice Chairman (Mainland), leads a peaceful march the party staged in Dodoma city yesterday. It was punctuated by appeals for a new Constitution for Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

## Works minister removes Temesa officials over poor ferry services

By Guardian Reporter

WORKS minister Innocent Bashungwa has removed two employees of Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (Temesa) from their positions for failure to supervise quality services to people using ferry transport between Magogoni and Kigamboni in Dar es Salaam.

The employees are Lukombe King'ombe, East and Southern Zone Ferry Manager, and Idd Juma, head of Magogoni-Kigamboni ferry. They are expected to be assigned other roles.

Bashungwa said this in Dar es Salaam recently during an

inspection of service provision by Temesa where he also listened to public grievances over poor ferry services between Magogoni and Kigamboni.

According to a statement by the government communications department, the minister instructed permanent secretary of the ministry Aisha Amour to assign new officials to the vacant positions.

Bashungwa wanted the new team to work closely with the office of Dar es Salaam regional commissioner to ensure the public gets good ferry services.

"I want you to look into how you can change environment for them by assigning them other duties.

Replace them with new staff who can help Temesa managing director to oversee the new strategies to improve the agency," he said.

Bashungwa also directed Lazaro Kilahala, Temesa managing director to start improvement of passenger buildings in all areas in the country that provide ferry services.

I have inspected and saw for myself part of the passenger building which requires renovation and hygiene. The moment fan was switched-on, you rush to escape from the dust which can cause serious health issues. The fans have to be removed at once," he said.

"I am disappointed by the responses I received. I am certain the ministry through Temesa

cannot fail to deal with such minor issues."

Concerning the challenge of N-Card ticket issuance system, the minister said a team has already conducted an assessment of the problem and the government is expected to address it.

Bashungwa directed Temesa to ensure all people using ferry services in Dar es Salaam pay fare that helps support the functionality of the services.

Albert Chalamilia, Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, wanted Temesa to increase its collaboration with the regional commissioner's office because it engages the public directly.

Kilahala said the Magogoni-Kigamboni station operates two ferries namely MV Kazi and MV Kigamboni which transport people for 24 hours, adding that the repair of MV Magogoni has reached 55.2 percent.



Selemani Maulid, a Traffic Police officer based in Kwimba District, pictured at the weekend taking students of Imalilo Secondary School through the basics of road safety. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Gold price surges by 87pc between July and March

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

PRICE of gold produced in various Tanzania's mines has surged by 86.74 percent in the period between July 2023 and March 2024.

Minerals Minister Anthony Mavunde said this in the National Assembly yesterday while tabling the ministry's budget estimates

pegged at 231.98bn/- for the 2024/25 financial year.

Mavunde said for that period, the price of gold are per ounce rose to an average of \$2,138.01 compared to an average price of \$1,854.54 for the period between July 2022 and March 2023.

He said the increment in the price of gold is due to various reasons, including high demand

for the mineral in the global market.

"I would like to inform the National Assembly that our country is one of the countries blessed with strategic minerals whose demand is fast-growing, attributed to a shift towards clean and safe energy and other emerging modern technologies in the world," he said.

According to him, the growing

demand is, however, due to the implementation of the world's joint resolution to reduce carbon emissions by 2050.

"Investment in strategic minerals is the government's way forward. Among the strategic minerals focused in this regard are lithium, cobalt, nickel, copper, aluminium, zinc, copper and rare earth elements," he said.





Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko (L) presents a certificate yesterday to NMB Bank's Central zone manager, Janeth Shango, in recognition of the bank's support to the success of the just-ended 13th annual general meeting of the Tanzania Editors' Forum held in Dodoma city. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Government blames heavy rains as malaria cases increase

By Carlos Banda

CHIEF Medical Officer Prof Tumaini Nagu has said that in 2022/23 malaria cases increased slightly by one percent despite efforts made by the government and stakeholders to eliminate the disease.

She attributed the increase to heavy rains that pounded most parts of the country during that period.

Prof Nagu said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the launch of Malaria Forum 2024 under the theme 'Malaria-Free Future: Integrated strategies for Malaria Elimination'.

She said the one percent increase was registered in cases and deaths. However, the increase was not a cause for alarm since deaths attributed to malaria were 1,600 compared to 2015 when more than 6,000 deaths were reported, adding that such a situation still demands deliberation on measures to address the problem.

Prof Nagu highlighted that Tanzania made significant strides to scale up affordable and cost-effective preventive and curative interventions for malaria control and elimination which resulted in notable shifts in the country's malaria epidemiological profile.

"While progress has been made, there are still challenges to address, particularly the increased risk of malaria among children under five. The findings from the School Malaria Parasitological Survey conducted in 2023 revealed a promising decline in malaria prevalence among primary school children at 11.3 percent compared with 2015 results of 21.6 percent," she said.

"Additionally, a significant reduction in malaria incidence and deaths reported in our health facilities has been recorded. Malaria cases have declined by 55 percent from 77 million in 2015 to 3.5 million in 2023. Malaria incidence per 1,000 people has declined by 64 percent from 162 in 2015 to 58 in 2023."

Prof Nagu said that hospital admissions due to malaria decreased by 61 percent from 529,146 cases in 2015 to 204,028 in 2023, indicating a decrease of severe cases. Also, malaria deaths decreased by 69 percent from 6,311 in 2015 to 1,954 in 2023.

She said that more efforts need to be made to ensure the problem does not increase any further, calling upon scientists and researchers to discuss and come up with alternative solutions to eliminate the disease.

Dr Honorati Masanja, chief executive director of Ifakara Health Institute, said through the forum they were challenged to explore ways to utilize new technologies like artificial intelligence to combat malaria and use other innovations in interventions against the disease.

Dr Faustine Ndugulile, Kigamboni MP, said it is important for the government to explore ways to increase internal financial sources instead of depending on foreign sources to finance national budgets, adding that it is time the government encouraged pesticide production in the country to help combat Malaria.

# PM tells TIC to be innovative to attract more investors

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called on Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) to be innovative in the operation for it to play effectively in the regional and international investment markets.

He made the call at the weekend in Dar es Salaam when he visited TIC pavilion at CRDB Bank's Investment Day.

He commended the leadership and staff of the centre for being the engine implementing the government's vision to build an attractive investment environment to all investors.

"The stage that our country has reached now eliminates doubt for

investors and proves that our country is safe for all those who are ready to invest their capital. You should continue to be innovative, strengthen service delivery and meet the needs of competition in investment markets," he said

He said the government has made big reforms by making various improvements in systems, policies and laws to improve the business environment and attract investment in the country.

"The three-year period of reform has shown the results of the good intentions of the President in promoting economic diplomacy and creating a better and friendly investment environment in this country," he said.

He said that the government has strengthened provision of services to investors by strengthening the one-stop service centre located at TIC where currently 14 government institutions provide services.

He named the institutions as ministries in charge of labour agriculture, minerals and land, immigration service, National Identification Authority, National Environment Management Council, Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), Business Registration and Licensing Agency, Tanzania Bureau Standards, Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority, Occupational Safety and Health Authority, Tanesco and TIC

itself.

"The project has been implemented in parallel with the improvement of the System for Registering Investment Projects like Tanzania Investment Window which enables investor to register projects within one to three days from anywhere in the world after submitting all the necessary documents," he said.

"This is a big and important step that removed unnecessary red tapes monopolies."

The investment day brought together stakeholders from the agriculture, livestock and fishery sectors as well as manufacturers of equipment and tools used in the sectors.



Nasibu Kisebengo (2nd-L), identified as a resident of Dar es Salaam's Mbezi suburb associated with drug trafficking, is led to the Kisutu Resident Magistrate's Court in the city yesterday in connection with the incident. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

# OUT welcomes two new deputy vice chancellors

By Guardian Reporter

THE Open University of Tanzania (OUT) has welcomed two new deputy vice chancellors after the terms of their predecessors elapsed.

Prof Elifas Bisanda, OUT Vice Chancellor, witnessed handing over of offices in Dar es Salaam on Monday where he welcomed the incoming leaders and thanked the outgoing ones for their service.

The outgoing administrators are Prof Deus Ngaruko, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academics, Research and Consultancy and Prof George Oreku, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Planning, Finance and Administration.

The new leaders are Prof Alex Makulilo, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academics, Research and Consultancy and Prof Josiah Katani, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Planning, Finance and Administration.

Prof Bisanda thanked the outgoing leaders for their "outstanding" leadership which greatly helped the university to achieve its various goals.

"Leaders serving various positions at the university should show good direction for other leaders and staff under them; there is no way a leader can succeed without working in synergy with those who they lead," he said.

He warned the new leaders that the positions which they have been given are not easy and urged them to work creatively with the staff in order to achieve the institution's set goals.

In his remarks, Prof Oreku thanked the vice chancellor for giving him the opportunity to serve in the position, adding that now that his time ended, he was resuming his academic role in the lecture halls.

Prof Makulilo promised to implement initiatives to further stimulate development within the institution and the society.

"I will continue all the good projects which Prof Ngaruko initiated," he said.

Advocate Nelly Moshi, OUT Council Secretary applauded the outgoing leaders for their good work in all the years which they served.

She urged the new leaders to be innovative and continue all good initiatives which have been left by the former leaders for the varsity's development.

# Two lions transferred from Netherlands to South Africa

By special Correspondent, Johannesburg

TWO lions that were found malnourished roaming the streets as cubs in Montenegro and Ukraine have been transferred to a sanctuary in South Africa.

On April 26, the global animal welfare organization Four Paws transferred

Nikola and Vasylyna from the Netherlands, where they had been in a sanctuary since 2022 to the Lionsrock Sanctuary.

Nikola had been found in Montenegro and Vasylyna in Ukraine. Both were privately owned.

Nikola was born in 2021 and was just a cub when he was found wandering

around the town of Budva in Montenegro in February 2022.

No information was available about his owner. He was lost, malnourished, dehydrated and in dire need of veterinary assistance.

Vasylyna that was also born in 2021 was found roaming the streets in the Kharkiv region of Ukraine in August

2022. She was unable to climb or run due to underdeveloped muscles.

With the support of local organizations and authorities, a team from Four Paws took both lions into care at the Felida Big Cat Sanctuary in the Netherlands, where they recovered and prepared for departure to South Africa.



# Clerics appeal for support to help victims of natural disasters

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

TANZANIANS have been urged to help victims in times of natural disasters so as to restore their hope as the circumstances are beyond one's control.

Rev Henry Mchamungu, Auxiliary Catholic Bishop and health service overseer of Dar es Salaam Archdiocese made the call in Dar es Salaam recently during a prayer session organised by the Pastoral Activities and Services for People with Aids Dar es Salaam Archdiocese (PASADA) after receiving various items donated to Kibiti flood victims.

He said that the unforeseen disasters may affect people any day at any time hence urging people to see the essence of helping the victims.

"Let us accept that we are not safe; help those in need and make them feel part of the community just like what PASADA has done today," he said.

"The Dar es Salaam Archdiocese in collaboration with Caritas Tanzania and other stakeholders will keep supporting donation initiatives to people affected by floods in Rufiji and Kibiti. PASADA took the early initiative and we commend them for a good job."

Dr Cayus Mrina, PASADA executive director, said that the donation was part of pastoral activities undertaken by Archbishop of Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam Jude Thaddeus Ruw'ichi and other bishops.

"Our main task is to help those in need in the community just like what our motto states 'A healthy soul in a healthy body'. The main objective is to enable people fulfil their responsibilities in the

community," he said.

Dr Eugene Rutaisire, PASADA director of medical services, said the donation decision was made as preventive measures against diseases that erupt during natural disasters such as floods hence mattresses and buckets donation.

"In times when people experience natural disasters and most especially floods, there is normally eruption of diseases, especially cholera and other diseases associated with diarrhoea. Seeing Kibiti and Rufiji flood victims, we came to the conclusion of donating mattresses and buckets to enhance their cleanliness," he said.

Father Christian Nyumayo, PASADA advisory board chairperson, said the donation was part of fulfilling their services to people of Coast Region.



**Our main task is to help those in need in the community just like what our motto states 'A healthy soul in a healthy body'. The main objective is to enable people fulfil their responsibilities in the community**

# Over 5,000 youth in two regions get employability skills

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

OVER 5,000 youth in nine local government authorities in Morogoro and Singida regions have received various work skills to enable them to get employed or employ themselves.

The project dubbed Opportunities for Youth Employment (OYE) implemented with support from the Swiss and Danish embassies in Tanzania was designed to equip young people with the appropriate technical and life skills to make them attractive to employers and prepared to undertake self-employment through entrepreneurial activities.

Speaking at the meeting to mark the end of the project yesterday, Bonavitha Gahaini, OYE deputy project manager at SNV Tanzania said that 4,393 youth were trained in basic skills whereby 3,329 females were trained in business development while 3,273 trained in technical skills.

At least 94.9 percent of youth gained self-employment skills, an increase from 49.2 percent of youth who were unemployed or undertook unpaid labour at baseline.

According to the deputy director, there was a 19.5 percent increase in income for female youth of \$51.40 per month and a 33 percent increase in male youth income of \$81.50 per month despite the challenging post-Covid economic environment.

"A total of 1,236 youth savings and loan association loaned members 92.2m/- over a period of two years," she said.

Over the period, 38 ward-level and

five district-level youth enterprises clusters were formed and developed business relationships with urban and peri-urban service providers and buyers.

OYE promotes economic resilience in young people, connecting them with employment opportunities in markets that provide them with a realistic chance to improve their lives.

At the onset of the second phase of the project three years ago, the OYE project in Tanzania was to support 4,250 young men and women to enter employment or self-employment by establishing business.

Phase two of the project used a market-based approach where youth received training in life and business skills and then got linked with employers where they learnt practical skills needed.

OYE was implemented in partnership with local service providers, local government authorities, financial service providers and the private sector.

The partnerships sought ensured that means of support for youth become embedded in the local systems and institutions to ensure the sustainability of the project.

Phase II was jointly supported by the Embassy of Switzerland and the Embassy of Denmark and was built over five years.

Officiating at the closing of the project, Eliakim Mtawa, assistant director in charge of coordination and mobilisation in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability) expressed the government's gratitude for the support to Tanzanian youth.



Father Christian Nyumayo (C), advisory chairman of the Pastoral Activities and Services for People with AIDS Dar es Salaam Archdiocese (PASADA), pictured yesterday presenting to Kibiti district commissioner Col Joseph Kolombo (3rd-R) mattresses, buckets and various other items worth a total of 8m/-. It was assistance meant for flood victims in the district. Third left is the NGO's executive director, Dr Cayus Mrina. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

# Bonite donates humanitarian support to flood victims

By Correspondent James Lanka,

Moshi

BONITE Bottlers has provided humanitarian aid in the form of food and mattresses to victims of floods in Kilimanjaro Region.

Speaking during the handover ceremony here yesterday, head of sales and marketing at Bonite Bottlers Christopher Loiruk said

the donation included 500 cartons of the company's popular brand of Kilimanjaro drinking water, beans, maize flour, rice and mattresses.

The items were handed over to Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner Nurdin Babu by Loiruk who was accompanied by human resources officer at Bonite Bottlers Joyce Sangoda.

"On behalf of Bonite Bottlers, we have provided various food items

and mattresses to flood victims in Moshi Rural, Mwangi and Same districts," Loiruk said.

Babu thanked the company for contributing humanitarian support which he said would give huge relief to flood victims.

"As you all know this humanitarian support from Bonite Bottlers comes at the right time as some areas in Moshi Municipal Council including Msaranga and Mjimpya wards as

well as Mabogini ward in Moshi rural have more than 2,000 flood victims who need humanitarian support," he said.

He thanked all individuals, companies and other stakeholders who provide humanitarian support to flood victims, adding that his office in collaboration with the district commissioner's office will make sure that all donations go directly to the right people.



Dickson Minja, a specialist with Dar es Salaam's Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute, explains to pupils of Arusha's High Ridge Primary School yesterday how the human heart works. It was at a special camp dubbed Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan Outreach Services held in Arusha city. Photo: JKCI

# Bomb attack kills five in Kenya near Somalia border

NAIROBI

FIVE people have been killed in a bomb attack in northern Kenya, the interior ministry has said.

The bomb, which exploded at El Wak town in Mandera County, near the border with Somalia, wounded five other people. There was no

immediate claim of responsibility, but Somalia-based al-Shabab militants affiliated to al-Qaida have carried out other attacks in the area.

The bomb had been placed on a donkey cart to avoid detection, the interior ministry said.

Earlier this month, gunmen suspected to be al-Shabab entered

El Wak hospital and injured guards while asking about the whereabouts of doctors. No arrests were made.

Al-Shabab often carries out cross-border attacks, especially in the remote Kenyan counties of Mandera and Garissa.

The extremist group has threatened Kenyan forces over their

year's long deployment to Somalia as part of multinational efforts to stabilize the Horn of Africa nation following more than three decades of conflict.

The African Union Transition Mission in Somalia is set to end in December, leaving Somali forces largely responsible for security.





Kahama district commissioner Mboni Mhita addresses residents of Busangi ward in Msalala Town yesterday after inspecting progress in the implementation of Nduku-Busangi water project, which is meant to benefit more than 11,630 people. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

## Go for regular medical screening, women urged

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

WOMEN have been urged to inculcate a habit of regular medical check-ups to enable diagnosis of diseases at an early stage for ease of treatment.

Haitham Turki, healthy living enthusiast, made the call in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during women's wellness walkathon as part of commemorating World Women Wellness Day 2024.

Turki emphasized that health is crucial for the well-being of the society, especially women, and thus should be taught in schools just like other subjects to enhance overall development of the nation.

"Health is one of the most important things in our lives. Therefore, it is important to be taught how to take care of our health," he said.

"Most people live with stress due to work or various activities and go to hospital when they feel unwell. It is important to have a culture of taking care of our health, especially the issue of taking long breaths because science tells us that the more you hold your breath, the longer you live and the slower you will age," he said.

Bashir Haroon, managing director of Shifaa Hospital, said that women are the backbone of society starting from the family level; therefore, it was important to commemorate World Women Wellness Day 2024 by caring for and supporting women by providing gynaecological, nutritional and specialist services to all participating women.

Haroon said that the charity walk had a significant turnout by both genders which shows appreciation and care for women, especially in terms of their health.

"We have prioritized the female gender because our hospital is led by a woman and they go through various challenges of nurturing, childbirth and care services and that is why we prioritize

their health. Our responsibility is to provide comprehensive, appropriate, and quality services to our communities," he said.

Suheil Kassim, country manager of Golden Tulip Dar City Center Hotel, said that they collaborated with the hospital and other stakeholders in commemorating that day because they are part of She Travel Club programme which is a global association that provides essential services for women when traveling.

Dr Anil Mehta, senior family physician from India, said that he collaborated with the hospital to provide capacity building for its staff and facilitated access to various services which one must adhere to in various countries.

The 4.2-kilometer walk started from Golden Tulip Dar City Center Hotel to Shifaa Pan African Hospital Limited located in Kinondoni municipality with the aim of raising awareness about the importance of taking care of one's health.

World Women Wellness Day is a globally recognized day established to raise awareness about women's health issues, empower women to make their health a priority and encourage society to take action for equal access to care and wellness resources. It's an opportunity to toast to the incredible strides the world has made towards acknowledging and improving women's health and wellness.



**Health is one of the most important things in our lives. Therefore, it is important to be taught how to take care of our health**

## Clerics urged to avoid taking part in politics ahead of polls

By Correspondent James Lanka,

Moshi

RELIGIOUS leaders have been urged not to get involved in politics and partisanship but strive to maintain neutrality ahead of this year's local government election and next year's General Election.

Dr Fredrick Shoo, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania Northern Diocese, made the call recently when opening the Kilimanjaro Regional Interfaith symposium under the sponsorship of the Norwegian Church Aid (NCA).

The two-day symposium brought together various religious leaders and development stakeholders from within and outside Tanzania.

"This year Tanzania is going to hold local government elections as well as the General Election in 2025. My appeal to all my fellow religious leaders is to abide by our

ethics; it is not good for us to engage in partisan politics as our role is to support and uphold democratic principles, values, being firm but fair to all," he said. "We as clerics should come together; respect each other's beliefs and values for the sustainable development of our nation. We should live together as brothers and sisters."

The cleric further explained that if the rights of the people including the right to life and economic rights are denied, peace enjoyed by the country will be in danger.

Dr Shoo cautioned that unity, peace and love amongst people will be in danger if citizen rights are denied particularly national and international taxation justice.

"Tanzania is endowed with great wealth and today we are here as faith leaders for a tax justice workshop because our role is also to promote good utilization of our natural wealth," he said.

Dr Glorious Shoo, Tanzania Assemblies of God bishop said that apart from maintaining peace and harmony in the country, the symposium also aimed at promoting the role played by religious institutions in socio-economic development.

"Interfaith meeting is a very crucial gathering as it brings us together for sustainable peace, love and socio-economic development of Tanzania as a nation regardless of differences in our beliefs," he said.

Mlewa Shabani, Kilimanjaro Regional Sheikh at the Muslim Council of Tanzania, said apart from leading their followers in matters of faith, religious leaders should also remind them to work hard for sustainable economic development of the nation.

"Religious leaders have the role to help and support the needy in our communities," He said.

Francis Kairu, workshop

facilitator and an official with Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA) said that the 2022 report from ActionAid Tanzania shows that each year Tanzania loses an estimated 17.4trn/- as a result of internal inefficiencies, tax evasion, harmful tax incentives, double taxation agreements and illicit financial flows.

He appealed to the government to participate in the International tax reforms and the UN tax convention for the benefit of the country.



Tigo Tanzania safety and health officer Dismas Anthony (with microphone) pictured on Monday briefing Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko (L, foreground) on the firm's workplace safety assurance strategy. The latter was going around various pavilions at the just-ended week-long Occupational Safety and Health exhibition held in Arusha city. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

HARARE

## Zimbabwe launches new notes for third currency in decade

ZIMBABWEANS started using fresh banknotes and coins yesterday as the country rolled out its third currency in a decade.

The currency, of which a digital version was launched earlier this month, is the latest attempt to control soaring inflation in the country. But there are signs the Zimbabwe Gold, or ZiG, is already facing problems.

A digital version has lost a quarter

of its value against the US dollar on the black market.

The ZiG is backed by gold and foreign currency reserves to help maintain its value, the central bank said.

The highest denomination of ZiG available is the 200 ZiG note, which is worth about \$15.

Individuals will be allowed to withdraw a maximum of ZiG 3,000 and companies ZiG 30,000 per week, authorities said.

There are no limits of cash withdrawals for the parliament, courts and international organisations, local media reported.



## REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS

**RFQ Title:** Supply and Installation of Back-Up Server in Zanzibar

**RFQ Number:** 2024-TCP/05/01

**Date of Solicitation:** May 1, 2024

**Closing Date and Time:** May 15, 2024, 11:00 am (Arusha, Tanzania)

**Questions and Clarifications:** Due by May 10, 2024

### Introduction to Tuhifadhi Chakula Project

TAHA is an apex member based private sector organization that advocates for the growth and competitiveness of the horticulture industry in Tanzania. Since its inception in 2004, TAHA has been an effective voicing platform for producers, traders, exporters, and processors of horticultural products mainly; flowers, fruits, vegetables, horticultural seeds, and spices. The Association safeguards the interests of industry stakeholders and ensures industry issues are well represented within national and international agendas. Visit us at <https://www.taha.or.tz/taha/about>

USAID Tuhifadhi Chakula Project (USAID - TCP) is a five-year project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by TAHA. The overarching objective of the Project is to reduce food loss and waste and resultant climate effects for improved food security and livelihoods.

The project has been co-created to improve food handling, storage, and value addition, facilitate market access, inform, and promote policy and regulatory frameworks that reduce food loss and waste, and strengthen local organizations' capacity to lead in post-harvest management. Overall, the project will contribute to reducing post-harvest losses from 30-40% for horticulture to 15% and from 13% to 7% for cereals by the end of the project.

TAHA through USAID TCP has set aside a budget to solicit and engage an eligible and qualified vendor to supply and install a backup server in its office located at Mpendae kwa Binti Hamran, Unguja, Zanzibar.

### A. Specification/Requirement

A detailed description of requirement is available in the terms of reference accessible via <https://shorturl.at/stINU>

### B. Submission Instructions

Interested vendors should download the terms of references through the link: <https://shorturl.at/stINU>

### C. Clarification on the Advert

- All correspondence related to the RFQ shall be made in English.
- Each consultancy opportunity should be responded to separately.
- Should there be any uncertainty, the Bidder shall seek clarification in writing through e-mail to: [procurement@taha.or.tz](mailto:procurement@taha.or.tz)
- Any clarification sought by the bidder in respect to the RFP shall be titled **CLARIFICATION - (Insert RFQ Title)**.
- TAHA will only respond to requests for clarification received no later than **Friday, May 10, 2024**.



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## Designing Lake Tanganyika fishing sustainability requires land reforms

FISHERIES sector experts from four countries surrounding Lake Tanganyika met for a three-day meeting in Dar es Salaam on Monday to agree on the best ways to safeguard reproduction areas for sardines, sprats and perches in the lake. Agreeing on such issues would usually call for a high level of cooperation that unites the partner states, as they are firstly competitors for the fish resources meanwhile as they are all concerned with the sustainability of the respective resources.

A range of donor agencies are involved in the effort, starting with an in-depth fish stock assessment in the lake to draw up regulatory requirements for sustainable fishing.

An illustration of the situation is Tanzania's expectations with regard to the lake's resources, where the relevant ministerial permanent secretary noted in a keynote address that the assessment was set to boost Tanzania's industrialisation drive in the fishing sector and uplift the blue economy.

There are already such industrial outlays on the shores of Lake Victoria, but it is unclear if their production levels are comparable.

Nor is it clear how far fishing ambitions of the states in question are comparable, as arguably DR Congo has the largest share of the lake's waters, followed by Tanzania, with Burundi and Zambia holding relatively smaller areas. It was not altogether clear, though, which country relies the most on the lake for its income.

There were indications of several unknowns in Tanzania's overall strategy when the permanent secretary said that assessing the fish stock status on the lake has the potential for leveraging increasing consumer demand and market opportunities, while improving the sustainability of the sardine, sprat and perch potential the lake holds.

The summation leaves much to be

desired as to whether the demand is high enough already or, as ecologists would say, that local fishing is just right taking into account existing demand.

There was also an issue with respect to methods to adopt to help the fishery-dependent population. Here the key donor-financed project, 'Fish4ACP' (fish for ACP countries - former European Union colonies) first targets sustainable fishing of the stock, along with improved fish handling and processing.

Sustainable fishing requires that there are pauses in fishing during the year - a rule that already exists or is being experimented basing on level of efficacy.

Accessing high-value markets and work on bridging the gender gap in the industry overall presumes larger quantities of fish being harvested, even with obligatory pauses.

In that case, it is not yet clear how a long-term strategy over the next decade or so will strengthen the position of Tanzania as a key producer and exporter of Lake Tanganyika sprat, sardine and perch.

That would be premised on having in place a sustainable value chain, generating more jobs and higher incomes.

As blue economy plans include improving fishing equipment for higher catches, and the population is large, seeing fish farming as an extension to lake resources is a usable idea.

In the circumstances, including there being no case of excessive donor dependency, it is vital to raise land occupancy titles to freehold status so that land could be safely offered as collateral for loans.

This dimension is on the far-off horizon, with experts from the four countries addressing less perplexing issues like the harvest potential per year, fishing rest periods, fishnets conditions, donor agency roles, etc.

## Without putting up clear PPP format on the table, value-addition drive may stall

THERE is a new initiative for greater value addition in crop exports, whose formulation by trade authorities in Dar es Salaam is rich in its objectives and thin as to its operational format or strategy.

As the drive is primarily donor-financed rather a budget allocation measure, it is not out of place to raise a preliminary question as to how far trade agencies are prepared to incorporate the private sector and bring the potential for its take-off closer or the initiative more credible.

The issue is that the European Union looks determined to develop workable strategies for sustained private sector based development, not just assisting.

Part of what was reported was that the Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) have commenced the process of adding value to goods produced in the country.

They are understood to facilitate the enabling of farmers and exporters to access international business information as the relevant systems are improved.

In other words, trade information will be accessed more easily, that including how to add value to produce in seeking out wider markets. That would mean that the project is in a sense overstated, as adding value is one thing and supplying the right information is another issue.

That is why a clearer component of private sector value addition by either by farmers or exporting industries needed to be part of preliminary information, not improving access to information and saying crop value is being added.

That aspect may also relate to ownership of that initiative, which has kicked off with one or two public agencies while all other players

merely stand to receive information from them - this, in turn, leading to ineffective take-up. Only large producers with the right outlays would respond.

In addition, the specific sphere of the value addition initiative is a bit broad, even as TanTrade said it "starts with" just four products - listed as coffee, avocado, spices plus hides and skins.

Another agency, the Market Access Upgrade Programme (MarkUp) tied to the EU, said the four-year project implemented in two phases is meant to open up the country to international trade through product value addition. That can mean adding value for export access, assuming investors add the value here.

A coordination executive for international trade information at TanTrade talked of a series of public agencies involving ministries, departments and agencies in the Mainland and Zanzibar in exploring how the system can ease information access, permits and international trade licences.

That would likely come down to a one-stop sort of arrangement, which may still be lacking for a range of export trade needs. It has noticeably been leveraged for enabling incoming investors and in cross-border trade.

It is true that when many hides and skins are sold as raw materials abroad without adding value, the country exports jobs and taxes. But it is also true that the markets for raw materials and those for finished products are not identical.

All too often insistence on value addition sees raw material exports as a net loss, so this initiative needs to include producer organisations to find real openings to finance them, not a simplified trade rules access and expectation that value addition will automatically follow. This is easy to discern.



## Civil society is apathy's antidote

By Anabel Cruz and Aidan Eyakuze

AROUND the world, there is an epidemic of distrust, cynicism, and doubt. People fear that all politicians are the same, interested only in serving themselves.

Such views create a fertile ground for the populists, who present themselves as being from outside the establishment and on the side of "ordinary" people. They facilitate a race to the bottom: divisionism, nationalism, protectionism and contagious conflicts.

Faced with such attitudes, even well-intentioned governments find it hard to work with citizens.

We don't think it has to be like this. From the local to the national to the global level, civil society-led initiatives are driving positive change. There are countless examples worldwide of civil society working with governments, using the principles and tactics of open government to re-engage citizens, rebuild trust and get things done.

Our first example comes from the grassroots in Tanzania. By working with local citizen activists, a civil society organisation called Twaweza ("we can make it happen", in Kiswahili), has helped citizens to identify and lead the changes that they want in their communities.

In a village called Kadoko, often cut off in the rainy season, residents prioritised better roads - working with the local government and using volunteer labour to expand and improve the local road network.

In Stahabu and Muungano villages, where there were once no

primary schools, citizen activists mobilised local residents to build classrooms, persuaded the local government to provide funding and to link them to well-established schools in neighbouring villages. Other projects have led to improved water supplies, clinics, market facilities and more.

Across East Africa, the Sauti za Wananchi (Kiswahili for 'Voices of the People') initiative brings citizens' voices to bear in decision-making. Using mobile phones to gather nationally representative data on citizens' opinions and experiences, the results are widely publicised and shared with policy makers.

In Kenya, the Independent Policy Oversight Authority saw the value in public opinion data on policing and sharpened their oversight of the police in response.

In Uganda, meanwhile, a poll on taxation identified both widespread mistrust of the tax authorities and misunderstanding of various taxes, which prompted the authorities to adjust their public communications.

Across the region, similar policy changes have been made on health, water supply, Covid-19 response, food security and more.

Turning to South America, the government of Peru established a transparent system for the public to compare schools and register complaints, to improve the quality of public schooling.

Now, people can compare the quality and cost of different schools, submit reports of irregularities, follow the progress of their complaints, and rate their satisfaction with the outcome.

The number of visitors to the portal has grown, reaching an annual average of close to 2 million in 2023. The government also improved the timeliness of responses, reducing the time it takes to resolve complaints by 80 per cent.

Finally, at the global level, the Open Contracting Partnership (OCP) is showing the world how to make public procurement more transparent.

They have taken what is a typically dry, bureaucratic and often corrupt process hidden from public view and turned it into something open, engaging, digital and streamlined.

Digital procurement systems create more efficient processes - which governments love - and enable transparency, which invites citizens' scrutiny and leads to better outcomes from public spending.

OCP's ambitious goal is to help one billion people around the globe by improving US\$2 trillion in procurement spending by 2030. Their experience suggests that impact at such scale is possible.

OCP worked with the city of Palmira in Colombia to implement policy reforms seeking to increase the diversity of businesses bidding for contracts. This led to contracts being awarded, for the first time, to local producers - among them women-led businesses.

These examples come from very different contexts, but they all show how civil society organisations can turbocharge our collective drive for shared dignity and prosperity for all.

Global organisations like the Open Government Partnership

support and empower civil society organisations to continue making their governments more open, inclusive and truly accountable to the people they serve.

Years of evidence prove that when governments and civil society come together to co-create ideas that bring citizens in and that listen and respond to citizens' needs, it leads to better policies and real improvements in people's lives.

The research shows that nearly a quarter of open government reforms produce major results, and that these results are more common when civil society is involved in shaping and monitoring reforms.

"Civil society has always been a secret weapon of Ukraine," said Andrii Borovyk of Transparency International Ukraine, speaking in Rome in October 2022. It's a striking assertion indeed.

Andrii was referring to the power of civil society in the midst of the ongoing war (with Russia) in his home country, but the same can be said of civil society organisations around the world.

Making government work for all isn't rocket science. There is no magic sauce. When governments and civil society work together to advance open government principles, apathy turns into hope, cynicism into trust, and inaction into achievement.

**Anabel Cruz and Aidan Eyakuze are former civil society co-chairs of the Open Government Partnership. This piece was first published by the French newspaper Le Monde on April 19, 2024, and is reprinted here with permission.**

## Job Security – Ramaphosa's presidential hot seat might soon get even hotter

By Stephen Grootes

IT appears that an ANC decision to retain or remove President Cyril Ramaphosa after next month's general election cannot be made without the party first deciding who to form a coalition with, should its share of the national vote fall below 50%.

In 2019, the ANC said publicly that one of the reasons it had been able to keep so many voters after the State Capture era was that Ramaphosa was its leader.

For the first time since the end of the Mandela era, the leader of the ANC was more popular than the party.

Much has changed since then. As life has got harder for almost everyone in South Africa, and because of the Phala Phala scandal, Ramaphosa can no longer make such a claim.

Crucially, one of the reasons for

this is that he has failed to carry out the reforms he promised. Despite saying repeatedly he would ensure accountability for what happened during State Capture, people implicated by the Zondo Commission are still in his government, appointed by him.

The ANC's current situation and the speculation that it could fall to as low as 40% (unlikely as this may be in reality) has led to observers pondering whether a poor result for the ANC would see Ramaphosa's removal.

Of course, it is not entirely clear what the definition of a "poor result" is. For Ramaphosa's supporters, it could well be anything below 40%, while for his opponents it could be anything below 50%.

It has long been clear to everyone, inside and outside the ANC, that the party was bound to lose significant support. And if it is true that the ANC conducts its own polling, then

those in the top leadership will have a clearer idea of the probable election trends several days before voting.

Any debate about "who is to blame" for a bad result could easily turn into a circular firing squad. Ramaphosa has been recorded telling a National Executive Committee meeting that other ANC leaders are not doing enough to help the party win the election.

Any meeting seeking to blame him could well find its way into the public domain again.

The big question There are other key questions around this issue, the major one being: Who would take over - would it automatically be Deputy President Paul Mashatile?

The closest precedent for this is the events of 2008 when Kgalema Motlanthe, who was then deputy president of the ANC, replaced Thabo Mbeki as SA President. That

was with the express permission, and possibly at the express request, of the then ANC leader, Jacob Zuma, and it was publicly agreed that Motlanthe's presidency would be temporary.

This situation would be very different this time, as there would be no explicit understanding that whoever takes over from Ramaphosa would be there only temporarily. And so any negotiations about removing Ramaphosa risk becoming a major fight for power among different groups.

Should such a situation occur, and considering the divisions in the ANC, it could lead to chaos.

There is another problem for anyone wanting to use a poor election result against Ramaphosa: there may simply not be enough time for anyone to mount a challenge.

DM



# Climate change and biodiversity loss threatens terrestrial species

By Telesphor Magobe

**B**OTH the State of the World's Migratory Species 2024 and the Living Planet 2022 reports suggest that human-induced climate change and the loss of biodiversity threaten the well-being of current and future generations. The two global reports send a strong message to world leaders and their people to take necessary steps to mitigate the effects of human-induced climate change and biodiversity loss.

On the one hand, the State of the World's Migratory Species 2024 report states that over half (58 per cent) of monitored sites important for Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) species are experiencing unfavourable or very unfavourable levels of pressure. "This means that one or more of their trigger species is highly impacted by threats."

It mentions Serengeti National Park "the largest remaining migratory system on earth". This means Serengeti National Park needs special protection. Other national parks, game reserves and protected areas too need protection not only because some of them are properties inscribed on the world heritage list, but also because they are part of the national heritage. Accordingly, their protection makes Tanzania participate in the global effort to care for nature by taking action at local level.

The report suggests that the expansion of agriculture to meet the needs of growing human populations is a key driver of the habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation that affects many migratory species. "Approximately 46 per cent of the world's terrestrial land surface (that is habitable by humans) is agricultural land. Annual global rates of cropland expansion have nearly doubled from 5.1 million hectares per year in 2004 to 9 million hectares per year in 2019."

Furthermore, it says growth in agricultural land has been particularly rapid in Africa and Southeast Asia, where 79 per cent and 61 per cent of the new cropland area, respectively, was converted from natural vegetation over the past two decades.

The report also mentions four most frequently recorded threats to CMS-listed species are 1) hunting and collecting terrestrial animals, 2) recreational activities, 3) livestock farming and ranching, and 4) non-timber crop



production. "These threats are reportedly having a high or very high impact at 198 (6 per cent), 151 (5 per cent), 133 (4 per cent) and 191 (6 per cent) of the 3,096 monitored sites, respectively."

On the other hand, the Living Planet Report 2022: Building a Nature-Positive Society warns that human-induced climate change and biodiversity loss threaten the well-being of current and future generations. The report shows between 1970 and 2018 there was a 69-per cent decline in the relative abundance of monitored wildlife populations across the world.

Because of the looming threat to terrestrial species, the report stresses that "we need an inclusive 'whole of

society' approach that empowers each of us to act, recognises the plurality of values and knowledge systems that can put us on a more sustainable path, and ensures that the costs and benefits from our actions are socially just and equitably shared."

The report takes note that "while climate change has not been the dominant driver of the loss of biodiversity to date, unless we limit warming to less than 2°Celsius, and preferably 1.5°Celsius, climate change is likely to become the dominant cause of biodiversity loss and the degradation of ecosystem services in the coming decades."

Floods caused by heavy rain that continue wreaking

havoc on some parts of Tanzania are partly the consequences of human-induced causes. In Mbeya Region, at least 20 houses, a school, livestock and farms have been reported to have been covered with mud as a result of a landslide from Kawetere Mountain.

In other parts of the country, floods have destroyed houses, roads, and bridges and some roads are hardly passable during this rainy season. So far hundreds of Tanzanians have been rendered homeless after their houses were destroyed by floods, including losses of their crops, livestock and property. Until April 14, 2024, a total of 58 people had died from floods, according to Director of Information Services and Government Spokesperson Mobbhare Matinyi.

As we can see, the two reports have a similar message to give to us and this shows the urgency before us. Unless we take action to mitigate the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss nothing will improve as we will continue experiencing disasters time and time again. In the circumstances the basic structures and facilities we are setting up may not last long due to looming disasters.

To mitigate looming disasters and threats to terrestrial species, the United Nations declared 2021-2030 the decade for ecosystem restoration and governments committing to the new global target to restore 30 per cent of degraded ecosystems by 2030. "Restoration encompasses a continuum of activities from reducing ecosystem pressures to active management interventions, with outcomes ranging from partial recovery to full recovery of native systems," the report says.

Thus, each party to the CMS can take local initiatives to mitigate climate change and biodiversity loss. These mitigation initiatives include the restoration of damaged ecosystems. Initiatives taken in Somanga Village in Kilwa District, Lindi Region such as coral reef and mangrove restoration and those taken in other parts of the country can serve as stepping stones towards ecological restoration at local level.

## Facilitating appropriate land use planning to protect wildlife corridors

By Guardian Reporter

**I**N Tanzania, an estimated 41 million people equivalent to 65 percent of the country's 61.7 million population live in rural areas, according to the 2022 National Housing and Population census. The current population growth rate in rural areas is 2.4 percent

The statistics shows that more than 8.6 million households are in villages, equivalent to 60.3 percent of all the households countrywide.

With the above figures, land use planning is essential taking into considerations that best use of limited land resources enables people to translate the goals of sustainability into specific objectives as well as integrating a wide range of decisions.

Land use plans helps villagers to allocate land plots for specific activities such as residential areas, agriculture, industrial parks, markets, schools, hospitals, play grounds, conservation and infrastructures.

Data from the National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC) indicates that until March this year, a total of 3,681 villages had successfully prepared land use plans. The commission expects to prepare land use plans for 8,325 villages until June this year.

Eng Anthony Sanga is the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development, he says: "When the land is properly surveyed, managed and legally owned can largely contribute to economic development as well as food security and poverty reduction."

According to him, preparation of land use plans is meant to ensure better and proper use of land and helps in providing general guidelines on supervision of the limited resources.

He said the government established NLUPC tasking it to make sure that land use plans are prepared at all the villages as well as storing correct information on land use plans. The commission is implementing this task in collaboration with relevant authorities and stakeholders from village to national level.

To ensure efficiency in preparation of land use plans, surveying of village land and issuance of Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCROs), the NLUPC established the National Land Use Information System (NLUIS) which has so far been used in preparing land use plans and the customary land ownership documents in a number of districts.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is financing development of the system which has been developed by local experts from the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development in collaboration with their counterparts from other institutions.

Gerald Mseti, NLUPC Senior Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Officer said the new system, of which its development started in March last year has contributed into increased efficiency in surveying, data preservation and issuance of CCROs.

"The system will be used countrywide; at first we used it to store information on land uses. March last year, NLUPC decided to further improve the system whereas it was developed to facilitate issuance of CCROs," said Mseti, stating that proper storage of information helps in preparing information on land use plans from village to national level.

The system is also expected to help in monitoring and evaluation of the prepared land use plans. It is the kind of system which will be used by experts and institutions from various sectors.

It also helps in formalization of surveyed land plots whereas it supports preparation of CCROs, he said, adding that it can be accessible through a mobile application or a web browser. A mobile application helps land surveying officers in preparing geographical information on a specific land, preserve owners details and pictures.

"Storage of geographical information and owners' personal details facilitates quick recovery of lost documents," added Mseti.

He said the commission has so far used the system in preparing land use plans in a number of districts—Meatu, Busega, Itilima, Iramba, Makete, Iringa, Wnging'ombe, Kisarawe, Morogoro and Ruangwa.

More than 28,000 CCROs have so far been issued using the new system.

According to him, NLUIS simplifies the work as the manual process required a big number of officers. Using the system, a surveyor can survey between 20 and 25 plots per day. He added: "We are now capable of issuing up to 1,000 CCROs within three days depending on the available manpower. After the plots have been surveyed, it takes between 15 and 20 days to processes and issue a customary land ownership document."

The official said NLUPC has started to conduct capacity building trainings to officers at district level for them to be able to use the system.

The good thing is that those who have been reached are already conversant with the system, he said.

Exper Pius, Deputy Chief of Party—Technical from the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project said: "Land use plans are essential as we strive to restore and protect wildlife corri-

dors which are important in ensuring movement of wild animals. When wild animals move from one place to another they become resilient to a number of issues including climate change; but also strengthen their population through inter-breeding."

Corridors are also important as they help in reducing Human Wildlife Conflicts (HWC) which apart from destroying people's properties and farms, they also result in deaths. For instance, in Same District alone, more than 80 people killed by the big animals in 2023, added Pius.

He said with the presence of the NLUIS, the government will ensure better land use plans which are crucial in differentiating between residential, agricultural and conserved areas.

It is through land use plans that wildlife corridors would be formally cognized, he added, noting: "We are supporting NLUPC because we need to need to have a system that will simplify identification and surveying of villager's land plots. The previous system was costly as it required a huge manpower and resources. Land use plans are crucial document at local level that governs the use of land at specific areas."

He said: "You can hardly have wildlife corridors and protect them if you do not have land use plans."

Deputy Minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development, Geoffrey Pinda said lack of a unified system among the sectoral ministries and stakeholders makes it difficult to control land disputes, especially when there is invasion of protected areas and placement of Government Notice (GN) in wrong areas.

"We need to cooperate in preparing land use plans; min-

istries of Natural Resources and Tourism, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries must work closely in executing this exercise. It is also important to start by educating villagers of the importance of land use planning.

This will make villagers feel ownership of the exercise and make it their own," said Pinda, insisting conservation authorities should be present during the land allocation exercise to facilitate identification of protected areas.

The biggest challenge that exists at the moment is that of large investment farms that were provided with title deeds in 1950s, are no longer productive and villagers are encroaching into the farms resulting in conflicts, he said, calling for relevant ministries to see how to resolve the matter. Most of the farms are in regions that were earmarked as food baskets

Prof Wakuru Maseka, is the NLUPC Director General, he said establishment of the NLUIS) would ensure better land use plans at village, district, regional and national level.

Prof Maseka is optimistic that with the system in place, land surveying as well as issuance of CCROs would be done efficiently and within a short period.



Jason Ko, Biodiversity Senior Technical Advisor at the United States Agency for International Development . The agency funds development of National Land Use Information System under the National Land Use Planning Commission.



By Luis Brizuela

# Cuban families harnessing biogas and busy promoting its benefits

JUST to obtain a good fertilizer it was worth building a biodigester, says Cuban farmer Alexis Garcia, who proudly shows the vegetables in his family's garden, as well as the wide variety of fruit trees that have benefited from biol, the end product of biogas technology.

García and his wife Iris Mejías organically grow all the agricultural products that make them self-sufficient, on the land around their home in the semi-urban neighborhood of Sierra Maestra, in the municipality of Boyeros on the south side of Havana.

"We need a greater culture and awareness about renewable energies. There is resistance among some places and people. On the other hand, there are the high prices which do not foment the rapid expansion of technologies and equipment." – Alexis García

"I used to use a little urea, but because of the economic situation it has become very difficult to import this and other fertilizers. The bioproducts are an opportunity to make up for that shortage and, in some cases, function as pesticides," García, a 62-year-old retired university professor who is now dedicated to his crops, he said.

Biol is the liquid effluent with a certain degree of stabilization that comes out of the biodigester, once the process of anaerobic digestion of organic matter, which includes animal manure, crop waste and/or liquid waste, has been completed. It is rich in nutrients for crops and for restoring soil through fertigation.

García pointed out that the challenges of obtaining energy and the need to process manure prompted the installation of the geomembrane biodigester, which as of December 2023 provides about four cubic meters of biogas per day.

This is one of the three types of biodigesters most used at a small and medium scale in Cuba, together with the mobile type, also known as the Indian model, and the fixed dome or Chinese biodigester.

"I had read a little about it and wanted to have a biodigester. With some savings we decided to start building one. In addition to the support of our sons Alexis and Alexei, we had the backing and advice of José Antonio Guardado," coordinator of the Biogas Users Movement (MUB), said García.

Founded in 1983, the MUB brings together some 3,000 farmers who use this technology in this Caribbean island nation of 11 million people.

## Biogas opportunities

Mejías, 59, said that "with biogas you lose the fear of not having enough fuel for cooking. It provides security."

Mejías, a teacher at a preschool for the young children of working mothers, says that when the economic crisis became more severe in the 1990s, she cooked with firewood, charcoal, kerosene and even coconut shells to prepare her family's daily meals.

"If you cook with electrical equipment, you depend on the power supply, or if you have a gas cylinder (liquefied petroleum gas), you worry that it will run out and you won't have a spare. In both cases the biodigester saves money," she said.

Mejías said it is easier to cook food for domestic animals and heat water "without smut or smoke that makes it necessary to wash your hair every day or makes it difficult to take care of your hands."

Studies show that methane is a potent greenhouse gas, with a warming power 80 times greater than that of carbon dioxide (CO2).

Proper management of the biological methane resulting from the decomposition of agricultural residues and manure can generate value and be a cost-effective solution to avoid water and soil contamination.

Therefore, its extraction and use as energy, especially in rural and semi-urban environments, can be a solution to reduce electricity consumption and help combat climate change.

According to García, the island could receive greater energy benefits if there were clear incentives for the installation of biodigesters.

Although the acute domestic economic crisis has had a very negative impact on the national swine and cattle herd, "many dairies and pig farms do not know what to do with the daily output of manure. In fact, our biodigester is fed from nearby facilities where it is piled up and they give it to us for free," he said.

## Other incentives

Cuba has a biogas production potential of 615,595 cubic meters per year from agricultural and industrial production, according to the Bioenergy Atlas 2022.

That volume represents 189,227 tons of oil equivalent per year or 710,095 megawatt hours (MWh) per year. Of the total, 63 percent comes from agricultural produc-



Preschool teacher Iris Mejías and her husband Alexis García, a retired university professor, stand next to the geomembrane biodigester that since December 2023 provides about four cubic meters of biogas daily for their agricultural activities and the needs of their home in the semi-urban neighborhood of Sierra Maestra, in the municipality of Boyeros on the south side of Havana. Photo: IPS



Preschool teacher Iris Mejías uses biogas to cook food, which gives her autonomy, saves money and improves the quality of life in her home in the south of the Cuban capital. Photo: IPS

tion, he said.

In García's opinion, Cuba's rural environment "is in a better position to achieve the desired energy independence. But economic facilities would be necessary, such as loans for the construction of biodigesters, bonuses for people to produce that energy and access to buy lamps, pots and even refrigerators that use biogas."

Of Cuba's 11 million inhabitants, about 23 percent, some 2.3 million people, live in rural areas, according to official statistics.

On the other hand, it is estimated that there are some 5,000 biodigesters on the island, although conservative estimates by specialists consider it possible to expand the network to 20,000 family units.

Experts argue that the direct use of biogas is more efficient than transforming it into electricity.

A significant percentage of Cuba's four million households use electricity as the main energy source for cooking and heating wa-

ter for bathing, which represents about 40 percent of consumption.

Cuba is a country highly dependent on fuel imports

During the last five years, in parallel to the deterioration of the domestic economic situation, the decline of the main sources of foreign currency and the strengthening of the U.S. embargo, the authorities have faced increasing difficulties in meeting the demand for fuel.

About 95 percent of Cuba's electricity generation relies on fossil fuels. The government aims to increase clean sources from the current five percent to around 30 percent of electricity generation by 2030.

"Imagine what it would mean if not all, at least most of the houses in the Cuban countryside had a biodigester or solar panels. Any strategy that encourages independence from the national power grid, or that provides energy, would be very positive," said García.

In recent years, the international Biomass-Cuba project (2009-2022) focused on helping to understand the importance of renewable energy sources in rural environments, the role of on-farm biodigesters and waste treatment systems in swine facilities.

The initiative, financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (Cosude), was coordinated by the Indio Hatuey Experimental Station, a research center attached to the University of the western province of Matanzas, and involved related institutions in several of the country's 15 provinces.

Ministerial Order 395 of the Ministry of Energy and Mines of 2021 stipulated that each of Cuba's 168 municipalities must have a biogas development program and strategy, and coordinate its management and implementation with their respective provinces.

In addition, the non-governmental Cuban Society for the Promotion of Renewable Energy Sources and Respect for the Environment (Cubasolar), together with the MUB, encourages training workshops and the advice of specialists.

Moving towards energy independence

One of the aspirations of the García-Mejías family is to achieve energy sustainability for their home and agricultural production.

"We foresee the construction of a second biodigester, but this one will have a mobile dome, which should provide two cubic meters of biogas per day, but much more efficiently, and with a higher pressure. With a higher volume we can benefit some neighbours," García said.

On the roof of their house, six 720-watt solar panels backed up by recovered batteries give them autonomy of approximately three hours of electricity in the event of a power failure.

"We plan to install a wind turbine, as well as a solar heater made of plastic pipes. We want to set up a demonstration area in the house to show the advantages of renewable energies and demonstrate how everything we do is done using these energy sources," said the former professor.

"We need a greater culture and awareness about renewable energies. There is resistance among some places and people. On the other hand, there are the high prices which do not foment the rapid expansion of technologies and equipment," García said when IPS asked him in his home about the obstacles to increasing the household use of renewables.

"People hear about the biodigester and think it's difficult. It takes a little work, but then the benefits are many. There is a lack of information in the media. People come to us looking for help in building biodigesters. We also receive students, which opens up an opportunity for the new generations to grow up with the culture of using nature in a sustainable way," he added.

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Kenya floods: What that deluge revealed about weaknesses of the capital, Nairobi

By Basillioh Rukanga, Nairobi

IT seems as if the rain has been falling without respite for six weeks, and the impact has been devastating.

So far more than 160 people have lost their lives, including at least 50 in a deluge on Monday in an area about 60km (37 miles) from Nairobi.

This is the wet season, but there has been far more rainfall than what is normally expected, which has been put down to the El Niño weather phenomenon.

Rivers and sewers have overflowed, roads have become waterways and homes have been destroyed.

Flooding in Nairobi is not unusual but the sheer scale of this year's deluge has exposed longer term problems with the way the city has developed.

"You can't contain nature. It doesn't work like that," said Prof Alfred Omenya, an urban planning and environment expert.

He says that much of the city sits on top the Nairobi River's floodplain, which cuts through the capital. A number of other rivers and streams also flow through Nairobi.

A properly developed drainage system may have been able to cope, but as the city has grown over the last century from 100,000 residents to today's 4.5 million the infrastructure has not kept up.

Compounding the problem is that less than half of the residents are connected to a sewage system. In slum areas, open sewers are common, which overflow when it floods.

Drains have also become blocked as people dispose of their household rubbish.

Open spaces have disappeared

as more and more buildings have gone up - both in slums and planned areas.

As more concrete covers the earth there are fewer places to absorb the water, and it runs off - overwhelming the drains and rivers.

As a result the roads have become part of the drainage system, Prof Omenya said.

He blames "clueless leadership that started from the colonial times".

Unplanned settlements have been allowed to develop around the rivers, sometimes disrupting their natural flow.

Many of the slum areas in the city, such as Mukuru and Mathare, have been built on marginal land along river valleys.

Last Wednesday, the authorities retrieved a dozen bodies of people who had drowned in the Mathare river following heavy rains the previous evening.

In the aftermath of the downpour, most of the houses in the area were flooded, with some residents trapped on the roofs of their houses.

Upmarket estates were also hit, including some that have not been prone to flooding in the past.

The man who runs the city, Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja, said the rainfall levels have been very high, and blamed the encroachment on the land surrounding the rivers for the flooding crisis.

The governor has now suspended approvals for building developments and excavations.

But the bigger task might be clearing or improving the slum areas.

The government does have a plan to build affordable and decent housing, but past upgrad-



People cross a flooded area where another boat carrying a group of people has capsized at Mororo, border of Tana River and Garissa counties, North Eastern Kenya, on Monday. AP

ing projects have not met the burgeoning demand.

People's homes have been caked in mud after water swept through them

In the meantime, residents have been asked to move to higher ground for their own safety.

President William Ruto has said that people living in dangerous areas around the country will be moved to land provided by the National Youth Service, while the government plans a long-term solution.

He said the military and the national government had been mobilised to work with counties to support those in distress.

Neighbouring Kiambu county, parts of which are on a river basin and have been affected by the floods, has also announced it will take measures to mitigate the situation, including building inspections.

In the past, buildings in and around the city have been demolished as a way to address irregular developments - but often with little effect.

Some of developments in the city and its environs have been criticised for impeding the flow of water, which then finds its way to other areas.

Construction of buildings on wetlands has also been a big problem.

In 2018, the multimillion-dollar South End

Mall in Langata and the Ukay Mall in Westlands were demolished as part of a campaign to reclaim wetlands.

"Now we have many homes built next to rivers so flooded. Walls have collapsed all over... Don't go against nature. It will fight back," Robert Alai, a Nairobi county assembly legislator wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

Roads have been turned into waterways Before the most recent floods, Sakaja had defended the development of high-rise buildings in some residential areas, saying the only way Nairobi would develop was to build up.

His stance had come amid criticism that the developments were straining an already overwhelmed infrastructure. He has now issued a directive stopping all building development approvals "until we can review all those that have been issued and are continuing in the city".

A number of MPs also criticised the governor over city management, citing the sewage and flooding crisis.

Sakaja has defended himself, saying the criticism was politically motivated.

Outspoken Senator Samson Cherargei from the ruling coalition said the governor was not to blame as "the problem we are having begun in 1963, you cannot resolve it now".

Some of the problems can be traced back to the origins of Nairobi - meaning a "place of cool waters" in the Maasai language - and the fact that it was not considered a suitable place for large numbers of people to live in.

It started as a railway depot under the British colonial authorities in the late 1890s. The engineers who worked on the site called the area a "swamp", with soggy land and "unsanitary conditions".

Years later, colonial official Sir Charles Eliot said Nairobi sat in "a depression with a very thin layer of soil or rock. The soil was waterlogged during the greater part of the year".

Nevertheless, the city developed into an attractive city with good weather, a lot of greenery and a national park.

But its drainage problem has persisted.

An initial masterplan by the colonial authorities took into consideration the lay of the land and designed measures to prevent disasters. There have been at least two other blueprints post-independence to date - but they have mostly not been implemented.

This season's floods show that as rainfall could get more intense as a result of climate change a new plan is urgently needed, Prof Omenya said.

But the ordinary city-dweller is left mopping up, hoping that the rains subside.

# Relief as mining transforms lives of people with disabilities in Geita

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

GEITA Gold Mine Limited (GGML)—a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti in partnership with the Catholic Diocese of Geita and the World Gold Council has embarked on a mission to uplift people with disabilities and orchestrate a pivotal shift in societal perceptions.

In its two-year of \$99,200 project, entitled 'dispel deadly myths against children with disability', there is already an indelible mark in the community, resolutely challenging long-held stigmas and opening doors to unprecedented opportunities for disabled people.

For many years, children with disabilities in Geita have been caught in a web of discrimination and harmful myths, viewed through a distorted lens that sees them as cursed or even as commodities for wealth acquisition.

These beliefs, according to project coordinator Joseph Massawe, have been the bane of these children's existence, robbing them of their rights and dignity.

"Through this initiative, GGML and the Catholic Church seek to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities at all levels of society and development, and to raise awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of political, social, economic and cultural life," says Massawe.

GGML's initiative aims to dismantle these destructive narratives through a comprehensive education campaign, fostering a more inclusive society that recognizes and celebrates the abilities and potential of every individual, regardless of their



physical or mental condition.

The impact of the project is particularly evident at the Moyo wa Huruma centre, where a safe haven for children with disabilities demonstrates the transformative power of care, education and support. Here, children who might otherwise have been marginalized are now thriving, their talents and skills enriching the wider community.

The success stories emanating from the centre are testimonies to the project's holistic approach, which goes beyond education to include psychological wellbeing, health care and improved access to services, and paints a brighter future for people with disabilities in Geita.

As the world continues to grapple with health inequalities, the initiative in Geita stands as a beacon of hope, underscoring how targeted interventions can bridge gaps and herald a more equitable and inclu-

sive future. In a world that often overlooks the needs of people with disabilities, GGML's work is a wake-up call, inspiring others to follow suit and stand up for the rights and well-being of every individual.

This transformative alliance, led by GGML in collaboration with the Catholic Diocese of Geita and supported by the World Gold Council, is lighting the way to inclusivity and empowerment for a community that for far too long has lingered in the shadows of misunderstanding and prejudice.

The reality in Geita reflects a serious misinterpretation of disability, where children with different abilities are viewed through a lens of despair and as a curse. This distorted perception has led families to hide their children or, worse, to believe in the gruesome myth that the body parts of these vulnerable people can be used to gain wealth. It's a landscape

where an individual's innate worth is overshadowed by ignorance and fear, perpetuating a cycle of exclusion and devaluation.

Through educational campaigns, GGML and its partners are dispelling the damaging myths that have long isolated disabled people and emphasising that disability does not mean inability. These campaigns are a powerful message to the community, urging them to look beyond disability and recognise the potential that lies within every individual.

One of the centre's greatest triumphs is the remarkable success story of educational integration. With 156 children under its wing, the Moyo wa Huruma Centre has successfully enrolled many in various levels of education - from primary and secondary schools to technical colleges and special education programmes.

More than just a place to learn, the Moyo wa Huruma Centre provides

something equally important - a home. For children who might otherwise have ended up on the streets, the centre provides a safe haven. But it's about more than shelter; it's about giving these children a platform to build a better future. Through mentoring, access to education and vocational training, the centre gives them the skills and confidence to forge meaningful paths in life.

The World Health Organization (WHO) is calling on partners around the world to take action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for, with and by people with disabilities. More than 1.3 billion people have a significant disability today, representing 16% of the world's population. Many persons with disabilities die earlier, are at increased risk of developing a range of health conditions, and experience more limitations in daily functioning than the rest of the population.

The work being done in Geita, led by GGML and its partners, is a shining example of how they are taking action showing compassion, collaboration and commitment can transform lives. For people with disabilities in the region, these initiatives are not just changing perceptions - they are opening doors to a world of opportunity where their abilities are recognised and celebrated.

Here's how this initiative is creating ripples of positive change: - Education and awareness: Through a concerted effort to educate the community, the project is essentially rewriting the narrative surrounding disability. It's confronting the harmful myths and superstitions head-on, changing societal perceptions and fostering an environment where disabled children can thrive as equal members of

society.

Empowerment through education: Education has been a key pillar of the project, as evidenced by statistics from the Moyo wa Huruma centre. With a significant number of children now enrolled in various levels of education, from primary to special needs, the project underlines the transformative power of access to education. It's a clear message that, with the right support, people with disabilities have much to contribute to the community.

Access to health care: Recognising the essential role of health in empowerment, the project ensures that children with disabilities receive the necessary health assessments and support. By facilitating access to specialist medical assessments and providing essential aids such as walkers for mobility or canes for the visually impaired, the initiative addresses critical gaps in health care. This not only improves the quality of life for these children, but also integrates them more fully into the social fabric.

Inclusion in vocational education: Beyond basic education, the initiative aims to equip these young people with practical skills to earn a living. The emphasis on vocational training paves the way for them to lead independent and productive lives, challenging the stigma that disability equals inability.

Community impact: This project extends its benefits far beyond the immediate recipients, helping to break the cycle of poverty and prevent the marginalisation that drives children onto the streets. By providing a lifeline to these children, GGML and its partners are fostering a stronger, more resilient community.



By James Wakiaga

# Transforming artisanal mining very beneficial for people and our planet

ARTISANAL and Small-scale Miners (ASM) are the “orphans” of the mining world. The global mining industry, including some governments, perceives artisanal mining as a “residual sector.” Yet over 40 million artisanal miners toil in mines around the world and contribute to local economies. Their labour helps respond to the growing demand for minerals used in everything from smartphones to solar panels and batteries and from roads and buildings.

Eight or nine out of ten people who work in mining are either artisanal or small-scale miners. In many developing countries around the world, particularly in Africa, artisanal mining is the second or third largest employer after agriculture and retail trade. It is estimated that artisanal miners bring home higher incomes compared with subsistence farmers.

Artisanal and small-scale miners play a big role in the mining of Development Minerals such as construction materials, industrial minerals and semi-precious stones - to meet the growing needs of construction and infrastructure. In many African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, they produce upwards of 60 per cent of construction materials. In Uganda, for example, artisanal miners produce over 80 per cent of Development Minerals. So surely this cannot be treated as a “residual sector”.

Increasingly, artisanal miners are mining so-called “critical minerals.” Their contribution is significant as the world grapples with insufficient exploration and critical mineral shortages. For instance, in Zambia, they are mining cobalt, tungsten, tin, tantalum and copper. Relying on local wisdom, artisanal miners are



For mineral-rich countries, allocating a fraction of fiscal revenues from large-scale mining to fund artisanal and small-scale mining administration would be a good start. The booming demand for critical minerals presents a compelling reason and unique opportunity to reinvest in the sector responsible for employing most of the world’s miners.

Secondly, artisanal and small-scale mining are vastly underfunded or neglected. Countries should increase productivity growth and incomes of artisanal miners by improving access to affordable financing and equipment that can improve efficiency. With better access to finance and investment in technology, the livelihoods of many miners will improve. It will address multiple social and human rights problems plaguing artisanal mining such as children working in mines or gender-based violence fuelled by poverty. Today’s artisanal miners can grow into the medium-scale mining companies of tomorrow, with responsible business practices.

Thirdly, countries should encourage artisanal miners to move into other decent jobs and diversified activities. If the productivity of artisanal miners increases, this will free them up to work in other parts of mineral value chains - in manufacturing or construction. This possibility is within reach of artisanal and small-scale businesses using Development Minerals. They can graduate from mining to manufacturing of building materials and many other products - the demand for which is burgeoning in many African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. This transition can be the basis for industrialisation, infrastructure building, housing construction and employment generation in growing markets.

Fourthly, countries should intentionally protect environmentally valuable and sensitive areas. For example, mining and quarrying in rivers is rampant in many countries, leading to irreversible ecosystem changes and undermining the very livelihoods that the artisanal miners strive to improve. Thus, countries should safeguard such sensitive areas and tighten the implementation of environmental protection laws and regulations where necessary.

These changes can shift the model of present-day mining with a handful of large international companies on the one hand, and millions of subsistence miners on the other hand. The rise of the “missing middle” in mining can transform the reputation of the mining sector to one that contributes to shared prosperity and lifts millions out of poverty.

It’s time for a future where artisanal miners are seen not as a “residual”, but as valued partners in the mining industry. Let us rewrite the narrative around mining, one that recognizes the ingenuity and hard work of men and women in artisanal mines by empowering them. This will make the future of mining an inclusive pathway for sustainable development for countries that provide minerals to the world.

often the “native geologists” because of their intimate knowledge of the land, and they are often the first to discover valuable minerals.

However, artisanal miners around the world are often exploited and work in unregulated mines in unsafe conditions and are disproportionately exposed to high risks of accidents, health hazards, and diseases. Additionally, negative environmental impacts from mining, resulting in deforestation, loss of biodiversity, pollution, disruption of water bodies, and land degradation, severely harm neighbouring communities.

As the quest for critical minerals required for developing clean energy and infrastructure grows exponentially, the future of mining must integrate artisanal and small-scale mining. There needs to be a commitment to improving lives and protecting the environment.

It is time for a paradigm shift. One where artisanal miners are treated fairly and deliberate actions safeguard the environment are put in place. This shift calls for political goodwill, legal and policy frameworks that elevate the status of artisanal and small-scale miners from marginalised entities to valued industry participants. Countries must adopt strategies to manage artisanal and small-scale mining effectively and sustainably to make tangible improvements in their lives.

Firstly, governments should institute and adequately fund the administration of artisanal miners who are seriously neglected and under-resourced. This would equip mining authorities with tools and capacities to conduct inspections of artisanal mining operations, facilitate their legalisation, and provide technical services to enhance and manage health, safety, and the environment.

**THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 100 -**

By Felix Magezan: 0787 00 97 94 / felixmagezi@gmail.com

11. Spread out in Kiswahili  
12. Person's sense of self-esteem  
14. rest on a chair  
15. reach a destination  
17. feeling sorrow  
18. Air Travel Organizer's Licence  
20. ugly, warlike creatures  
21. discharge  
22. having courage

**DOWN:**  
1. Essentials  
2. Peace in Kiswahili  
3. a member of a nomadic people of Siberia  
4. Go in Kiswahili  
5. an abalone, especially one used as food in the Channel Islands  
6. a member of a band of armed robbers in India  
7. teazle  
13. elegance of movement  
15. clay used to make sun-dried bricks  
16. an emetic  
19. steal

**ACROSS:**  
1. a large brown toad of tropical America, introduced elsewhere for pest control  
8. event regarded as a portent of good or evil  
9. the length of a time a person existed  
10. made, done, or happening without method or conscious decision

In this Puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start.

SWAN	SAILS: AWE	AREA
TATA: SAD	WAGER	GABION
ELON: CAN	REBUKED	EBULLIENT
NIABA	ARABICA	RIKSMAL
OLMEC	WARSHIPS	E-BOAR

**Yesterday's solution**

I	N	D	I	A	R	E	N	T	G	A	M	A	Y	R	
R	O	O	M	E	T	O	U	L	A	M	A	E			
A	N	D	A	L	U	S	T	E	A	L	L	O	W	E	D
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I	M	I	S	T	A	K	E	N	U	A	N	C	E		
M	A	R	T	E	D	S	S	N	R	K					

# RADIO One

## RATIBA YA VIPINDI

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Radio One



## BUSINESS

## LSF, Stanbic partner for development initiatives

By Guardian Reporter

THE Legal Services Facility (LSF), and Stanbic Bank Tanzania, signed a partnership agreement to implement development projects aimed at uplifting women and girls economically, educationally, and health-wise.

According to a statement issued in Dar es Salaam yesterday and shared to this journalist indicates that the two-year agreement focuses on combining efforts and pooling resources to address social challenges, particularly those facing women and girls.

It aims to create favourable environments for education and improve reproductive health while enabling women to access economic opportunities, training, and capital for economic empowerment. The primary goal is to ensure equal opportunities, gender equality, and women empowerment, thus fulfilling their aspirations.

These areas align with the bank's priorities through its community projects and LSF's commitment to promoting social justice for sustainable development. It is noted that the agreement will directly contribute to the achievement of National priority and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 5 (Gender Equality), 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 4 (Quality Education), and 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions).

During the signing of the agreement, LSF's Executive Director, Lulu Ng'wanakilala, stated, "We are proud to sign this agreement today, which underscores our commitment to bringing together stakeholders, especially private organizations, to address community challenges through productive and sustainable outcomes. This agreement we enter into today will facilitate the implementation of joint projects and foster collaborative thinking in creating new joint initiatives as well as continuing existing ones. Therefore, I take this opportunity to thank Stanbic

Bank for partnering with us. I would especially like to thank them for the education and reproductive health project, which will be executed through the annual Run for Binti event. We are thrilled to have a significant partner in this year's race. Through this partnership, we believe we can reach more beneficiaries than ever before each year."

On his part, the Chief Executive of Stanbic Bank, Manzi Rwegasira, said, "We are thrilled to collaborate with LSF to bring to fruition projects that will empower youths and women in communities across the country, as well as address environmental impacts by planting trees to contribute to Tanzania's environmental goals and align with our commitment to promoting sustainable development. This partnership aims to strengthen economic opportunities for women and youth through initiatives focused on financial literacy and business development. By enhancing financial knowledge and skills, we aim to provide the necessary resources for sustainable financial independence and success.

"We are excited to work together with LSF to advance these initiatives, which directly contribute to Tanzania's development plans and the Sustainable Development Goals. We look forward to making a meaningful impact in the lives of women, youth, and communities across Tanzania, ensuring a brighter and more sustainable future for all."



**We are excited to work together with LSF to advance these initiatives, which directly contribute to Tanzania's development plans and the Sustainable Development Goals**



Industry and Trade minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji (L) engaged in discussions with her Saudi counterpart, Dr Majid Al Kasabi, in Riyadh on Monday. Photo by Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Government invites Saudi businesses to invest in diverse Tanzanian sectors

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government has extended an invitation to Saudi Arabian businesses to invest in a range of sectors within the country, including agriculture, industry, livestock, energy, mining, tourism, pharmaceuticals, and real estate.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce, Dr. Ashatu Kijaji, warmly received the traders along with her delegation during a meeting and discussions with Hassan Al-Huwaizi, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Saudi Arabia.

This event occurred amid the ongoing World Economic Forum Meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Minister Kijaji elaborated on additional investment opportunities in Tanzania beyond the sectors she highlighted, offering a gateway to diverse markets across Africa for potential investors.

The Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce

and Industry of Saudi Arabia, Hassan Al-Huwaizi, and his delegation have committed to promoting investment among Saudi businessmen and investors in Tanzania.

Dr. Kijaji led the Tanzanian delegation at the meeting, which included prominent individuals like Rashed Bade, the Commissioner of Foreign Exchange at the Ministry of Finance; Sempheo Manongi, Director of the Department of Business Development; Asangye Bangu, Director General of the Board of Warehouses; Deo Shayo, the Representative of the Director General of TanTrade; as well as officials from the Tanzanian Embassy in Saudi Arabia.

Moreover, Dr. Kijaji underscored the significance of enabling Tanzanian and Saudi Arabian entrepreneurs to secure capital for local product manufacturing, thereby enhancing trade ties between the two countries.

Minister Kijaji conveyed this message during her discussion with Engineer Saad Alkhalb, the

CEO of Saudi Exim Bank, at the World Economic Forum in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Kijaji took the opportunity to extend an invitation to Saudi Exim to visit Tanzania, aiming to enhance trade relations between the two countries. This visit could potentially facilitate the provision of concessional loans to contractors and businessmen operating in Tanzania.

Engineer Saad Alkhalb, the Executive Director of Saudi Exim Bank, pledged to explore the opportunities between Tanzania and Saudi Arabia. This initiative aims to streamline capital access and enhance business efficiency for mutual benefits, particularly in sectors such as meat, fish, and fruits.

## 'Payments exchange series' to drive economic transformation launched

By Guardian Reporter

CROWN Agents Bank (CAB) and Invest Africa have launched 'The Payments Exchange Series', a strategic campaign set to drive new insight and understanding around the role of foreign exchange (FX) and payments in the economic transformation of Africa.

A statement issued yesterday by Invest Africa and shared to this journalist, indicates that the campaign will also comprise a programme of events and content across 2024, that explores the integral role that payments and FX will play in realising the ambitions of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) and future trade and investment.

Africa's global importance is rising, with permanent G20 membership and expanded BRICS involvement. Its growing population, vast resources, and fast-growing economies make it a major player on the global stage. Yet, challenges like political discord and insufficient investment remain.

As a result, The Payments Exchange will bring together African central bankers, finance ministries, fintechs, development finance institutions, pan-African banks, and other pertinent stakeholders with a shared goal to discuss solutions to facilitate greater access to improve the flow of money across the continent.

As part of the initiative, CAB and Invest Africa will also host a special breakfast

roundtable next month as part of the programme for Invest Africa's flagship event, the Africa debate, in June 6, 2024 in London.

The 10th edition of the Africa debate will focus on advancing trade and investment between Africa and the rest of the world and plans to attract 500+ investors, market leaders and senior decision makers across a variety of sectors and verticals.

The collaboration will also see the publication of a series of articles and podcasts and an event in the margins of the World Bank annual meetings in Washington DC.

"In partnership with Invest Africa, Crown Agents Bank is proud to launch

The Payments Exchange Series, catalysing dialogue and action to empower Africa's economic evolution through optimised payments infrastructure. Together, we will pave the way for inclusive growth, facilitating financial access and fostering investment opportunities across the continent," said Chris Partridge, Head of Banks & NB-FIs at Crown Agents Bank.

Chantelé Carrington, CEO of Invest Africa Ltd, said, "At Invest Africa, we recognise the pivotal role that payments infrastructure plays in driving economic growth and investment across the continent. Through our collaboration with Crown Agents Bank, we are committed to amplifying the

conversation around payments, fostering collaboration, and championing initiatives that will enhance financial inclusion and enable businesses to thrive in Africa."

While Invest Africa is a leading pan-African business platform that promotes trade and investment across the continent, CAB is a UK-regulated FX and payments service provider, specialising in global FX and cross-border payments for hard-to-reach markets.

Unlike traditional banks, CAB's unrivalled network, technology, and expertise means it can move money in the most complex situations, to the most challenging markets, for organisations that expect the most.

## Two African heads of state receive 'Babacar Ndiaye Prize 2024'

By Guardian Reporter

THE 'Africa Road Builders' selection committee has awarded the Babacar Ndiaye Prize 2024 to the Presidents of Equatorial Guinea and the Republic of Congo, Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo and Denis Sassou-Nguesso, respectively.

A statement released yesterday by African Development Bank Group (AfDB) and made available to this paper, has that the awardees follow in the footsteps of the head of state of Madagascar, Andry Rajoelina, who won the prize in 2023 and President Samia Suluhu in 2022.

President Obiang Nguema was awarded the prize "for his remarkable achievements in improving the road infrastructure in his

country", according to the Africa Road Builders press release. Republic of Congo President, Denis Sassou-Nguesso, was selected "in recognition of his commitment to the development of road infrastructure".

In Equatorial Guinea, the committee cited the completion of the Malabo-Sipopo and Bata-Mongomo motorways, as well as the resurfacing of roads in several other regions of the country. In Congo, the committee pointed to the road between Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire.

"The Selection Committee congratulates Presidents Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo and Denis Sassou-Nguesso for their remarkable achievements in road infrastructure and invites them to accept their awards on 30 May 2024 in Nairobi,



The 2024 award conference was attended by road experts from several African countries and selection committee members. Photo: AfDB

Kenya, at the final conference, which will take place alongside the African Development Bank Annual Meetings scheduled for 27 to 31 May 2024, according to the press release.

Sponsored by the African Development Bank Group, the Babacar Ndiaye "Africa Road Builders" prize is awarded by ActuRoutes, a platform that provides information on the road network and infrastructure in Africa, and by Media for Infrastructure and Finance in Africa (MIFA), a network of African journalists specialising in road infrastructure.

The "Africa Road Builders" prize was created in honour of Babacar Ndiaye, who was President of the African Development Bank Group from 1985 to 1995. Each year, the selection committee evaluates ambitious, tangible projects that have a real impact on people's mobility in Africa.

The Babacar Ndiaye Prize has been awarded to the following

heads of state since its launch in 2016: King Mohamed VI (Morocco), Edgar Lungu (Zambia), Alasane Ouattara (Côte d'Ivoire), Ali Bongo Ondimba (Gabon) in 2016, Macky Sall (Senegal) and Paul Kagame (Rwanda) in 2017, Uhuru Kenyatta (Kenya) in 2018, Adama Barrow (Gambia) in 2019, Abdel Fattah-al Sissi (Egypt) in 2020, Muhammadu Buhari (Nigeria) in 2021, Samia Suluhu (Tanzania) in 2022 and Andry Rajoelina (Madagascar) in 2023.

Mike Salawou, Director of Infrastructure and Urban Development at the African Development Bank, represented the Bank Group at the selection committee ceremony announcing the winners.

AfDB is the premier multilateral financing institution dedicated to Africa's development. It has a field presence in 41 African countries, with an external office in Japan, and contributes to the economic development and social progress



## SPECIAL REPORT

# Msalato market transforms into cash haven for small businesses

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

NESTLED nineteen kilometers to the west of Dodoma city, Tanzania's bustling national capital, lies the vibrant suburb of Msalato. It serves as a magnet for ambitious small traders seeking their fortunes through entrepreneurial endeavors.

Attracting a diverse array of spenders from varying economic backgrounds and nationalities, Msalato, fondly referred to as "Nyama Choma" (meaning barbecue), stands as a transformational hub for at least 1,500 small traders, reshaping their lives for the better.

Msalato market which opens every Saturday from noon to 23:00hrs is attracting mostly women and youth small traders, who can't walk back home with empty pockets.

With boisterous consumers ranging from local Tanzanian families, friends well as foreigners, mostly from China and the United Kingdom (UK), Salome Michael (38) is one of benefiting small trader, through her pickles business.

A mother to two serves an average of 80 customers every Saturday and she is generating an average 80,000/-, of which she sell one plate of pickle for 1,000/-.

"I rely on this business for a living, covering expenditure for my children education," said Michael with a smile on her face while busy preparing the pickles.

One of her children has completed secondary school education and the second is currently studying at form two.

Residing in Maili Mbili suburb, on the outskirts of Dodoma, Michael is living in a two rooms rented house of which she is paying 40,000/- a month.

"It was a friend of mine owning a liquor shop at the market who introduced me to this business ten years ago, after I abandoned by my husband who fell in love with a concubine in Singida town," she said.

Five years ago, she used to generate a maximum income of 130,000/- when the market hosted only three pickles sellers.

"As at present, there are about 14 women doing similar business. The increase has triggered stiff competition, my major challenge," said Michael.

She purchase vegetable worth 20,000/- for preparing pickles during the market day.

"But, generally, the business is working out for me. I wish that I could have created more profits, if the market was held at least twice a week," she said.

Agrippina Munishi (28) a mother of one said that she generates a maximum of 70,000/- every Saturday from the pickles business at the same market.

"I spend 15,000/- in buying vegetables for preparing the pickles. Myself and fellow pickles sellers pay a levy of 2,000/- a day," said Munishi.

According to her, she started the business two years ago and has been useful to her in generating income for household needs.

The Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) 2023/24 Financial Year Levies and Tax Guidebook states that businesses with annual turnover that don't exceed 4mn/- shall not be subjected to taxes, but only levies.

Munishi commended the government for creating a conducive business environment for SMEs to operate their businesses on tax-free.

Her praises to the government are in line with Article 9 (d) of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania 1977 which states: "The national economy shall be planned and promoted in a balanced and integrated manner."

However, Article 9 (g) states: "The government and all its agen-

cies accord equal opportunities to all citizens, men and women alike without regard to their colour, tribe, religion or station in life."

Amani Simon (32) a Maili Mbili resident in Dodoma City works at the market as a goat meat roaster.

Simon buys six male goats every Saturday valued at 100,000/- each. He started the business at the market in 2021 with a capital of 200,000/- of which has grown to 700,000/-.

"I generate a maximum profit of 35,000/- per head. I pay 20,000/- for charcoal and a total of 7,000/- in levies per goat at the market," said Simon.

He said he has managed to buy a motorcycle from the profits he is getting, operating as a hail ride from Monday to Friday.

"I generate a maximum of 20,000/- in profits from the ride hailing business," said Simon.

Jackline Mosile (27) Hombolo Wine Sales Officer produced by TAWICO Limited said that doing business at Msalato market has helped the company to get 25 new bulk buyers for their produced wines from Dodoma and nearby regions.

"I do sell a maximum of 50 bottles and five gallons of wine to people coming to the market to have fun and their families," said Mosile.

She pays a levy of 5,000/- for doing the business at the market.

Baraka Vincent, a mobile money agent said that the business is even better on Saturdays than other days of the week.

Vincent said on Saturdays he serves up to 150 customers up from a maximum of 50, whom he serves on a daily basis from Mondays to Fridays.

"My investment capital has grown by 70 percent from initially 500,000/- three years ago due to many transactions I makes each Saturdays," said Vincent.

The monthly commission he receives from mobile money operators has increased by 40 percent.

But Alex John who regularly visits the market with his family blamed the shortages of mobile money agents.

"There are only two mobile money agents here and one on the other side of the road. I think this is an opportunity for people to open more mobile money shops here," he recommended.

Maulid Haji (23) a motorcycle rider at Msalato said that on Saturdays he generates up to 50,000/- from a maximum of 15,000/- he earns during Mondays to Fridays.

Alpha Emmanuel (19) is a fruit vendor said that he sell up to 300,000/- on Saturdays from around 60,000/- on a daily basis from Mondays to Fridays, from his business located at the city center.

"I started selling watermelon at the market two years ago with a capital of 200,000/- but has grown to 800,000/-. This market has contributed to 80 percent of growth of my capital," said Emmanuel.

Mariam Mussa, a public toilet supervisor at Msalato market said that on Saturdays she generates up to 70,000/- in charging 200/- per person going for the service.

"On normal days, I hardly earn only up to 12,000/-. Water consumption from DUWASA is worth less than 30,000/- a month," she said.

Isaya Augustino Sales Officer at Msalato Livestock Market said that at least eight cows and 70 goats are slaughtered every Saturday to feed the people coming to the Msalato market to have fun.

Brown Kyando, Wamwiduka Band Manager said that the band formed by four male singers has been regularly going at the market to refresh visitors by singing traditional songs.

According to him, the group earns an average of 150,000/- every Saturday from money given by peo-

## BUSINESSES GROWTH TRENDS AT THE MSALATO AUCTION MARKET



**1,500**  
Msalato market estimated SMEs.

**6,000**  
Estimated number of people visiting Msalato market on Saturdays.

**80**  
Estimated customers served by Salome.

Source: Msalato Market Dodoma.

**130,000/-**  
Previously maximum income earned by Salome from selling pickles.

**80,000/-**  
Current income earned by Salome from selling pickles.

**20,000/-**  
Amount spent by Salome in preparing pickles.

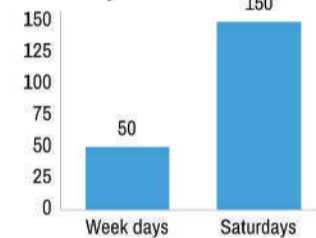
**2,000/-**  
Levy paid by Salome at Msalato market.

**1,000/-**  
Cost for a plate of pickles.

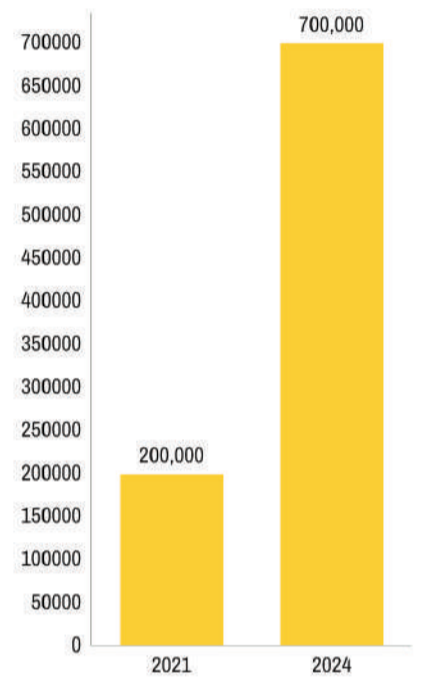
**35,000/-**  
Profit earned by Simon per he-goat head.

**20,000/-**  
Profit earned by Simon from motorcycle hail ride.

**Customers served by Vincent**



**Simon's Capital**



TheGuardianData Guardian

ple who enjoy their music.

"Sometimes we make up to 200,000/-. We are using this market as a platform for self-employment. We don't pay any levy for that," said Kyando.

Kyando asserted that Msalato market has helped the group in receiving invitations for wedding and other ceremonial functions where it generates a maximum of 250,000/- per event.

Devotha Selufara, Msalato Ward Executive Officer, said that businesses at the market flourish during the harvest season between late April and late August every year.

Selufara acknowledged that during the National Assembly meetings, up to 6,000 people are visiting the market.

Without revealing the exact figures, she said the government has been earning a little revenue collections from the market in levies paid by small business owners.

She said that three women groups formed by a maximum of ten members each were in 2022 and 2023 assisted by her office to access non-interest soft loans from the Dodoma City Council through the 10 percent special groups' economic empowerment window.

She mentioned the three SME special groups from the Msalato Ward as Msalato Dadas which received 20m/- and Msalato Academy which received 25m/-.

"The two women SME groups were issued the loans for growing their soft and alcohol drinks businesses at the Msalato market;

The third group is Nyasileta which was issued with 30m/- for a sunflower cooking oil processing project," said Selufara.

According to her, all SMEs groups have successfully repaid their loans.

The ten percent non-interest loans sourced from the district council revenues account that got suspended in the first quarter of the 2023/24 financial year due to allegations on funds embezzlements and the existence of ghost SMEs special groups, will resume in July this year.

Mohammed Mchengerwa, the Regional Administration and Local Government State Minister in the President's Office (PO-RALG) revealed the resume of the SMEs loans window in the National Assembly recently when tabling the ministry's budget estimates for 2024/25 tuned at 10.125trn/-.

He said the ministry has in the current finan-

cial year set a target of 43.77bn/- that is outstanding from SMEs who borrowed from the special groups.

To begin with, the ministry has selected ten district councils for testing a new model of issuing the loans that will be conducted through commercial banks, he said, listing the pilot units as two cities, two municipal councils, two town councils and four district councils.

Mchengerwa asserted that the remaining 174 district councils will follow the procedures after learning from experience of the selected places, he said.

The model will be adopted in 174 districts after several improvements that include setting up special groups' loan management departments at PO-RALG and the formation of loan management committees at various levels.

They will be set up at regional and district commissioners' offices as well as ward chairmen's offices, he said, hinting at any amendments to the SMEs special groups' loans legislation and its regulations.

The ministry will also undertake capacity building efforts for loan officers and recruit loan recovery officials for the special groups at the ward level, he stated.

"At this early stage already 777 community development officers have been hired to take up tasks set out in the changes," he added.

This is the case when Section 37(A) of the Local Government Finance Act Cap 290 R.E 2019 instructs local government authorities (LGAs) to allocate ten percent of their revenue collections for extending non-interest loans to women, youth and people with disabilities through special groups' economic empowerment schemes.

The Controller and Auditor General (CAG) 2022/23 report on local government authorities' states that 62 LGAs failed to fully contribute the ten percent of their domestic revenue collections to the Women, Youth and People with Disability Empowerment Fund.

"Total uncontributed domestic revenue collections amounted to 7.27bn/-. However, after the assessment, I found that 94 LGAs had issued loans worth 38.81bn/- to special groups without taking into account the proportion of loan disbursement," states CAG Charles Kichere.

The CAG added that during the audited 2022/23 financial year unrecovered loans from the SMEs special groups amounted to 79.76bn/-.

The Population and Housing Census 2022 results issued by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) shows that Msalato is one of the 41 Wards forming the Dodoma City Council.

It states that the Ward is formed by three streets namely Senje, Chikole and Msalato.

"Msalato Ward has a population of 12,905 people with 6,564 women. It has 3,384 households," reads part of the NBS report.

NBS further asserts that Msalato Ward has three primary schools and two secondary schools.

Nsubi Bukuku, Msalato Ward Councilor, said that upon completion of the ongoing Msalato International Airport project, it is expected that it will stimulate business at the market.

"The market will serve as an immediate reception for domestic and foreign people visiting the city for government issues and tourism;

As part of a way forward plans are to expand the market areas but it will remain as it is in terms of maintaining ordinary infrastructure because people want it that way," said Bukuku.

The Msalato International Airport Project Master Plan by the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) shows that the airport ongoing construction is financed through concessional loans acquired from the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Development Funds.

The other financier is the African Growing Together Fund (AGTF). The continental financiers are collectively extending a concessional loan valued at \$238.06 million.

However, the central government contributes a stake of 91.41bn/- in construction of the airport with a capacity of handling 1.5 million passengers a year. The airport construction has as of February this year accomplished by 35 percent.

The airport's runways, car parking lots, fence, the clean water and sewage system are constructed by M/s Sinohydro Corporation Limited.

The Master Plan document shows that the passengers' lounge, fire and rescue station, electricity system and are being constructed by M/s Beijing Construction Engineering Group Limited and the M/s Heber Construction Group Corporation Limited.

The project consultation is being handled by M/s Beza Consulting Engineering Plc, M/s Ambicon Engineering Limited and M/s Afrisa Consulting Limited.



**There are only two mobile money agents here and one on the other side of the road. I think this is an opportunity for people to open more mobile money shops here**



# Paying Africa's climate bill - II

By Michael Olabisi

RAISING awareness about protecting the planet for future generations is crucial, but the burden of paying for the climate crisis falls disproportionately on poor nations, which often lack the resources to address it.

In the opening segment of this series, we elucidated how the world's most impoverished nations, specifically in Africa, are struggling with the economic strain of a climate crisis for which they lack adequate resources to tackle effectively.

We warned against relying solely on increased public debt as a solution, as the financial demands for climate-related investments surpass the lending capabilities of multilateral finance institutions. This poses a significant challenge, especially for many African nations that are already facing constraints in securing funding.

We delved into innovative concepts, with one viable option being to complement debt with alternative financial mechanisms that effectively address the climate change dilemma. Let's proceed with the rest.

## Engaging private markets

The private sector has enough to support the \$1.3 trillion a year needed for climate adaptation. Starting with some ballpark figures, the top 500 global corporations earned more than \$2.9 trillion in profits in the fiscal year ended March 2023, on revenues of about \$41 trillion. For the United States alone, gross private domestic investment was about \$5 trillion in the third quarter of 2023. If the corporations making these investments converged uniformly on climate action the US private sector alone could, in principle, fund a global renewable energy transition 15 times over.

If most companies saw the renewable energy transition as their primary business opportunity and were offered incentives that encouraged investment without national barriers, climate action would get a much-needed boost. This pathway could complement other efforts toward a global carbon pricing mechanism if such mechanisms had robust revenue-sharing commitments to developing economies.

The burning question is, how can governments and international institutions nudge corporations to protect



the global commons by investing in the low-income countries with the greatest need for climate financing?

Broadly speaking, governments can pressure corporations to invest in a green transition through any combination of approaches: regulation, taxes matched with direct public investments, or cap and trade. New-energy vehicle requirements in China and zero-emission vehicle mandates in California, as an example of a regulatory approach, have led corporations to invest massively in new production systems. The regulatory steps seem to work, but more is needed. A global carbon pricing mechanism is one example

of a tax, while a global cap-and-trade mechanism can be defined to set limits on fossil-fuel-based economic production, matched with tradable points for renewable-energy-based production, among other possibilities. The most meaningful approach will depend on the type of investment needed, and the effectiveness of each approach will depend on the political economy of the context. Regardless of each country's specific approach, however, effective climate action could benefit from tapping the private sector's financial resources when public resources are limited. Public incentives to spur private

investment seem particularly appealing for some of the challenges that need timely action in low-income countries, and especially for African economies with little fiscal space. However, current public incentive programs are typically designed to spur spending for country-specific climate goals. The mismatch in policy efforts here is that climate action should be based on optimization at a global scale.

The current pattern of energy investment in Africa highlights both the opportunity to do better and the failure of a system without coordinated incentives.

It is a failure of policy if the governments of northern European countries such as Germany and the United Kingdom pay billions to support the in-country installation of solar panels that could produce 40 percent more energy in a tropical setting such as Côte d'Ivoire or Ghana. Spending billions on additional wind farms in California that yield less energy per dollar than a comparable investment in Kenya suffers from the same flaw. If the vast renewable energy potential of areas near the equator can be hooked into global value chains through trade-yielding climate gains, as well as profits that feed back to the German, British, or Californian sources of the investments—it may be the policy win of the century.

## Win-win solution

Speeding the renewable energy transition in African countries is needed for the sake of the world. It can be a win-win, if done right. Local economies win, as the investment drives local development, while the global economy wins from the combination of sustained profits and climate losses avoided. The reason policy holds back this win-win scenario is that the global accord for climate action has no teeth, and the rewards to private actors spending on climate action are limited by national boundaries.

The current pattern of energy investment in Africa highlights both the opportunity to do better and the failure of a system without coordinated incentives (Olabisi, Richardson, and Adelaja 2022). Public and private energy financing from Group of Twenty countries and multilateral development banks to African countries

averaged about \$35 billion a year between 2012 and 2021. The private sector provided just over 40 percent of the funds. The largest chunk of financing—\$83.5 billion—went to gas and liquefied natural gas projects (Moses 2023). Spending on other energy sources, including renewable options such as solar, hydro, and wind, lagged sorely behind. Corporations are open to spending to meet energy demand in Africa, so the burden of investment is not purely public, but their efforts follow the short-term gains—such as those from fossil fuels. Just imagine the impact of a global climate fund paying the marginal incentives that would boost private sector returns on solar and wind in Africa above the gains from gas projects.

At some point, policymakers and the private sector will have to agree that the better way to profit from private enterprise must be ecologically sustainable. Or better yet, the approach should remediate the planet to improve the quality of life for future generations. The private sector and its linked equity markets can, with the right policy guidance, channel resources to finance a green transition faster than governments can raise debt for a purely public approach to salvaging the global commons.

Today, we have private corporations with significant global reach in the renewable energy business that were nonexistent or barely existent three decades ago. A growing number of billion-dollar companies in the renewable energy business have room to grow further with the right public policy postures. The speed necessary for effective climate action, especially in many African countries, calls for private sector initiatives, along with astute global governance. Can we imagine a future when most corporations pursue global ecological sustainability because their economic sustainability depends on it?

**Michael Olabisi (pictured), is an assistant professor at Michigan State University.**

# Kenya asks Marathon digital, to review cryptocurrency regime

NAIROBI

THE Kenyan government has invited a consultant to re-look into the cryptocurrency regime, signaling a shift from the hardline position Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) has been holding over digital currencies in the past.

President William Ruto (pictured) revealed that Marathon Digital Holdings has been invited to consult with National Treasury and Energy Ministry over the cryptocurrency regime.

Marathon Digital Holdings is one of the largest Bitcoin miners in North America. The company converts energy into economic value by processing Bitcoin transactions, creating newly minted Bitcoin ("BTC"), and keeping Bitcoin's distributed ledger up to date.

With the Ministry of Energy, Ruto said Marathon Digital will discuss the energy needs in connection with cryptocurrency mining.

"Marathon Digital has been ushered to consult with Treasury on cryptocurrency regime and ministry of energy to discuss the energy needs in connection with the cryptocurrency mining," he said at a meeting with American investors in Nairobi last week.

In 2015, CBK warned Kenyans against cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin, stating that Bitcoin is not a legal tender in Kenya and therefore no protection exists in the event that the platform that exchanges or holds the virtual currency fails or goes out of business.

CBK warned Kenyans that some of the risks associated with buying, holding or trading virtual currencies saying transactions are largely untraceable and anonymous, making them susceptible to abuse by criminals in money laundering and financing of terrorism.

"There is no underlying or backing of assets and the value of virtual currencies is speculative in nature. This may result in high volatility in value of virtual currencies thus exposing users to potential losses. CBK reiterates that Bitcoin and similar products are not legal tender nor are they regulated in Kenya. The public should therefore desist from transacting in Bitcoin and similar products," said CBK in a statement.

The President was speaking during AMCHAM Business Summit in Nairobi. Also present were United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, Kenya Investment and Trade Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano, US Ambassador to Kenya Met Whitman and representatives of many American and Kenyan companies, and government officials.

## Agencies



ITV PGM SCHEDULE	
<b>TUESDAY 19 March</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mzeezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michozo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: Laws of love 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:25 Jagna 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Alya ya jami 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Kipindi maalum: NHIF rpt 13:20 Usafiri Wako rpt 13:50 Shikabamba 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Shikabamba 14:25 Igizo rpt: Slay Queen 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 Music: The Base 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Mapiishi 18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama 19:30 Soap: Laws of love 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba 21:55 Kipindi Maalum: Nahari na Mazingira 21:59 Chetu ni chetu 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Jiji letu 23:30 Music: The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera  <b>WEDNESDAY 20 March</b> 5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mzeezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michozo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: Laws of love 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:25 Jagna 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt 12:55 Habari za saa  <b>THURSDAY 21 March</b> 5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mzeezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michozo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:25 Shamba lulu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Ripoti maalum 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT 13:30 Art and Lifestyle 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Shambani za pwani rpt 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Mapiishi 18:30 Jagna 19:00 Usafiri wako 19:30 Soap: Laws of love 20:00 Habari 21:05 Malumbano ya hoja 21:59 Jiji letu 23:00 Music: The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera  <b>FRIDAY 22 March</b> 5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mzeezi  6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michozo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:25 Jagna 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt 12:55 Habari za saa  6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michozo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:25 Usafiri wako 10:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing 11:20 Jagna rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: Tanesco 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt 13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama 14:00 Habari za saa 14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama 14:30 DW: Afimaxx rpt 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base (DJ Show) 17:30 Kisiam 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Top ten 18:30 Shamba lulu 19:30 Soap: Laws of love 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama 21:55 Habari za saa 22:30 Jiji letu 23:30 Music: The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera  <b>SATURDAY 23 March</b> 5:30 Uwanja wa Mzeezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:05 Shika Bamba 5 10:35 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt 11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt 11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo 12:50 Art and lifestyle 13:20 Shamba lulu 13:50 Soap rpt: Laws of love 14:55 Igizo: Mizengwe 16:10 Igizo: Slay Queen 17:00 Shambani za Pwani 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 ITV Top 10 rpt 19:00 Jungu kuu 19:30 Shika Bamba 20:00 Habari 21:05 Igizo: Slay Queen 21:40 Art and Lifestyle 22:10 ITV Top 10 22:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo 23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt  00:30 Al Jazeera  <b>SUNDAY 24 March</b> 5:30 Uwanja wa Mzeezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:00 Soap rpt: Laws of love 11:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt 12:45 Mjuzi Zaidi 13:30 Usafiri wako 14:00 Tamasha la Michozo 15:30 Mwangaza 16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt 17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Mapiishi 18:30 Matiko ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Slay Queen 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko 21:40 Igizo: Mizengwe 21:25 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa Jackpot 22:20 Soap: Uzalo rpt 00:30 Al Jazeera  <b>WED 20 March</b> 06:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Kumekucha Michozo rpt 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt 12:00 Dv News Africa rpt 12:30 Our Earth 13:00 Telenovela I Plead Guilty rpt 14:00 Capchat 09:00 Our Earth 09:30 Culinary 10:00 EcoAfrica 16:00 Business Edition Rpt 16:30 Culinary delight rpt 17:00 Innovation rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Sports Gazette 19:30 Meza huru 20:00 Tomorrow Today 21:00 Tomorrow Today 21:30 Capchat Rpt  06:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Kumekucha Michozo rpt 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt 12:00 Dv News Africa rpt 12:30 Our Earth 13:00 Telenovela I Plead Guilty rpt 14:00 Capchat 09:00 Our Earth 09:30 Culinary 10:00 EcoAfrica 16:00 Business Edition Rpt 16:30 Culinary delight rpt 17:00 Innovation rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Sports Gazette 19:30 Meza huru 20:00 Tomorrow Today 21:00 Tomorrow Today 21:30 Capchat Rpt  06:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Kumekucha Michozo rpt 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt 12:00 Dv News Africa rpt 12:30 Our Earth 13:00 Telenovela I Plead Guilty rpt 14:00 Capchat 09:00 Our Earth 09:30 Culinary 10:00 EcoAfrica 16:00 Business Edition Rpt 16:30 Culinary delight rpt 17:00 Innovation rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Sports Gazette 19:30 Meza huru 20:00 Tomorrow Today 21:00 Tomorrow Today 21:30 Capchat Rpt  06:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Kumekucha Michozo rpt 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt 12:00 Dv News Africa rpt 12:30 Our Earth 13:00 Telenovela I Plead Guilty rpt 14:00 Capchat 09:00 Our Earth 09:30 Culinary 10:00 EcoAfrica 16:00 Business Edition Rpt 16:30 Culinary delight rpt 17:00 Innovation rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Sports Gazette 19:30 Meza huru 20:00 Tomorrow Today 21:00 Tomorrow Today 21:30 Capchat Rpt 



## WORLD

# UK to deport migrants to Rwanda based on group agreed by Kigali

LONDON

THE first asylum seekers to be deported from Britain to Rwanda will come from a group of 5,700 people that Kigali has agreed in principle to take, according to a British government document published on Monday.

Under a scheme that has divided political opinion in Britain, anyone who has arrived illegally after Jan 1, 2022 is eligible to be deported to Rwanda. More than 50,000 people have arrived since that date, official figures show.

Last week, Britain passed legislation that aims to override a UK Supreme Court ruling that the policy was unlaw-

ful by declaring that Rwanda must be treated as safe by judges and officials. British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said he expected the first flights to take off in 10 to 12 weeks.

In the document that assesses the impact of the Migration and Economic Development Partnership with Rwanda, agreed between Britain and Rwanda, the Home Office (interior ministry) said the government had retained a cohort of people who had been told their asylum claims were inadmissible, and could be removed to Rwanda once the new law came into force.

"Of the 5,700 people Rwanda has in principle agreed to accept, 2,143 con-



Migrants picked up at sea while attempting to cross the English Channel, are brought by a UK Royal National Lifeboat Institution lifeboat into the Marina in Dover, southeast England, on Aug 12, 2023. Six Afghan males died when a migrant boat heading to Britain sank in the Channel early Saturday, French officials said, as a search continued to find those still missing. AFP

tinue to report to the Home Office and can be located for detention," the document said.

The British government says there is no overall cap for the numbers that could be deported under the five-year asylum deal, and Rwandan President Paul Kagame's government said on Friday it would take as many migrants as Britain sends its way.

That's according to a report from United Nations sanctions monitors to a Security Council committee and seen by Reuters on Monday.

Sunak believes his plan will stop people making the dangerous trip across the Channel from France by smashing the model of people smugglers, but critics say the policy is inhumane, and further court challenges are likely.

Last week, five migrants including

a child, died attempting the crossing, while more than 7,000 have made the journey so far this year - the first time that figure had been reached by the end of April.

The Irish government has said the threat of being sent to Rwanda was causing migrants to head to Ireland from Britain, which London said showed the Rwandan scheme would work.

"The UK's new deterrent is clearly working and having some impact already, an impact that will obviously increase as the first flights depart for Rwanda," Britain's Northern Ireland minister Chris Heaton-Harris said on Monday.

"Now the Rwanda Act has become law, we will begin the process of removing those identified for the first flight."

## Russia's Battlegroup East improves frontline positions – top brass

MOSCOW

UNITS of Russia's Battlegroup East have improved their frontline positions, the Russian Defense Ministry said.

The military agency specified that the adversary lost up to 85 troops, four pickup trucks, two self-propelled artillery systems, an electronic warfare station and a field munitions depot.

Battlegroup West

Units of Russia's Battlegroup West have repelled three Ukrainian counterattacks in 24 hours and improved their frontline positions, the Russian Defense Ministry said.

The military agency specified that the adversary lost up to 270 troops, an armored personnel carrier, eight motor vehicles, two howitzers, a field gun, a self-propelled artillery system and a cannon.

Battlegroup South

Units of Russia's Battlegroup South have thwarted four Ukrainian counterattacks over 24 hours and improved their frontline positions, the Russian Defense Ministry said.

It specified that the adversary lost up to 360 troops, two armored combat vehicles, 17 motor vehicles, two field guns, two howitzers and an anti-tank gun. Russian forces also eliminated two electronic warfare stations and a field munitions depot.

Battlegroup Center

Units of Russia's Battlegroup Center have liberated the village of Novobakhmutovka in the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) and repelled 10 counterattacks by the Ukrainian armed forces, the Russian Defense Ministry said.

The military agency said that the Ukrainian army lost up to 380 troops, a tank, an armored combat vehicle, five motor vehicles, six howitzers, two field guns and an anti-tank gun.

Battlegroup Dnepr

Russia's Battlegroup Dnepr has delivered firepower damage to three brigades of the Ukrainian armed forces over the past 24 hours, the Russian Defense Ministry said.

It noted that the adversary lost "up to 50 troops, two motor vehicles, a US-made 155-mm M777 howitzer and an electronic warfare station".

Air Defence

Russian air defense systems have eliminated five ATACMS tactical missiles and 46 drones of the Ukrainian armed forces over the past 24 hours.

The military agency noted that, since the beginning of the special military operation, 593 aircraft, 270 helicopters, 23,587 drones, 509 anti-aircraft weapons systems, 15,869 tanks and other armored vehicles, 1,275 multiple launch rocket system vehicles, 9,189 field artillery guns and mortars as well as 21,372 units of specialized automotive equipment have been eliminated.

Russia's Armed Forces have eliminated Ukrainian hangars with assault drones as well as warehouses with aviation equipment and temporary stationing sites of foreign mercenaries. The ministry added that Russian forces delivered strikes on Ukrainian personnel and military hardware in 121 districts.



**The military agency noted that, since the beginning of the special military operation, 593 aircraft, 270 helicopters, 23,587 drones, 509 anti-aircraft weapons systems**



# Hamas delegation leaves Cairo, prepares response to Gaza truce offer

GAZA/JERUSALEM/BEIRUT/CAIRO

THE Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) delegation has left the Egyptian capital following talks on a Gaza ceasefire and will "return with a written response to the truce proposal", according to Egyptian sources quoted by Al-Qahera News on Tuesday.

For months, Egypt, Qatar, and the United States have been trying to mediate a new agreement between Hamas and Israel on a truce in the Gaza Strip and the release of hostages.

A Hamas delegation was scheduled to visit Cairo on Monday, to deliver the movement's response regarding a ceasefire in Gaza and to negotiate a hostage-for-prisoner swap deal with Israel, according to a source from the movement.

The source, who preferred not to mention his name, added that the delegation is headed by Khalil Al-Hayya, the Hamas deputy chief in Gaza.

Israel was set to send a delegation to Cairo for talks with Hamas on a new ceasefire proposal aimed at securing the release of hostages held in Gaza, an Israeli government source told Xinhua.

The delegation, composed of security officials, will depart on Tuesday to discuss the deal with Egyptian brokers, said the source on condition of anonymity.

Israel launched a large-scale offensive against Hamas in the Gaza Strip to retaliate against a Hamas rampage through the southern Israeli border on Oct 7, 2023, during which about 1,200 people were killed



Palestinians walk amid the rubble of destroyed buildings in Nuseirat, in the central Gaza Strip on Monday. AFP

and more than 200 were taken hostage.

On Monday, Hamas said achieving a permanent ceasefire in the Gaza Strip is crucial for reaching an agreement with Israel.

Abdul Latif al-Qanou, a spokesman for Hamas, said in a statement that "ensuring a permanent ceasefire is a fundamental cornerstone for moving towards the details of negotiations and the success of the agreement with the Israeli occupation."

He stressed the necessity of fulfilling the demands of the Palestinian people, including a "permanent ceasefire, withdrawal of forces from the Gaza Strip, and the return of refugees".

These demands "are not unrealistic conditions but legitimate de-

mands understood by mediators and supported by our people, and agreed upon nationally and factionally," said the spokesperson.

Accusing Israel of "using the weapon of chaos and destabilization", he said what the Israeli army had failed to achieve "over the past seven months of destruction, devastation, and genocide" will not be achieved "in the wasted time of war".

On Sunday, as reported by Israeli public radio, a senior Israeli official said Israel was facing "decisive moments in the efforts to reach a new hostage deal".

The official added, "We are awaiting the response of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar," expecting it to be made "within the next 48 hours". He noted that Israel has expressed readiness to make "very significant concessions" regarding the return of displaced persons to northern Gaza.

Israel estimated that there were still about 134 Israelis held hostage in Gaza, whereas Hamas announced that 70 of them had been killed in Israeli airstrikes.

# Commonwealth of Dominica reiterates support to Morocco's territorial integrity, sovereignty

RABAT

THE Commonwealth of Dominica has reaffirmed, on Monday in Rabat, its support for Morocco's territorial integrity and sovereignty over all its territory, including the Moroccan Sahara.

This position was expressed in a Joint Communiqué issued following talks in Rabat between visiting Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of Dominica, Vince

Henderson, and his Moroccan peer, Nasser Bourita.

In this Joint Communiqué, Henderson reiterated his country's support for the Autonomy Plan, presented by Morocco in 2007, as the only credible, serious, and realistic solution for resolving the dispute over the Sahara.

In this regard, he praised the efforts of the United Nations as the exclusive framework for achieving a realistic, practical, and lasting solution

to this regional dispute.

As a member of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the Commonwealth of Dominica welcomed the opening of an OECS Embassy in Rabat in October 2018 and a Consulate General in Dakhla on March 31, 2022, which will certainly represent a great opportunity to further consolidate bilateral exchanges between Morocco and the six Eastern Caribbean States, the Communiqué emphasizes.

In a statement to the media after his talks with Bourita, Vince Henderson commended King Mohammed VI for his vision to promote South-South cooperation.

"I would like to express the great appreciation of the Commonwealth of Dominica for the vision of His Majesty King Mohammed VI for a South-South cooperation, based on effectiveness, solidarity and pragmatism", Henderson told the media, underlining that

the Commonwealth of Dominica has enormously benefited from its cooperation with Morocco in this context.

"Over the years, and thanks to the reinforced diplomatic relations between the two countries, we have benefited from the development of human resources, scholarships for Dominican students in Morocco, and technical assistance in agriculture, among others," he pointed out.

AS one of the world's largest power battery markets for eight consecutive years, China has established a power battery industrial system with the most extensive industrial and supply chains.

Large-scale production comes with the challenge of managing decommissioned power batteries. Recently, People's Daily reporters tracked a batch of retired batteries in Wuhan and Jingmen, two cities in central China's Hubei province, to see how these batteries are recycled and given a new lease on life.

A ride-sharing platform in Wuhan recently reached battery recycling specialists of GEM Co., Ltd. (GEM), a leading enterprise in China's circular economy based in Shenzhen, to collect power batteries of sever-

# China makes more efforts to recycle power batteries

al new energy vehicles (NEVs) whose capacity had degraded due to intensive usage.

The next day, the batteries were removed from vehicles and wrapped in insulating membranes by battery recycling specialists, and then shipped to GEM's Wuhan facility.

At GEM's facility, the batteries were sent to a workshop where their capacities were tested by automated equipment.

"Batteries with higher capacity will be repurposed in Wuhan, while those with severe capacity loss will be sent to our Jingmen facility for processing," said Bie Chuanyu, deputy head of GEM Green Industry

(Wuhan) Innovation Research Institute.

GEM recycles approximately a tenth of the decommissioned power batteries across China. Having previously focused on recycling end-of-life vehicles, the company has forged strong partnerships with numerous automakers. Today, in response to the development of the NEV industry, the company has shifted its focus to recycle retired power batteries.

Apart from old power batteries, the recyclable materials also consist of waste materials that did not undergo cell assembly during battery production.

Not far from GEM's Jingmen facility lies a factory of EVE

Power, a battery manufacturer, where new lithium batteries were rolling off the production line. The factory was invested and built by EVE Energy Co., Ltd. based in Huizhou, south China's Guangdong province, one of the leading manufacturers of lithium batteries in China. It has grown into the largest power and energy storage battery production base in central China.

Driven by this industrial leader, nearly 100 companies have clustered together, forming an integrated power battery industrial chain.

It is reported that GEM has signed a strategic cooperation agreement with EVE Energy,

exclusively recycling waste materials from EVE Power. It will process them into raw materials for battery production and return them to the battery factory. This recycling model is known as the "waste-for-raw-materials" approach.

Recycling is just the first step, and there's much to do with repurposing retired power batteries.

In a power battery cascading utilization factory of GEM's Wuhan facility, batteries with higher remaining capacity were sent to workstations and disassembled to modules and cells, which were then transported to production lines by automated guided vehicles.

The cells would be recombined and made into household energy storage cabinets.

According to an employee of the factory, though some decommissioned power batteries are no longer capable of propelling vehicles, they can be repurposed for electric bikes, telecommunications base stations, energy storage cabinets, and solar-powered street lamps after undergoing disassembly and restructuring.

Near the GEM Wuhan facility's parking lot, there are several energy storage cabinets for commercial and industrial use. "Each cabinet is composed of several dozen repurposed power battery packs and can

generally be used for 8 to 10 years," Bie said.

Even batteries with severely degraded capacity can be recycled by recovering valuable metals like lithium, cobalt, and nickel for future battery production. Every one percentage point increase in the lithium recovery rate can directly raise the recycling value of each ton of retired power batteries by thousands of yuan.

In addition to collaborating with third-party recycling and processing organizations, some automakers have also begun to establish their own battery recycling businesses.

In a workshop of an industrial park of Dongfeng Hongtai Holdings Group Co., Ltd. in Wuhan, electric forklifts powered by recycled batteries were zipping around. **People's Daily**



By Yi Xin

# Who is really betting against America?

IN her recent trip to China, U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen repeatedly blasted Beijing's industrial "overcapacity" for threatening the global economy.

But her accusation deliberately ignored the most basic laws of market economy: On the supply side, it is innovation, cost-efficient manufacturing and quality products that make China's clean sector stand out, not government subsidies; On the demand side, these clean products are urgently needed in great amount, not just by developing countries but also by advanced economies like the United States to reorient their economies toward greener growth.

When China is making the world cleaner by providing quality electric vehicles (EVs) to global consumers, what has the United States been doing other than pointing the finger at China? Unfortunately, it is creating many dark clouds that are looming over workers and businesses in its own country and around the world.

## RIISING TRADE PROTECTIONISM AND NON-MARKET PRACTICES

Americans used to pride themselves on open market and free trade, and many still do today. But now it seems that U.S. policymakers are increasingly deviating from the path, partly fueled by the resurgence of populism at home.

From the "America First" policy to the "Buy America" agenda, the country does not even bother to obfuscate its shift toward protectionism. Under the CHIPS and Science Act and the Inflation Reduction Act, the Biden administration has earmarked about 30 billion U.S. dollars in subsidies for advanced semiconductor manufacturing, with the aim of moving cutting-edge chip R&D and manufacturing to America.

In so doing, the United States has hurt the interests of not only its imagined adversary but also its allies.



A worker checks the quality of a new energy vehicle (NEV) at the plant of BYD, China's leading NEV manufacturer, in Zhengzhou, central China's Henan Province, April 24, 2024. Xinhua

One stinging comment comes from Hankyoreh newspaper of South Korea: "The U.S. is morphing from a guardian of free trade into a disrupter of international trade norms."

For the rest of the world, when they see the United States stepping away from its leadership of a functional multilateral trading system, they might lose confidence and turn more inward-looking as well, which could eventually

cause the entire system to crumble.

## UNFAIR COMPETITION

The United States likes to describe its relations with China as "competitive when it should be." But when it really comes to areas with intense competition, America's tactics are not aimed at making itself better, but rather to take down the other.

From the arbitrary restrictions on

Huawei, to the attempt of putting a stranglehold on TikTok, the United States is proving with concrete steps that it is no longer interested in fair competition. How is Huawei a national security risk when it openly announced its readiness to sign a "no-backdoor" agreement with any country? And how is TikTok a national security risk when U.S. President Joe Biden himself happily made his TikTok debut earlier this year?

This farce only shows the world more clearly how far the United States is willing to go to protect its interests with the self-invented "rules" and "order." It looks like its policy should be rephrased into "double standards when it should be."

## A CLOSED-DOOR POLICY

As the "city upon a hill," America used to welcome immigrants from all over the world with open arms. But for Chinese scientists and scholars, this has clearly not been the case in recent years.

According to available data, nearly 300 Chinese nationals, including more than 70 students with valid travel documents, have been harassed, interrogated and deported by the U.S. law enforcement for no apparent reason since July 2021.

Some Americans might be smug about their dirty game, but in the long run, it drives away not only some of the best and brightest minds from China but also many from third countries who worry

that one day they would end up in the same place if they do things the United States does not like. As fewer people go to America, the investments, innovation, ideas and everything else that comes along will gradually diminish, eventually hurting the country itself.

## SURGING DEBT CRISIS

In recent years, the U.S. reliance on quantitative easing and other unconventional monetary policies has flooded the global markets with liquidity and increased the risks of asset bubbles.

And with mounting domestic inflationary pressure, the Federal Reserve had to raise interest rates, triggering outflows of capital and exchange rate fluctuations in emerging markets.

Given the role of the dollar as the world's leading reserve currency, this could lead to serious spillovers for other countries. With the total debt of the U.S. federal government exceeding 34 trillion dollars, a profound debt crisis is like a ticking bomb facing the world economy and financial system.

Biden once said, "It's never been a good bet to bet against America." Funny enough, given the many misguided policies, it is the United States that is betting against itself, not anyone else.

So instead of shifting the blame onto China, the United States should really think about redirecting its focus to its own problems and make proper adjustments to its economic and foreign policies.

Xinhua

# Over 100 arrested at UT-Austin amid pro-Palestinian protest

HOUSTON

MORE than 100 people were arrested as police and pro-Palestinian protesters clashed on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) on Monday afternoon, local media reported, citing Travis County officials.

The officials said the charges could include resisting arrest and assault. "I have seen two people violently arrested," a protester told Xinhua, asking for anonymity.

At least three people passed out from dehydration and were transported to the hospital during the protest, another witness said. The rally started as an event on recent "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion" layoffs at the university, and anti-war protesters joined at noon time.

Dozens of protesters, chanting "Free Palestine," were attempting to set up an encampment using foldable tables, tents and other barriers on the campus's South Mall park.

Shortly after the rally started, the UT Police Department posted a dispersal order on social media, demanding everyone leave the rally area immediately.

Around 1:30 p.m. local time (1830 GMT), police moved in to clear



A protester is arrested during a pro-Palestinian protest at the University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) in Austin, the United States, April 29, 2024. More than 100 people were arrested as police and pro-Palestinian protesters clashed on the campus of UT Austin on Monday afternoon, local media reported, citing Travis County officials. The officials said the charges could include resisting arrest and assault. Xinhua

people out of the area by force. Police also reportedly used pepper spray to disperse crowds.

Protesters could be heard chanting, "There is no riot here, why are you in riot gear?" "What brought me out today was seeing the response against students here who are peacefully protesting."

I find it absurd that the state and local police departments have come down upon UT Austin and arrested students and protesters for peacefully protesting," Elliott Benavides, a student with UT Austin, told Xinhua.

"I'm a faculty at UT Austin, we are here on behalf of our students who are no longer safe on this campus because the University administration insists on calling in the police every time the students gather to voice their opinions," said Pavithra Vasudevan, a university faculty member.

UT Austin spokesperson Brian Davis said in a statement on Monday that "protesters ignored repeated directives from both the administration and law enforcement officers to comply with Institutional Rules and remove tents assembled on the University's South Lawn."

The university last week placed the Palestine Solidarity Committee, a registered student group that organized last week's protest in which 57 people were arrested, on interim suspension.

The committee said on Monday that it was not involved in organizing the event but is supportive of the protesters. "No encampments will be allowed. Instead, arrests are being made."

Texas Governor Greg Abbott said on social media platform X, formerly Twitter, on Monday afternoon.

All charges against the 57 protesters ar-

rested last week have been dropped, the Travis County attorney's office confirmed on Friday.

In Houston, a number of students at Rice University and the University of Houston also joined the nationwide efforts involving students in pro-Palestinian protests on Wednesday.

From Texas to California, pro-Palestinian demonstrations are spreading on campuses across the United States as the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in Gaza continues.

To date, hundreds have been arrested by police amid student protests.

# Xi's article on mobilizing workers to participate in building a strong country, national rejuvenation to be published

BEIJING

AN article by Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, on mobilizing the country's hundreds of millions of workers to vigorously take part in the great cause of building a strong country and national rejuvenation will be published today.

The article by Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, will be published in this year's ninth issue of the Qishi Journal, a flagship magazine of the CPC Central Committee.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the working class has been playing a backbone role in the development of the cause of the Party and the country under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee. The Chinese workers' movement has made historic achievements, and the work of trade unions has made comprehensive progress, according to the article.

The article says Chinese workers have taken on significant challenges and shouldered responsibilities in major work such as economic development, scientific and tech-

nological innovation, poverty alleviation, rural revitalization, epidemic prevention and control, and disaster relief.

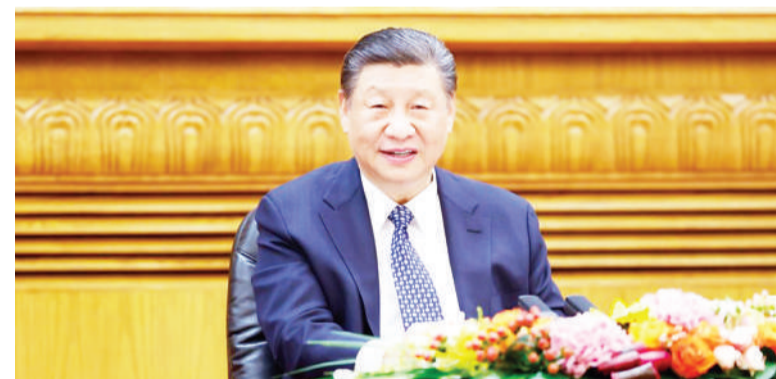
On the work of trade unions, the article stresses the importance of adhering to the overall leadership of the Party over trade unions, and not wavering or deviating from it at any time or under any circumstances.

Efforts must be made to encourage workers to actively take part in the great cause of building China into a strong country and national rejuvenation on all fronts, the article says, noting that it is necessary to promote the spirit of model workers, the working spirit and craftsmanship.

Trade unions should earnestly safeguard the rights of workers and strive to solve practical problems concerning their vital interests, in particular for workers in new forms of employment, according to the article.

Besides, Party committees at all levels should strengthen leadership over trade unions and their work, and governments at all levels should help trade unions solve workers' difficulties and problems, the article says.

Xinhua



# Erratic power supply in Ghana hits businesses, livelihoods

ACCRA

GHANAIAN neighborhoods, including the eastern port city of Tema and its environs, have been grappling with prolonged, intermittent power outages over the past few weeks. This erratic electricity supply is part of a nationwide power crisis that is impacting not only residential consumers but also businesses, both small and large.

In Ashaiman, a town near Tema, the power outage has left many welders and car sprayers, who rely on electricity for their businesses, idle. As a result, 35-year-old welder Yehusa Abdul-Malik has suffered income loss.

"A customer gave me a job to make door frames and windows for him using metal. I promised to complete the work within a week. However, due to the power outages, I was unable to start, and he became infuriated and took the job to another person," Abdul-Malik said.

Napoleon Ahiabile, a 51-year-old barber and resident of Tema, described the power crisis as a nightmare, leading to a drastic reduction in his income. Operating his barbering business for over a decade, Ahiabile said that he could barely maintain his home and meet other expenditures because of the crisis.

"Sometimes, I work for only two days a week, and even within those days, there are intermittent outages, hence affecting business. I have to turn clients away because there is no electricity in my shop. This has reduced the amount of money I earn, and I find it difficult to feed my household well," he said.

Ahiabile, who employed two others in his shop, urged the Ghanaian authorities to find a permanent solution to the crisis to ameliorate the suffering of many others.

"I want to appeal to the government to do everything possible to fix the problem for us so that we can have a stable power supply in order to keep us in business," Ahiabile added.

Adjo Enyonam, a 33-year-old cold store operator at Ashaiman, also lamented the negative impact the power crisis has had on her business. According to the mother of two, the power crisis has caused her to record losses due to unannounced outages on her premises.

"The recent unannounced power outages are really affecting me. The fish stock amounting to about 500 U.S. dollars that I had kept in the refrigerator went bad when I returned the following day and had to throw them away.

That's money going down the drain," said

Enyonam. "To make matters worse, I bought a new refrigerator recently, and the intermittent power supply had destroyed it because I had no stabilizer to protect it. The outages are really biting hard at us, and the earlier the government solves them, the better for all of us," she added.

Nightlife in Tema and its environs has been characterized by total darkness, as the usual bustling activities in the evenings are virtually non-existent.

Most pubs and eateries, among others, have shut down their operations or had to close earlier than usual.

Most parts of the West African country have been experiencing unannounced power outages, with consumers calling on the power distribution company, the Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG), to provide a load-shedding timetable to enable people to plan their activities regarding power usage.

The local electricity company has blamed the power cuts on overloaded transformers, but some experts suggest it is partly due to the country's inability to pay private electricity suppliers who provide the bulk of Ghana's electricity.

Herbert Krapa, the chairman of the governing board of the ECG, assured Ghanaians on Wednes-

day that the ongoing power crisis would be resolved soon.

"The government has put in place immediate measures to ensure the return of an uninterrupted supply of power to consumers. I can, therefore, state that the unfortunate power challenges Ghanaians are facing should be over in the next few days," he said in a Facebook post.



Most parts of the West African country have been experiencing unannounced power outages, with consumers calling on the power distribution company, the Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG), to provide a load-shedding timetable to enable people to plan their activities regarding power



# SPORT



Coastal Union's head coach, David Ouma. PHOTO: COURTESY OF COASTAL UNION

## Ouma unfazed by Coastal Union's loss to Yanga, pushes for top-four finish

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

COASTAL Union's quest for a top-four finish in the NBC Premier League took a blow last Sunday as they fell 1-0 to Young Africans SC (Yanga) at the Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The defeat serves as a wake-up call for the Tanga side as the battle for the coveted positions intensifies.

Despite a valiant effort, Coastal Union could hardly overcome a determined Yanga.

The Tanga club's head coach David Ouma (pictured) acknowledged the challenge, praising his team's performance against a highly experienced Yanga.

Ouma said: "It was a good match, my players played well. Winning or even drawing against Young Africans is never easy, considering their vast experience."

The turning point arrived in the 69th minute when Coastal Union defender Lameck Lawi received a red card for a shirt pull on Yanga's Stephane Aziz Ki, who was clear on goal. This numerical disadvantage proved costly.

"We lost the ball in transition, Yanga's players are very quick when tackling and attacking. But look at the second half after the red card. It became a significant disadvantage for us. Playing with 10 men against 11 is very difficult," Ouma explained.

The Kenyan tactician believes a full-strength Coastal Union could have secured a draw, pointing out: "Until the 70th minute, the score was 0-0, I firmly believe that with 11 players on the pitch, we could have gotten a draw."

Despite the setback, Ouma remained optimistic, saying: "This game is behind us now. The technical bench and I will keep fighting for the team. We are currently in fourth place, but the competition is fierce. We need to maintain our position."

One positive takeaway for Coastal Union lies in their defensive solidity. They boast the third-best defensive record in the league,

conceding only 18 goals, just behind Young Africans (12) and Azam FC (16). Goalkeeper Ley Matampi is further testament to this strength, sitting at number two in the clean sheet race with 10, just behind Yanga's Djigui Diara (11).

"It's important to remember that I've been with the team for only five months, we've managed to organize ourselves very well defensively. In the next six months, we'll work on improving our offense and transition play," Ouma added.

The solitary goal that sealed Coastal Union's fate came in the 76th minute. Ivorian striker Joseph Guede Gnadou expertly finished a pass from Zambian midfielder Kennedy Musonda.

Coastal Union currently sits in fourth place with 33 points after 24 matches, having won nine, lost nine, and drawn six. The tight nature of the league is evident as the gap between them and the 14th position is a mere 10 points, highlighting the opportunity for any team to climb the table.

Their next five fixtures will be crucial in their top-four pursuit. They face Tanzania Prisons FC, Singida Fountain Gate FC, Geita Gold FC, Kagera Sugar FC, and JKT Tanzania.

Meanwhile, Yanga's victory extends their lead at the top of the table. They now have 64 points, eight clear of second-placed Azam FC. Simba SC remains sitting third with 46 points from 21 matches.

Yanga will aim to solidify their lead in their upcoming fixtures against Mashujaa FC, Kagera Sugar, Mtibwa Sugar, Dodoma Jiji FC, and Tabora United.

The battle for the top four in the NBC Premier League is heating up. Coastal Union's defeat against Yanga serves as a reminder of the challenges ahead.

Ouma remained confident, and their defensive strength offered a foundation for success. However, they must improve their offensive output and navigate a tricky run of fixtures if they are to secure a coveted top-four finish.

## Freddy Kouablan has better stats among Simba SC strikers despite facing criticism

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

EVEN though he has been facing a lot of criticism from several fans and being regularly benched by Simba SC's Algerian coach Abdelhak Benchikha, who has now parted ways with the club, the side's Ivorian striker Freddy Kouablan has good statistical numbers that favour him against the remaining strikers.

Kouablan was, by the time he had left Zambia Premier League outfit Green Eagles, the leading goal scorer with 14 goals from 16 games with the club, he had slowly replicated his form in Mainland Tanzania's NBC Premier League with Simba SC.

Simba SC signed Kouablan and striking partner Pa Omar Jobe during the January transfer window to reinforce the squad ahead of the second phase of the NBC Premier League.

Veteran goal-getter John Bocco is now an assistant coach for the outfit's U-17 side and midfielder Saidi Ntibazonkiza has recently been playing the false number nine role.

Under a 4-2-3-1 formation, Ntibazonkiza, who is naturally a midfielder, has failed to prove success with a leading nine while whenever Freddy plays as a starter or bench he has been able to score goals.

Clatous Chama, Kibu Denis, and Willy Onana have all been fielded in the striking force at Simba SC since Kouablan's arrival. The Ivorian attacker has, despite having been given a few minutes, scored four goals in the NBC Premier League, let alone his contribution in all competitions.

If soccer followers look at the statistics, they will make more sense. Denis has played 19 games in the league so far,



Simba SC Ivorian forward, Freddy Michael, jubilates when he netted for the club in a 2023/24 NBC Premier League tie versus Yanga which took place in Dar es Salaam recently, climaxing with a 2-1 loss for Simba SC.

he only missed two games, he has scored one goal and assisted three in the league, numbers which are not good for a striker.

Ntibazonkiza has played 20 games in the league and has only missed one this season, he has scored seven goals and executed two assists.

They are the numbers that had backed him up in front of Benchikha. Soccer lovers ought to understand that five of the Burundian midfielder's seven goals were netted via spot kicks.

In what is judged as his bad season, Chama still produces good numbers, he is not a striker, he plays as either an attacking midfielder or winger and he has scored seven goals and executed six assists.

Jobe is another striker who is struggling in front of goal, he has one goal in the NBC Premier League from 281 minutes via 11 games. He may need time to adapt, especially after coming to Simba SC three months ago.

Per minutes, Kouablan has better numbers than the remaining Simba SC goal-getters, while the majority of

his goals have been posted whilst coming from the bench.

He has played 431 minutes- an appropriation of five games in 90 minutes if he played in that limit- but they are split into 11 games, scoring four goals in the league.

He has a ratio of one goal per game, through the minutes he played whilst coming from the bench, which amount to few games compared to those played by other forwards.

Should interim head coach Juma Mgunda provide the Ivorian striker more minutes, the footballer will be useful in converting the wasted chances by the club.

The attacker may have punched his way into his squad's starting lineup after scoring in back-to-back games, one of which is the NBC Premier League tie against long-time rival, Yanga.

The other fixture is the Muungano Cup last-four match versus KVZ FC. The striker's strike, as a result, helped Simba SC secure a place in the Muungano Cup final which was won by the club- having edged Azam FC.

## Parimatch launches 'Twenzetu Dubai' promotion, signs contract with Zaylissa

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA's sports stakeholders have a chance to win eight return tickets to Dubai, should they win a special promotion, dubbed 'Twenzetu Dubai', conducted by an online betting firm Parimatch Tanzania.

According to Parimatch Tanzania's Head of Marketing, Levis Paul, eight fans will win the tickets through the promotion that was launched at a hotel in Dar es Salaam on Monday.

Paul said the promotion targets to enable sports lovers- as well as customers- to continue enjoying entertainment after betting with the firm.

He said that besides winning the trip to Dubai, there would be a bonus of 5,000/- for anyone who registers with Parimatch and plays the firm's favourite game, 'Aviator'.

"This promotion is specifically for all Parimatch customers with accounts and even new customers who join during this period. We will start announcing winners from April 29-June 30, a Parimatch customer should place bets on the 'Aviator' game within the Parimatch Casino through either our website www.parimatch.co.tz, or our Application, and the more bets he/she places, the more



Parimatch Tanzania's Head of Marketing, Levis Paul, speaks during the launch of a promotion, known as 'Twenzetu Dubai', which will have eight sports stakeholders winning return tickets to Dubai. The event took place in Dar es Salaam on Monday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

chances he/she has to win either a ticket to Dubai or a bonus of 5,000/- every day," Levis noted.

Parimatch is the leader in online sports betting and has been operating in Tanzania since 2019, providing excellent services including fast payments, high odds, and exciting promotions in soccer, Casino, and virtual sports.

Apart from soccer, Parimatch offers hundreds of events daily in tennis, UFC, basketball, cricket, baseball, and many other live and pre-match sports.

Meanwhile, the firm has signed a contract with famous actress Zainabu Said Bakari, alias 'Zaylissa', to serve as a brand ambassador. 'Zaylissa' joins other brand ambassadors, Haji Manara and comedian

Vincent Njau alias 'Kiredio'.

'Zaylissa' expressed her joy at being announced as a Parimatch brand ambassador, revealing she would work diligently to bring value to the company.

"I urge my fans to join Parimatch, bet, and win to have the chance to go to Dubai," Zaylissa remarked.

## Mtibwa Sugar faces tough fixtures as Katwila aims to save season

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

JKT Tanzania secured a hard-fought 2-1 victory against Mtibwa Sugar in a thrilling NBC Premier League match played at the Major General Isamuhyo Stadium in Dar es Salaam last Monday.

The army-owned side, playing on the familiar turf, wasted no time getting on the scoreboard, with center-back Edson Katanga finding the net in just the seventh minute.

Mtibwa Sugar responded well, equalizing through attacker Charles Ilamfya in the 22nd minute. The game remained tense throughout, with both teams battling for control.

Just when it seemed the match would end in a draw, JKT Tanzania dramatically snatched victory. Forward Sixtus Sabilo scored a crucial goal in the 90th minute, sending the home crowd into a frenzy.

Mtibwa Sugar's head coach, Zubeir Katwila, acknowledged the difficulty of their situation after the team's recent loss, revealing: "The game was difficult, every team has planned to play well and fight, we were not lucky to win this game," Katwila admitted.

Katwila (pictured) emphasized the importance of the remaining matches, saying: "We have a big fight in the remaining matches to see how we will keep the team in the Premier League this season. We have lost this match, but we will go back to the training ground to learn from our mistakes and see how we can save the team."

One of Mtibwa Sugar's weaknesses has been the club's lack of goals, with so far 16 scored this season. Katwila addressed this issue, stating: "In football, a coach cannot teach you everything. There will be a time when the coach



will teach you more technically, but how to score or pass is something you as a player must know. Sometimes a player has to have individual brilliance to help the team, and many of my players, especially the strikers, lack that. But also even in the defensive area because we have conceded 39 goals this season, it is a part of working so that we can create goals, especially in the upcoming matches."

Mtibwa Sugar faces a daunting schedule in the coming weeks, with matches against top contenders like Simba SC, Azam FC, and Young Africans SC. "The upcoming matches are indeed very difficult," Katwila acknowledged. "The teams we are facing are difficult. Simba SC, Azam FC, and Young Africans SC are fighting for the trophy and Namungo FC is fighting for a top-four finish. It will not be easy, but as a coach,

I will make sure I talk to my players to encourage them and psychologically see if the team can remain in the NBC Premier League this season."

Drawing on his experience with the club, Katwila emphasized the importance of fighting spirit. "Mtibwa Sugar is the oldest club in Tanzania and has a great history winning the main league in Tanzania in 1999 and 2000," he said. "I became a part of history as a player and now as a coach, I know what it means to defend the logo of Mtibwa Sugar. So we will fight. I tell the fans of Mtibwa Sugar to be with us until the end, let's fight for our team!"

Mtibwa Sugar finds itself languishing at the bottom of the standings and faces a tough battle to avoid relegation. However, Katwila's determination and the team's fighting spirit offer a glimmer of hope for their remaining matches.



## Man Utd open to offers for nearly all of squad

LONDON

MANCHESTER United are willing to listen to offers for virtually all their first-team squad this summer as Sir Jim Ratcliffe looks to turn the club back into challengers for major honours.

It is understood Marcus Rashford is on the list, although club sources are adamant their preference is to keep the England striker and work with him to restore the form that brought him 30 goals for the first time last season.

Paris St-Germain have previously been linked with Rashford and are set to lose star man Kylian Mbappe, although sources in the past have distanced the Champions League semi-finalists from a move for the 26-year-old.

Of manager Erik ten Hag's regular starters, youngsters Rasmus Hojlund, Kobbie Mainoo and Alejandro Garnacho are thought to be exempt.

It would take a major offer before United would even consider selling skipper Bruno Fernandes, goalkeeper Andre Onana and full-back Diogo Dalot, who signed a new five-year deal less than 12 months ago.

The actual amount of business they eventually do is open to question. It is not clear what the interest will be like in any of United's squad, nor the fees they might command. They have been poor at selling players in the past. Daniel James' £25m move to Leeds in 2021 was the last time they raised £20m for a player. However, in the week when Ten Hag is due to have substantive talks with new technical director Jason Wilcox about what he sees as the state of his squad and the problems he is facing, United's position, as first reported in the Daily Telegraph, is instructive.

With current Profit and Sustainability Rules (PSR) in place for next season, the club are having to be careful about what they spend, especially as they are now virtually certain to miss out on a place in the Champions League.

It is likely they will have to either finish sixth in the Premier League or beat Manchester City in the FA Cup final to qualify for the Europa League. They are currently sixth, one point ahead of Newcastle, who they play at Old Trafford on 15 May.

It means they will also look to maximise the fees they generate in the transfer market.

Some experienced players will leave as their contracts have expired. This includes striker Anthony Martial. Defender Raphael Varane is also likely to figure in that list as his contract expires in the summer. Sofyan Amrabat is expected to return to Fiorentina after the Morocco midfielder endured a difficult season on loan.

Midfield pair Christian Eriksen and Casemiro have one and two years left on their contracts respectively, but both have had disappointing campaigns. United were willing to sell Harry Maguire and Scott McTominay last summer, and though both have made significant contributions this season, the club are unlikely to stand in their way if the right deal could be done.

Meanwhile, midfielders Donny van de Beek and Hannibal Mejbri are currently on loan at Eintracht Frankfurt and Sevilla respectively.

It is expected Mason Greenwood and Jadon Sancho will also leave. Any fee generated for Greenwood would be regarded as profit under PSR as he is a homegrown player. Sancho has not apologised to Ten Hag for his social media outburst in September and is currently on loan at Borussia Dortmund.

Ten Hag's future is also under huge scrutiny amid potential interest from Ajax about a return to the Dutch giants. If United were to decide to let Ten Hag carry on, they would have to decide whether to offer him a contract extension as his present deal expires in 2025.

Sources at United have suggested it could be the 2025-26 season before the club are really able to flex their muscles again.

BBC

## Rubiales denies 'irregularities' in Spanish football corruption probe

MADRID

DISGRACED former Spanish football federation chief Luis Rubiales denied any financial "irregularities" on Monday after testifying in court in a corruption probe into his time in charge.

"What I maintain, and will always maintain, and I am convinced that justice will (demonstrate), is there has never been any money received in an irregular way," Rubiales told reporters after leaving the Madrid court.

Rubiales, 46, who resigned following global outrage after he forcibly kissed Women's World Cup star Jenni Hermoso last summer after the final, testified at length.

"I have answered all the questions I was asked, if I have to come here again I will be here, collaborating -- I am the one most interested in clearing everything up," said Rubiales.

Rubiales must appear in court every month and ask permission from the judge before making any trips outside of Spain, a court source told AFP.

Rubiales was briefly detained on his return to Spain from the Dominican Republic at the start of April as part of a probe into federation (RFEF) contracts signed since 2018, including one signed by Rubiales to take the Spanish Super Cup to Saudi Arabia.

"There has never been any irregular tender, we have been paid with the utmost excellence and in the pursuit of legality," added Rubiales.

On March 20 investigators searched Rubiales' house in the southern city of Granada among 11 locations in the alleged graft scandal.

The raids were part of "an investigation linked to presumed crimes linked with corruption in business, fraudulent administration and money laundering", according to judicial sources.

The Super Cup contracts are worth 40 million euros a year (\$43.3 million) with the deal brokered by Kosmos, a company owned by former Barcelona and Spain defender Gerard Pique.

The Spanish Super Cup took place for the first time in Saudi Arabia in 2020.

It returned to Spain for a year during the Covid-19 pandemic but the subsequent three editions have returned to the oil-rich Gulf state.

New Spanish football president Pedro Rocha is also under investigation in the alleged graft case.

Rocha served as federation vice-president under Rubiales, then replaced him on an interim basis before being elected as chief this week.

Rubiales is also set to go on trial over the non-consensual kiss on Hermoso's lips, which under Spanish law can be classed as sexual assault.

AFP

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There has never been any irregular tender, we have been paid with the utmost excellence and in the pursuit of legality

# Terzic repays Dortmund faith before PSG semi-final clash

BERLIN

BORUSSIA Dortmund coach Edin Terzic faces Paris Saint-Germain in today's Champions League semi-final first leg enjoying a rare spell of certainty in the job.

Dortmund's progression to the last four would have been scarcely believable to anyone watching the 2-0 loss at PSG which opened their Champions League campaign in September.

A string of domestic setbacks including a German Cup exit in December had Terzic on the ropes.

He only survived a crisis meeting shortly before Christmas because of Dortmund's improved Champions League form.

Terzic's side qualified first in a group including PSG, last year's semi-finalists AC Milan and Saudi-backed Newcastle United.

Reaching the semi-finals with wins over PSV Eindhoven and Atletico Madrid has all but guaranteed Terzic will be in the Dortmund dugout next season.

While not all the doubters have been silenced, getting past PSG would make Terzic just the third Dortmund manager, after club legends Ottmar Hitzfeld and Jurgen Klopp, to take the club to the Champions League final.

- 'Super impressive' -  
Terzic's story is the kind the Dortmund hierarchy, not to mention the club's fans, find appealing.

He was born in Menden, near Dortmund, in 1982, just two years after his parents had moved to Germany from the former Yugoslavia.

The life-long Dortmund fan attended his first game in 1991 at the Westfalenstadion against Duisburg, aged just nine.

"I don't remember much from my childhood, but that was super impressive," Terzic told German football magazine IIFreunde in May



Dortmund winger Jadon Sancho (L) played some of his best football under Edin Terzic. Agencies

2021.

Pictures from the 2012 German Cup final show a boyish Terzic among tens of thousands of Dortmund fans in Berlin's Olympic Stadium.

On that day, Dortmund thumped rivals Bayern Munich 5-2 to seal a league and cup double in what was the pinnacle of Klopp's reign.

After playing in the lower tiers of German football, he joined Dortmund as a scout in 2010. Apart from brief spells with Besiktas and West Ham, Terzic has been at Dortmund ever since.

Taking over as interim head coach in December 2020 and led Dortmund to the German Cup the following May, by which time Marco Rose had been announced as his successor.

Terzic stayed with the club as technical director and returned to the dugout ahead of the 2022-23 season, this time as head coach on a permanent basis.

That season ended with a final-round 2-2 draw to lowly Mainz which cost them the league title on goal difference.

Despite the heartbreak, Dortmund felt they had their man -- a decision which has paid off, in Europe at least. - 'Stay humble' -

England winger Jadon Sancho, who returned to Dortmund on loan in January after an unhappy spell at Manchester United, played some of his best football under Terzic.

Terzic was central in bringing Sancho, who scored 50 goals and made 64 assists in 137 matches in his first spell at the club, back to Dortmund.

Speaking with the UEFA website on Monday, Sancho said "it's a very nice feeling coming back here."

"I have belief in myself again. I heard the crowd screaming my name."

Julian Brandt, another of Dortmund's creative forces, praised the Englishman's skills.

"Opposing players respect the name Sancho. What he can do with his feet is unbelievable."

"Jadon is skill personified." Sancho, who lifted the German Cup under Terzic, Dortmund's last piece of major silverware, said his side could emulate Klopp's efforts in 2013 and return to Wembley for the Champions League final.

"Paris will be a tough test for us. We have to stay humble and give it our all to get to the final."

## Liverpool have run out of steam. But Klopp's legacy is already cemented

By Jonathan Wilson

AND so there will be no glorious farewell for Jürgen Klopp. Saturday's 2-2 draw with West Ham, coupled with victories for Manchester City and Arsenal, means any realistic hope of a second Premier League title is effectively over.

Klopp is exhausted, his team is exhausted and the manic emotional energy that gripped the side during the League Cup final and immediately after has dissipated.

There will be questions about the wisdom of revealing when he did that he would be leaving. This has been a truism if English soccer since Alex Ferguson announced in 2001 that he planned to quit Manchester United.

Do that, even if you're as fearsome a figure as Ferguson, and the danger is that authority wanes. Something similar seems to have happened with Emma Hayes, who will leave Chelsea Women in the summer after a hugely successful 12-year stint to take charge of the USWNT.

Would Saturday's touchline spat with Mohamed Salah have happened had the Egyptian thought that Klopp would still be his manager next season? (It now seems likely that Salah, who has only a year left on his contract, will also leave in the summer).

The oddity is that Liverpool haven't played especially poorly in recent weeks. As Klopp has pointed out, they had the chances to beat not only West Ham, but Manchester United in the league and FA Cup, Crystal Palace and even Atalanta.

It's just that when the wheels come off, they all come off. Chances were missed, defensive errors were made and slowly, a spirit-sapping combination of fatigue and anxiety spread through the side.

Injuries haven't helped. Given changes in the midfield, this was always likely to be a transitional season; there was no expectation



Under Jurgen Klopp, Liverpool have won the Champions League but also lost in three European finals. Composite: Guardian Picture Desk

that either Fabinho or Jordan Henderson would leave, never mind both, and Wataru Endo, as well as he has performed, was only ever a stopgap signing.

It's not unreasonable to wonder whether either Darwin Núñez or Luis Díaz has the precision of finishing to be the highest level of forward. Salah, having begun the season brilliantly, has been desperately out of sorts since damaging his hamstring at the Africa Cup of Nations.

In that context, Liverpool did exceptionally well to remain in the title race. And yet these past couple of weeks have meant that Klopp has ended his time at Liverpool with the sort of season that has been characteristic of his career.

With Mainz, with Borussia Dortmund and with Liverpool, he has always been fighting against the odds. He has always had at least one far better-resourced opponent to struggle with, and yet at the same time he has narrowly missed the prize remarkably often.

With Liverpool he won the Champions League but also lost in three European finals. He ended the league title drought but also finished second twice; this season is likely to be his second third-place finish.

With Dortmund, he won the Bundesliga twice but finished second twice. He won the Pokal once but twice lost in the final and also lost in the Champions League final.

With Mainz, there were two ago-

nising near-misses for promotion (they took two points from their final three games in 2001-02 and were undone by a three-goal goal-difference swing in the final 10 minutes the following year) before it was secured.

It would, obviously, be absurd to be too critical when in so many of those cases the achievement is to have got into the position in the first place. But equally it is a telling flaw that Klopp has faltered near the line so often: it's one thing to be defeated at the last by Bayern or Real Madrid or City, another to have lost out to Eintracht Frankfurt, Wolfsburg or Sevilla.

There are those for whom his record of one Champions League and one Premier League feels a little meagre, but context is essential. He has done that against a far wealthier club in City that has one of the greatest coaches in history.

In those two seasons when Liverpool finished second, they amassed 97 and 92 points, tallies that even 15 years ago would have guaranteed the title.

Or put it another way. Who are the greatest five managers in Premier League history? Would anybody really not have Klopp in there alongside Ferguson, Arsène Wenger, José Mourinho and Guardiola? He has transformed Liverpool, turned them from faded giants into serious contenders. **THE GUARDIAN**

Gwiji by David Chikoko

You are now the new coach. To start with, here is a broom to clear all the filth left behind by your predecessor.





# SPORT

Terzic repays Dortmund faith  
before PSG semi-final clash

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

## Aziz Ki sets sight on NBC PL glory

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

STEPHANE Aziz Ki, the dynamic midfielder for Young Africans SC, has made his priorities clear for the season - having the side retaining the NBC Premier League silverware is his primary objective.

The Burkina Faso international (pictured), currently the league's top goal scorer with 15 goals, emphasizes that individual accolades are secondary to team success.

"My main goal this season is to win the NBC Premier League championship. This statement reflects his commitment to collective achievement, placing team glory above personal recognition, the best goal scorer award will come after winning the trophy," Aziz Ki declared.

Acknowledging the competitiveness of the league, Aziz Ki expressed confidence in his teammates, coaching staff, and leadership, saying: "The league is very tight, every opponent is hard to face. But I trust in my fellow players, the tactical bench, and our leadership that we can achieve the best. It won't be easy, but we will fight for it."

A vital component of the striking force of Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, Aziz Ki has been directly involved in 22 of the club's 54 goals this season. His impressive tally includes 15 goals and a further seven assists.

Aziz Ki remained tight-lipped regarding his contract with Yanga, stating: "About the contract, it's true that it's ending in June this year. But about my future, that's between me and my employers." This suggests ongoing negotiations, with specifics yet to be disclosed.

The midfielder's impact extends beyond his goal-scoring prowess. He plays a pivotal role in dictating the tempo of Yanga's midfield. His ability to orchestrate attacks and create scoring opportunities for his teammates makes him an invaluable asset on the pitch.

With his leadership qualities and dedication to team success, Aziz Ki embodies the spirit of Yanga. His unwavering commitment to the club's championship defense is sure to inspire his teammates and energize the passionate Yanga's fanbase.

The upcoming matches will be a true test for Yanga's title aspirations. Victories against key rivals will be crucial in maintaining their position at the top of the table. The unwavering support of their loyal fans will undoubtedly play a vital role in propelling them towards the title.

If Aziz Ki can continue his impressive goalscoring form and inspire his teammates with his leadership, Yanga is well-positioned to retain the NBC Premier League trophy. The coming weeks will be a defining period for the club, and Aziz Ki's contributions on and off the field will be central to their success.

While the fight for the NBC Premier League silverware, top-four finish, and relegation zone intensifies, another captivating battle rages on - the race for the Golden Boot.

Aziz Ki, who has put on a dominant display this season. Hot on his heels is midfielder Feisal Salum 'Fei Toto' of Azam FC with 13 goals. Meanwhile, forward Waziri Junior of Kinondoni Municipal Council FC is enjoying a career resurgence, currently sitting third with 11 goals.

Max Nzengele follows closely behind in fourth place with nine goals. The competition then tightens further, with Mudathir Yahya, Kipre Junior, Samson Mbangula, and Marouf Tchakei all locked at eight goals each.

As we head into week 24 of the league, these players continue to be instrumental for their teams, adding an extra layer of excitement to the pursuit of the coveted Golden Boot. The race remains wide open, promising a thrilling battle for the top scorer title.



Yanga's midfielder Maxi Nzengele (L) negotiates his way past Tabora United's midfielder Najim Mussa during the NBC Premier League clash at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma on December 23, 2023, culminating in a 1-0 victory for Yanga. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

## Yanga issued with second FIFA transfer ban



Yanga's players are pictured listening to their head coach, Miguel Ángel Gamondi, and his assistants when they were shaping up for this season's CRDB Federation Cup Round of 16 match against Dodoma Jiji FC that took place in Dodoma recently. Yanga clobbered Dodoma Jiji FC 2-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC has been handed a second FIFA transfer ban less than a month after falling foul of the world football governing body regulations.

This comes on the back of the NBC Premier League side's failure to settle outstanding salary and signing on fee to Zambian striker Lazarus Kambole.

FIFA sent a communication to the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) ordering a ban on Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, for the registration of players at national level and international level.

The federation's statement disclosed: "NBC Premier League club Young Africans SC has been banned from registering players until they pay their former player Lazarus Kambole."

"The decision has been made by the International Football Federation (FIFA) after Kambole won

his cases against the club," the statement pointed out.

"The Zambian player filed a case with FIFA demanding the payment of his signing on and salary arrears. The club was supposed to have paid him within 45 days since the decision was made, but it did not implement it," it said.

Yanga signed Kambole as a free agent at the start of the 2022/23 season. Kambole penned a two-year contract describing the move as a way to bring back his confidence following a difficult stint with South Africa's Kaizer Chiefs.

However, he did not feature for Yanga in competitive games due to fitness issues. He left the club barely three months after landing in Tanzania.

In January last year, Kambole rejoined Zambia's soccer big gun Zesco United on a six-month loan deal which was later made permanent.

The statement stated: "While FIFA has banned the club from making international transfers, the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) has banned it from mak-

ing domestic transfers."

"TFF reminds clubs to respect the contracts that have been entered into with players and coaches to avoid various penalties including being banned from registration of players," read the statement from TFF, the statement noted.

Adding to their woes, earlier last month, Yanga was banned by FIFA due to irregularities in player registration. The club failed to comply with FIFA regulations, specifically regarding transfer payment confirmation in the Transfer Matching System (TMS).

Yanga is on course to win a third successive NBC Premier League title. On Saturday, the Jangwani Street outfit secured a narrow 1-0 victory over Coastal Union at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The hard-fought victory saw Yanga extend the squad's lead to eight points atop the league standings and will now lock horns with Tabora United in the CRDB Federation Cup quarterfinal clash in Dar es Salaam today.

## Yanga's double quest faces Tabora United test

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC's quest of winning domestic double faces another test against Tabora United in the quarterfinal of the CRDB Bank Federation Cup.

With the NBC Premier League title almost in the bag, a semi-final place in the CRDB Bank Federation Cup will take Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, a step forward to winning a double.

The showdown's defending champions head into this clash on the back of a narrow 1-0 victory against Coastal Union in the NBC Premier League clash that took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

As a result, head coach Miguel Gamondi's men are unbeaten in their previous five matches across all competitions, losing just two of their last 25 encounters.

In the CRDB Bank Federation Cup Round of 64, Yanga thrashed non-league side Hausung FC 5-1 in the first game before crushing Championship League side, Polisi Tanzania, 5-0 in the round of 32 played last month.

In the CRDB Bank Federation Cup Round of 16, they beat Premier League outfit Dodoma Jiji FC 2-0 in the latter's backyard.

Unbeaten in the Federation Cup since 2021, Gamondi's men will back themselves to progress to the last four as they aim to secure another domestic double.

Earlier this season, Yanga beat Tabora United 1-0 in a league game played at Jamhuri Stadium. It was the first top-flight meeting between the two sides.

Speaking ahead of the game, Gamondi emphasized the peril of knockout games but backed his side to get the needed result.

The Argentine remarked: "It is a quarterfinal cup game. Cup games are always different, they are special because it is all about 90 minutes. We expect to have a tough game, they come on the back of a great victory in their last cup game."

"We play at home, it is good for us and we are ready to take another step in this cup. We are motivated," he revealed.

"It is a long season with a lot of games but I think one of the best qualities of this team is unity. I am lucky to have these types of players who are hungry to play every game," he stated.

Tabora United, on the other hand, faces the Herculean task of stopping Yanga's march towards a third successive title.

Their path to the last eight has seen them defeat non-league outfits, Mondoli College FC and Nyamongo FC. They also beat Singida Fountain Gate FC 3-0 in the previous round.

They head into this clash on the back of a goalless draw with Geita Gold FC last weekend.

With six games left to play Tabora United finds itself sitting second bottom in a tough relegation battle.

Masoud Djuma, the outfit's assistant coach, highlighted the gulf in quality between the two sides by acknowledging that Yanga is a side with everything needed to win a match.

The Burundian tactician revealed: "We know the importance of this fixture at a challenging time for the club. We are playing a side that has everything to win a game but this is a battle. It is not the league, everyone can do something in the Cup competition."

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

