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Cynthia Stacey



BUSINESS

Tigo hands over 40m/- to the first 20 winners for the Pesa Mwaa Mwii promotion

Exim Bank, ZATI seal pact to speed up Z'bar tourism industry

Mbeja students set for a brighter future with classroom furniture donation from Coca-Cola Kwanza Ltd

KCU to boost coffee prices, farming practices

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Minister says private sector should help train medical specialists

By Guardian Reporter

PRIVATE sector initiatives are needed to complement government efforts in improving healthcare in the country by training specialists as there is a big shortage of such services.

Health minister Ummu Mwalimu issued this appeal at the weekend, at an event to mark eight years of the Mo Dewji Foundation, which houses the Mo Scholars Programme, training a number of medical specialists each year.

Areas that need support include neurology, where Tanzania has just a handful of specialists, she said, citing data from World Neurology, a newsletter of the World Federation of Neurology, which in 2017 said that Tanzania had only seven practicing neurologists.



Now, eight years later, with 11 associate universities, we are sponsoring 115 students while priding ourselves with 40 who have graduated

They are supposed to serve all the 60m inhabitants of the country, which means that those needing such services largely go unattended.

The time has come for business community to chip into the training of neurologists, she said, expressing gratitude at the fact that some business people were already doing this, citing the case of Mohammed Dewji.

He has contributed a lot towards the health sector, the minister affirmed, noting that the government recognizes his efforts and contribution in various sectors including health. He met the treatment cost for 100 children struck with blood cancer through the Mothers' Hope Fund, as well as providing medical equipment for aiding stillborn babies, she stated.

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Samia approves 67 villages to remain in forest reserves

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has endorsed that 67 villages inside forest reserve areas in Morogoro Region remain in those areas, implicitly declassifying the village lands as reserved areas.

The measure is part of accommodations being sought by the sixth phase government to end land conflicts involving 975 villages countrywide.

Dr Angeline Mabula, the minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development, made this observation when addressing Morogoro regional officials on conflicts regarding land use in the region over at the weekend.

The minister was leading an inter-ministerial committee visiting the region to explain cabinet positions on various land conflicts, explaining decisions for implementation of recommendations on solutions to land use conflicts affecting 975 villages.

Among the recommendations is to leave 366 villages in designated forest reserve areas, while other proposals in-



Many of these challenges are contributed by government officials especially in reserve areas. Here in Morogoro Region there are 46 villages that have been registered inside the reserve areas,

clude identifying reserve areas that had lost merit for this entitlement, so that they are allocated for village use. Still another is to adjust boundaries between forest reserve areas, wildlife reserves and habitations, she said.

Apportioning some reserve areas to farmers and herders, reviewing laws relating to land use, water sources and deregistering farms that have not been developed are other recommendations now being implemented, the minister

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Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has a quick word with former British Prime Minister Tony Blair at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Photo: State House.

Blair Institute helping in Z'bar priorities planning



He assured the visiting statesman that the Zanzibar government values his institution's contributions as it has the potentiality to help clarify how ...

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Mwinyi has praised former British Prime Minister Tony Blair for supporting the revolutionary authorities in the quest for better governance strategies including setting out priorities for speedier development.

A State House statement said yesterday that President Mwinyi

issued this appraisal when conversing with the retired premier as he paid him a courtesy call at the State House over the weekend.

The Tony Blair Institute for Global Change has been able to support Zanzibar government's efforts by providing training on identifying priorities, a step that is essential in overall planning and implementation of develop-

ment projects, he stated.

He assured the visiting statesman that the Zanzibar government values his institution's contributions as it has the potentiality to help clarify how Zanzibar ensures that its development plans succeed.

For his part, Blair briefed his host about steps being taken by his institution in bringing up clarity to ensure that strategies and

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Lake Burunge drying up as main tributary course shifts

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Babati

LAKE Burunge—an important ecological and tourism feature in Babati District, Manyara Region—is on the brink of drying up after its main tributary river changed its course recently.



Lake Burunge still has ample water, thanks to ongoing rains and smaller rivers that flow in there, but conservationists fear that, once the long rains end, much of the lake could dry up

The large water body and a hotspot for migratory birds is

in danger of drying after the Tarangire River which is its main water supply, recently changed its course and is now flowing into the nearby Lake Manyara. Members of the Journalists' Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET), who recently visited the adjacent Burunge Wildlife Management Area

backed by the United States International Development Agency (USAID), witnessed a parched river channel earlier letting out water from Tarangire River into Lake Burunge. Several tipper trucks were inside the river basin scooping sand

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Minister says private sector must help train medical specialists

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"The equipment provided helped a lot in saving the lives of the babies," she said, directing her neurology training appeal to be noted businessman saying that the country so far has 16 neurologists while the number needed is 600. Educating two experts in neurology would do to help handle cases of people brought to hospitals with cracked skulls and nerves.

She told the audience of discussions with President Samia on the issue, who agreed that the ministry sends some hospital staff to enhance their skills in that sphere, but had still to find a university for them to be directed for such studies.

The philanthropist Mo pledged to render assistance in the health sector including sponsoring students pursuing neurology as requested by the government, expressing satisfaction that more than 100 Tanzania youths had benefitted from the Mo Scholars programme.

The Mo Dewji Foundation was set up in 2015 with a dream to improve communities in health, community development and education as part of the fight against poverty, he stated, recalling his return from studies in the United States and being shocked to see creeping poverty among the youth. Many youths were failing to finish secondary school and thus having no hope to pursue higher education, he explained.

He similarly noted that when he was 24 years of age he was elected MP for Singida Urban and made sure he built 15 new secondary schools, more or less doubling the enrolment level of secondary school students in the constituency.

The foundation and the Mo Scholars programme sponsor youths to higher education, those lacking financial ability to meet their education costs, he elaborated. He had so far spent 2bn/- to run the programme, having 10 students in the first year at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM).

"Now, eight years later, with 11 associate universities, we are sponsoring 115 students while priding ourselves with 40 who have graduated," he said. "In the next ten years we shall expand our sponsorship to reach 1,000 students," he added.



NMB Bank Plc CEO Ruth Zaipuna (5th-R) in a group photo with other NMB staff after she was bestowed with a Bank CEO of the Year award during the annual Financial Women Awards ceremony held in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Samia approves 67 villages to remain in forest reserves

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noted.

Morogoro Region has 81 villages out of the 975 experiencing land conflicts, where 67 villages will now be formally allocated those areas and the boundaries of 14 other villages need to be verified, she stated.

The Kilombero River Basin in-

corporating reserve forests that contribute water to the Rufiji River whose water flows to Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project (JNHPP) is one among potent conflict areas on habitation, she pointed out.

In addition to rectifying the status of villages in reserved areas, the government demands that every institution oversee its responsibility to protect its land areas from invasion, and the raising queries

about habitats later.

Regional officials need to make sure the relevant procedures are followed in implementing the government decision, with a view to stopping further encroachments, she emphasized.

She stated that people with the habit of invading farms that have been deregistered by the government were trespassing, thus planning authorities at local council

level must make sure all these areas are verified before habitation or farming permits are issued

Mary Masanja, the deputy minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, said district authorities were doing a great job in various fields but there are challenges in the supervision of reserve areas.

"Many of these challenges are contributed by government officials especially in reserve areas.

Here in Morogoro Region there are 46 villages that have been registered inside the reserve areas," she remarked

Hamis Chillo, deputy minister in the Vice President's Office (Environment) stressed the importance of enhancing awareness on reserved areas. Common sense should be uppermost when implementing government decisions, he added.

Blair Institute helping in Zanzibar priorities planning

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targets Zanzibar takes up are implemented and bear fruit.

He also praised Dr Mwinyi for his efforts in making sure Zanzibar gets sustainable development and pledged that his institution will continue supporting Zanzibar. The Blair Institute has in place an elaborate programme on appraisal of Zanzibar government plans to ensure they are implemented in a straight forward manner, the statement indicated.

Already, the Institute has provided training for senior government officials on strategic planning in regard to priorities, including permanent secretaries, heads of departments and others, which took place last month at the Maruhubi Tourism College at Unguja Island, it added.



Alexander Njombe (2nd-L), a senior partner with KPMG Tanzania, exchanges documents in Dar es Salaam yesterday with Tanzania Association of Accountants President Godvictor Lyimo on an agreement meant to empower accountants and auditors in the country in addressing accounting challenges. Looking on are TAA vice president Victorious Kamuntu (R) and KPMG East Africa audit partner Vincent Onjala. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Ukraine war creates woes and also an opportunity for Africa, Dr Adesina says

JOHANNESBURG

THE African Development Bank (AfDB) is aiming to raise \$1 billion to rapidly ramp up agricultural production in Africa and stave off a potential food crisis brought on by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, its president told Reuters on Friday.

But the war, which has sent commodities prices soaring, is also an opportunity for the

continent to position itself as a natural gas supplier for Europe and a refuge for investors fleeing Russia.

During the coronavirus pandemic, Africa has not seen infection rates and deaths on the same levels as many more developed regions. Its economies, however, have been battered and its rebound has proven sluggish.

Like much of the world, African

nations are staring at rapidly rising consumer prices, with the war in Ukraine endangering global wheat and corn supplies and sending fuel prices soaring.

"Already, coming out of COVID we have 24 million people that are falling further into extreme poverty, and that's going to worsen the situation," Akinwumi Adesina said.

To avoid a food crisis, he said

the AfDB was planning to launch an emergency food production plan that would focus on rapidly boosting wheat, maize, rice and soybean output on the continent.

"The plan is to produce roughly 30 million metric tonnes of food and to get technology into the hands of 20 million farmers. So you're looking at big scale with small-holder farmers," he said.

Expert urges more investment in TB elimination in Africa

By Special Correspondent

THE attainment of the tuberculosis elimination goal among high-burden African countries will only be possible subject to robust investments in prevention and diagnostic and treatment tools, an expert has said.

Lucica Ditiu, executive director of Stop TB Partnership, an international health lobby, said African nations and their partners must tackle financing bottlenecks to rejuvenate the fight against the highly contagious bacterial disease.

"Overall, TB funding in Africa falls short compared to the huge disease burden and associated deaths," Ditiu said in a statement released in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, on World TB Day.

She said governments should invest in early diagnosis and active case tracing, treatment therapy for vulnerable groups like factory workers and slum dwellers in order to limit the negative impact of TB on public health infrastructure.

Statistics from the World Health Organization (WHO) indicate that Africa is home to 17

out of the 30 high-burden TB countries globally, and that 2.5 million cases reported in the continent in 2020 accounted for a quarter of the global burden.

Annually, the sub-Saharan African region requires at least 1.3 billion U.S. dollars to cater for TB prevention and treatment, but countries contribute only 22 percent of the budget, with external lenders contributing 34 percent, according to the WHO.

Ditiu said under-funding has compromised TB diagnosis, treatment and care in Africa, leading to loss of lives. She said Africa reported about 549,000 deaths from the disease in 2020, 2,000 more than in 2019.

Ditiu challenged governments, industry and multilateral lenders to ramp up investments in surveillance, early warning, research for new vaccines and therapeutics, in order for the continent to become TB-free.

World TB Day, which is celebrated on March 24 every year, seeks to raise awareness on the devastating impact of the disease to public health systems and economies.

Lake Burunge drying up as main tributary course shifts

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and gravel for construction purposes, illustrating that the river bed sand or stones were now just resources being harvested. Benson Mwaise, executive secretary for the WMA said that Tarangire is a big river and as it

flows downhill from the national park, it used to split into two branches, the first leading to Lake Burunge and the second channeling water into Lake Manyara.

Heavy rains that precipitated in the area late last year caused the Tarangire river to swell and erode much of its banks, where tons of debris built up causing

blockage inhibiting flow into one outlet that was feeding Lake Burunge, he explained, noting that mounds of soil, rocks and vegetation waste created a wall now blocking the preventing currents that fed the channel leading to Lake Burunge. For that reason Lake Manyara is overflowing, submerging a considerable part of the wildlife

corridor for instance at Mto-wa-Mbu township, such that wildlife authorities were compelled to transfer zebras and wildebeests from the area deeper into Tarangire National Park, he said.

Lake Burunge still has ample water, thanks to ongoing rains and smaller rivers that flow in there, but conservationists fear

that, once the long rains end, much of the lake could dry up. Tarangire is any all-weather river maintaining its water flow to the two lakes whether it is during the rainy season or dry periods, he pointed out. Mapped within the Babati District of Manyara Region and Monduli District of Arusha Region, Lake Manyara covers

470 square-kilometres and is the lifeline of the national park surrounding it.

Lake Burunge covers 40 square kilometers, chiefly identified with the local WMA as the wildlife watering area, with the total area made up of ten villages, he added.

200 teachers benefit from vocational skills training

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

A TOTAL of 200 teachers from various educational institutions have been equipped with essential vocational skills that will help them teach more students at a time while protecting themselves from communicable diseases.

Director of vocational education and training from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology Dr Noel Mbonde, said this over the weekend when closing a three-week training on online course for 200 teachers

from various regions from mainland and Zanzibar held here.

The training was funded by the Better Education for Africa's Rise II (BEAR II) through the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Dr Mbonde said: "This number is out of 800 targeted teachers."

He also said the number of students is increasing in the country but teachers were still insufficient due to old age, retirement and exhaustion to stay in the cadre for a long time, something which needs more strategies to

address the gap.

He said they have been receiving many complaints from various teachers training institutions on shortage of teachers and it was doing all it can to reduce the challenge including investing in online teaching to reach more students at a time.

"When Covid-19 knocked on our door one year ago, the ministry of education was holding daily sessions, until midnight, to see how it would enable students to study in such a difficult environment, but also to see what policies would make the way

which we have used for that period can continue in the future and thank God we succeeded and the students continued to study in our colleges," Dr Mbonde said.

Project Coordinator of the (BEAR II) Deodatus Banzi said that program offers technical support to help partners identify areas where the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system in Tanzania can be improved in terms of relevance, quality and perception of the system with the global objective of giving young people a better chance

of accessing decent employment or generating self-employment.

He said that BEAR II seeks to improve among other aspects by working jointly with Ministries like Education, Labour, Agriculture, Environment, Regional Administration and Local Government and public authorities in charge of TVET (VETA, NACTE).

Banzi said that numerous private sector organizations and trade unions, public and NGO training providers and development partners are working to enhance the ongoing ef-

forts towards governance, quality of the training and links with industry.

UNESCO through BEAR II project has collaborated with Swiss contact Tanzania under the skill of employment Tanzania (SET) which uses the 21st century skills for TVET teachers Training, Methodology and Development of Online and Distance e-learning (ODEL).

Zamda Saidi, one of the participants, asked the government to provide them with teaching materials in their centres so as to facilitate smooth teaching and enhance quality.



Lulu Shikonyi (2nd-R), KCB Bank Tanzania's head of operations, pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend presenting to a representative of the city's Mwananyamala Regional Referral Hospital representative various items for use at facility's maternity and children's wards. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Dr Nchemba: Government to increase budgets for farming, livestock and fishing sectors

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

FINANCE and Planning minister, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba has pledged that in its coming 2022/23 Budget, the government will increase funding to the agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors to enable them contribute to people's income and that of the nation in general.

Dr Nchemba made the pledge here at the weekend when he met with and held discussions the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Mashimba Ndaki on how investment of public funds in his ministry can bring benefits in the livestock and fisheries sectors.

He said that if the livestock and fisheries sectors initiates steadfast infrastructures in reliable areas that can bring about determinate results, they can create great revolution on people's incomes and enable the nation enhance its economic growth.

Dr Nchemba cited an example in regard to the development on national ranches and fishing activities by having in place reliable equipment including fishing boats, saying investment in these areas will enable the country to produce ample livestock and fishing products that can be exported to earn foreign exchange.

He advised Minister Ndaki to direct financial resources to be provided

to areas with processing plants aimed at adding the value chain as well as facilitating in the availability of raw materials for the plants.

For his part, the Finance and Planning Permanent Secretary, Lawrence Mafuru stressed that the aim for more providing funds is to show at the moment the government wants to see the money becomes investment, instead of ordinary spending.

He said if important sectors such as farming, livestock and fishing are improved, they will have huge positive results economically and socially because they will increase employment and will expand export volumes thereby alleviating poverty, as well as enabling the country pay its national debts.

For his part, Livestock and Fisheries Minister Mashimba Ndaki explained that the money to be provided by the government will be directed to areas that will improve fishing activities and they expect to purchase 248 fishing boats, build fishing ports and markets thereof at strategic areas.

In regard to livestock sector, Ndaki said extra efforts will be directed to improving the livestock in national ranches and special herders' groups, improve extension services and fattening the livestock to earn more profit.

Minister rallies stakeholders to assist women economically

By Guardian Correspondent

THE government has called upon stakeholders to continue assisting it in empowering women economically because they have great contributions in the development of families, communities and the nation in general.

The remarks were made at the weekend by Dr Dorothy Gwajima, the Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups at a function to present prizes for winners of "Malikia Wa Nguvu 2022 Contest" held at Mlimani City in Dar es Salaam.

Dr Gwajima said the government continues to empower women by creating an enabling environment for those showing efforts in enhancing themselves economically and appealed to stakeholders to support these efforts.

"President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been mobilising you, and you 'Malkia Wa Nguvu' have shown a good example in support of government efforts by creating this contest that aims to economically enhance women," said Dr Gwajima.

She explained that about 51.04 per cent of Tanzanians are women while global statistics show that women are half of the world's population and have big contribution economically whereby more than 80, per cent of the labour force in the farming sector is made up of women and that they produce about 60 per cent of all the food in the country.

She added that in empowering women the government has taken various steps aimed at improving women incomes and alleviating poverty by allocating 62.68bn/- in

FY 2021/21 for loans to women, youth and people with disabilities in all local councils countrywide.

"But also, by June 30 2021, 53.81 loaned to 7,993 groups of women, youth and people with disabilities, equivalent to 86 per cent, out of which 28.17bn/- was dished out to 4,894 women groups that created 52,428 jobs

countrywide," she said.

She added that commercial banks, loans totaling 22.3bn/- was given to 6,326 women entrepreneurs in the period July 2020 to April 2021 in 26 regions of Tanzania Mainland.

The minister said the government supports all efforts from various stakeholders aimed at economi-

cally emancipating women, including Clouds Media Group (CMG), organisers of "Malkia Wa Nguvu" contest.

Earlier, welcoming Minister Gwajima, CMG Director, Joseph Kusaga said they have been with the procedure for many years aimed at making sure Tanzanian women make economic achievements.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA MINISTRY OF WORKS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

1. The public is hereby notified that there will be a movement of special load from **Holili to Moshi** by vehicle with registration number(s) **KDB189J / ZG5310, KCW051Z / ZG2320, KBO 628Z/ZE 0941 & KCW052Z / ZG3212 of Spedag Interfreight.**
The Journey is scheduled to start on **24.03.2022 to 05.04.2022**

2. Special load Dimensions:

Length - 28.4 M
Width - 5.0 M
Height - 5.6 M

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Ruth Kidasi, a human resources officer with Tanzania Breweries Limited in Mbeya Region, plants a tree at the company's premises in Mbeya municipality at the weekend as part of firm's commemorative World Water Week 'water stewardship' initiatives. Looking on are other TBL employees who soon later followed suit. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Severe hunger threatens 28 million people in East Africa, says Oxfam

By Guardian Reporter

UP to 28 million people in East Africa are at risk of extreme hunger due to hikes in food and commodity prices most of which is as a result of the Ukraine war and potential lack of rain this March, non-profit organisation Oxfam warned.

According to the organization, there is a real chance that the international community will not respond adequately. The development organization Oxfam warns

about this today.

Millions of people in East Africa are already experiencing severe food insecurity. Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia are experiencing the driest weather in 40 years, meanwhile, South Sudan is tackling ongoing flooding, the group said.

"The effects of the Ukrainian conflict on the global food system will reverberate around the world, but it will be the poorest and most vulnerable people who will be hit hardest and fastest," said Gabriela Bucher,

Oxfam's executive director.

"Rising food prices are a sledgehammer for millions of people already suffering from multiple crises, and are making the massive shortage of aid potentially deadly."

Describing the global response as "woefully underfunded" a press release stated that only 3% of the \$6bn (£4.5bn) United Nations (UN) 2022 humanitarian appeal for Ethiopia, Somalia and South Sudan had been funded.

East African countries get up to 90% of

their wheat from Ukraine and Russia, the press statement said.

One farmer said the lack of food and water is impacting his cattle: "Due to the droughts our donkeys have perished and the ones remaining are too weak to pull carts," Ahmed Mohamud Omar from Wajir County, Kenya, said.

"I think about what my family will eat, where their next meal will come from, whether I will get the daily jerry can of water," he continued.

Women to access maternal health information online

By Guardian Reporter

WOMEN from different parts in the country will now be able to access free health education online, thanks to the Jubilee Insurance Company and Aga Khan Hospital for coming up with the programme.

Dubbed "Women Club Programme", the initiative is aimed at enabling women to be aware of various health issues related to maternal health, nutrition, lifestyle and other crucial issues that concern women's health.

Speaking at the launching event recently in Dar es Salaam, managing director for Jubilee Insurance, Dr Harold Adamson said the platform will be run through an open 'WhatsApp' group thus enabling women to have easiest and quickest access to information about health and they will be able to ask questions and receive concrete answers from health specialists.

"The women club is a friendly means of connecting women and health specialists to discuss learn and have ample time to talk to health specialists, women have some issues that need concerns of health specialist and due to some different difficulties they have been failing to contact or even meeting them so mom's club is the answer for them."

Dr Adamson was concerned over the rise in the number of cesarean deliveries and urged health stakeholders to work on and help to address the challenge.

"May be the reason is lack of proper nutrition or pregnant women fail to follow the clinic's health education from the nurses and if so it means there is a need to change the education techniques that's why the mom's club comes in" he added.

Health education coordinator for Dar es Salaam Regional Administrative Office, Dr Alana Ndomba urged the health centre to find a friendly means of talking to pregnant women during the clinic so that they can understand and find the clinic as the best place for their health.

She was impressed with the initiatives taken of opening the moms club due to its smooth operation that is reachable and offers free chance for women to ask questions over their health issues and urge pregnant women to use the platform while attending the clinic.



May be the reason is lack of proper nutrition or pregnant women fail to follow the clinic's health education from the nurses and if so it means there is a need to change the education techniques

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF VENDORS FOR THE YEAR 2022-2023

The Benjamin William Mkapa Foundation (BMF) is a Trust incorporated in Tanzania under the Trustee's Incorporation Ordinance (Cap.375) since April 2006 with a vision of Healthy Lives and Well-being for All, in Tanzania and the rest of Africa. The Foundation works in close collaboration with the Government of Tanzania and partners through designing and implementing projects/initiatives that are in alignment to the national frameworks and priorities, particularly in the health sector for the underserved areas. We operate with Headquarters in Dar Es Salaam and field offices located in Dodoma, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa, and Mbeya regions.

BMF now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders (including current supplier's / service providers/ contractors/ consultants), for pre-qualification for the supply of goods and services for the year 2022 - 2023 for the under listed. **The period of performance is from July 2022 to June 2023.**

Category A: Supply of Goods

Tender No.	Description of Goods
BMF/PP/2022-2023/G/01	Supply of Protective Gears, Working Tools, Medical and Non-medical supplies for Health Workers at facility and community levels
BMF/PP/2022-2023/G/02	Supply and Installation of Tents, Chairs and Generators for BMF related activities
BMF/PP/2022-2023/G/03	Supply of Tyres and Tubes to all BMF vehicles.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/G/04	Supply and Installation of Office furniture and fittings at BMF HQ and Field Offices.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/G/05	Supply of General Stationeries, Toners, and Cartridges at BMF Headquarters and field offices.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/G/06	Supply of Computers, Printers, General ICT Equipment and Photo copiers at BMF Headquarters and Field Offices.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/G/07	Supply and Installation of wireless communication equipment, normal and networking devices.

Category B: Non-Consulting Services

Tender No.	Description of Non-Consulting Services
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/01	Provision of Air Travel Services at BMF HQ and Field Offices
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/02	Provision of Car Rentals in all regions of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/03	Provision of Maintenance and Servicing Motor Vehicles (Dar es salaam, Mwanza, Iringa, Mbeya, Dodoma and Arusha).
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/04	Supply of Fuel for BMF vehicles (Dar es salaam, Mwanza, Iringa, Mbeya, Arusha and Dodoma).
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/05	Provision of Hotel Accommodation in all regions of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/06	Provision of Conference Services in all regions of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/07	Provision of Printing Materials at Headquarter Dar es Salaam and field offices in Dodoma, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa and Mbeya regions.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/08	Provision of Office Cleaning Services at BMF HQ and field offices located in Dodoma, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa and Mbeya regions.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/09	Provision of Maintenance and Services of computers and photocopies - Headquarter Dar es Salaam and Field Offices.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/10	Provision of Media, Publicity & Communication Services.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/11	Provision of Photography and videography services for BMF related activities
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/12	Provision of General Insurance Services (Vehicle Insurance, ICT Equipment, Burglary, Public liability, Medical etc)
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/13	Provision of Legal Services to BMF.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/14	Provision of Event Management Services
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/15	Provision of Fumigation Services in Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mwanza, Mbeya, Arusha and Iringa Offices.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/16	Provision of Internet Services to BMF HQ and field offices located in Dodoma, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa and Mbeya regions.
BMF/PP/2022-2023/NCS/17	Provision of Security services to BMF HQ, Field Offices and Senior Staff Residence. (Dar es salaam, Dodoma,

- Interested eligible bidders may download the pre-qualification document from BMF website through this link: www.mkapafoundation.or.tz and pay a non-refundable fee of TZS 50,000 (Fifty Thousand Shillings only) per tender/lot. The payment shall be paid through the Bank Account Name: BENJAMIN WILLIAM MKAPA FOUNDATION, A/C NO. 01J094770801 at CRDB Bank Ltd;
- The payment receipt MUST be attached to each application form submitted as a proof of payment. Any application submitted without the receipt will be rejected. All bids in one original plus one copy properly filled in and enclosed in plain envelopes clearly marked the relevant Tender number and details of the tender, must be delivered physically at BMF Offices as per the address below, on or before 3:30pm local hours on April 08th, 2022;

The Chief Executive Officer,
The Benjamin William Mkapa Foundation (BMF),
P. O. Box 78274,
Office Building Block No.6, Mlimani City Office Park
Sam Nujoma Road, Ubungo,
Dar es Salaam

- Bidders wishing to submit more than one bid must ensure that each bid is submitted physically in a separate envelope that is clearly marked with Tender number and description of the Tender;
- The bid document must consist of, application letters, company profile/physical address and contact, legal trading documents (TIN Certificate, VRN Certificate, compliant to the Government's Tax Regulations and current business license);
- Any application not received, not opened, and not read out in public at the opening ceremony shall not be considered for evaluation, irrespective of the circumstance. Telegraphic, Telefax and late application will be rejected.
- BMF reserves the right to accept or reject any application and is not bound to give reasons for its decision.
- BMF shall not be responsible for misplacement or premature opening of the documents, which are not sealed.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information through Email: procurement@mkapafoundation.or.tz

Note: The Mkapa Foundation is committed to the highest ethical standards of transparency, openness, and accountability in its affairs. The Mkapa Foundation promote a "Zero tolerance" policy towards fraud and corruption, you may report by submitting you complains via <http://whistleblow.mkapafoundation.or.tz/> All communications should be channelled to the provided official correspondence email above.

Released by

The Chief Executive Officer

Experts: China's experience boosts Africa's sustainable development

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

IN spite of abundant resources, a large population and a vast market, Africa is still the world's least developed continent, beset by continuous poverty and hunger.

Sharing a similar underdeveloped past with Africa, China achieved its ambitious goal of eliminating extreme poverty in 2020, improving the living standards of hundreds of millions of people through decades of development.

Experts said China's conspicuous success in alleviating poverty could be of valuable guidance for Africa in its fight against poverty and pursuit of sustainable development.

In sub-Saharan Africa, most people live on less than 1.9 U.S. dollars a day, the World Bank's extreme-poverty benchmark.

According to the United Nations (UN), because of the COVID-19 pan-

dem, the economy of sub-Saharan Africa is expected to see serious deterioration, with an additional 26 million people living below the international poverty line.

Cavince Adhere, a Kenyan international relations expert, said that China's success in alleviating rural poverty through leveraging technology-led farming methods is an inspiration to Kenya and other developing countries.

"Contrary to many countries where development is often associated with investments in cities and other urban centers, China prioritized rural areas in its poverty reduction efforts where agriculture played a major role," Adhere said in a recent commentary.

He said that China has become the first developing country to achieve the first of the UN's 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs), adding that modern farming has hastened the re-

alization of that feat.

"China's efforts offer good insights for Kenya's socio-economic transformation," he said.

Paul Zilungisele Tembe, a researcher at the University of South Africa's Thabo Mbeki African Leadership Institute, said China's experience is a model to the world about what is possible when there is decisive leadership, uninterrupted legal and policy continuity, bottom-up people's empowerment, solid intergovernmental relations and private sector partnerships, and leveraging contextual circumstances including geography, politics, technology.

All these factors have coalesced and translated into "poverty eradication with Chinese characteristics," said the expert, adding that "it is not inconceivable for South Africa to replicate the Chinese model of ending poverty in all its forms."



Chinese experts work in a paddy field in the demonstration area of Nariou village in Burkina Faso. File photo



Kigamboni district commissioner Fatma Almas Nyangasa speaks at the launch of a Tigo shop at Palm Village Mall in Dar es Salaam's posh Mikocheni suburb at the weekend. Right is Tigo Coast Zone director Uthmaan Madati. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Chamwino District Council exceeds domestic revenue collections target

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

CHAMWINO District Council has made an impressive collection in domestic revenue. With the set target to collect a total of 2.1bn/- during 2021/22 fiscal year, the district has already collected at least 90 per cent of the targeted collections, with the remaining amount expected to be achieved come next month.

The chairperson of the Chamwino District Council, Edson Sweti informed the Guardian in an exclusive interview that the impressive development in the district's own revenue collections has been achieved due to effective management and improvement of key economic sectors with the region.

He said come next financial year of 2022/23, the District is targeting to escalate its domestic revenue collections estimations, at the tune of 3bn/-.

Among the key sectors which gently

attributes to the District's revenue gains, according to him, include crops selling, fishing activities and diverse commodities auctions. "We're working hard to ensure for effective revenue collections in all possible sectors in order to get enough monies to support development of socioeconomic areas in our district," he assured.

He appreciated efforts so far done by the government, through the ministry of agriculture to educate the farmers and provide them with improved seeds; the initiative which he observed has so far fetched fruitful results.

For years, Chamwino used to experience untold famine due to numerous challenges in food production, the poor situation which saw some residents compelled to survive through eating tree roots and insects. Chamwino districts Agricultural Officer, Godfrey Mnyamale expressed gratitude in agriculture improvement in the District.

The District is climatically suitable for the grown of grapes, wheat, sugar cane, maize and sorghum among others. "Through mutual cooperation with the parent ministry and other stakeholders from the private sector, we're happy that we at least made a good space in crop production," he informed.

According to reliable data availed to the Guardian, during the fiscal year 2021/22 Bahi District set to collect a total of 1.7bn/- in terms of domestic revenue, but now it has reached at least 51percent of its target.

Others, with their revenue collections targets and attained collections in brackets include, Chemba (target 1.6bn/-, collected 58pc), Dodoma District (target 50bn/- collected 53pc), (Mpwapa, target 2.2bn/- collected 48pc), Kondoa (target 1.5bn/-, collected 32pc), and Kongwa, estimations was 3.2bn/- and what has so far been attained is at least 59.2pc.

'All is well for DRC to join East African Community'

By Guardian Reporter

THE Democratic Republic of Congo is all set to be admitted as the seventh member of the East African Community.

The EAC secretariat says all arrangements are in place for the extraordinary heads of state summit on March 29, when Kinshasa will be formally received in a virtual session. The Council of Ministers held the 48th Extraordinary Council meeting on Friday to put the final touches on the admission plan.

"There is only one issue that we are discussing, and that is DRC," Dr Kevit Desai, Kenyan Principal Secretary, EAC and Regional Affairs, told The

East African. "The review mission is over, the negotiations are over. We are on the ninth step, which is basically creating a format for the summit."

The Council is set to present to the heads of state the decision for adoption.

Among the issues being discussed include the ratification process of the EAC instruments by Kinshasa and whether the process has undergone internal ratification through the Congolese parliament. "The DRC has a parliament and has to ratify their decision to join the bloc. Parliament ratifies such decisions. They still have to go to parliament and it can take six months or so. But they will have moved into the final step into now

joining the bloc," said Dr Desai.

The meeting was attended by all EAC partner states ministers in charge of EAC Affairs and was chaired by Kenya's acting EAC and Regional Affairs Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina.

"DRC will be present on the 29th at the summit," PS Desai said. DRC comes into the bloc with a huge market of 90 million people and the potential to contribute to an expanded market and investment opportunities to boost the EAC Common Market.

Already, Kinshasa has bilateral and multilateral cooperation arrangements with EAC partner states in various areas, including Customs, infrastructure and productive and social sectors.



MUHIMBILI NATIONAL HOSPITAL

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) is a tertiary Specialised and Super Specialist Hospital in Tanzania organized into nine Directorates with bed capacity of 2,178 out of which 1,570 beds are at the Main Upanga Hospital and 608 beds are at Mloganzilia facility which is 30 km away from the main Hospital. The Hospital serves between 2,000-3,000 Outpatients and 1,500 - 2,000 Inpatients per day.

In order to achieve its objective the Hospital is looking for a competent and experienced person to fill the position below for 2 years contract (renewable on mutual agreement)

1.0 CLERK OF WORKS - (2 POSTS)

1.1 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- To observe quality of construction in accordance with the contract and assist in preparation of progress reports.
- Consider and evaluate Contractor's suggestions and recommendations, discuss with the Project Supervisor and help in making decisions where appropriate
- Maintain accurate records of construction works at the construction site in an orderly manner in accordance with procedures.
- Review and verify application for payments submitted by the Contractor and submit recommendations on the way forward
- Assist in reviewing the list of items to be completed or corrected which are Submitted by the contractor for issuance of a Certificate of Substantial Completion.
- Provide assistance in final inspection of the work and in reviewing the record documents to be furnished by the contractor upon completion of the work
- To perform any other related duties as may be assigned by his/her supervisor.

1.2 QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

Holder of Bachelor Degree in Architecture and must be Registered with Architecture and Quantity Surveyors Registration Board (AQRB) with Minimum of 2 years of working experience

1.3 REMUNERATION

Attractive package in accordance with Hospital salary structure.

2.0 QUANTITY SURVEYOR - (1 POST)

2.1 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist in establishment and control of projects' cost estimates and quantities
- Assist in preparation or review of projects' Bills of Quantities
- Assist in ascertaining projects materials
- Assist in initial and preliminary budgeting and cost planning of projects
- Advice on cost effectiveness of design and construction methodology
- To perform any other related duties as may be assigned by his/her supervisor.

2.2 QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

Holder of Bachelor Degree in Building Economics/Quantity Surveying or related field and must be Registered with Architecture and Quantity Surveyors Registration Board (AQRB) with Minimum of 2 years experience.

2.3 REMUNERATION

Attractive package in accordance with Hospital salary structure.

3.0 CIVIL ENGINEER - (1 POST)

3.1 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist in day to day supervision of Works in Hospital Projects
- To carry out specified routine technical tasks
- Assist in performing duties related to the profession
- To perform any other related duties as may be assigned by his/her supervisor.

3.2 QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

Holder of Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering and must be registered with Engineering Registration Board (ERB) with minimum of 2 years experience.

3.3 REMUNERATION

Attractive package in accordance with Hospital salary structure.

4.0 SYSTEM DEVELOPER - (4 POSTS)

4.1 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Actively participate in project scoping, design, development and testing
- Studying organizing requirements, conferring with users; studying current HMIS flow, data usage, and work processes, investigating problem areas.
- Develop tools and applications by producing clean, efficient code
- Automate tasks through appropriate tools and scripting
- Review and debug code developed internally and by external software vendors
- Perform validation and verification testing of the developed software
- Collaborate with internal teams and vendors to fix and improve products
- Ensure software is up-to-date with the latest technologies

- Support the analysis, problem definition, requirements, solution development and proposed solutions to determine foot for purpose.
- Document and demonstrates solutions by developing documentation, flowcharts, layouts, diagrams, charts, code comments and clear code.
- To perform any other related duties as may be assigned by his/her supervisor.

4.2 QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

Holder of Bachelor degree in Software engineering or Computer Science or Information technology or its related field. Applicants demonstrating to have the following knowledge and skills shall have added advantages:

- Knowledge of trending Health Information Systems and Technologies in the market
- Minimum of 2 years working experience in software development
- Familiarity with Agile's Scrum development methodologies
- Knowledge of selected programming languages (e.g Java, C#, PHP, Python, C++ and the J2EE platform
- In-depth knowledge of relational databases (eg PostgreSQL, MySQL and NoSQL database (e.g MongoDB)
- Familiarity with various operating system (Android, Linux, Mac OS, Windows).
- In-depth knowledge of mobile frameworks at the OS level (iOS, Android & windows)
- Strong experience with REST API and web services
- Problem-solving and follow-through; pragmatic and thorough

4.3 REMUNERATION

Attractive package in accordance with Hospital salary structure.

5.0 SYSTEM ANALYST - (1 POST)

5.1 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Deploy, maintain and troubleshoot core business applications, including application servers, associated hardware, endpoints and databases,
- Meet and coordinate with internal and external stakeholders to establish project scope, systems goals and requirements,
- Develop, analyze, prioritize and organize requirement specifications, data mapping, diagrams and flowcharts for developers and testers to follow,
- Translate highly technical specifications into clear non-technical requirements
- Manage the set-up and configuration of systems,
- Define and coordinate the execution of testing procedures and develop test cases to serve the overall quality assurance process,
- Provide documentation of all processes and training as needed,
- Develop and implement maintenance procedures, monitor systems health, gather system statistics and troubleshoot reported errors and alarms,
- Perform design, implementation and upgrades of information systems to meet the business and user needs,
- Implement best practices for scalability, supportability, ease of maintenance and system performance.
- To perform any other related duties as may be assigned by his/her supervisor.

5.2 QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science or Information Technology or related field
- Minimum of 2 years working experience in health information technologies and system analysis. Applicants demonstrating to have the following knowledge and skills shall have added advantages:
- Strong computer, hard ware, software and analytical skills
- Proven ability to assess business needs and translate them into relevant solutions
- Strong understanding and knowledge of the principles and practices associated with database maintenance and administration
- Experience installing, configuring, documenting, testing, training and implementing new applications and systems.
- Working knowledge of a wide variety of programming languages

5.3 REMUNERATION

Attractive package in accordance with Hospital salary structure.

6.0 MODE OF APPLICATION

Applicants must send application letter attached with certified copies of academic certificates and up-to-date Curriculum Vitae (CV) with three referees with reliable contacts, postal address, e-mail, and mobile numbers to either of the following address:

Executive Director,
Muhimbili National Hospital,
P.O.Box 65000,
Dar es Salaam.
OR
Email: hrt@mnh.or.tz
Application Deadline: 06th April, 2022.






GRANTS FOR THE MANUFACTURING OF COVID-19-RELEVANT MEDICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat, the European Union (EU) and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany are jointly supporting the "COVID-19-relevant Medical and Pharmaceutical Products" (CMPP) Component.

The CMPP Component is now calling for project proposals from private companies, state-owned companies and institutions (including universities and research centres) located in the SADC region. These project proposals shall increase local production capacity of affordable and innovative COVID-19 relevant medical and pharmaceutical products. Specifically for this call, these project proposals shall focus on any of the following: (i) items relevant for COVID-19 vaccine administration (e.g. syringes, needles, plasters, gloves); (ii) items relevant for COVID-19 vaccination management (e.g. cold chain equipment, dry ice, vaccine carriers, deep freezers, vaccination monitoring tools); and (iii) items relevant for COVID-19 clinical management (antivirals such as molnupiravir, COVID-19 tests, dexamethasone, oxygen concentrators, oxygen flasks, nasal cannula; (iv) items/machinery relevant for COVID-19 vaccine production (e.g. production machinery, adjuvants, stabilisers, preservatives, vials, stoppers, packaging). The CMPP Component will allocate grants ranging from EUR 50,000 to EUR 200,000 to selected eligible proposals. Eligible companies and institutions are expected to finance at least 25% of the project's total costs and to complete the project within twelve months, which must be reflected in the proposal. The detailed call for proposal, which has a link to the application form, can be found on the SADC website: <https://tinyurl.com/SADCSIPSCall2>. The submission of applications deadline is 25th of April 2022 18:00hrs (Botswana time).

CMPP Component is part of the joint action "Support towards Industrialization and the Productive Sectors in the SADC region (SIPS)." It is co-funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is being implemented by the SADC Secretariat and the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

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Vodacom's M-Pesa director Epimack Mbeteni (L) has an audience with National Bank of Ethiopia and Safaricom Ethiopia officials in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. The visiting delegation was in Tanzania chiefly to learn about the provision of integrated financial services through mobile phone networks. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Kigoma farmers receive new oil palm harvesting and processing technology

By Guardian Reporter

OIL palm farmers in Bulingwe and Uvinza areas, Kigoma region have vowed to advance economically after receiving a new technology in separating palm kernels and the husks at the Centre for Agriculture Mechanisation and Rural Technology (CARMATEC).

In addition to the technology, they also a machine that simplifies the harvesting palm fruit bunches and transporting them.

Speaking to the Guardian recently, one of the farmers from Simbo Village, Athuman Bijenje said the machines are on trial basis and is a sign in rescuing farmers as it was difficult for them to separate the kernel from the husks as well as in harvesting oil palm fruits bunches.

He said from the new technology, they have seen the signs of advancing economically as they spend only a short time to get the palm oil, that is very much in need in the country and beyond.

Another Simbi villager, Hassan Kilanoza praised CARATEC and the government for the machines, saying in the past they used to fall off

from the palm trees injuring themselves.

"Today the machine hoists you up and cut the palm bunches and can carry 300kg of the load, why should we praise the government and CARMATEC," he asked.

For his part, CARMATEC Acting Technology Director, pastor Mrosso said the technologies have been acquired from China and later modified to Tanzania's environment and were being tried in Kigoma Region.

"The machines will assist in finding solution to the challenge in regard to the availability of edible oil in the country," he said.

CARMATEC Acting Director of research and Development, Godfrey Mwinana said the institution aims to establish a demonstration factory for people to learn about processing, various harvesting technologies and palm oil processing for small farmers.

He said the factory will be built by the government and will be ready in three years' time.

CAMARTEC is a government organization responsible for production and marketing of agricultural implements in Tanzania.

YAM project produces useful outcomes for youth's lives

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

YOUNG people from vulnerable backgrounds in Mufindi district, Iringa region have hailed the implementation of the Youth Agency Mufindi (YAM) project, saying that it has started to produce positive outcomes in their lives.

The four-year YAM project is designed to help disabled children solve life issues enabling them to lead dignified lives and also to help vulnerable young people to take control of their lives through improved motivation, skills and opportunities.

This was revealed yesterday

during a 10-day entrepreneurship workshop that brought together 100 young people from Ihanu, Mdabulo and Luhunga wards of Mufindi District.

Adelina Hava, one of the beneficiaries said the training on entrepreneurship education and the benefits of embracing the various available opportunities has awaked a number of youth in the area.

"Some young people did not have enough education on how to create opportunities and how to take advantage of the opportunities and how to access various loans. The YAM project has opened our eyes," she said.

She noted that there were some parents who have been preventing them from joining youth groups that will enable them to take action on economic projects.

"But through the projects, parents have also recognized the importance of groups and are now encouraging their youth to join the groups," she said.

However, the young lady said that as a result of the training she now believes she will be a catalyst for her colleagues to join groups and thus benefit from various opportunities including loans.

She also asked the government to continue providing loans to young people as well as education on how to run projects and repay the loans.

Members of the Village Child and Youth Protection Committee (VCPC) Arnold Kinayevene and Augustino Julius said that there had been significant changes in the social and economic trends of the youth who are on the project unlike before the project started.

That these young people have great opportunities to work in their villages including raising pigs, poultry and other livestock including the cultivation

of maize.

Recently speaking to the youth, Mufindi district commissioner Saad Mtambule, apart from congratulating the project coordinators, urged the young people who were fortunate enough to be included in the project to become project designers and help address various challenges facing the society.

He also urged them through the project to form economic groups so as to benefit from loans.

He said the district government would not like to see young people roaming in the

streets without work.

YAM project manager in Mufindi Zilpa Mgeni thanked the government for showing a high level of cooperation in the project which is aimed to transform youth's mindsets and lives.

"My team and I have found this project helpful because we have noticed that it is significant to improving people's lives," said Zilpa.

He also called on the government to provide more cooperation, especially in assisting with access to credit, so that the beneficiaries can access capital and be able to develop themselves.

Zilpa said the aim of the train-

ing was to empower more than 770 young people including 150 orphans from the three wards.

He said the YAM project is implemented for four years from 2021/2024 and is funded by the government of Finland's Deaconess Institution in partnership with the Tanzanian government under Mufindi District Council and Foxes Community and Wildlife Conservation (FCWC).

Chairman of Mufindi District Council, Festo Mgina, urged the youth to participate fully and listen to what they are taught and promised to support them to ensure they get loans.



Health minister Umy Mwalimu (C) presents a certificate to Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology student Paul Michael for becoming one of the best students sponsored under the Mo Scholars Programme. The event was held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Looking on is the programme's founder, Mohammed Dewji (Mo). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt set to improve maize production

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE government is working to improve production of maize in the country from current between two and four tonnes per hectare to at least eight and ten.

The robust programme which generally focuses to stimulate productivity in production of all key crops, incorporate efforts to improve availability and accessibility of five major agro-inputs.

The inputs include improved seeds varieties, water, irrigation schemes, pesticide as well as agro-machineries.

Speaking over the weekend during a special gathering which attracted key agricultural stakeholders, including seeds agents from private and public sectors, the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the agriculture ministry, Professor Siza Tumbo said Tanzania was far lagging behind in maize production, the grim situation which denies the country to benefiting from lucrative maize market in the world.

"For years now, Tanzania has been struggling to compete and benefiting from the vast world maize market due to low ebb in maize production and productivity," he observed.

He detailed, while the world maize market currently attract more than 170million tonnes per year, Tanzania is annually producing only 6 million tonnes, with surplus of not more than one million tonnes.

To that end, he observed that the government was currently striving to implement possible initiatives to help improve the performance of the sector, to produce for domestic consumption as well as enabling the country to stand at comfortable position to benefit from the available lucrative global maize market.

"At the government level, we're now very determining to scale up maize production through improving research and production of enough improved seeds varieties, moreover, to motivate more farmers to invest into large plantation of the country's major staple crop food," he insisted.

Together with such envisaged strategies, he added that the government was keen to strengthen cooperation with the stakeholders from the private agricultural Institutes, es-

pecially those dealing with seeds production and agro-machineries.

"Among nagging challenges the agriculture sub-sectors in our country include low adoption of improved and hybrid seeds varieties among majority of the farmers in Tanzania," he noted.

With improvement in irrigation schemes, he said the country will have capacity to produce seeds for different crops varieties throughout the year.

He urged the seeds agency companies in the country to turn more creative in order to spur performance of the vital sector.

"As part of your service delivery, make sure you include packages to educate your client farmers on use of improved seeds varieties, as well as recommended agronomic practices," he advised.

He was speaking when giving remarks at a climax of a special gathering of the seeds stakeholders organised by the Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) which convened in Dodoma Capital City.

Among other, the meeting was tailored to chart viable mechanisms to improve production and distribution of improved seeds varieties towards the farmers, and solving challenges that upsetting the sub-sector.

Speaking at the meeting, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ASA, Dr. Sophia Kashenge said the state-owned Agency will continue working round the clock to produce enough seeds varieties and make them available to the farmers at affordable prices.

She said the Agency is planning to install modern irrigation schemes to its seeds production farms at the tune of at least 250 acres.

"This will be done in three different ASA's seed farms with an eye to increase production".

She said, added: "We are expecting to start soon the installation of centre pivot irrigation systems in two farms, including Msimba in Kilosa and Arusha farm, hoping that these projects will be very helpful in our journey towards Seed multiplication transformation process."

By Getrude Mbagu

Insurance players urged to be more creative

THE government has urged players in the insurance industry to work hard and be more creative so as to support the achievement of the goals highlighted in the country's Financial Sector Development Master Plan of 2020-2030

Deputy Commissioner of the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) Khadija Issa Said made the call over the weekend in Dar es Salaam during the graduation ceremony of the first batch of Advanced Insurance Leadership Training Programme. The course was provided by Strathmore University in collaboration with the Association of Tanzania Insurers (ATI) and

the Africa College of Insurance and Social Protection (ACISP).

"The 10-year Master Plan, among other things, requires enhancement of capacity building for players and staff in the insurance sector. So, this program is evidence that we are walking as per plan," she said.

She explained that despite the significant progress made in the insurance sector in Africa and especially in Tanzania, there are various challenges facing the industry, including low awareness of citizens, especially those in the rural ar-

reas. Khadija said with the goal of attaining a public uptake of 80 percent by 2030, the government, players in the industry and other stakeholders have to work to increase penetration of insurance services to more people and stimulate financial inclusion.

She said that the master plan has set ambitious goals for the insurance sub sector within a decade to reach 50 per cent population coverage of the adult population. She further noted that insurance is a key to the country's financial inclusion agenda considering the fact that the bulk of growth of the

financial sector in the coming decade is hinged on insurance. "The master plan also seeks to ensure that 10 percent of beneficiaries of retirement plans use annuity products by 2030; ten new demand driven insurance products developed; 90 per cent of the population have health insurance by 2030 and 20 percent of the adult population have life savings products." Stephen Kirori, Director Regional Academies (Africa) at Strathmore University emphasized the importance of service with purpose while encouraging the graduates to apply the knowledge acquired for the greater

good of society. He said a total of 22 senior leaders from various private institutions have graduated and will go back to improve services in their offices.

ATI chairman, Dr. Khamis Suleiman; "This day marks the first graduation ceremony of the Advanced Insurance Leadership Training Programme, we thank Strathmore for partnering to provide this training and we are sure that it will help improve services." He commended the government for taking various measures to support the growth of the industry but called on it to further work on some challenges that are still affecting the sector.

Recognise TB in all development programmes, AMREF urges govt

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

AMREF Health Africa has urged the government and other stakeholders to include Tuberculosis (TB) in their strategies and plans, on programmes as move towards eradicating the infectious disease by 2035.

AMREF Health Director of Programmes, Dr Aisa Muya made the call in Tanga, during the commemoration of World TB Day, themed: 'Invest to End TB.'

Dr Muya called upon the government and stakeholders act towards strategizing TB programmes as the battle over the matter.

"I urge the government and all other stakeholders to include TB in their strategies, plans and invest more on TB programmes as an important step towards the eradication of the disease by 2035," she said, adding: "We will work closely with the local governments, while engaging all stakeholders in the fight against TB, and

collectively work towards achieving the national and international goals of eradicating TB by 2035."

According to her, Tanzania is one of the 30 countries with the highest burden of (TB) in the world. AMREF will continue to work with its main partners U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (CDC), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and Global Fund to support the United Republic of Tanzania towards attaining the World Health Organization, (WHO) to reduce global TB incidence and mortality rates by 90 percent and 5 percent, respectively by 2035.

So far, she said AMREF has endorsed effective approaches, in 16 regions of Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. Including Dodoma, Mara, Simiyu, Tanga, Kagera, Mbeya, Ruvuma, and Shinyanga, which are supported by AMREF in Tanzania through its three years (2021-2023).

TB remains the world's most dead-

ly infectious disease claiming more than a million lives each year with enormous impacts on families and communities. In 2020, an estimated 9.9 million people fell ill with TB worldwide while 1.5 million people died from TB. In 2019, there was an estimated 208,000 TB related deaths among people living with HIV (PL-HIV) globally, accounting for approximately one-third of all HIV-related deaths.

AMREF Health Africa's approach has mainly been community-based services reaching needy communities whereby majority are women 54 percent and children 35 percent. However, through different projects AMREF and its partners have been able to train over 2,000 Community Health Workers (CHWs) who conduct community sensitization on TB, systematic TB screening, TB contact tracing, and TB treatment defaulter tracing.



Elizabeth Ntulu (R), a marketing and customer service supervisor with DCB Commercial Bank PIC, presents a certificate to Amina Ally in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. It was at the end of the DCB Foundation's first entrepreneurship and financial skills seminar. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Bank in new drive to empower women

By Guardian Reporter

NCBA Bank has reiterated its ambition to invest in women through financial innovation in order to promote their entrepreneurial spirit.

NCBA Bank managing director and CEO, Margaret Karume made the remarks over the weekend at the Women in Management (WIMA) event to recognize women in leadership.

She stated upon receiving a noble leadership award at the occasion, "it is our prerogative to support women in business, entrepreneurship, and beyond as they work tirelessly to build wealth for themselves and their communities, to walk alongside them as a partner and assist them in achieving their goals."

"We intend to use our financial strength, investment, and innovation to position ourselves as visionaries, enablers, facilitators, supporters, shapers, and partners, providing opportunities and supporting initiatives that contribute to the success of our people, communities, and country," Margaret added.

In the same line, the bank emphasized the importance of enacting further structural adjustments to bridge the income disparity between men and women, to drive more financial inclusion.

According to Gloria Njiru, the head of digital business at NCBA Bank said, "as financial sector leaders, we must innovate to include more women in the financial system." We need to provide "reliable and high-quality infrastructure that serves as a platform for financial services to become accessible and affordable to everyone, therefore positively impacting financial inclusion."

She gave an account of their M-Pawa product which has provided access to formal financial services to over 10 million Tanzanians, the majority of whom were previously financially excluded.

NCBA Bank is one of the largest banks by customer numbers in Africa with a complementary base of over 40 million customers across Africa and the region, a strong digital proposition and a robust corporate and asset finance offering. NCBA Bank currently has 12 branches in Tanzania in Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mwanza and Zanzibar.

Form one strong association, CRB boss calls on contractors

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole,

Dodoma

CONTRACTORS have been advised to form one strong association, which will be their voice to air their problems in construction industry.

Contractors Registration Board (CRB) chairperson eng. Consolata Ngimbwa made the call over the weekend when closing the two-day training on Joint Ventures (JVs) for local contractors. The training was part of regular capacity building program by the CRB to contractors of all classes on the best way to perform joint ventures projects.

She said it is sad to see outbreak of contractors' associations everyday which are powerless to represent their grievances to the government and to their clients.

"Days are moving and we witness the rapid establishment of contractors associations and sometimes I ask myself where we have failed I don't get the proper answer. Even boda bodas they have very strong associations and they collaborate properly so what is wrong with us," she asked

"Inside the construction industry we see some of us throwing stones to each other I don't know why? We are all looking for a bread to feed our families so please find a proper way to win a tender rather than throwing stones to your colleague," said Eng Ngimbwa

She said contractors will reach a time where they need very strong association to rescue them in difficulties but it will be too late for them so she advised them to do it now for the betterment of their

industry.

She cited one example in Egypt where also there were a lot of contractors associations but after they came to realize that they are helpless they decided to form one strong association and they are moving smoothly.

"In Egypt they cancelled all associations and now they have one strong voice to speak for them and by having that association they take advantage of all World Bank projects even in parliament they have five representatives to speak to their problems," she said

The chairperson said selfishness among local contractors has been obstacle to form the strong association because everyone considers himself instead of the entire industry.

"The challenges we are talking today could have been solved if we could have a strong voice because the strong association can speak to the government and your clients and enable you to move smoothly," she said, urging them to complete projects within agreed time and standards because the government decided to do its own projects by using force account after realizing that some contractors are lazy.

CRB deputy registrar Eng David Jere said the two-day training was attended by 69 contractors of all carders from Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Iringa, Morogoro, Katavi, Mbeya, Mwanza, Singida, Songwe, Tabora, Arusha, Njombe, Kilimanjaro and Rukwa.

He said CRB has been organizing regular capacity building training to local contractors as a move to enable them perform big projects like their counterpart from abroad.



PUBLIC NOTICE

FACTS ABOUT THE ELECTRONIC TAX STAMPS (ETS) TENDER ADHERENCE TO EQUITY AND TRANSPARENCY PRINCIPLE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACT

Dar es Salaam, March 25, 2022:

The Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has noted with serious concern misleading news articles carried by **Mwananchi Newspaper issue no 7573 of 23rd March 2022** written by one Alex Malanga titled "*Zabuni ya Stempu za kieletroniki yaibua utata*" and another one written in the English Sister Newspaper, the **Citizen issue number 6004** of the same date and by the same reporter titled "**New ETS tender not competitive, say manufacturers**" and the same was echoed by an online news media by the name Tanzania Business Insight carrying the same title and supposedly with a link to the two newspapers and the reporter.

Tanzania Revenue Authority wishes to state that the contents of the said News stories are not correct and they are biased as the authors and publishers for their own reasons intentionally ignored the journalistic ethical principles and natural justice for seeking clarifications from TRA to get facts and balance the story but instead went on to write and publish the stories one sided.

To put the records right to the General Public and all our stakeholders, TRA advertised the tender for installation of an Electronic Tax Stamps System in Tanzania on 16 February 2022 through a transparent and Internationally Competitive Tendering process. It should be noted that this tendering process is in accordance with the Public Procurement Act.

In order to ensure that all bidders are given an equal opportunity, TRA developed neutral specifications to enable all bidders to compete at the same level playing field ensuring fairness to all, system quality assurance and a competitive price for delivery of the intended services. Further to that Terms of Reference (TOR) for this tender were approved by Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA).

In that context, the tender allows any qualified bidder to recommend a type of electronic system that is capable of generating stamps with high class security marks that cannot be easily tampered with or imitated. The tender therefore provides an opportunity for all bidders to bring in world class high-tech innovative technologies available in the world that meets the needs and that will help the Government control tax evasion loopholes.

In this particular tender, TRA has given six (6) months to the winning bidder to establish an ETS system in the country as opposed to three months in the previous tender that is currently ongoing with the aim of giving any winning bidder sufficient time to mobilize and implement the contract.

The bidding process is currently in progress and in order to make the process even more transparent, the bidders were invited for a Pre-tender Meeting held on March 8, 2022 where 26 representatives from various companies who expressed interest in participating in the bid attended as well as a representative from the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI)

The purpose of meeting was to provide an opportunity for bidders to review and discuss the tender documents enabling TRA to provide clarifications on how to prepare and submit bids online through the Tanzania National e-procurement system (TANePS). Bidders had the opportunity to openly ask questions and got clarifications and also openly gave suggestions on how best to improve the information presented in the tender.

Furthermore, the interested bidders had an opportunity to visit some of the factories from 19th to 22nd March to get an understanding of how they will have to install the ETS system in the respective factories.

It should be noted that TRA went further and provided a 45 day tendering period over and above the minimum 21 days provided for by the PPA to give ample time for all intending bidders from all over the world.

To date TRA has continued to receive requests for tender clarifications and provided clarification to bidders to ensure that every bidder gets the same opportunity to participate. This bidding process is conducted using an electronic bidding system TANePS by the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) which increases transparency and minimize possible human biasness thereby providing an opportunity for all bidders to prepare and submit their bids online in accordance with the Procurement Act.

TRA would like to take this opportunity to invite all qualified bidders to participate in this tender with confidence and within the prescribed time and according to the law and ignore the misleading and biased news story referred to in this press release.

"Together We Build Our Nation"

Issued by,
Richard M. Kayombo
DIRECTOR SERVICE AND EDUCATION FOR TAXPAYER

Fishing sub-sector ecology needs change in agriculture

EFFORTS are being made across the Great Lakes Region to come up with a regulatory mechanism for sustainable development of the fishing sub-sector, covering lakes and partially, rivers. There is plenty of territorial proximity and interaction between countries in inland waters, while coastlines have less territorial interaction and are more susceptible to international conventions. Even when there are similar problems like overfishing, their conservation frameworks are entirely distinctive, separate.

What strikes observers is that a plethora of organizations seek to chip into the issues, while it is evident that excessive representation diminishes efficiency in decision making. It would imply that the matter hasn't found a unique expression and legal cadre whose observation would simply be the subject of ministerial consultations. The problem comes down to initiatives not just on conservation of fish but the wider environment, thus the need for adopting similar policy frameworks in the region.

As each country has its policy framework, a number of organizations are seeking to take the role of emissary in this or that regard, as each organization has a mandate that involves a breadth of economic freedoms for residents of the various countries. Interpreting conservation regulations is beset with underlying lack of disposition to fairness. During the fifth phase presidency, only Tanzania limited fishing gear on Lake Victoria to 5mm type's for real sustainability; the others had a 7mm rule.

It is entirely likely that the five millimeter regulatory requirement was agreed across the board but failed

to be put into law by other users of Lake Victoria, but for our own policy convictions, fishing authorities here observed that rule in a strict manner, destroying plenty of eco-enemy fishing gears. While taking one country for granted is one explanation, the other is overall inability to govern, as those in power seek every vote, the support of each tribal entity or group of stakeholders. They are bound hands and feet when it comes to interests of fishing communities, at the risk of ecological rout.

Spanning out the issue in a multiplicity or organizational initiatives may reflect the easy way that so many administrators are used to pursuing, namely sweetening ecology by topping up conservation measures with guarantees and incentives. While these initiatives may indeed enable some alterations to be made for instance bringing our neighbours to ratify 5mm fishing gear requirements and enforce such rule, trouble will still lie ahead. Population increase heightens the survival margin in fishing, making incentives unworkable save as an interim measure; finally population needs firmly take hold.

That is why ecological fishing has to go in tandem with agro-sector transformation, so that there are fewer people dependent on fishing rather than their annual increase, unabatedly.

This can only come about if they have individual title deeds to land, and can hire it out on long term basis to investors, or where the price is right, sell the land outright. Those who remain or develop such land could take to fish farming by damming or other enclosure, increase fish tonnage with rivers and lakes blossoming.

Chinese assistance laudable but what Africa needs most lies in land reforms

CURRENT international changes and demands are evident in the way in which contacts are rising between the People's Republic of China and a number of African countries, including Tanzania. What is noticeable isn't just the frequency of contacts but its intensity, and in actual fact it isn't just on the part of China but even with Western countries, especially in the context of the Ukraine conflict and diplomatic moves in that direction. There are calendar events which contributed to these exchanges.

We have had a change of economic emphasis in Zanzibar towards what the authorities set out as a blue economy strategy, where a number of stakeholders come up at the international level. At the same time there was a change of the Union government and it has taken what to the outside appears to be a radically different direction, but really constitutes in further opening up the country to foreign investments. Each of these interested foreign partners has a specific direction of need, specialization.

Just what is the content and need for cooperating with major foreign economic powers was loudly being heard in the ongoing Kenyan presidential election campaigns, where a meeting featuring leading contender Raila Odinga raised the issue of 'what went wrong.' He remarked that 60 years ago at the time that Africa was coming to independence there are various areas in which African economies were better placed than South Asia and much of the Far East. It all changed rapidly later.

African economists often say we need a Marshall Plan, on ac-

count of the fame and splendour of the \$15bn plan set out initially as the European Recovery Program, lasting from April 1948 to December 1951. It was actually a brainchild of the United States itself rather than an appeal for assistance, and from that moment Europe was on a sharp growth curve, and never looked back. It succeeded because it was a revolving credit to banks and being repaid to be lent again, not project aid as we usually wish.

The 1980s are known as the Lost Decade for Africa, but World Bank president A.W. Clausen had initiated the structural adjustment programme in 1981, expecting it would lead to similar results. It was stopped in 1999 as African countries and Western campaigners resisted privatisations, opting for a debt cancellation deal, the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) programme. Industrialisation was postponed for decades as fixed properties weren't being sold, or major state sectors being reformed.

China grew rapidly due to long land leases for people having dual citizenship, as when people with local ancestry are handed citizenship status and can come with their friends and buy land or enter into long term lease agreements with locals they build industry and services, so that the land gains in value. Africa still suffers from discriminating against Europe and Asia in economic inclusion, so capital doesn't flow and we fight for political power to steal from state coffers. Only adopting the successful/Chinese or South Korean land reforms can work not just more aid.



Ethiopia should reject the normalisation of civilian sufferings in the hands of law enforcement officials



Addis Standard

REPORTS of violence, assassinations, and mass killings have become common in the last four years after Ethiopia ushered in what many hoped was a democratic transition. Mass killings and displacement were regularly reported long before the onset in November 2020 of the war in Tigray. At the dawn of the reform, Ethiopia was the global leader for internally displaced persons (IDPs) by violence coming before countries such as Syria, Somalia, and Afghanistan.

In 2019, Ethiopia recorded close to three million IDPs due to violence across the country. In December 2020, over 200 people were massacred in a single attack in the Benishangul Gumuz region and were buried in a mass grave a day after Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed visited the region and spoke about the need to end such massacres.

Ironically the country became replete with militarized violence and communal strife after the country established the Ministry of Peace to curb such phenomena.

The death of civilians is always unaccounted for while the government often attributes the attacks to unidentified armed groups. Justice for gross violation of human rights such as mass killings and rape never saw the light of day as such reports quickly fades out of public attention as suddenly as they made headlines.

Cascade of statements from rights groups, political parties, and government officials spark controversies in their wake. The statements often elicit heated debates but never address the key questions as to who the perpetrators are, or whether the attacks were ethnically motivated as claims of ethnic cleansing and genocide grew louder.

The deteriorating security situation in the country became attractive for mobilization of armed groups and border tensions between regional states. Conflicts in the Afar, Somali, Oro-

omia, and Amhara regions as well as the Southern Region Nations Nationalities and People's Region are commonplace. Armed groups are blamed to have involvement in violence in contested areas such as the East Wollega zone in Oromia, North Showa and Oromo zones in the Amhara region as well as the Metekel zone in the Beneshngul Gumuz region.

The government is not blameless either. The recruitment, arming, and training of civilians were sanctioned by deputy prime minister Demeke Mekonnen who in October 2020 recommended the arming of civilians in the Metekel zone to "defend themselves" against the continued attacks. "There's no other option," he said. The Oromia regional government also said that it has put directives in place to take immediate measures against members of the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA), a rebel group the government refer to as "Shene", encouraging security forces to act with impunity.

These crises were further compounded by the practice of mass imprisonment and extrajudicial killings that have become commonplace after the assassination of popular Oromo artist Hachalu Hundessa in June 2020, and following the designation as terrorists of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and OLA by the House of People's Representatives in May 2021.

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission confirmed widespread mass detentions and un-

lawful arrests in the Oromia, Benishangul Gumuz, and Somali regions.

In the Oromia region, the killing of civilians by government security forces including those who are under the full custody of law enforcement under the pretext of Shene has become so common that the practice is widely normalized; government officials feel above the law in justifying the brutal killing of civilians and widespread arrests as measures taken against the terrorist groups.

Government officials and rights groups grew accustomed to blaming recurring violence on OLA and the TPLF, paying no attention to addressing the death toll and the humanitarian crisis in the wake of incidents of violence and holding perpetrators accountable.

The Oromia regional government which is often criticized for failing to protect civilians in its engagement with the OLA issues periodical statements announcing that it has 'taken measures' (killed) against members of Shene. Such practices not only lack transparency but are at odds with the constitution that stipulates that no one should be deprived of life except as a penalty for a major criminal offense determined by law.

While enforcing the law is commendable, it should not come at the cost of civilian lives. Security forces in the region have also faced several allegations of a crackdown on civilians receiving condemnations by international rights groups.

Victims and families of the crack-

down who Addis Standard spoke to often proclaim that they are not affiliated with the OLA.

Government security forces are accountable to civilian lives. The misuse of power should not go unchecked to the point where the killing of civilians should not be written off as a 'mishap'.

The media and rights groups have the obligation to investigate and report the incidents impartially, providing wider context that informs law enforcement and the justice system. The role of rights groups however doesn't stop at reporting.

They should ensure that perpetrators, as well as security forces who failed to dispose of their duties in protecting civilian lives, are held to account. Civic organizations should push for the rehabilitation of displaced people and the de-escalation of hostilities. The government should opt for bringing communities together through shared traditional values instead of encouraging arming minorities.

Addressing the furthering of entrenched conflicts is as important as the cessation of hostilities in parts of the country where there are conventional wars. Unchecked law enforcement and informal mobilization of civilians is a recipe for a full-blown civil war.

In addition to the death toll and humanitarian crisis, constant violence will result in insidious erosion of cultural integration and multinationalism that Ethiopians painstakingly built for decades.

START THE WEEK WITH CYNTHIA STACEY

Who will punish architects of our white elephant projects?

JAMBO for the week and what have we got today to engage ourselves within? Well, recently I jokingly asked readers to lobby the State House for suitable punishment for dodgy officials who'd been pocketing ghost workers' salaries.

So let's recall that since the late President John Magufuli came into office to deal with corruption and wastefulness, he did it brilliantly.

Let's hope that penalty for such blatant looting of public funds provides a deterrent for other like minded pillagers. But let's label them for what they usually are..... thieves, crooks and criminals. That's better, isn't it?

Surely, though it's not just insider looters diminishing the treasury but also those spending government funds that must have culminated in failed projects. This represents large sums of money over the decades which could have surpassed that which was lost through outright theft, yet the careless custodians responsible for its safe keeping appeared beyond censure.

One good example of this was the completion of the Makumbusho market complex completed in Dar es Salaam in

2003. Built with a loan from the World Bank and described at the time by a local newspaper as the biggest white elephant in town. But why should this well-designed market be described in such a derogatory terms?

Well, amongst many other issues of contention, traders said that the booths were dubiously allocated. Though in fact this didn't really matter because there was virtually no business or customers anyway as the real scandal amidst the administrative bungling was that no feasibility study had been done, neither was there any viable road network for buses and little attempt to advertise the market's whereabouts.

The Kinondoni Municipal Council Director was quoted as saying that he was "unaware of the problems, and because of his



Can this building really offer a pleasant shopping experience? Originally designated to accommodate thousands of traders, the Machinga complex in Ilala, Dar es Salaam has been rejected by traders and customers alike. Photo/ Selemeni Mpochi

senior position, couldn't be expected to handle everything himself."

For many years I've visited the market, and watched the gleaming white structure slowly rot away, as the orderly designated trading areas were either abandoned or put to other uses.

And as always, I've wondered if non-tax payers are being penalised. Who punishes

the wastage of the tax payers' money as some have even been promoted while other white elephant projects appeared?

Well, we are still with the same subject, but let's divert it a little. About two years ago, Dodoma Municipal Council hiked rents for street traders by 900 per cent in one of those directives that make you ask: Can they really do that? And to paraphrase Barack Obama's

slogan, it seems to be a case of 'Yes, they can.'

This unrealistic rent being asked by the 'Dodoma daddies' at the time seemed to go against everything President Magufuli's directive represented in the country, of collecting levies from the poor. He once said at a rally in Mwanza as quoted in media headlines "I'll tax the rich and spare the poor" says JPM."

This humane advice, and the people it par-

tially applied to: the street traders, has been mishandled for over twenty years particularly in Dar es Salaam by a selection of inept officialdom and various others.

And yet, the solutions should be straight forward because we're talking about informal trading outlets and street markets, not rocket science of nuclear physics.

Sytrangely, to service simple objectives, large amounts of public money have often been squandered unchanged on impractical schemes.

But what is a better example of this than Dar's own Guantanamo, laughably labeled "a state of the art" market? Called the Machinga complex, this huge concrete bunker built with a loan from NSSF resembles an old-style multi story car park. This is comprised of row upon row of wire cages but with one redeeming feature to that US prison. It can of course be escaped from but who'd ever want to go there in the first place?

This mighty complex of a project has been mostly empty for years. Yet, ironically, makeshift trading goes on outside it! It's safe to say it's been a very big white elephant indeed!

But there are many differing spaces in the inner city centre where small kiosks could be sighted and bring a colourful vibrancy to the city that has always been lacking.

These simple ideas could still be viable but they won't be because as critics said at the time of the Machinga completion, it was thought of as a prestige project and politically motivated.

Thankfully, Makumbusho market is now central to a thriving bus terminus and finally doing business because of its location. So, one white elephant is partially redeemed. How many more to go?

Community seed banks key for protection of traditional varieties

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

TANZANIA has adopted a couple of national agricultural strategies including Agricultural Sector Development Strategy I (2001), Kilimo Kwanza (2012) and the second Agricultural Sector Development Strategy II (ASDS II) adopted in 2014, all geared towards transforming the sector from subsistence to commercial.

The Tanzania Development Vision (TDV) 2025 also envisages raising the standard of living of Tanzanians to medium income by ensuring food security, improving incomes and increasing export earnings.

The agriculture sector employs over 80 per cent of the Tanzania population and comprises mostly of smallholder farmers who cultivate at least 90 per cent of the arable land.

In order to feed the world population by 2050, the World Bank and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) say that food production must increase by half. A figurative war is fought regarding the approach to increase production, but the biggest victims will be smallholder farmers.

Seed is the foundation of agriculture and without seed there can be no agriculture and hence no food for human survival.

According to the Changing Seed and Plant Variety Protection Laws in Tanzania report published by the African Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) in 2016, the seed supply for agriculture in Tanzania is derived from both the formal and informal (also known as local or farmer-saved seed system).

Over 90 per cent of the seed originates from the farmer managed seed system while only 10 per cent comes from the formal seed sector. The farmer-saved seed system however remains unrecognized and unsupported despite providing most of the supply.

Farmer-saved seed systems are guided by local technical knowledge and standards and by local social structures and norms. In Tanzania, farmer-saved seed systems remain predominant with the majority of farmers still growing old varieties while practicing recycling.

Policy-makers say there are no restrictions regarding the manner in which farmers use, save and exchange their own seeds as long as the seeds don't enter the commercial market.

Agriculture stakeholders however want Tanzania to establish community seed banks so as to enhance seed diversity and ensure sustainable food production in Tanzania.

They argue that the initiative, if undertaken, will help regain, maintain and increase the control of community over seeds, strengthen and establish dynamic forms of cooperation among farmers and between farmers involved in the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.



Farmers chat near their farm after harvesting maize. Food security stakeholders say community seed banks are key for protection of traditional seed varieties. Photo courtesy of the Internet

The process also supports multiple activities including building a physical structure for a community seed bank, developing farmer and community agricultural biodiversity committees, seed saver clubs, seed exchange clubs as well as seed production network.

The community bank are designed to have a broad range of additional purposes including technical training aspects of seed collection as well as scaling up mechanisms for seed bank growth and sustainability.

According to the Tanzania Alliance for Biodiversity (TABIO) Coordinator Abdallah Mkindi, establishment of community seed banks will save certain local and traditional seed species from extinction.

"Community seed banks can help farmers to access seeds to grow crops during the next planting season and they can be used as an emergency seed supply when their crops are damaged or destroyed by pests, flooding and drought," he said.

Mkindi noted that the agricultural production system in Tanzania has been significantly impacted by climate change and therefore, growing local varieties, which have a high degree of genetic diversity, is highly important.

"This is because these varieties have the ability to better withstand and adapt to environmental stresses and changes. Although seed banks have not been widely adapted by farmers, setting them up may help farmers to acquire varieties that are adaptable to local conditions," he added.

Mkindi said community seed banks are important in preserving the open pollinated varieties which are possessed by farmers or those coming from agricultural research institutes (ARIs) through their breeding programmes.

"Neither hybrid nor genetically modified seed should enter the seed bank. The selection of the most suited varieties for an agro-ecological zone needs time and trials with technical support, but after the identification of best varieties, the community seed bank plays a very important role in maintaining the availability of quality seed," he said.

Mkindi noted that diversification of crops and varieties is also highly important in terms of people's food security and sovereignty, because it reduces the risk of total production failures and contributes to strengthening communities' resilience.

"Seed saving was once a skill that was passed on from generation to generation but it is now disappearing due to the increase in formal education. Mkindi said.

Countries that pioneered various types of community seed banks include Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, India, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Philippines and Zimbabwe.

At the global level, a measure was undertaken in 2008 through the establishment of the 'Svalbard Global Seed Vault'. This seed bank is located in the permafrost on a remote island off the coast of Norway and has become the most diverse seed repository in the world. The seeds are kept in three underground chambers and are duplicate samples of

seeds held in gene banks around the world and therefore represent an insurance against the loss of seeds.

Some of the East Africa Community partner states including Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi have all moved to establish community seed banks to enhance their food security.

Uganda established the 'Kiziba community gene bank', located in Kabwohe, Kiziba parish, in the Sheema district of Uganda in 2010 after household surveys had revealed that some varieties of beans were becoming rare and others were no longer available in the area. Obtaining good-quality seed was also a problem, as most farmers relied on exchanges with fellow farmers, shops and markets.

Rwanda on the other hand established the 'Rubaya community gene bank' located in the Rubaya sector of Gicumbi district in Northern Rwanda and managed by the Kundisuka cooperative. It originated when a farmer by the name of Mpoberabanzi Silas and an agronomist working in the Rubaya sector recognized the need to preserve some of the genetic resources in the area that were being lost that included several varieties of beans, peas, maize, wheat and sorghum.

Hussein Bashe, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, said plans were underway for Tanzania to create a bank for traditional seeds in a move aimed at promoting indigenous farming while officiating at the second National Ecological Organic Agriculture Conference organized by TOAM in Mtwara last year.

He said the creation of the traditional seeds bank will be done in tandem with the establishment of a department that will specifically deal with organic farming.

Bashe said the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute will be tasked to research and produce traditional seeds with a view to conserving seed varieties for organic farming.

He noted that the Ministry of Agriculture would set aside funds in the 2022/2023 financial year for the establishment of the department of organic farming that will be mandated to support the development of indigenous agriculture in Tanzania.

Seed banks are one of the most important instruments to guarantee the autonomy of farmers and their food sovereignty. Deliberate policy measures need to be undertaken as seed laws and plant variety protection are increasingly restricting access to seeds with the intention of leaving the seed market to industry.

Acquiring seeds through the formal seed sector may be too costly for farmers and there may be no varieties available that are adapted to specific local conditions, or the supply of seeds may be erratic, meaning seeds are not available at specific times.

In this way, farmers do not need to buy seeds from external buyers and it helps them to diversify by cultivating several crop varieties that are highly adapted to the environmental conditions of their region, which builds up their resilience.

Some local communities have survived for thousands of years by cultivating unique local varieties, which have adapted over centuries to specific environmental conditions, for instance shortages of water, strong winds, and limited soil nutrients.

As a result, these local varieties specifically adapt to the environmental conditions characterizing the particular area, for instance being resistant to certain pests, diseases or climatic conditions. With the challenge of climate change, preserving these locally adapted crop varieties is highly important.

Ukraine shows why the G20 anti-corruption agenda is more important than ever

WASHINGTON

THE world has quickly transitioned from a global health crisis to a geopolitical one, as the war in Ukraine rages into its second month. But the Russian invasion of Ukraine is just the latest in a long list of challenges that at their heart are either caused by or exacerbated by corruption.

Just this year, think of the protests in Sudan, the coup in Burkina Faso, the nationwide demonstrations in Kazakhstan, or the Portuguese elections, for example- all driven, one way or another, by graft.

Now- countries including the US and Europe- are coming together to freeze the assets of Russian oligarchs, but this is not just about Putin's kleptocracy. As world leaders meet at the G20 next week, it is imperative that they step-up further to fight corruption both at home and abroad.

The Civil-20 (C20), which engages the G20 on behalf of civil society, has been calling for increased accountability from world leaders on critical anti-corruption issues for a long time. The war in Ukraine has only reinforced the need for a focus on the priorities identified by the C20 this year.

First, combating money laundering and the recovery of stolen assets. There are numerous studies that indicate that as much as 85% of Russia's GDP is laundered into countries including the UK and the US.

There are networks of enablers in Western countries that facilitate this process- from accountants, to lawyers to real estate agents (known as Designated Non-Financial Business and Professions (DNFBPs)).

But according to the data collected by Accountability Lab for the G20 Anti-Corruption Commitments Tracker, not all G20 member countries are compliant with FATF recommendations on DNFBP due diligence.

Similarly, others do not have effective frameworks to disclose information on recovered assets. Recognizing the increased risks to anti-money laundering and asset recovery efforts



from such omissions, the C20 has called for verified beneficial ownership data through public registers; and the assessment of the effectiveness of measures adopted by the G20 member countries including sanctions for non-compliance.

Second, countering corruption in the energy transition. The G20 Indonesian Presidency has included a sustainable energy transition as a priority issue for 2022. More and more countries, especially in Europe, are cutting ties with Russian energy supplies, which will lead to a more rapid shift of resources towards renewables- but the potential in this for corruption is huge.

Certain countries and energy companies have a variety of incentives to maintain the status quo in corrupt ways; while the supply chains for raw materials for renewable energy are also wide-open

for illicit activities. G20 countries urgently need to better understand the level and types of corruption in renewables; and commit to providing transparent data around licensing contracts and budgets.

In this, grassroots civil society groups can be valuable allies by filling information gaps and closing feedback loops in communities affected by renewable energy related projects.

Third, the transparency and integrity of corporations. The recent sanctions against Russian oligarchs have renewed focus on corporate governance and how corporate compliance on issues like foreign bribery, corruption and conflict of interests- including in state owned enterprises and public private partnerships (PPP)- are effectively enforced.

For instance, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) focuses on anti-bribery and internal controls- and is likely to be further enforced, particularly in countries with close ties to Russia.

But beyond this, G20 member countries must also live up to past commitments to strengthen transparency and integrity in business by criminalizing private sector bribery; enacting whistleblower policies in the private sector; and ensuring accounting and auditing standards to prohibit off-the-book accounts.

Fourth, beneficial ownership transparency. The level of secrecy used by Russian oligarchs to hide assets through shell companies, trusts, partnerships and foundations has been headline news. Concerns around beneficial ownership transparency data (the data on who really owns compa-

nies) is not new (see this call to action for example).

While G20 countries have made progress within their national borders, there are often lax laws in offshore tax havens that are under their jurisdictions. Equally, beneficial ownership data should not just be open (to regulators and enforcement agencies), it should be public. Citizens and civil society everywhere should be able to monitor conflicts of interest or relationships between policymakers and corporations, free of charge.

It still costs \$40 to access beneficial ownership data in Indonesia for instance- making this far too expensive for the average citizen. All G20 countries should lead by example and commit to open, public beneficial ownership registers.

Finally, Open Contracting. The recent focus on how the Russian military may have misused procurement processes has sadly highlighted again the importance of due diligence and open data. Civil society has unequivocally called on G20 member countries to proactively disclose information at every step of public procurement processes, in line with Open Contracting Data Standards as well as the Open Contracting for Infrastructure Data Standard, and to increase audit and citizen oversight in public procurement.

These reforms are past due. At the same time, successful initiatives like Opentender.net in Indonesia show how civil society can partner with governments to ensure citizen led oversight and the transparency of public procurement.

The Russia-Ukraine crisis is a stark reminder of how corruption issues must be central to any discussion about the causes and solutions to geo-political problems. The C20 has already outlined for G20 leaders how to address these issues- they now have the responsibility to implement these reforms.

IPS

China always advances cause of global development

THE Global Development Initiative (GDI) has received prompt response and support from the U.N. and nearly 100 countries since being proposed by China last September.

As COVID-19 severely impacts the process of global development, China is leading the international society to focus on and promote development, as well as calling on the world to jointly build a global community of development with a shared future. It exemplifies the wisdom and sense of responsibility of a major country at this critical historical juncture.

As a Chinese saying goes, "A man of wisdom adapts to changes; a man of knowledge acts by circumstances." The GDI's wide and prompt response stems from the fact that it addresses the common concerns of the international society and the people around the world.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread in the world, and the Human Development Index experienced the first drop in 30 years. As a result of the pandemic, about 100 million additional people are living in poverty and over 800 million suffering hunger.

The world development is getting even more unequal and unbalanced, necessitating urgent action by international society to narrowing the development gap.

As another major initiative proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping after the Belt and Road Initiative, the GDI "remobilizes" the world for global development cooperation and "reconfirms" the people-centered approach to human rights. It has mapped out a strategy for narrowing the North-South gap and addressing development imbalance, and has thereby given a boost to fulfilling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The GDI has become tremendously attractive be-



A member of a Chinese agricultural expert team aiding Africa instructs a local technician on agricultural production.

cause of China's successful practice. Since the country initiated reform and opening up in 1978, it has always taken economic development as a major task and achieved remarkable progress.

The country adheres to a people-centered development philosophy, and is constantly enhancing Chinese people's sense of happiness, fulfillment and security. Pursuing high-quality economic development, it also follows a new development concept featuring innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared growth. The country has eliminated poverty and built a moderately prosperous society in all respects as scheduled, which has further made it a successful example for the rest of the world.

Prioritizing development and centering on the peo-

ple, the GDI is committed to inclusive and innovation-driven growth, harmonious man-nature coexistence, and results-oriented actions. It carries distinctive Chinese characteristics.

Siddharth Chatterjee, U.N. Resident Coordinator in China, said the initiative explains to the world China's successful experience in building a moderately prosperous society. He believes China will make global development much more inclusive and balanced.

China's broad-minded perspective has made the GDI widely appealing. China always believes that true development is development for all, and all countries should join, contribute to and benefit from global development. It's not right that only one country enjoys development while the rest can't, or a group of coun-

tries make progress while other groups don't.

Since the GDI was proposed, it has been a public product that's open to the world. It aims at accelerating the implementation of the U.N.'s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, advancing the common development of the world and making global development more balanced, coordinated and inclusive.

On multiple bilateral and multilateral occasions, President Xi has expressed the hope that all relevant parties can join the GDI, and he has received active responses.

At the Session I of the 16th G20 Leaders' Summit, he said this initiative is highly compatible with the G20's goal and priority of promoting global development. He also said that the initiative has much to contribute to ASEAN countries' efforts to meet their development needs and can be mutually reinforcing with ASEAN Community Vision 2025, while delivering a speech at a special summit to commemorate the 30th anniversary of China-ASEAN dialogue relations.

China's practical actions are making the GDI well implemented. What makes an initiative vital is its implementation. Since proposing the GDI, China has been adhering to "results-oriented" actions. It encourages the world to prioritize cooperation in areas such as poverty alleviation, food security, COVID-19 response and vaccines, development

financing, climate change and green development, industrialization, digital economy and connectivity, among other areas.

The Group of Friends of the GDI was launched in January this year and will focus its work on strengthening policy dialogue, sharing best practices and promoting practical cooperation. It is expected to inject important impetus into the implementation of the GDI.

At bilateral and multilateral levels, China is proactively aligning the GDI with development strategies of relevant countries and regions. So far, the initiative has been docked with the Pacific Roadmap for sustainable development and the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent by Pacific island countries. African countries also synergized the GDI with the African Union's Agenda 2063.

Development bears on the hopes and the very survival of the peoples of all countries. It embodies the expression of their dignity and their rights. Facing challenges, the mankind must hold tight the key of development.

China is willing to work with all parties and actively implement the GDI to ensure that no country or individual is left behind and no aspiration is overlooked. It will make new contributions to building a world of common prosperity and building a global community with a shared future for mankind.

People's Daily

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Kalambo DC vows to transform women and girls empowerment

By Guardian Correspondent, Kalambo

TRANSFORMING economies by putting women and girls at the center, and realizing their rights is a sure way of attaining sustainable development for individual women and girls, families and the country at large, Kalambo District Commissioner (DC) Tano Mwera has said.

DC Mwera made the remarks here over the weekend, when speaking at the launch of Kalambo District Women Empowerment Council in Kalambo District, Rukwa Region.

DC Mwera said: "The establishment of Kalambo District Women Empowerment Council is a clear testimony that Kalambo district is determined to transforming the district economy, realizing women and girls economic rights, which among the benefits would be reduced gender based violence, ending teenage pregnancies, and ending early and forced marriages."

She said women are generally the poorest therefore eliminating social, cultural, and economic discrimination against women and girls is a prerequisite of eradicating poverty and empowering women and girls to realize their potential.

"I am determined to work with women in Kalambo to make sure that the council lives up to its vision and mission," the DC said adding that, the council is an excellent platform

to ameliorate women's long time economic sufferings.

Girls Get Equal Integrated Approach to Ending Child Early and Forced Marriages Project-Project Manager, Kisasi Sikalwanda said that being implemented in 152 schools, 36 wards, three district of Sumbawanga region, said that, investing in women and girls is the right thing to do and the smart way to reduce poverty and inequality.

Women and girls whose voices and interests are too often ignored, according to Kisasi, are particularly at risk.

"The good news is that when women and girls are given equal opportunities to succeed, they can be powerful agents of change driving stronger economic growth, and improving the quality of life for their families and their communities," Kisasi said.

According to Kisasi, Girls Get Equal Integrated Approach to Ending Child Early and Forced Marriages Project lauds President Samia's administration performance.

"Among many laudable things that the current administration has recorded, in terms of eradicating poverty is allowing pregnant students and teenage mothers to continue with their studies, reversing a heavily-criticized policy of expelling pregnant girls," said Kisasi.

One of the project outcomes according to Kisasi is Keeping Girls in School, there is compelling evidence that demonstrate that investment



that promote keeping girls in school, have far reaching and long term health and development benefits for individuals, families, and communities according to Kisasi.

Kisasi DC said that, many factors contribute to keeping girls out of school, including social-cultural, economic and environmental (poverty, distance to school, lack of toilets and menstrual hygiene facilities for girls, child marriage, and family responsibilities including households cores). Lifting the ban has removed one of the barriers that would have added to many factors conspiring to keep

girls out of school. "We call upon the government, parents, religious leaders, influential people in communities, adolescents and youth to support the project, since ultimately the intended benefits of the project target the adolescents and youth in communities we work," Kisasi pleaded adding that investing in adolescents and youth is investing in the country's development.

The event was made possible by among other stakeholders Girls Get Equal Project(GGE), a five-year NORAD funded project, which has five outcomes Keep-

ing Girls in School, Increased Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) Knowledge among adolescents and youth, Reduce poverty of young girls and their families, Changing norms and inequalities that lead to child marriage and Advocate for policies against child marriage and support community based child protection.

Mitel roots for more innovative remote working solutions

By Guardian Reporter

MITEL, a global leader in business communication technology, has rooted for investment in remote working solutions as several organisations adopt to new work environment models of post Covid-19.

Following disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the company is investing in demand generation using various tools such as tele-calling, social media and webinars to align more with the latest market trends.

Asif Khan, Channel Director, Middle East and Africa said: "Covid-19 brought about the need for flexible home working solutions, a situation that has continued even after the pandemic eased, as it is the new

normal. The market is ripe for collaborative communication and remote working solutions, smart digital workspaces as well as endpoint security and management solutions."

He was speaking during an industry symposium held for channel partners in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

"Whereas the pandemic has affected virtually all sectors of the economy, notable changes have taken place in the area of IT spending. According to leading marketing research agencies, in the pre-Covid days, spending was more on areas such as government, finance, manufacturing, utilities and transport. But with Covid-19 having ushered in a new normal, spending has shifted from these traditional

verticals to two major ones, healthcare and education," he noted.

He said with the global pandemic, IT firms and providers are experiencing heightened demand for a scalable Unified Communication as a Service (UCaaS) portfolio to serve their remote workforce, even as the pandemic eases.

Khan said these collaborative solutions include mobile apps that can be tied directly into organisations' workspaces, as today's technology is geared towards remote working, collaborative efforts and enhancing online presence.

"Healthcare, education, hospitality, contact centre, SME and mid-market, as well as cloud business, will be the key focus

areas for Mitel this year. We create our marketing strategy built around those segments to effectively communicate with our end customers and partners", Khan said.

According to him, Tanzania is a SME dominated market and the strength of the market lies in government, banking and hospitality sectors. It is also a price sensitive market but by looking at the dynamics, filling the gap is in the SME and mobility sector and organizations in Tanzania are looking for flexible & subscription based solutions.

"The Mitel Symposium was very helpful to us. Tanzania is not new to us, but we were not very active with regards to holding a physical event due to Covid-19 for the last 2 years. This

event helped us in building immense confidence in the channel community, with great turnout from all industries, we had channel partners who are specialised in hospitality, focused on contact centers, and government sectors. Overall it was a good feedback in the open platform and had our local distributor with us for the event Networks Distribution. Overall it's a good start," Khan said.

He said Mitel would continue enabling more channel partners with more events, training, workshops, webinars and marketing support.

Currently, Unified Communication (UC) service providers are experiencing demand for a scalable UCaaS portfolio, which comes at a low cost with a strong presence in instant messaging, mobility

and conferencing services. Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) in the region will also focus on the mid-market and small-to-medium business segment to expand and reduce the dependency on large enterprises," he explained.

When people started working remotely, Mitel had to create remote solutions to suit the growing demand for working from home. The growth in demand for UCaaS will be driven increasingly by the implementation of hosted solutions as enterprises look to reduce costs and improve productivity.

"Cloud UC makes more sense for large organizations, because their markets are spread over different geographies and diverse user communities, and

their communications are unlikely to change for the foreseeable future. With growing concerns on recession and a volatile world economy, the focus of big firms today has been on cost cutting and reducing expenses as much as possible", he added.

Mitel offers a range of integrated communications solutions that businesses of all kinds and levels of maturity can utilize to boost efficiencies, deliver exceptional customer experience and engage employees. Mitel retains the Number 1 position in Global Cloud Users, with over 5.2 million cloud users worldwide, Number 1 in 5 core markets, with over 1.5 million UCaaS users globally and Number 3 in contact centre systems shipped globally.

Relief as USAID-ASHA programme pumps in 1.8bn/- for Loyola high school girls dormitory facility

By Guardian Reporter

THE United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has funded a building of girls' dormitory at the Dar es Salaam's Loyola high school dormitory worth \$772,000 (1.8bn/-, which upon its completion will accommodate 400 girls.

The funding for the proposed facility is from USAID's American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) programme.

Inaugurating the new dormitory for vulnerable secondary school girls over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, USAID mission director V. Kate Somvongsiri remarked: "By addressing the constraints Tanzanian girls face while in school and in their communities, they are more likely to complete their education, leading to better health for them and their children, increased employment opportunities, higher incomes, and a reduction in poverty for their households and communities."

Gender inequities persist in Tanzania, despite the ongoing efforts of the government and its partners. Primary school enrollment for boys and girls is almost equivalent, but secondary school completion rates

show girls falling behind. Early marriages and pregnancies - and undervaluing of girls' achievements - hamper retention. Among Tanzanian youth aged 20-24, fewer than one-fifth of girls and one-third of boys have completed secondary school.

The Loyola High School, located in the low income, unplanned Mabibo Farasi suburbs of Dar es Salaam, aims to help vulnerable children whose families could not afford to meet their educational needs. The main goal of USAID's ASHA program in Dar es Salaam is to raise the number of vulnerable Tanzanian youths, particularly girls, receiving quality education. The construction of the new dormitory will increase enrollment and retention of vulnerable girls at Loyola High School and reduce the risks they face in daily commuting to and from school.

Ensuring youth have access to quality education creates opportunities for engagement and provides avenues for them to gain critical knowledge and skills. As a result, youth will advance Tanzania's long-term prosperity while shaping the country for the future they desire.

Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Prof James Mdoe



The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission Director Ms. Kate Somvongsiri cuts a ribbon to inaugurate new dormitory for vulnerable Secondary School Girls at Loyola High School in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The deputy permanent secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Prof. James Mdoe and the Ubungu District Commissioner Kheri James also attended the event. Photo: US Embassy.

also urged parents to play well their part and invest in education of their children which include working closely with teachers to support their progress.

He noted that for a nation to achieve several of these development goals, having a strong workforce with mental and psycho-social wellbeing is a matter of paramount importance and this can be achieved if all children are well raised and protected.

Prof Mdoe said that lack of boarding school adds to the burden on the girl child and increases school dropouts as students face difficult environments, especially walking/travelling long distances to reach school.

"The ratio between boys and girls in secondary schools is inconsistent. The figures for the year 2021 shows that the ratio of Form Five and Six students was low, if there are 10 boys in the class, girls are only seven," Prof Mdoe.

He however said the proportion of boys and girls in the primary and secondary schools was satisfactory. The 2021 figures show that if there are 10 boys in the class, girls are 11.

On behalf of the students, Priscila Kihyoza said good days were coming to girls after the academic environment continued to improve, saying the obstacles they encountered earlier, including transportation will become history.

School's headmaster Fr. Martin Waweru, said the dormitory will accommodate 453 girls, something which will help get rid of barriers facing students including transportation difficulties, street conditions, and poor cooperation of some parents and guardians.

He called on the government to improve the competitive system, saying it does not provide a fair competition, especially for boarding schools with large numbers of students, asking the government to control prices of textbooks and other academic equipment.

Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam, Rev. Henry Mchamungu, emphasized that education was not only about academic performance but also discipline of students in the society.

Ramaphosa's second-term bid on shaky ground after ANC factions clash over State Capture report

By Carien du Plessis, Chris Makhaye and Ray Mahlaka

FALLOUT over how the ANC should implement the recommendations contained in the report on State Capture by Chief Justice Raymond Zondo is threatening to destabilise one of President Cyril Ramaphosa's strongholds.

ANC chairperson Gwede Mantashe, a key ally in helping Ramaphosa to rise to the presidency in 2017, is said to be increasingly worried about being hauled over the coals regarding recommendations in the report that he be charged with corruption for free security installations in his Elliot and Boksburg homes by former security contractor Bosasa.

Mantashe admitted to not paying for the upgrades but denied wrongdoing, saying as secretary-general he had no say in who got government contracts.

But Zondo said in his report that Bosasa tried "through Mr Mantashe and the inducements and gain provided to him, to influence the leadership of those departments and organs of state, a leadership drawn almost exclusively from the ranks of the ANC and falling within the categories of public office bearers".

Corruption charges could see Mantashe being forced to step aside, following the precedent set by suspended secretary-general Ace Magashule. This could rule him out of the leadership race and potentially also lose him his job in Cabinet.

Mantashe is now battling with Eastern Cape Premier Oscar Mabuyane, who has emerged as a key Ramaphosa

campaigner and who is contesting to be re-elected at the province's conference late next month. Mantashe has reportedly been backing a challenger to Mabuyane, Amathole regional secretary Terris Nutu.

"It is currently one of our biggest threats," a Ramaphosa backer told DMI68 this week.

The Eastern Cape is, together with KwaZulu-Natal, traditionally one of the party's biggest provinces at the national elective conference and presidential contenders need the backing of either of these provinces if they want to stand any chance of success.

Mantashe, who is also minister of mineral resources and energy, together with a number of Cabinet ministers, attended Ramaphosa's investment conference on 24 March, but did not want to comment about ANC matters there.

Ethical leadership needed

But one of Ramaphosa's investment envoys, National Executive Committee (NEC) member Derek Hanekom, speaking at Ramaphosa's fourth investment conference, said the investment landscape would remain tough in 2022 owing to the political uncertainty leading up to the ANC presidential race in December.

"As the ANC, we have to be serious about what kind of leadership we are looking for. We must be serious about installing a much better leadership," Hanekom told DMI68, adding that he preferred Ramaphosa to have a second term as the ANC's president.

"The outstanding question is who will lead with him in the party's top structures. That is where we need ethi-



President Cyril Ramaphosa

cal leadership. The December conference will be a game-changer because investors need political stability from the ANC. They need confidence that our institutions and democracy are not under threat. If the ANC collapses and scurrilous forces try to take over the party, our Constitution and democracy will come under threat."

The ANC committee set up to process the Zondo Report and to devise the party's response to it, is tabling its first report to the ANC's NEC at a scheduled meeting held virtually from Friday, 25 March to Sunday, 27 March.

The programme of action for ANC renewal, the tabling of a report by the party's electoral committee, proposals on "organisational design of ANC headquarters and other offices" and the status of upcoming conferences in regions, provinces and in the leagues are also on the agenda, according to an ANC statement.

Provincial secretaries held a two-day meeting earlier in the week to thrash out some of these issues with acting secretary-general and party treasurer-general Paul Mashatile,

and Gwen Ramokgopa, who was appointed to provide support in the secretary-general's office. Eight provinces and a number of regions, as well as all the leagues, still have to hold their conferences. Many have been delayed owing to fights about membership and audits.

For example, two members of the ANC Youth League's provincial preparatory committee alleged in a court application on 25 March that their complaint about a "dummy" membership database was not dealt with properly by the National Youth Task Team that is currently running the league.

Most NEC members interviewed by DMI68 expected the ANC renewal commission to be appointed at the weekend meeting, or soon after.

A number of ANC insiders also said that Deputy President David Mabuza was unlikely to run for a second term in the position, and that Ramaphosa preferred Defence Minister Thandi Modise as his replacement. Mashatile, however, also stands a strong chance, as he is reportedly quietly campaigning for the position. Mashatile has in the past had a good working relationship with Mabuza.

eThekweni torn apart by divisions

Meanwhile, the period leading up to the ANC's critical eThekweni regional elective conference scheduled to start on 2 April has been bedevilled by violence in branches and even assassinations.

Some of these include the killing of Thulani Shusha, a 51-year-old Umlazi ANC branch leader, who died in a hail of bullets in February this year, and Minenhle Mkhize, a 39-year-old ANC ward councillor who was shot and killed in January this year, less than three months after assuming his position as a councillor.

eThekweni has been torn apart by divisions and it is led by a task team after the previous leadership, then chaired by former eThekweni mayor Zandile Gumede, was disbanded.

Gumede was the mayor of eThekweni Municipality when she was arrested in May 2019 and formally charged - alongside 21 co-accused - with fraud, corruption and money laundering in connection with a R320-million Durban Solid Waste tender.

The case is ongoing in court and its continuation was used to force her to step aside from the position of Member of the KZN Provincial Legislature, to which she was later deployed by the party. The eThekweni region will set the tone for elective conferences in other highly contested ANC structures such as the youth and women's leagues, regions and provinces around the country in the coming weeks and months.

Only the Northern Cape has been able to hold a successful ANC conference; the party's other eight provinces will hold theirs later this year. Of the party's 52 regions, 34 are also due for elective conferences. eThekweni is the biggest region of the ANC in the country, with a total of 111 branches and more than 100,000 members.

In the past this region used its considerable political weight to choose the direction of the ANC KZN provincial leadership and had a huge influ-

ence in determining who led the party nationally, as it did with former president Jacob Zuma.

A fight for supremacy

Gumede is standing again for the position under the Unity faction or slate. Even if she emerges victorious, she could still be forced to relinquish the position under the ANC's resolution that states that leaders facing criminal charges should step aside voluntarily or be forced to do so.

For the chairperson's position, Gumede is pitted against current eThekweni council speaker Thabani Nyawose, who heads a faction called the Renewal, Rebuilding Unity (RRU) in the ANC.

Before a regional conference takes place, at least 70% of branches should have met and nominated delegates to go to the conference. Of the eThekweni region's 111 ANC branches, 82 have sat for their branch general meeting, thus reaching the 70% benchmark. Regional and provincial leaders will meet on 26 March to determine the venue of the conferences and other logistics.

Xolani Dube, a Durban-based political analyst, said ANC branches were suffering as these two factions fought for supremacy. He said the branch chairs and secretaries would play crucial roles in determining who emerges as the winner in this tight race. "Money plays a big role in ANC politics. eThekweni is one of the most prized assets and money is being splashed out to win branch chairpersons and secretaries so that they vote in a certain direction. It will depend on who has the biggest budget," he said.

Dube said the ANC's eThekweni region has attracted financial interests because it heads the eThekweni Municipality, with a R52-billion annual budget.

"These financial interest groups know that, once they elect the right people into positions in the ANC, they will control how the municipal budget is spent. So eThekweni region is more important than any other region in the province," he said.

A few branch leaders who spoke to DMI68 on condition of anonymity confirmed that they were being lobbied hard, and financial incentives had been dangled in their way to convince them to ditch one side and support the other.

A secretary of a branch west of Durban said: "My branch has been divided down the middle because of the money involved. Our branch agreed that we must go with the RRU slate but, lately, my chairperson said we must change sides and go with Unity because there is money involved."

Both factions have denied using money to sway branches. Bheki Ntuli, one of the leading figures in the RRU camp, said they had run a clean and smooth campaign, focusing on convincing branches to renew and rebuild the party.

"Branches have seen what divisions have done to the party and they want a united ANC. We are sure that our campaign resonates with the aspirations of ANC members. We are confident that we will emerge victorious," he said.

Ntando Khuzwayo, one of the leading lobbyists of the Gumede (Unity) camp, said they were concerned about the actions of the regional task team and the ANC KZN provincial executive committee that were allowing branches that had not sat for branch general meetings before a threshold was reached to reconvene.

"We are concerned about this because it seems to favour one camp against the other. However, we are still confident that we will still win this conference with a landslide majority," he said.

Khuzwayo did not rule out the possibility of some members who might decide to approach the court to interdict some branches from participating in the upcoming conference.

High stakes for KZN conference

Both camps said they wanted to win the regional conference first before casting their eyes on the provincial and national leadership tussle. This is likely to keep the provincial and national factions on tenterhooks, as the outcomes could go either way.

Nhlakanipho Ntombele, KZN ANC provincial spokesperson, told DMI68 that, apart from eThekweni, five other regions in the province were due for elective conferences.

These are the Lower South Coast, Mzala Nxumalo region (formerly known as Zululand region), Inkosi Bhambatha region, Harry Gwala region and Musa Dladla region. **DMI68**

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 253 00--

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

3 letters TRY, EAR, ERA, USE, EVE, GET, SEE, INS
 4 letters USED, EDEN, EDEN, LEEK, EROS
 5 letters KRAAL, MECCA, USHER, KRAFT, PENCE, ARAME, TOWNS, ASSET
 6 letters KAGAME, GARAGE, AFRICA, ERASED SEVERE, CARINA,
 7 letters LUGGAGE, CONDOMS,
 8 letters EEL GRASS
 9 letters

WORD-FIT CROSSWORD

SOLUTIONS

By Magezi: 0735429240 felixmagezi@gmail.com

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

05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I
 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC
 06:30 AM NIPASHI
 06:50 AM MATANGAZO
 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN
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BUSINESS

Tigo hands over 40m/- to the first 20 winners for the Pesa Mwaa Mwii promotion

By Guardian Reporter

IN a bid to accelerate digital financial payments and foster customer loyalty, Tigo has awarded 2m/- each to the first 20 winners of the on-going Pesa Mwaa Mwii na Tigo Pesa promotion.

The 20 winners who emerged victorious in the ongoing promotion, were picked via a weekly draw held on Wednesday the March 23rd 2022 at the Tigo offices, the winners were drawn from a pool of Tigo Pesa customers who conducted different transactions such as Lipa Kwa Simu, Bill Payments, Government Payments, On-net peer to peer transactions and receiving money from another mobile network during the week ending March 20th, this year.

Speaking during the handover, the Tigo Pesa High Value Customers Segment Manager, Mary Rutta said, "The heartbeat of the Tanzania's economy is in digital payments. This demographic is inclined to technology and at Tigo we are always coming up with innovative products and services. Through this promotion we want to lead the transformation to a cashless society. We are really excited with how Tigo Pesa customers have jumped on this promotion; we look forward to awarding cash prizes of over 325m/- in the next five weeks."

"This transact and win promotion is exclusively for Tigo Pesa customers, where we will have a total of 111 winners, 20 winners winning 2m/- every week for 5 weeks, 10 winners to get the grand prize of 10m/- end of promotion and 1 overall winner getting

25m/-.

Customers get to do as many transactions as possible from the services mentioned above to stand a chance to win," explained Rutta.

Majeshi Salim Nkamba, a juice seller from Temeke in Dar es Salaam was all smiles as he spoke on behalf of his fellow winners, "On behalf of my fellow winners, I would first of all like to thank Tigo for this bounty, in these lean times, winning 2m/- cannot be taken for granted, our win is a testament that Tigo values its customers, and I urge fellow Tigo Pesa customers to conduct as many transactions as they can through Tigo Pesa to stand a chance to win the ultimate prize of over 25m/- "Truly Tigo Pesa ni zaidi ya Pesa said Nkamba.

The 20 winners include, Theresa Mbiliyvi (Dodoma), Rehema Idd (Kunduchi), Jawa Risasi (Dodoma), Sarah Maiko, Stella Kipenya, Agrikola Kambuga, Majeshi Nkamba (Temeke), Stella Kagunila, Abdulmalik Madenge, Nuru Ally, Herbert Likonoka, Moureen Maeda, Mwita Mwita, Anastazia Mbuluma, Jobbu Mwakibete (Mtoni Kijichi), Mwanjabu Mndeme (Mbezi Kimara), Salome Sangalali (Lindi), Martha Muhegezi (Mkuranga), Rachel Nghasa (Dodoma)

All a customer needs to do is to transact as many times as he can through the Tigo Pesa services including Lipa Kwa Simu, Bill Payments, Government Payments, On-net peer to peer transactions and receiving money from another mobile network to stand a chance to win the cash prizes on offer.



Exim Bank Chief Executive Officer, Jaffari Matundu (L) and Zanzibar Association of Tourism Investors (ZATI) Chairman Rahim Bhaloo (R) sign MoU documents in Zanzibar over the weekend. The contract with nett value of \$85, 000 spread into 3years will provide the most need boost to ZATI to be able to perform its advocacy role to its members and enhance its secretariat team. Looking on are Minister for Tourism and Antiquities Zanzibar Simai Mohamed (C), Minister Of Trade and Industrial Development Zanzibar Zanzibar, Mr Omar Said Shaaban (2nd R), Permanent Secretary in Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities Zanzibar Fatma Mabrouk (3rd R) and other representative from both parts.

Exim Bank, ZATI seal pact to speed up Z'bar tourism industry

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

EXIM Bank Tanzania and the Zanzibar Association of Tourism Investors (ZATI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in a move to boost the flourish of the tourism sector in the historical Isles.

The partnership brings a unique platform for both entities to ensure adequate promotion of all relevant information about tourism in Zanzibar is easily accessible across the globe and ensuring that ZATI members have access to solutions for all their financial service's needs.

Officiating the strategic partnership here over the weekend, Zanzibar's Tourism and Antiquities Minister Simai Mohamed commended the move saying it was the first of its kind with specific performance indicators on both sides in order to enable the development of quality tourism facilities and

activities across the Isles.

"It's my belief that the move will further help a number of tourism stakeholders in Zanzibar that have been severely affected by the economic impact of COVID 19 to recover and eventually regain their economic potential. I call on other financial institutions to emulate this example by being closer to the tourism stakeholders especially in this era where the government is focusing more on the blue economy" he said

Tourism accounts for about 25 of Zanzibar's gross domestic product (GDP) and up to 80 percent of the Isle's foreign exchange earnings.

Exim Bank Chief Executive Officer, Jaffari Matundu emphasized that the goal is to continuously develop and grow the tourism industry of Zanzibar and Tanzania in general.

"The hospitality and hotel industry account for a large part of our portfolio and we will continue to be active in it.

Tourism is the "lifblood" of the Zanzibar economy and the bank would continue to focus on it, putting time, effort and capital into the sector. That is not changing" he insisted

According to the three year MoU, the lender will provide a number financial solutions to all ZATI members such as Corporate and SME Loans, Structuring Loans according to cash flows, Dedicated Treasury Sales Dealer, Competitive pricing in TZS/USD and all other currencies.

"Other solutions also include Free Inward Remittances, Preferential Treatment at the branch, Dedicated Relationship Manager, Cash Delivery or Pick-Up, Concessions in Tariffs, Insurance services and Payment machines (POS) to make it easier for tourists to make payments and not have to worry about carrying or walking with money." He mentioned

"The partnership is an example of

the long-term and large-scale support that Exim Bank provides to strategic sectors of the economies in the country in this case, the Zanzibar tourism industry," stressed Matundu.

ZATI Chairman Rahim Bhaloo lauded Exim Bank for the partnership, saying the move will allow a strategic Zanzibar tourism industry to significantly increase its potential, rise services quality and further increase the attractiveness of the Isles for both domestic and foreign tourists.

"It's important to point out that this move is a result of close and fruitful cooperation between ZATI and its stakeholders including its members, financial institutions like Exim Bank and The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar. This synergy allows us to effectively support our tourism business, create jobs, and improve the well-being of small and larger investors in tourism sector," he said.

Mbeya students set for a brighter future with classroom furniture donation from Coca-Cola Kwanza Ltd

By Guardian Reporter

STUDENTS at Ilunga secondary school in Mbeya Region will now be able to concentrate on their studies following improvement of learning environment by Coca-Cola Kwanza Ltd.

The beverages company has donated classroom furniture including 100 desks, ten tables and ten chairs to support government efforts towards improvement of the education sector in both rural and urban areas.

The donation by the subsidiary of Coca-Cola Beverages Africa (CCBA), valued at 12m/-, will help to address the desk shortage, and support the government's focus on creating an improved education environment in

rural areas.

Speaking at the handover event, Coca-Cola Kwanza's Sustainability and Communications Specialist, Victor Byemelwa, said the company's donation was intended to create greater shared opportunity for the business and communities.

"Opportunity is more than just money, it's about a better future for people and their communities everywhere on the African continent.

"Coca Cola Kwanza's vision is to refresh and improve the lives of Tanzanians every day. We do business the right way for a better-shared future, and this support will benefit 200 students to give them the best chance for a successful education," he said.



Coca-Cola Kwanza's Sustainability and Communications Specialist, Victor Byemelwa (R) sits on one of the 100 desks donated by Coca-Cola Kwanza Ltd which is the subsidiary of Coca-Cola Beverages Africa (CCBA) to Ilunga secondary school in Mbeya. Coca-Cola Kwanza Ltd donated classroom furniture including 100 desks, ten tables and ten chairs to Ilunga Secondary School in Mbeya to support improved education the government's focus on creating an improved education environment in rural areas. Left is Mbeya District Commissioner Dr Rashid Chuchua. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

Byemelwa said partnerships between the private sector, government and non-government organisations were the most effective way to address common challenges and improve the lives of Tanzanians.

Mbeya District Commissioner Dr Rashid Chuchua said the donation of desks by Coca-Cola Kwanza demonstrated the good relations between the government and the private sector, which was benefiting the community.

He said the donation was timely because of the huge number of students in class due to free education.

Since launching the initiative of making school desks as part of its corporate social responsibility initiatives, Coca-Cola Kwanza Ltd has made and distributed over 3,600 desks to various schools, impacting the lives of over 6,500 students at a time.

KCU to boost coffee prices, farming practices

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast, Bukoba

KAGERA Cooperative Union Ltd (KCU) has expressed its commitment to continue working and ensure that farmers' welfare and expectations are met by improving coffee prices and a conducive environment for coffee farming.

KCU Chairperson, Ressa Mashulano told the reporters recently at the KCU's lounge in Bukoba municipality the cooperative has released 1.4bn/- as a second payment for the year 2021/22 and allocated 640m/- for loans to farmers so as to prevent farmers from selling their unripe coffee

cherries while still on farms.

He said that a farmer gets 200/- more for organic coffee to make a total of 3,300/- a kilo, while the ordinary dried with outer skins, it is 100/- to make a total of 1,400/- a kilo, and that is an incentive to farmers to enable them to increase production.

"The increase in payments has been reached after we had our obligation to pull up our stockings, for a reliable market, to reach farmers' expectations, and we are striving to ensure farmers are continuing to earn good payments. We will be returning to farmers what we get

from the markets we have engaged in. We ask farmers in all 134 AMCOS to collect their second payments, as the 'window' has been open since March 24, this year," said Mashulano.

KCU Vice-Chairperson Respicus John, said the 640m/- which is set aside for loans, will help farmers to meet their needs during hardships, instead of selling their coffee fruits while still in their farms, selling at a loss, which causes a farmer to remain in poverty circle, year after year.

"We appeal to all well-wishers and coffee stakeholders, to support this loan basket so that

it reaches every farmer who is in need, and for sustainability," he said.

John also informed of the project which has commenced of building a conference hall to accommodate 700 people intending to raise income, which eventually will be used as collateral to have more loans from banks and that an engineer is at work.

He mentioned another project which is on paper saying will take off in the near future, as of having a modern coffee shop and bar where people will be gathering for drinking coffee as a move to promote the locally produced coffee

which is of high quality.

"You may wonder, some non-coffee producing areas have this kind of refreshment businesses, but we, who are good producers, are yet to grab the opportunity," he stressed.

KCU advises its farmers to turn to organic coffee farming which is free from pesticides and artificial fertilizers, so as to earn much money, compared to ordinary farming, which releases the risk of harmful ingestion, whereby only 34 out of 134 AMCOS are engaging in organic farming.

Govt issues more than 1.1bn/- to improve research, production of sisal seedlings

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

THE government has reaffirmed its commitment and determination to transform Sisal crop in the country. This time around, the government has issued more than 1.15bn/- to conduct research and production of improved commercial Sisal seedlings at TARI Mlingano centre in Tanga region.

TARI Mlingano centre director Dr. Catherine Senkoro said the funds also intend to improve tissue culture Laboratory, production equipment and infrastructures and other systems to speed up production.

"We are aiming at multiplying more sisal commercial improved seedlings and supply them. The improved Lab will help produce commercial seedlings that are uniform and free of pests and diseases. They will be distributed to smallholder farmers, sisal growing companies and Sisal estates across the country," she said.

According to Dr. Senkoro, procurement process of the equipments, facilities and amount of materials required have already started. Currently there are more demand of the improved seedlings following awareness creation and education that has been conducted by the government to the general public including the farmers and investors. Citing an example, she said the demand of smallholder farmers is more than 1.2 million seedlings and for large farmers is more than 12 million.

With the construction of the new tissue culture Lab, the centre will be able to boost production from 120,000 improved sisal seedlings to more than 10 million improved sisal seedlings per year through the Lab.

"We want to have modern tissue culture Lab that will promote the production of quality seedlings and shorten time that is being taken by breeders. The commercial quality seedlings will be available for both smallholder farmers and the investors," she said.

So far, the centre has produced more than 3million seedlings through conventional production.

Research Assistant from Sisal research program at TARI Mlingano Elizabeth Olambo said in recent years, there has been huge demand of improved commercial sisal seedlings. TARI Mlingano has been looking for a swift method of doubling production of good quality materials for the farmers. With the new lab, production through tissue culture

"When the farmer takes to the farm these sisal seedlings produced by tissue culture, he or she is able to get good quality sisal because the seedlings are not affected by pests and diseases. The farmers will also be able to access the seedlings throughout the year," she said.



TARI Mlingano centre Director Dr. Catherine Senkoro showing development of the new improved sisal seedlings at the centrex nurseries. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

TARI director general Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo said that TARI Mlingano has the national mandate of research and production of commercial sisal seedlings and Soil testing. Therefore, it is heading the government's directive of making sure that all Sisal farmers, companies and Sisal estates get the improved commercial seedlings.

TARI will follow up on the seedlings wherever they are being taken for planting. "We need to have database of all the farmers, that's why we are planning to start monitoring this seedlings distribution exercise just like what we have been doing with the oil palm in Kigoma region. We shall make sure that we consult the district councils and monitor who has taken the seedlings, the number of seedlings, their village, ward and the management.

He said another strategy is to convene public meetings through the village leaders and provide education

on agronomy, raise awareness and inform the farmers on the importance of the crop.

Recently, the Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa directed the district councils that grows Sisal to make sure that they have improved commercial Sisal nurseries. This directive require the improved commercial sisal seedlings from TARI. "So far I have visited the sisal nursery and seen more than 3million seedlings produced conventionally doing well. This is a good work and we shall make sure that these achievements and efforts continue putting the centre on the map," he said.

He said that the improvement of research and production at TARI Mlingano will also involve the centre's lab gets accreditation for better performance.

"When accredited, testing at Mlingano Lab will have great impact especially on soil testing in and

neighbouring countries. We want to strengthen and sustain the quality and integrity of our soil Lab's programs, operations, and support services meet international standards," he said.

During his directive, the Prime Minister directed all district councils growing Sisal in the country to establish Sisal nurseries on a 10-acres land to produce enough Sisal seedlings for the farmers. Similar directive also went to TARI to increase production of improved seedlings and supply to the growers.

The Prime Minister gave the directive when launching the exercise of planting and development of Sisal seedlings in the country at TARI Mlingano centre. During the lunching which was attended by government officials, TARI researchers, investors and the farmers, he also handed over the improved commercial seedlings to the farmers.

To ensure adequate improved seedlings, the Prime Minister instructed the Ministry of Agriculture to increase budget to improve the infrastructures, working tools and facilities of the centre and now the directives are being implemented accordingly.

TARI Mlingano is the centre of excellence with mandate to conduct and coordinate researches on agricultural natural resources (eg. soils, water, climate and relief), and sisal. Recent changes and advancement in the Agricultural Sector within the country and the Coastal Zone into which TARI Mlingano is located have brought fresh challenges to TARI Mlingano forcing the institution to transform from its core Research areas of soil and sisal to include research and services in areas like Geographical Information System (GIS), tissue culture and fertilizer recommendations

Tigo launches new state of the art flagship shop in Dar

By Guardian Reporter

TIGO customers visiting the iconic Palm Village shopping mall along the Mwai Kibaki road in Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam will now get access to experience all services after the launch of new flagship shop.

The first-of-a-kind digitized flagship shop will provide all services that will include SIM swap, Number verification, Tigo Pesa services, Tigo Business services, biometric SIM Card registration services, and device display screens for a wide variety of phones and accessories on sale.

Speaking during the launch, Tigo's Coast Zone Director Uthmaan Madati said the launch of the new shop is in line with Tigo's strategy to improve service delivery to customers and fulfill its promise of providing customers with more convenient access to products and services.

"Our promise to customers is to offer them personalized services and offer one-stop shop solution for all their needs. The growing demand for our services is driven by the need for customers to adopt a digital lifestyle. Our plan is to offer integrated solutions as part of our strategy to drive digital inclusion"

"The new shop features a special experience zone where customers can get the opportunity to test and experience different Tigo products such as mobile phones before they can buy them. The shop is conveniently placed to customers visiting the Palm village mall", added Madati.

The chief guest at the event, the Kigamboni District Commissioner Hon. Fatma Nyangasa commended Tigo for their determination in investing its resources to ensure customers receive World-class services. "Customer services is often at the heart of business which aims to provide an exceptional service that leaves the customer feeling valued and respected and Tigo is the best in investing its resources in crafting an intentional and wonderful customer experience which differentiates them from the rest," said Mwegelo.

Tigo is a pioneer of innovation in Tanzania. This shop is the 54th in the country and is another proof of Tigo's market leadership in the delivery of a new digital world to its customers

Maker launches latest smartphone Oppo A96 and A76 into Dar market



By Guardian Reporter

A MOBILE phone company manufacturer - Oppo and which is among top 5 best brand in the world, has launched its newest smartphone Oppo A96 and A76 in the Tanzanian market. Earlier, Oppo had series A and reno series in the market.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend while launching the latest smartphone Oppo A76 and Oppo A96, Oppo Tanzania Training Manager Farida Mwangosi said, "We are happy to announce the launch of our latest smartphone Oppo A96 and A76 in Tanzania market as we target to serve customers at all levels with the best brand that comes with the best price. These smartphones are the latest in the market and we are the first company to introduce them into the market. It is now the best opportunity for Tanzanians to adapt to the digital world by using the best brand of smartphones that comes with the best technology".

Oppo A96 comes with reno glow design that does not faint. It also has 8 ram which can expand up to ram 13 and a storage capacity of 256 GB. Its battery is 5000mAh and has charging capacity of 33W with high technology of charging up to 80 per cent for the first 60 minutes

and then starts low charging until its unplugged from the power. It has technology to identify the user tendency and therefore protects the battery from overcharge', said Mwangosi adding that Oppo A76 has ram of 6 and can expand to ram 11 and storage capacity of 128 GB.

On privacy, all Oppo smartphones have Oppo ID connected to users mail and incase the phone is lost or stolen, it cannot be used again as it mail password is needed to activate it again. In addition, Oppo A96 has anti piping technology which hides new notifications in case it traces a new face which makes it as number smartphone number one in terms of privacy.

Our customers' needs and purchasing remains our key consideration whenever we decided to come up with new product in the market. Oppo A96 and Oppo A76 targets middle income earners who are a very important people to our business. This is a great opportunity for all smartphone users to come up and enjoy our new and best technology as now our smartphones are now available at all Dar es Salaam shops but also to our representatives in the regions of Morogoro, Dodoma, Arusha, Mwanza, Moshi, Geita, Shinyanga, Tanga and other regions in particular.

WORLD

NATO summit fails to address discord among members

BRUSSELS

THE North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies gathered here on Thursday, for what Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg called “an extraordinary NATO summit in an extraordinary security situation” amid the Ukraine crisis.

The meeting, held on the day that marked one month since the start of Russia's special military operation in Ukraine, might temporarily boost unity across the Atlantic, but could not easily balance the demands of relevant parties or put out the fires in Ukraine.

Behind closed doors, NATO heads of state and government agreed to form four new NATO battlegroups in Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia, to supplement the four established ones in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland. They also agreed to strengthen “longer term deterrence and defense posture” supported by “enhanced exercises.”

Stoltenberg also said that NATO will strengthen

the cyber defenses and offer Ukraine cybersecurity assistance.

In the statement after the gathering, there was no agreement to impose additional sanctions against Russia, especially the country's oil and gas products. This demonstrates the obvious divergence among NATO members, who have different security and economic concerns.

The biggest difference is whether to place sanctions on Russia's energy industry. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz has clearly expressed on to such penalties.

Upon his arrival for a summit with leaders of the EU countries on Thursday, Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo warned that the 27-member bloc should not consider sanctions against Russia as such a move would unnecessarily weaken its economy.

In contrast with the Western European states, some countries adjacent to Russia such as Latvia and Estonia are calling for stricter sanctions against Russia as they claimed that energy sanc-



British Prime Minister Boris Johnson (second right) looks at US President Joe Biden (third right) while posing for a family photograph with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg (center), Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (right) and other leaders as they pose for a family photograph ahead of an extraordinary summit at NATO Headquarters in Brussels on March 24, 2022. AFP

tions would be a crucial measure to stop the country's military operation in Ukraine.

In order to cut dependence on Russia's gas and oil, the EU is seeking long-term liquefied natural gas supplies from the United States, making the latter a beneficiary of the European energy crisis prompted by the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Besides the divergence on sanctions, the NATO members in Brussels also shied away from Ukraine's request for more advanced weapons systems, participations of NATO troops and a no-fly zone in Ukraine.

Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky, invited to address the NATO leaders, hit out at Western nations for

not doing enough to help his country.

“You have thousands of fighter jets! But we haven't been given any yet ... You have at least 20,000 tanks! Ukraine asked for a percent, one percent of all your tanks to be given or sold to us! But we do not have a clear answer yet ... The worst thing during the war is not having clear answers to requests for help,” Zelensky said during the meeting.

NATO has been clear it will not send troops or planes to the battlefield.

“We have a responsibility to ensure that the war does not escalate beyond Ukraine ... this would cause even more death and even more destruction,” Stoltenberg said on Wednesday.

Chinese official: All 132 people on board crashed plane dead

BEIJING

ALL 132 people on board the China Eastern Airlines jet that crashed on Monday in the Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region are dead, a senior official of the Civil Aviation Administration of China said on Saturday night.

Despite intensive search and rescue operations since Monday, there has been no sign of life at the crash site, Hu Zhenjiang, deputy head of the CAAC, said at a news conference held in Wuzhou. “We have analyzed surveillance video footages, air traffic control data and the pattern of the debris at the crash site. We can be certain that there is no survivor of the crash,” he said.

“With a heavy heart and deep sadness, we are here to announce that the 123 passengers and nine crew members on board China Eastern Flight MU5735 have all lost their life.”

After the announcement, people attending the news conference observed a minute's silence to mourn for the dead.

Hu said the search and rescue teams will continue to look for the victims, their remains, belongings and debris of the aircraft to show respect to life and be responsible



Rescuers conduct search and rescue work at a plane crash site in Tengxian county, South China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, on Friday. XINHUA

to the victims' relatives. Also, the findings at the crash site are key for the tragedy's investigations.

China Eastern flight MU5735 left Kunming, the capital of Yunnan province, at 1:11 pm Monday with 123 passengers and nine crew members. It was scheduled

to arrive in Guangzhou, Guangdong province, at 3:05 pm. Air traffic controllers lost track of the plane over Wuzhou in Guangxi Zhuang at 2:21 pm.

Earlier on Saturday, head of the search and rescue team said the identity of 120 people, including

114 passengers and six crew members, has been confirmed by the public security department.

Local civil affairs department have arranged funeral service assistance. All the remains and belongings of the victims have been properly stored, said Zheng Xi,

head of the Fire and Rescue Brigade of Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region.

Zhu Tao, head of the aviation safety office of the CAAC, said as of Saturday noon, 493 family members for 80 passengers have arrived in Wuzhou, Guangxi.

Zhu said each family will have tailored assistance such as psychological counseling. Their requests and claims will be handled timely. A total of 747 mental evaluations and 1,182 counseling sessions have been provided to families members, he said.

According to Liu Xiaodong, head of the China Eastern Airlines' publicity department, the airliner managed to contact families from all passengers on board in 24 hours.

He said it is difficult to fulfill all requirements from each family in a short term, but many practical problems have been solved thanks to the quick response and cooperation from government departments from different regions and social assistance.

He also noted that the airline company has established a team to offer reassurance to families of missing crew members on board, and also help the family to solve practical problems. Xinhua

UN agency condemns attack on humanitarian convoy in South Sudan

JUBA

THE World Food Program (WFP) on Friday condemned Thursday's attack on a convoy carrying humanitarian supplies in Jonglei state that left three people killed.

WFP said in a statement issued in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, that the commercial convoy of 44 trucks carrying WFP food assistance came under attack from armed gunmen between Gadiang and Yuai in Jonglei State.

This is completely unacceptable,” said Adeyinka Badejo, acting Country Director for WFP in South Sudan.

Badejo added that this incident is the third ambush in Jonglei state in the past four months. WFP disclosed that similar attacks occurred in December 2021 and March 2022 respectively.

“These continued attacks and looting only serve to make humanitarian work increasingly challenging and sabotage life-saving food assistance destined

for vulnerable communities.

Further attacks on humanitarian convoys will put humanitarian assistance at risk where WFP will be forced to suspend its food assistance in greater Jonglei until there is a conducive environment for humanitarians in the area,” added Badejo.

WFP urged the government to bring the perpetrators of these attacks to justice and to safeguard the safety and security of humanitarian staff and assets.

WFP said it has invested con-

siderable efforts to negotiate humanitarian access in hard-to-reach areas to ensure isolated and marginalized people receive the assistance they need.

It, however, noted that it's the transitional unity government's responsibility to ensure safety and security for the population and the humanitarian community.

The UN agency called on the government to investigate incidents involving attacks on humanitarian workers or cargo.

These continued attacks and looting only serve to make humanitarian work increasingly challenging and sabotage life-saving food assistance destined for vulnerable

Relief deliveries in Ethiopia's Tigray at record low, says UN

UNITED NATIONS

WITH access choked, food stocks and fuel almost exhausted, aid distribution in the Tigray region of Ethiopia is at an all-time low, UN humanitarianists said on Friday.

“We are now past the 100-day mark with no relief truck going into Tigray,” the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said.

“The distribution of food assistance has fallen to its lowest levels since humanitarian operations were originally scaled up last March.”

Since mid-December, hostilities in the Afar region east of Tigray closed the Semera-Abala route into Tigray's regional capital of Mekelle, the office said.

Although aircraft ferried 221.8 metric tons of medical supplies to Tigray, it is only 4 percent of the medications required.

As the lack of food challenges relief distribution, the lack of fuel limits local delivery of aid, especially in remote areas, OCHA said. Since March 10, there has not been an authorization for cash transfers.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres welcomed the Ethiopian government's declaration on Thursday of an indefinite humanitarian truce, effective immediately, said Stephane Dujarric, his chief spokesman. Tigrayan authorities also committed to a cessation of hostilities effective immediately.

“The conflict in Ethiopia has caused terrible suffering for millions of people across Afar, Amhara, Tigray, Benishangul Gumz and Oromia,” Dujarric said. “These positive developments must now translate into immediate improvements on the ground.”

The spokesman said Guterres “reiterates his call for the restoration of public services in Tigray, including banking, electricity and telecommunications, and calls for all sides to proactively enable and facilitate the delivery of desperately needed humanitarian assistance across all affected areas.”

OCHA said that only about 68,000 people in Mekelle and Enderta received some available food supplies last week, although not a complete package. More than ten times as many people should receive a full package of assistance weekly.

The office said the United Nations and partners provide critical assistance to people affected by conflict in Afar and the Amhara region, south of Tigray. More than 125,000 people in Afar have received food assistance since late February.

In Amhara, OCHA said the United Nations and partners provided food assistance to more than 425,000 people in the past two weeks in Wag Hemra, North and South Wollo, and South Gondar zones.

The government assisted a further 400,000 people in conflict-affected areas. The office said that more than 8 million people had received food assistance under the current distribution round since late December.

Yemen's Houthis declare cease-fire with Saudi-led coalition

SANAA

YEMEN'S Houthi rebels on Saturday announced a three-day unilateral cease-fire with the Saudi-led coalition, voicing their commitment to a permanent truce if the coalition ends airstrikes and withdraws forces.

“We will suspend cross-border missile and drone attacks and all military actions against Saudi Arabia for a period of three days. If Saudi Arabia would agree to end its airstrikes and blockade against Yemen, we are ready to turn this declaration into a final and permanent commitment,” said Mahdi al-Mashat, president of the Houthi militia's Supreme Political Council, in a televised speech.

“The initiative includes the suspension of all ground battles on all frontlines including the province of Marib,” al-Mashat added, on the occasion marking the entering of the Yemeni civil war into its eighth year.

The Houthi political leader also proposed a deal to swap all prisoners, including the brother of Yemeni President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, with the Saudi-led coalition forces.

“We call on the UN envoy to facilitate the exchange of all prisoners,” al-Mashat said.

The Houthi initiative came hours after the coalition forces launched heavy airstrikes on Houthi's vital military and economic sites in the Red Sea port city of Hodeidah and the capital Sanaa in retaliation for Houthi's cross-border missile and drone attacks against oil facilities in Saudi Arabia this week.

The Houthi militia has recently intensified attacks against Saudi Arabia after it lost several strategic districts in the oil-rich provinces of Marib and Shabwa during its fighting against the Yemeni government army in the past two months.

Yemen has been mired in a civil war since late 2014 when the Iran-backed Houthi militia seized control of several northern provinces and forced the Saudi-backed Yemeni government of Hadi out of Sanaa.

The Saudi-led Arab coalition intervened on March 26, 2015 in the Yemeni civil war in an attempt to reinstate the Hadi government.

Agencies

China issues roadmap for high-quality development of iron and steel industry

CHINESE authorities issued a guideline on promoting the high-quality development of the iron and steel industry, which specified that China's iron and steel industry aims to basically form a high-quality development pattern featuring reasonable layout and structure, stable supply of resources, advanced technical equipment, high quality products and outstanding brands, high level of intelligentization, strong global competitiveness, as well as green, low-carbon, and sustainable development by 2025.

Last year, China's iron and steel industry delivered impressive performance and maintained sound growth momentum. Key large and medium-sized

iron and steel enterprises reported a cumulative revenue of 6.93 trillion yuan (\$1.09 trillion), a year-on-year increase of 32.7 percent; their total profits reached 352.4 billion yuan, rising 59.7 percent compared with a year before.

This is attributed to the robust market demand last year as well as the progress in the supply-side structural reform of the industry in recent years, pointed out Luo Tiejun, vice president of the China Iron and Steel Association.

According to Luo, China's iron and steel industry witnessed significant results in eliminating excess capacity, adjusting structure, and promoting upgrading during the country's 13th Five-Year Plan period (2016-2020).

During the period, the industry cut crude steel output by over 150 million tons, Luo said, adding that the annual labor productivity of main links in the production of iron and steel products increased from 527 tons per person to 850 tons per person.

China is now at the later stage of industrialization and the middle and later stage of urbanization; domestic demands for steel products will remain at a high level during the next few years driven by the country's tasks for achieving industrialization and urbanization, said Li Xinchuang, chief engineer at the China Metallurgical Industry Planning and Research Institute.

Li believes that 5G, industrial Internet

and other new-generation information technologies provide favorable conditions for the transformation and upgrading of the iron and steel industry.

Data suggest that the numerical control rate of key processes of China's metallurgical industry and the percentage of digital production equipment in the industry reached 65.4 percent and 47 percent, respectively, in 2020, signifying a high level of digitalization in the sector.

Intelligent transformation is a systematic project that covers all the links of the industry, from purchasing, designing to production and sale, Luo noted, adding that smart manufacturing in China's iron and steel industry

faces problems including uneven capacity, incomplete standards, and insufficient supply of software and hardware.

The guideline, which was jointly released by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE), pointed out that China intends to lift the numerical control rate of key processes of the metallurgical industry and the proportion of digital production equipment in the industry to about 80 percent and 55 percent, respectively, and build over 30 smart factories by 2025, which is expected to

help the iron and steel industry move into the fast lane of intelligent development.

In the future, the iron and steel industry should stick to intelligentization-oriented technological innovation, focus on equipment operation and maintenance intelligentization, improvement in production process transparency, overall supply chain collaboration and environmental protection management, and integrate 5G, industrial Internet, artificial intelligence (AI) and other new technologies into manufacturing and operation, in a bid to cultivate new competitive strengths, Luo pointed out

People's Daily

Racial inequality a prominent issue in US prisons

THE U.S. has been widely condemned for its long-term and systemic racism against ethnic minority groups and immigrants in its justice system.

While people of color make up 37 percent of the U.S. population, they account for 67 percent of the country's prison population.

The incidence of human rights violations is particularly high in immigrant detention centers along the U.S. borders.

Data suggests that during the 2021 fiscal year, the U.S. government detained as many as 1.7 million illegal immigrants, of which 80 percent were held in private detention facilities with harsh conditions, including a large number of immigrant children.

Among the 266,000 immigrant children detained by the U.S. in recent years, more than 25,000 have been held for over 100 days.

"There were nearly 5,000 children there ('emergency intake' shelter erected in the harsh desert of Fort Bliss), and some 1,500 children are still being held at the troubled site, where conditions in 'jam-packed' tents resembled a stockyard," were "traumatizing" and risky for the children's health and safety," reported the El Paso Times.

Between April and June 2018, the Trump administration implemented a "zero tolerance" policy toward illegal immigration at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Under the policy, adult illegal immigrants were prosecuted by the U.S. government and held in federal prisons or deported, and their children were in the care of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. A huge number of immigrant children were forced to separate from their parents.

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), an American nonprofit organization committed to advocacy for civil rights and racial equality, a total of 4,368 children were separated from their parents or guardians because of this policy, and many still hadn't found their parents by the end of 2020.

According to over 160 internal reports of the U.S. government, U.S. border officials have committed plenty of misconduct and abuse against immigrants, including verbal, physical and even sexual abuse, pointed out a report released by international non-governmental organization Human Rights Watch (HRW) last October.

There are also allegations of harsh detention conditions, denial of medical care, and other phenomena at the border, according to the report.

"...human rights abuses run rampant in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention centers. Intentional deprivation (e.g. being kept in a cold room without a blanket or being served rotten food), physical and verbal abuse by guards, sexual assault, and rape happen far too frequently...In fact, an independent medical review of deaths in detention found that in over half of the deaths analyzed, medical negligence had played a role," said an article by Eillen Martinez and two other American scholars, which was re-

cently published on Medpage Today, a web-based medical news service provider.

Statistics show that in the U.S., African Americans are six times more likely than white people to be incarcerated in prisons. One of every three African-American males born in the U.S. can expect to go to prison at least once in his lifetime, compared to one of every 17 white males.

According to the National Public Radio (NPR), Black Americans are four times as likely as whites to be arrested for marijuana possession; and black men spend an average of 20 percent longer behind bars in federal prisons than their white peers for the same crimes.

An article published on the website of Forbes Magazine pointed out that prisoners of African descent are the most likely to suffer from abuse by prison staff among all inmates, which makes them more subject to psychological trauma and more discriminated against when they reenter society.

Private prisons in the U.S. have a significantly higher proportion of inmates of color and more evident racial inequality. Low-income groups, mostly people of color, are likely to be detained because they cannot afford bail and are eventually pressured into pleading guilty. They usually cannot meet the harsh requirements attached to fines or probation, and end up becoming long-term cheap labor in private prisons.

Racial inequality in American prisons, especially in private prisons, is the epitome of the country's longstanding systemic racism.

The U.S. has a dark history of exploiting the lives of disadvantaged groups (usually people of color) for the profit of the powerful—from colonial slavery through coolie labor, black codes, and Jim Crow laws, the government has sanctioned this practice, pointed out U.S. non-profit organization Abolish Private Prisons, which believes that "Locking people up for profit is simply the latest incarnation of slavery."

A non-profit, non-partisan think tank Interrogating Justice noted that private prisons in the U.S. are the product of a symbiotic relationship between police departments, court systems, transportation companies, food suppliers, and other departments and businesses, all of which benefit from mass incarceration. Some believe that the U.S. private prison industry is deeply rooted in slavery and has, some argue, modernized state-sponsored slave labor.

American writer Jabari Asim believes that the idea that African Americans can commit a crime simply by existing is more than just a deeply entrenched racist misconception; it is also an idea rooted in capitalism's need for a cheap, exploitable labor force. Asim noted, private prisons are specifically designed so that states can profit from the nearly free labor provided by incarcerated people.

People's Daily

US, EU divided on new sanctions against Russia in hasty meetings

BRUSSELS

THREE intensive summits in two days – US President Joe Biden squeezed his schedule for Thursday and Friday when he rushed to Brussels to shake hands, pose for pictures and tried to coax a display of unity with European partners, but he nonetheless failed to talk them into more sanctions against Russia.

Following the North Atlantic Treaty Organization summit and G7 gathering, the summit of the European Council came last on Thursday and continued on Friday, during which the Ukraine crisis was the major focus.

Despite a seemingly unanimous tone against Russia across such transatlantic partnerships, geopolitical concerns and different interests are at play, making it difficult to balance the demands of various parties

No new sanctions

The European Council summit on Thursday failed to agree on additional sanctions against Russia, despite Biden's presence – a reflection of different positions among members of the European Union as they become increasingly wary of consequences of such actions given existing challenges they face due to the Ukraine crisis.

While Biden was busy "showcasing unity" at Thursday's summit, the White House announced new sanctions against the Russian State Duma and a number of what it called "oligarchs" as well as several financial institutions and their leaders.

By contrast, EU leaders, after an exchange of views with the US president on transatlantic cooperation in the context of the Ukraine crisis, concluded that the bloc would not impose more sanctions against Russia.

"The European Union has so far adopted significant sanctions that are having a massive impact on Russia and Belarus, and remains ready to close loopholes and target actual and possible circumvention as well as to



Leaders attend the European Council meeting in Brussels, Belgium, on Friday XINHUA

move quickly with further coordinated robust sanctions," the bloc said in a press release.

Speaking to reporters ahead of the EU summit, Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte said he did not expect EU leaders to agree on additional sanctions on Thursday, while stressing that the Netherlands would support such extra sanctions.

Acknowledging the massive fallout of existing EU sanctions on Russia, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis cautioned that the EU may also bear the brunt of these sanctions.

"We should be very careful to ensure that any measures we implement do not end up being more painful for European citizens than for Russia," he said ahead of the EU summit.

Greece's stance is echoed by Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo, who told the press that any possible new sanctions should hit Russia harder than the EU.

"The basic rule is that sanctions must have a much greater impact on the Russian side than on the European side. We don't wage war on ourselves," De

Croo noted.

Mitsotakis also pointed out the focus should instead be shifted on the implementation. "We should now focus on making sure that there are no 'leaks' in terms of the implementation of sanctions, that all the countries that are part of this alliance are participating in the sanctions," Mitsotakis said.

Luxembourg Prime Minister Xavier Bettel also ruled out new sanctions until Russia "crosses another line." "If we want to have new sanctions, we need to have them as a reaction to something," he said.

Unrealistic path

Although the United States and the EU announced a task force on Friday to reduce Europe's reliance on Russian fossil fuels, several European countries, including Germany, remain reluctant to announce drastic measures against Russia's energy for fear of aggravating supply disturbances.

Various politicians and experts have said the expectation that Europe could cut itself off Russian energy entirely looks too sanguine.

Rutte said that time is needed to diversify European energy imports before a Russian energy import ban could happen.

"It takes weeks or months before you can switch countries like Germany or certain Eastern

European countries from Russian oil to different oil supplies. In the case of gas, it takes even longer. Coal could go faster," Rutte said.

Statistics show that currently, over 40 percent of the EU's natural gas and 25 percent of its oil consumption come from Russia – a reality that makes the EU's following the US ban on Russian energy imports unrealistic, despite mounting pressure from Washington. "But Biden will have to be wary of making promises his administration can't keep," said US news portal Politico on Monday in an article. "The sheer scale of Europe's gas needs in a market that is already running tight on supply will create a huge hurdle, as will the US government's relatively small influence on short-term issues in the energy markets."

Macron's campaign fuels abstention worries

PARIS

SOME members of French President Emmanuel Macron's camp are concerned that his re-election campaign is failing to engage voters, with little new to enthrone them as the conflict in Ukraine overshadows domestic policy.

With less than three weeks to go before the first round of voting, Macron has a comfortable lead in opinion polls. But with pollsters warning that abstentions could reach a record level, he needs to get supporters fired up enough to make the effort to go out and vote for him.

"There is no magic in this campaign. Nobody's excited, not the French, not political journalists, not even us in the campaign," one source in the Macron camp said. "The war in Ukraine has shut everything down."

Macron's diplomatic activism over Ukraine gave him an initial poll boost, but some campaign insiders now worry that his efforts are distracting from the fight at home.

"Next week is an important week," the same source said. "We need to show we're campaigning on the ground."

The president has kept campaign events to a minimum, relying mostly on social media posts, including a few Instagram shots of him looking tired and unshaven in between diplomatic calls at his desk. Other contenders have been left to debate between themselves on TV shows that fail to attract many viewers.

A campaign rally in the French Riviera city of Nice with current and former ministers but no Macron – he sent a three-minute pre-



France's President Emmanuel Macron attends on the second day of a European Union summit at the EU Headquarters, in Brussels on Friday. AFP

recorded message – failed to fill the venue, French media said.

After releasing his manifesto last week, Macron gave two interviews, including one on French radio during which a caller told him to spend less time on Ukraine and focus more on the needs of his country.

But on Thursday, Macron flew to Brussels for two days of NATO, G7 and European summits.

"We're a bit bored, to be honest," said another source close to Macron who stayed in Paris. "We need to hear the message of those who want the president to

be more present at home."

No new world

The center-left faction within Macron's party is also worried that the only measures voters will remember from his manifesto are tough and unpopular, like pushing back the retirement age to 65 and compulsory community work for welfare recipients.

"Not something that captures your imagination," a lawmaker quipped, lamenting the "optimism" of Macron's 2017 campaign, which promised a "new world" breaking with the politics of past decades. "We need

to be careful about abstention," he said.

After reaching a record 31.5 percent in the rolling Ifop poll on March 9, as the Ukraine crisis unfolded, the proportion of people saying they intend to vote for Macron has slid to 28.5 percent.

"That's the cost of clarity. He tells it like it is, he's not a panderer," another Macron lawmaker said.

Far-right leader Marine Le Pen, who has focused on domestic issues such as the cost of living and inflation, has meanwhile climbed in the polls from 16 percent immediately after the start of the Ukraine conflict to 20

percent now.

Officially, Macron's camp dismisses any problem with the campaign. Supporters point to the fact he is still running way ahead of Le Pen and attracted a record audience for his most recent interview, and put the blame on other candidates for the lack of voter interest in the presidential election.

"In this decisive moment, I'd rather see the president at work to protect the French and strengthen Europe than on stage for a rally," Pierre-Alexandre Anglade, a spokesman for Macron's party in parliament, told Reuters.

German SPD on track for another win in Saarland state

BERLIN

GERMANS head to the polls in the small western state of Saarland on Sunday in the first of four regional votes this year which could enable Social Democrat Chancellor Olaf Scholz to consolidate his grip on power.

The first regional vote since the federal election last September which the Social Democrats (SPD) unexpectedly won – beating the conservatives for the first time in 16 years – looks set to provide the party another boost.

A poll published on Thursday by ZDF Politbarometer put the SPD at 41 percent of the vote compared with 28 percent for the conservative Christian Democrats (CDU). The two parties have ruled Saarland in a conservative-led so-called "grand coalition" since 2012.

State elections in Germany are important bellwethers for the public mood and to determine the distribution of votes in the Bundesrat upper house of parliament.

While the ruling coalition of SPD, environmentalist Greens and liberal Free Democrats (FDP) has a solid majority in the Bundestag lower house, conservative-led or co-ruled states have 51 of 69 votes in the Bundesrat.

Three of the four states going to the polls this year are CDU-led. If the CDU were to lose those votes, that could make it easier for the government to pass legislation.

In the case of Saarland however, political analysts point out it does not have much weight in the Bundesrat given it has only around a million inhabitants.

Moreover voters there are especially motivated by local issues like concerns about high unemployment and the popularity of regional SPD leader Anke Rehlinger. The conservatives are actually leading in polls nationwide, at 27 percent versus 23 percent for the SPD, said Manfred Guellner, head of pollster Forsa.

A more critical signpost will be the elections on May 15 in Germany's most populous state North Rhine-Westphalia, said Naz Masraff at Eurasia Group.

"A possible change of government from the CDU to the SPD would be critical for Scholz to further consolidate power in his party, and allow larger policy space for the government," said Masraff.

The Guardian

SPORT



Abedi Ayew, known professionally as Abedi Pele.

Legendary African players that never played at World Cup

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi & Agencies

AFRICA is represented by five nations at the World Cup, with the showpiece serving as an opportunity for many players to get a chance to go and play football in either Europe or elsewhere in the world, but

There have been accomplished African footballers some of whom have lifted the Ballon D'Or prize that never helped their respective countries' national teams make it to the World Cup.

Mohamed Aboutrika

Aboutrika's intense loyalty to Egypt's Al-Ahly during his club career means he never got to test himself in the European arena, but his failure to make the World Cup is more baffling.

The playmaker was a key figure in Egypt's national squad alias 'Pharaohs' that won three Africa Cup of Nations titles in a row between 2006 and 2010.

Several successive failures in World Cup qualification mean that that great side never got to represent the continent at the grandest stage.

Aboutrika was present for the heart-breaking defeat by Algeria in the World Cup qualifiers' playoff of 2009 and was part of the side crushed by Ghana four years later.

He announced his retirement via Twitter on December 20, 2013, after Egypt failed to qualify for the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil.

Abedi Pele

Ghana great who was a UEFA Champions League winner with Olympique de Marseille and, for a time, could be considered among the most scintillating players in the European game.

However, while the three-time African Footballer of the Year and three-time Ligue 1 champion won the Africa Cup of Nations as a youngster in 1982, Ghana never reached the World Cup during his career.

Kalusha Bwalya

Zambia's greatest player, Bwalya is the Zambia national team 'Chipolopolo' all-time top scorer and their most capped international.

He reached the Africa Cup of Nations final in 1994, and may well have reached the World Cup that year had his teammates not perished in a tragic plane crash off the coast of Gabon.

Godfrey Chitalu

Chitalu, who died in that aforementioned air disaster of 1993, is Africa's most prolific international footballer of all time, having struck 79 goals in 108 games for Zambia.

Quite remarkably for a player of his sensational goalscoring qualities, he spent the entirety of his 18-year career in his homeland, having represented Kitwe United and then Kabwe Warriors for long spells.

Fredrick Kanoute

He is the first player born outside Africa to win the African Footballer of the Year award.

Kanoute enjoyed European success at club level—notably winning the Europa League twice with Sevilla FC—and helped Mali reach the semi-finals of the Africa Cup of Nations.

However, the Eagles' failure to reach the World Cup means he's never played at the tournament. Perhaps it would have been a different story had he represented France, for whom he turned out at U-21 level.

George Weah

In the eyes of some, Africa's greatest ever player—and the only one of the continent's stars to win the Ballon d'Or—but Weah never reached the World Cup.

The striker starred for AC Milan during the 90s, but being born in Liberia counted against Weah when it came to the World Cup, as the tiny West African nation always faced an uphill battle to reach the tournament.

He did drag the Lone Stars to two Afcon tournaments, which is a magnificent achievement in itself.

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang

Currently tearing it up in La Liga with Barcelona, Aubameyang has established himself as one of the finest goalscorers of his generation, excelling in front of goal in France, Germany, England, and now Spain.

He has had chances to make it to the World Cup—this current Gabon generation is not as bad as people like to make out—but the Panthers have never managed to get their act together to push for a World Cup berth.

They are already out of the running for 2022, and Auba—currently aged 32—may have missed his final chance of gracing the global stage.

Ace Ntsoelengoe

The legendary Ntsoelengoe never represented South Africa in an official game, having played during the country's period of being suspended—and then expelled—from FIFA.

He did represent a South African multiracial XI in the late 70s, taking part in the 7-0 demolition of Rhodesia and the 5-0 thumping of an Argentina team who would go on to win the World Cup in 1978.

On six occasions he made the NASL's All-Stars Squad of the Season in the United States—alongside the likes of Franz Beckenbauer, George Best, and Pele—and it is tantalizing to imagine how he could have lit up the World Cup.

Segun Odegbami

One of Nigeria's greatest players, Odegbami can look back on a superb career in domestic and international football, even if he never reached the World Cup.

He was a Nations Cup winner with the West African giants in 1980—the Eagles' first success—having been part of the squad that had reached the final four two years previously.

Odegbami—nicknamed Mathematical—was one of the standout performers of a squad that contained the likes of Muda Lawal and Henry Nwosu, and was once runner up for the African Footballer of the Year award.

Sacking eight coaches midseason says plenty on clubs' intent to rise

By Correspondent John Kimbute

RECENT sports updates indicate that eight coaches had by late February been sacked by NBC Premier League sides since the start of the season, indicating a fairly high turnout of coaches even by local standards.

While there is arguably no rule about the longevity of coaches, either by habit or contractual specification, it now appears coaches' tenure security is nearly as unreliable or as unstable as that of players, as it is half the clubs that are engaged in Premier League football that replaced coaches midstream.

The problem is perhaps not what this says of Premier League coaches as a whole but the clubs, what they wish for, expect.

There are two sides to expectation, one that is likely to be cited in terminating the contract of a head coach, as unrealistic rational objectives on the basis not just of investments made, but the presumed quality of those investments.

Here the focus is first on recruitment of players but also recruiting the coach, with fairly well-considered expectations that with the squad thus collected, even if it was put together in his absence before he arrived on the job, he can use it to attain results.

Failure sparks off commotion in club leadership ranks as fans are disillusioned and like the leadership, trust in squad ability.

That brings up another issue, of whether there is rule of thumb on who usually errs on that score when the fans and either club leadership or management believe that the



Former Azam FC head coach, George Lwandamina. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

squad is good and ought to achieve, and the coach can't deliver.

Based on the rule that the majority must be right, it has to be affirmed that the club fan base, as well as leadership, has at least a plausible premise that the squad is capable, for instance by looking at what those players were doing to be recruited by the Premier League side, and if they are delivering as expected.

If there is a hiatus between the potential and performance, the coach is to blame as it is the job description of the chief tactician to put potential into a collective dynamic for results.

One hidden problem that often comes up is the difference between playing well and winning, as it is evident that playing well does not always lead to winning a game, as scor-

ing is often by either luck or by fluke, whichever is the case.

Still, common sense requires that the gap be narrowed to make it virtually certain that an outfit which plays well shall win the game, and that is why more often than not the coach of a losing side (for instance in the broadly watched England Premier League) admits that the other side played well and deserved to win.

They also do so here, but that spirit isn't sufficiently generalized to easily expect.

The question that comes up is whether sackings of coaches reflect the spirit of admitting that the other side played well and deserved to win, or it relates to blame throwing, so internal combustion at club ranks leads to the coach being sacked, by

which it means being victimized.

One likely response is that 'it depends,' but trying to play diplomacy on the matter fails as one has to first clear up mentally whether blame throwing is commonplace in most clubs or it is more noticeable in a number of them rather than in all of them.

There are likely variations, but not that there are different cultures on blame, etc.

Deciding where blame throwing was the main factor and where clear under-achievement was noticed demands that the coaches removed be related to the level not just of performance at the start of the premier league season but also as regards investments made before the league started.

If one can make a prior assessment that the specific investments were adequate, as well as recruiting the right coach, it can be surmised that this was a case of underachievement. Chances are that economies are made in this or that regard, thus having overoptimistic expectations about the squad, and even about the coach.

In that case, it can be surmised that the rule 'you reap what you sow' applies in these situations as well, in the sense that clubs that are generally satisfied with their performance would have made fairly good choices both on players and the coaches.

As for those who are not satisfied, another breakdown comes up where there is the unrealistic sentiment of lack of satisfaction by having pushed oneself to the limit, and then imagining that it was enough, which may be unrealistic concerning what others can do.

This is partially what is being noticed between the city archrivals, that Jangwani Street club appears to have pushed itself to the limit concerning spending on players and the technical bench, and trumpets that they will have the title this year.

Whichever way it goes it will reflect investments, but not necessarily the convictions thereof.

Bongo Flava musicians wow revelers in Dar awards

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

NEW generation music 'Bongo Flava' artists and their Taarab counterparts impressed revelers at a special presentation ceremony for the winner of this year's edition of a competition, known as 'Malkia wa Nguvu', held at Mlimani City in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Some of the artists are Omari Faraji Nyembo 'Ommy Dimpoz', Juma Mussa Mkambala 'Jux', Sarafina, Aisha Ramadhani 'Isha Mashauzi' and Omari Mwangi 'Mario'.

The singers impressed Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, Dorothy Gwajima, and compelled her to dance with them.

Dorothy was the guest of honour at the awards ceremony hosted by a media outlet, Clouds Media Group (CMG), and featured various attendees.

Artist Ommy Dimpoz noted that despite having not released songs lately, his star is still shining in the new generation of music.

"You have witnessed how I stepped on stage and how the fans got up from the seats including the minister to come and support me to dance the song I was singing," Ommy Dimpoz noted.

Ommy Dimpoz said he always works with deeds and protects his reputation.

According to Ommy Dimpoz, the artist does not fancy seeking fame via exposing himself online, instead, the singer is keen on promoting his work.

In the show, the artist en-

tertained the audience by singing the song titled 'Nani Kama Mama'.

The track was composed by dance musician, Christian Bella, the singer who collaborated with 'Ommy Dimpoz'.

Ommy Dimpoz is Tanzania's new-generation Bongo Flava artist. Bongo Flava is a unique style of Tanzanian Hip Hop and R&B that originated from the streets of Dar es Salaam.

The style is undeniably the most popular genre among Tanzanian youths.

Ommy Dimpoz had signed a recording deal with Sony Music Entertainment Africa in 2020.

Under the agreement, his future music was to be released internationally through the label.

Before the development, he was under the management of Rockstar Africa Re-

cord Label and Management Company, which is owned by compatriot Ali Kiba.

Commenting on the new signing, Sony Music Entertainment Africa Managing Director Sean Watson said: "It's a proud moment having an artist of Ommy's caliber decide to partner with us at Sony."

"We're excited about joining forces with him to bring his amazing music to the ears of as many fans as we can."

Ommy Dimpoz said: "I am excited and honoured to join Sony Music Africa, the home of talented artists globally."

"This partnership is a very important step in my music career and has come at the right time in my life."

"I am looking forward to a great partnership and a very successful venture with Sony Music Africa."



Bongo Flava' artist, Ommy Dimpoz, sings at a presentation ceremony for the winner of this year's edition of a competition known as 'Malkia wa Nguvu' held in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT SABATO KASIKA

African Sports pushed to Championship relegation zone

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

TANGA's African Sports' hopes to perform well in 2021/22 Championship have continued to gradually decline following the squad's 2-1 loss to JKT Tanzania FC in the showdown's 22nd round match played at Major Isamuhyo Stadium at Bunju in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

African Sports has as a result moved to a less favourable spot in the log.

The Championship's 22nd round, which played last Saturday, saw a total of 14 outfits out of 16 battling it out in encounters at different stadia.

Dar es Salaam outfit DTB FC continued to stay at the top of the league

after commanding a 2-1 victory over fellow city outfit Transit Camp FC.

The tournament leader's outcome now witnesses the side amass 52 points, followed by Mbeya-based Ihefu SC in the title race.

Ihefu SC managed to retain its position in the log despite losing 2-1 to fellow Mbeya squad Ken Gold FC.

The second-placed competitor is now optimistic about returning to the Premier League considering it has posted 47 points.

Ihefu SC was participating in Mainland Tanzania Premier League in 2020/21 season before dropping to Championship in 2021/22 season.

African Sports had previously hoped to gain promotion to Premier

League during the then First Division League.

The side is consequently losing hope again because of the results the squad registered in the important fixture against the Dar es Salaam squad.

The outcome has had African Sports moving to the 13th position.

Before the 22nd round Championship matches, African Sports was sitting 12th in the league table with a total of 21 points.

Last Saturday's other matches and results:

Ndanda FC 1-0 Pan African, DTB FC 2-1 Transit Camp FC, Kitayosce 1-0 Mashujaa FC, Pamba FC 1-1 Gwambina FC, Ken Gold FC 2-1 Ihefu SC, and Mwadui FC 1-1 Fountain Gate FC.

Eriksen scores on Denmark return as England, Germany, Spain win

LONDON

DENMARK'S Christian Eriksen made an emotional goal-scoring return to international football on Saturday as England, Germany and Spain carved out friendly victories.

Eriksen found the net two minutes after coming on with a powerful drive in a 4-2 defeat against fellow World Cup qualifiers Netherlands in Amsterdam.

It was his first national team appearance since suffering a cardiac arrest in Denmark's opening game of the European Championships against Finland in Copenhagen last June.

On Saturday, to the resounding applause of fans and even Dutch manager Louis van Gaal, the 30-year-old came off the bench and raised his hands to the sky in thanks.

His goal was 37th in 110 appearances. It was fitting he scored in the Amsterdam Arena, the home of Ajax.

Eriksen came through the ranks at the Dutch side, making 162 appearances for the club and winning five trophies, including three consecutive league titles between 2011 and 2013.

Meanwhile, Harry Kane converted a late penalty to close in on the all-time England goal-scoring record and secure a 2-1 win over Switzerland who will also be at the World Cup in Qatar in November.

Kane netted from the spot to reach 49 England goals, moving him ahead of Gary Lineker and into a second place tie with Bobby Charlton.

Only Wayne Rooney, with 53 goals, has scored more times for England.

Breel Embolo put Switzerland ahead at Wembley after 22 minutes in a first half dominated by the visitors before Luke Shaw's equaliser in first-half injury time.

Kane restored order with his 78th-minute winner.

"You have to be ready for any chance at any moment. Penalties are a great way of getting on the scoresheet, I practice and work on them a lot," said Kane.

- 'Amazing company' -

"It is amazing company to be with, super proud to be doing that but we look forward to the next one. A big year ahead to get more caps and more goals."

Chelsea pair Kai Havertz and Timo Werner both hit the net as Germany eased past Israel 2-0 in Sinsheim.

After the Premier League pair scored first-half goals, Germany's stand-in captain Thomas Mueller and Israel sub Yonatan Cohen both failed to convert late penalty attempts.

AFP

Laporta: New Barcelona signings to adapt wages

BARCELONA

BARCELONA president Joan Laporta has said no exceptions will be made with potential new signings regarding wages.

The Catalan club, who have a negative €144 million spending limit according to LaLiga, continues to work on cutting down spending.

However, Laporta said Barca are still intending to make "four or five reinforcements" during the summer transfer window.

"We are working on the financial issue and obtaining more resources to have the salary margin we need," Laporta told Mundo Deportivo. "And at the same time, we are working from the sporting management side to incorporate four or five reinforcements that we think the team needs to be increasingly competitive."

Borussia Dortmund's Erling Haaland has been linked with a move to Camp Nou while French newspaper L'Equipe reported that Barca have entered the race to sign Paris Saint-Germain star Kylian Mbappe, who is also wanted by Real Madrid.

When asked about the potential of signing both players, Laporta replied: "I'm not going to enter, and you have to allow me not to, to talk about players because if I do, the only thing I can do is harm the interests of our club. If we talk about a player and we had the intention of signing him, that will increase the price."

Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah has also been linked with a summer move to Barca amid stalled contract talks at Anfield.

Laporta also reassured club members that Barca would not "lose its head" to make big-name signings in what has been a difficult financial stretch for the LaLiga giants.

"We are going to continue with this philosophy and this criterion, not to put the institution at risk with operations that, even if we were already healthy, we would not carry them out," he added.

"Our [club] members can be calm. Barca are not going to lose its head due to an operation of such magnitudes."

"So, you can talk about players, about big-money operations in which Barca are not going to lose its head. They will have to adapt to Barca's salary levels and to an economic structure that maintains the sustainability and balance of the club."

(Agencies)

England still a work in progress ahead of World Cup

LONDON

EXPERIMENTATION is the name of these friendly games and England's 2-1 win over Switzerland on Saturday exemplified the co-nundrum Gareth Southgate is wrestling with ahead of this year's World Cup finals.

On the one hand, England reached the semifinals of the previous World Cup and last year's Euros final under Southgate with a mixture of patience and pragmatism, largely exhibited in the form of a 3-5-2 or 3-4-3 shape. Perhaps mindful of fielding an inexperienced team, with Marc Guehi and Kyle Walker-Peters making their senior debuts against a side unbeaten in 11 previous internationals, Southgate laced his line-up with that inherent caution from the outset on Saturday.

Although Conor Gallagher, making his first start, was industrious in midfield, England were largely underwhelming, falling behind when Breel Embolo nodded in a 22nd-minute opener. They deserved to be behind at the break on the balance of play, but the hosts avoided that fate when Luke Shaw fired home an equaliser after Fabian Frei gave the ball away cheaply under pressure from Phil Foden.

Yet it was only when Southgate made four changes just after the hour mark -- introducing Jack Grealish, Raheem Sterling, Declan Rice and Tyrick Mitchell, another debutant -- that England discovered anything like the attacking fluidity expected of them.



England's Harry Kane, second right, scores a goal from the penalty spot during an international soccer match between England and Switzerland at Wembley Stadium in London, Saturday, March 26, 2022. (AP Photo)

The winning goal came from a penalty awarded upon VAR review -- Steven Zuber was adjudged to have handled in the box -- giving Harry Kane the chance to score his 49th England goal, moving level with Sir Bobby Charlton and four behind record-holder Wayne Rooney. But it was reward for the renewed threat England posed after Southgate's intervention, and provided further evidence for those who want him to take the handbrake off in Qatar.

"The system was to try to get the players in the squad through the two games in areas of the pitch where they would be really comfortable," said Southgate.

"We were a bit too quick to go and press the centre-backs and it opened up too much space. The switch of play can then be a problem. We talked about changing it after an hour and we knew that was going to be a better way of seeing the game through."

The list of absentees on Saturday underlined the feel of a training game: Emile Smith Rowe, Bukayo Saka, Tammy Abraham, Ben Chilwell, Kieran Trippier, Kyle Walker, Trent Alexander-Arnold, Reece James, Aaron Ramsdale and Calvin Phillips were among those missing. John Stones added to that group with a tight adductor sustained in the

warm-up, meaning Ben White was drafted in around half an hour before kick-off.

Whether it contributed to the mistake White made Switzerland's goal is debatable, but the Arsenal defender was caught out of position as Xherdan Shaqiri's cross looped over his head for Embolo to score. Jordan Pickford was helpless to prevent Embolo's goal, but he did make a fine save from Granit Xhaka's low drive moments earlier, and an even better stop just afterwards as he turned Frei's effort onto the crossbar.

Pickford has faced mounting pressure over his place in this team,

with Ramsdale impressing at club level and Nick Pope returning to the squad following a long injury lay-off, but he kept England in this game during the first half in a performance that will do plenty to reinforce his number one status.

England's midfield was the subject of much debate during the Euros, specifically the conservative double pivot of Declan Rice and Phillips. In that context, a dynamic display from 22-year-old Gallagher is an encouraging development, but Southgate's admiration for that pairing remains clear.

"Conor is a player who is infectious with his en-

ergy and his aggression to press," explained Southgate. "I thought he could have been a bit tidier with the ball a few times. That would be the first time in a long time we've started without either Rice or Phillips and it was important that we were able to see that because they've been significant in terms of that defensive solidity and balance of the team."

"I think the whole thing was a really worthwhile exercise for us, and that's why you want that quality of opposition."

"We could take [games against] lower-level teams, but you don't learn anything and actually we want to be stretched. It puts your record at risk, but that's not important really: we are trying to do well in tournaments."

Kane nudged himself closer to Wayne Rooney's goals record -- the penalty was his 49th international goal, taking him level with Sir Bobby Charlton and just four shy of the Derby County manager -- and Southgate joked afterwards that he'd like the Tottenham forward to break it in December's World Cup final. But to get that far without a more prolific spell from their number nine, England will likely greater potency from other players. It's another thing Southgate is aiming to tackle and despite establishing a record of 21 games unbeaten in 90 minutes, it remains a work in progress.

ESPN

Italy's World Cup qualifying shock is why we love this sport

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

IT'S like the old joke about buses: you wait hours for one, and then two come along at once. Except in reverse. Italy went 60 years without missing a World Cup and now, after Thursday's 1-0 playoff defeat to North Macedonia, they've missed the last two buses to the biggest show on Earth.

It might feel jarring that the side that won the European Championships just eight months ago, the team that, before Thursday night, had lost just one of its previous 39 games (setting a world record unbeaten streak along the way) should go out to North Macedonia (population: 1.83 million, FIFA ranking: 67), but that's the basic nature of this sport and, specifically, World Cup qualifying. (At least that's the case in Europe, where a whopping 13 countries get to qualify.)

Assuming you're not particularly lucky, you have a certain margin for error. You can screw up once, twice or three times... and then you pay the price.

Italy would have cruised through their qualifying group, taking 22 of a possible 24 points, and would have been watching these playoffs on TV if not for three craven errors in three games they comfortably dominated: missing penalties against Switzerland home and away, and conceding a silly goal to Bulgaria. Three wins that turned into draws: any one of those stays a win, and you're not reading this column right now.

Still, they controlled their own destiny against North Macedonia. And again, they took a ton of shots (32, 19 of them blocked), enjoyed a ton of possession (70%), but failed to put it in the net before the opposition scored a worldie in injury time.

That's football. That's also part of the appeal



Roberto Mancini

of this game: goals are rare, the outcome often hinges on moments that have outsized importance. It means that North Macedonia can travel away to the European champions -- who have never, in their history, lost a World Cup qualifier at home -- without arguably their best player (the suspended Elif Elmas) and win with a game plan consisting of staunch defending and an improbable wonder strike in injury time. It's the drama we crave.

What does it mean for Italian football? It means another round of heartache after the 2018 World Cup qualifying debacle against Sweden. It means embarrassment and pain that Euro 2020 will only partly mitigate. It's a bit like eating ice cream when you have kidney stones. It tastes good, sure, but it still hurts like hell down there.

But here's what it doesn't mean. Much as it's often the knee-jerk reaction of the media and the commentariat, it doesn't mean Roberto Mancini should lose his job. This is

not one of those situations where people can point to evident mistakes: players not called up who should have been there, substitutions that backfired, formations that didn't work.

Nor should it mean that, all of a sudden, because of this result, Italy is heading in the wrong direction. These things don't hinge on a missed penalty (or two, in this case). You evaluate the health of a national development system on the football it plays and the players it produces.

The former has changed, most definitely for the better. The days of Italy sitting back, absorbing pressure and nicking goals at the other end are over. Very few successful teams play that way (at club or international level) and not only has Mancini changed that mentality, but it's percolated down to the younger coaches in Serie A and Serie B. They try to emulate Jurgen Klopp and Pep Guardiola, not the megacatenaccio crew of yesterday.

As for the latter benchmark -- producing players -- there are two points to make. First, it's what you call a lagging indicator. The effects of changes you make today -- in youth coaching, development, infrastructure -- won't be felt for another five to 10 years.

A lot of changes were made after Italy's 2014 World Cup first round exit and, again, after the 2018 debacle. Some are starting to bear fruit in the form of promising youngsters, some may

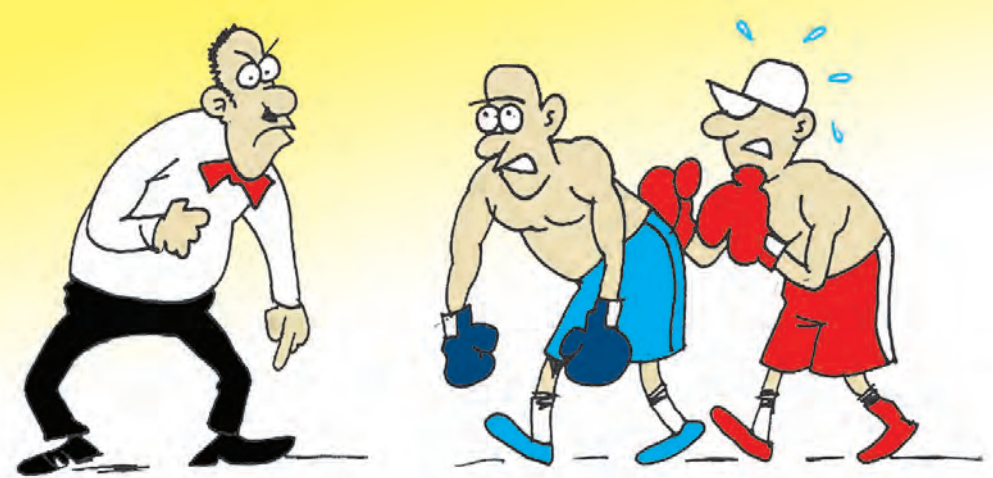
do so down the line, some may never work out. But bear in mind that, when judging a current generation and how they came through, you're always looking into the past.

Second, there's a degree of randomness to all this when it comes to talent.

When Italy won the World Cup in 2006, Marcello Lippi's corps of forwards included Alessandro Del Piero, Francesco Totti, Pippo Inzaghi, Luca Toni and Alberto Gilardino -- some of Italy's greatest-ever strikers and guys who spent most of their careers at big clubs competing for big trophies. Mancini's options against North Macedonia, were, with respect, a far cry from that. In the end, it was a narrow escape, but because individual players made critical mistakes in key moments they still deserve to go out.

Either way, Mancini's direction of travel is the correct one. At least 12 years will pass between their last World Cup game (the 2014 Luis Suarez-biting-Giorgio Chiellini game in Brazil) and their next one (2026). But if they stick with this blueprint, they can come back stronger.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Italy's World Cup qualifying shock is why we love this sport

PAGE 19

SBL impressed by Taifa Stars' triumph over Central African Republic



Tanzania's senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' players jubilate when one of the side's players netted a goal in an international friendly fixture against the Central African Republic held in Dar es Salaam last week. PHOTO: TFF

By Guardian Correspondent

THE sponsors of Tanzania senior men's national soccer team, Taifa Stars, Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL), courtesy of their famous beer brand, Serengeti Premium Lager, have hailed the squad's impressive performance against the Central African Republic.

The two sides met in an international friendly fixture at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last week.

It turned out to be the first of international friendly matches which saw Taifa Stars stamp a convincing 3-1 win against its opponent.

Novatus Dismas, Mbwana Samatta and substitute George Mpole were on target for Taifa Stars in the duel, which saw the latter end the match with

the 3-1 victory in its first FIFA international break match.

Taifa Stars use the friendly matches as part of preparations for the African Cup of Nations (AFCON) and African Nations Championship (CHAN) qualifiers.

Commenting on the victory, SBL's Senior Brand Manager Mainstream Beer, Wankyo Marando, said SBL as the main

sponsor of the national team was impressed by Taifa Stars' performance which brought joy to Tanzanians.

Wankyo disclosed: "We congratulate Taifa Stars for their great showing in their match against the Central African Republic. As the team's main sponsors, we are happy that it managed to beat a strong team."

"We are optimistic that the team will continue to perform well in its coming match against Sudan," Wankyo revealed, noting the brewer's steadfast support for the team.

Wankyo was referring to the continued support that SBL has been according to the national team since 2017 when, courtesy of its award-winning beer brand, Serengeti Premium La-

ger, it first signed an agreement with the Tanzanian Football Federation (TFF), the custodian of Tanzanian soccer-to prop up the national team-whereby the brewer pumped 2.1bn/- into the team-and further renewed the contract last year with an addition 3bn/- kitty.

SBL's sponsorship has radically rejuvenated Taifa Stars. It has progressively registered a string of creditable achievements.

Notable among them is a historic qualification for the African Cup of Nations (AFCON) finals held in Egypt in 2019 after almost four decades.

Further, the national squad early this year participated in the African Nations Championships (CHAN) finals in Cameroon, whereby they gave a good account of themselves.

Besides sponsoring Taifa Stars, SBL, demonstrating its love for soccer and its commitment to developing sports in the country, is also the main sponsor of the Mainland Tanzania Women Premier League.

This first-of-its-kind sponsorship through its 'Superbrands' award-winning beer brand, Serengeti, effectively becomes the first-ever company to assist the previously low-key league.

The financial boost has revamped the league, and it's now at its most competitive ever.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soop
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SSPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hills

UJENZI

Tonight on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghui Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanlix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 draw to be held next month

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai & Agencies

THE final draw for the 2022 FIFA World Cup will be held at the host nation of Qatar on April 1, 2022, at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center, the International Football Association (FIFA) announced.

According to a statement issued by the Qatar Embassy in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, preparations to host the World Cup have been completed with the tournament expected to start on November 21 to December 18, 2022.

The 32-nation tournament, which will kick off at the Al Bayt Stadium on November 21, is the most compact version of the FIFA World Cup in modern history.

All eight stadiums are within an hour of central Doha - meaning fans, players and officials will always be in the thick of the action during the 28-day tournament.

The 2022 edition is not only the first to be played in the Middle East but also the last one under the current format before the event is expanded to 48 teams for the 2026 version.

Due to scheduling havoc wreaked by COVID-19, three spots in the field of 32 will be decided in June, a few months after the group-stage draw on April 1.

By that stage, 29 of the 32 nations will be decided with three spots that will remain unclaimed until June.

The two FIFA intercontinental playoffs will take place in June, as will the playoff final for the last berth granted to Europe.

Wales is scheduled to host either Scotland or Ukraine in that winner-take-all match.

So far, 19 teams have secured their place at the tournament, including the hosts Qatar. Holders France, who won the 2018 tournament, is among those to have already qualified.

Between March 24 and March 30, another 10 spots will be claimed across the world: five in Africa, three in North America, and two in Europe.

Teams that have qualified for the 2022 FIFA World Cup include Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Croatia, Denmark, England, France, Germany, IR Iran, Korea Republic, Netherlands, Qatar, Serbia, Spain, and Switzerland.

According to FIFA the number of requests for tickets of the 2022 World Cup Qatar showed superiority over the previous tournament of 2018, and 17 million requests for tickets were received during the first phase which lasted for only 20 days, while the total requests in the same stage in the last World Cup 2018, about 3.4 million.



A section of runners battles it out in a past Ngorongoro Half Marathon, which took place in Arusha.

Arusha runners shine at 2022 Tanga City Marathon

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

RUNNERS from Arusha and Kilimanjaro had yesterday made their presence felt in the Tanga City Half Marathon Season 6 race, grabbing top three positions in 21 kilometers and 10 kilometers events.

The race, which was officially graced by Tanga Regional Commissioner Adam Malima, involved about 1500 runners from across all regions in the country and neighbouring country of Kenya.

Merson Mbuya from Zanzibar's JKU became the overall winner

for the men's 21 kilometers race after clocking 1:05 hours.

Mathayo Sumbi from Arusha ended second after clocking 1:10, whereas Elisha Wema from Arusha took third place after clocking 1:12:01.

In the women's 21 kilometers event, Lucia Senga from Kilimanjaro became the overall winner after clocking 1:06:01 while Consolata Lyimo from Arusha finished second after clocking 1:14:03. Eliupendo Suley from Arusha settled for the third spot after clocking 1:15:19.

Rinta Pakua from E FM Jogging

Club from Dar es Salaam beat the rest to first place in the men's 10 kilometers race, the runner clocked 31:00:01 minutes

The event's second position was won by Kisanta Steven who clocked 39:02 minutes, followed by third-placed Samson Chemu from Dar es Salaam after clocking 46:01 minutes.

In the women's 10 kilometers race Prisca John from Karatu, Arusha who clocked 40:15 minutes ended as the first winner.

Mwajuma Shemba took the second position after clocking 45:21 minutes, whereas Scolas-

tica Hamisi from Tanga finished third after clocking 47:32 minutes.

The winners were presented with cash prizes and medals. The race was sponsored by Asas Dairy, Tanga Beach Resort, Mashirima Tours, Azam TV, Tekokona, Jembe Energy Drink, and Afya Drinking Water.

Nzowah Auto Garage, TK FM 88.5, Silent Ocean Inn, Distel, Magoroto Forest Estates, and Hustler Lite as well backed the race.

In another development, Special Seat Councilor from Same

District Council Jamila Mdee, who took part in 5 kilometers Fun Run, called on all people with disabilities to participate in the sport.

Jamila was accompanied by three district commissioners from Kilimanjaro who also participated in 10 kilometers race.

They are Edward Mpongolo from Same District, Abdallah Mwaipaya from Mwanga District, and Abass Kayanda from Moshi District.

The half marathon took place in Tanga for the first time in 2017.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

