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'Prepare for openings with SGR operations'

By Correspondent James Kandoya, Morogoro

UNTAPPED economic opportunities contributed by building the standard gauge railway (SGR) need to be taken up by residents and other local investors, Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa has declared.

He issued that appeal here yesterday after the second test-drive of a locomotive pulling 14 passenger coaches, accompanied by the city mayor and ten ward councillors.

Morogoro is among regions with plenty of opportunities as yet untapped, he said, noting that when SGR operations formally starts, it will open economic opportunities such as agriculture and tourism.

"Morogoro is among strategic economic areas in collecting cargos and related services," he said, urging the residents to fully participate in production projects as SGR will have plenty of unused space for transportation.

Already the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) has built a station for collecting luggage or cargo meant to be transported to Dar es Salaam or elsewhere, he said.

Adam Malima, the regional commissioner, said that plans are underway

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Hunting safaris double TAWA concession fees



Licensed hunting blocks in wildlife management areas (WMAs) and game reserves had increased to 68 of late, from 59 licensed as of March 2022

By Francis Kajubi

LICENSED hunting safaris in the Special Wildlife Concession Areas (SWICA) have enabled the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) to attain a record 53.87bn/- revenues from July 2023 to the end of last week.

Mabula Misungwi, the TAWA CEO, said that licensing fees of 55.57bn/- were collected during fiscal 2022/23, with TAWA anticipating surpassing this amount in the current financial year.

Briefing journalists on TAWA successes during the three years of President Samia Suluhu Hassan in Dar es Salaam yesterday, he said that a record surge in revenues arose

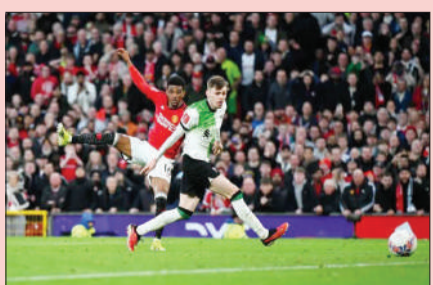
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SPORTS



YANGA COACH CRIES FOUL AFTER DEFEAT TO AZAM FC

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MANCHESTER UNITED'S EPIC FA CUP COMEBACK REWRITES JURGEN KLOPP'S FAREWELL STORY

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A resident of Kilosa District (L) comes to the assistance of Shaka Hamdu Shaka as the Kilosa district commissioner sought to cross flooded Miombo River yesterday while on official duties. The situation was induced by heavy rains which reportedly wreaked havoc, including destroying residential houses, leaving 156 families homeless. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TIC: 1,188 projects booked, of 38.3trn/- value since 2021

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

A TOTAL of 1,188 projects valued at 38.3trn/- have been registered by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) during the three years of the sixth phase presidency.

Gilead Teri, the TIC executive director, made this observation at a press conference in Dar es Salaam disclosed yesterday, explaining the success story of the three years of President Samia Suluhu Hassan

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'Using staff engineers has cut costs in water projects'

The government aims at universal access to water and sanitation by 2030, tied with the sustainable development goal (SDG) number 6

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has for the past three years rescued over 700bn/- in water projects after it started using its own technicians (force account) to implement various projects.

Jumaa Aweso, the Water minister, made this assertion at a briefing in Dar es Salaam over the weekend devoted to achieve-

ments in the sector during the three years of sixth phase leadership.

Major changes have been registered in the water sector on account of robust measures taken by the government, citing diminution of seeking out private contractors in significant or major projects.

He said that as some of them were dishonest, the situation was costing the gov-

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CONGRATULATIONS!

3 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania

The Board of Directors and Staff of Bharya Engineering and Contracting Company Limited are hereby honored to congratulate Her Excellency, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan on her completion of Three successful years of Presidential leadership and achievements. We wish to thank Hon. Mama for opening doors to new business ventures in the United Republic of Tanzania and for creating a friendly business environment for all businesses!

WE WISH HER AND OUR COUNTRY THE BEST IN THE YEARS TO COME!
RAMADAN KAREEM!



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Hunting safaris double TAWA concession fees

FROM PAGE 1

from licensing five hunting safari companies.

They will operate in seven hunting blocks through SWICA contracts signed at the start of the year, he said, elaborating that the five companies have 20-year contracts where TAWA generates an average of 15.5bn/- altogether on an annual basis.

The five firms are Grumeti Reserves Ltd, Mwiba Holdings Ltd, Magellan General Trading LLC, Bushman Safari Trackers Ltd and Mkwawa Hunting Safaris, he said, disclosing that TAWA had garnered 25.75bn/- revenues back in 2020/21.

Licensed hunting blocks in wildlife management areas (WMAs) and game reserves had increased to 68 of late, from 59 licensed as of March 2022, he said, all 68 hunting blocks leased through SWICA.

The tendering process earned TAWA 21.112bn/- (\$8.28m), far higher than the projected 6.133bn/- (\$2.41m) had the tendering process been used, he said, elaborating that of the 68 licensed hunting blocks seven were sold to five investors through the SWICA modality in January.

TAWA also managed to procure

60 operations vehicles; seven patrol cars and two cruise boats while it used the Covid-19 relief fund to put up road networks in managed areas and game reserved areas stretching 431 kilometers, the director noted.

It has also managed to set up 13 tourists' pavilions, six campsites, eight picnic sites, one lounge and a hostel, while moving to subscribe to the ministry's internet portal to accelerate digital uplift in operations, he stated.

Dividends extended to hunting blocks host communities capped 11.59bn/- in 2022/23 from 1.98bn/- in 2020/21, he said, noting that 35 district councils, 191 villages and 14 MWAs were involved in these benefits.

Up to 7,511 individuals were permitted to conduct fishing activities and 2,046 others to engage in beekeeping, with economic activities by those individuals slated for reserved forests of Rukwa, Ugalla, Uvanda, Moyowosi Kilombero and Inyonga.

"People have been catching up to 15 tons of fish a day from Ugalla reserved forest alone. Sumbawanga district council has managed to generate 303m/- through license fees and levies for those economic activities," he added.

Road agency ordered to complete Tabora airport repairs as scheduled

By Guardian Reporter

THE Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Accounts (PAC) has directed the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) to speed up the upgrading and rehabilitation of the Tabora Airport in order to stimulate transportation and economic activities.

The committee made the call over the weekend when they visited the airport in Tabora Region to witness progress of the on-going renovations.

Japhet Masunga, the committee's chairman wanted TANROADS to supervise the contractors well and ensure that they speed up the project implementation to enable residents in Tabora and other areas to benefit from the project.

"Manage the contractor to speed the project implementation to be completed on time so that Tabora residents and its neighbouring regions can enjoy the air transport service," Masunga said.

Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works, Ludovick Nduhiye said that the ministry has received the advice and all the instructions from the committee and promised to work on them so that it greatly benefits the community and the nation.

During the presentation of the project, TANROADS Chief Executive, Mohamed Besta said the project has reached 38 percent and includes the construction of a passenger waiting lounge with the capacity to serve 120 passengers at a time.

It also includes the construction of a control tower, the entrance and exit road from the airport as well as the construction of a security fence with a length of 6.25 kilometres.

Tabora airport improvement and repair project is pegged at 24bn/- and expected to be completed by October this year.

The rehabilitation and expansion of these airports will enable them to receive bigger planes, something which will bolster trading activities and open room for more businesses to happen thus promoting economic growth.



Manage the contractor to speed the project implementation to be completed on time so that Tabora residents and its neighbouring regions can enjoy the air transport service

'Prepare for openings with SGR operations'

FROM PAGE 1

to ensure Kilosa town and the entrance to Mikumi national park are connected to SGR to ease their ability to use such opportunities

The regional authorities were liaising with tour operators to make Kilosa station a tourist terminal for various attractions and the southern tourist circuit as a while, he stated.

"SGR is going to be the backbone of the region's economy in the near future," he said, pointing at sugar cane plantations and massive production of rice. "All these will be transported by rail to reduce congestion on the road, apart from transportation costs," he stated.

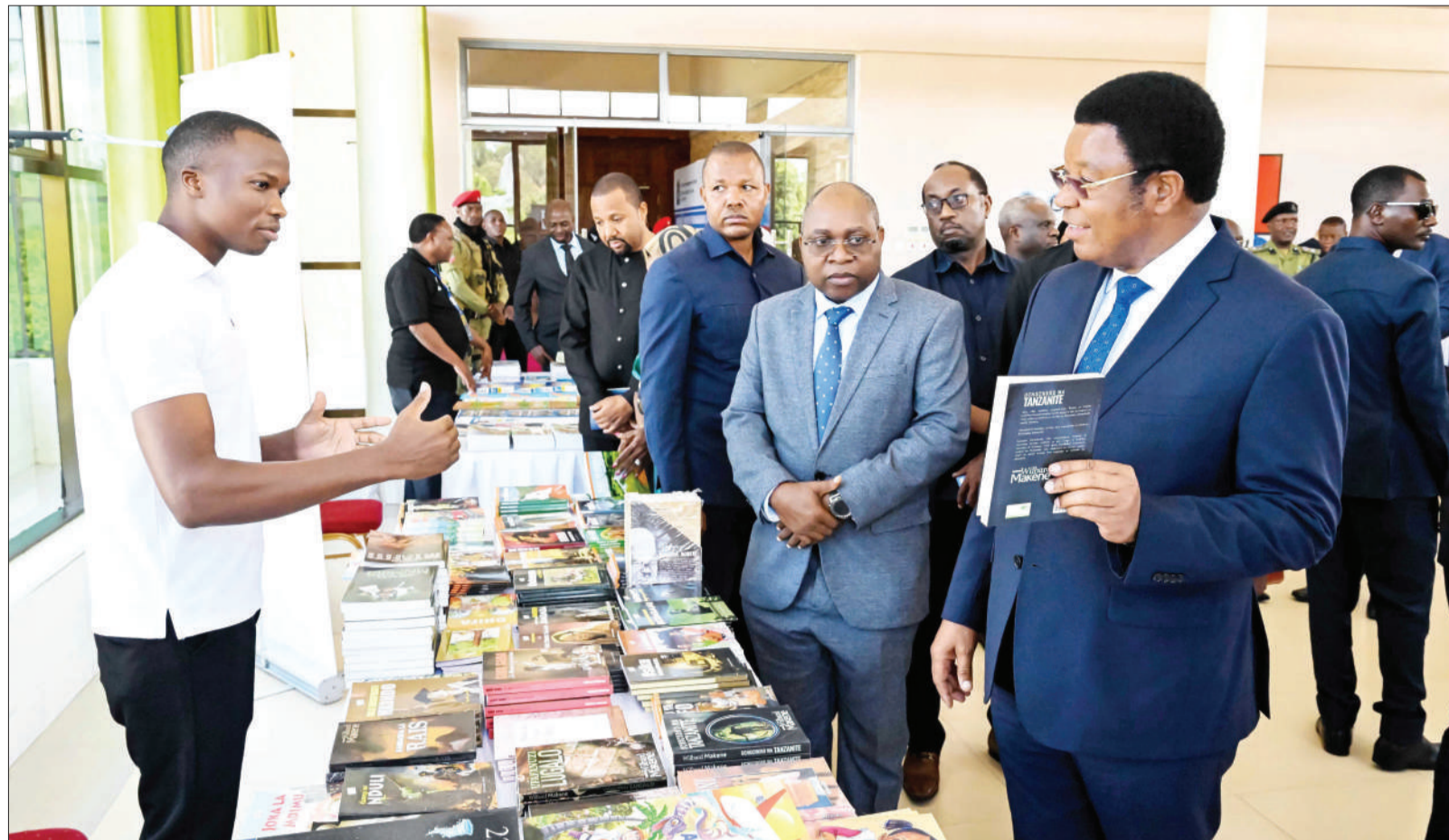
Masanja Kadogosa, the TRC director general, said that in the second

test drive, 14 passenger wagons were pulled, while they were four earlier, while speed was raised to 120 and 160 km per hour, to prepare for the cruising speed of 160km per hour.

The 14 passenger coaches were being tested in the electric system, with preliminary assessment showing that by July proper train operations will start, he said.

City mayor Omary Kumbilamoto said that the operation of the new electric train will stimulate other economic opportunities, as it will boost commercial farming and other opportunities, which reinforce transport needs.

A conducive environment needs to be in place to reduce congestion and reach the right destination for those visiting the region, the RC added.



East African Educational Publishers representative Pastory Munisi (L) pictured in Mbeya yesterday briefing Prime Minister Kassim, who was on a tour of various pavilions at an ongoing exhibition held in the city in tandem with a Kiswahili Channels workshop. The workshop's theme is: "News Industry is a Worldwide Swahili Marketing Opportunity". Photo: PMO

TIC: 1,188 projects booked, of 38.3trn/-value since 2021

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leadership. He said that Tanzania's participation in various conferences abroad and improvements in the business and investment environment had enabled Tanzania to feature among the best investment destinations in Africa.

Of the registered projects, 35 percent were brought up by local investors, 41 percent came from foreigners and 24 percent are joint ventures between local and foreign investors, he said.

The number of projects is an in-

crease of 63.19 percent from 728 projects registered in the March 2018 to March 10, 2021 period, he said, noting that more than twice the number of jobs are likely to be generated compared to the previous period.

A vast increase in the registration of foreign projects was due to efforts made by President Samia in promoting the country and encouraging investments through bilateral cooperation and wider economic diplomacy, he stated, pointing at the business and investment environment improvement

efforts as crucial to this trend.

Manufacturing industry had 538 projects, transport chalked up 225 projects while tourism garnered 110 projects, commercial buildings 106 projects and agriculture brought up 106 projects, he said.

Tanzania continues to be a leader in East Africa in receiving investors largely in the wake of changes made on investment law two years ago, he said, underlining that investment laws improve the business environment and shape investors.

It is crucial to attract more for-

ign direct investments (FDI), especially with tax and non-tax incentives.

Tax incentives for regular and strategic investors were also decided, with investment ambition for this year set at registering 1,000 investment projects, attracting foreign capital pegged at \$5bn and domestic capital standing at \$3.5bn, he elaborated.

TIC is seeking to ensure that at least ten percent of the registered projects relate to or have a bearing on efforts to tackle impacts of climate change, he added.



Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (C) shares a light moment with Denmark's Ambassador to Tanzania, Mette Nørgaard Dissing-Spandet, after talks in Dodoma city yesterday. Denmark supports Tanzania in various sectors, including in the implementation of the Standard Gauge Railway project. Right is Oscar Mkude, economist and head of business at the Danish Embassy in Tanzania. Photo courtesy of Finance ministry

'Using staff engineers has cut costs in water projects'

FROM PAGE 1

ernment a lot of money, which has changed over the past eight years.

At the start, things were unpleasant as many projects remained white elephants leaving many people without water services, he said, affecting sentiments of legislators on the ministry's budget each year.

Explaining this in the National Assembly was hard due to challenges that were facing the sector, he stated, noting that the new office bearers and other civil servants there worked hard to reverse the situation by making changes within the ministry.

Some projects dated back to the 1970s but were never completed, in which case the ministry worked hard to alter the jobs and functions

of its engineers as well as enhance their competences, to take on the task of implementing projects, he stated.

The Kigamboni-Kimbiji water project in Dar es Salaam was billed at 700bn/- but with the use of staff engineers, the ministry spent 25bn/- to get the work done, he stated.

A two million litre water tank in Dodoma was projected to cost 2.5bn/- but later engineers from the ministry took it up, so the government spent 998m/-, he elaborated.

"We also had the Mguru wa Ndege water project in Morogoro Region which was billed at 1.2bn/- but after new instructions, ministerial staff needed 550m/- to complete it, he specified.

Fetching water from Lake Victoria for use in Tabora Region had

600bn/- affixed to it in budgeting, but using staff engineers brought down the cost to 570bn/-, he similarly noted.

The Kiaka-Bunazi project for which 20bn/- was demanded took 15.7bn/- to completion with the use of staff engineers, he said, explaining how taking office was problematic.

At one point the minister visited Mwakitolio in Shinyanga Rural District, being greeted with empty water buckets to underline displeasure of residents over the lack of water supplies.

Yet the government had provided 1.2bn/- for the water project in the area, but local officials were effusive with excuses on the issue, he recalled.

The same situation came up in

Handeni, Tanga Region and various other areas where contractors were not carrying out their duties, with 177 water projects for which the government had issued funds for implementation but were not working, and had since then all been completed, he said.

To further ensure that there is value for money in every project, the ministry devised an engineering cost estimate before commencing project building, he said, noting that these changes had to do with hesitation by MPs to approve funds which were not likely to be put to good use.

The government aims at universal access to water and sanitation by 2030, tied with the sustainable development goal (SDG) number 6, he added.

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

'95 pct of women-owned businesses in Dar face corruption when seeking govt tenders'

AT LEAST 95 percent of 3,884 women business and company owners in Dar es Salaam have allegedly faced corruption actions when seeking government tenders, it has been alleged.

Dr Flora Myamba, founder and director, Women and Social Protection Tanzania (WSP), made the allegations, stating a research by her organization proved it.

She made the statement during a seminar that brought together representatives from the government, private sector, among others to discuss women engagement of

government official contracts and tenders.

"About 3,689 out of 3,884 women business owners surveyed in Dar es Salaam admitted having been asked for bribes and in some cases sexual favour when seeking government tenders" she said.

Dr Myamba argued that women in the country who own businesses are faced with a lot of challenges

including being asked to provide bribes, calling on the government to help change the trend.

She argued that while about 70 percent of the government budget goes to public procurement and tender activities but a big number of women small and medium entrepreneurs are locked out in the process.

According to the director, many

women do not get the opportunity to participate in the public procurement and fail to increase their capital due lack of understanding and knowledge.

Dr Myamba said following the challenge, WSP conducted research to establish how women business and company owners benefit from the government public tenders and realized their small participation

"Most of those interviewed confirmed demands for different kinds of bribes and since most women do not have money, they were lured into sexual bribes," she added.

Sabina Seja, a representative from the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) applauded the organization for the study but observed that a lot more need to be done.

"No such a study has been conducted in the country and this is a good start" she said, adding that it is through such activities that helps decision makers to ack.

Sophia Nyang'oro who owns a cleaning company in Dar es Salaam noted that sexual bribes are due to lack of awareness on government among many women with companies.



Barrick Gold Corporation president and CEO Mark Bristow pictured yesterday speaking on cooperation between the conglomerate and the Tanzanian government through the Minerals ministry, including on plans to make Barrick Buzwagi Mine area in Kahama District a special economic zone. He was opening a Barrick centre meant to provide training on workplace safety and management as well as resolution of conflicts related to land ownership and use. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

Barrick opens academy at closed Buzwagi Mine

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

BARRICK Gold Corporation has officially opened its world class training academy at the old Buzwagi mine, in line with Barrick's mine closure objective of leaving a positive legacy after mining has finished.

Launched yesterday, the Barrick Academy is designed to offer tailor-made training programmes aimed at developing Barrick's frontline managers to grow both as individuals and as leaders in their fields, while equipping them with the skills to manage their teams more effectively and to improve performance.

The Barrick Academy will be training more than 2,000 foremen, supervisors and superintendents from the Africa and Middle East region in the next 24 months. Looking ahead, we are also gearing up to include our contractors and expand the curriculum to cover wider disciplines, including financial leadership, advanced computer literacy and safety courses.

The opening of the Barrick Academy follows the construction of an airport terminal at Buzwagi's Kahama airstrip in January this year, which has paved the way for a scheduled airline service that can serve more than 200 passengers at a time. It is expected to be a major catalyst for economic growth in the region.

According to Barrick's chief operating officer for the Africa and Middle East region, Sebastian Bock, the airport terminal and Academy form part of Barrick's plan to turn Buzwagi into a Special Economic Zone.

A feasibility study commissioned in 2021 showed that the creation of the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) had the potential to replace the mine as the region's economic driver and could sustainably create 3,000 jobs annually, generate more than \$150,000 yearly from service levies for local municipality and deliver approximately \$4.5 million in employment taxes a year.

The Tanzanian government approved the conversion of the mine into a SEZ through a Government Notice that was issued in February this year. A number of investors have started the process of setting up manufacturing industries inside this area.

"How we close our mines is just as important to us as how we build and operate them. Our Buzwagi mine was a significant economic powerhouse in the region for nearly 15 years before it poured its last gold in 2021. From our perspective, however, that is not the end of the story for Buzwagi as we transform it into an alternative productive asset that will serve the community for decades to come," Bock said.

Anthony Mavunde, Minister for Minerals lauded the mining company for the on-going investments that in turn contribute to economic growth and to achieve social projects that continue to improve people's lives. Mavunde said the academy has been established at

the right time, when the mining sector in Tanzania is growing and needs enough professionals, urging Barrick to look into the possibility of starting courses to help small-scale miners.

Mark Bristow, Barrick Gold Corporation's president and chief executive officer (CEO) said that Barrick will continue to work with the Tanzanian government to ensure that its ventures benefit all parties and contribute to the country's socio-economic development.

Bristow said Barrick attaches great importance to the issue of education and will continue to invest in the sector to ensure that Tanzanians get an education.



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CONGRATULATIONS!



The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Planet Pharmaceutical Ltd and Sri Balaji Pharma Ltd wish to congratulate the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, in completing THREE successful years in office.

We wish you a good health, prosperity and the very best as you continue to lead the nation.

P.O.Box 38328, Kipata/Nyamwezi Street Kariakoo, Dar Es Salaam Tanzania. Mobile: +255 788 784 445 Hotline: +255 788 784 445 Email: info@planetpharmatz.co.tz

Tanzanian farmers to benefit from the Italian cutting-edge technology and machineries

By Carlos Banda

TANZANIA is set to benefit from advanced technology and machineries that aims to mechanize the country's agricultural system to meet farmers' demands and boost crop production.

Marco Lombardi, Italian Ambassador to Tanzania disclosed this yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking at a Business to Business (B2B) session involving Italian Agricultural Machinery producing companies and Tanzanian agricultural stakeholders and traders.

The envoy cited that technology in the Tanzania agricultural sector is key to the sector's growth.

"Tanzania sees in the agricultural sector a very important resource that represents 60 percent of GDP. The demand for agri-tech is constantly growing in this country. I therefore believe that FederUnacoma's mission is in line with the logic of win-win collaborations featuring Italy's action towards Tanzania and the African Continent," he said.

He added: "There is room to work with Tanzania on sustainable agriculture with better machinery, technical skills and build a technical centre where I am informed that one University in Morogoro is expected to sign a Memorandum of Understanding where people can find help whenever their machinery or tractors have problems that need to be repaired and offer customer care."

Riccardo Zucconi, Trade Commissioner at the Italian Trade Agency (ITA) said that Tanzania is one of the agricultural economies that needs to be mechanized to produce more, adding that, such production has to involve more intelligence with less use of chemicals, involve a better man power, better agriculture practice and production of better products to export all over the world.

"I believe that Tanzania, a country in which agriculture plays a predominant role in the economy,

needs to develop local agricultural enterprises, whether large or small, with adequate agricultural mechanisation, able to make local crops productive, ecological and quality, for the necessary food self-sufficiency and for export," he added.

Noela Mwamanga, ITA trade analyst said the B2B meeting was an opportunity for Tanzanians to learn new systems that will help advance the country's agricultural sector, whereas Tanzanian companies will be able to interact and forge partnerships with Italian firms. "As an agency, we will help several local companies in Tanzania gain sponsorship to attend the 40th EIMA exhibitions in Bologna to meet companies producing agromachines to see, test and identify machines and technology that can operate well in Tanzania. Many of the Italian companies have shown readiness and interest to come and invest in Tanzania," he said.

Fabio Ricci, the Deputy Director of FederUnacoma said that the demand for agricultural technologies in Tanzania is met mainly through the instrument of imports, whereas in 2022, it increased by 72.7% compared to the previous year, reaching a total value of 147mn euros, citing that an important part of these imports was ensured by Made in Italy.

"In 2022, Italy was Tanzania's 12th largest supplier of agricultural machinery, with a market share that is still far from that of its main competitors but is still catching up. Between 2018 and 2022, the value of our exports is more than tripled in value, highlighting a significant incremental course that we consider can continue also in the near future," he said.

Stephen Mloshi, Managing Director of Reliance Group Limited, said the B2B meeting has provided a great opportunity for Tanzanians to buy technology products from Italy that will play a crucial role in the growth and improvement of our country's agricultural sector.

and Premium Educator

FE MEMBER



Vodacom Tanzania Plc investigation manager Joseph Mnyune pictured in Zanzibar at the weekend outlining efforts by the firm to combat fraud and cybercrime. It was at a meeting organised by the Tanzania Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. He is flanked by the firm's internal auditor, Albert Kajuna (L) and ACFE president Ali Mabrook. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent James Kandoya

MINISTER of State in the President's Office, Planning and Investment Prof Kitila Mkumbo has underscored the need for the public owned companies to be run as private corporate institutions to generate profits.

Prof Mkumbo made the remarks over the weekend in Kibaha District, Coast Region when closing the strategic plan meeting between the Treasury Registrar Office and the board of directors and CEOs of companies with minority shares.

He said many public companies collapse due to lack of creativity by focusing production as government's department instead of operating as a corporate institution.

"We have seen a certain company, owned fully by the government somewhere work under loss but when privatised it works profitable. We need to change leaders' attitude and mindset in order to succeed in

Minister urges public entities to work as private ones do to excel

our reforms agenda," he said.

Prof Mkumbo said that the government has to set performance indicators as a strategy to ensure its companies do not become a burden.

"Our companies should have corporate identity in order to compete with other companies and this should go along with setting performance indicators," he said.

He added that board of directors and CEO's have a chance of transferring knowledge and experience to companies fully owned by the government in order to make changes.

Prof Mkumbo reminded them to push the nation's agenda and interest of increasing production and reducing importation of

processed products available in the country.

He cited for instance the mining sector, and said that they must know that critical minerals should be added value in the country.

"I call on all of you to have effective representation of the government. You have been trusted, please work hard barometers to show the mistakes and success," he said.

He also called on the directors and CEO's to bring feedback to the government to avoid unnecessary quarrels or sometimes loss.

Treasury Registrar, Nehemia Mchechu said that the four-day workshop has enabled participants to network, share experience and skills on how to run the companies as per government agenda and

interest.

Mchechu said from now, the training to build capacity to board of directors and CEO's will be conducted once in a year.

"My office will work in close collaboration with the board of directors in order to push the nation's agenda," he said.

He added that the aim of conducting the workshop was to build their capacity and remind them to defend the nation's interest.

Dr Tausi Kida, Permanent Secretary in the President's Office-Investments said that currently, there are 304 public companies with a total investment reaching 75trn/- adding that out of these, 56 companies are owned with minority shares.

Relief as 100 pupils get sanitary pads in Muheza

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Muheza

OVER 100 girls at Tumaini Primary School in Muheza District, Tanga Region have been equipped with sanitary pads and self-awareness education to support safe menstruation and personal hygiene.

Donated by Hope 4 Future, a Muheza-based non-governmental organisation, the pads will enable girl children at the school to smoothly take care of themselves during the menstruation period.

Speaking during the handing over event Hope 4 Future Executive Officer, Irene Moses noted that a good number of school girls especially those from poor backgrounds face great challenges to access the sanitary towels, something which thwarts their development goals.

"When I was at secondary school some young girls who were at lower classes would always come to me to ask me some extra sanitary pads, whenever I had these towels I was supporting them but

sometimes I didn't, so we need to continue collecting efforts to support girl children stay in school and have safe menstruations," she said.

She further advised the girls to create behaviour of saving some money from the pocket money provided by their parents to ensure that they purchase sanitary towels.

Jamila Hassan, the school's matron thanked the organisation for the donation saying that the support and advice were important to enable girls to stay in school.

"Doing a little to support others is not for well off families, everyone has to extend a hand of help to people with needs, girls in schools direly need these sanitary towels to enable them stay safe during their menstruation period," Jamila said.

Iliham Abubakari, a standard six pupil commended the organizations for supporting them with the hygiene towels which are going to help them stay comfortably for the next six months.

"Doing a little to support others is not for well off families, everyone has to extend a hand of help to people with needs, girls in schools direly need these sanitary towels to enable them stay safe during their menstruation period"

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL
AT DAR ES SALAAM

APPEAL NO. 1 OF 2024

BETWEEN

TANZANIA ELECTRIC SUPPLY
COMPANY LIMITED APPELLANT

AND

JOHN YOHANA KUGA 1ST RESPONDENT

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES
REGULATORY AUTHORITY 2ND RESPONDENT

(Notice pursuant to Rule 16 of the Fair Competition Tribunal Rules, 2012)

TAKE NOTICE THAT an appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) dated 2nd February 2024 in which EWURA held the Appellant liable for the fire that destroyed the 1st Respondent's house and ordered the Appellant to pay TZS 40,593,025.00 as damages for the house and household items.

The appeal is based on the grounds, among others, that EWURA erred in law and facts in holding that the source of fire was Appellant's infrastructure in the absence of technical evidence and in awarding damages without being pleaded and proved. Thus, the Appellant prays for orders allowing the appeal in its entirety and quashing the decision of EWURA.

BY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE any person who considers that he has sufficient interest may apply to intervene in the proceedings within seven days of the first publication of this notice to the Fair Competition Tribunal, 2nd Floor, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Building, Jamhuri Street, Dar Es Salaam.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the Tribunal this 19th March 2024.

REGISTRAR



Ruhinde Street, Plot 92,
Ada Estate, Kinondoni,
PO Box 9270
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

REF: KSL/IOM/129/24
Date: 19 March 2024

INVITATION TO BID

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is an intergovernmental organization established in 1951 and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits both migrants and society.

In the framework of IOM Operations in Tanzania, the IOM Bids Evaluation Committee ("BEC") now invites Bidders to submit "Bids" for the Proposed Constructions at the Makere IOM compound, Kasulu District in Kigoma region Tanzania.

No	Description of work	Quantity	Bid collecting date from 0900 - 1500hrs	Bids Submission date: at 10:00AM
1	CONSTRUCTION OF RESETTLEMENT PROCESSING CENTRE IN MAKERE (STAGE 2), KASULU DISTRICT, KIGOMA, TANZANIA	1	28.03.2024 - 03.04. 2024	11.04.2024

Interested bidders shall obtain a complete set of the "Instruction to Bidders". The Instruction to Bidders will be obtained at the IOM Office in Dar es Salaam and Kasulu Sub Office for further (see dates mentioned above)

- IOM Dar es Salaam Office is located at Ruhinde Street, Plot 92, Ada Estate, Kinondoni, P. O. BOX 9270 Dar es Salaam.
- IOM Kasulu is located at Kasulu Town, Murubona road, near Kasulu TTC. Box 303, Kasulu.
- Interested vendors who attend the mandatory Pre-bid meeting on the 28th of March 2024 qualify to collect the bid documents between the 28th of March to 3rd of April 2024.
- Vendors who do not attend the Pre-bid meeting will not be eligible to submit bids to this tender.
- Only construction companies registered as "Class - 1 building" are invited to participate in the tender.

Submission of Bid is due (see above-mentioned dates). Late bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened within the validity period of the bid.

IOM reserves the right to accept or reject any bids, cancel the procurement process, and reject all bids at any time prior to awarding the Contract, without obligation to inform the affected Bidder/s of the ground of IOM's action.

Very truly yours,
IOM- Tanzania Bids Evaluation Committee

Mission in the United Republic of Tanzania
Tel: +255 689 103 096 • E-mail: iomdar@iom.int Website: www.iom.int



Women from various civil society organisations in Liwale District, Lindi Region, present sanitary pads to secondary school students on Saturday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Establish export guarantee scheme, Ulanga tells TWCC

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

The government has asked the Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC) to establish an export guarantee scheme for its members so that it is easier to promote their businesses and bolster their capital.

John Ulanga, director of international trade and economic diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation made the call over the weekend during the 4th Women Industrial Award ceremony for businesswomen in Dar es Salaam. The event was sponsored by TradeMark Africa (TMA).

Presenting on the role of women in sustainable development, Ulanga said that no success can be achieved if women are left behind.

He said the guarantee programme for business women is important because many find markets to send their products but they fail due to lack of guaranteed capital so the program will be a saviour for them.

"There is one of your colleagues here who won a tender to send products to Ghana, but she lacked the capital of 200m/. If you had a guarantee scheme, you would have helped her send her products without difficulties," he said.

Ulanga said TWCC can start the programme in collaboration with government institutions and various private financial institutions, things that will help women to boost their businesses. "I know in the past we had something like this and we failed, but I believe that everything has its time and at this time if we start this plan we will be successful let's not look at the past let's start again and move forward," said Ulanga.

He advised TWCC to prepare an annual report detailing the progress of businesswomen and the challenges they encounter in their daily operations.

He said that the report will help to know the stage that women have reached, their challenges and will help decision makers to set

strategies that will ensure that the businessmen will no longer be in the deadlock.

Ulanga called on TWCC to continue working hard to encourage more women to engage in business and entrepreneurship to overcome poverty.

He also asked business women to look at the opportunities of other markets in Africa, Europe and the United States instead of looking only at the small market of Tanzania.

"TWCC should have an export strategy to help these women to export their business and use our embassies when you are stuck because the job of our embassies is to facilitate business, so don't be afraid to come to the embassies to ask for help," he said.

Latifa Mohamed Hamis, Tanzania Trade Development Authority (Tantrade) director general lauded TWCC executive director, Mwajuma Hamza for the way she has been creative in managing the work of the chamber.

She assured the business women that there are market opportunities for various Tanzanian products, but what they need is to continue to manage the quality of the products they produce.

"Many times we hear traders complaining about the lack of markets, but let me assure you that the markets are there, it is up to us to find them and in order to reach them, we must be creative and not imitate what others are doing, we must make things that others do not have," she said.

She urged business women to use social media as a business opportunity to find markets in different parts of the world instead of struggling with things that are not commercially productive for them.

"Our commitment to Tantrade is that we will continue to work side by side with TWCC to ensure that you get markets and even find various opportunities for you in the world so that you can grow your capital," she said.

Parents in Tanga urged to teach children good morals, life skills

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Muheza

PARENTS and guardians in Potwe Ward of Muheza District in Tanga Region have been urged to fulfil their responsibilities by teaching their children good morals and life skills to enable them to become good citizens.

Rev. Petro Mavengelo of Potwe Parish, Catholic Diocese of Tanga

made the call at the weekend here that taking good care of children is every parent's role.

He was speaking during the youth conference convened here on how to motivate youth to engage in development activities instead of criminal acts.

He said that nowadays many families have been disintegrated due to evil loans in streets which women are forced and pressured to enter into because husbands have

forgotten their responsibilities.

"Husbands are the ones who are required to take care of their families, unfortunately some of them have been leaving these duties to women, who are forced to work hard to take care of families," he said. He added: "The root cause of these things is because parents do not teach our children how to become good fathers in the future, for example a boy can bring a girlfriend into your house and as

a parent you stay calm without interrogating them."

In another development, he urged youth to abstain from criminal acts instead focus on legal income generating activities for them to live a happy life.

He said the government has brought a water project into Potwe ward but some dishonest people wanted to sabotage it, a behaviour which shows there is moral decay in the community.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Feasibility Study and Business Plan Development for Community-led Enterprises

WWF Tanzania country office (WWF TCO) is funded by WWF Switzerland (WWF-CH) to support enabling policy and political environment in effort to reduce biodiversity loss and restoration of water flow in the selected rivers through policy advocacy among other strategies in the Water Towers Landscape (WTL). The WTL hosts the globally recognized high biodiversity hotspots with high species endemism, this landscape has an estimated population of 11 million people, and more of the 65% of the country's food is produced in this landscape. The landscape hosts major rice farms and numerous rice schemes that together contributes to 60% of the rice supply in the country. There are a number of major rivers originating from this landscape providing water for hydropower production, wildlife and agriculture. Despite of the ecological, economic and social importance of the Water Towers Landscape, deforestation and forest degradation are among major environmental problems affecting forests and people that this project aims to contribute in providing solutions. Currently, WWF TCO is implementing the second phase of the WWF-CH Forest Landscape Restoration Project in the Water Towers Landscape from September 2023-August 2025. The project is implemented in Pugu-Kazimzumbwi Nature Forest Reserve and Ruvu South Forest Reserve in the selected villages of Kisarawe and Kibaha districts in the Coastal region with two specific objectives; Objective 1: By 2025, management effectiveness in Pugu-Kazimzumbwi and Ruvu South Forest Reserves is increased by 5% through improved forest management and community engagement. Objective 2: By 2025, at least 10% of project village (target hamlets respectively townships) members benefit from sustainable livelihood activities and support sustainable forest management.

WWF TCO is now looking to engage a consultant (s) to undertake a Feasibility study and Business Plan Development for Community-led Enterprises. The business plans developed will ensure access to sustainable funding on FLR interventions within communities. The Forest Program Coordinator and Project Assistant will guide the data collection and ensure all deliverables are delivered timely to WWF TCO.

Terms of Reference (Tor's) has been prepared to guide the expert (s) on the requirement for this assignment. Interested applicants may get the detailed Terms of Reference (Tor) and specifications via: https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/consultancies_and_tenders/

All applicants should direct their applications to email at procurement@wwftz.org.

Kindly submit your applications within 14 days after first public appearance of this advert.

Only successful applicants will be contacted.

Evaluation of the consultancy applications will be done based on WWF procurement guidelines and WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal/bid.

WWF has a principle of zero tolerance for fraud and corruption, if you encounter such an incident, then report by sending an email to fcci@wwftz.org.

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ASSESSMENT OF HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY AND ENTREPRENEURIAL CAPACITY FOR ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN KILWA AND MKOANI (PEMBA) DISTRICTS

WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF TCO) is highly respected 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 three-year project titled "Sustainable use of mangroves in the Western Indian Ocean project" with funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The project operates in 10 villages in Kilwa and 9 shehias in Pemba, Zanzibar. The project has allocated funds to undertake an assessment of household entrepreneurial capacity for coastal community empowerment in Kilwa and Pemba.

OBJECTIVES
The main objective is to undertake an assessment of household economic vulnerability and entrepreneurial capacity for coastal community empowerment in Kilwa and Pemba.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- (i) Assess community influence about their decisions on use, access, management and decision-making power about their resources (goods and services) in respective villages;
- (ii) Undertake assessment on household social economic vulnerability in respective villages with due consideration of community dependency on natural resources and decision-making power (within the household);
- (iii) Identify and assess the existing household entrepreneurship activities and entrepreneurial capacity for men/women and youth in the project areas;
- (iv) Highlight strengths and weaknesses on entrepreneurial business skills at the household level and determine their potential in engagement in business enterprises;
- (v) Provide recommendations to enhance the entrepreneurial capacity of communities for effective participation in income-generating activities.

EXPECTED OUTPUT AND DELIVERABLES
Upon signing the contract, the consultant(s) are expected to deliver on the following:

- (i) Inception Report: It should cover the consultant's understanding of the ToR, outlining the methodology, work plan, budget and team composition and experience.
- (ii) Final assessment report, including a detailed analysis, key findings, and actionable recommendations.
- (iii) Raw data and secondary data submission.
- (iv) At least 20 high resolution photographs from the field taken during the study.

HOW TO APPLY
All applicants should direct their soft copy of application to the procurement: e-mail at procurement@wwftz.org
Deadline for submission is 2nd April 2024 at 10AM EAT.

Interested applicants may get the detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and specifications through the following websites: https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/.

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 fcci@wwftz.org.

Only successful applicant will be contacted.

Income-generating projects boost conservation efforts across Udzungwa Mountains National Park - funds officer

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE establishment of income generating projects for communities around the Udzungwa Mountains National Park has improved environmental conservation at the area.

Rosemary Boniface, the Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (EAMCEF) Project Officer for Southern Zone made the remarks over the weekend here when speaking with journalists who visited projects that are implemented by the Fund.

She said that the cooperation with people, including providing them with conservation education and alternative ways to earn income by starting environmentally friendly projects, has helped them to stop entering the forest and harvest forest resources.

She stated that the Fund issued a grant at the park, which is among the nine parks found in the eastern arch mountain ranges and the remaining eight conservancies being nature environment reserves under the Tanzania Forest Service Agency (TFS).

"We have been providing various funding in this area for conservation activities such as cleaning borders. We have also been developing tourist infrastructure—constructing tourist camps, and paths to give value to our conservancy," she said. Rosemary also stated: "We have been also empowering communities with various development projects so that they can earn an income and reduce the rate of deforestation in the reserve and one of them is the established dance groups, beekeeping projects, a tourist guides group, women group, who are running restaurant and other

people are getting jobs in the in the park."

He added: "As the fund, we believe that community participation in conservation is an important aspect because we see these communities living in the Mang'ula area and doing these activities including beekeeping have helped them to stop destroying the forest."

Abel Mtui, Chief Park Warden at Udzungwa Mountains National Park said that many tourism activities in the park depend on tourists' walking, so the infrastructure needs money to strengthen it.

Mtui said that the park has been closely working with EAMCEF since 2012 as they have been funding several projects including building key infrastructure and building key marks that shows tourist destinations available in the park.

According to him, the fund has come up with strategies to mitigate impacts of climate change including planting more fruit trees as well as scaling up environmental education to communities around the park.

Ahmed Nassoro, park's tourism officer, cited one of the tourist attractions in the park as Sanje waterfall with 170m, which is higher than others in all the conservancies countrywide.

He said that the area has been attracting many domestic tourists due to its uniqueness.

Zawadi Mafuru, tour guides chairperson at the park said that improvements made in the area have contributed to the increase of tourists annually.

...We have also been developing tourist infrastructure—constructing tourist camps, and paths to give value to our conservancy



Technicians pictured at Mbalizi township in Mbeya Urban District yesterday working on an Ilunga water project pipe meant supply the precious liquid to various parts of the district. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM Regional Sheikh Walid Alhad Omar has hailed Exim Bank for its investments that promote development in the country.

He made the remarks in Dar es Salaam at the weekend at an iftar organised by the bank for its clients. "Exim Bank demonstrates a true commitment to serving its clients and the society at large. The main goal of Ramadan is to bring people together, and tonight, Exim Bank has upheld that goal," he said. Jaffari Matundu, Exim Bank Chief

Bank wins accolades on impactful investments

Executive Officer acknowledged the fruitful relationships between the bank and its clients.

He emphasized the importance of fostering relationships for the wellbeing of the people and development of the country.

"Our customers are more than just clients; they are a vital part of

our family. We consider each of you as a partner and companion in our journey towards success," he said.

"We have made significant upgrades to our banking system to better serve our customers by providing services that align with digital advancements."

He said Exim Bank has also

enhanced its digital services for its customers, enabling them to access banking services wherever they are, both within and outside Tanzania.

"This is aimed at simplifying the accessibility of banking services for our customers and keeping up with the ongoing technological advancements worldwide," he said.

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

CONGRATULATIONS

The Ministry of Energy would like to congratulate you
Hon. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan
on clocking 3 years in your office of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania.
We appreciate your unwavering commitment and tireless efforts to support Energy Sector in our Country.
The Ministry and the entire Tanzanian's wish you all the best.

Issued by:
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TPA TANZANIA PORTS AUTHORITY

3 YEARS IN OFFICE

CONGRATULATIONS

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) wish to congratulate the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, in completing **THREE** successful years in office.
We wish you a good health, prosperity and the very best as you continue to lead the nation.

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Embrace digital marketing, players in culture and creative sector urged

By Correspondent Rose Ngunangwa, Bagamoyo

CULTURE and creative industry stakeholders have been called upon to embrace digital marketing to enhance flow of their goods to other countries.

The call was made here recently during the just-concluded working session organized by UNESCO to discuss on the open roadmap for the implementation of the 2005 Convention in the Digital Environment.

Robert Mwampembwa, a stakeholder in the culture and

innovation sector called upon innovators to be creative and to utilize digital marketing to sell their goods instead of waiting for the government to do so.

Concurrently, he stressed upon the need for the government to come up with a digitalized mechanism to link all the sectors where regulatory authorities will identify where there has been compliance to give fair remuneration to both the government and creators.

He cited the case of sculptors who use wood to create their goods where while en route they must provide the permit to

forestry officials with the latter using the phone to verify while they could have been going online to check it.

For her part, Angela Kilusungu from CDEA called for people to know that online marketing is broad and one must know how to establish business digital marketing and supervise its image online.

“One may simply have an Instagram page yet doesn't post regularly about their goods and services. One must post regularly to create algorithms in the search engine where your business will stand tall whenever they search.

One must respond on time, deliver on time and create a paying system that will not lead people to think you are a conman. Never ever tell a customer to go inbox once they ask for the price as that can kill your business,” stressed Kilusungu.

She called upon the need to provide a proper and detailed profile of business instead of being too general such as saying you are engaged in the clothing business but instead you can be more specific on the type of clothes that you sell.

Gwamaka Mwabuka, Tai Animation studio official called upon cultural officers and those

responsible with the contractual issues to be fast in concluding discussion on potential contracts for Tanzanians to secure opportunities as failure doing so will see potential investors shift to other countries.

“We need to have a database where one can access contracts on trade, investment on tangible and intangible goods, services inclusive of international agreements between our countries with others,” he said.

The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions is a binding international legal

instrument adopted in 2005 by the UNESCO General Conference.

The main objective of the Convention is to support sustainable systems of governance for culture and achieve a balanced flow of cultural goods and services to increase mobility of artists and cultural professionals.

Other goals are to integrate culture in sustainable development frameworks as well as to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The session brought together stakeholders from the culture and creative industries from the mainland and Zanzibar.



INTERNSHIP STUDENT - (SOCIAL ECONOMIST)

THE ORGANIZATION

The Alliance of Bioversity International delivers research-based solutions that harness agricultural biodiversity and sustainably transform food systems to improve people's lives. Alliance solutions address the global crises of malnutrition, climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation.

The Alliance works with local, national and multinational partners across Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Africa, and with the public and private sectors. The Alliance is part of CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food-secure future, dedicated to reducing poverty, enhancing food and nutrition security, and improving natural resources and ecosystem services.

About the position

The Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) is looking for a Social Economist Internship Student to provide timely and efficient support to on-going Alliance Projects in Tanzania.

Main responsibility:

The internship student will support On FarmGS data collection, organizing and data analysis, learn different project operations duties from the on-farm trial data and other researchers.

Key duties & Responsibilities

- Support field survey and breeding teams to organize socioeconomic and gender data of various location OnFarm GS trials.
- Conduct data analysis as guided by the senior reseachers.
- Conduct market analysis as per guidance of socioeconomicist.
- Support the active communication and visibility of the programme (website, social media).
- Support the logistical and organisational output of the programme through invitations, agenda, talking points, power point preparations.
- Support crop researchers on data capture and data storage
- Regularly communicate status and progress made on activity given, developments towards senior reseachers.

- Help maintain and enhance communications on bean breeding and SeedSystem (inter alia: writing messages, posting mailchimp emails, managing listserve names, interfacing with web manager; expanding social media).
- Any other duties that will be assigned related to data collection, analysis and management functions.

Required Qualifications and Experience.

- Recently Completed MSc degree in Agribusiness/Economics, knowledge of Geographical Information System (GIS) will be an added advantage.
- Knowledge on the use of data analysis tool such as R statical software, SPSS, GenStat, and other GIS packages.
- Experience of the use of digital data collection tools such as ODK, Survey CTO will be added advantage.
- Excellent drafting skills, capable of producing high-quality analytical documents and organising and summarizing materials clearly for a variety of audiences.
- High analytical computing skills with good knowledge of MS Office applications.
- Knowledge on data management ethics
- Good communication, written and interpersonal skills and the ability to work effectively in a multicultural team
- Good knowledge of English language.

Terms of employment

This is an internship position based in Arusha, Tanzania. The contract will be for period of six (6) months and is renewable to a maximum of one year depending on performance and availability of resources. Alliance offers a multicultural, collegial research environment with competitive salary and excellent benefits; we believe that the diversity of our staff contributes to excellence. Alliance is an equal opportunity employer and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality.

Applications

Applicants are invited to visit <https://alliancebioversityciat.org/careers> to get full details of the position and to submit their applications. Applications MUST include reference REF: 103448 Intern -Social Economist as the position applied for. Cover letter and CV should be saved as one document using the candidate's last name, first name for ease of sorting. The Alliance collects and process personal data in accordance with applicable data protection laws.

Applications closing date: 26th March 2024

Please note that email applications will not be considered.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

We invite you to learn more about us at:

<http://alliancebioversityciat.org>



SENIOR RESEARCH ASSISTANT - 2 Postions

THE ORGANIZATION

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About the position

The Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) is looking for a qualified Senior Research Assistant to support active projects related to the use modern breeding technologies to assist in bean varieties improvement. The use of genomic selection in plant science has been well established. Specifically, advanced breeding techniques for selection of desirable plant traits for advancement. The Alliance is working to establish breeding program to enhance breeding activities that will enable development of new bean varieties that are more resilient, productive, and nutritious. The Senior Research Assistant will provide advance breeding techniques to promote the breeding research activities.

Key duties & Responsibilities

- Support identification of traits in beans varieties that are desirable for advancement, such as disease resistance, increased yield, or improved growth rates.
- Participate in testing new bean varieties in different growing conditions to determine how well they perform in nature.
- Assist in monitoring and identifying bean diseases and creating strategies to prevent them from spreading to other plants.
- Supporting development of new strains of bean that meet specific criteria, such as increased productivity or improved taste, color and cooking time.
- Participating in selection of the best bean varieties to breed based on desired traits and characteristics.
- Participate in development of breeding strategies to produce bean varieties with the desired characteristics, including selecting parents with desired traits that can be passed on to offspring.
- Ensure timely availability of germplasm inventory reports.
- Conduct and collect necessary data for advanced breeding lines in both greenhouses and in the field locations.
- Maintain bean germplasm in the cold room.
- Good report and journal writing skill is required.
- Analyze the data and report to supervisor on time.
- Supervise daily casual laborers and other subordinate staff.
- Carry out any other duties as maybe required.

Required Qualifications and Experience.

- Fresher MSc level in agronomy, plant sciences, crop production, plant breeding or other related areas of study.
- At least one year experience in breeding activities especially in beans and other related crops will be an added advantage.
- Current knowledge of plant biology, genetics, and breeding
- Good knowledge of trial design, data management, data analysis and statistics
- Basic knowledge of plant pathology and of plant health related to identifying abnormal plant behavior due to biotic and abiotic stresses.
- Experience in data collection and entry, data management, quality assurance, and timely reporting.
- High attention to detail and excellent analytical skills.
- Excellent communication skills in English and Kiswahili
- Computer proficiency including MS Office (Word/ PowerPoint, advanced Excel skills, and SPSS)
- Must be able to work independently with minimum supervision, but also participate as a team member in accomplishment of duties.
- Excellent interpersonal with advanced written and verbal communication skills in English language.
- Strong ability to co-ordinate, prioritize and organize workload; take initiative and work under pressure.
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment.
- Ability to maintain the highest level of integrity and standards of ethics, confidentiality, and professionalism.
- Professional integrity and a high performing team player who can work autonomously, remains accountable and contributes to a positive and cohesive team environment.
- Commitment to Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT's mission and core values.

Critical Experience

- Experience in working practically in the field with Crop Breeding, Agronomy and Pathology
- Experience in managing and analyzing large data sets.

Terms of employment

This position is a nationally recruited position based in Arusha, Tanzania. The initial contract will be for one year subject to a probation period of three months and is renewable depending on performance and availability of resources.

This position is graded at BG 05 level, with a minimum basic salary of 1,119,045.00 Tanzania Shillings in a scale of BG01 to BG14 (BG14 being the highest level according to the Alliance job classification framework policy). We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits including but not limited to insurance, retirement plan, staff training and development, paid time off and flexible working arrangements.

The Alliance Bioversity-CIAT is committed to fair, safe, and inclusive workplaces. We believe that diversity powers our innovation, contributes to our excellence, and is critical for our mission. Recruiting and mentoring staff to create an inclusive organization that reflects our global character is a priority. We encourage applicants from all cultures, races, colors, religions, sexes, national or regional origins, ages, disability statuses, sexual orientations, marital status, and gender identities. Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Applications

Applicants are invited to visit <https://alliancebioversityciat.org/careers> to get full details of the position and to submit their applications. Applications MUST include reference REF: 103452-Senior Research Assistant Arusha as the position applied for. Cover letter and CV should be saved as one document using the candidate's last name, first name for ease of sorting. The Alliance collects and process personal data in accordance with applicable data protection laws.

Applications closing date: 26th March 2024

Please note that email applications will not be considered.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

We invite you to learn more about us at:

<http://alliancebioversityciat.org>



Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) are part of CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food-secure future. Bioversity International is the operating name of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI).

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Colleges deserve understanding, given labour market stagnancy

CHALLENGING universities or colleges to strive to get so innovative as to meet needs of the labour market no longer equals or amounts to seeking to raise their awareness or appreciation of particular issues or trends.

Yet it is being repeated with zest from time to time, and lately the government has challenged colleges and universities to devise and execute strategies to strengthen their performance in innovation and creativity to match the needs of the labour market.

It was an illustration of how such appeals are issued in relation to enterprise or labour.

This concern with educational output and employment is in part a result of saturating policy analysis with social activists who have a penchant for not taking data on unemployment as they stand, instead seeking to convert the data into an input for something else.

It's not that unemployment data are about employers not finding the right people. Rather, the issue is about not having enough jobs for the taking.

This implies that finding jobs becomes increasingly competitive, with faulty social activism converting each job seeker into a 'winner', so long as one adheres to this or that aspect of training, etc.

In like manner, policy makers become stakeholders in modelling - or moulding - graduates into job seekers who will surely be employed merely on the strength of the fact that they have the right skills.

An alternative could be having the graduates use their skills to start projects of their own and even provide jobs to others.

This school basically doesn't think about conditions where many companies are formed in this or that sector if there are conditions for greater demand for their products or services.

That would require them to look at the economy especially critically

to find out what prevents business and industry from blossoming, with manufacturing standing at 8.0 to 8.5 per cent of GDP for decades.

For instance, if one meets with stakeholders and students at a business education college, it would be a bit complicated giving the rationale for providing education that does not meet the needs of the national and international labour markets.

Usually, colleges have external examiners who help to check if the standards of teaching and examining are comparable to elsewhere - regionally or beyond. The labour market needs all sorts of people undergoing this or that course. For instance, one might need a marketing fellow, another an auditing intern, yet another an accounts person, etc.

The college helps with imparting of technical competence but not job skills, as the latter much depends on an employer, having noted a good pass in a certain field.

Talking about having graduates with enough expertise to be accepted by employers wherever they go is singularly misplaced, as that should ordinarily apply to a regular job seeker, for a specific position, not an apprentice or trainee.

This is a sort of 'frequency modulation' with regard to the stunted industrialisation or business growth in general due to a stifling prevalence of protected public corporations in major economic levers.

It may thus be unfair to ask a university or college to institute changes that are in line with time and technology in the field of business, or to build academic and technical capacity for both staff and the students - perhaps "tested" mainly by how many graduates get jobs.

That each college makes an effort in that direction might indeed make them better institutions, but no amount of training or practical exposure would ensure that most of them would get jobs upon graduation. This illusion might just postpone reforms.

Law needed to free nutritional support from market concerns

LARGE numbers of people with children's welfare at heart will have been stunned, not to say shocked, by a directive by the Agriculture minister effectively banning fortified foods from the United States from reaching children in our country.

A section of the Tanzanian media made efforts to place the issue as an appeal to the organisations concerned to seek local supplies rather than having the US fortified food flows banned.

But it was plain from the tone of explanation that the issue was to stop the flow, not to suggest ways of conducting nutritional support differently.

Specifically, the government directed local and international organisations seeking to provide relief food to schools and other needy spheres of society to procure the grain locally.

Explaining that view, the minister went to some length to demonstrate that there is plenty of grain in the country, while fully unaware this wasn't the matter at hand.

The agencies concerned need to find the sort of grain and supplements that can cover the vitamin and protein gap that leads to systematic stunting among our children, but this matter appears unknown to the ministry.

The fact of a large number of schools receiving fortified gain support from the US led to a high-level internal meeting within the ministry, where government officials discussed the issue with the nutrition stakeholders.

It was in a way not a discussion on the pros and cons of the matter, as the other side of issues wasn't visible in later remarks by the minister.

Surprisingly, the meeting was not

specifically called to discuss the matter, but stood more as an event to set out the ministry's priorities and successes achieved in the past three years of the Samia Suluhu Hassan presidency, highlighting budget uplifts.

It was a clear that there was a certain amount of displeasure with reports circulating on social media that fortified rice, pinto beans and sunflower seed oil from the US were being distributed as relief food to schools in Dodoma and Mara regions.

This displeasure is fairly common within major state agencies out to take up what NGOs do on the ground, especially if the matter at hand is of particular interest to them. It is as if the real idea was that the money should have been handed to the ministry for them to do the job.

Social media reports explained that, beyond providing nutritious meals, students at the 300-plus participating schools would also start school gardens applying rainwater harvesting techniques.

The donor agencies were keen enough to point out that this initiative is a fully replicable model, reflecting US government commitment to fostering health, education and opportunity for children across the globe.

It was a bit ironical hearing that this is about selling corn or rice, period, such that it can be procured locally irrespective of the level of nutritional quality.

While the media are repeatedly asked to toe a patriotic line on public issues, it takes a lot of effort refusing nutritious grain and supplements on the ground that they were imported.

Usually, the one behind an act of charity can elect to take supplies from literally any source deemed safe, reliable or secure.

IT IS A HOLY MONTH



SA's 2024 elections must be strongly prepared for a flurry of online influence and disinformation

By Karen Allen

AS South Africa goes to the polls on 29 May, online campaigning is expected to play an unprecedented role in the high-stakes contest. While the online space can inform about parties' policies and manifestos, the risk of disinformation - intentional distortion of information - is considerable. About 26 million people use social media in South Africa, and the number is rising.

The World Economic Forum identifies misinformation and disinformation as top global short-term risks. Disinformation threatens democracy by eroding the checks and balances that underpin open societies. So how can South Africa guard against influence operations, while protecting freedom of expression?

Information integrity is not simply about what is said online, but how it's said. As one politician remarked at a recent conference on disinformation hosted by the European Union, Spain and Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in Cape Town, the creation of echo chambers by influence merchants creates the "false impression of being informed". With many traditional media houses putting content behind paywalls, citizens may turn to social media for their news, which in many instances is unverified.

The creation of digitally contrived 'communities' can be used to perpetuate prejudice, hatred and violence. Witness the xenophobic rhetoric of Operation Dudula - a movement that started online and has morphed into a political party.

In its extreme form, disinformation is defined as information warfare. Globally, the key players are classified according to motivation or location. They may be driven by political ideology, commercial gain or recreational 'kicks' and satire.

Home-grown product influencers - like those seen in an ISS study of online influence during Kenya's 2022 poll - pivot their carefully groomed audiences towards political narratives during election season. These influencers use their 'prepackaged' audience to command considerable payment by simply creating a hashtag, liking a post, or sharing content with embedded political messaging.

Product influencers' messages may be as blunt as 'Vote for candidate X' right through to persuading users not to vote at all. These influencers aren't politically aligned but commercially driven. They are used from time to time, the ISS study shows, by foreign clients



and domestic political actors.

Other types of influencers include political strategists, external nation states or their proxies. They 'stir the pot' online to achieve domestic political or geopolitical objectives - tapping into racial, economic and religious divisions or simply sowing confusion or fear on election day. During last year's Democratic Republic of the Congo elections, Code for Africa identified various techniques, from creating confusion over the electoral process to homophobic slurs against one of the candidates.

Democracy overshadowed

Whether foreign or local, disinformation threatens democracies. Campaigns often seek to delegitimise electoral authorities or rubbish professional mainstream media, whose job is to hold power to account. Both tactics were used in Kenya's 2022 polls.

The Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa seeks to insulate itself from such moves by establishing ground rules and principles for social media use during elections.

Although some techniques used in Kenya may be deployed in South Africa, the latter's geopolitical position and robust professional media may result in a different dynamic. South Africa's historic ties to Russia, and divisions over the Ukraine-Russia and Israel-Gaza conflicts, provide fertile ground for foreign friends and foes of the country's political elite to meddle.

The challenge will be how to respond swiftly and proportionately. Plausible deniability is the disinformation merchant's friend. And in democracies such as South Africa, robust online engagement is par for the course.

South Africa's experience of Bell Pottinger, the United Kingdom-based public relations firm that used racial fault lines to drive the Gupta's white monopoly capital narrative,

has perhaps primed voters to expect online meddling during elections. Bell Pottinger showed that external influence campaigns aren't the preserve of undemocratic states. Its antics resulted in professional and political consequences in the UK - an unlikely outcome in authoritarian states.

AI intervention

In the current environment, now supercharged with artificial intelligence (AI), Russia is accused number one in information operations, using experience from its international troll farm - the Internet Research Agency. Russia also appears to consider Africa an attractive target, given the weak checks and balances in many of the continent's fragile democracies.

The Africa Center for Strategic Studies identified 23 campaigns targeting Africa since 2014; 16 linked to Russia. The Digital Forensic Research Lab warns that the "political and social instability caused by influence operations" has ramifications beyond countries' borders.

As campaigning in South Africa ramps up, already a video 'deepfake' of former United States President Donald Trump apparently claiming to support the new uMkhonto weSizwe party may be a harbinger of what's to come. Given AI advances, sophisticated 'deepfakes' using audio, video and text, distributed at scale and at speed, may make it hard for mainstream media and other watchdogs to react timeously.

The European Union has just voted on landmark legislation seeking to control AI use, but some say it doesn't go far enough. Legal regulations are probably unsuitable in an African context where many countries don't have the 'institutional strength' to make them work.

There is also the risk that an overzealous state might target legitimate conversations on social

media, as happened during Nigeria's #EndSARS campaign. A partnership approach that promotes public digital literacy would probably be more practical than new laws.

Protecting South Africa and Africa against information manipulation should include building resilience in the mainstream media. In the short term, that means ensuring that traditional media don't inadvertently amplify influence campaigns by being drawn into online echo chambers.

Fact-checking organisations such as Africa Check debunk disinformation at source and develop a coalition of fact-checkers to identify disinformation early. In Kenya, early detection helped limit attempts at voter suppression. South Africa should do the same.

Engaging directly with social media platforms may also work. The South African National Editors' Forum, Media Monitoring Africa and the electoral commission have jointly called on the major social media platforms to "co-create a conducive information environment in the upcoming elections". They acknowledge the existential threat disinformation can pose to democracies.

Part of their agreement is to create a complaints platform, Real411, to enable a swift response to online harms. The onus will be on social media platforms to proactively remove content and issue 'advisory warnings' when potential harms are identified.

To date, motivating the social media industry to understand the African context in which information operations thrive has been hard. With its geopolitical prominence and expanding tech marketplace, South Africa is well positioned to profile these concerns with Google, TikTok, Meta and other social media enterprises.

Karen Allen, Consultant, Institute for Security Studies (ISS) Pretoria.

By Telesphor Magobe

Major breakthrough as Samia completes three years in office

TODAY Samia Suluhu Hassan (SSH) completes three years as President of the United Republic of Tanzania, the post she has held since March 19, 2021. She was Vice-President from 2015 to 2021 and assumed office by virtue of Article 37(5) of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania (as amended until 2005) after the sudden demise of President John Magufuli on March 17, 2021.

Dr Magufuli served as President of the United Republic of Tanzania from 2015 to 2021 and his roaring success stories are acknowledged. SSH is being referred to as a soft spoken President, but who means what she says.

After she assumed office she vowed to complete major projects, which started before her and said more other projects would be started to meet the current needs of the country. All major projects are in good progress. Evidently, since 2021, SSH has elevated Tanzania to new heights.

SSH has opened up Tanzania to economic diplomacy and at the same time her government is building the internal economic base by collecting more tax and creating a friendly investment environment that attracts both local and foreign investors.

Tanzania is one of the five countries with the most inequality-reducing tax systems on income, according to The Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index 2022. Other countries are Ireland, Kenya, Lesotho and Argentina. These top 5 performers are referred to as the countries with "the most progressive tax impact".

The CRI Index 2022 looks at world governments' policies and actions in three areas (pillars) which are crucial to reducing the level of inequality, namely 1) public services (health, education and social protection), 2) taxation and 3) labour rights

SSH's travels to both developed and developing countries have enabled her to meet with various world leaders and investors and create new friends. Her contribution to finding solutions to both global and regional challenges by participating in various high level conferences is commendable for it is through this that world leaders can lead their people in creating a better world for their people by thinking globally and acting locally.

The world leaders and investors she meets are impressed with what she shares with them about Tanzania and some of them have promised to visit the country and invest in various sectors of the economy. Others have come to see by themselves trading and investment opportunities Tanzania offers to the world.

In relation to this, on November 30, 2022 Tanzania in partnership with UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and UNDP launched the first-ever SDG Investor Map for Tanzania, a market intelligence tool which helps investors to identify investment opportunities in key sectors of the economy and make clear actionable data that combines impact and profit.

The SDG Investor Map for Tanzania offers 13 investment opportunity areas (IOAs) across five priority investment sectors, namely agriculture, renewable and alternative en-



President Samia Suluhu Hassan was the 5th African woman President to address the 76th session of the UN General Assembly in New York in September 2021 since the UN's founding on October 24, 1945.

ergy, infrastructure, services and education.

On internationalism, SSH has put Tanzania on the map. She was the 5th African woman President to address the UN General Assembly's 76th session in New York in September 2021 since the UN's founding on October 24, 1945. Other women Presidents known to have addressed the UN General Assembly include former Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (2006), former Malawian President Joyce Hilda Banda (2012), former Central African Republic President Catherine Samba-Panza (2014) and former Ethiopian President Sahle-Work Zewde (2019).

In her maiden speech to the UN General Assembly SSH called for global vaccine equity amidst appalling vaccine inequality. She said with such a trend, it was less likely developing countries would meet the WHO threshold of vaccinating at least 40 per cent of their people by the end of 2021 and at least 70 per cent by the first half of 2022.

She also spoke of gender equality, acknowledging that: "As the first female President in the history of Tan-

zania, the burden of expectation to deliver gender equality is heavier on my shoulders. Being passionate about gender equality is insufficient and as such, my government is reviewing policy and legal frameworks in order to come up with actionable and measurable plans to ensure economic empowerment of women and other aspects pertaining to gender equality and parity." President Magufuli announced in 2017 that no pregnant schoolgirl would be allowed to continue with formal education after delivery and although he was widely criticised by human rights and gender activists in and outside Tanzania he remained adamant.

He, however, said the pregnant schoolgirls who wished to continue with education after delivery could do so through distance learning, but not formal education. But SSH lifted it and since then schoolgirls who are impregnated during their schooling are allowed to continue with their studies after delivery.

This contributes to inclusive education as even girls who could have dropped out of school because of pregnancy are entitled to formal education as other schoolchildren.

While her predecessor had almost stifled the right to

freedom of expression and assembly and there were many police cases of illegal assembly and sedition during his regime, cases of persons held over illegal assembly or sedition allegations are rare this time.

The main opposition party, Chadema, has launched country-wide demonstrations in big cities starting in Dar es Salaam and nobody has been held over illegal assembly or sedition allegations as it used to be before SSH assumed office. Dr Magufuli had vowed to crack down on opposition parties in the country, but SSH wants all political parties to exercise their constitutional and political rights, provided what they do is within legal bounds. This has given a welcome breathing-space, which opposition parties and critics did not enjoy during Dr Magufuli's regime.

It is also during SSH's leadership that Chadema Vice-President Tundu Lissu, who had fled the country and sought political asylum in Belgium, announced to return home and continue with party politics as before. He indeed did so. In this regard, there is more breathing-space during SSH's regime than it used to be in Dr Magufuli's.

SSH has been making appointments of various government officials, including judges, because she believes both men and women can be appointed to serve in high positions. In her appointments she has always been gender-sensitive, which has increased confidence in women and those appointed in various capacities whether as regional or district commissioners or directors or judges are doing a commendable job.

This has made Tanzania shine globally as it is one of the three countries with a high number of females in the workforce in the world, according to a 2023 report based on 2022 World Bank data. Rwanda (83 per cent), Madagascar (82 per cent) and Tanzania (80 per cent) are three sub-Saharan African countries, whose female labour force participation is ranked higher than comparable countries in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and South America.

It suffices to say that this feature article does neither intend to exhaust what SSH has done in Tanzania nor compare her with her predecessor in three years of office, but it provides a quick glimpse of some of SSH's roaring success stories since 2021 to date.

President Samia sees education as an engine of socio-economic development

By Thomas Lyimo

STEPPING into power in 2021, President Samia had to embrace two agendas as it would be the case for any first female president in a country. The agendas are women empowerment and proving capable of leading the country in a manner that retains hopes for Tanzanians.

She managed to put her efforts in a sector that would help her achieve the fulfillment of the two agendas. The sector is education.

There is no women empowerment without considering education. Much of the broadening opportunities for women as women empowerment requires is the provision of education. Women can well define their position when they are educated. It is when someone has identified their position that they can define positions of others and come up with a kind of approach which can lead to their development.

Decisions by the president to invest in education might be the belief that if you educate a woman you educate the entire society. When all girls who pass their primary school examinations join secondary school, it is a great achievement in the move for women empowerment.

Some development theorists posit that for a country to be seen as developed or advanced it must have huge investment in education and health sectors. President Samia must have justified this assertion and hence place much emphasis on education sector as it is the one which carries the strength of the government after mentioning health when we consider the views of some development theorists.

The defects in the education sector can easily be seen as it touches lives of every citizen. Therefore dealing with the challenges in education sector with much energy has helped the government retain its status. This is because there is no socio-economic emancipation without investment in education.

There is strength in the ability to reason properly due to acquiring of good education. President Samia's awareness on the power of education in shaping the lives of people is what has forced her to do the following in the education sector.

One of the achievements of president Samia in education sector is construction of 15,000 classrooms using the 304bn/- COVID relief fund. This decision enabled all pupils who passed primary school examination in 2020 to join secondary school in 2021.

Nothing was bad like hearing that pupils have passed but there are no classrooms to accommodate them. President Samia decided to end this story and opening a new chapter in the move to improve education in the country.

The second achievement in the sector is extension of free education to Advanced Level secondary education (Form Five & Six). There shall no more be a narration of pupils passing the examination and missing chances to continue with studies.

Currently, the opportunity to get education is open for



everyone as there are no school free barriers as it was the case in the past. When the majority attend schools is when the nation can get the best graduates who can uplift the socio-economic development of the country.

The third achievement in the education sector since President Samia took over power is the increased budget for loans to students in higher learning institutions. For instance the amount of money allocated for higher learning students in the 2021/2022 academic year was 570bn/- compared to 464bn/- in 2020/2021 academic year. The decision aimed to ensure that no students from poor families fail to continue with education at higher learning institutions.

The fourth achievement is increased subsistence allowance for students at higher education learning institutions from 8,500/- to 10,000/-. When stu-

dents are able to afford their basic needs, it gives them peace of mind thus concentrate much on their studies. Individuals who are trained to serve the nation should study in a good condition that will promote good results.

However, allowing teen mothers back to class is an achievement that President Samia recorded in her three years tenure. To successfully empower women there must be efforts to broaden opportunities for women to shape their future lives.

These teen mothers who have been deprived of the right to education due to pregnancy may be a burden to the society in future. It is better to treat a wound earlier before it becomes worse by enabling them access education to enable them stand on their own in facing life challenges.

Again teachers' employment is a proof that President Samia values education. It is a waste of time

to talk of improving education if there are no enough teachers. All the efforts of building classrooms and improving curricula become a loss if there are no teachers to teach students. The evidence for the struggle to provide employment to teachers is the 13,130 employment opportunities which were announced for teachers last year.

Education is among the sectors which exerts a lot of pressure to the country's administration. This is the reason why the president has spent her three years in power dealing with the challenges of the sector to enhance stability in the country. It is important to help everyone attain skills and knowledge that will help them compete in life. Leading is saving people from ignorance.

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Three years in office: President Samia elevates tourism in the southern circuit

By Guardian Reporter

THE country's tourism industry continues to grow at a rapid pace with the number of visitors increasing tremendously. The growth is attributed to the various interventions the government has been taking which include improving infrastructures at national parks, enhancing conservation efforts as well as creating a conducive business and investment climate.

Today, as President Samia Suluhu Hassan clocks three years since she took over the top office, her government has made a number of interventions to improve the sector.

One of the major things that the government through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism is doing is implementation of the Resilient Natural Resources for Growth Project (REGROW), the \$150 million (350bn/-) World Bank funded project that aims to improve tourism in the southern circuit targeting four Southern Highlands national parks—Ruaha, Mikumi, Udzungwa and Nyerere.

Recent official government statistics indicate that the number of tourists recorded as of last February has surpassed the 2023/2024 annual target, four months ahead with the country receiving 1,451,176 tourists, surpassing the target by 4.6 per cent. Plans were to receive 1,387,987 foreign and domestic tourists between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

The sector is envisaged to employ a total of 1,750,000 people from the current 1,500,000, while the share of foreign exchange earnings in percentage will rise to 27 from the current 25.

New Airstrips

Through the REGROW project, the government is working to improve infrastructures at the Ruaha National Park (RUNAPA) including construction of two airstrips—Kiganga and Ukwaheri to be able to accommodate big planes with up to 50 passengers, noting the currently existing airstrip can only accommodate planes with 14 passengers.

Eng Daniel Malima, Project Supervisor told The Guardian that upon completion, the Kiganga airstrip will be able to accommodate planes with up to 50 passengers, noting the currently existing airstrip can only accommodate planes with 14 passengers. "We are thankful to President Samia as the project is going to increase the number of visitors at our park. Currently at 45 percent of implementation, the airstrip construction project will be implemented within 14 months and is expected to be completed by August this year," stated Eng Malima, adding the project is executed by China Henan International Cooperation Group (CHICO) in collaboration with a local construction firm—Howard Consulting Limited.

The new airport will have a 1.8 kilometres runway, a 24,000 square kilometres apron with a capacity to accommodate seven planes at once as well as a terminal building with a capacity to accommodate 140 people and a parking lot for 90 vehicles.

Under REGROW, the government is also planning to construct a number of roads (900 kilometres) that connect the park with bordering regions. Only 30 per cent of the park is currently reached due to poor road networks.

"Ruaha is the second largest National Park in the country covering 19,822 square kilometres. It will now have an information centre where tourists can get a lot of information before touring the park. Plans are also to have a research centre, this will help us in discovering new resources that will add up to the available attractions," added Eng Malima, adding that drivers and tour guides will also have new housings.

Tourist arrivals and attractions

Godwell Meing'ataki, Ruaha National Park Conservation Commissioner said the park is known for its convergence vegetation zone with unusual combinations of animals including the greater and lesser Kudu and antelopes. The park's name was derived from the Great Ruaha River, which flows along its south-eastern margin and is the focus for game-viewing.

According to him, the park is a home to animals



Hippos are among the unusual combination of animals found at the Ruaha National Park

such as elephants, zebras, lions, giraffes, wild dogs, cheetah, ostrich, grants gazelles, striped hyena, sable antelopes, crocodiles and hippopotamus that are found in the Great Ruaha River. The area is endowed with over 500 bird species which are mostly found in the Usungu valley.

"The six phase government has embarked on improving the sector in the southern circuit considering the importance of available attractions and its contribution to the national economy. Decisions by President Samia to produce the 'Royal Tour' film has seen us receiving a good number of both foreign and local tourists," said, Meng'ataki.

He added: "There is an increased trend of local visitors compared to previous years; we received 16,800 tourists in the financial year that ended June 2023. Of the number, 8,000 were foreigners and 7,000 from Tanzania and other East African partner states."

According to him, interventions such as the REGROW project will see the park receiving more tourists, thus contributing heavily to government coffers. In the fiscal year that ended June 30th 2023, the park earned 4.6bn/-. He said that before the outbreak of COVID-19, revenues could reach 4.7bn/- annually, but the amount declined to 1.8bn/- during COVID era.

Combating poaching and illegal wildlife trade

Poaching is still a challenge with poachers killing elephants, giraffes and buffaloes, said the Conservation Commissioner as he acknowledged President Samia for providing them with 11 vehicles and other items for enhanced patrols within the park.

"We are also expecting to receive ultra-modern drones to facilitate patrols. Our rangers have been collaborating with police officers and other security organs in anti-poaching campaigns," he said, noting through educational campaigns, a total of 14 traditional weapons were surrendered.

He added: "The problem is big, there are those who kill elephants for meat, most of them use traditional weapons, which its possession is a legal offense. The meat is sold raw and sometimes dried and sold in areas far from the park"

Meng'ataki said school children are also involved in the anti-poaching campaigns whereas pupils are educated on negative impacts and health risks associated with consumption of wild

meat. He said villagers are also involved because they are the ones to provide information on the presence of poachers in the specific areas.

He said illegal wildlife trade also involves cutting down indigenous trees within the park, something which affects the ecosystem, thus posing threat to animal's survival.

There is another type of poaching where some people have been cutting down the seal trees in the reserve.

Community empowerment programs

The park is also implementing an empowerment program—Community Conservation Bank (COCOBA) to ensuring villagers benefit from conservation activities. The program is meant to reduce villager's encroachment in the park as they had been illegally hunting wild animals and cutting trees for firewood and charcoal.

Ruaha National Park is surrounded with more than 84 villages in the sides of Dodoma, Singida, Mufindi in Iringa Regional and Mbarali in Mbeya Region. Through COCOBA, villagers are assisted to form groups where a number of income generating projects such as beekeeping, cattle fattening, batik tie and dye, traditional food catering services and agriculture.

Priscus Mrosso is the Community Relations Officer at RUNAPA, he said: "We collaborate with the villagers in conservation activities. We implement the COCOBA initiative in 16 out of the 84 villages. Apart from empowering them economically, we also provide scholarships to students as well as training of Village Game Scouts (VGS)."

Mrosso said REGROW provides funds for implementation of group's project. The funds are disbursed on phases whereas the first five villages have already received 820m/-. The villages are Tungamalenga, Itunundu, Chemigulu, Kinyika and Mayuninga. Over 287m/- have been given to the groups as seed money to boost their savings.

"These development projects have largely helped in reducing poaching and encroachment challenges; Villagers from Tungamalenga village were mostly linked with the illegal activities within the park, a situation which has now changes because villagers have alternative income generating activities," said Mo-

rosso.

He noted that more than 29 students from Tungamalenga village have been sponsored at colleges and universities, while the number exceeds 200 in all the 16 villages. Over 680bn/- have been spent under the educational scholarship program.

"In total, REGROW has provided over 2bn/- to villagers in the 16 villages—the money includes funds for implementation of group's projects, seed money and student's scholarships," added the officer.

Secretary of the Kordun group in Tungamalenga village, Janeth Mtambile said they received 29.1m/- for a cattle fattening project whereas they have started to construct cattle sheds.

"As we wait for the sheds to be completed; we have already purchased 16 cattle. Our plans are to sell the fattened cattle after every six months," said Mtambile as she commends the government for empowering them economically.

Batista Kayombo is the Secretary of the "Tembo Pilipli" group in Tungamalenga village; he acknowledges the support from the government through the REGROW project, saying the received 15m/- have enabled them to expand their chilli farm to five acres.

"We also a 4.3m/- seed money to support our COCOBA group; members can conveniently access loans for their personal businesses. We are thankful to the government because our welfare has improved and we can take our children to private schools," he added.

Gerald Mbande from Vision group said: "We are now seeing the benefits of conservation. We have been educated on entrepreneurship skills and financial management. We can keep records our business and funds accordingly."

Tungamalenga Village Executive Officer, Linus Mheluka said: "We are witnessing changes amongst villagers; most of them have constructed better houses and have established small businesses. A total of 57m/- have been provided as seed money to seven groups. Individuals can now get a loan of up to 7m/- of which they repay in phases for nine months."

The REGROW drive is expected to reach 61 villages around the four national parks, linking key conservation institutions and other stakeholders, namely the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI), the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), the Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB), the Tanzania Forest Service (TFS), the National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) and the Rufiji Basin Water Board (RBWB).



On-going construction of an information centre at the Ruaha National Park

Achievements of TADB during the 3-Year Leadership of H.E. President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan President of the Sixth Administration of the United Republic of Tanzania

Tanzania's sixth phase administration, led by H.E. President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, continues to give top priority to agriculture as a sure means to raise the country's GDP and standards of living, to strengthen food security, to create jobs by taking active steps to ensure timely and affordable availability of agricultural inputs and to support markets for agricultural products both locally and internationally

During her three-year tenure, President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan has bolstered and strengthened the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB), making it a key institution in promoting agricultural development in the country through financial services, as follows:

ACCESS TO FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, AND LIVESTOCK

TADB's capital has been increased from TZS 60 billion to TZS 435.4 billion from 2021 to 2023/2024, representing a 625% increase this complement to the various efforts to ensure that TADB promotes economic growth in the country through agriculture by increasing the bank's capital directly impacts the bank's efforts to transform and revolutionize agriculture from subsistence farming to commercial agriculture

- In 2021, upon assuming office, the President provided the bank with a capital injection of TZS 208 billion, increasing the bank's capital to TZS 268 billion.
- In 2022, during her visit to France, President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan secured funding for TADB from the French Development Agency (AFD) of Euro 80 million, equivalent to TZS 210 billion.
- For the financial year 2023/2024, the government through the African Development Bank (AfDB) has signed agreements to provide the bank with capital worth TZS 167.4 billion (equivalent to US \$66 million).
- In the financial year 2023/2024, the government through the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries has allocated TZS 25.175 billion to TADB to implement a strategic project aimed at providing loans for modern boats, seaweed farming, and fish farming through cages.

Furthermore, through the budgetary process of the 2023/2024 fiscal year, the government has pledged to implement a plan to empower TADB with a capital of not less than TZS 1 trillion over five to ten years to enhance the efficiency of lending activities in agricultural, fisheries, and livestock value chains.

PERFORMANCE, GROWTH, AND LENDING OF TADB DURING THE 3-YEAR LEADERSHIP OF H.E. PRESIDENT DR. SAMIA SULUHU HASSAN.

Access to financial resources, capital increase, and conducive operational environment for TADB resulting from deliberate efforts by H.E. President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan and her government have had positive effects on TADB by enabling the bank to reach out to many farmers, including increased lending, financial education, and the importance of agribusiness in line with government priorities in transforming the agricultural, livestock, and fisheries sectors as follows:

LOAN DISBURSEMENT:

The bank has benefited a total of 1,066,493 farmers by providing them with agricultural loans, of which 941,738 farmers have directly benefited from loans totaling TZS 457.3 billion and 124,755 farmers have benefited from loan guarantees through the Smallholder Credit Guarantee Scheme (SCGS) totaling TZS 206.54 billion in loans disbursed across 38 value chains in 27 regions and 125 districts nationwide.

ments with a total of 16 commercial banks and financial institutions through the Smallholder Credit Guarantee Scheme (SCGS) to collaborate in providing loans in the agriculture, livestock, and fisheries value chains.

The availability of funds and capital for TADB has strengthened financial services and facilitated access to loans for farmers, fishermen, and livestock keepers, opening up opportunities and further developing business growth along the value chain in the livestock, agriculture, and fisheries sectors in the country, leading to the bank's growth as follows:

- The value of the bank's assets has increased by 74.25% from TZS 362.8 billion in 2021 to TZS 620.2 billion in December 2023.
- The loan portfolio has grown by 173.84% from TZS 120.8 billion in 2021 to TZS 330.8 billion in December 2023.
- Through the support of the sixth administration, TADB has expanded its reach by opening new zonal offices from three (3) in 2021 to seven (7) by February 2024.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

The bank has continued to implement various development projects involving financing for agriculture, livestock, and fisheries; providing advisory services; and capacity building for farmers and

other financial institutions as follows:

- Building a Better Tomorrow (BBT) Project: TADB has participated in the planning and implementation of the Building a Better Tomorrow for Youth Initiative by providing agricultural equipment to project beneficiaries and preparing to ensure that youth beneficiaries can access financial services through TADB and other partner banks. TADB's involvement aligns with the vision of the President to create jobs for youth through agriculture.
- Tanzania Inclusive Producer-Processor Partnership (Ti3P) Project: Ti3P is a strategic project implemented by the bank in the dairy industry in collaboration with partners (Land O' Lakes Venture 37 and Heifer International). The project implementation has been funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) in partnership with TADB.

By October 31, 2023, TADB has disbursed loans worth TZS 20.25 billion to dairy processors and producers and provided grants worth TZS 257.26 million to small-scale dairy producers from 368 cooperatives that received loans from 9 cooperatives in 69,062 dairy producers (19,070 women) have received training and extension services to increase productivity and milk production levels.

Through this project, TADB has successfully mobilized 20,612 dairy producers (4,595 women) to form 888 dairy producer groups and 40 coopera-

tive dairy producer groups that collect a total of 11,787 liters of milk per day.

Furthermore, the project has revived Liquid Nitrogen Production Machines in Mwanza and Zanzibar to ensure the availability of Artificial Insemination services for dairy farmers to obtain superior breeds of dairy cows and increase milk production.

- Support Program for Access to Better Fishing Tools (Boats and Cages) the sixth administration through the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries has allocated TZS 25.175 billion to TADB to implement a strategic project aimed at providing loans for modern boats, seaweed farming, and fish farming through cages.
- Capacity building and technical assistance (TA) Programs for Financial Institutions to lend in the Agriculture Sector:

Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank Limited (TADB) is a government institution operating under the Ministry of Finance. Established in 2012, TADB is registered under the Companies Act, 2002 and licensed under the provisions of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act No. 5 of 2006 and the Banking and Financial Institutions (Development Finance) Regulations, 2012 with two main objectives:

To Contribute to the achievement of sustainable food self-sufficiency and Transformation of agriculture from subsistence to commercial, in order to effectively and sustainably contribute to economic growth and poverty reduction.



The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of TADB wishes to extend their heartfelt congratulations to the President of the United Republic of Tanzania Her Excellence Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan for her invaluable contribution and support to agricultural transformation in the country over three years in office.

Ahsante Mama

Miaka ya 3
mama

Kazi iendeleee!

President Samia's tenure steers Tanzania through challenges and political progress

By Adonis Byemelwa

AS President Samia Suluhu Hassan clocks her third year in office, Tanzania stands at a pivotal crossroads. Since assuming power on March 19, 2021, President Samia's performance, policies, and commitment to the R4 philosophy have been central to bolstering democracy in the nation.

In a notable departure from the past, President Samia has fostered a conducive environment for political deliberation and decision-making, allowing for demonstrations and public engagement. Recently, the main opposition party Chadema held demonstrations in three major regions of Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, and Mbeya, a testament to the newfound political openness under her administration.

President Samia's emphasis on confidence and dialogue, as expressed in her early days in office, reflects her commitment to inclusive governance and progress for all Tanzanians. This approach has been evident in the peaceful conduct of demonstrations, where even opposition leaders have affirmed the absence of harm to any participants.

This marked departure from the previous administration's stance underscores President Samia's dedication to democratic principles and reform. Unlike her predecessor, President Samia has sought to link the legitimacy of her government to democratic reforms, prioritizing dialogue and cooperation over repression.

As Deputy Prime Minister Dr Doto Biteko's convoy met with Chadema demonstrations, both sides continued their respective journeys without disturbance, illustrating a continued understanding of President Samia's R4 principles by stakeholders in Tanzanian democracy.

Despite President Samia's efforts to strengthen democracy and foster inclusive governance, her leadership faces significant challenges and criticisms. Allegations of corruption, internal divisions within her ruling party, and demands for electoral reforms from opposition parties like Chadema have cast doubt on her commitment to restoring faith in Tanzanian politics.

Moreover, seasoned advisors and former government officials have raised alarms about the direction of her administration. Concerns about allegations of corruption, erosion of ethical standards, and perceptions of personal benefit within the ruling party have led to increased scrutiny and skepticism regarding President Samia's leadership. These challenges underscore the complexities and tensions inherent in navigating Tanzania's political landscape while striving to uphold democratic principles and accountability.

In a pivotal moment for her presidency, President Samia's ability to address these criticisms and navigate Tanzania through enduring power outages, escalating sugar prices, and rising unemployment will shape her legacy and the future of Tanzanian politics. As the nation watches closely, the stakes for her leadership have never been higher.

Against this backdrop, President Samia's response to these challenges and her efforts to restore public trust in the party's leadership will be closely scrutinized. The world watches as she grapples with the complexities of governance and public perception, knowing that true leadership is measured not only by words but by actions that inspire trust, confidence, and progress.

Top of Form

Amidst of growing concerns about the direction of President Samia's administration raised by critics within the ruling party, Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM), her commitment to restoring faith in Tanzanian politics and democracy remains in focus. However, challenges persist, particularly regarding proposed electoral reforms contested by opposition parties like Chadema.

Chadema's demands for substantial electoral reforms reflect broader calls for a fair and transparent electoral process. The success of their nationwide protests is seen



President Samia Suluhu Hassan during her meeting with Chadema National Chairman Freeman Mbowe at the State House in Dar es Salaam on March 4th, 2022.

as a measure of President Samia's commitment to fulfilling her promise of democratic reforms, setting the stage for a critical period in Tanzanian politics.

As President Samia navigates these domestic challenges, her diplomatic engagement underscores the country's growing global stature. Scheduled state visits to Indonesia, the Vatican, and Norway, alongside visits from foreign leaders including the Deputy Prime Minister of China, Liu Guozhong, demonstrate Tanzania's strategic cooperation with key international partners.

Minister for Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation, January Makamba, highlighted the significance of these visits in deepening cooperation across various sectors, including trade, investment, tourism, energy, diplomacy, good governance, health, and technology. President Samia's diplomatic endeavors aim to bolster relations with Indonesia, Vatican City, and Norway, marking significant milestones in bilateral cooperation.

President Samia's visits to Indonesia, from January 24 to 26, follows an invitation from her counterpart, Mr. Joko Widodo, and seeks to enhance diplomatic and economic ties in trade, investment, agriculture, energy, mineral, livestock, and the blue economy. Similarly, her visit to the Vatican, from February 11 to 12, in response to an invitation from Pope Francis, reaffirms Tanzania's longstanding diplomatic relations with the Holy See.

Furthermore, President Samia's visits to Norway, from February 13 to 14, commemorate 60 years of bilateral cooperation between the two nations. Scheduled bilateral talks with King Helard and participation in the Tanzania-Norway Business Forum and the Oslo Energy Symposium highlight the multifaceted nature of the partner-

ship between Tanzania and Norway.

In addition to these state visits, Tanzania is set to receive foreign dignitaries, including Cuban Vice-President, Mr. Salvador Valdes Mesa, and Polish President, Andrzej Duda. Mesa's visit aims to strengthen bilateral ties and collaboration in various sectors, including healthcare and environmental conservation, reflecting Tanzania's longstanding relationship with Cuba.

Meanwhile, Duda's visit underscores the potential for expanded cooperation between Tanzania and Poland, particularly in infrastructure projects, wildlife conservation, education, water management, environmental conservation, trade, investment, security, and defense.

These diplomatic engagements not only showcase Tanzania's commitment to fostering international partnerships but also highlight President Samia's diplomatic acumen and leadership on the global stage. Amidst domestic challenges, her engagement with foreign leaders underscores Tanzania's role as a key player in regional and global affairs.

As President Samia Suluhu Hassan continues navigating the complexities of governance and domestic politics, her diplomatic efforts can enhance Tanzania's economic development, strengthen bilateral ties, and reaffirm the country's commitment to democratic values and international cooperation.

In her tenure spanning three pivotal years, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has navigated Tanzania through a myriad of challenges while steadfastly steering the nation toward a brighter future. Under her leadership, Tanzania has witnessed remarkable strides in diplomacy, economic growth, and healthcare reform, alongside confronting daunting obstacles head-on.

President Samia's adept diplomatic engagements have underscored Tanzania's resilience on the global stage, positioning the nation as a prominent player in

Africa and beyond. Her commitment to fostering international relationships has not only bolstered Tanzania's standing but also paved the way for strategic partnerships crucial for economic development.

Economically, President Samia's policies have been instrumental in fostering an environment conducive to foreign investment and driving robust growth, with the services and industry sectors emerging as key drivers. The long-awaited progress on the cross-border oil project with Uganda signals a promising future for energy collaboration and economic advancement.

However, amidst these triumphs, Tanzania grapples with deep-rooted healthcare disparities and systemic challenges. The signing of the Universal Health Insurance Bill marked a significant milestone, yet concerns linger regarding its implementation and equitable coverage, particularly in light of regional discrepancies and ongoing struggles within the healthcare system.

As President Samia's tenure progresses, addressing these pressing issues becomes increasingly imperative. Collaborative efforts must be intensified to ensure every Tanzanian has access to quality and affordable healthcare, regardless of economic status. Moreover, the triple crisis of sugar shortages, electricity rationing, and a dollar crunch demands decisive action to safeguard essential sectors and mitigate hardships faced by citizens.

In the face of adversity, President Samia's leadership shines through as she navigates Tanzania towards prosperity with determination and resolve. Yet, the challenges ahead require bold solutions and unwavering commitment to uplift the nation and its people. As Tanzania looks towards the future, the legacy of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's tenure will be defined by her steadfast dedication to steering the nation through turbulent waters towards a brighter tomorrow.

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One



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Korea commits 130bn/- for project development

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China's growth dents urgency for more stimulus

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Financial market players lay stress on ethical standards

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

FINANCIAL markets players, through their association ACI FMA Tanzania, have stressed the need for continued promotion of ethical conduct standards in interbank foreign exchange market.

This was said by the ACI FMA Tanzania President Naomi Mafwiri Rhubera after the committee made a visit at the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) office in Dar es Salaam over the weekend for introduction and identifying key areas of collaboration to advance Tanzania's financial markets.

Speaking after the meeting, Rhubera asserted that the meeting discussed key focal points between BoT and ACI FMA Tanzania.

"We discussed about ACI FMA Tanzania's Vision for 2024-2026 in which we outlined its pillars for the next two years includes emphasizing ACI Identity, ACI Education, and ACI Intentional Stakeholder Engagement as guiding principles to enhance value within the financial markets community", said Rhubera.

She explained that the promotion of ethical behavior was also a part of the discussion and both parties made commitments of working closely to promote and sensitize ethical conduct and adherence to the Interbank Foreign Exchange Market Code of Conduct, emphasizing the importance of the recently updated version shared in January 2024.

She also spoke on increased education partnership in recognizing the challenges posed by global market dynamics, particularly in light of recent geopolitical turmoil and other issues such as US Dollar scarcity.

Rhubera said BoT has pledged to collaborate with ACI FMA Tanzania in rolling out educational initiatives aimed at deepening knowledge and its application in the global markets and treasury arena. "Additionally, the central bank assured its support in formulating policies conducive to fair and transparent



ACI FMA Tanzania chapter President, Naomi Mafwiri Rhubera (3rd L seated), poses in a photograph with the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) financial markets senior officials and newly elected committee members of ACI FMA Tanzania, shortly after the joint meeting held at the Central Bank offices in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

financial market activities," said Rhubera.

Another discussion, she said, was on information intermediary role where ACI FMA Tanzania pledged to serve as an in-

termediary body, ensuring the accurate and timely communication of information from the BoT to other market participants in promoting transparency and

integrity in the financial markets.

"ACI FMA Tanzania reaffirms its commitment to collaborating closely with key stakeholders to foster transparency, mar-

ket integrity, free information flow for more functional inputs whilst discussing policies and framework structure and investor protection, thereby bolstering investor confidence and attracting capital inflows", she added.

Formed in 2002, ACI FMA Tanzania is the standard bearer for financial markets professionals in Tanzania.

ACI FMA Tanzania is affiliated with ACI - Financial Markets Association, a Paris based global umbrella body of financial markets associations which is a non-profit making association founded in the interests of the financial markets dealing profession which is essentially international.

ACI Tanzania abides by the Tanzania laws and regulations, and the FX Global Code of conduct recognized by ACI - The Financial Markets Association with over 13,000 members in 60 countries.

BoT officials present were Emmanuel Akaro, Director Financial Markets, Nicholous Mwangakala, the Principal Portfolio Manager, Ephraim Madembwe, Principal Financial Analyst, Market Analysis Surveillance and Monitoring, Fidelis Mkatte, Assistant Manager- Market Analysis Surveillance and Monitoring, and Musa Sambika, Financial Analyst, Market Analysis Surveillance and Monitoring.

Sonangol seeks partners for oil projects in Angola

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Oil Company (NOC) Sonangol, is actively seeking partners to collaborate on exploration and production projects as part of the country's comprehensive initiative to enhance its competitiveness and operational capabilities.

This effort aligns with Angola's ongoing privatization process, expected to be finalized by 2026, signaling a significant opportunity for potential partners to engage with Sonangol and contribute to the growth of Angola's oil sector.

A statement by the Energy Capital & Power and made available to this paper, indicated that at the moment, NOC is actively seeking partners for exploration and production projects, and is inviting US companies to con-

nect with opportunities in Angola.

A networking event in Houston today will foster engagement between US stakeholders and Angolan leaders, including Sonangol.

It is said that the event provides a platform for Sonangol and US investors to explore synergies and forge strategic partnerships for mutual growth.

Recently, Sonangol qualified as both an operator and a non-operator in the recent bid round for onshore blocks in the Lower Congo and Kwanza Basin during the ANPG's 2023 onshore licensing round.

Noteworthy is Sonangol's involvement in Block KON 15, where the company secured a substantial 40 percent participation interest as an operator alongside Afentra as a non-operator with a 45 percent interest.

Interested companies qualified as as-

sociates of the national concessionaire have the opportunity to participate with a 15 percent interest in the block. This offers promising opportunities for U.S. companies to collaborate with Sonangol and Afentra in the development of Block KON 15, providing access to resources, expertise, and investment prospects in Angola's energy sector.

Sonangol has already formed strategic partnerships with US companies to develop oil and gas resources. In March 2023, the company partnered with US oil and gas major ExxonMobil to enhance exploration in Angola's Namibe Basin. An MoU was signed for Blocks 30, 44, and 45, facilitated by the ANPG, aiming to increase competitiveness.

Meanwhile, US company Chevron's Angolan subsidiary CABGOC and Sonangol, alongside global major TotalEnergies and oil and gas company Azule

Energy, recently formed the new gas consortium to spearhead the development of the Quiluma and Maboqueiro gas fields.

The project encompasses the construction of two offshore wellhead platforms off the northwest coast of Angola, an onshore gas processing plant, and a connection to the Angola LNG plant for the marketing of condensates and gas through LNG cargoes.

This collaborative effort aims to harness the potential of these fields, with an anticipated production of four billion cubic meters per year by 2026.

Recognizing the need to diversify revenue streams, Sonangol has expanded into renewable energy sectors.

In May 2023, the Solenova consortium, comprising Sonangol and Azule Energy, launched the Caraculo Solar Power Station in Namibe, Angola. The facility, housing 46,000 solar panels, marks Angola's first photovoltaic plant and is operated by the Solenova consortium.

US chamber leads feasible growth, investments in EA

By Guardian Correspondent

THE American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) business summit is poised to delve into opportunities for fostering sustainable and inclusive growth, as well as boosting investments in the East African region.

This is according to AmCham's statement released yesterday, which indicated that the highly anticipated summit is scheduled to take place in Nairobi, Kenya, this upcoming Sunday and that will be presided over by Kenyan President William Ruto.

The statement quotes AmCham's Board President, Peter Ngahu, highlighting that the summit is designed to broaden commercial opportunities and markets. Furthermore, it is revealed that several distinguished US government officials are also expected to attend the event.

"...the Summit would explore opportunities to promote sustainable and inclusive growth while increasing investment in Kenya and the East African region," part of the statement reads.

It adds: "As we celebrate years of shared value and interests, the AmCham Business Summit stands as a beacon of opportunity. We look forward to exploring how we can leverage these opportunities as we stay committed to helping drive investments in East Africa."

A wide range of topics critical to the region's economic development, including shaping the future of US-East Africa trade and investment, climate action, digital transformation, and sustainable finance for East African economies, will be covered in a series of panel discussions, keynotes, and roundtables moderated by experts from the public and private sectors.

East African economies are expected to register the highest regional economic performance on the continent, with growth figures at over 5 percent, according to the African Development Bank's East Africa Economic Outlook.

Despite anticipated growth, East African economies continue to grapple with persistent barriers to trade and investment, including illicit trade, counterfeits, currency volatility, and inflation, impeding the region's business landscape.

Encouraging delegates to secure their attendance, AmCham's CEO Maxwell Okello said, "The summit provides a platform to explore the vast trade and investment opportunities that lie ahead, fostering economic growth and prosperity across our region."

He added: "We are delighted to convene the business community to chart the course towards strengthened cooperation in critical spheres such as trade and investment, technology, sustainability, healthcare, and economic growth, all while nurturing meaningful connections between businesses and nations."

It is noted that this is the fourth edition of AmCham business summit, which is the premier platform for strengthening bilateral trade and investment between the United States, and East Africa.



KCB Bank's Head of Retail Banking, Abdul Juma (L), in jovial mood with Kenya's High Commissioner to Tanzania Isaac Njenga, at tree planting event at Pugu Kazimzumbwi nature forest reserve at the weekend. The event, which was organized by the Kenyan High Commission to Tanzania saw 300 trees planted to support environmental conservation in the area. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

State of digital, social media data in Tanzania - 2023/24

FEW weeks ago, I shared a summed-up article on the state of digital and social media data for the world, for 2023. Today I am sharing the data for Tanzania on the state of digital performance and social media. Credit to the main contributors of the report who are; DataReportal, We Are Social and Meltwater. The main focus was on the digital adoption and use of social media platforms in Tanzania from 2023 to January 2024. In early 2024, there were 21.82 million internet users in Tanzania and the internet penetration stood at 31.9 percent. Tanzania is home to 5.65 million social media users as of January 2024, which is about 8.3 percent of the total population.

Yes, these stats offer valuable insight on the current state of digital in Tanzania. In order to breakdown on how digital trends and behaviours are evolving, one needs to dig deeper into the data. Tanzania's population stood at 68.42 million as of January 2024 (based on the report).

This data also shows that Tanzania's population increased by 2 million which is about 3 percent between early 2023 and the start of 2024 and 50.6 percent of Tanzania's population are female, while the other 49.4 percent are male.

There were 21.82 million internet users in Tanzania as of January 2024. The internet penetration in Tanzania stood at 31.9 percent of the total population at the start of 2024. The analysis indicates an increase of 3 percent between January 2023 and January 2024. The user figure reveals that 46.6 million people in Tanzania did not use the internet by the start of 2024. Meaning that 68.1 percent of the population were offline due to various factors.

Social media data for Tanzania, beginning of 2024 from the DataReportal stats show that there were 5.65 million active social media users in Tanzania as of January 2024. Kepios analysis

DIGITAL MARKETING Alley Mbatya



shows that the use of social media in Tanzania grew by 48.7 percent, this is between early 2023 and early 2024. Social media users in Tanzania as of January 2024 stood at 8.3 percent of the total population.

Also, data that was published in the ad planning tools of top social media platforms showed that there were 5.65 million users aged 18 and above using social media in Tanzania at the start of 2024. Which is 16.5 percent of the total population aged 18 and above at that time. More broadly, 25.9 percent of Tanzania's total internet user base (regardless of age) used at least one social media platform in January 2024. As of January 2024, at least 40.4 percent of Tanzania's social media users were female, while 59.6 percent were male.

Facebook users in Tanzania as of January 2024. Data published in Meta's advertising shows that Facebook had 5.65 million users in Tanzania. Facebook's potential ad reach in Tanzania grew by 48.7 percent between January 2023 and January 2024.

Instagram users in Tanzania as of January 2024. Data published in Meta's advertising tools shows that Instagram had 3.5 million users in Tanzania in early 2024. Instagram's potential ad reach in Tanzania grew by 42.9 percent between January 2023 and January 2024. On a quarterly basis, Instagram's ad audience in Tanzania increased by 50 thousand which is 1.4 percent between October 2023 and January 2024.

LinkedIn users in Tanzania as of January 2024. LinkedIn had 1.20

million registered members in Tanzania in early 2024. LinkedIn's potential ad reach in Tanzania increased by 100 thousand which is 9.1 percent between the start of 2023 and the beginning of 2024. On a quarterly basis, the ad audience in Tanzania remained the same from October 2023 to January 2024.

X users in Tanzania in 2024. Data published from X's (Twitter before) advertising resources shows that X had 621.1 thousand users in Tanzania in early 2024.

This figure means that X's ad reach in Tanzania was equal to 0.9 percent of the total population at the time. So, this latest data suggests that 1.5 percent of the audience in Tanzania uses X as of January 2024. X's ad reach in Tanzania was equivalent to 2.8 percent of the local internet user base, regardless of age at the start of 2024. Data also indicated that 12.3 percent of X's ad audience in Tanzania are female, while 87.7 percent are male.

In short, with this data one can see what happened from January 2023 to January 2024 in the digital and social media realm. One can also understand which platforms were used the most to reach out to the Tanzanian population. Furthermore, any individual or business unit can use this trend to predict based on the data and on which platform should they place their product or service on.

Alley Mbatya is the founder of Eyeland Advertising and Analytics based in Dar es Salaam

CONTACT COLUMN

Best practices for managing contract renewals

By Norman Kretzmer

MANY companies think of contract renewal as a routine process that they can leave on autopilot. But apart from the risks of missing the timeframe to cancel or renew a contract, contract renewal is also an opportunity to strengthen your relationship with your business partners and refine the contract to meet your evolving business needs.

Missing contract renewal windows can be expensive and risky. You might allow a service to auto-renew when you aren't happy with it, or you no longer need it. Your business might be severely disrupted if you failed to renew a contract that is with a key service provider or supplier.

Here are some best practices to consider when a contract renewal comes up:

Review the terms and conditions of the contract

The key to efficient, low-risk management of your contracts is ensuring that you understand the terms and conditions of the agreements and that you can ensure compliance with any benefits or obligations that have been contracted for. When managing many contracts, a digital platform for post-signature contract management can help you stay on top of the details and ensure that you are alerted timeously when you are required to perform a task or should be receiving something from the other party.

Assess contract performance

The next step is to take a critical look at the contract and evaluate whether it has met your requirements. Analyse whether the other signatory has lived up to their obligations as agreed to in the initial contract. Also consider whether the relationship as stipulated in the contract supports your current and future business needs as well as if you could secure a better agreement elsewhere. For example, with a property lease, you can evaluate whether the premises will accommodate the growth of your business. For a commercial insurance agreement, you may want to seek some quotes to make sure you're paying a fair premium.

Decide whether to renew, renegotiate or terminate the contract

Following steps one and two, you'll know whether you want to keep the existing contract in place, modify it or exit it when it's time for renewal. If you're happy with the contract as is, you can simply sign the renewal or let it auto-renew if such a clause exists. If



you want to change certain conditions, you will need to negotiate with the other party. Make sure you have a clear idea about what you hope to achieve before embarking on such negotiations. On the other hand, if you intend to cancel ensure that you keep to the timelines stipulated in the contract because missing those may have unintended consequences.

Automate contract workflows

The best practice for post-signature contract management these days is to use specialised cloud-based solutions to manage the admin-intensive workflows that are required to ensure compliance. With the right software in place, you can trigger workflows for events such as renewals, terminations, price escalations, force majeure, cancellations, and breaches. In the case of renewals, a predefined workflow will ensure that all parties within the company that are impacted by the decision to renew or not are advised. This would include the finance department to ensure that a payment is not made incorrectly.

Contract management - minimising your risk

Managing post-signature contracts requires significant effort for any business. It's difficult to keep track of the your contractual obligations and ensure that you comply with them. Failure to do so can cause significant risk to the business resulting in contract cancellation, business disruption, penalties, and reputational damage. A modern contract management solution will minimise the risks by ensuring that you are aware of your obligations and that these are managed appropriately via automated workflows.

Norman Kretzmer (pictured) is the founder and CEO of Contract Understanding based in Johannesburg

DIGITAL ASSETS COLUMN

Digital assets need interoperability to achieve global scale

By Jonathan Ehrenfeld

FOR tokenisation to really take off, a global mindset and interoperability between different networks and systems is essential

The discussion around tokenised assets and their use cases has surged in the past year. A recent study from BNY Mellon showed that 97 percent of institutional investors think that tokenisation is set to revolutionise asset management. Boston Consulting Group also estimates global illiquid asset tokenisation alone will be worth \$16tn by 2030.

As a result, many institutions are now looking to tokenisation as a way to create new markets, solve longstanding inefficiencies and overcome liquidity challenges. This interest is particularly strong across markets that are characterised by complex processes with many different transacting counterparties, such as securities post-trade settlement.

The interoperability challenge

As tokenisation gathers pace, the need to avoid fragmentation has become even more apparent. This is particularly important when we consider the underlying technology that tokenisation is built on. Still in its relative infancy, blockchain has potential to bring new levels of trust and assurance to processes that incorporate numerous counterparties looking for improved transparency over a particular transaction lifecycle.

But blockchain is not a silver bullet. In order to create an interconnected global market, a common connectivity layer is critical to eliminating friction and enabling interoperability between the existing financial system and various emerging blockchain networks hosting tokenised assets.

This need for interoperability extends to collaboration between blockchains and other infrastructures, as well as between different blockchain platforms themselves. In the absence of well-defined legal and regulatory guidelines concerning different blockchains' coexistence, the onus is on the industry to prioritise interoperability.

Building on existing infrastructure

Fortunately, it is possible for firms to leverage their existing infrastructure, message implementations and proven business processes to connect to blockchain ledgers, where tokens are recorded in a way that is both compliant and secure.

This was the finding of our recent collaborative experiments to help the industry in its effort to make tokenised assets work in concert with existing financial infrastructure.

Our tokenisation journey started in 2022, with a set of experiments that demonstrated the ability for Swift to act as a single access point, linking up multiple tokenisation platforms and providing access to multiple payment options.

Then in 2023, we went much further, collaborating with more than a dozen major financial institutions to test how firms can leverage their existing Swift infrastructure to efficiently instruct the transfer of tokenised value over a range of public and private blockchains.

Moving forward, we'll continue working with the financial community to understand the most comprehensive use cases for tokenised asset adoption and invest in the relevant capabilities to support the transfer of tokenised assets over the Swift network.

As interest in digital assets grows, we must innovate with a global mindset to avoid fragmentation. The future of tokenisation is not yet fully defined but is expected to be 'multi-chain'. It's therefore vital to enable secure interoperability to ensure global reach.

Jonathan (pictured) Ehrenfeld is the head of securities strategy at Swift

Euro zone yields edge up

FRANKFURT

EURO zone yields edged up yesterday in a week packed with economic data and high-profile central bank meetings.

Analysts will focus on the Federal Reserve's dot plot rate forecasts and the Bank of Japan's (BoJ) possible end of its ultra-loose monetary policy.

Germany's 10-year government bond yield, the euro zone's benchmark, was up 2 basis points (bps) at 2.46 percent. They jumped last week, recording the biggest rise since July 2023 as markets scaled back bets on future European Central Bank rate cuts on the back of strong US economic data.

US producer and consumer prices increased solidly in February while job growth accelerated.

In the euro area, money markets priced 84 bps of European Central Bank rate cuts by year-end from 85 bps late on Friday and around 100 bps early last week.

The Fed is expected to hold rates steady on Wednesday, with the market focused on policymakers' updated economic and interest rate projections.

"Our US economists expect Chair (Jerome) Powell to continue to guide toward cuts this year and the median dot for 2024 to stay put, implying 75 bps of cuts," said Citi in a research note to clients.

The BoE will likely keep investors



guessing about when it will likely start cutting interest rates as it waits for clearer signs that inflation pressures are being quashed.

A Reuters poll taken in March showed that 35% of economists expect the BoJ to end negative rates at the meeting ending on Tuesday, up from the previous month's 7% but still below 62% projecting such action at a subsequent April 25-26 meeting. "The immediate impact of BoJ policy change on global rates is likely to be limited but one potential channel of future spillover will be Japanese bank long positioning in U.S. Treasuries," said Shusuke Yamada, strategist at BofA Japan.

"Higher Japanese government bond (JGB) yields and a sell-off in U.S. Treasuries (USTs) could lead banks to rebalance from USTs to JGBs," he added.

The market's attention is shifting to any clues the BoJ could give on the pace of any interest rate hikes, as such a move could affect the policy paths of major central banks.

Key economic data are due later in the week, including Purchasing Managers' Indexes from the euro area, the UK and the US. Meanwhile, the German Ifo and ZEW research institutes will issue economic forecasts and the investor morale index.

China's growth dents urgency for more stimulus

BEIJING

CHINA'S strong factory output and investment growth at the start of the year raised doubts over how soon policymakers will step up support still needed to boost demand and reach an ambitious growth target.

Industrial output rose 7 percent in January-February from the same period a year earlier, the National Bureau of Statistics said Monday, the fastest in two years and significantly exceeding estimates. Growth in fixed-asset investment accelerated to 4.2 percent, strongest since April. Retail sales increased 5.5 percent, roughly in line with projections.

"With the recovery in these data, policymakers will likely not see the need to do more than what they plan to do," said Michelle Lam, Greater China economist at Societe Generale SA. It will take a "much bigger slowdown" for authorities to shift their policy focus to stimulating household income and spending to support consumption, she said.

The strong industrial and investment figures add to evidence that some parts of the world's second-largest economy are gaining traction after policymakers ramped up stimulus late last year. Earlier, export growth exceeded expectations.

The data may also weaken the case for policymakers to loosen monetary policy and lessen the impetus to campaign for domestic consumption to drive growth more, according to analysts.

Investors are looking for clues on how the government intends to build and sustain momentum to reach a growth target of around 5 percent – a goal similar to last year's but harder to attain given a less favorable comparison base. The ambitious target, announced earlier this month, was met with skepticism by some economists due mainly to a perceived lack of sufficient

policy support.

The urban jobless rate rose to 5.3 percent from 5.1 percent as of December, reflecting a gloomy labor market that's weighing on domestic demand. The property sector remained a major drag on the economy, with investment falling 9 percent and housing sales plunging 33 percent by value in the January-February period from a year ago.

"Better-than-expected Jan-Feb data conceals hidden risks. The government still needs to ramp up policy support and focus on additional tools to stabilize housing demand," said Carlos Casanova, senior Asia economist at Union Bancaire Privee in Hong Kong. The benchmark CSI 300 Index closed up 0.9 percent at its highest level in more than four months, while the Hang Seng China Enterprise Index gained as much as 0.8 percent, on track to snap a three-day losing streak. The yuan was little changed in both onshore and offshore markets. The 10-year bond fell 1 basis point to 2.34 percent, down for the second session.

"The economy kept rebounding and improving in January and February with various policies taking effect. But we also need to see that the external environment is increasingly complex, grim and uncertain, and the problem of insufficient domestic demand still remains," the NBS said in a statement accompanying the release.

Industrial production benefited from improved exports, which rose 7.1 percent in the first two months of the year, well above economist forecasts.

"South Korean and Taiwanese exports are leading the rebound in the region, but China remains vertically integrated in global value chains, and so will also benefit from improving external demand," Casanova said.

While retail sales growth slightly under-shot the median forecast, categories belonging to what ING economist Lynn Song called



China's growth bump may dent urgency for more stimulus

the "eat, drink and play" theme recorded strong growth at the start of the year, with alcohol and tobacco rising 13.7 percent and recreational goods increasing 11.3 percent. Communications equipment jumped 16.2 percent and automobiles rose 8.7 percent.

However, consumer and business confidence is still weighed by uncertain income outlook and the persisting property slump. For example, retail sales of building and decoration materials rose merely 2.1 percent in the first two months.

Manufacturing overcapacity is growing, fueling tensions with trade partners and casting a cloud on the export outlook.

Consumer prices rose in February for the first time in five months, but the rebound was largely helped by a spending spree during the Lunar New Year holiday and is likely short-lived, analysts said.

Beijing has sweetened its fiscal package, embarking on a program to sell ultra-long

special sovereign bonds in 2024 and in the years to come. China is also fleshing out a plan to upgrade industrial equipment and boost household spending in consumer goods, pledging to help fund the program possibly worth hundreds of billions of yuan with budget money.

The People's Bank of China has maintained a loose monetary policy stance, with Governor Pan Gongsheng flagging a willingness to inject more liquidity to support growth when necessary.

"It's a still patchy picture – the growth in private investment was marginal and consumption slowed and undershot expectations. The bottom line – the recovery is fragile and requires more policy support," said Chang Shu and Eric Zhu, economists, Bloomberg Economics.

However, the boost from the government's on-balance-sheet spending will be offset by its separate campaign to rein in lo-

cal debt risks. The central bank's scope for more interest rate cuts is also limited by a wide yield gap with the US and low profit margins at Chinese banks.

Bruce Pang, chief economist for Greater China at Jones Lang LaSalle Inc., expects the government to use mainly fiscal policy to bolster growth in the coming months with monetary policy playing a supporting role.

"The necessity for rate cut and RRR cut has declined somewhat in the near term," Pang said, referring to the amount of cash banks have to keep in reserve.

Wary of flooding the market with too much liquidity, the People's Bank of China last week drained cash from the banking system via its one-year policy loans for the first time since November 2022. It also held the rate on the lending steady.



The economy kept rebounding and improving in January and February with various policies taking effect. But we also need to see that the external environment is increasingly complex, grim and uncertain, and the problem of insufficient domestic

Korea commits 130bn/- for project development

By Guardian Reporter

THE government of Korea, through its international corporation agency (KOICA) has committed nearly 130bn/- grant aid programs to support education, health, road infrastructure and water projects in Tanzania for 2025.

"Building from our long-standing mutual friendship and partnership of more than 30 years with the government of Tanzania, KOICA on behalf of the government of the Republic of Korea is committed to support the socio-economic development of Tanzania to realize its development vision and SDGs," said a statement issued by KOICA's

local office in Dar es Salaam.

"We will continue to complement the government's development effort by supporting three key sectors of education, health and rural development."

This has been announced when the KOICA Vice President Dong Ho Kim is concluding his three day visit to Tanzania.

Kim, who arrived on Sunday last week in Dar es Salaam, has also visited Dodoma and Zanzibar to hold discussions with permanent secretaries of ministry of finance, ministry of health and ministry of education on mutual cooperation and partnership between the two countries.

In his trip, the KOICA Vice President and

his delegation also visited Dodoma Central Zonal Blood center which was supported by KOICA.

The Korean government through KOICA in partnership with the government of Tanzania and UNICEF implemented the "Improvement CEMONC services in Dodoma" project to provide quality service to mothers and child and improve the blood transfusion system by supporting blood center in efforts to reduce maternal child mortality in the country.

CEMONC is the interventions provided to pregnant women and newborns experiencing fatal complications, including severe bleeding, infection, prolonged or obstructed labor, eclampsia, and asphyxia in the newborn.

During the talk with Ministry of Finance and Ministry of health, Kim pledged KOICA's continued support and closer partnership with Tanzania highlighting new projects that KOICA's planning to support from 2025.

Subsequently, the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Finance Dr Natu Mwamba acknowledged the strengthened collaboration with the government of the Republic of Korea and extended appreciation for KOICA's support in realizing the Tanzania development aspirations in health and education.

She further highlighted that the upcoming Korea-Africa summit signifies the government of the Republic of Korea commitment in strengthening collaboration with African countries including Tanzania.

Other than the bilateral projects, KOICA will also continue to share its development experience and culture with Tanzania by dispatching volunteers and advisors to key sectors of interest of both governments as well as invitational training for government officials.



Director and co-founder of digital insurance management firm-mTek Chris Osore (L), CEO Bente Krogmann (C) and co-founder Felix Okoth discuss something on the sideline of the announcement on secured US\$1.25 million investment from Verod-Kepple Africa Ventures (VKAV) and Founders Factory Africa (FFA) towards expansion in East Africa sub-region. Photo:Guardian Correspondent

Absa Kenya raises dividend as profit jumps

NAIROBI

ABSA Bank Kenya Plc has raised its total dividend to Sh1.35 after posting a 12.2 percent growth in its net profit for the year ended December 2023 to Sh16.4 billion.

The total payout of Sh8.4 billion, after the payment of Sh1.15 final dividend and a 20-cent interim dividend per share paid last year, is the highest distribution for the lender on record.

The higher payout to shareholders is on the back of improved profitability, which was anchored on greater operating income, which rose 18.7 percent to Sh54.5 billion from Sh45.9 billion previously.

Net interest income jumped the highest by 23.8 percent to Sh40 billion from Sh32.3 billion supported by increased lending rates to customers.

Absa's loan book in the period expanded by 18.4 percent to Sh335.7 billion from Sh283.5 billion, while customer deposits edged upward by 19.4 percent to Sh362.7 billion.

Meanwhile, the lender's non-interest funded income improved by 6.6 percent to Sh14.5 billion from Sh13.6 billion. The lender, however, saw a 22.7 percent jump in total operating expenses to Sh30.8 billion from Sh25.1 billion, largely from an uptick in loan-loss provisions.

Absa increased the size of its provisions for expected bad loans to Sh9.2 billion from Sh6.4 billion previously as its gross non-performing loans jumped by 56.4 percent to Sh35.2 billion from Sh22.5 billion.

VIEW FROM THE TOP



KOICA Vice President Dong Ho Kim (L) with the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance Dr Natu El-Maamry Mwamba soon after discussion yesterday. Photo: KOICA

Barrick opens academy at closed Buzwagi mine

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

BARRICK Gold Corporation has officially opened its world class training academy at the old Buzwagi mine based here, in line with the company's mine closure objective of leaving a positive legacy after mining has finished.

In a statement issued yesterday, the largest gold miner said the Barrick Academy is designed to offer

tailor-made training programs aimed at developing the company's frontline managers to grow both as individuals and as leaders in their fields, while equipping them with the skills to manage their teams more effectively and to improve performance.

The Barrick Academy will be training more than 2,000 foremen, supervisors and superintendents from the Africa and Middle East region

in the next 24 months, the statement said.

Looking ahead, the company said in a statement that is also gearing up to include its contractors and expand the curriculum to cover wider disciplines, including financial leadership, advanced computer literacy and safety courses.

The opening of the Barrick Academy follows the construction of an airport

terminal at Buzwagi's Kahama airstrip in January this year, which has paved the way for a scheduled airline service that can serve more than 200 passengers at a time. It is expected to be a major catalyst for economic growth in the region.

According to Barrick's chief operating officer for the Africa and Middle East region, Sebastiaan Bock, the airport terminal and Academy

form part of Barrick's plan to turn Buzwagi into a Special Economic Zone.

A feasibility study commissioned in 2021 showed that the creation of the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) had the potential to replace the mine as the region's economic driver and could sustainably create 3,000 jobs annually, generate more than \$150,000 each year from service levies for the local municipality and

deliver approximately \$4.5 million in employment taxes a year.

The Government of Tanzania approved the conversion of the mine into a SEZ through a Government Notice that was issued in February this year. A number of investors have started the process of setting up manufacturing industries inside this area.

"How we close our mines

is just as important to us as how we build and operate them. Our Buzwagi mine was a significant economic powerhouse in the region for nearly 15 years before it poured its last gold in 2021. From our perspective, however, that is not the end of the story for Buzwagi as we transform it into an alternative productive asset that will serve the community for decades to come," Bock said.

WORLD

People are 'source of power' in Russia, says Putin in victory speech

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin, in his victory speech, extended his gratitude to the citizens of Russia for their active participation in the recently concluded presidential election, state-controlled media reported.

Following the conclusion of the election, Russia's Central Election Commission showed Putin securing a fifth term in office with over 87 per cent of the vote.

Speaking from the election headquarters, Putin emphasised the importance of every voice in shaping the destiny of the nation, Russia Today reported.

"I would like to thank citizens of Russia, all of them, because we are one team," said Putin, acknowledging the collective effort of the Russian people

in exercising their democratic right. "The source of power in a country is the Russian people and the voice of every citizen of Russia," he added, underscoring the fundamental role of public participation in governance.

Reflecting on the significance of the election, Putin remarked, "Out of every voice, we are building one commonwealth of the people of the Russian Federation." He stressed the role of citizen engagement in driving the country's progress across various sectors, including defence, science, and education, as reported by Russia Today.

Amid challenging circumstances, Putin extended a special appreciation to the armed forces, acknowledging their dedication in safeguarding the nation's interests. "I would like to express a special gratitude to our warriors, to those who are at the line of contact en-

suring the conditions for the development and existence of our country," Putin affirmed, highlighting the sacrifices made by those serving on the front lines.

Russia has finished voting in its seventh modern presidential election, spanning three days and including four new regions: Kherson, Zaporozhye, Donetsk, and Lugansk People's Republics.

The recent election witnessed a historic turnout, with over 74 per cent of Russia's 112.3 million eligible voters participating between March 15 and 17, according to the Russian Central Election Commission (CEC) on Sunday. This level of engagement marks the highest in the country's modern history, unmatched for over two decades, as reported by Russia Today.

Securing a crushing victory, Putin also said that he had agreed to a

prisoner swap involving Alexei Navalny before the opposition leader's sudden death in an Arctic prison in February.

Calling Navalny's death a 'sad event', Putin said there were other cases of people in prisons passing away.

In his address at his election headquarters on Sunday, Putin said, "As for Mr. Navalny--yes, he passed away. It is always a sad event. And there were other cases when people in prisons passed away. Didn't this happen in the United States? It did, and not once."

Putin added that he was told of a proposal to exchange Navalny for prisoners held in Western nations days before the Opposition leader died in prison.

On February 16, jailed Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny died. **ANI**



PM Modi hits back at Rahul Gandhi's 'Shakti' remark

JAGTIAL

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi yesterday hit back at Rahul Gandhi over his 'Shakti' remark and said that he is willing to sacrifice his life for 'Shakti'.

Addressing a rally in Jagtial, the Prime Minister said that it was an honour for him that Nari Shakti has gathered to bless and support him.

"The INDI alliance in their manifesto said that their fight is against 'Shakti'. For me, every mother, daughter and sister is a form of 'Shakti'. I worship them in the form of 'Shakti'. I am the worshiper of Bharat Mata...Their manifesto is to finish 'Shakti', and I accept the challenge...Main jaan ki baazi laga dunga," PM Modi (pictured) said.

He further said that his government dedicated the success of the Chandrayaan mission by naming the point where Chandrayaan landed as 'Shiv Shakti'.

"Can someone talk about the destruction of 'Shakti'?... We dedicated the success of the Chandrayaan mission by naming the point where Chandrayaan landed as 'Shiv Shakti'...The fight is between those who want to destroy 'Shakti' and those who worship 'Shakti'...Muqabla 4 June ko ho jaaga," he added.

The Prime Minister further said that on the one hand there are people who talk about the destruction of power while on the other hand there are people who worship Shakti.

Rahul Gandhi, in his comments made on Sunday in Maharashtra, had raised concerns about the operation of Electronic Voting Machines, to emphasize the Opposition's struggle against the might of the state.

"There is a word 'Shakti' (might) in Hinduism. We are fighting against a Shakti (might of the state). The question is, what is that Shakti and what does it entail for us? The soul and integrity of EVMs have been traded to the King (Modi). This is a fact. Not just EVMs but every autonomous institution of the country, be it the ED, CBI or Income Tax department, have traded their spines to the Centre," Rahul said in an address in Mumbai.

The elections for 543 Lok Sabha seats will be held from April 19 to June 1, with the counting of votes scheduled for June 4. **ANI**



Israeli troops raid Gaza's Al Shifa Hospital

JERUSALEM/CAIRO

ISRAELI troops raided the compound of Gaza's Al Shifa Hospital early yesterday in an operation that Palestinian health authorities said caused multiple casualties and set off a fierce fire in one of the buildings.

The Israeli military said soldiers had conducted a "precise operation" based on intelligence that the hospital was being used by senior Hamas leaders, and were fired upon when they entered the compound.

"The troops responded with live fire and hits were identified. Our troops are continuing to operate in the area of the hospital," it said in a statement.

Al Shifa, the Gaza Strip's biggest hospital before the war, is now one of the only healthcare facilities that is even partially operational in the north of the territory, and is also housing hundreds of displaced civilians.

"Suddenly, we started to hear sounds of explosions, several bombings, and soon tanks started to roll, they came from the western road and headed toward Al Shifa, then sounds of gunfire and explosions increased," Mohammad Ali, 32, a father of two, who lives around one kilometer from the hospital, told Reuters via a chat app.

"We don't know what is happening, but it looked as if it was a re-invasion of the Gaza City," he added, saying that the military activities began at around 1:00 am (2300 GMT Sunday).

Gaza's Hamas-run health ministry said a fire broke out at the entrance of the hospital complex, causing cases of suffocation among displaced women and children sheltering in the hospital. It said communication had been cut off, with people trapped inside the surgery and emergency units of one of the buildings.

"There are casualties, including deaths and injuries, and it's impossible to rescue anyone due to the intensi-



A young Palestinian man injured in Israeli bombardment lies on the ground as he awaits medical attention at the Al-Shifa hospital in Gaza City on March 15, 2024, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Hamas movement. **AFP**

ty of the fire and targeting of anyone approaching the windows," the ministry said.

The Israeli army dropped new leaflets around the hospital in Gaza City.

"To all those who exist or are displaced in Rimal and the displaced in Al Shifa and its vicinity: you are in a dangerous combat zone. The IDF is operating hard in its residential areas to destroy

terror infrastructure," said the statement, which ordered the people to take the coastal road towards Al-Mawasi in the southern Gaza Strip.

The military issued grainy drone footage of the operation which it said showed troops coming under fire from a number of buildings in the hospital complex. Footage circulated on social media appeared to show

an Israeli tank blocking the main gate of Al Shifa.

The military said troops had been instructed on the importance of operating cautiously as well as on measures to be taken to avoid harm to patients, civilians, medical staff and medical equipment, and said patients were not required to evacuate.

Not far from Al Shifa, Israeli army forces raided a school where displaced families were sheltering, and detained several men there, residents and Hamas media said. Residents reported tanks were also operating on the edge of the Beach refugee camp and said tanks fired shells at some buildings nearby.

Hamas said in a statement the Israeli military had committed a new crime by directly targeting the hospital buildings without caring about patients, medical staff or displaced people in it.

Israel came under fierce criticism last year when troops first raided the hospital, where they uncovered tunnels they said were used as command and control centers by Hamas. Hamas and medical staff deny the hospital has been used for military purposes or to shelter fighters.

Agencies

US will always work with SKorea against N Korea's provocations - Blinken

SEOUL

UNITED States Secretary of State Antony Blinken met with South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol on Monday and said that the US will always

work with South Korea to firmly respond to North Korea's provocations, according to state media Yonhap.

The US reassurance came hours after Pyongyang fired multiple short-range ballistic missiles toward its

eastern waters, a statement released from the South Korea's presidential office said.

"Secretary Blinken said the United States will always be with South Korea to respond firmly to North Ko-

rea's provocations and for peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula," the presidential office said in a media statement, Yonhap news agency reported.

ANI

Urban renewal gives century-old block new look in Beijing

WHEN the night falls, Moshikou Street in Beijing's Shijingshan district is ablaze with dazzling lights, becoming an ideal photo spot for tourists. This centuries-old historical and cultural block has been reinvigorated thanks to the urban renewal program launched by Beijing.

Having made its name since the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), the Moshikou Street was once a hub for merchants. It covers an area of 38.88 hectares and was among the second batch of historical and cultural preservation areas in Beijing.

It is home to historical and cultural sites protected at the national level including the Fahai Temple and the Cheng'en Temple, as well as many pro-

tected at the municipal and district levels.

Having restored historical and cultural sites, as well as former residences of celebrities and valuable courtyards scattered in ancient alleys and lanes, Shijingshan district has launched special cultural exhibitions to highlight the charm of the local culture.

The Fahai Temple is located at the southern foot of Cuiwei Mountain in the western part of Beijing. It houses the oldest and most well-preserved Ming Dynasty murals in Beijing.

Inside the nearby Fahai Temple Mural Art Center, there is a digital exhibition hall where murals are displayed on 4K high-definition screens in

their original proportions.

"The screen allows for zooming in, showcasing specific details," said Liu Xiaobo, curator of the Fahai Temple Mural Art Center. This approach not only protects the murals but also better showcases their artistic charm, Liu added.

Protecting historical heritage helps preserve urban memory. So far, Shijingshan district has allocated a total of over 20 million yuan (\$2.78 million) of special funds in the Moshikou historical and cultural block, which has been used for the protective restoration of cultural relics.

In the past, Moshikou block was plagued by illegal buildings, unauthorized roadside

businesses, and severe traffic congestion from morning to night. After the morning market finished, the streets were littered with garbage and covered by sewage.

A turnaround came in 2016 when Shijingshan district initiated the renovation work of the Moshikou historical and cultural block, which aimed to improve the environment, upgrade municipal facilities, and enhance the living conditions of residents.

Zhang Haibin, deputy general manager of the company responsible for demolishing illegal constructions and renovating facilities in the block, told People's Daily that various needs were taken into con-

sideration during the design phase of the renovation program. The goal was not only to improve the living environment for residents but also to restore the historical and cultural charm of the area, attracting both locals and tourists to visit, Zhang said.

The company laid gas pipelines, separated rainwater pipes from sewage pipes, and buried overhead cables underground. Besides, illegal buildings have been demolished orderly. The facades of the block have been renovated with gray brick elements, preserving the traditional features of local residences. The improvement of the block's landscape focused on enhancing cultural

and historical elements and enriching people's life interests. Sculptures, wall paintings, night lighting, and landscaping have been added on both sides of the street.

The thorough renovation has brought a new look to the Moshikou block. "It has become clean and beautiful, and made everyone's life more convenient," said Ren Yuan, a staff member of the Moshikou village community committee.

"During the renovation, we fully incorporated the demands of the merchants, ensuring that they could open for business as soon as they moved in," said Li Qi, deputy general manager of the Moshikou historical and cultural

block operation and maintenance center of Beijing TeFo Heng Investment and Development Co., Ltd.

The block attracted investment focusing on four types of businesses: culture, tourism, commerce, and public services. Today, it is home to 15 landscape sites, 29 exquisite courtyards, and over 100 stores.

"Previously, we must make further renovation and decoration after the block's overall renovation work was finished, which wasted time and energy. This time, our decoration needs were combined directly with remodeling construction of the block, so that our hotel can open for business in the shortest time possible," said Zhao Zhongyuan, who runs a B&B hotel in Moshikou block.

People's Daily

Zimbabwean farmers find fulfillment in rabbit breeding programme

RUWA

FOR Monica Mudonhi, a rabbit farmer in Ruwa, about 22 km to the southeast of Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, the joy of her rabbits kindling is unmatched. "Being around my rabbits, especially when you know that they want to kindle, especially during the day, you don't sit down," she said.

At 68, Mudonhi has been breeding rabbits for about three years, and it has become more than just a source of income; it is a way of life.

"Even if I go somewhere, as soon as I park my car, I come to the rabbitry straight. It is a habit now," she said. Mudonhi is among the beneficiaries of a Chinese-funded rabbit farmer training program by the Zimbabwe Commercial Rabbit Breeders Association (ZICORBA).

The program aims to equip farmers with the knowledge and tools needed for successful rabbit farming, covering topics like rabbit husbandry, breeding techniques, disease management and market access.

More than 200 people, including Mudonhi, attended the inaugural training program in Harare at the end of February. "I think it is a good program which is being run around Zimbabwe. I wish people could attend, even those without rabbits," she said.

ZICORBA, established in 2020, aims to uplift the livelihoods of 1.5 million households in Zimbabwe through rabbit farming, according to ZICORBA President Regis Nyamakanga.

"We are trying to create not just a farmer who is doing subsistence farming, but we are looking at a business person who derives livelihood from rabbit production," he said. In Zimba-

bwe, the white meat segment has been dominated by chicken and fish.

Thanks to ZICORBA, however, rabbit meat is now becoming a popular option on dining tables across the country.

Nyamakanga attributed this to the growing demand for rabbit meat among health-conscious consumers, as it is low in cholesterol and fats.

This growing demand has presented a lucrative business opportunity for farmers like Mudonhi.

"A lot of farmers are coming into rabbit production because of the quick returns that you get out of rabbit production," Nyamakanga said.

Since the establishment of ZICORBA, the demand for rabbit meat in Zimbabwe has grown significantly, with producers struggling to meet the demand. "Currently we are producing about 10 tonnes per month in Zimbabwe.

The target is to reach about 25 tonnes a month and plus," Nyamakanga added. Value addition initiatives in the rabbit sub-sector are also gaining traction, with the introduction of rabbit burgers, pies, pizzas, sausage rolls, biltong, among other products.

Nyamakanga said that a demonstration village has been set up in Zvimba District near Harare, and Chinese technical experts are working with ZICORBA to develop a curriculum and offer technical advice.

Mudonhi, who now wants to expand her rabbitry, sees great potential in the market for exports.

She believes that rearing rabbits is an ideal project for people of all ages as it requires minimal land and resources compared to other livestock.

"I am sharing the knowledge



Gift Jambaya, a Zimbabwean entrepreneur feeds a rabbit at his plot on the outskirts of Harare, capital of Zimbabwe, Nov. 19, 2020. Xinhua

that I have received from the training with others who ask me about what they want to know about rabbits.

But if it is a complicated question which I cannot handle, I refer them to the trainers," she added. Paidia Nyamakanga, executive director of Raymge, a corporate member of ZICORBA, praised the Chinese-funded training program for farmers.

"We are really grateful to the training that was conducted by ZICORBA with aid from China because quite a

number of rabbit farmers did not have requisite skills and knowledge on how to farm," she said. She also highlighted the potential for exports to China, the largest consumer of rabbit meat, if the right measures are implemented.

"We have taken some measures to tap into the Chinese market, firstly by doing a bit of research on what their needs are, and checking on what we need to do in order to be prepared for that market," she said.

Xinhua

Cross-border livestream commerce boosts China's foreign trade

CHINA'S cross-border e-commerce imports and exports reached 2.38 trillion yuan (\$331.64 billion) in 2023, with a year-on-year growth of 15.6 percent. In particular, exports increased 19.6 percent from a year ago to 1.83 trillion yuan.

Digital foreign trade forms, such as cross-border livestream commerce are becoming important channels for foreign trade companies to obtain orders and expand their brands internationally.

"We obtained inquiries from over 9,000 overseas buyers via livestream in two months," said Wu Xinhe, marketing director of Maxevis, a tech firm based in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province.

Wu's company sells technology products for children such as smart water bottles. Its major overseas clients are in Europe, North America, and South America. During the Spring Festival holiday last year, the company decided to try cross-border livestream commerce on the international website of Alibaba, a Chinese e-commerce giant. To quickly capture the interest of overseas customers, Wu and the livestream team put a lot of effort into highlighting the product's features and selecting the target customers.

As a result, they acquired hundreds of new customers. "This growth is at least twice as fast as before," Wu said.

Maxevis is a vivid example of Chinese foreign trade companies in the exploration of cross-border livestream commerce. Statistics show that there are currently 645,000 companies nationwide with actual import and export performance, of which over 100,000 are engaged in cross-border e-commerce.



A salesperson peddles goods during a cross-border e-commerce livestream at the Ganzhou International Inland Port in Nankang district of Ganzhou city, east China's Jiangxi Province. (Photo/Zhu Haipeng)

Nowadays, "cross-border e-commerce" and "livestream" have become buzzwords among foreign trade companies. Bukrein, an import and export company based in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang province, has specifically equipped itself with a 5G livestream vehicle. The company's new customers gained from livestream have doubled each year.

Shanghai APCOM Compressor Machine Co., Ltd. has transformed its previous 3,000-square meter showroom, which was used to receive overseas clients, into a livestream studio. Every salesperson in the company has learned how to livestream.

The company has installed dozens of high-definition cameras in its factory, allowing overseas clients to watch the factory and place orders in real-time whenever needed. The overall returns greatly outweigh the outlay.

The rapid development of cross-border livestream is largely attributed to the continuous promotion by Chinese e-commerce platforms. According to data from Alibaba's international website, the number of overseas buyers watching cross-border livestream has increased by 127 percent year-on-year since 2023, bringing a 156 percent growth in business opportunities for foreign trade merchants.

Statistics from Chinese online retailer giant PDD showed that since the launch of its Temu platform in September 2022, it has expanded its business to over 40 countries across five continents, allowing many Chinese manufacturers to sell their products

to European and U.S. markets through cross-border livestream commerce.

A report released by the National Academy of Economic Strategy under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences said that livestream has become a new trend in generating data traffic both in China and abroad. Livestream commerce provides an interactive shopping experience that replicates the offline face-to-face shopping model. Some cross-border e-commerce entities have keenly targeted this new direction for "going global" in marketing their brands.

"The popularity of cross-border livestream commerce in China is mainly due to the country's strong supply chain, high-quality products, responsiveness to market demand, and attractiveness to consumers. These advantages are well demonstrated through cross-border livestream," said Pan Helin, a researcher with the International Business School, Zhejiang University.

He pointed out that the developed ecosystem of the livestream e-commerce industry in China provides a strong talent pool for cross-border livestream commerce to expand internationally.

With the development of technologies such as artificial intelligence and algorithmic recommendations, the models of foreign trade livestream commerce are changing.

"In the past, we relied on hosts working around the clock to sell products via livestream. Now, we only need a staff member to manage the 'digital host,'" said Wu. In December last year, Wu's company started

experimenting with a digital host for livestream. This not only effectively reduced labor costs but also increased the duration of livestream.

The digital host was an "all-around performer." It could accurately remember various products' features and prices, and was proficient in many languages. Through training, it could automatically answer questions based on keywords mentioned by users or play relevant short videos to explain the details and functions of products.

E-commerce platforms are also innovating in terms of livestream models and operational methods. Alibaba's international website has introduced many new technologies this year. For example, they have implemented a "time compass" feature to help foreign trade companies find the most suitable time slots for livestream. They have also added voice-to-subtitle and translation functions for livestream, which can convert the sellers' voices into real-time subtitles.

People's Daily

Morocco sends more humanitarian aid to Gaza at King's instructions

RABAT

MOROCCO, at the instructions of King Mohammed VI, Chairman of the Al Quds Committee, is dispatching a humanitarian aid, including over 40 tons of foodstuffs and basic products, to the Palestinian population in Gaza and the Holy City of Al Quds.

This aid, which coincides with the advent of the holy month of Ramadan, aims to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian population, notably the most vulnerable layers of the society, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement released this Tuesday.

Besides the institutional aid, deployed notably through the Mohammed V Foundation for Solidarity, the King has covered, from his personal funds, a large part of the dispatched aid, particularly the aid delivered to babies and young children, the statement said.

The ministry pointed out that since the outbreak of armed hostilities more than five months ago, Morocco is the first country to dispatch, through this unprecedented land route, its humanitarian aid which will be delivered directly to recipient populations.

The dispatching of the Moroccan assistance to Gaza by land is viewed as a humanitarian breakthrough, Morocco being the first country to do so since the outbreak of armed hostilities.

Until now, aid destined for the population of Gaza either went through Egypt, via the Rafah crossing, or was airdropped from aircraft. The latter option entails several risks, including the destruction of the airdropped foodstuffs or the falling of cargoes on the population, which may kill or injure some people.

Actually, conveying the assistance by land shows that the King, Chairman of Al Quds Committee, has achieved what great powers have not been able to obtain, as the land route was opened to King Mohammed VI thanks to his weight and position on the international scene, his aura, his moral authority, and his credibility.

Moreover, King Mohammed VI, Chairman of the Al Quds Commit-

The 'Summit for Democracy' -- An exercise in contradiction?

BEIJING

SINCE 2021, the United States has convened the "Summit for Democracy" twice, with its third installment taking place in Seoul from March 18 to 20.

Ostensibly claiming to "combat authoritarianism" and "support human rights," the summit triggers questions about the credentials, intention and ability of certain countries to lead such a global initiative.

Democracy, in its essence, is not just a political mechanism but also a broader cultural practice that respects diversity and encourages ideological pluralism.

It is about finding unity through dialogue and exchanges. However, the domestic and international actions of some big Western powers often mirror the very authoritarian behaviors they claim to oppose.

The Western democratic system shows signs of strain. Domestically, it grapples with deepening social divisions and a disconnect from public concerns, suggesting a systemic malfunction.

The chaos in some Western countries highlight the fragility of their democracy and the severity of political polarization.

Internationally, some actions often betray a hegemonic impulse. Military interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan, and economic sanctions against developing nations are perceived as endeavors to advance selfish interests under the guise of promoting democracy.

Such actions have not fostered democratic growth but exacerbated political, economic, and social problems in these regions.

Therefore, the "Summit for Democracy" should be an opportunity for introspection and problem-solving, rather than ignoring the challenges within Western democracies.

Xinhua

tee, has instructed Bayt Mal Al Quds Agency to provide a humanitarian aid to the populations of this Holy City.

Thus, 2,000 food baskets will be distributed to 2,000 households in Al Quds, and 1,000 meals will be served daily for Palestinians in the City. The aid also provides for setting up an emergency coordination room in the Jerusalem Hospital.

This large-scale humanitarian operation for the Palestinian population confirms the effective commitment and continued solicitude of King Mohammed VI for the Palestinian cause, the statement added.

This is not Morocco's first humanitarian operation in support of the Palestinians. In 2023, Moroccan aircraft transported 25 tons of humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza, delivered via the Rafah crossing from Egypt, and in 2018, the Kingdom deployed a medical-surgical field hospital in Gaza.

Therefore, Morocco's humanitarian aid to the Palestinian population in Gaza and Al Quds is part of a long tradition of active and concrete solidarity with Palestine.

It reflects the King's bold role, constant commitment, and long-standing support for the Palestinian Cause, confirms that Moroccan solidarity is not dictated by circumstances or conjuncture, but is steady and continuous; and evidences, if need be, that the Kingdom's positions towards the Palestinian Cause are clear, unshakable, and irreversible.

Agencies



The dispatching of the Moroccan assistance to Gaza by land is viewed as a humanitarian breakthrough, Morocco being the first country to do so since the outbreak of armed hostilities

SPORT



Tanzania Netball Association (Chaneta) president Devotha Marwa.

Tanzania lose to South Africa in Netball World Youth Cup Africa Qualifiers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SOUTH Africa's national U-21 netball team on Sunday underlined its superiority when the squad thrashed Tanzania 75-7 in the opening clash of Netball World Youth Cup Africa qualifiers that are played at the University of Pretoria's Rembrandt Hall.

The qualifiers will identify representatives for the 2025 Netball World Youth Cup penned for September in Gibraltar.

Tanzania Netball Association (Chaneta) president Devotha Marwa- who doubles as the leader of the delegation for Tanzania's squad in the tournament- said the squad did its best but was overpowered by the host. She, however, drew some positives from the match- saying the country has a lot of talented players that only need a little polishing.

"We lost our first game to South Africa, it was a good game only that we were overpowered by our opponents but I'm happy with our performance- the future looks bright," she said.

In the matches monitored on Supersport, the second match- which had Zimbabwe confronting Kenya- was more competitive with both teams attacking each other and at the end of the day, Zimbabwe won 49-39.

The other game witnessed Malawi locking horns with Namibia and the former garnered a 43-39 win.

The final game of the day pitted South Africa versus Zambia and the former walloped the latter 72-9.

Tanzania's netball team prolonged its woes having lost 55-17 to Namibia and, in another fixture, Zimbabwe beat Zambia 42-37. As we went to press, Zimbabwe was yet to face South Africa whereas Tanzania was scheduled to lock horns with Zambia.

Yesterday, Tanzania confronted Malawi whilst South Africa- the qualifiers' favourites- were to take on Kenya. In other encounters, Kenya locked horns with Malawi whilst Zimbabwe confronted Namibia. It is the first time that netball coach, Halleluya Kavalambi, is coaching the Tanzania U-21 netball team in the World Youth Cup Africa qualifiers.

Dar boxer reaches round of 16 in All-Africa Games

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIAN boxer Ezra Mwanjwango on Saturday reached the round of 16 of the Lightweight category of the ongoing All-Africa Games' boxing tournament taking place in Ghana.

He beat Seychelles boxer William Mohamed via the Referee Stopped Contest (RSC) in the second round after the referee had to stop the contest in the second minute of the round.

Mwanjwango yesterday came up against the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) boxer Frazer Mujinga in the quarterfinals.

Meanwhile, Boxing Federation of Tanzania (BFT) president Lukelo Wililo said the federation has been saddened by the injury that Flyweight boxer Abdallah Abdallah suffered during his round 16 bout against Ethiopian boxer Wibshet Bekele.

Abdallah- who is better known as 'Katoto'-

broke his arm in the third round of the fight that had him dominating his opponent.

The Flyweight boxer- who was rushed to the University of Ghana Medical Center for treatment- had an upper hand for the first two rounds, in which he scored 3-2 in the first round and cruised to a 5-0 victory in the second round.

He was slated to face Africa's Flyweight champion, Zambian Patrick Chinyemba, in the following round.

"We are very saddened by the injury that our boxer Abdallah suffered, it is painful because he was leading in all rounds and it only remained a few seconds before the end of the bout but we thank God that Abdallah is recovering well," he said.

Wililo said Abdallah was looking forward to facing the Zambian in the quarterfinals. Currently, The country has one medal in boxing which was won by Mussa Maregesi.

SPORTS

TFF should set up rules to help clubs combat unlawful contract termination

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

EVERY soccer player in Africa wants to win titles and play in African inter-club competitions and that is why he/she strives to show his/her prowess now and then with their current clubs.

Once such a player feels he/she can hardly live up to expectations in his/her club, he/she may opt to move to another outfit.

There is a new habit has become common in the Mainland Tanzania Premier League, in which some players decide to request trades while the transfer window has already been closed.

It all started with the then Yanga midfielder Feisal Salum as he forced a move to Azam FC, and with no actions taken to solve the problem so that other players could not force these moves.

Azam FC goal-getter Prince Dube recently requested a move out of Azam FC mid-season, with Yanga reportedly being a dark suitor on the deal.

In December 2022 Salum requested a move away from Yanga- having claimed that the club did not treat him well and he was hardly happy at the club. The midfielder deposited 112m/- into the club's account to exercise his release clause.

In Salum's transfer saga, a lot of legal issues were not resolved as President Samia Hassan intervened in what was then a long-standing backlash between Yanga and the player, and a solution was found after 24 hours.

He joined Azam FC after a 100m/- transfer fee was finalized between the two clubs, as far as I know, if the Court of Arbitration for Sport received such a case from Yanga, then Salum would have remained at the club.

CAS would have looked at a few provisions in the contract that Salum sealed with Yanga, in what language was the contract written?

Was there external and internal pressure when the midfielder was signing the contract? Was he mentally fit?

Was he not playing for the club? Did the club not pay his salary? That case would have many issues to look at and everything would have gone in Yanga's favour.

With Salum's case having not been presented to CAS, Dube has lately decided to use the same approach, tactics, and reason, via his letter to his club asking to terminate his contract- noting he is not happy at the club.

One may ask himself/herself this March, no transfer window is open for Dube to move to another club.



Zimbabwean forward Prince Dube. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

If his club agrees to his letter he stays out until next season without playing competitive football, he can currently move to another club but he will only train.

The wise move that Azam FC has made in Dube's approach is to agree to his letter and ask for \$300,000 for him to terminate his contract, which means 765m/- has to be paid by either the player of a club wishing to sign him.

Soccer fans may ask themselves the same questions they did during Salum's saga, is Dube not playing at his club despite reports that he had misunderstandings with his coach?

If he has been playing, has Azam FC lately not been depositing his salary? Has he not received his salary? Have other contract terms not been fulfilled? Has he signed his \$300,000 release clause? Yes, he has.

CAS would have been presented with an easy job if Azam FC decided to take this matter to it but the outfit has been wise- it has only asked for the contract terms to be adhered to.

Azam FC is in the race for silverware in the NBC Premier League and Azam Sports Federation Cup- letting Dube go mid-season is not a good move, but- for the club's stability- I can understand why it decided to let him go.

This is not right for the player and club, once a player decides to leave halfway through the season, what does it mean?

A club does not have a window to replace the particular player, Salum's name was listed by Yanga in the team for the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup.

The midfielder was also listed in other competitions, where would Yanga have got his replacement with registration windows closed? CAS would have solved the case easily in favour of Yanga.

Dube has decided to use the back door to terminate his contract because he is aware that everything is possible in Tanzania, considering he has people behind him, Salum also had people behind him, and such people were later made public.

The problem is soccer stakeholders in Tanzania

run football dishonestly and clubs are like cartels such stakeholders have concluded such an approach, with some of them siding with players like Dube and Salum.

One sad thing is that these players do not know that they are frustrating their careers as they will have to sit out for three to four months without playing, why should such footballers not wait until the end of the season and ask for the move to another club?

If Azam FC decides to terminate Dube's contract today, he will be without a team until June, three months from now, if he signs for another club midseason, he would not be able to play for it until August when the new season starts, which means he will be out for five and half months.

Why are players not willing to wait for the right time to make a move? Contracts should be respected, soccer enthusiasts in the country all know what Ghanaian winger Bernard Morrison did to Yanga, and now another foreign player has followed suit, what are they teaching our local players?

Although there is Salum as a local player who has done the same, where is the professionalism that these players can be glorified for?

Tanzania Football Federation has to work on the issue of players asking for either transfers or contract termination halfway through the season.

The federation ought to do so in the 2024/25 season to help clubs combat the fast-rising habit of players requesting trades while registration windows are closed.

Chama cautious about Simba SC vs Al Ahly tie

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

THE CAF Champions League quarterfinal clash between Simba SC and Al Ahly of Egypt has brought concern to the former's attacking midfielder -Clatous Chama- who emphasizes that it would not be an easy game.

Simba SC is set to lock horns with Al Ahly in the first leg of the last eight on March 29 after the quarterfinal draw of the CAF Champions League took place in Cairo, Egypt on March 12.

Chama was adamant that while Simba SC should respect Al Ahly for the latter's quality, they must also organize themselves to ensure they win the upcoming game.

The first leg of the exciting CAF Champions League quarterfinals is set to take place in Dar es Salaam on March 29, followed by the rematch to be held in Cairo between April 5-6.

Chama disclosed he believes his team's tie against Al Ahly presents an opportune moment for the Msimbazi Street side to etch their mark in the history of the CAF Champions League by upsetting the historically dominant champion.

Speaking of the encounter, Chama stated: "The game against Al Ahly will be difficult. Firstly, we must respect our opponents because they are a great team. We will respect them, but we don't fear them."

Reflecting on previous encounters, the Zambian midfielder noted: "We have already played with them several times. I think now it is time for us to make history."

The footballer said: "We need to understand that the team we're up against consistently reaches the final of the Champions League in Africa. Therefore, we must ask God to help us and protect us on the day of the game. Let's all prepare well and play our best."



Simba SC midfielder Clatous Chama.

Five months ago, Simba SC and Al Ahly faced off in the maiden African Football League, with the initial match held at Benjamin Stadium Mkapa on October 21 last year- resulting in a 2-2 draw.

The subsequent encounter which took place in Cairo on October 24 culminated in a 1-1 draw, which favoured Al Ahly that made it to the semi-finals through the away goals rule.

The sides' history extends further back to the Group Stage of the 2018/19 CAF Champions League, which had both teams progressing to the quarterfinals as they were in Group D.

Al Ahly led the group, with second-placed Simba SC as well securing progression to the knockout stage despite a 5-0 defeat away and a 1-0 win at home.

In the 2020/21 CAF Champions League Group Stage, the teams secured a 1-0 victory in their respective home ties, with Simba SC once again leading the group standings.

Simba SC successfully advanced to the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League by clinching the second position in Group B with nine points.

Throughout six games, they have secured two wins, suffered one defeat, and settled for three draws. ASEC Mimosas topped this season's Group B- which also included Simba SC- after notching 11 points.

Surprisingly, Wydad Casablanca failed to qualify for the quarterfinals for the first time, while Jwaneng Galaxy finished at the bottom of the group.

In a historic moment during the Group Stage, Simba SC dominated Jwaneng Galaxy with a remarkable 6-0 victory in their decisive group fixture held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Ten Hag hopes landmark Liverpool win can be Man United turning point

LONDON

ERIK ten Hag believes Manchester United's thrilling 4-3 FA Cup quarter-final victory over Liverpool can be the launching pad for a successful end to a troubled season for the Red Devils.

United's final chance at silverware this season appeared to be slipping away at Old Trafford on Sunday as twice the home side needed to come from behind late on to end Liverpool's chances of a quadruple in Jurgen Klopp's final season.

Amad Diallo's breakaway goal in added time of extra-time won a chaotic tie in the 121st minute and could prove to be a turning point in Ten Hag's reign.

United are now huge favourites to reach the FA Cup final for a second consecutive season after being paired with Championship side Coventry in the last four.

Ten Hag had been under rising pressure as his side sit sixth in the Premier League, nine points adrift of even a place in the top four and exited both the Champions League and League Cup early.

But the former Ajax boss believes his side are on an upward trajectory having lost just twice in 12 games in 2024.

"This could be that moment, the team have the belief and energy to do amazing things," said Ten Hag. "When you beat Liverpool you can beat any opponent."

United's young guns came to the fore as Alejandro Garnacho and Kobbie Mainoo shone before Diallo came off the bench to score just his second ever goal for the club.

"The first 35 minutes we show again that the future of this team is very bright. There is huge potential.

We have to get it out and get consistency."

United sped out of the blocks and were rewarded when Scott McTominay tapped home his ninth goal of the season after Garnacho was denied by Caoimhin Kelleher.

Defeat was just Liverpool's fifth in all competitions this season, two of which came with weakened sides in the group stages of the Europa League.

Klopp admitted his side showed the first signs of fatigue from a draining schedule, but they did not go down without a fight.

Two goals in three minutes towards the end of the first half turned the tie in the visitors' favour as Alexis Mac Allister blasted past Andre Onana before Mohamed Salah struck for the 13th time in 14 games against United.

United's challenge was petering out meekly until Antony came off the bench to score at Old Trafford for the first time in over a year when he found the far corner three minutes from time.

"You see he is fighting as well and wants to contribute," added Ten Hag, who has been heavily criticised for spending £86 million (\$110 million) on the Brazilian winger.

Antony's equaliser set the fuse for a frantic finale as Liverpool hit the post through Harvey Elliott before Marcus Rashford missed a glorious chance even before extra-time.

Elliott's deflected effort put Liverpool back in front in the 105th minute, but Rashford made amends by drilling home to level at 3-3.

And just as Liverpool sensed the chance to win it from a corner at the death, Garnacho broke clear and teed up Diallo to score his first United goal in three years.

AFP

Leverkusen extend unbeaten run to 38 as Bundesliga title nears

BERLIN

FLORIAN Wirtz scored after 84 seconds as Bayer Leverkusen made it 38 games unbeaten in all competitions with a 3-2 victory in Freiburg on Sunday.

Leverkusen's seventh league win on the bounce kept them 10 points clear of serial champions Bayern Munich with eight games to play in their quest for the club's first ever Bundesliga crown.

"It was a good performance, a deserved victory. It's not easy to win in Freiburg but we keep going," Leverkusen coach Xabi Alonso told DAZN before praising the performance of his playmaker Wirtz.

"It's not just the goal he scored, he has a super game. He has real quality and I am very happy for his development."

Wirtz, one of Leverkusen's key performers this season, got things moving in style. The Germany forward cut in from the left and unleashed a perfect shot with his right foot, chalking up his seventh league goal of the campaign.

The early goal stunned Freiburg, who came into the game fresh from a 5-0 thrashing at the hands of West Ham in the Europa League, with Leverkusen to face the Londoners in the quarter-final of the competition next month.

Freiburg responded against the run of play though, with Japan forward Ritsu Doan exchanging passes neatly with Lucas Hoeler to drill a low shot beyond the unsighted Lukas Hradecky.

Leverkusen put their noses back in front before half-time though, with Adam Hlozek tapping into an empty net after a mistake by Freiburg goalkeeper Noah Atubolu.

Patrik Schick put the gloss on another convincing victory for Alonso's team, with a sensational finish to a scintillating Leverkusen counter-attack.

Jeremie Frimpong's cross from the right was caressed into the top corner by the Czech striker, who was the Leverkusen hero on Thursday with two stoppage-time goals against Qarabag in Europe.

Yannik Keitel pulled one back for Freiburg but the damage was already done, leaving the hosts in ninth and with European qualification slipping away.

In the final game of the weekend, Borussia Dortmund left it late against Eintracht Frankfurt but eventually secured a 3-1 win to stay a point ahead of RB Leipzig in the race for fourth spot.

Dortmund, who beat PSV Eindhoven in the Champions League last week to set up a quarter-final showdown against Atletico Madrid, fell behind to a breakaway Frankfurt goal by former hero Mario Goetze in front of the Yellow Wall.

But the hosts struck back through Karim Adeyemi before the break.

Mats Hummels' diving header from Julian Brandt's free-kick put Dortmund ahead for the first time in the 81st minute, with Emre Can's stoppage-time penalty adding the gloss.

"We've now won our last four games and go into the international break with a much better feeling than we had two weeks ago," Hummels said.

"We're all very satisfied to be in the quarter-finals of the Champions League but, in the Bundesliga, of course we're lagging behind."

AFP

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Freiburg responded against the run of play though, with Japan forward Ritsu Doan exchanging passes neatly with Lucas Hoeler to drill a low shot beyond the unsighted Lukas Hradecky.

Manchester United's epic FA Cup comeback rewrites Jurgen Klopp's farewell story

By Richard Jolly

ERIK ten Hag was skipping down the touchline in ungainly, awkward joy. A match to save Manchester United's season, in his own description, may end up saving his job.

It certainly ensured that Liverpool will not win the quadruple, that Jurgen Klopp's reign will not end at Wembley in May's FA Cup final and, as a result, that he will not face Pep Guardiola in England again.

But while United often delight in Liverpool's misfortunes, the euphoria reflected an extraordinary end to an epic encounter. This was about United, about the manner of their rescue act and the improbability of it all. Amad Diallo's lone United goal came three years ago.

He has been a bit-part figure at best, but he emerged from the margins to come off the bench, deliver an extra-time winner and be sent off for his celebration. While Ten Hag danced, Amad removed his shirt, at a cost of a second caution, but the telling part was the lightning counterattack. Alejandro Garnacho releasing the Ivorian to slide his shot past Caoimhin Kelleher.

Finally, in a seven-goal affair of fluctuating fortunes and emotions, seven months into Liverpool's astonishing season, someone had found a way of stopping them in a competition. United did it the long way, the hard way, the dramatic way. They mustered a rousing, rattling start, capped by Scott McTominay's 10th-minute opener. They trailed twice but they came back on each occasion.

Amad was not the only surprise scorer. Not when their 88th-minute equaliser was doubly unlikely, in that it came from Antony and via a right foot he generally only uses for stand-



Amad Diallo fires home Manchester United's late, late winner (Getty)

ing on. It was his first goal against anyone other than Newport County for 336 days. When Ten Hag required a saviour, he may have found one in his worst signing.

Marcus Rashford, meanwhile, had his own redemption tale. Having missed the chance to win it with the last kick of regulation time, shooting wastefully wide, his radar was better attuned in extra time when he latched on to McTominay's pass to level.

For United, it was a show of spirit that they have only infrequently produced this season. It was a major scalp for a team who, two wins over Aston Villa apart, have rarely beaten the better sides. It was a sign Ten Hag could still motivate them, that they could still perform under pressure. For a manager whose first United victory was against Liverpool, 19 months ago, it was another way of exorcising the ghost of last season's 7-0 hammering.

And it left Liverpool in a strange position: out of something. This was a match that had many of the hall-

marks of their triumphs this season, yet it brought defeat. They are practised in the art of the comeback and staged a four-minute turnaround at the end of the first half. Their season has been notable for the success of Klopp's signings, and Alexis Mac Allister scored as he and Wataru Endo excelled, despite the Japanese's inability to stop the winner.

Substitutes have been a story of Liverpool's season, Klopp conjuring goals and assists from the bench. He found another scorer from the ranks of his replacements. Harvey Elliott's 105th-minute strike seemed to be an Old Trafford winner by a Liverpool fan.

Instead, that advantage was swept away as United, irrepressible and ultimately irresistibly, rebounded. The replacements to finally exert a decisive impact were Antony and then Amad, two of a raft of attacking changes by Ten Hag. Perhaps Liverpool's Herculean efforts of late took a toll as they were unable to hold on to leads.

Certainly they have been able to

fight on four fronts even without a watertight defence. On a day when Kelleher made several saves, he still conceded four. As the shot count for the two teams passed half a century, he and Andre Onana both showed a defiance.

And while a gulf can sometimes seem to separate Liverpool and United, there were two tales of resolve and resourcefulness to the responses. United struck first, subjecting Liverpool to a dose of their own medicine with a swift start. Kelleher had already denied Rashford when he blocked a Garnacho shot, only for McTominay to poke in the rebound.

Liverpool assumed control. Endo had a goal disallowed then Mac Allister's shot was deflected in off Kobbie Mainoo. He was teed up by Darwin Nunez but the instigator of the move was Jarell Quansah, surging out of defence in the manner of the injured Joel Matip. Then Mohamed Salah fired in his ninth goal in six games against United after Onana parried Nunez's shot.

But a different, less prolific, left-footed right winger had his say. Antony squeezing in a shot on the turn. Then it was Elliott, fresh from hitting the post with an audacious shot from an acute angle, whose effort deflected in off Christian Eriksen.

Yet when Ten Hag felt beleaguered, his side showed the traits of Sir Alex Ferguson. They never gave up. They saw their season coming to a death and gave it new life. There was Rashford, then there was Diallo. Behind after 112 minutes, ahead after 120, United turned the game around; perhaps a campaign and a reign too. Because there were four goals for them. And now there won't be four trophies for Liverpool.

THE INDEPENDENT

Lewandowski-powered Barca thrash Atletico Madrid to stay in title race

BARCELONA

ROBERT Lewandowski inspired a resurgent Barcelona to a 3-0 triumph at Atletico Madrid on Sunday to keep their faint La Liga title hopes alive.

Lewandowski set up goals for Joao Felix and Fermin Lopez either side of striking himself to pull Barcelona second, eight points behind leaders Real Madrid.

The Catalans, who returned to the Champions League quarter-finals this week after four years, became the first team to beat Atletico at the Metropolitan stadium this season.

Barcelona were the last team to win at Atletico in the top flight too, in January 2023, with Diego Simeone's team going 25 matches without defeat in between.

They crumbled against Xavi Hernandez's side, who now have five consecutive wins over Atletico and are unbeaten in 10 matches since the coach said he would leave at the end of the season.

Barcelona moved two points clear of third-placed Girona, while Atletico are now fifth, after Athletic Bilbao moved above them on Saturday.

"I'll push the (players) more than ever," Xavi told DAZN, refusing to throw in the towel on Barcelona's title defence. "And now that I'm leaving, even more so - we will try to improve and compete for La Liga and the Champions League, the two most important trophies."

Atletico played 120 minutes on Wednesday against Inter Milan in Europe and although Barcelona saw off Napoli a day before, it was Simeone's side who started sharper.

Pablo Barrios spurned a good early chance and 17-year-old starlet Pau Cubarsi blocked Alvaro Morata's effort.

However, Barcelona took the lead against the run of play after 38 minutes.

Ilkay Gundogan glided forward from midfield and found Lewandowski, who squared for on-loan forward Felix to turn home against his parent club.



Barcelona forward Robert Lewandowski celebrates scoring his team's second goal in the rout of Atletico Madrid. Agencies

The Portuguese striker scored the only goal when the teams met in December and again proved a thorn in Atletico's side while being whistled by home fans throughout.

Xavi was dismissed before the break for dissent but his team kicked on regardless in the second half.

Simeone sent on Antoine Griezmann and Memphis Depay, searching for more spark in the final third.

Lewandowski quickly doubled Barcelona's lead with a lethal finish, after Rodrigo de Paul gave the ball away in a dangerous area.

Barca goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen made a superb save to

deny Marcos Llorente but Atletico were starting to tire after their midweek exploits.

Lopez headed home Barca's third after Lewandowski set him up with an inch-perfect cross, with the veteran Polish striker offering one of his best performances for the club.

The goal capped a superb week for Lopez, who also scored in the win over Napoli.

"We're believing until the end, (now we're in) second place, trying to cut the points gap and fight for La Liga," Lopez told DAZN.

Atletico's Nahuel Molina was sent off for bringing down Vitor

Roque late on as Barcelona saw out their impressive win, keeping a fourth consecutive clean sheet in the league.

"They were superior, they put away their first chances for goals," Simeone told DAZN. "We'll keep pushing for fourth place, it will be difficult, tricky, that's normal ... we have to keep improving, a lot."

Earlier Almeria ended a miserable streak by earning their first La Liga win of the season, edging Las Palmas 1-0.

The Andalusian side went 31 league games without victory stretching back to May last season, but Leo Baptista's 14th-minute goal snapped their terrible run in coach Pepe Mel's first match in charge.

Despite winning on the road, Mel's side are still 20th and 14 points from safety with nine matches remaining.

Almeria's 31-match run is the longest winless streak in the division's history, but they are now level with Sporting Gijon's lowest ever points tally from 1997-98.

"Winning today means a liberation (for the team) ... winning three points and changing the dynamic," said Mel.

Victory ensured Almeria will not tally fewer points than Derby County's 11 in the Premier League in 2007-08, which is the lowest total across Europe's top leagues since teams started earning three points for a win.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Manchester United's epic FA Cup comeback rewrites Jurgen Klopp's farewell story

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Azam FC head coach Yousseph Dabo.

Dabo credits Azam's FC compact defense for win over Yanga

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM FC head coach Yousseph Dabo reveals his side's solid defense and being clinical up front was the key to Sunday's 2-1 comeback victory over Young Africans SC at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

The Chamazi Street outfit fell behind to striker Clement Mzize's strike, 10 minutes into the first half in which Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, seemed to dominate.

Winger Gibrill Sillah though kicked off an amazing comeback with an equalizer for Azam FC nine minutes later before offensive midfielder Feisal Salum's strike sealed maximum points for the hosts.

Reacting to the game in a post-match press, Dabo said his side was strong in the defensive end and disrupted the opposition at different times.

Dabo explained their game plan was based on nullifying their visitors, especially in the central zone and they were excellent value for the win, ending Yanga's run of seven straight league wins.

The Senegalese gaffer noted: "This game involved the two best attacking sides in the league. I told my players that the team that will manage the different defensive situations wins the game because these are two sides with big scoring abilities."

Dabo revealed: "We needed to reduce space, especially in the central zone because Yanga likes having five to six players in this zone playing short passes to bring out the opponent and find space behind the defensive line."

"I told my players the first thing is to block the space to prevent them from finding Stephane Aziz Ki and force him to go to the flanks," the tactician stated.

"After that, the defensive line just needed to manage the space behind them. I think we did well, especially in the second half."

"In the first half, we made some mistakes behind our defensive line. We were efficient in the two boxes in a kind of game that you need to be efficient if you want to win," the tactician pointed out.

The vital win reduced the gap between Azam FC and leader Yanga to five points, while they are two points ahead of third-placed Simba SC.

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In the first half, we made some mistakes behind our defensive line. We were efficient in the two boxes in a kind of game that you need to be efficient if you want to win

NBC Bank awards Gamondi NBC PL Best Coach for February

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC), the proud sponsor of Mainland Tanzania Premier League, has honoured the league's Best Coach for February - Young Africans SC's Miguel Gamondi - by awarding him cash and other prizes.

The prestigious award was presented to Gamondi just before the start of the league's match between Azam FC and Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

Despite Young Africans SC's 2-1 defeat to Azam FC in the match, the recognition of Gamondi's coaching excellence brought a moment of celebration.

During the award handover ceremony, David Raymond, NBC Bank's Head of Marketing, presented Gamondi with a special award along with a symbolic cheque worth 1m/-.

The gesture reflects the bank's long-standing tradition of honouring outstanding players and coaches with such rewards every month.

Ley Matampi, Coastal Union's Congolese goalie, was also announced as the winner of the Player of the Month award for February.

"Being the sponsors of this league, we take great pride in witnessing a highly competitive league with exceptional standards of play," the NBC Bank official pointed out.

"Despite the presence of numerous foreign players, the fact that local players are still excelling and receiving these awards is a testament to the clubs' ability to nurture and elevate their talents," Raymond disclosed.

Raymond also emphasized that the bank is committed to implementing various strategies to ensure that the teams benefit even more from their sponsorship.

One such strategy involves providing bus loans to the participating clubs to facilitate their transportation needs.

This plan encompasses several steps that will eventually lead to the successful provision of transportation for the clubs.

The NBC Bank's Head of Marketing said: "Our endeavours extend beyond football, as we also support other sports such as golf and athletics. We will soon be launching this year's NBC Dodoma Marathon, which takes place annually in Dodoma."

"Through this event, we aim to raise funds for the midwifery training scholarship program and the treatment of cervical cancer, a challenge that significantly contributes to maternal mortality," he added.

He said NBC Bank's dedication to the development of sport in Tanzania is evident through their ongoing support and initiatives.

By prioritizing the growth and well-being of athletes, the bank continues to make a positive impact in the lives of thousands of individuals, both within and outside the sports community, he added.



NBC Bank's Head of Marketing David Raymond (L) is pictured presenting a special award to Young Africans SC's head coach Miguel Gamondi after the coach was announced as the NBC Premier League's Best Coach for February. The occasion took place before the kick-off of the league's match between Azam FC and Young Africans SC at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Yanga coach cries foul after defeat to Azam FC



Yanga's head coach Miguel Ángel Gamondi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC head coach Miguel Gamondi has laid siege to the refereeing personnel after his side lost 2-1 to Azam FC in their NBC Premier League clash at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday evening.

Gamondi's side, alias Yanga, went in front early thanks to a 10th-minute strike by Clement Mzize.

Djibril Sillah's strike nine minutes later levelled things up before a second-half half-volley from Feisal Salum handed Azam FC the win and sweet revenge.

Speaking on the equalizer after the match, Gamondi said it should not have stood as it was an offside that the running linesman should have spotted.

The coach told the media: "I have nothing to say other than we lost the game. We made a big mis-

take in the first goal. We started very well but after that, you saw what happened with the referee."

Gamondi queried: "Was it offside or not offside? I don't know what happened in the game as well if you don't know if it was either offside or not."

The Jangwani Street outfit's Ivorian midfielder Pacome Zouzoua had to be taken off in the 30th minute of the game after picking up a knock.

Speaking about the incident, Gamondi accused Azam FC of deliberately kicking the Ivorian attacking midfielder.

Gamondi remarked: "Why did I substitute Pacome? Injury. Did you see how the kick was delivered? I think it was deliberate."

"Not only that, there were a lot of things. I am not so happy, sorry you must understand I am not in good condition to talk because if I talk they will say the coach is looking for excuses," the gaffer said.

In addition to poor officiating, the Argentine coach who suffered his second league defeat of the campaign mentioned

fatigue that has seen his team play every three days since the start of the month including travelling to Egypt for their final CAF Champions League Group Stage match against Al Ahly.

Gamondi stated: "But do you think it is normal to play five games in 17 days? A trip to Egypt to play for the country because Yanga and Simba SC both represent the country."

"They made us play five games while Azam FC didn't play for 15 days. When we ask to play in the big stadium, they say no but Azam FC can play. They take advantage."

He queried: "When you have all these issues - tiredness, referees because the linesman was running and saw it was a clear offside. What about the second goal, was it offside or not?"

The defeat sees Yanga's lead at the top of the league table cut to five points. With 10 games to go, the defending champions find themselves seven points ahead of third-placed Simba SC who have two games in hand.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

