



National Pg 2 Minister orders arrest of registrar



National Pg 6 Petrobena commended for delivery of fertilizer



National Pg 11 Unsafe abortion is preventable



PAGE 13



Ministry directs issuing of 278 gold recovery licenses

By Guardian Correspondent, Chato

MINERALS minister Doto Biteko (pictured) has given seven days to the Resident Mining Officer for Geita Region, Daniel Mapunda to issue licenses for 278 gold recovery factories waiting for a lengthy period due to undue bureaucracy.

The minister issued the directive on Saturday when inaugurating Buseresere gold market in Chato District in the region that will serve small gold miners.

It will have 10 brokers, after renovating a building at the cost of 68m/-, where the Chato District Council contributed 11m/-.

At the moment there are 278 gold recovery units in Geita Region waiting for licenses as they are ready to operate, after their owners have invested a lot of money in the projects.

The minister also cautioned regional authorities on the habit of harassing miners or those going to sell their minerals at the gold auction centres, including arrest and interrogation to demand identification of the source of their gold.

He said he has been receiving complaints from miners, noting that such harassment pushes miners to sell their minerals via other channels, occasioning revenue loss to the government.



The councilor for Buseresere Ward, Godfrey Miti, who is also a miner, expressed gratitude to the government for opening gold vending centres

The miners have to be assisted and not interrogated even if the seller acquired the gold from outside the country. "He should be assisted to complete procedures of sale including payment of levies," he emphasized.

The Chato gold vending centre is the eighth such market in Geita Region, including the main gold purchase centre in Geita town, with official reports saying that government revenue from gold business has risen from 1bn/- per month up to an average of 3bn/- per month.

The gold market inauguration was attended by Chato District Commissioner Charles Kabehe and the District Development Director, Eliud Mwaitereke, who said the gold market will increase internal revenue from levies and from the provision of other services.

The councilor for Buseresere Ward, Godfrey Miti, who is also a miner, expressed gratitude to the government for opening gold vending centres.

The miners need to use the permits being given to build their capacity in economic development and for the government to assist them, he added.

Premier wants Form I classes to start early



Tabora Regional Commissioner Aggrey Mwanri demonstrates an improved way to weed crops during a visit at Ibambo village in Kaliua district over the weekend. Photo: correspondent Vincent Tiganya

Likewise the premier stressed on leaders to supervise girls' education and take steps on anyone found to have discontinued their studies through marriage or pregnancies

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed regional commissioners to ensure they supervise the construction of classrooms and be ready to accommodate all students who have been selected to join Form I.

He said the aim of the government is to ensure all new students start lessons simultaneously, as starting lessons at different times causes some of them to perform poorly.

He gave the directive yesterday when giving

TURN TO PAGE 2

Govt retakes Dodoma abattoir, while tasking NICOL with all debts

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries Minister Luhaga Mpina has revoked a purchasing agreement for Dodoma abattoir signed between the government and National Investments Co. Ltd (NICOL) after discovering a 15bn/- corruption element and violations of contract.

Following the cancellation, NICOL is required to repay 9,712,127,660/-, the amount of money deducted from payments the government

received when the firm purchased the abattoir in 2008.

The government has ordered NICOL to settle all debts of Tanzania Meat Co. Ltd (TMCL) totaling 5,248,084,000/-.

The Dodoma abattoir was built by the government from 2002 to 2003 and it began to operate in 2004 under the Tanzania Livestock Marketing Project (TLMP), part of the directorate of livestock production and marketing in the

TURN TO PAGE 2

Rhino 'Vicky' to replace dead 'Fausta' in Crater

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Ngorongoro

FOLLOWING the tragic loss of 'Fausta,' the world's oldest rhinoceros, which until its death late last week was 'national treasure,' another female rhino named 'Vicky' has been named to take its place in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

The Commissioner of Conservation, Dr Freddy Manongi said here that Tanzania retains the world record in having the oldest female black rhino in conservation history.

'Faru Fausta' was aged around 57 years, when it succumbed to 'natural death' in its enclosure at the far end of the Ngorongoro Crater, in the night

of Friday the December 27 at about 8.30 pm. The female black rhino reportedly made three loud grunting sounds before it knelt down and expired.

"After the death of Fausta, the closest rhino recording more years is 'Vicky,' aged 49 and also likely to be the oldest animal yet," stated Dr Manongi, noting that the average lifespan of rhinoceros averages 35 to 40 years.

Fausta was first located in the Ngorongoro Crater in 1965 by a scientist from the University of Dar es Salaam, at the age of three years.

Its name had no direct connection with any person in memory. Also, the female black rhino

TURN TO PAGE 2

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Govt retakes Dodoma abattoir, while tasking NICOL with all debts

FROM PAGE 1

ministry.

In November 2008 the government privatized and handed the facility to NICOL, a firm registered on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) and the National Ranch Corporation (NARCO). The two firms decided to operate the abattoir as TMCL.

The minister asserted here yesterday that the abattoir is now under the government, having revoked the purchasing agreement under the Section 7 and 13 of the Asset Sale Agreement.

Addressing TMCL workers, he directed TMCL's investment partner NARCO to withdraw from the partnership within 60 days, as "a state-owned firm cannot work and be linked with malicious business deals."

He directed security organs to investigate the transaction and take legal measures against officials of NICOL, NARCO and TMCL "who may have taken part in embezzlement of funds and TMCL properties since 2008."

The minister appointed Victor Mvita as manager of the abattoir as slaughtering activities have been placed under the government.

"We are in the process of seeking a new investor. We want an investor who will properly operate the slaughterhouse and pay workers their wages accordingly. We will not tolerate fraud and we are going to take stringent measures against those involved in sabotaging the Dodoma abattoir," the minister intoned.

The suspension of slaughter services at the abattoir had affected youth depending on its activities as well as local and international meat buyers, he pointed out.

Kenya, Zambia and DRC are the leading buyers of livestock from Tanzania due to high demand of meat in these countries.

Slaughter services will resume in near future as the government is also working to expand the abattoir to meet increasing demand, he further noted.

He said the government has been taking measures to rescue the Dodoma abattoir, on the basis of Section 4 (1) and 3 (1) of the Asset Sale Agreement.

He said NICOL had violated Section 7, 13, 6, 9 and 102 of the purchase agreement after failing to pay dividend to the government for all the 11 years it has operated the abattoir. He said NICOL was supposed to pay dividend to the government because it has been doing business using state-owned infrastructures.

"The government has never benefitted with NICOL investment at the abattoir, the facility's structures are dilapidated and some of the machines are not working. The investor could not even conduct regular maintenance of the machines," he pointed out.

The country has lost billions in revenues since the United Arab Emirates (UAE) banned TMCL from delivering meat in the Gulf States, also affecting 10 local companies exporting meat to the Middle East.

Monthly meat exports had reached 192 tonnes but dropped to 24,000 goats per month and 50 cows after the ban, from 100 cows earlier slaughtered every month, he said.

He accused NICOL of failure to take actions to improve the Dodoma abattoir and pay various debts even after being given 180 days notice by NARCO and another 30 days notice from the ministry, issued on December 8th 2019.

He said NICOL has admitted to have failed to manage and operate the Dodoma abattoir on Friday during a stakeholders' consultative meeting at the Dodoma Regional Commissioner's office, bringing together officials from the ministry as well as NICOL, NARCO and TMCL.

TMCL was registered on July 28, 2008 as a partnership between NICOL and NARCO with shareholdings of 51 and 49 percent respectively.

The Dodoma abattoir has capacity to slaughter 200 cows and 1,200 goats per day. In 2017 the facility exported 1,372.14 tonnes of meat to UAE, Oman, Vietnam and other Middle East countries.



Veterinary and zoological experts conduct a postmortem on the body of Fausta, the oldest Rhino in the world aged 57 which died over the weekend in Ngorongoro Crater. Photo: Correspondent Marc Nkwame

Rhino 'Vicky' to replace dead 'Fausta' in Crater

FROM PAGE 1

never bore any calves.

Its health began to deteriorate in 2016, when the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) was forced to put the animal in special enclosure within the crater, after the rhino suffered several attacks from

hyenas that inflicted severe wounds onto its body.

There are now plans to also place 'Vicky' the rhino in that same enclosure previously occupied by Fausta so as to ensure that this other old female rhino is protected from marauding predators before it is too late.

Experts at the NCAA affirm that as rhinos get older, they lose the ferocity and energy to defend themselves from predators in the wilderness.

Apart from Fausta, other old rhinos on record include Sana, a female southern white rhino which died at the age of 55. It was considered the

world's oldest white rhino at the time of its death in captivity at 'La Planete Sauvage' (Savage Planet) zoological park in France, in 2017.

Zoologists estimate 40 years as the life expectancy limit of rhinos in the wild, while they can live slightly above that age if under care in captivity.



Information, Culture, Arts and Sports deputy Permanent Secretary Dr Ally Possi (R) inspects former headquarters of the committee of Liberation of the African Continent which is under rehabilitation aimed to protect African history in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. With him is cultural officer Christopher Mhongo. Photo: Information Services

Premier wants Form I classes to start early

FROM PAGE 1

a report of the implementation of the CCM Election Manifesto for 2015/2020 at the CCM Ruangwa District Executive Committee.

A total of 933,369 candidates, equivalent to 98.55 percent who registered for the National 2019 Std VII Examinations sat for exams, out of whom 759,737 or 81.5 percent passed.

Among them 395,738 are girls and 363,999 boys. In 2018 the percentage of candidates who passed was 77.72 and thus an increase of 3.78 percentage points was registered.

Likewise the premier stressed on leaders to supervise girls' education and take steps on anyone found to have discontinued their studies through marriage or pregnancies.

He said the government has put in place stern directives to protect girl students in order to ensure they complete their studies and attain their economic goals.

The government wants to see a bigger number of girl students achieve their goals in education, he stated, underlining that it was essential to

remove all temptations by improving the studying environment, especially by increasing the number of dormitories.

He said President John Magufuli had allocated huge amounts of funds for implementation of various development projects, including Ruangwa District with 38bn/- allocated for implementation of various strategic projects.

He praised the leadership of Ruangwa District Council for its strategic warehouse project for storing crops and fertilizer, being constructed at Lipande village for 5.45bn/-.

The warehouse that has already started operating has the capacity to store 20,000 tons of crops. The council expects to increase revenue and reduce reliance on donors and the Treasury.

Majaliwa said during the four years of the fifth phase many strategic projects are being implemented including the construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), expansion of ports of Mtwara, Dar es Salaam and Tanga, and improvement of airports and the national airline by purchasing new radars and passenger planes.

By **Guardian** Correspondent, **Sumbawanga**

Minister orders arrest of acting registrar of cooperative unions in Rukwa region

MINISTER for Agriculture Japhet Hasunga has directed the police in the country to arrest the acting registrar of Cooperative Unions in Rukwa region Anosiye Mbetwa over allegedly entering 'exploitative' agreement.

He made the directive during the weekend here when he met with the leaders of the Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Unions (AMCOs).

The registrar is allegedly accused

of entering into a contract with a fertilizer distributing company (ELIAGROVENT CO) against the government regulations something that led to the main cooperative union in the region 'Ufipa Cooperative Union (UCU)' lose 277m/- and its members continue to struggle over access of fertilizer to date.

He said that in the agreement signed on November 22, 2019, the company had to sell to UCU fertilizer totaling 1,901.05 tonnes worth 2.4bn/- but the fertilizer is sold higher price than the government's indicative prices.

"The agreement shows that UCU has to pay the funds by April 3, 2020 and the major supervisor being the

regional office something which the regional office isn't aware of," he noted.

Minister Hasunga said that one of the major purposes of the establishment of cooperatives in the regions is to help importation and supply of fertilizer to farmers at affordable prices.

He also instructed the arrest and

prosecution of the director of ELI AGROVENT CO Elias Ndomba for selling the fertilizer against the indicative price. In October, this year, minister Hasunga warned fertilizer traders in the country to observe standards and avoid hiking prices of fertilizer.

He told reporters that the government had already set strategies

that recommend dealers to import fertilizers through bulk purchase system a system which would help to reduce the price by 16 per cent.

The minister said some of the dealers have been stealing from the poor farmers by increasing the price contrary to the agreement.

He said the government is currently overseeing the importation of Diammonium phosphate (DAP) and Urea fertilizer through bulk procurement and that the remaining types of fertilizers had been left for traders to determine prices.



Livestock and Fisheries Minister Luhaga Mpina talks with Dodoma abattoir workers on the joint contact and venture of National Investments Plc (NICOL), National Ranching Company Ltd and TMCL under government. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt indefinitely suspends transportation services on the Rujewa-Madibira road

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE government in Mbeya has indefinitely suspended transport services along the Rujewa - Madibira road in Mbarali district following the ongoing rains that have damaged most of the infrastructures in the region.

The 80 kilometers road is one of the major lanes that wananchi residing in Eujewa, Madibira and surrounding villages use to transport their agricultural goods to market places.

Mbarali District Commissioner, Ruben Mfune said the ongoing rains in the region have damaged infrastructures especially roads and destroyed people's properties including houses in some of the villages.

Mfune urged drivers of cargo vehicles and passenger buses to use the alternative road that passes through Mafinga town in Iringa to reach Rujewa and Madibira.

"We have suspended Rujewa - Madibira road due to damage. We urge drivers of passenger busses to use the road that passes through Mafinga in Iringa to reach the two areas, saying so far ten houses had been swept away by the ongoing rains.

Despite the destruction, the district commissioner said there are no deaths reported so far. He cautioned the residents to take precaution, since the rains have resulted into flood waters in some parts of the district.

"The rains and floods have apart from causing destruction of people's properties, also damaged most of the roads which are economically viable to the residents", said the DC noting the government is conducting evaluation to know the cost of damaged infrastructures and houses.

Some interviewed residents complained of increased transport costs following closure of the Rujewa-Madibira road. They said the bus fare had increased to 30,000/0 from the previous 5,000/-.

According to the villagers, the most affected area is Igava ward calling upon the government to take immediate measures to repair the damaged roads to facilitate transport services.

They however noted that the rains had destroyed farms as well as established rice nurseries expected to be used for this farming season. The villagers claimed to have delayed to plant rice and other crops as the farms had been surrounded by water.

Child (2) die and others fall sick after eating pig carcass

By Guardian Correspondent, Kalambo

ONE child aged two years died and others were rushed for treatment to Kalembe Dispensary in Utengule village in Kalambo district, Rukwa Region after edating meat from pig carcass.

The Rukwa Regional Police commander Justine Masejo said

on December 21 Oswald Simpunge slaughtered a pig who had already died and started selling its meat.

Residents of the village including the father of the deceased bought the meat and when they had eaten they started suffering from unknown sickness.

Before the death of the child the entire family started complaining of

stomach pains thereupon the father went to buy painkillers - Flagyl and Panadol which he gave to the child, but her condition deteriorated and at four in the morning on December 25 she died on their way to the village dispensary for further treatment.

Albert Sinyangwe, a village resident who survived after eating the meat said their village experiences

such challenges due to shortage of veterinary officers who inspect and verify whether the meat is safe for human consumption. He asked the government to post these officials in their village.

The village Chairman Wigani Namsukuma said after the village government received the news of the incident it informed the police and

then rushed 30 sufferers to the village dispensary but unfortunately a baby child died.

Kalambo district Veterinary Officer Enos Luvunga warned the residents of the village to stop eating meat from dead livestock as the habit is dangerous for their health.

Acting Kalambo District Medical Officer Rock Sabuni said warned

the residents to stop the habit of buying drugs and use them without prescription - they should instead rush to dispensaries or health centres for treatment.

Meanwhile, RPC Masejo said they are holding Simpungwe for interrogation for selling to wananchi meat from a pig carcass and will be taken to court after investigations are complete.



The chairman of Zanzibar Electoral Commissioner (rt) Zanzibar Chief Justice Hamid Mahamoud Hamid clarifies a point to one of the election stakeholders from special need group Mansor Suleiman Masori who complained about early voting at the meeting held in Micheweni Pemba over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Suleiman Rashid Omar

By Guardian Correspondent, Pemba

THE Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC) says it has finalised all essential preparations for registration of new voters and verification of the Permanent Voters Register that is expected to be used for the 2020 Elections.

It was revealed by the Commission Chairman Retd Zanzibar Chief Justice Hamid Mohamoud Hamid at a meeting with election stakeholders at Green Foliage Hotel at Mvogoni, Chake Chake, Pemba.

He said ZEC will conduct new registration and verification of those already registered starting January 18 2020 and complete the work March 4 2020 adding that the work will start in Micheweni district.

He said main requisites in the exercise include qualification as a voter according to the election law and for those registering for the first time they must be in possession of ID as a Zanzibar resident.

All preparations for voters registration finalised - ZEC

He said as for verification of voters that have already been registered, they will be required to present their IDs as Zanzibar residents including voters cards.

He called on election stakeholders in Zanzibar to cooperate with ZEC and appealed for peace and calm during the conduct of the exercise.

The director of elections Thabit I. Faina said cooperation between ZEC and election stakeholders is vital and added that incorporating other stakeholders in such exercise, though not stated in the constitution is not a new phenomenon as it is being practiced in many other African countries.

Another ZEC official Mwanakombo Abdull said another reason for the exercise is to transfer voters'

registration details from one area to another for the voters who had changed residence.

Some of the stakeholders in attendance said they were worried over the acquisition of Zanzibar Resident IDs as an essential requisite in voter registration.

Omar Ali Shehe of ACT Wazalendo Party said he would be happy to hear there will be an increase of the number of voters in the 2020 elections due to an increase of the Zanzibar population, but they have a troublesome feeling that the number of voters could go down due to challenges over acquisition of Zanzibar Resident IDs.

Hed appealed to ZEC to ensure that all Zanzibaris who have reached voting age to be allowed to vote so that they can elect leaders of their choice.

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Govt to provide special permits to lower-grade cashew nuts traders

By Guardian Correspondent, Mkuranga

THE government will provide special permits for traders to transport lower-grade cashew nuts which had lost their upper-grade quality after rains in Mkuranga district, Coast region, deputy minister for Agriculture Omar Mumba has said.

He made the remarks when he visited some of the major storage facilities in the district and witnessed tonnes of cashew nuts being rotting due to ongoing rain thus also affecting its quality.

"Following the ongoing rains some cashew nut quality have dropped from upper grade to lower grade, due to this, the cashews with lower grade will be allowed to be transported...As you know cashews don't sustain humidity," he said.

He wanted traders with the cashews which haven't been affected by the rains to continue processing them to get best quality product for export.

The government has in the recent years, strengthened supervision of the policy of processing cashews locally rather than exporting them raw to improve the sector and increase revenues.

The deputy minister assured said that he is going to meet with buyers in the country to discuss on the matter.

"As per the regulations, only first and second grade cashews are allowed to be received and stored in major cashews storage facilities. But the cashews brought here at the Mwanambaya store do not meet the required standards, so due to the situation, we will allow traders to purchase the produce through the Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Unions (AMCOs) and transport them," he said.

For his part, Coast Regional Commissioner Evarist Ndikilo assured the farmers that all their cashews will be purchased as per qualities.

He said that the challenge has not

only hit farmers in Mkuranga but also in Lindi and Mtwara regions.

Mkuranga MP Abdallah Ulega urged authorities responsible to register cashew farmers to ensure that they take accurate records for the farmers to get all their rights.

"There is a great challenge in record management here, some farmers names are missing on the list, so this should not be entertained, measures have to be taken for the irresponsibility," Ulega who is also the deputy minister for Livestock and Fisheries said.

Some of the farmers cited delay of farming inputs as among the major challenges of the losses.

According to them, despite the rains, most of the farmers were supplied with not enough sacks to store their cashews.



There is a great challenge in record management here, some farmers names are missing on the list, so this should not be entertained, measures have to be taken for the irresponsibility



Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority senior air controller Sunday Walinda explains to Minister for Works and Communications Isack Kamwelwe on digitalisation system in order for aircraft land safely at Mpanda airport in Katavi region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE ongoing heavy rains pounding Morogoro region has brought significant impacts leading into damage of at least 57 houses as well as sweeping away seven graves at Kilimanjaro village, Sungaji ward in Mvomero district.

Yesterday, the Tanzania Metrological Authority (TMA) issued a five-day caution on heavy rainfall that may come with diverse effects such as floods in the regions of Ruvuma, Lindi, Mtwara, South of Morogoro, Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Pwani and islands of Unguja and Pemba.

TMA acting director general Wilberforce Kikwasi said the heavy rains will pound from December 28 to January 1, 2020.

Speaking, Sungaji ward councillor Deogratius Daniel said that the rains

Downpour in Morogoro ravages least 57 homes

which started early on Thursday last week has left also hundreds of families homeless.

According to him, one of the rivers in the area (Mbulumi) burst its banks destroying people's settlements and caused floods.

"The saturation also has forced relatives relocated 14 other graves to safe areas fearing of being swept away by flood waters," he further added.

Rehema Hassani, one of the victims called on the government and other well-wishers to provide them with

emergency basic services like food, accommodation and clothing as they are waiting to find a permanent solution.

An official from the Wami/Ruvu River Basin office Eng Elibariki Mamasici cited land erosion as among the major causes to the destruction of the river thus making the water lose its cause.

"We are working to address the challenge, so residents should be patient for some time," he said

Acting executive director of Mvomero district council Msifwaki Haule visited

the area and witnessed the damages saying that the government through the disaster management department was working on the matter.

On October 12, this year heavy rainfall and flooding in the Morogoro region left at least 11 people dead.

Police report showed that that the victims included 5 pupils from Nyashiro primary school who were swept away by flood waters from Mvaha river in Kibogwa ward. Six other victims were killed by flash floods in different parts of the region.

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

MOROGORO District Commissioner (DC) Regina Chonjo has directed councilors in the municipality to ensure that all candidates who have been selected to join various secondary schools next year are all enrolled in their respective schools.

The official urged councilors to closely supervise and ensure that the

'Ensure all enrolled pupils join respective schools'

children go to school or else stern measures will be taken against them regardless of affiliation their political parties.

She made the directive during the councilors meeting which among other matters, discussed education report of

the municipal.

"Every councilor has role to do here, we must make sure that our children are enrolled for their secondary education, make close follow-ups in their respective schools," DC Chonjo told the council.

For his part, Morogoro Urban Member of Parliament, AbdulAziz Abood (CCM) urged authorities to closely monitor teachers to ensure that they implement their duties for the children to learn and perform well in class and exams.

Peter Dhahabu, Sultani ward councillor wanted the municipal council to invest in children education by making sure that environment was conducive for them to study.

"We should also work to ensure that a special budget is set for more pre-national examinations to prepare the children to perform well when it comes to national examinations," he said.

According to him, most of schools have been performing poorly in national examinations because of lack of regular tests and pre-national examinations.

"For example, Kikundi secondary school in Sultani Ward emerged the

last school in the examinations last year but after sitting together with teachers, we came up with this solution of giving the students more pre-national examinations, the results are wonderful this year," he said.

Special Seat MP (CCM) Christine Ishengoma underscored the need for government to improve teaching environment while providing incentives to teachers serving in remote schools to help increase performance.

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A commuter bus driver negotiates through full of unrepaired potholes at Simu 2000 Ubungu bus stand in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

African farmers lose US\$4bn grain after harvest annually

By Guardian Reporter

FOOD security in sub Saharan Africa is under threat with the continent losing an average US\$4 billion in post-harvest losses annually, hence the need for farmers on the continent to invest in modern storage methods to avert acute hunger, the United Nations food agency has advised.

Estimates by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), shows the losses in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) in grain and other cereals accounting are in excess of US\$4 billion per annum for all grains, which is more than the value of food aid received on the continent over last decade.

The volume and value of these postharvest loss estimates are alarming, fueling concerns of more people likely to go hungry in the next few years, with climatic changes setting onto the continent.

George Okech, the FAO representative in Zambia, regrets the increasing food insecurity among various households on the continent. He notes presently, post harvest losses levels have risen above 33% annually and needs to be curtailed to save the continent from total food insecurity.

"Farmers need to adapt to new farming methods. Given the amount of food being lost annually on the continent, we need to devise new strategies and storage methods, otherwise we are at risk of doubling the food losses in the next few years and leave many people hungry," he said.

Okech warned of increased food scarcity on the continent.

He urged farmers, chiefly small and medium scale, to adapt to new methods of farming, improve storage capacities, noting that many barns and silos lacked acceptable standards to

reduce post harvest losses to avert or reduce hunger.

Research findings by various global food experts define post harvest losses as a global challenge to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as zero hunger and responsible consumption and production.

Reduction of post-harvest food losses is important for sustainably improving food and nutrition security. In Sub-Saharan Africa, post-harvest loss is particularly important because not only is agricultural productivity low, but about 374 million people experienced severe food insecurity last year.

Although there is renewed international attention to reducing post-harvest food losses following the African Union member states and United Nations pledging to halve food losses by 2025 and 2030, more needs to

be done, FAO notes.

Sheahan and Barrett, in their report, note that large amounts of foods are physically lost at different stages as food commodities move across their value chains.

In SSA, the physical loss of food has been approximately estimated as 37% or 120-170 kg per year per capita.

The African Postharvest Losses Information System shows that Global Food Loss and Food Waste study similarly estimates cereal losses across SSA of about 6% during harvesting and 8% during the other postharvest handling and storage stages.

While efforts have been significant in developing countries to reduce postharvest food loss, there have been challenges as PHL occur along the entire value chain of a commodity and the value chain stages vary significantly by crop and regional

environment.

One of the main challenges to post-harvest loss reduction is the lack of empirical information on losses and their determinants along the crop value chains, FAO notes.

Post-harvest losses occur between harvest and the moment of human consumption. They include on-farm losses, such as when grain is threshed, winnowed, and dried, as well as losses along the chain during transportation, storage, and processing.

An estimated 795 million people globally lack adequate food to lead a healthy active life, representing one in nine people on earth. The vast majority of the world's hungry people live in developing countries, where 12.9 percent of the population is undernourished.

Africa has the highest prevalence (percentage of population) of hunger

with one person in four being undernourished. Poor nutrition causes nearly half (45%) of deaths in children under five - 3.1 million children each year.

One out of six children - roughly 100 million - in developing countries is underweight. One in four of the world's children are stunted. In developing countries the proportion can rise to one in three.

If women farmers had the same access to resources as men, the number of hungry in the world could be reduced by up to 150 million. 66 million primary school-age children attend classes hungry across the developing world, with 23 million in Africa alone.

The UN food agency-WFP estimates US\$3.2 billion is needed annually to reach all 66 million hungry school-age children, findings by foodaidfoundation show.



Manyara Regional Police Commander Senior Assistant Commissioner (SACP) Paul Kasabago introduces himself to Kiteto district police officers over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

RCs, DCs must verify qualifications of AMCOS leaders, deputy minister

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

DEPUTY Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe has called upon regional and district commissioners in the country to examine Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS) to ensure their elected leaders had qualifications to lead tobacco and cotton farmers.

He said if they discover there are some cooperatives whose leaders lack qualifications to lead farmers they should inform the Registrar of Cooperatives to take legal steps.

Bashe issued the directive at the weekend at the 24th Kahama Cooperative Union (KACU) general conference in Shinyanga region when he said many of AMCOS leaders do not even own tobacco or cotton farms and were elected simply because they were speakers on behalf of the farmers in

their areas.

Bashe said AMCOS leaders who lack qualifications have been misusing their positions in undermining tobacco and cotton farmers especially during the repayment of money loaned for purchase of fertilizers and seeds from crop buying companies.

"If you are not a farmer you cannot be AMCOS leader, we want AMCOS leader to be a farmer who is well conversant with challenges and pains borne by farmers during farming, so RCs and DCs make sure you verify AMCOS to see whether their leaders are qualified or not," he said.

Earlier, the Shinyanga Regional commissioner Zainabu Tellacka, tabling her report on tobacco and cotton farming for the region said KAHACU had sold tobacco valued at USD 13.2 billion.

She said the money has been reaped

in Kahama district alone and appealed to the deputy minister for rice and maize farmers to be incorporated in AMCOS to sell their crops at much higher prices like cotton and tobacco farmers.

Tobacco board ag, director general Stanley Mnozya said the country's best quality tobacco comes from Kahama in Ushetu District Council and called on farmers to grow quality tobacco to continue to lead in the country.

He also cautioned the farmers not to employ youths under 18 years of age in tobacco farms because it is against the country's laws as well the International Labour Organisation convention.

On his part, the Registrar of Cooperatives Benson Ndengeye called on tobacco farmers to ensure they plant trees and use their branches for drying the crop and construct of barns.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

OWNERS of private schools in the country have been required to run their schools by adhering to laid down guidelines and procedures to avoid cheating in national examinations that may result in having ill-equipped youths.

This call was given yesterday by the director of airport secondary school in Mbeya city Nikuswiga Malambugi when speaking with this paper following a big placard that spurred huge debate in social media recently that read: "Congratulations Ayub N Malambugi for obtaining first degree from the University of Dodoma."

Malambugi said it is essential for the private school owners to be trustworthy in examinations and teaching so as to get well-bred youths

Private school owners told to abide by laid down guidelines

for the country.

"This school is among quality schools in Mbeya in national examinations discipline, in 2015 the Ministry of Education awarded us with a certificate as the best school in academic and infrastructure categories," he said.

He also appealed to the government to be close to the schools including giving subsidy so as to offer better quality education for Tanzania youths.

He said since the current administration came to power the government had placed much emphasis on the supervision of private schools.

Speaking about the placard that he

had given to Ayubu, Malambugi said he decided to award his son with the placard to inspire and motivate him during the graduation ceremony.

"Ayubu is not my first child to graduate, he is the fifth, hence I gave the award to encourage him and to motivate and encourage his colleagues to attain various levels in education," he said.

He said other parents have been holding parties to congratulate their children who have graduated, but for those without financial ability it is not necessary to do so, but only to see how else they can motivate their children according to their financial capabilities.



Employment Opportunities

At the heart of Pact is the promise of a better tomorrow. The promise of a healthy life. Of a decent livelihood. Of sustainable natural resources that benefit communities. Now more than ever in its 42-year history, Pact is helping millions of people who are poor and marginalized discover and build their own solutions and take ownership over their future.

Pact enables systemic solutions that allow those who are poor and marginalized to earn a dignified living, be healthy, and take part in the benefits that nature provides. Pact accomplishes this by strengthening local capacity, forging effective governance systems, and transforming markets into a force for development.

Pact Tanzania is looking for an enthusiastic, creative, energetic individual to fill the following vacant positions for the Kizazi Kipya Project:

Job Title : HIV Integration Advisor (1 position)
Location : Dar es Salaam
Reporting To : Senior Technical Advisor
Project : Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:
 The HIV Integration Advisor will play a pivotal role in ensuring that Kizazi Kipya project establishes and maintains a clear HIV emphasis across all technical interventions in line with global "90-90-90" goals. As part of this role, the advisor will provide technical assistance to ensure that every scale-up council has functional bi-directional referral systems between communities, clinical services, and social service providers, with a strong emphasis on linkages of households to HIV services. The position of HIV Integration Advisor requires a high degree of integrity, professionalism, flexibility and perseverance, as well as the ability to anticipate, identify and resolve problems in the field. Proficiency in HIV care and treatment and clinic-community referral systems is essential, as is experience with using M&E data for program decision-making.

Job Title : Senior Program Manager – OVC Preventive Program (1 position)
Location : Dar es Salaam
Reporting To : Deputy Chief of Party (Kizazi Kipya)
Project : Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:
 The purpose of the Senior Program Manager – OVC Preventive Program position is to lead the implementation of the new activities introduced under this portfolio that complement the existing OVC Comprehensive Program. These activities include provision of sub-grants to civil society and faith-based organizations to implement community education about sexual violence against children and to conduct evidence-based curricula with groups of adolescent boys and girls to reduce their risk of violence and HIV. Other activities include organizing child safeguarding training for local organizations and engaging the child justice sector to improve processing of cases of sexual violence against children. The Senior Program Manager will play a significant role in directly contributing to the success of PEPFAR's Faith and Community Initiative Justice for Children activity in Tanzania. The position will coordinate an internal Pact Tanzania team of technical, monitoring and evaluation, finance, and grants assistance staff to develop and oversee annual workplans, targets, and budgets for specific OVC Preventive Program activities. The Senior Program Manager will actively engage external stakeholders in planning, implementing, and monitoring program activities, including: national, regional and council level government offices; faith-based mother bodies and organizations; civil society organizations; specialized training contractors; US government implementing partners; and various technical consultants.

Job Title : Technical Advisor – OVC Preventive Program (1 position)
Location : Dar es Salaam
Reporting To : Senior Program Manager - OVC Preventive Program (Direct) / Senior Technical Advisor (Matrix)
Project : Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:
 The Technical Advisor will work with the Senior Program Manager – OVC Preventive Program to design and oversee technical implementation of interventions that focus on children aged nine to fourteen in high HIV-burden geographic areas, particularly in areas where poverty and violence are endemic. For boys and girls, the developmental period of pre and young adolescence entails unique opportunities but also rising exposure to risks including sexual violence particularly for girls. The main focus for this group is evidence-based programming that prevents sexual violence, delays sexual debut, and prevents HIV.

Job Title : Finance Officer- Grants (1 position)
Location : Dar es Salaam
Reporting To : Senior Finance Officer-Grants
Project : Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:
 The Finance Officer works with the Finance team to ensure that Pact's financial management, policies and procedures and those of donors are adhered to all times, safeguarding funds set aside specifically for issuance of grants and ensuring that they are used in line with the purposes intended by the donors and that accurate financial records are maintained

Job Title : Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (2 Positions)
Location : Dar es Salaam
Reporting To : Monitoring and Evaluation Manager

Position Purpose:
 The Senior M&E Officer will be an integral part of the USAID Kizazi Kipya project team, and must provide leadership and guidance for M&E activities. He / she must be responsible for overseeing data collection and data management for the project, including developing data collection tools, ensuring data quality and reporting in time to meet key deadlines. He / she should take leadership in performing data analysis, interpretation and preparing abstracts for presentations and conferences and other use of data. He / she will also be a supervisor to M&E Officers.

Job Title : Health Informatics Developer (1 position)
Location : Dar es Salaam
Reporting To : Senior Health Informatics Developer
Project : Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:
 The Health Informatics Developer under the supervision of the Senior Health Informatics Developer will assist to develop, manage and maintain all data management systems including GIS mapping. He/she will take part in doing requirements analysis for the systems to be developed internally and/or externally. He / she will also contribute to building capacity of the clusters' staff in data visualization, interpretation and promoting the culture of data use for decision making in the project. Health Informatics Developer will take part in training staff on the use of the developed data systems for data collection and data management. He/she will also be involved in technical documentation of the project which includes but not limited to Standard Operating Procedures, Data dictionaries, data mapping, API etc. He/she will also be involved in data reviews and report preparations.

Detailed Job Description and How to Apply:

If you believe you are the ideal person we are looking for, please submit your application describing why you are the right candidate for this position and a curriculum vitae detailing your experience and three (3) professional referees from previous and current place of employment.

Please send the applications through the following links:

HIV Integration Advisor:
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/hiv-integration-advisor-75xvnr8>

Senior Program Manager – OVC Preventive Program
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/program-manager-0w8pmw>

Technical Advisor – OVC Preventive Program
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/technical-advisor-ovc-preventive-program-kg6m9n>

Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/senior-monitoring-and-evaluation-officer-two-positions-p6npk4>

Health Informatics Developer
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/health-informatics-developer-2-2q8zpf6>

Finance Officer- Grants:
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/finance-officer-grants-dkdrx8>

The closing date for applications will be Monday 6th January 2020.

Qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Please note only the applications sent to through this link will be reviewed.

(only shortlisted candidates will be contacted)

To learn more about Pact Tanzania visit:

<http://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania>

Pact provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, age, national origin, marital status, disability status, political ideology, military or protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.

Petrobena commended for timely delivery of fertilizer

By Guardian Correspondent, Katavi

TOBACCO growers, government leaders and primary cooperative unions in different regions countrywide have poured their praise on Petrobena East Africa Limited for their timely delivery of fertilizers before the start of farming season.

Petrobena is a local main dealer and supplier of Yara fertilizers and farm inputs has been winning praise for being proactive in supporting growth and development of agriculture sector in the country.

Speaking separately, farmers and leaders in the regions of Mbeya, Katavi, Rukwa, Tabora and Shinyanga described the company as an good example for others to emulate because apart from timely delivering fertilizers it works closer with farmers.

Katavi Regional Commissioner Juma Homera did not hesitate to give his kudos to the company, saying what it has been doing very well to stimulating growth and development of agriculture sector in the country.

"It is no secret that every one of us is happy to see this consignment of fertilizers arriving here even before the start of farming season.

This is commendable job and will have greater impact in crop production," RC Homera said recently.

He said agriculture has a pivotal role to play in facilitating the accomplishment of fifth phase government's ambitious plan of transforming Tanzania's economy into a medium size and industrial base by 2025.

Chunya District Commissioner in Mbeya region Engineer MaryPrisca Mahundi said Petrobena was the answer to tobacco farmers and they stand a better chance to increase crop production next harvest season.

"Farmers will have no excuse this time regarding fertilizers because the consignment of fertilizers is here," the DC said, calling for farmers to rush and purchase the fertilizers for better preparations ahead of the season.

The chairman Ukonongo primary cooperative union in Melele district in Katavi, Maganga Peter described Petrobena as panacea to tobacco farmers in the area who have never received farm inputs on time.

"For the last ten years or so back, the

union has not received any big consignment of fertilizers and delivered on time. This is historical event for us and on behalf of farmers we extend our special thanks the company and the regional administration," he said.

For his part, Tabora District Commissioner Komanya Kitwala said the local company managed by young and energetic Tanzanians was a true partner in his district for socio-economic development support.

"Your are doing a very good job in line with President John Magufuli's leadership of building mid and industrial base economy by 2025," DC Kitwala said while pouring praise to the firm.

Kahama district cooperative manager Albert Chale described Petrobena as a catalyst towards transforming agriculture in the district, saying that farmers have been learning a lot from the firm since its inception.

"The company has been working very closely with farmers for timely Yara farm inputs and extension services," Chale said.

Earlier, Petrobena managing director Peter Kumalilwa also commended Yara Tanzania for continued support to farmers, saying the firm has all the time been very committed to farmers' growth and development.

"Petrobena in partnership with Yara Tanzania are very committed to ensure that transformations of the agriculture sector are accomplished and contribute significantly to turning the country's into medium and industrial economy by 2025," Kumalilwa said.

He thanked regional and district commissioners for their support, saying they were very supportive all the time he visited the districts.

"Most of my life is in upcountry to interact with farmers and supervise work. We need farmers to benefit from our services and increase crop production," Kumalilwa explained.



The company has been working very closely with farmers for timely Yara farm inputs and extension services



Part of the interchange bridge which is under construction at the junction of Ubungo, Mandela Express Highway and Sam Nujoma Road in Dar es Salaam as captured yesterday by our roving photographer. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

PEOPLE living in Chunya district in Mbeya region and those in the neighbouring Tabora region who use Mbeya - Tabora road have urged the government to reverse its decision to close the road due to the collapse of the bridge over Lupa river that also saw some people drowning while crossing it.

They appealed to the government to allow them to use the road by crossing the river using a temporary bridge which the Chunya-Makongolosi road contractor has constructed for transporting their equipment.

Speaking at the weekend after the Mbeya region Defence and Security Committee had closed the road and directed all vehicles to make a detour via Mkwajuni in Songwe district, the

Chunya district residents appeal for re-opening of Mbeya-Tabora road

wananchi said the new road is new and the fare will be very high for them to afford.

One of them, Ernest Daudi who is chairman of Matundani area in Makongolosi town said the government closed the road without seeking their advice.

He said the Mkwajuni road is a long way and that there is also a bridge to cross, the bridge that has also cracks and there is a danger it can collapse any time with disastrous results.

Another mwananchi Elizabeth Jeremia, a resident of Matundasi said as

of now they live in fear on how to transport their sick if they are to be referred to regional referral hospitals.

She said it will be a big challenge for pregnant women hence she urged the government to use the road for emergency cases.

Councilor for Matundasi ward Kimo Choga said residents from all Matundasi wards depend on Chunya town for their basic needs hence closure of the road is a big challenge to them.

The Mbeya Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila, who led the Regional Defence and Security Committee or-

dered closure of the road calling on the wananchi in the area not to dare to cross the river as they used to do, else legal steps will be taken against anyone who does so.

He said all vehicles have to use the road via Mkwajuni and added that it was longer by only 16 kms.

"I have given the contractor two weeks to put back the bridge to its original condition so that the road is opened and if he will not do so in the given time frame I will take stern measures against him and would be the ones to blame," he said.



The garbage left uncollected for two weeks near Segerea bus stand in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam. The smells are obnoxious, they pose a health threat. The rats and flies are attracted by this rotting garbage. These 'vectors' spread diseases that can be serious to humans if they get into our food supplies as captured yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

BRAZZAVILLE

KENYA, Mozambique and Niger have curbed polio outbreaks that erupted in different episodes over the past 24 months, allowing them to regain their polio-free status, World Health Organization (WHO) announced today.

Transmission of vaccine-derived poliovirus was detected in the three countries in 2018 and early 2019, affecting a total of 14 children.

"Ending outbreaks in the three countries is proof that response activities along with high quality immunization campaigns and vigilant disease surveillance can stop the

Three African countries halt polio outbreaks

remaining outbreaks in the region," said Dr Modjirom Ndoutabe, coordinator of WHO-led polio outbreaks Rapid Response Team for the African Region.

"We are strongly encouraged by this achievement and determined in our efforts to see all types of polio eradicated from the continent. It is a demonstration of the commitment by governments, WHO and our partners to ensure that future generations live free of this debilitating virus," added Dr Ndoutabe.

Vaccine-derived polioviruses are

rare, but they affect unimmunized and under-immunized populations living in areas with inadequate sanitation and low levels of polio immunization. When children are immunized with the oral polio vaccine, the attenuated vaccine virus replicates in their intestines for a short time to build up the needed immunity and is then excreted in faeces into the environment where it can mutate. If polio immunization coverage remains low in a community and sanitation remains inadequate, the mutated viruses will be transmitted

to susceptible populations, leading to emergence of vaccine-derived polioviruses.

No wild poliovirus has been detected anywhere in Africa since 2016. This stands in stark contrast to 1996, a year when wild poliovirus paralysed more than 75,000 children across the continent. However, some countries are currently facing outbreaks of vaccine-derived poliovirus.

To end outbreak activities in an affected country, national and regional disease surveillance and

laboratory teams need to confirm that no polio transmission is detected in samples collected from paralysed children, children in contact, and the environment for at least nine months.

Response to the polio outbreak requires a strong multisector collaboration. In these efforts, WHO with other Global Polio Eradication Initiative spearheading partners: United Nations Children Fund, Rotary International, US Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and other

stakeholders have been supporting the governments of affected countries in implementing measures to end the transmission of the poliovirus.

Countries still experiencing outbreaks of vaccine-derived poliovirus in Africa are: Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Togo and Zambia. The risk factors for these outbreaks include weak routine vaccination coverage, vaccine refusal, difficult access to some locations and low-quality vaccination campaigns, which have made immunization of all children difficult.

stakeholders have been supporting the governments of affected countries in implementing measures to end the transmission of the poliovirus.

Legal NGO in Simiyu spends 62m/- to fight against the peoples rights

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

KAWIYE Social Development Foundation (KASODEFU), a non Governmental Organisation (NGO) says 62.13m/- has been spent in the legal acquisition a project in Simiyu region. Presenting the report on the project to reporters at the weekend, KASODEFU director Ezekiel Kasanga said the subsidy was given to help people get their rights that are denied to them.

He said his NGO is engaged in

ensuring justice is being realised in the society so that people do not take laws into their own hands.

He said: "KASODEFU, through the assistance of LSF is preoccupied to helping the society in Simiyu region to see justice is being done. We educate the society and offer training to legal assistants in the region to be conversant on legal issues."

Kasanga appealed the newly trained legal assistants to work diligently and ethically to helping those in need, especially women and children so

that they get the rights that have been denied to them.

Legal official from the Simiyu Regional Commissioner's Office Mwanahamisi Kawega said it would be better for the legal assistants to work professionally abiding by the laws and cooperate with government organs such as the police, courts, and the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) all with one aim - assisting the mwananchi who had been denied their basic rights.



Customers of Mabibo market in Dar es Salaam walk on the mud during the wetting season as captured yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

This startup is using geo-tagging and the blockchain to curb deforestation in Africa

By Paul Adepoju

EVERY year, about 15 billion trees are cut down globally, and across Africa, deforestation rates has surpassed the global annual average of 0.8 per cent.

Forests in West and East Africa, where conservation efforts are not matching deforestation activities, have undergone almost complete decline between the 1900s and 2017, according to a comparison of reconstructed African forests by a team of ecology and evolutionary biology scientists at Yale University.

One reason for this is that people living in rural areas in Africa still depend on wood from felled trees for their cooking, according to the Africa Energy Outlook 2019 report.

An African startup is trying to be a part of the solution to this deforestation crisis. The Most Influential People of African Descent (MIPAD), a group working to bridge the gap between Africans in the diaspora and those living on the continent, wants people to have roots in Africa - literally.

Through a social impact initiative, the group wants to plant and assign more than 200 million trees across Africa by 2024 before the end of the UN International Decade for People of African Descent.

From any part of the world, My Roots in Africa Project, makes it possible for anyone to place a request to have a tree named, planted or gifted in honor of themselves or anyone they love.

"My Roots in Africa is...Uber for trees, connecting local communities impacted by pollution or deforestation, with global citizens looking to plant their roots in Africa," said Kamil Olufowobi, MIPAD's Founder and CEO.

"It presents an opportunity where Africa wins, the diaspora wins, and all of humanity wins. It supports the diaspora to reduce their barrier of entry to Africa.

The new initiative will be officially

launched in February 2020 on the sidelines of the African Union Summit and aims to drive support for the Great Green Wall while also promoting climate action one of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

"For every new tree that is planted, we can name one that is existing after you. Many diasporans want to connect to Africa and there is a deep sentimental and emotional connection that this program brings which is 'now I have roots in Africa,'" Olufowobi said.

To further personalize the service, MIPAD partnered with Decagon Institute to deploy data science and artificial intelligence to identify and geo-tag trees planted using blockchain technology.

This will enable its subscribers to know the exact location of their allocated tree and be able to see it using satellite imagery including Google Maps. It also helps prevent allocating the same tree to more than one person.

MIPAD says it is already working with city parks and forestry departments in every major African city to help people plant their tree remotely.

"We get the orders placed and the park and forestry departments are the ones who do the implementation. They are the owners of the trees, all we are doing is being the voice of Africa to the diaspora saying 'you can support Africa and in return, you can have your root planted,'" Olufowobi said.

Ethiopia plants more than 350 million trees in 12 hours Ethiopia plants more than 350 million trees in 12 hours MIPAD is banking on its history of connecting Africans to get them involved in the project.

In line with the UN's declaration of the International Decade for People of African Descent, MIPAD identified people of African descent from all parts of the world and has so far honored around 500 people in over 60 countries.

Several African countries are also planting trees.

In July 2019, Ethiopia planted 350 million trees in a day, setting a new world record. The government has also joined more than 20 other African nations in pledging to restore 100 million hectares of land as part of the African Forest Landscape

About five months after this feat, Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari announced that the continent's most populous country will plant a further 25 million trees as part of the Great Green Wall - an ambitious project aiming to plant trees spanning 8000 km and stretching the breadth of Africa from Senegal to Djibouti.

The continuity of long-term projects such as planting millions of trees and combating climate change is a major concern in several African democracies where incoming governments often disregard or abandon long-term projects by their predecessors.

Olumide Idowu, co-founder of the International Climate Change Development Initiative argued that afforestation projects will help Africa to tackle threats posed by climate change such as floods, droughts and heat stress and forests.

Idowu said developed countries can help preserve Africa's forests if they reduce the demand for tropical hardwoods considering that the timber export market is a big driver of deforestation.

To repair the damage that has been done already and to secure the future of the continent's forests, the MIPAD CEO said Africa needs help from around the world.

"All of humanity, we were Africans first before we were anything else."

Therefore, Africa is our collective responsibility. This is not restricted to people of African descent, this is open to all of humanity for you to support Africa and have your root planted right here on African soil," Olufowobi said.

VACANCY



People are the business... Our business is people!

Geita Gold Mining Ltd (GGML) is Tanzania's leading gold producer with a single operation in Geita Region. The company is a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti, an international gold producer headquartered in South Africa, with operations in more than ten countries, in four continents. The mine is situated in the Lake Victoria Gold fields of North Western Tanzania, only about 85 km's from Mwanza City and 20 km's South East of the nearest point of Lake Victoria. The company has its head office in Geita, only 5 Km's west of the fast growing town of Geita, and also a supporting office in Dar es Salaam. Applications are invited from ambitious, energetic and performance driven individuals to fill in vacant position(s) mentioned below:

Position:	Head Teacher
Job Number:	GGM-2019-TR -07
Number of Positions:	01
Works For:	HSE & Training Manager
Qualifications:	Bachelor of Education Degree (BED.) or Higher Diploma in Education (HDE, 4 Year)
Experience:	<p>Required Skills and Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor of Education Degree (BED.) or Higher Diploma in Education (HDE, 4 Year). A minimum of 5 year's International school experience 5 years' experience in using an internationally recognized curriculum, such as: IPC, MYP, PYP, Cambridge Primary Curriculum, British National Curriculum Minimum 3 years' experience as Head of Department Experience Excellent written and spoken English (First Language)
Purpose of the Role:	<p>To provide effective, dynamic and inspirational leadership in order to maintain the quality of teaching at Geita Gold International School so that every child is able to fulfill his/her potential.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To Lead and manage the school To continuously develop, creative and responsive approaches to teaching and learning To ensure the achievement of excellent educational standards To promote and safeguard the welfare of faculty members.
Main or Key Accountabilities:	<p>TEACHING and LEARNING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching and learning policy in place that adheres to the school purpose, vision and value Ensure that there is an effective assessment, recording and reporting system of pupil progress. Quality assurance for report writing across the whole school (Nursery to Year 6). Promote a culture of encouragement, support and challenge in order to achieve each child's full potential and the highest possible educational standards Give a high priority to the further development of a wide range of teaching and learning opportunities. Ensure that a system for monitoring and developing the quality assurance of teaching and learning is in place Ensure that statutory requirements for the International Primary Curriculum are met Provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum Take Guardianship of the curriculum, pastoral care and administration of the school all of which should be appropriate to the pupils' experience, interest and aptitudes. Embed IPC and concept of 'internationalism and globalism' in learning and encourage new developments in the curriculum in the context of local, national and international initiatives. Teach various timetabled lessons and lead extracurricular activities Lead the swimming activities and coach swimming successfully <p>ACCOUNTABILITIES.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of planning quality to facilitate culture of review and improvement. Creation and maintenance of Teaching and Learning Policy (Quality Assurance) Collation and review of schemes of work Report regularly to the School Advisory Committee regarding students' progress in Teaching and Learning Assume the position of Secretary in the School Advisory committee <p>LEADING and MANAGING STAFF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with Human Resources, Head of Department HSECT and Managing Director of Geita Gold Mine in the recruitment and selection of teaching and support staff. Maximize the contribution of all staff to improving the quality of education provided and standards achieved. Manage effectively the deployment and performance of all staff. Ensure that the requirements for Performance Management are fully in place. Create and maintain good working relationships amongst all members of the school community. Uphold motivation Promote the school's ethos in which the highest standards are expected from all members of the school community. Ensure that professional duties are fulfilled as specified in the School Teachers Role Descriptions. Have a duty of care regarding staff welfare. Encourage initiative and team work. <p>ACCOUNTABILITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an effective Professional Development Learning programme that enables teacher improvement, aimed at improving student learning outcomes. Leader of Professional Development and Learning programme Undergo and complete PER Reviews Lead Staff meetings In charge of Professional Development and Appraisal Process Organizing extracurricular Professional Development <p>ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adhere to guidelines required to maintain CIS Accreditation. Plan, manage and monitor the curriculum within the agreed budget, setting appropriate priorities for expenditure allocating funds and ensuring effective administration control. Ensure the regular monitoring of the budget. Ensure that financial regulations are adhered to. Manage and organize the school environment efficiently and effectively to ensure that it meets the needs of the curriculum and health and safety requirements. Ensure that the allocation and use of the school environment provides a positive learning space that promotes the highest achievements for all. Monitor and evaluate value for money. Child safety, ensuring Teachers are vetted via GGM Seek to secure adequate resources for the school. Contacting GGM Main site on a regular basis to follow up on orders Contacting external sources where necessary <p>ACCOUNTABILITIES (HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaison with HSE & T and Mchauru Workshop to ensure school equipment is up to date. Ensuring playground is safe and make sure to identify and act upon evident hazards Emails and letters to parents Chairing Parent Meetings Creating Timetables Creating Duty Roaster Creating Activity roaster Creating School Calendar Communicating school policy Enrolment Packages Maintaining the school Website Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring schools facilities are maintained.
Additional Requirements:	<p>SCHOOL PERFORMANCE and COMMUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a positive working relationship with the School Advisory Committee Ensure that the school has a system for the collection and analysis of performance data to promote school improvement. Present a coherent and accurate record of the school's performance in a form appropriate to a range of audiences. Ensure that parents and pupils are well informed about curriculum attainment and progress and are able to understand targets for improvement. Develop and encourage working partnerships with parents and care giver Develop and encourage good relations between the school and the local community, including International Schools within Tanzania and surrounding countries. Creation and maintenance of 3-5 Year Development Plan to be shared with HSET Head of Department, Managing Director and School Advisory Committee Maintain records of School accounts/receipts Develop and encourage good relations with and maintain affiliation with CIS, AISA, FIELDWORK, ACER, TISA and TAIS to ensure school retains membership and up to date with said organisations for quality assurance purposes. <p>AGA Values:</p> <p>It is the accountabilities of all employees to work according to the Company's values. To treat safety as our first value, to treat each other with dignity and respect, to value diversity, to be accountable for my actions and undertake to deliver on my commitments, to want the communities and societies in which we operate to be better off for Anglo Gold Ashanti having been here, and to respect the environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate Leadership and good team work must be able to solve problems. Be physically and mental fit and hard working Computer Literate - Proficiency in Micro Office products / Basic Computer Skills Demonstrate a good commitment to deliver
Mode of Application:	Application cover letter (Subject should be: Application for Head Teacher and/or quote the job number), detailed CV, copies of relevant certificates, e- mail and telephone contacts, names and addresses of three referees, to be forwarded to below address. You will be required to bring original certificates if you are contacted for interviews.
Contact Address:	Senior Manager Human Resources, Geita Gold Mining Ltd, P.O.Box 532, Geita. Email: jobs.geita@AngloGoldAshanti.com
Application Deadline:	NB: Internal applicants may submit applications to departmental HR Officer. All internal applications must be endorsed by the applicant's head of department. Application letters should reach the above on or before 07th January, 2020 – 17hr30. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.
<p>BEWARE OF CONMEN! GGML does not receive money in exchange for a job position. Should you be asked for money in exchange for a job offer or suspect such activity, please report this immediately to our Security Department, Investigation Unit, by calling +255 28 216 01 40 Ext 1559 (rates apply) or use our whistle-blowing channels by sending an SMS to +27 73 573 8075 (SMS rates apply) or emailing 24chonesty@ethics-line.com or use the internet at www.tip-offs.com.</p>	

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New breast cancer equipment to boost early detection

BREAST cancer is cancer that develops from breast tissue. Signs of breast cancer may include a lump in the breast, a change in breast shape, dimpling of the skin, fluid coming from the nipple, a newly-inverted nipple, or a red or scaly patch of skin. In those with distant spread of the disease, there may be bone pain, swollen lymph nodes, shortness of breath, or yellow skin.

Risk factors for developing breast cancer include being female, obesity, lack of physical exercise, drinking alcohol, hormone replacement therapy during menopause, ionizing radiation, early age at first menstruation, having children late or not at all, older age, prior history of breast cancer, and family history. There are more than 18 other sub-types of breast cancer. The diagnosis of breast cancer is confirmed by taking a biopsy of the concerning lump. Once the diagnosis is made, further tests are done to determine if the cancer has spread beyond the breast and which treatments are most likely to be effective.

Tanzania now stands a better chance of reducing the number of deaths caused by breast cancer—the second killer of women after cervical cancer—following the launch of a modern machine for early detection yesterday.

The state-of-the-art equipment installed at the Aga Khan Hospital in Dar es Salaam which will make it possible for women to nip cancer cells in the bud earlier than it was the case before is the first in the entire East African region.

Speaking during the launch of the Senographe Pristina three dimensional mammography, consultant radiologist Dr Pili Ally said the machine has been procured in line with the government's strategic plan to improve the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases.

The machine which cost the hospital USD300, 000 (over 700m/-) is the second in Southern Africa after South Africa, she said.

Designed by a team of female GE Healthcare engineers who used their own insights coupled with feedback from more than 1,000 patients, technologists and radiologists, Senographe Pristina helps to address the fear of discomfort that women face around mammograms.

Dr. Ally explained that the system offers comfort features for a better patient and technologist experience, including rounded corner instead of sharp edges that used to poke patients' ribs and armpits.

Among advantages of the mammography is that it provide more accurate detection, earlier diagnosis and better detection of dense breast tissue, while inducing less anxiety and proving to be safe and effective.

The expert recommended that women aged 40-44 years should have a choice to start annual breast cancer screening and women above 45 years should get mammogram every year. Additionally, women above 55 should switch to mammogram every two years or continue screening yearly.

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer in women after cancer of the cervix and also the second leading cause of cancer mortality among women in Tanzania.

Dr. Majamba said the launch of the digital mammography is a milestone in the country's public-private partnerships in the fight against cancer.

Sulaiman Shahabuddin, the regional chief executive officer for Aga Khan Health Services, East Africa said that the radiology department at AKHS has been a pioneer in investing in advanced technologies to enhance diagnostics which play a key role in modern day patient management.

Donkeys slaughter outcry illustrates ethical issues in globalisation

RECENT reports say that stakeholders a raising alarm as donkey numbers slide, as data cropping up from animal welfare and rural populations' concern indicate a shocking reduction in the number of donkeys. Stakeholders are urging the government to forbid the slaughtering of the domestic animal or their being exported.

As the government has moved to slap a rather costly ban on exporting of birds and insects among other types of species, adding donkeys on the list ought not to be too problematic. Activists also want that the government conduct a countrywide identification of where specific numbers of donkeys are found, control unregulated exportation to neighbouring countries. Their numbers may rise and be made available to farmers needing them - not for slaughter.

The Tanzania Veterinary Laboratory Agency (TVLA) released figures saying that there were about 1.5 million donkeys in the country before 2016 but the number dropped to 595,000 in the past year. That is to bring the animals close to extinction as they don't apparently propagate as much as cattle, and some interested parties pursue their meat in a particular way. Traditionally there is no use of donkeys as meat with possible exception of some hidden communities.

Interest is thus rising to know precise numbers of donkeys in the country as well as their lifespan and reproduction cycle. A group known as the Inades Formation Tanzania, a non-governmental organization with offices in the capital, appealed to the government to immediately ban the slaughtering of donkeys in the country.

As many will say that donkeys like cattle are animals like any other, it

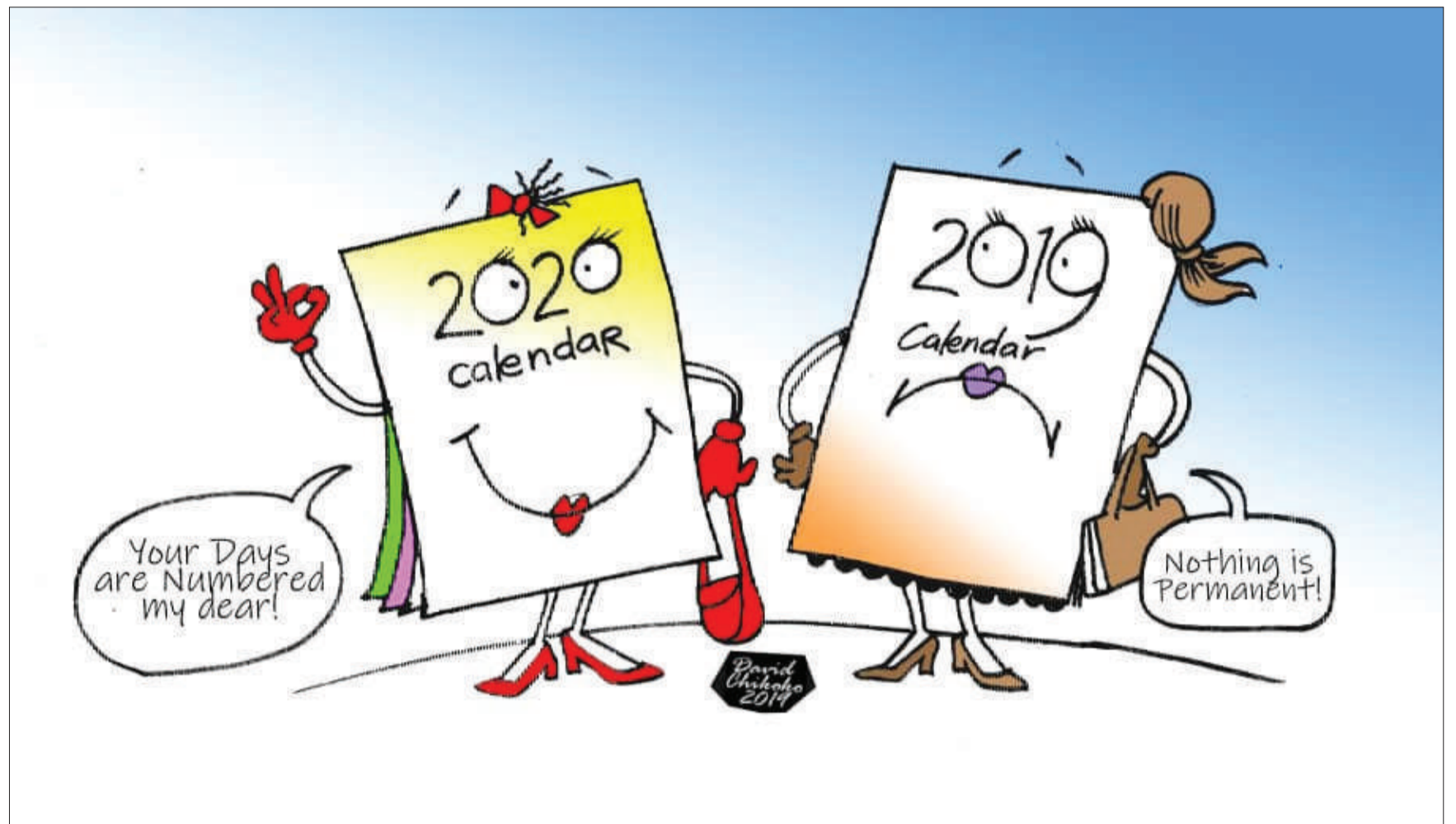
is their profound economic use as beasts of labour that makes their case different.

And as it is the case with India and a stretch of tribes in the country and elsewhere in Africa, an animal that is put to labour is not going to be put to slaughter thereafter. Many elderly herders know their cattle or cows by name, and when this happens they don't sell them to go to the butcher's knife, as knowledge of names creates trust. It transcends the mere fact of being animals, to friendship.

There are hence various reasons why it will be helpful for the government to take heed of this appeal to stop slaughtering and exportation of donkeys. It is rural dwellers who will benefit more, and culturally we shall have added something of a treasure and even conscience, that a laboring animal is like a family member, like a lactating cow bearing milk, though here the rules are not as precise.

It is also unclear how far such an understanding can be reached with authorities across the border, if the current spate of good relations can be made to accommodate such a need. There is at times a more liberal attitude on commercial matters across the border but then we also share a breadth of values, whether it is in commerce or in ethics, so the matter is worth raising for discussion. But then we have scarcely finished putting our house in order first on that issue, before delving into having an ethical perception on the matter for the zone as a whole.

Finding donkey meat on restaurants while rural populations in the two countries lose a treasured aide to farm labor and taking produce to markets is objectionable. It is a tricky issue but as Mwalimu said, 'it can be done if you play your part.'



By Simon Allison

THE climate emergency is not some distant threat. It is here.

On the African continent, 2019 was, for me, defined not by the stories that got a lot of attention, but by those that did not get the attention they deserved. This is not intended as a criticism of the journalists, both foreign and domestic, who cover this continent, most of them overworked, underpaid and putting in heroic efforts to report on and from environments that are hostile to the media. It is rather a reflection of a world of multiple, competing crises where few audiences have the capacity for yet more bad news.

It is also a general failure on behalf of all of us in the knowledge economy - from editors and academics to government officials and policymakers - to identify our most pressing challenges and act accordingly.

There are plenty of examples. The crackdown by Zimbabwe's government against all forms of opposition has been vicious - perhaps the worst violence that country has experienced for a decade. But while this crackdown was in its most intense phases, in January and August, there were few cries of alarm that made it to the outside world and no wave of international condemnation.

Or what about the ongoing insurgency in Mozambique, where militants with apparent Islamist sympathies are waging a mysterious war against villages and the government? No one yet has been able to tell me convincingly who these militants really are, what they are fighting for, or why some of the biggest names in the mercenary world (Erik Prince of Blackwater infamy and Russia's shadowy Wagner group) are circling around like sharks in choppy waters.

Speaking of mysterious conflicts, what is happening in northern Chad where there have been several reports - but few details - about a new conflict related to gold mining in the north? Or in Burundi, where President Pierre Nkurunziza has so successfully restricted the flow of information that we really have no idea about how bad things really are (although this recent Human Rights Watch report gives us a disturbing, dystopian glimpse)?

The loudest silence of all is reserved for the single greatest challenge facing the continent and the world: the climate emergency.

Reflecting on 2019, the one story that has stayed with me the longest, the one that I think about when I can't sleep at night, is the arrival of Cyclone Idai on southern Africa's east coast. The most powerful storm in Mozambique's recorded history - before it was superseded by Cyclone Kenneth just a month later - devastated vast swathes of Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe. More than 1,300 people died. A total

The story that became too obvious to ignore in 2019



In the aftermath of Cyclone Idai in Mozambique, 15-16 March 2019

of 1.8 million were affected in some way. Basic infrastructure was totally wiped out by the floodwaters, as were entire villages and their surrounding farmlands.

Matias Guente, one of Mozambique's most experienced journalists, covered the aftermath of Cyclone Idai for the Mail & Guardian from Beira, the country's second largest city, which had been blown over by the winds and then almost totally submerged. One detail of his reporting has etched itself in my memory: people were so hungry, he wrote, that they had resorted to fishing individual grains of rice from the floodwaters.

What was also clear from his reporting was the near-total unpreparedness of the government to deal with a natural disaster on this scale. This is partly a failure of governance, but mostly due to an absence of resources. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the US government contributed \$120 billion to the relief and reconstruction effort (another \$36.5 billion came from charitable donations and insurance claims). After Cyclone Idai, just \$1.2 billion has been pledged. Most of that comes from international donors and not all of it has been disbursed.

We know theoretically that climate change is going to hit the poorest countries hardest. But seeing that theory manifest itself so brutally in Mozambique should set alarm bells ringing all over the world. And, if not that, at least in southern Africa, which will be dealing with the fallout from Cyclone Idai and new unexpected

extreme weather events for the rest of the region's future.

Instead: silence. Cyclone Idai struck in March. South African politicians were already in full campaign mode by then ahead of the general election in May. Climate change was on almost nobody's agenda. Nobody in a position of power in Africa's most influential economy thought it would be a good idea to include climate change mitigation strategies in their campaign manifestos. Certainly no one in government appears to be planning for it, even if it is already wreaking havoc on the country's agricultural cycles and power generation ability.

Take, for example, the unprecedented stage 6 blackouts that South Africa experienced this December. Although rooted in corruption and poor governance, the rolling power cuts were precipitated by a week of relentless, unseasonal rain which soaked the coal supplies, rendering them unusable. There is some dark irony in the fact that one consequence of increasingly unpredictable weather patterns is that it is becoming harder for South Africa to burn fossil fuels.

And what comes next? One senior humanitarian official told me that their organisation is projecting that tens of millions of refugees are likely to make their way to South Africa in the next few decades as tropical regions become more arid and inhospitable. No amount of populist xenophobia is going to stop the influx. We need to put policies in place to cope and we need to set them in motion now.

Of course, this is not just a southern African problem. A changing climate is intricately linked to the conflict along the Sahel belt and in the basin of the disappearing Lake Chad. It is a factor in why it is getting harder to fish in east Africa's Great Lakes. It helps to explain why Egypt's farmers do not have enough water for their crops.

But it's not all bleak. I reported on the impact of Cyclone Idai in southern Malawi. I was expecting to find scenes of devastation and loss. While these scenes certainly existed, my preconceptions were dumbfounded by the way in which so many communities had prepared themselves for extreme weather.

One young man had built his house in a village that was on higher ground than his own village so he could escape with his family when the floods came. Another village had instituted a low-tech early warning system and designated safe gathering points which meant that no one from there died in the floods.

The message from every village elder that I spoke to was the same. We have been observing the weather for decades, they said, our lives depend on it. It is becoming more extreme and unpredictable. Best be prepared.

If I have learnt one thing from reporting on the African continent in 2019, it is that the climate emergency is not some distant threat. It is here and it is in the process of fundamentally altering the politics and economics of this continent. Best be prepared.

Zombification: Why Nigerians don't believe life here should get better

By Tope Fasua

In the final analysis, the average Nigerian has very little dreams, and no big vision about what his nation should be like. As Lugard noted in his 1922 book, it can now be confirmed that indeed we have no apprehension about tomorrow. Our faculties are probably unable to consider consequences beyond today.

Religion often does the job. It promises a tomorrow somewhere that is a lot better than today here. And that promise is hinged on supernatural and historical precepts, that often require nothing else from the believer than the worship of the Almighty. Religion therefore makes many complacent, even as it also empowers a good number, imbuing them with the spirit of earthly achievement. In the main, religion in Nigeria has lulled the senses of most of our citizens to sleep for two major reasons. The first is the promise of a better tomorrow, which vitiates the need to struggle so much to achieve anything today, or to even take to heart whatever today serves up. This is despite that fact that our reality today is shaped by men, who often constitute themselves into God in our lives. Many are however convinced that whatever our leaders do is done by God himself. The second big reason for this deadening of senses is that some brands of religion in our land clearly instruct the believer to focus only on the self. It is what you get from God that matters. In this precept, there is no concern for society at large and hardly a sense of collective development. Most Nigerians are religious, one way or another, and most, if not all those who emerge as leaders here, are deeply immersed in matters spiritual, often engaging a battery of prayer warriors, priests, soothsayers, stargazers, marabouts, babalawos, dibias and other forms of shamans.

If that was where our problems ended that would have been great. But there are other reasons for the current inability for most of our people to see the need for collective development or, particularly, for us to see why we need to struggle for society; our society, to get better. Our leaders have since gotten smart. We are like dough in their hands and they have moulded our minds into what exact the shape they want, oftentimes by imposing punishment, deprivation and other such conditioning. There is a way you make a people suffer inter-generationally that any contrary thinker amongst them will become an endangered specie. If the society itself does not kill off such a person, he will have to eject himself from society when the uphill task becomes unbearable. Usually, the fact that this contrarian person is disconnected from society leads to some sort of poverty, or reduced prosperity - in comparison to those who have no scruples from playing the game the way 'it is supposed to be played' by being yes-men and bagmen to the powers that be. So, everyone sees the foolishness of the contrarian, and no teenager wants to grow to be like him.

When the story shall be told, a very great experiment has been made of Nigerians, by successive politicians. That is why in spite of the myriad of problems, and



even like most citizens of other nations - many of which could validly be considered to have shown their people more respect than Nigeria has since her independence - almost every Nigerian believes there is no need for any protest. Many equate protest with war, and do not see how such a process could unite grassroots people who are divided almost from birth by the same tribal and religious fissions. Many don't believe that the Nigerian entity, as constituted, could ever work, so they dream of a day that their exceptional, special tribe will be able to emerge, cut itself loose from the underachieving entity and march on to nirvana. Every Nigerian has a reason why we should not complain, even if every other people in every nation are on the streets demanding for a better life, or respect, or inclusion, or just exercising their civic right to protest. Fela Kuti once sang about that selfishness and lack of perspective which made us this way. In truth, we have become worse since Fela - more detached, more selfish, more narrow-minded, in spite of the rise of technology, which has connected us with the rest of the world. In fact, that may be the very problem; for like in the days that the white men first landed in black Africa - as told by them - we are still captivated by mirrors, tobacco, and other inconsequential smoke-and-mirror (pun intended) items, that we don't care how many of our brothers are sold into modern internal slavery, or how many die in the Sahara because governance at home just has no plans for anybody.

...it is fitting for us to see what other peoples are protesting about. It is also important that we note that protests are taking on a global form and that the fact that we are busy discussing personalities puts us out (in addition to all our embarrassing problems) as an unthinking people who are yet to fully evolve to the level of others around the world. We cannot be begging for our people to be granted asylum in the most innocuous country in the world, yet tak-bacco, and other whatsoever to even help ourselves. We are instead on each other's necks for tribal and religious differences. The world is probably wondering why we haven't made it past the level of 'tribesmen', as described by ancient Greek social philosophers, and emerged as proper citizens who understand the value and methods of collective living in big cities (civilisation), and the need to plan for their unborn children. For example, a big issue at hand for us is our debt burden and the fact that we have cooked a major crisis for our children. But instead of having a good intellectual discourse about this, what we have

are those who curse leadership

age Nigeria has very little dreams, and no big vision about what his nation should be like. As Lugard noted in his 1922 book, it can now be confirmed that indeed we have no apprehension about tomorrow. Our faculties are probably unable to consider consequences beyond today. Like Livingstone noted in his writings to the Christian Missionary Society (CMS), all that perturbs us is immediate food to gorge our bellies, meat in excess, and wine to make us stagger into sexual orgies, until these momentary possessions dry up and we start whining. We need to understand how to march on the basis of issues, and how to push back against elites and the establishment, because if we don't, nobody will concede any space for us, especially in this wicked world of global economics, where winners take it all.

So, it is fitting for us to see what other peoples are protesting about. It is also important that we note that protests are taking on a global form and that the fact that we are busy discussing personalities puts us out (in addition to all our embarrassing problems) as an unthinking people who are yet to fully evolve to the level of others around the world. We cannot be begging for our people to be granted asylum in the most innocuous country in the world, yet tak-bacco, and other whatsoever to even help ourselves. We are instead on each other's necks for tribal and religious differences. The world is probably wondering why we haven't made it past the level of 'tribesmen', as described by ancient Greek social philosophers, and emerged as proper citizens who understand the value and methods of collective living in big cities (civilisation), and the need to plan for their unborn children. For example, a big issue at hand for us is our debt burden and the fact that we have cooked a major crisis for our children. But instead of having a good intellectual discourse about this, what we have

on one hand and then veer off the issues, and on the other; those self-appointed modern-day Joseph Goebels who mount spirited Messiah-worship-driven defences of a terrible situation on behalf of not Nigeria, not policy, but simply, Buhari... someone who is only mortal and will depart at some point, whether anybody likes it or not. Where is our intelligence as a people? It's even sadder that in this same country in 1986 (33 years ago), and under a military government led by General Babangida, Nigerians debated these debt issue at the behest of the government of the day. Today we live under fear of victimisation to even think of some issues!

So please let's go back and examine what is up around the world.

As I type this, my eyes caught CNN. There are mass protests against President Trump in the U.S.A. Many Americans want him impeached because even though he is uber-American in his interests, they don't like his brash, used-car salesman ways. He was subsequently impeached by the House of Representatives and now faces a Senate investigation on whether he should be removed from office. In Britain, people are on the streets after Boris' election, because they believe they can't afford to be led by someone with such a racist past. Those who voted Boris are in the majority; deprived people from the Midlands, whose coal mines and industries were shut down as a result of right-wing Thatcherite policies in the '80s, and who, like everyone else, have been exploited by the financial markets, which Thatcher built to replace manufacturing. These people blame immigrants for their woes and right-wing Boris has helped prod them down that road. Still, the anti-Boris people are expressing themselves, even if they can't remove an elected man. In India, massive protests are everywhere. In one of them, I saw that the people were simply riled that the state government was using taxpayers' money to pay for unnecessary advertisements. In France, 800,000 people have occupied the streets over government plans to reform the pension system (in Nigeria, we allow individuals to steal billions of naira of our pensions and government simply borrows the rest, yet we can only think

of our next bowl of amala and ewedu). In Italy, people are protesting over the government's harsh immigration laws that seek to lock out mainly Africans seeking refugee status in the country - most of them Nigerians. In Chile, it is about a 3 percent increase in transport fares. In Bolivia, it is about the 'coup' that ousted Evo Morales. In Hong Kong, it is about extradition and other laws that mainland China wants to import into the territory. In Indonesia, it is because of attempts to weaken anti-corruption laws and reduce citizens' rights. In Lebanon and Iraq, people are protesting against the political system, while in Chile and Iraq, they are protesting austerity measures in general. In Canada, women's movements have been protesting. Everywhere, there is citizens' discontent - Venezuela, Israel, Austria, Germany, New Zealand, Spain. It is about the climate, inequality, bad policies, and so on. The list goes on.

... government in Nigeria can be proactive by stepping into this peace of the graveyard, by doing right by the people. On the subject of Sowore's RevolutionNow, I had advised that government could buy into the revolution rhetoric... It is also important that government is proactive and quick, in order to prevent what our people desire the most (civil war or separation). The unity of the country has not been more fragile.

I have three points to make. First is that we must move away from this idea of commercial protests here. Most people who do anything are doing so for the money. Even government people simple go to Maraba bus stop to recruit protesters for as low as N1,000 per day and put placard in their hands. Often these poor people are duped, leading to complaints captured on television. Secondly, what we are seeing around the world is a situation where the citizens are stepping up as internal control for society as a whole. No system is perfect, but since government is about the people and people must live in societies, people must continue to set their governments right, else what you have is despotism. People are saying the current Nigerian government has evolved into such at present, with the president and his loved ones reveling in his being called a Major General. Wrong way to go. We must grow up and become proper citizens of a modern civilisation. It is a process and not a destination and that is why we see peoples of societies and countries that we run to for everything - education, health, security equipment, tourism - still protesting one thing or another.

Third, and to round it up, I have only one proposal. And it is that government in Nigeria can be proactive by stepping into this peace of the graveyard, by doing right by the people. On the subject of Sowore's RevolutionNow, I had advised that government could buy into the revolution rhetoric. I saw that Boris Johnson declared he was going to be running a revolutionary government as a pushback to those who hate his guts. He is promising broad reforms in government - to save taxpayers money. A sitting government can run a revolutionary government. It depends on how they spin it. With the depth of the problems we have created for ourselves in this country, any wise

government will be anchoring the revolution right now, rather than living in its own cocoon, pushing back with force against the people's agitation, or wishing it doesn't happen. It is also important that government is proactive and quick, in order to prevent what our people desire the most (civil war or separation). The unity of the country has not been more fragile. I believe the emotions of the people must be managed by the government.

On the contrary, what we see here are attempts to rub salt on the injury of the people. It is either we are bingeing further on foreign loans and damning the people whose children have to pay, or the National Assembly is using N37 billion to renovate their buildings, which were built for N7 billion years ago, or state governors are spending huge allocations however they like and without reverting to the people who 'voted' them in. Thankfully, Mr. Femi Adesina, eulogizing his boss on his 77th birthday, in a write-up, stated that Buhari would be on record as the first leader to have started a 'revolution'. I hope he didn't regret the write-up once it hit the press, because the word had been as good as banned in Nigeria. Mere day-to-day governance is not what Nigeria needs anymore. We need a sense of urgency. We need real actions that take us in a different direction, away from self-destruction. We need to start taking our destinies in our hands, constructively, as a people. What more can one say?

The Federal Republic of Nigeria, commonly referred to as Nigeria is a federal republic in West Africa, bordering Niger in the north, Chad in the northeast, Cameroon in the southeast, and Benin in the west. Its coast in the south is located on the Gulf of Guinea in the Atlantic Ocean. The federation comprises 36 states and 1 Federal Capital Territory, where the capital, Abuja is located. Nigeria is officially a democratic secular country.

Nigeria has been home to a number of ancient and indigenous kingdoms and states over the millennia. The modern state originated from British colonial rule beginning in the 19th century, and took its present territorial shape with the merging of the Southern Nigeria Protectorate and Northern Nigeria Protectorate in 1914. The British set up administrative and legal structures while practising indirect rule through traditional chiefdoms. Nigeria became a formally independent federation in 1960. It experienced a civil war from 1967 to 1970. It thereafter alternated between democratically elected civilian governments and military dictatorships until it achieved a stable democracy in 1999, with the 2011 presidential election considered the first to be reasonably free and fair.

Nigeria is often referred to as the "Giant of Africa", owing to its large population and economy. With 186 million inhabitants, Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populous country in the world. Nigeria has the third-largest youth population in the world, after India and China, with more than 90 million of its population under age 18. The country is viewed as a multinational state as it is inhabited by 250 ethnic groups, of which the three largest are the Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba; these ethnic groups speak over 250

different languages and are identified with a wide variety of cultures. The official language is English. Nigeria is divided roughly in half between Christians, who live mostly in the southern part of the country, and Muslims, who live mostly in the north. A minority of the population practice religions indigenous to Nigeria, such as those native to the Igbo and Yoruba ethnicities.

As of 2015, Nigeria is the world's 20th largest economy, worth more than \$500 billion and \$1 trillion in terms of nominal GDP and purchasing power parity respectively. It overtook South Africa to become Africa's largest economy in 2014. The 2013 debt-to-GDP ratio was 11 percent. Nigeria is considered to be an emerging market by the World Bank; it has been identified as a regional power on the African continent, a middle power in international affairs, and has also been identified as an emerging global power. However, it currently has a "low" Human Development Index, ranking 152nd in the world. Nigeria is a member of the MINT group of countries, which are widely seen as the globe's next "BRIC-like" economies. It is also listed among the "Next Eleven" economies set to become among the biggest in the world. Nigeria is a founding member of the African Union and a member of many other international organizations, including the United Nations, the Commonwealth of Nations and OPEC.

The name Nigeria was taken from the Niger River running through the country. This name was coined in the late 19th century by British journalist Flora Shaw, who later married Lord Lugard, a British colonial administrator. The origin of the name Niger, which originally applied only to the middle reaches of the Niger River, is uncertain. The word is likely an alteration of the Tuareg name egerew n-igerewen used by inhabitants along the middle reaches of the river around Timbuktu prior to 19th-century European colonialism.

The Nok civilisation of Northern Nigeria flourished between 500 BC and AD 200, producing life-sized terracotta figures that are some of the earliest known sculptures in Sub-Saharan Africa. Further north, the cities Kano and Katsina have a recorded history dating to around 999 AD. Hausa kingdoms and the Kanem-Bornu Empire prospered as trade posts between North and West Africa.

The Kingdom of Nri of the Igbo people consolidated in the 10th century and continued until it lost its sovereignty to the British in 1911. Nri was ruled by the Eze Nri, and the city of Nri is considered to be the foundation of Igbo culture. Nri and Aguleri, where the Igbo creation myth originates, are in the territory of the Umeiri clan. Members of the clan trace their lineages back to the patriarchal king-figure Eri. In West Africa, the oldest bronzes made using the lost-wax process were from Igbo-Ukwu, a city under Nri influence.

Tope Fasua, an economist, author, blogger, entrepreneur, and recent presidential candidate of the Abundant Nigeria Renewal Party (ANRP), can be reached through topefasua@yahoo.com.



We need to find sustainable solutions for Dadaab refugees

By Dana Krause | Medecins

Dahabo left Somalia in June 1992 after hordes of men swept through her house and killed her brother. She was 13 years old when she arrived in the Dadaab refugee complex, known in the local dialect as the 'rocky hard place'.

She is still there today, now with her own 13-year-old daughter. Their story defies the short-term logic of refugee camps. Isolated, almost forgotten, they fear a return to Somalia and the insecurity that awaits them there.

But this week, governments have another chance to unblock the decades-long limbo of 200,000 Dadaab residents like Dahabo at the first ever Global Refugee Forum.

On the ground, we are witnessing a renewed commitment to finding solutions for refugees here. Since 2014, over 80,000 refugees have returned to Somalia as part of UNHCR's voluntary repatriation programme. Within Kenya, communities hosting refugees in Dadaab have shown remarkable generosity, while facing their own development challenges. County governments, with support from UNHCR, are developing pathways for refugees to access public services and integrate locally.

These are vital developments in resolving the long-term encampment of refugees. But the wider context remains pitted against lasting solutions for all. Refugees still cannot move freely outside the camp complex nor access formal education and employment; international assistance has struggled to keep up with refugees' needs; and insecurity reigns in Somalia.

Meanwhile, in Dadaab, water shortages are frequent, there is rarely enough food, and Dahabo and her eight children live cramped in a wind-blashed hut made of plastic sheeting.

One recent morning, Dahabo sat with her daughter, Marian, in the MSF clinic in Dagahaley camp, one of three camps that comprise Dadaab's sprawling refugee complex. Suffering from a congenital disease, Marian is often wracked by fits that leave her exhausted and weak. Every month, she comes to the clinic to receive her treatment. She could be cured in a specialised hospital, but in Dadaab, only those that need urgent, life-saving surgery can seek care outside the camps.

A fragile balance has been maintained between normalcy and emergency, life and death. As months became years and years became decades, this has trapped people in a paralysis from where they can neither move forwards nor backwards.

To end refugees' confinement, overtures by local counties like Garissa must be backed up by Kenyan authorities implementing policies that allow refugees to freely move, study and work. Host countries including Kenya should receive the full support of the international community to integrate refugees locally through pledges of long-term assistance to strengthen and expand local service delivery. In the transition from a chronic emergency towards longer-term solutions, it is vital that the quality and quantity



With renewed hope, Somali refugees opt for voluntary repatriation. File photo

of services to refugees is not compromised.

At the same time, both traditional and new resettlement countries should commit to increasing the number of resettlement places. This should be complemented by other pathways to self-reliance such as scholarships, work permits, extended family reunification and private sponsorships.

MSF has stood alongside refugees and host communities for most of Dadaab's existence and we will continue to provide medical care to refugees and host communities. But having witnessed first-hand for years the scarcity and uncertainty in which people have been forced to live, it is agonising to see such daily affronts to their dignity.

For the hundreds of thousands of Somalis who have only known life in the camps of Dadaab, sustainable solutions out of this rocky hard place are desperately needed.

From Dadaab, we will be watching the world's first refugee summit with expectant eyes.

Dadaab Dadaab is a semi-arid town in Garissa County, Kenya. It is the site of a UNHCR base hosting 211,365 registered refugees and asylum seekers in three camps (Dagahaley, Hagadera and Ifo), as of the 13 May 2019, making it the third-largest such complex in the world. The centre is run by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and its operations are financed by foreign donors. In 2013, UNHCR, the governments of Kenya and Somalia signed a tripartite agreement facilitating the repatriation of Somali refugees at the complex.

Construction

The Dadaab camps Dagahaley, Hagadera and Ifo were constructed in 1992. In 2011 and 2013, two new refugee camps were opened when 164,000 new refugees from Somalia arrived, due to severe drought. The Ifo II camp extension was originally constructed in 2007 by the Norwegian Refugee Council, in response to major flooding that destroyed over 2,000 homes in the Ifo refugee camp. However, legal problems with the Kenyan Government prevented Ifo II from fully opening for relocation, until 2011. As of May 13, Hagadera was the largest of the camps, containing just over 74,744 individuals and 17,490 households. Ifo refugee camp, on the other hand, is the smallest camp with 65,974 refugees.[2] Former Kambioss and Ifo2 refugee camps were closed in April 2017 and May 2018, respectively.

Ifo camp was first settled by refugees from the civil war in Somalia. The UNHCR

subsequently made efforts to improve the premises. As the population of the camps in Dadaab grew, UNHCR commissioned the German architect Werner Schellenberg to draw the original design for Dagahaley Camp, as well as the Swedish architect Per Iwansson, who designed and initiated the establishment of Hagadera camp.

Population growth and decline

People first began arriving at the Dadaab complex shortly after its construction in 1992, with most escaping the Somali Civil War. When refugees arrive at the camp, they are registered and fingerprinted by the Kenyan government. However, the camps themselves are managed by the UNHCR, with other organizations directly in charge of specific aspects of the resident's lives. CARE oversees Water and Sanitation Hygiene as well as warehouse management and the World Food Programme (WFP) distributes food rations. Until 2003, only Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) provided refugees with access to health-care. Now, health-care is decentralized. Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) provides health care services in Ifo refugee camp, International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Hagadera and Médecins Sans Frontières in Dagahaley refugee camp. Although refugees arriving at Dadaab receive assistance from each of these organizations, aid is often not immediate due to overcrowding. Other relief organizations include Danish Refugee Agency (DRC), Norwegian Refugee Agency (NRC), Windle International, Lutheran World Federation, Center for Victims of Torture, In July 2011, due to a drought in Eastern Africa, over 1,000 people per day were arriving in need of assistance. The influx reportedly placed great strain on the resources, as the capacity of the camps was around 90,000, whereas the camps hosted 439,000 refugees in July 2011 according to the UNHCR. The number was predicted to increase to 500,000 by the end of 2011 according to estimates from Médecins Sans Frontières. Those population figures at the time made Dadaab the largest refugee camp in the world. According to the Lutheran World Federation, military operations in the conflict zones of southern Somalia and a scaling up of relief operations had by early December 2011 greatly reduced the movement of migrants into Dadaab.

nomadic ethnic Somali pastoralists, who were mainly camel and goat herders. However, since the 1990s, an influx of refugees has dramatically shifted the demographics of the area. Most of the people living in Dadaab have fled various conflicts in the broader Eastern Africa region. The majority have come as a consequence of the civil war in southern Somalia as well as due to droughts. According to Human Rights Watch, most of these displaced persons belong to the Bantu ethnic minority population as well as the Rahanweyn clan. Most of the latter have migrated from the southern Jubba Valley and the Gedo region, while the remainder have arrived from Kisumu, Mogadishu and Bardera.

In 2005, around 97 per cent of registered refugees at Dadaab were Muslims from Somalia. The remainder mainly consisted of Muslims from the Somali Region (Ogaden) in Ethiopia, Ethiopian Christians and Sudanese Christians, totaling 4,000 individuals. While the Muslim minorities did not face any persecution, tensions with the Christian minorities were reportedly high.

According to the UNHCR, 80 per cent of residents were women and children and 95 per cent were Somalia nationals as of mid-2015. Of the registered refugee population from Somalia, the number of men and women is equal, but only 4 per cent of the total population is over the age of sixty. Each year, thousands of children are born in the Dadaab camps. A number of adults have spent their entire lives as refugees in the complex.

Demographics

Before the UNHCR base was opened, the local town population traditionally consisted of

have built makeshift homes for shelter and to escape the heat of the sun. On average, four people live together in each household.

Living conditions

Living conditions

With camps filled to capacity, NGOs have worked to improve camp conditions. However, as most urban planners frequently lack the tools to contend with such complex issues, there have been few innovations to improve Dadaab. Opportunities remain such as upgrading and expansion processes for communications infrastructure, environmental management and design. Aside from the infrastructure, some of the factors affecting quality of life for refugees are health-care and diet, education, environment, security, and their economic and legal status.

Education

According to the Kenya Commissioner for Refugees, when migrants first began arriving in Dadaab town from Somalia, they were all educated. An assessment survey completed in 2011 found that access to education in Dadaab was considerably limited, restricting the ability of refugees at the center to find jobs and become less reliant on aid organizations. Dadaab had only one secondary school; those who managed to be educated there could receive jobs working for aid agencies such as CARE, WFP, or GTZ that distribute resources to refugees. Those who were uneducated could pursue jobs in restaurants or helping load and unload trucks. Many chose other modes of subsistence. In 2011, only around 48 per cent of children in Dadaab were enrolled in school.

In response, the Ministry of Education of Somalia announced that all high school students at the center who were Somali citizens would be eligible for higher education scholarships. To further improve the education standards, a new European Union-funded project was launched in 2013. The initiative was earmarked for three years, with \$4.6 million allocated toward its syllabus. It included new classrooms for all local schools, adult programs, girls' special education, and scholarships for elite students based on merit. 75 per cent of the funds were set aside for refugees at the complex, and 25 per cent were reserved for local constituencies in Lagdera and Fafi.

Health care

The German Technical Co-operation (GTZ) provides basic health-care. On a typical day, around 1,800 refugees get outpatient treatment in hospitals

inside the camps. Since 2015, Dadaab has had the largest solar-powered borehole in Africa, which is equipped with 278 solar panels and provides 16,000 residents of the complex with a daily average of about 280,000 litres of water.

Local health risks are complicated by overcrowding. They include diarrhoea, pulmonary issues, fever, measles, acute jaundice syndrome, and cholera. Hepatitis E is also a potential issue, as the premises often have substandard sanitary facilities and unclean water.

One reason refugees arrive at the camps is displacement caused by natural disasters. By the end of 2011, more than 25 per cent of residents at the complex had come as a result of a drought in Eastern Africa. Individuals arriving under these conditions were already malnourished, and once at the camps they could experience additional food scarcity. Although malnutrition is a contributing factor to high death rates among children, it has been observed that life expectancy at the complex is positively correlated with years of inhabitation.

Refugees receive food rations containing cereal, legumes, oil, and sugar from the World Food Programme (WFP). Due to overcrowding and lack of resources, they are not eligible for their initial rations until 12 days after arrival, on average. The rations are generally first distributed to children under the age of five because they are at the greatest health risk. Markets at each of the camps have fresh food for sale. However, due to limited income opportunities, most residents are unable to afford them.[41] Some have used innovations such as multi-storey gardens to supplement rations. These require only basic supplies to construct and less water to maintain than normal gardens.

Environment

Deforestation has an effect on the lives of Dadaab's residents. Although they are typically required to remain in the camp, residents often have to venture out in search of firewood and water. They are thus obliged to travel farther due to deforestation in nearby areas. This leaves women and girls vulnerable to violence as they journey to and from the complex.

In 2006, flooding severely affected the region. More than 2,000 homes at the Ifo camp were destroyed, forcing the relocation of more than 10,000 refugees. The sole access road to the camp and to the town was also cut off by the floods, impeding the delivery of essential supplies. Humanitarian agencies present in the area worked together to bring vital goods to the area.

In 2011, a drought in Eastern Africa caused a dramatic surge in the camps' population, placing greater strain on resources. By February 2012, aid agencies had shifted their emphasis to recovery efforts, including digging irrigation canals and distributing plant seeds. Long-term strategies by national governments in conjunction with development agencies are believed to offer the most sustainable results. Rainfall had also surpassed expectations and rivers were flowing again, improving the prospects of a good harvest in early 2012.

Security

Refugees at the UNHCR center are not protected by the Government of Kenya (GOK). This has contributed to dangerous living conditions and outbreaks of violence. Because they are not protected under the law and are unable to possess a Kenyan national identification card, refugees are constantly at risk for arrest. Additionally, the Kenyan government screens ethnic Somalis and Ethiopians separately from other residents due to their different physical characteristics. A special category in local police documents is earmarked for "Kenyan-Somalis".

While all refugees at the camp are at risk of violence, the UNHCR and CARE have identified women and children as being particularly vulnerable. They have created a department called 'Vulnerable Women and Children' (VWC) to tackle the issues surrounding violence against these populations. As of August 2015, 60 per cent of Dadaab's total population is under the age of 18, and there are equal numbers of men and women, so women and children make up a significant portion of the camps' demographics. Specifically, the VWC department has identified orphans, widows, divorcees, rape victims and the disabled as the most vulnerable among all women and children. They offer counseling, additional food rations and supplies, and advice on how to earn an income and be financially self-sufficient. However, the effectiveness of these efforts has been questioned, and following an analysis by Dr. Aubone at St. Mary's University, more research and data is required to identify the best ways to prevent gender-based violence at the complex.

Economic and legal status

Operations at the complex are financed by foreign donors. Despite this, public perception in Kenya is that refugees in general cause a strain on the economy. Research, however, has found that many refugees are economically self-sufficient for the most part.

In order to try to further increase the economic independence of refugees living in Dadaab, CARE has initiated microfinance programs, which are particularly important for encouraging women to start their own businesses.

However, recent scholarly research has identified some flaws with microfinance, arguing that it has unintended negative consequences. Microfinance typically requires borrowers to pay very high interest rates, which can be detrimental to the poorest if any unexpected problems or crises arise. Living in a community with other economically disadvantaged individuals can also make it difficult to make a profit from a business venture since potential customers are not able to afford the service or product that is being sold.[56] Others have argued that this is beneficial to individuals as a short-term economic solution, but that over the long-term it does not improve the economy as a whole. CARE is also working to create more inclusive markets that refugees are able to participate in to profit off of their newly acquired skills and business ventures.

It is time to act: Deaths and morbidity from unsafe abortion are preventable

By Correspondent Kenneth

Simbaya

ADOLESCENTS and young girls are still facing a number of challenges when it comes to accessing effective and affordable contraceptives, including emergency contraception.

Reports have it that, despite family planning being mentioned as one of the most life-saving, empowering, and poverty fighter in families and nation at large, contraceptive prevalence in the country has remained low with statistics showing that only 38 percent of married women are using the services.

According to the Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey 2010, less than one in 10 (nine percent) of sexually active youth who want to avoid pregnancy use modern contraceptives. Worryingly, 22.8 per cent of young women between the ages of 15 and 19 are mothers.

Grace (not her real name) is one of the teen girls who fell into that trap as at her tender age she found herself opting to terminate a three months pregnancy, after her boyfriend coerced her to do so.

"It is so risky, I could have died that day, many women probably die...I remember one of my friends also barely died after conducting an abortion to an eight months pregnancy," she says.

"After realizing that I am pregnant, I informed the man who was responsible

for it, who then asked me to terminate the pregnancy. I refused, but he insisted, and finally I had no choice, but to succumb to his pressure," testifies Grace who still lives with her parents in Magu District, Mwanza Region.

According to her, the pregnancy termination procedure was aided by her girlfriend whom she said had terminated her four-month old pregnancy in the past. When asked whether at that time she was using any family planning method she confided that she was using traditional method (calendar).

Grace narrates that, to have the procedure performed, she told her parents that she was traveling to see her aunt who lives in another village, instead she went to her friend's home, swallowed the two tablets she doesn't know to date, and inserted the other two into her private parts. The tablets, according to Grace were brought by her intimate partner who was responsible for the pregnancy.

She succumbed to the pressure from her boyfriend because she wanted to protect the relationship. The lady's incident confirms women and girls powerlessness in sexual reproductive matters, something that aggravates harm in cases of unwanted pregnancy.

Echoing Grace's experiences, Ester Mgaya says she also conceived when she was in Form Three and she was aided by her friend.

"I had no way than to remove the pregnancy because I wanted to continue



with my studies, I seriously went ill for two weeks, frequent fevers and I bled profusely," she narrates.

Another young girl aged 25, from Nyegezi suburb of Mwanza city says that she had abortion two years ago when the pregnancy was two-month-old.

For Grace and nearly half the population of Tanzania who may become parents prematurely, what matters is access to acceptable, affordable, and sustainable services provided through efficient, effective support systems.

Data shows that, every year in Tanzania at least one

million women and girls get unwanted pregnancy, of the one million unwanted pregnancies 39 percent end in abortion. 405,000 Tanzanian women and girls have induced abortion 40 percent of them experience complications that require treatment, but 60 percent of those requiring medical treatment do not get the medical treatment they require.

"We received a case here for Post Abortion Care (PAC), of a lady who induced at home, when she was admitted she had already had infections, we ended up removing her uterus, she

didn't die," says Maduhu Nidwa, Magu District Medical Officer (DMO).

He says: "When we asked her, the lady admitted to have an induced abortion after the pregnancy was rejected by the man who was responsible."

On another experience, Dr Maduhu says: "Four years ago I met with a girl, who had attempted terminating her pregnancy, but unfortunately the process was incomplete, so she started bleeding and got infections, she bled until blood cells (DIC) that help blood to clot finished.

"When she was brought at

the hospital her blood group wasn't there, we gave some blood products, when we got her blood group came, we gave her nine blood units, on the fourth day, she experienced kidney failure, and we referred her to the zonal referral hospital but, she died."

In 2018, Magu District, according to Dr Maduhu recorded 325 patients who sought comprehensive Post Abortion Care (cPAC), and this year between January and October the district admitted 246 patients for cPAC.

Abortion complications can be prevented and when

present can be treated if there is appropriate use of cPAC. In Ukerewe District, teenage pregnancy is also too high. When asked the Ukerewe DMO, Dr Raphael Mhana on cPAC admission, Dr Mhana admitted that adolescents and young girls outnumber adults.

UMATT's Advocacy, Communication and Public Relations Officer Josephine Mugishagwe says to minimize devastating impact caused by unsafe abortion, the 'Harm Reduction Model' needs to be rolled out across the country.

The model, according to her, promotes the provision of support to women with unwanted pregnancies to the extent allowed by the national legislation. Institutions implementing the model have been supporting prevention generally and prevention of unsafe abortions in particular.

She notes that the model opposes unsafe abortions and poorly performed abortions that put women's lives and health at risk. It seeks to create conditions that reduce these risks, is grounded in health professionals' medical duty and professional responsibility to protect women's health and ensure that they have access to information.

"The model has already been implemented in Tanzania, showing high effectiveness and acceptability by both clients and providers," Josephine says.

She adds that the harm reduction approach has a long history of effectiveness in the public health field,

particularly in the context of reducing HIV transmission risk among drug users.

"It is grounded in the principle of providing health education and other services without prior moral judgment, professionals provide information in order to reduce the risks associated with a specific practice."

She further says, harm reduction services for unsafe abortion provide clients with information and support so that they can make informed, responsible and autonomous decisions, the model create an opportunity for women to access life saving contraceptive services.

"The harm reduction model stems from the international human rights framework, specifically the right to health, dignity, physical integrity, liberty, autonomy, equality, information, privacy, freedom from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and the benefit of scientific progress," Josephine clarifies.

The harm reduction model to prevent unsafe abortion was developed in 2001 by Iniciativas Sanitarias (IS), an association of health professionals in Uruguay, as a response to the problem of unsafe abortion, which was one of the principal causes of maternal death in the country. Abortion was not legal in this South American country. By 2004, there was already a clear decrease in the number of emergency visits to the hospital for abortion complication and in the number of maternal deaths for this reason

Young fish farmer believes tilapia is the future

By Noluthando Ngcakani

A need to raise awareness on alternative protein resources within rural South African communities has inspired Morena Khashane (32) to build a two-hectare aquaculture initiative. Khashane hopes aquaponic farming will be the "saving grace to counter the high prices of protein in Mzansi".

According to the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, farmed fish is said to be one of the most resource-efficient animal proteins in the world and is slowly rising to the ranks as the leading source of sustenance for many South African households.

This drove Khashane to start his own aquaculture farm in Mahikeng in the North West province in 2017. His business, Aquamor Fish Farms, produces tilapia, and has garnered the fish farmer a multitude of awards including the Youth in Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (YAFF) 2019 Farmer of the Year award.

The 32-year-old fish farmer boasts a multitude of awards including 2019 YAFF Farmer of the year.

The 32-year-old fish farmer boasts a multitude of awards including 2019 YAFF Farmer of the year.

The Free State-born agriculturalist says he first developed a love for the multifaceted agricultural industry at the age of 14, when he started his intermediate schooling at Seotlong Agricultural and Hotel School in Phutaditjaba.

It was at this school, situated on the banks of the Mphukojwane stream, where Khashane cultivated his passion for the agricultural industry. The award-



Fish farmer Morena Khashane hopes fish will be the saving grace to counter high prices of protein in South Africa.

winning farmer believes that had it not been for the knowledge he soaked up from his teacher, Mr Alvin Nhlapho, he would never have reached the success he has attained today.

"Every day I looked forward to attending his classes. He played a very important role in my journey. It is almost like I was breastfed by Mr Nhlapho to have the knowledge of agriculture that I have and still use," he eagerly says.

Khashane cites Nhlapho's teachings as the driver that led him to pursue his tertiary qualifications in aquaculture and policy management at Stellenbosch University.

His continued pursuit of knowledge landed him in China, where he spent a year studying fish farming and distribution. It was here where Khashane realised that "aquaculture is the fastest growing sector globally, because natural fish stock resources are depleting, and the human population is fast increasing."

Armed with a decade's worth of experience in the aquaculture industry, Khashane went on to start his tilapia farming business two years ago. He says Aquamor Fish Farms is dedicated to

achieving food security in rural and township communities by supplying the continued demand for sustainable proteins.

"My family didn't believe in my dream at first, some of my business partners also used to discourage me. But I made it happen. 2020 and beyond is going to be an awesome year for aquaculture in South Africa and this will be good for my company in terms of plans for expansion."

Khashane warns that the business risk can sometimes outweigh the reward in fish farming. He says since he started Aquamor Fish Farms, he has lost two batches of tilapia on two separate occasions.

"In aquaculture when you lose fish you start again," he says enthusiastically. "It is a very risky business, but I had to start again, I owed it to myself."

Through persistence and passion Khashane believes any agricultural venture is possible. "I survived a huge loss, I have cried many tears, but I told myself, 'Morena, you have to do this.' Many people believed in me, many people still believe in me. But most importantly I also believed in myself and I cannot disappoint myself, so giving up was not an option."

The young farmer has since laid down roots in the North West. Aquamor Fish Farms sits on a 2-hectare space on the Rooigrond plot between Lichtenburg and Mahikeng. As tilapia is a warm freshwater fish species, Khashane explains that the North West is ideal for farming it.

He adds that his farm is strategically situated centrally to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) trade corridor.

"We are aware that South Africa traditionally is not a fish-eating nation, however there is a good market in SADC, we needed to be closer to the corridor."

As a self-funded venture, Khashane firmly believes that there is no reason why aquaculture cannot cascade through to rural villages and townships in South Africa.

He says that with careful attention to the processes, especially the hygiene aspect of fish farming, it might one day challenge chicken as the country's leading source of high quality protein. "Fish is better than chicken and is a good source of protein. It will play a very important role in especially the rural area where our people need a good source of proteins."

Khashane sells his product to the informal market. He believes that "people in the townships and the rural areas have a right to easily accessible alternative proteins as well". He further explains that being exposed to the infinite opportunities in agriculture early on in life fuelled his passion to farm with fish.

His business ventures have also inspired an additional conquest. With the help of contacts he has made through his journey, Khashane heads up a consulting firm he calls Tlapi Management Consulting.

"We saw there was a huge need to transfer our own skills and knowledge to assist aspiring black fish farmers to get into the industry, we also do skills development for fish farming."

Khashane has hopes to leave a viable business to his eight-year-old son Morena Aobakwe. "He will take the empire to the next level, I am just laying the foundation," Khashane concludes.

Fears build that Zimbabwe has a famine in its future

By Jeffrey Moyo

The people lined up early for a chance to buy subsidised maize meal from the government-run Grain Marketing Board depot in Harare, at prices they could afford. After three hours, a guard emerged to announce that the depot's supply was rotten so there would be none for sale that day.

The crowd of 150 reacted with disbelief and anger.

"Life is hard, all things are expensive, there are no price controls and inflation just keeps getting worse," said Benjamin Dunha, 57, a plumber who makes 700 Zimbabwe dollars a month – about \$38 at official exchange rates. Less than a year ago, his salary was worth much closer to \$700.

Another shopper, Nyasha Domboka, 52, spoke cynically about a truckful of maize meal, also known as mealie meal, that he had just seen in the depot parking lot. "How can mealie meal packed just recently be said to have gone bad all of a sudden?" he asked.

A combination of government dysfunction, an economic meltdown, droughts and a calamitous cyclone in March have hurtled Zimbabwe toward a hunger disaster that has become the most severe in southern Africa and among the most alarming in the world. While food is not necessarily scarce yet, it is becoming unaffordable for all but the privileged few.

"I cannot stress enough the urgency of the situation in Zimbabwe," Hilal Elver, an independent United Nations human rights expert on food security, said after a 10-day

visit in November. Sixty percent of the country's 14 million people, Elver said, are "food-insecure, living in a household that is unable to obtain enough food to meet basic needs."

Hunger in Africa is a pervasive problem, but in Zimbabwe, once known as the continent's breadbasket, it has been compounded by dysfunction that has left the country in its most serious economic crisis in a decade. The annual inflation rate, which the International Monetary Fund has called the world's highest, is 300%.

Maize meal, a staple of the Zimbabwean diet, doubled in price in November to ZW\$101 per 10-kilogram sack. Now it costs ZW\$117. In early December, a two-liter bottle of cooking oil cost ZW\$59. Now it costs more than ZW\$72.

"The money here is valueless now," said Dunha, who has eight children. All they can afford to eat, he said, are vegetables and sadza, a thick porridge of boiled maize meal.

Gerald Bourke, a spokesman for the southern Africa operations of the World Food Program, the anti-hunger agency of the UN, said that until recently, 60% of its assistance to Zimbabweans was in the form of cash, but that the recipients no longer want the money.

"Inflation is a rampant problem and people said, 'we'd prefer the food,'" Bourke said.

So by January, he said, the agency intends to switch to a "fully in-kind food program" for the first time in Zimbabwe, distributing monthly rations of grain, oil

and nutritional supplements for children younger than 5. The agency also will double the number of recipients to 4 million.

"This is certainly the worst we are seeing in southern Africa," Bourke said during a mid-December field visit to Harare, the capital. While cases of acute hunger have not been uncommon in rural Zimbabwe, "it's seen in the cities now," he said. "Hungry people in the countryside are moving to the cities" in search of food.

The finance minister, Mthuli Ncube, said Friday that the government would be spending ZW\$180 million a month on subsidies as part of an effort to keep the price of maize meal stable.

But for many Zimbabweans, there is fear that the inflation problem portends a return to the days more than a decade ago when a trip to buy groceries required wheelbarrows of cash. Even now, purchases of anything beyond maize meal are considered a luxury.

"We used to buy favourite foods such as ice cream, cheese, bacon, sausages and ham and prepare good breakfasts for our families," said Moreblessing Nyambara, a 35-year-old Harare schoolteacher. "These things are a vision of the past now."

Many historians attribute Zimbabwe's predicament to the legacy of Robert Mugabe, the father of independence in 1980. An icon of African anti-colonialism, Mugabe became a despot and presided over the decline of what had been one of Africa's most prosperous lands. He was ousted in 2017 and died in September at 95.

The debt we owe Nigeria

By Olusegun Adeniyi

That so many of our professionals are leaving Nigeria for societies where things work and where they believe their families can be assured of a secure means of livelihood is a normal human aspiration. I understand the frustrations arising from government failings and dwindling opportunities pushing this drift, especially for our young men and women. But I fail to understand why members of my generation and those before us would join the chorus that we owe Nigeria nothing. That is not true.

It is important we deal with this transferred aggression against a country that has been serially raped and disdained by those to whom it provided a ladder of opportunity. Even our young people, especially those born with privileges and second passports, are perhaps where they are today because of what Nigeria gave their parents. My appreciation of this fact was fired by a tweet last week from an American, Lacy M. Johnson, professor and founder @Flood-Museum who wrote: "When I left grad school in 2008, I owed \$70k in federal student loans. (A poor choice I wouldn't make again). For the past 11 years, I've been making payments (except for a period of under employment), totaling about \$60,000 in payments. Guess how much I still owe: \$70,000."

That opened a floodgate of revelations by other Americans. The first respondent commented: "I graduated from law school in 1978 at the age of 27. I don't remember the sum total of the loans (7 years' worth) but I remember making my last payment at age 39, some 12 years later. I cannot imagine doing it in today's world. This has to change." Next came Liv Covfefe who tweeted from @

liddlemocovfefe handle: "Have two bachelors and a law degree. Actual tuition was in the neighbourhood of \$100K for all three. I owe close to \$200k now. It'll never be paid off unless I win a lottery." And then @saturnineba: "Started out owing \$120k. 7 years, never missed a payment, got it all the way down to \$137k!"

Until perhaps two decades ago when we began establishing private universities, all universities in Nigeria were publicly-owned and tuition-free. Many of today's big men and women were products of these universities. In fact, those who graduated before my generation were even fed free of charge! So, since independence, Nigeria has produced university graduates who paid nothing for their education, yet feel no sense of obligation to the public purse from which it was funded. If we did, Nigeria would not be what it is today. Sadly, the more some politicians savage Nigeria—even if they contributed to the rot—the more popular their opinion, because of the erroneous assumption that whichever government happens to be in power at a particular time is to blame.

Meanwhile, the implication of the thread on student loans in the United States is that were we to be born in those countries we all admire so much, our opportunities might have been limited by the prevailing circumstance concerning the funding of university education there. According to a report, "more than 44 million Americans have outstanding student loan debt, which has become one of the biggest consumer debt categories" while all student debt in the United States "now totals more than \$1.5 trillion." In the United Kingdom where more than £16 billion is loaned to students each year, outstanding loans at the end of March 2019 reached £121 billion



Eradication of polio is a debt we owe Nigeria

while the government forecasts the value to be around £450 billion by the middle of this century. The question to ask is, if our society is not working, should we blame it on 'Nigeria' that at least gave its leadership elite free university education? How have we repaid the country for its largesse?

In a nation where public officials excel only at lamentations, the Minister of Labour and Employment, Dr Chris Ngige, said on Tuesday that no fewer than 100 million Nigerians are without decent jobs. "Nigeria is over 200 million and about 60 percent are youths who need employment. Unfortunately, only 10 percent have decent jobs." Despite this pathetic picture, our public officials continue their binge spending. With the approval of his \$29.96 billion loan request, President Muhammadu Buhari has in return approved a whopping sum of N37 billion (more than \$100 million) for the renovation of the National Assembly. That is about 4% of the debt being procured, just to renovate one government edifice! And with money involved, whether they are APC or PDP, our lawmakers in Abuja speak the same language and

worship the same god; they are altogether now, moving to the 'Next Level!'

Yet these examples do not even compare to the waste of subsidy payments that continue to gulp trillions of Naira every year or the madness that goes in the name of governance in many of the states. With almost a million children out of school, Jigawa government yesterday prioritised the construction of 95 mosques across the state above everything else. All these are choices made by human beings for which we blame 'Nigeria'. That is because of a shallow understanding of nation building. It is the people that build a country but in our case, we expect Nigeria to build the people. It doesn't work that way.

Following the killings of 39 persons by bandits in Tabanni, Allikiru, Gaidan Kare, Kursu, Dankilawa,

Ruwan Tsamiya and Gidan Barebari villages in Rabah Local Government of Sokoto in July last year, I visited the state. In my trip to the affected area, I was accompanied by Mallam Abubakar Shekara, the Director-General, Media and Public Affairs to Governor Aminu Tambuwal. As I marveled at how kind nature has been to us as a country and agonised over mismanaged opportunities, Shekara shared with me a story that is worth recalling. After God had created the world, according to Shekara, "He sent an angel to carry resources to different parts. In America, God told the angel to drop a lot of resources because people from different parts of the world would congregate there. In Asia, God also directed the angel to drop a lot of resources because the inhabitants would be very industrious. The same

pattern continued until the angel got to Africa and he had not even expended half the resources he carried. But upon entering the continent, the angel stumbled and spilled all the resources. As he tried to pack them God told him: 'Don't bother, just watch. The people will not use them.'

You can interchange Africa with Nigeria. But since no one accepts responsibility for anything, almost everyone points fingers, oblivious to the fact that Nigeria did not degenerate to this abysmal level in one day. Therefore, cursing Nigeria, speaking ill of her and throwing tantrums, especially on social media, may appeal to the mob but that is not the way other societies were built. Nigeria is what it is today because of the poor choices that were made over the past six decades by generations of leaders at practically all

levels; and in all sectors, public and private. Changing the narrative of our country requires more than moaning about our challenges or putting the blame only on those we do not like.

As I once wrote on this page, nothing perhaps best illustrates our situation than the embedded message in "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" which is regarded as one of the best works of literature regarding ethics and society. Published in 1974 by Ursula K. Le Guin as a short story in her collection, "The Wind's Twelve Quarters", it is about a beautifully constructed utopian society called Omelas where the prosperity of the people came at the expense of one deprived child locked in a dingy small room. At the coming of age, every citizen of Omelas is confronted with the condition of the child and no matter how well the matter was explained to them, "these young spectators are always shocked and sickened at the sight. They feel disgust, which they had thought themselves superior to. They feel anger, outrage, impotence, despite all the explanations... Yet it is their tears and anger, the trying of their generosity and the acceptance of their helplessness, which are perhaps the true source of the splendor of their lives..."

A major theme in this story, popular in leadership courses, is morality and how different people within a given society react to situations around them. While the citizens of Omelas were quite aware of the child's deplorable condition, they did nothing. Apparently because their happiness was dependent on his deprivation. Omelas is a good metaphor for our country today: To every dysfunction, there are beneficiaries. The challenge of course is that the option taken by the residents of Omelas offers no solution to the what ails us as a country. We must confront our own demons.

The myth of day zero: What we got wrong with water

By Will Sarni

Here's to 2020 being a turning point once and for all on water management. "Day Zero" is now part of the lexicon of water management.

There are at least two things wrong with the term: The implication that it is an unavoidable surprise from mother nature, and that running out of water equally impacts everyone in society.

Both of these perceptions

are wrong and will be perpetuated as long as we continue to refer to "Day Zero."

It's time for the public sector, businesses and civil society to implement real solutions to water scarcity and associated inequity.

In 2018, the city of Cape Town in South Africa introduced the idea of Day Zero to focus the public's attention on managing water consumption by convincing residents to reduce water usage (Cape Town Day Zero).

The four million resi-

dents of Cape Town were about three months away from "running out of water" (Cape Town One Year Later) authorities said. The city experienced three consecutive years of low rainfall and April 12, 2018, was to be the date of what was being called the largest drought-induced municipal water failure in modern history.

The city's plan was for the entire population to collect its water (an estimated maximum of a two-minute shower's-worth a day per person)

from 200 centralized water centers. However, when April 12th rolled around, the city made it without turning off the taps.

A bit of luck and last-minute emergency water conservation measures managed to get the city through the crisis.

This sounds like a success story. It's not. Here's why.

Hope is not a strategy. The first mistake is assuming that the past is a guide to the future with regards to water supplies. Why was

the public sector surprised by outcomes from a multi-year decline in precipitation and increased demand for water?

For many, there is an ongoing expectation that we are experiencing droughts that are similar to previous droughts and that a good rainfall is all we need to get back to normal.

But hope is not a strategy, and climate change has impacted the predictability of rainfall and snow-pack. This means the past is no longer a guide to the future. Coupled with an over-allocation of water and holding onto 'business as usual' water management practices, like low water conservation and reuse rates, creates a reactive water management response. Hence, "Day Zero."

The second mistake is that the supply/demand gap projections universally impact everyone equally, which is misleading.

The Charting our Water Futures report by global consultancy McKinsey predicted that by "2030, under an average economic growth scenario and if no efficiency gains are assumed, global water requirements would grow from 4,500 billion m3 today (or 4.5 thousand cubic kilometers) to 6,900 billion m3."

This translates to 40% above current accessible, the reliable supply including return flows, and taking into account that a portion of supply should be reserved for environmental requirements.



People queue to collect water from a spring in the Newlands suburb as fears over the city's water crisis grow in Cape Town, South Africa, January 25, 2018.

As the report states, "the drivers of this resource challenge are fundamentally tied to economic growth and development. Agriculture accounts for approxi-

mately 3,100 billion m3, or 71 percent of global water withdrawals today, and without efficiency gains will increase to 4,500 billion m3 by 2030 (a slight decline to 65% of global water withdrawals). The water challenge is therefore closely tied to food provision and trade."

It is far too easy to view the supply/demand gap in some abstract term and that the gap will somehow equally impact all stakeholders. This is simply untrue.

Case in point: The October 2019 research by the World Resources Institute, Day Zero Water Crisis Lessons, which states, "the crisis revealed a dire picture of social inequity in both cities. While the rich could afford their own solutions, the poor had to wait for government help. For many of them, every day is Day Zero."

There is no "gap" and declaring "Day Zero" is a reac-

tion to poor water management by assuming the past is a guide to the future.

The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) establish an urgent call for countries and cities to create a resilient, sustainable and equitable future for everyone. The SDGs consist of 17 goals, including those for universal access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, to be met by 2030.

For goal 6, which states, "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all," we need innovative policies and technical solutions that consider equity.

Where do we go from here?

I believe 2020 will be the year we become more proactive and abandon reactive water strategies and rhetoric. There really is no other choice, as we are seeing in-

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD =027=

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

5 letter word: DEW, ASE, NEW, ATE, CAD, IRE
 4 letter word: ZONE, SITE, CAST, LEND, ONLY, NEST, ERGO
 5 letter word: MAIDS, AIDES, OILER, AGENT, SKITE, SCUDO
 6 letter word: MWANZA, TENANT, ISLAND, DRAGEE, ALPINE SENATE, NIPPER,
 7 letter word: ABLATES, EXTREME,
 8 letter word: SRI LANKA
 10 letter word: SEEDEATERS

WORD FIT: S T A R T I T I E B R E V E R S E D A Y L A N D U R F A A A N T I C I P E S Z S S F U S S R R U S T I A O K A A N K A R A S D A D O T T A N S N A A L L E I N N Y A R D S I E C H L I N A I D L E F T A N G A A B C R R N M A L A I K A F G M A K E N Y A H O L D S T L O B U R M A R E F I O R E S E A T L A A R L V E R D O W E R O N M A F I N G A A

Crossword grid with numbered squares.

Clues: Across
 1. Football (6)
 6. Vocal sound (5)
 8. Stadium (5)
 9. Send payment (5)
 10. Wash (5)
 12. Sweet spice (6)
 14. Wading bird (4)
 17. Dark red resinous substance (4)
 18. Unfortunately (4)
 19. Leaders (6)
 20. African wild cat (7)
 21. Deed (3)

Down:
 1. Big food store (11)
 2. Series (5)
 3. Highest mountain in the World (7)
 4. Gutter (4)
 5. Place to sit (4)
 7. A verse (6)
 11. Torment (5)
 12. Dark red fruit (4)
 13. Gathered (7)
 15. Be sick (3)
 16. Charge (6)

Comments: 0/29 41/23 0/2

BUSINESS

SUCCESS

BOT: Tanzania earned more forex in mineral and crops exports this year

By Francis Kajubi

TANZANIA has earned more foreign revenues until the end of the third quarter of this year through high production and export of minerals and cash crops compared to revenue registered in the corresponding period of 2018, the Bank of Tanzania (BOT) has revealed in its Economic Bulletin for the quarter that ended September 2019.

BOT states in its bulletin that the value of gold and diamond produced by large-scale miners increased by 6.4 percent to US\$389 million in the quarter from US\$379 million registered in the similar quarter of 2018.

"An increment of the major quarry commodities was attributed by a rise in the price of gold in the world market through the production of the commodity during the quarter declined to 10,045.3 kilograms from 11,437.1 kilograms in the previous quarter of the corresponding period," States BOT.

However, it is stated that the production of diamond increased by 55.8 percent to 125,355 karats from 80,457 karats last year.

On the part of cash crops for Tanzania Mainland, volumes of



Bank of Tanzania's governor Prof Florens Luoga

cotton lint, tobacco and sisal procured were higher than the volumes procured in a similar preceding quarter.

Procurement of cotton lint rose to 96,395.2 tons compared to 73,952.9 tons of last year. Sisal procurement topped 8,501.4 tons from 8,158.4 tons registered last year while to-

bacco hit 25,319 tons up from 19,173.2 tons.

"The recorded increase in cotton and tobacco was attributed to among others, utilization of improved seeds and steady application of fertilizers and pesticides. As for sisal, the increase was driven by higher domestic demand for raw ma-

terials to produce sisal products" states BOT.

On the contrary, procurement of coffee declined partly due to crop cycle coupled with drought experienced in Arusha and Kilimanjaro regions, while that of tea was attributed to hail falls and frost that affected some of the tea fields in

Njombe, Mbeya and Mufindi.

During the period, coffee procurement dropped to 37,151.4 tons from 47,420 tons of the period under review. However, tea procurement dropped to 3,232 tons from 4,299 tons.

In Zanzibar Island cloves procured during the quarter ending September 2019 increased to 561.2 tons from 105 tons in a similar quarter in 2018. Conversely, the volume of seaweeds procured declined to 1,892 tons from 2,543.3 tons in the corresponding quarter of 2018, largely owing to unfavorable weather conditions.

The bulletin asserts that the Zanzibar economy grew by 2.2 percent in the second quarter of 2019 compared with 4.6 percent in the similar quarter in 2018. The procurement of cloves increased considerably during the period owing to the cyclical nature of the crop.

Inflation remained low, as headline inflation eased to an average of 2.2 percent from 2.9 percent and 3.7 percent in the preceding quarter and similar quarter of 2018, respectively.



CONCERN

Govt mulls giving green light for southern regions to grow cotton

By Guardian Correspondent, Lindi

THE government is working on the possibilities of lifting the ban of cotton production in southern regions of Lindi, Mtwara and Ruvuma.

In the past cotton production was prohibited south of the Matandu River in order to serve as a quarantine zone to prevent the spread of red bollworm disease from the cotton-producing areas of Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia. The ban was later extended to the southern highland region of Mbeya. In this perspective, the ministry of Agriculture has assigned a team of specialists to probe into the matter in Mbeya-Chunya, Sikonge district-Tabora, Lindi and Mtwara.

But, now the government will send experts in the area to see whether cotton production be allowed in the area or not.

Minister for Agriculture, Japhet Hasunga said last week in Lindi that the government has assigned such a team to find out the truth of the whole incidence so as it came to decide on the way forward.

He said the findings will lead the ministry into setting plans of increasing cotton cultivation by welcoming other new regions.

Responding to a question by journalists when he visited in the southern part of the country, Hasunga said: "Basically I don't have any kind of information, as the region has farmers who in the past were engaging in cotton production."

He said once the team of experts would submit the results of the find-

ings to his office and the results are positive he won't hastate to allow the people to continue producing the cash crop in the area.

"I never knew that Lindi and Mtwara used to produce cotton. I will send professionals to probe into the matter and come up with the solution," said Hasunga.

He said after the experts had completed the investigations, and had given the correct information to the office, the government would not hesitate to lift the ban and give people the opportunity to grow the crop, which provides key raw materials to the country's thirst textile industries.

The minister said in recognition of the national trend towards industrialization, there would be no reason for the government to keep on with the ban.

"After three weeks I will give you the directives of allowing the experts to come and do the investigations within Lindi region," he told the Lindi Regional Commissioner, Godfrey Zambi.

Before Tanzanian attained its independence from the colonial rule in 1961, Lindi and Mtwara farmers, among the crops they cultivated included Cotton, but later a ban was imposed owing to pests' invasion from neighboring countries.

However, the ban has not been lifted by the government despite some MPs from the southern regions, Mbeya, Lindi, and Mtwara, questioning at various sessions of parliament that when will citizens be allowed to return to their cotton farms.

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ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Adopt corporate models of leadership to excel, entrepreneurial groups told

By Guardian Reporter

ENTREPRENEURIAL groups have been urged to adopt corporate models of leadership with well-defined guidelines that embrace good governance to attract the trust of their members and hence bring effectiveness in their operations.

Speaking over the weekend at the special event to welcome the New Year 2020, organized by Kinondoni Women Development Association (KIWO-DEA) of Dar es Salaam, Thomas Ngawaiya, KIWO-DEA's Custodian said that good governance that covers from openness to honest is crucial when it comes

to progress of the entrepreneurship sector.

Ngawaiya who was the official guest at the event asserted that good governance is important in all development aspects so it is important to be taken into account.

"The institution I lead is involved in good governance, so whenever I get a chance, I have to talk about it, as it is the foundation that strengthens unity and solidarity in community groups;

Good governance enables group members to respect one another without prejudice of any kind, as decisions made within the group, must

follow the policies, rules, and regulations laid down and approved by the group members themselves," he said.

He said group leaders have a responsibility to ensure that there is a good division of responsibilities among group members to ensure that all group planned activities go as planned.

Ngawaiya, who is also the Director of the Institute for good governance and development lobby CEGODETA, accepted the group's request of helping and facilitating it to acquire a 10-acre site that the group needs for entrepreneurship activities.

For her part, KIWO-DEA Secretary Salome Damian said the group was formed in 2013 based on ideas initiated by Kinondoni women entrepreneurs.

"All group founding members had agreed to achieve economic developments that led to the establishment of the group back in October 2014 with 30 members with full registration a few weeks later" she said.

She said, they agreed to each member to buy one to five shares a week that worth 2,000/- each that members bought in the first three months.

"Thereafter members started

lending depending on their shares at a low-interest rate of only five percent for a loan that doesn't exceed three months and 10 percent for loans that exceed three months," she said.

She asserted that the group is growing and has reached 90 members, and has also increased the value of the shares from 2,000/- to 3,000/- and loan disbursements are increasing.

In addition, she cited the challenges facing the group as a lack of space for launching various development projects and also a lack of donors for empowering them in such development of projects.

HOSPITALITY

Tanapa says golf course, 3-star hotel will be build outside Serengeti, Rubondo

By Guardian Reporter

A proposed world class golf course and 3-star hotel will be built outside Serengeti and Rubondo National Parks, Tanzania National Parks Authority has said.

Tanapa Corporate Communications Manager, Pascal Shelutete told The

Guardian over the weekend that the golf course will be built at Fort Ikoma in Serengeti district of Mara region while the 3-star hotel will be constructed at Rubambagwe in Chato district of Geita region.

"The so called conservation activist group opposing the projects is misinformed, they got their facts

wrong," Shelutete said while stressing that Tanapa's decision is based on accommodating needs of visitors to its national parks and other conservation areas.

He said the conservation activist group groups should better understand that in as far as keeping national parks and other protected wildlife areas safe,

Tanapa is a pioneer institution created by the laws of Tanzania for the purpose hence cannot be lectured by any pressure groups with vested interests.

"We will not listen to group which are opposed to our plans to improve infrastructure in conservation areas but we will strictly follow the country's laws and regulations governing sustainable

investment in such areas," he noted.

US based Serengeti Watch recently issued an alert saying it is following up reports that Tanapa is planning to invest in the golf course in the Serengeti National Park. The US based conservation activist group has in the past mobilized online petitions against construction of a highway passing inside the Serengeti.

The group has also warned against mass tourism in the world famous Serengeti National Park saying such influx of foreigners and their fleets of cars will destroy the area hence affecting the normal lives of wild animals, flora and fauna which will gradually lead to destruction of the area.

NBC fetes 'Ibuka kidedea' Malengo Account winners



National Bank of Commerce's Head of Retail Banking, Elibariki Masuke (C) hands over a flight tickets to Seychelles to one of the winners of the bank's 'Ibuka kidedea na NBC Malengo Account' campaign, Jocelyne Rwechungura (R) during a farewell party held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is NBC's Marketing Manager, Alina Maria Kimaryo. Photo courtesy of NBC.

By Guardian Reporter

NATIONAL Bank of Commerce bid farewell to some of its customers who are travelling to Seychelles and Serengeti National Park after winning through 'Ibuka kidedea' Malengo Account raffle held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

The lucky winners of a memorable trip to Seychelles as tourists include Wambura John from Tarime, Ramadhani Said, Lettice Rutashobya and Sylvester Ambokile all from Dar es Salaam.

Those who headed to Serengeti National Park are: Christopher Mgote from Nzega, Makongoro Makongoro from Arusha, Jocelyne Rwechungura and Esther Ndunguru from Dar es Salaam while David Majani also from Dar won a motorcycle.

The tourist destination bound winners will be accompanied by their partners.

Speaking during a farewell party held in Dar es Salaam, NBC's Head of Retail Banking, Elibariki Masuke thanked all customers who participated in the promotion which started last October saying it helped people save money for future use.

"The 'Ibuka kidedea' was has registered great success as we have noted a significant turnout of customers take part in this campaign, on the other hand customers have realized growth of their deposits through monthly interest earned," Masuke said.

He said the bank's existing customer base increased as new 'Malengo Account' customers joined not only to stand a

chance of winning prizes, but also in fostering achievement of their short and medium terms goals.

"Congratulations to our winners and we believe that you will continue to be our good ambassadors as you enjoy your trips during this season of the year," he added noting that the campaign is still going on hence urged customers to deposit and win through their 'Malengo' Accounts.

On his part, NBC's Brand and Communications Manager, David Raymond said that the bank's objective is to enable and inspire customers adopt a sustainable culture of saving in efforts to meet their financial objectives.

"We encourage our existing customers and potential customers to use NBC 'Malengo'

Account in fulfilling their dreams, whether it is owning house, a nice car, motorcycle, going on a family vacation, paying school fees and many more," Raymond said.

The bank's Marketing Manager, Alina Kimaryo backed Raymond and Masuke saying the 'Ibuka kidedea' campaign has been a bug success as while customers boosted their deposits they also won prizes such as Yamaha motorcycle every month since October 2019.

For a customer to stand a chance of winning a Yamaha motorbike, a minimum deposit of 100,000/- has to be made in their account while a trip to Serengeti needs a minimum of 1m/- and 50m/- to stand a chance to win a prestigious trip to Seychelles.

STANDARDS

Africa shies away from reporting Facebook violations

Luanda

SOCIAL media giant Facebook says fewer people in Sub-Saharan Africa report violations of the social network's rules of engagement.

Facebook says reporting violations helps the platform maintain defined community standards, and won't allow anything that goes against these standards.

It has in recent years been cracking down on content that violates its community standards and continuously encourages reporting of any violations on its platforms, Facebook and Instagram.

Additionally, the company says it has invested in tech-

nology, processes and people to help it act quickly so violations of the standards affect as few people as possible. In Sub-Saharan, however, reporting of such violations is lower than other parts of the world, according to Fadzai Madzingira, public policy associate manager for content at Facebook.

Speaking to ITWeb last week on the side-lines of a Facebook content workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, Madzingira said: "Something that we have realised over the past years is that when it comes to reporting [violations], Sub-Saharan Africa has fewer numbers compared to the rest of the world."

This, she noted, could be as result "of multiple reasons; people may not know about the community standards, or they don't know how to report and they could also be worried about what it means to report."

"When we engage with the people in the region, we let them know they can report anything that goes against our community standards, report posts, video, comments on Facebook and Instagram."

"We also let them know that reporting is confidential. The nature of our community standards is to create a safe platform. The safer the platform is, the

more openly people will be able to express themselves.

"Something to keep in mind is that we have more than 35 000 content reviewers globally that are involved in ensuring the safety of our platform."

Facebook, the world's biggest social network, earlier this year pledged stronger controls following a scandal-ridden 2018.

Some of the scandals that hit Facebook in 2018 include data privacy issues, election interference, as well as the spreading of fake news.

To stop the spread of harmful content, Facebook has also built artificial intelligence systems to automati-

cally identify and remove content related to terrorism or hate speech, which Madzingira said helps enforce community standards.

Facebook also announced it had opened its content review centre in Nairobi, manned by over 100 content reviewers.

Madzingira said Facebook added the new local language support for several African languages as part of its third-party fact-checking programme.

The initiative helps to assess the accuracy of news on Facebook and aims to reduce the spread of misinformation.

Facebook has partnered

with Africa Check, Africa's first independent fact-checking organisation, to expand its local language coverage.

The company's fact-checking programme relies on feedback from the social network's community, as one of many signals Facebook uses to raise potentially false stories to fact-checkers for review.

Local articles will be fact-checked alongside the verification of photos and videos. If one of Facebook's fact-checking partners identifies a story as false, Facebook will show it lower in News Feed, significantly reducing its distribution.

SA's banks: What to watch out for in 2020 as digital rivalries ramp up

JOHANNESBURG

Auditing and consulting firm PwC sums it up as the birth of "a marketplace without boundaries": South Africa's retail banking industry was shaken like never before in 2019.

Discovery Bank and TymeBank opened their doors to much fanfare in March and April this year. Discovery Bank already had 50 000 people signed up to become its customers, way before they even knew what its offering would look like. The group's 2019 integrated report, however, shows that by September 2019, the bank only had 22 000 clients who collectively had 50 000 active accounts.

TymeBank which started from scratch, with no client base, managed to attract over a million customers. Roughly 40% of them transact on a regular basis.

Then came African Bank, launching its shareable MyWorld account in May. Sasfin, the small specialist bank that predominantly serves business owners, also entered the consumer banking segment when it partnered with Hello Group to transform Hello Paisa from a money remitting business to a bank.

Non-banking players, from insurers who have partnered with the likes of RCS and DirectAxis to lend to their client bases, to those who have teamed up with niche players like Grobank to receive deposits, are also intensifying competition for consumers' money.

And then there are retailers, mobile network operators and new fintech payment providers, who have made sure the unbanked market will cope well without a bank account.

Nedbank CEO, Mike Brown, warned earlier this year that if traditional retail banks don't boost their digital capabilities, these disruptors will capture more of the banking value chain. Of course, most incumbent banks have reacted, launching new accounts and many digital firsts.

It's still early days for new competitors to change the composition of SA's retail banking sector in terms of assets and customer numbers. Prudential Authority's latest annual report shows that Standard Bank, FirstRand, Absa, Nedbank and Investec still dominate the sector in terms of assets, and when it comes to customer numbers, Capitec remains the biggest.

PwC, which published a report analysing performance of local banks on Wednesday December 18, says in the first six months of 2019, new entrants have changed the operating landscape, and the changes we've seen so far are an indication of more fierce competition ahead. The auditing firm says increased competition has shifted banks' thinking, and most now focus on "customer-first" strategies when designing products.

"This context of increased competitiveness in the domestic banking market represents exciting opportunities for South African customer, who stands to benefit from ongoing customised and fit-for-purpose banking," said PwC in its analysis.

The PwC's observations echo those of Solidarity, which published its annual bank charges report earlier in December. Solidarity's report also showed that new competition has helped to lower banking charges, especially on entry-level accounts. But it also forced banks to provide more value across their retail offerings.



Facebook eyes Sub-Saharan market. File photo

Zimbabwe drought, food crisis likely to run into 2020, warns Famine Systems Network

HARARE

A swathe of Zimbabwe, running from the southwest to the northeast, faces a "Phase 3" food crisis after a sporadic start to the November to March rainy season, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network said.

Phase 3 is just two steps down from full-blown famine, the USAID-funded Fewsnet said in an emailed statement on Friday. The forecast for the region is for "below average rainfall," it said.

Parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Mozambique

and Malawi will also be affected, it added.

It's the second drought in as many years. "Many areas of the region are likely to face a second consecutive poor rainfall season and harvest," the organisation warned.

That's particularly bad for Zimbabwe where the

"poor macro-economy is negatively affecting planting and germination rates," it said. Millions of rural Zimbabweans are too poor to plant and farm corn, the country's staple food. Zimbabwe faces an economic crisis where shortages of cash, fuel and electricity cripple people's

access to basic food.

"High staple prices in the region are contributing to below-average purchasing power for a significant number of poor households," Fewsnet said, mainly because prices are trending 5% to 10% above the five-year average in South Africa, the region's biggest

producer and the source of much of the region's milled corn.

Farmers in Zimbabwe traditionally plant corn in November when the rainy season begins. So far, they've received as little as 55% of normal rainfall, with the luckiest receiving 85 per cent.



South Africa's banking sector and the 2020 forecast. File photo.

Crop protection chemical input sector set for major consolidation



A farm of plantations in the outskirts of Johannesburg. File photo

Johannesburg

South Africa's crop protection input sector is set for a major consolidation in the next three to five years, according to InteliChem CEO Gideon Hefer.

InteliChem Group is a Stellenbosch based provider of crop solutions to the agricultural industry. It recently announced a transaction whereby diversified majority black-owned and controlled investment company Masimong Holdings, acquired a 47.6 per cent interest for an undisclosed sum in the company.

With more than 1 000 crop protection agents currently servicing about 27 000 commercial farmers, a situation has developed where there is simply too many agents per farmer and per hectare farm land, according to Hefer.

The sector, with an estimated at R9.5 billion per annum turnover at farmer level, currently consists of more than 30 crop protection distributors and it is expected that only 3 to 4 major players will ultimately survive integration and consolidation with a few niche players at regional level.

This is according to Hefer, who is of the opinion that the current situ-

ation in the sector prohibits truly value added expertise and advice at ground level.

"The sustainability of the agricultural sector is far more than only product, price or availability, but depends to a very large extent on good advice and expertise on how to make good use of it in different conditions and diverse areas," he says.

Furthermore, consolidation has already taken place on the supply-side of the sector and is gaining momentum in the primary agriculture level.

As an input or intermediary supplier of crop protection chemicals in the middle of this chain, it is unrealistic to expect not to be influenced by what is happening around you," he says.

In his view, no or limited succession planning has been done with many of the business leaders in the sector nearing retirement. This poses huge challenges for several industry players as skill shortages are at the order of the day.

The current agent model in use in the sector is under pressure with the larger agri businesses not only looking for more technical expertise, but also wider agri know-how, according to Hefer.

Read carefully before you sign on the dotted line - Wesbank

PRETORIA

The excitement of buying a car, combined with perhaps being presented with information one is unfamiliar with, can sometimes cause consumers to overlook the finer details of what they are actually buying, says Lebogang Gaoakete, communications, social media and PR manager at WesBank.

This is especially with regard to additional products, also known as value-added products.

"It is important to be as informed as possible, and to be alert to potential dishonest behaviour by dealers who might want to take advantage of your inexperience and lack of knowledge by selling you products you don't want, need or understand," cautions Gaoakete.

"In some instances, dealers might try to add these into your deal without you realising, or even understanding what they are, so be aware and do not be afraid to ask the relevant questions."

In the case of a new or pre-owned vehicle purchased through a reputable dealer, consumers are likely to be offered a motor plan, service plan or an extended warranty

as part of the purchase agreement.

These are insurance-related products and are aimed at protecting you from unforeseen costs down the line such as a vehicle breaking down.

Additional products that may be offered to someone purchasing a vehicle can range from a tyre warranty to cover you against pothole damage to scratch and dent cover. These may vary among dealers and finance institutions.

Other than comprehensive vehicle insurance, these products are not compulsory.

Gaoakete suggests carefully going through the terms and conditions of any additional products with the finance agent before signing on the "dotted line" This is to avoid any surprises later on.

"Check that any products or services that get offered to you by the dealer, or a bank, are from reputable organisations and are market related with regard to price, benefits and the relevant terms and conditions," says Gaoakete.

"As a vehicle owner or driver, you are responsible for maintaining your vehicle and ensuring that it is roadworthy and safe."



ISIDINGO

MONDAY - FRIDAY
STARTING 7:30 PM



ITV

MONDAY 30 Dec

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 Habari
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 AJ Jazeera
- 9:00 CNN international
- 9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 11:00 Jagina
- 11:30 Igizo rpt: Dhoruba
- 12:00 AJ Jazeera
- 12:30 Jungu kuu rpt
- 13:00 Mjue Zaidi
- 13:45 Sanaa na wasanii rpt
- 14:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost
- 15:00 Meza huru rpt
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:10 Aibu yako rpt
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:45 Kesho leo
- 19:00 Afiya ya Jamii
- 19:30 Isidingo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:05 Dakika 45
- 22:00 Insta Moja
- 22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost
- 23:00 The Base
- 00:00 AJ Jazeera
- 02:00 CNN International

TUESDAY 31 Dec

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 Habari
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 AJ Jazeera
- 9:00 CNN international
- 9:30 Isidingo
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:30 Shamsam za pwani
- 11:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt
- 12:00 AJ Jazeera
- 12:30 Afiya ya jamii rpt
- 13:00 Uchumi na biashara
- 13:30 Shamba lulu rpt
- 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost
- 15:00 Meza Huru rpt
- 16:30 Watoto wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:10 Yu wapi
- 18:15 The Great queen Seonduk
- 18:55 Jarida la wanawake
- 19:30 Isidingo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:05 Tanzania yetu
- 21:35 Chetu ni chetu
- 22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost
- 23:00 The Base
- 00:00 CNN International

WEDNESDAY 1 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 AJ Jazeera
- 9:00 CNN international
- 9:30 Isidingo
- 10:00 Movie: Kisasi cha Utata
- 10:05 Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok
- 12:45 Jarida la wanawake rpt
- 13:15 Dakika 45

- 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost
- 15:00 Movie:
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
- 18:30 Ijue Sheria
- 19:00 Kipindi Maalum: Kipanya chooni
- 19:30 Isidingo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Aibu Yako! Hata wewe?
- 21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Uongozi
- 21:40 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
- 22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost
- 23:00 The Base
- 00:00 AJ Jazeera
- 2:00 CNN International

THURSDAY 2 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 AJ Jazeera
- 9:00 CNN international
- 9:30 Isidingo
- 10:00 Movie:
- 12:00 Kipindi Maalum: Uongozi rpt
- 12:30 Ijue Sheria
- 13:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Kipanya chooni
- 13:30 Tanzania yetu
- 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost
- 14:45 Movie:
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Jagina rpt
- 19:00 Usafiri wako
- 19:30 Isidingo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja
- 23:00 The Base
- 00:00 CNN International

FRIDAY 3 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 AJ Jazeera
- 09:00 CNN international
- 9:30 Isidingo
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo
- 11:30 Usafiri wako
- 12:00 AJ Jazeera
- 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
- 13:00 Jagina rpt
- 13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 14:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mizengwe rpt
- 18:30 Shamba lulu
- 19:00 Uchumi na biashara
- 19:30 Isidingo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:05 Kipima Joto
- 23:00 The Base
- 00:00 CNN International

SATURDAY 4 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI

- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 AJ Jazeera
- 9:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt
- 10:45 Usafiri wako rpt
- 11:15 Shamba lulu rpt
- 11:45 Mapishi rpt
- 12:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 12:40 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost
- 14:40 Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo
- 15:15 Igizo: Mkguzi
- 16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
- 16:20 Igizo: Mtego
- 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Igizo: Dhoruba
- 19:00 Art and Style
- 19:25 Kipindi maalum: Vodacom Draw
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Shangweka
- 21:30 Kesho leo rpt
- 22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja
- 22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo
- 23:00 Isidingo rpt
- 01:30 CNN International

SUNDAY 5 Jan

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 AJ Jazeera
- 09:00 Watoto Wetu
- 10:00 Isidingo
- 11:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
- 12:00 Bongo Movie rpt: Keki ya Birthday
- 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
- 15:00 Mwangaza
- 16:00 The Great queen Seonduk
- 16:45 Igizo rpt: Mkguzi
- 17:30 Kipindi cha kikiristo
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Matukio ya wiki
- 19:30 Igizo: Mtego
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Biko
- 21:10 Mizengwe
- 21:30 Mjue Zaidi
- 22:15 Bongo Movie: Penzi la Giza
- 00:30 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost

CAPITAL

Mon 30 Dec

- 06:00 AJ Jazeera
- 08:00 CNN International
- 09:00 Movie: Knight Rider
- 10:30 Movie: Black Water
- 12:00 Turning the spotlight rpt
- 12:30 Bundesliga kick off
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 14:00 In goodsahape rpt
- 14:30 Sports Gazette rpt
- 15:00 Cookery rpt: Culinary Delight
- 15:30 Jagina rpt
- 16:00 Series rpt: Life is a teacher
- 16:30 Tanzania Yetu rpt
- 17:00 Eco@Africa rpt
- 17:30 Meza Huru- 'Uliafi'
- 19:00 The Décor rpt
- 19:30 Shamba lulu
- 20:00 Series: Life is a teacher
- 20:45 The Monday Agenda

- 21:30 Capital Prime News
- 22:00 Kipima Joto
- 00:00 AJ Jazeera

Tues 31 Dec

- 06:00 AJ Jazeera
- 08:00 CNN International
- 09:00 Movie: Breach
- 10:30 Movie: Death Proof
- 12:00 Innovation rpt
- 12:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 14:00 Usafiri Wako rpt
- 14:30 Monday Agenda rpt
- 15:00 Drive It rpt
- 15:30 Business Edition rpt
- 16:00 Series rpt: Life is a teacher
- 16:30 Capchat rpt
- 17:30 Meza huru-Ustaarabu wa Kula'
- 19:00 Innovation
- 19:30 Jagina rpt
- 20:00 Series: Life is a teacher
- 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 21:30 Capital Prime News
- 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt
- 22:30 Eco@Africa
- 23:00 AJ Jazeera

Wed 01 Jan

- 06:00 AJ Jazeera
- 08:00 CNN International
- 09:00 Movie: The Family Holiday
- 10:30 Sports Gazette rpt
- 12:00 Capchat rpt
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 14:30 Mizengwe rpt
- 15:00 Drive It rpt
- 15:30 Out & About rpt
- 16:00 Series rpt: Life is a teacher
- 16:30 Culinary delight rpt
- 17:00 Innovation rpt
- 17:30 Movie: Edge Of Darkness
- 19:00 Sports Gazette
- 19:30 Chetu ni chetu
- 20:00 Series: Life is a teacher
- 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 21:30 Capital Prime News
- 22:00 Dakika 45:
- 22:45 The Décor
- 23:15 AJ Jazeera

Thurs 02 Jan

- 06:00 AJ Jazeera
- 08:00 CNN International
- 09:00 Movie: Enemy of my Enemy
- 10:30 Movie: The Devils Mercy
- 12:00 Sports Gazette rpt
- 12:30 Turning The SPOTLIGHTS
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 14:00 Dakika 45 rpt
- 15:00 Shamba Lulu rpt
- 15:30 Business Edition rpt
- 16:00 Series rpt: Life is a teacher
- 16:30 Jagina
- 17:00 In good shape
- 17:30 Movie: Gen
- 19:00 Turning the spotlight
- 19:30 Tanzania yetu
- 20:00 Series: Life is a teacher
- 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 21:30 Capital Prime News
- 22:00 Capchat rpt
- 23:00 AJ Jazeera

Frid 03 Jan

- 06:00 AJ Jazeera
- 08:00 CNN International
- 09:00 Movie: The Last Song
- 10:30 Movie: Fare Well My Love
- 12:00 Innovation rpt
- 12:30 Jagina rpt
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 14:00 Culinary Delights rpt
- 14:30 SportsGazette rpt
- 15:00 Shamba Lulu rpt
- 15:30 Business Edition rpt
- 16:00 Series rpt: Life is a teacher
- 16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt
- 17:30 Meza Huru-'Kuchimba Dawa'
- 19:00 Drive It
- 19:30 Eco@Africa
- 20:00 Aibu yako
- 20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition
- 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 21:30 Capital Prime News
- 22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt
- 00:00 AJ Jazeera

Sat 04 Jan

- 08:00 CNN International
- 09:00 Drive It rpt
- 09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt
- 10:00 Culinary delight rpt
- 10:30 Innovation rpt
- 11:00 Out n'about rpt
- 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt
- 12:00 Usafiri wako rpt
- 12:30 Eco@Africa rpt
- 13:00 Business edition rpt
- 13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Iljimae
- 14:30 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt
- 17:45 Bundesliga kick off
- 18:15 Capchat rpt
- 19:15 Mizengwe
- 19:30 The Decor
- 20:00 Korean Drama rpt: Iljimae
- 21:00 Out n' About
- 21:30 Movie: Never Die Alone
- 23:00 Life is a teacher rpt
- 01:00 AJ Jazeera

Sun 05 Jan

- 08:00 CNN International
- 09:00 In good shape
- 10:00 Capchat rpt
- 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
- 11:30 Korean Drama rpt: Iljimae
- 12:00 Jagina rpt
- 12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
- 13:00 In good shape rpt
- 13:30 Series rpt: Life is a teacher
- 15:15 Aibu yako
- 15:30 Drive It rpt
- 16:00 Dakika 45 rpt
- 16:45 Mizengwe rpt
- 17:00 The Decor rpt
- 17:30 Meza huru
- 19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt
- 19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
- 20:00 Korean Drama rpt: Iljimae
- 21:00 Shift
- 21:15 Capchat live
- 22:15 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?
- 00:00 AJ Jazeera



Sudan's Finance Minister Ibrahim Elbadawi Khartoum, Sudan. File Photo

Sudan to postpone lifting of fuel subsidies: minister

KHARTOUM

SUDAN'S transitional government is to postpone lifting fuel subsidies, initially planned as part of the 2020 budget, the information minister said on Saturday.

Finance minister Ibrahim Elbadawi had said on Friday the fuel subsidies will be gradually removed.

But the government met on Saturday with the former opposition which helped bring down veteran ruler Omar al-Bashir in April and agreed to not implement the

decision until a conference in March where economic reforms will be discussed, information minister Faisal Saleh told Reuters.

"In light of the decisions of this conference will be determined the economic policies of the country, including policies regarding commodity subsidies," Saleh said.

The removal of fuel subsidies is sensitive as it would hit a population suffering for years from economic crisis and high inflation.

Sudan's transitional authorities face the tough task of turning around an economy wrecked by three decades of mismanagement under the rule of Bashir, who the military ousted in April after months of street protests.

Complicating Sudan's recovery is its inclusion on the United States' list of state sponsors of terrorism. That designation has so far blocked Sudan from tapping the International Monetary Fund and World Bank for support.

WORLD

Facing blowback, Joe Biden clarifies stance on impeachment trial testimony

WASHINGTON

U.S. Democratic presidential contender Joe Biden on Saturday said there would be "no legal basis" for Republicans to subpoena his testimony in President Donald Trump's impeachment trial, clarifying remarks from Friday that drew criticism.

"I want to clarify something I said yesterday. In my 40 years in public life, I have always complied with a lawful order and in my eight years as VP, my office – unlike Donald Trump and Mike Pence – cooperated with legitimate congressional oversight requests," Biden said on Twitter.

"But I am just not going to pretend that there is any legal basis for Republican subpoenas for my testimony in the impeachment trial," Biden added.

The statement came one day after Biden said in an interview with the

Des Moines Register that he would not comply with a Senate subpoena because it would be a tactic by Trump to distract from the president's wrongdoing.

Some legal experts and commentators had criticized Biden for his remarks to the Iowa newspaper, noting that the White House's refusal to comply with congressional subpoenas was part of the reason why Trump had been impeached.

Trump was impeached on Dec. 18 by the Democratic-led House of Representatives on two charges over his pressuring Ukraine to announce an investigation of Biden, a former vice president and a top contender for the Democratic presidential nomination, and Biden's son. Trump has been charged with abuse of power and obstructing Congress' investigation.

Trump has said he did nothing



U.S. Democratic presidential contender Joe Biden

wrong.

A trial is anticipated in the Republican-controlled Senate to determine whether Trump should be removed from office. However, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has not yet transmitted the articles of impeachment to the upper chamber in a bid to pressure Republicans to reach an accord with the Democrats on trial rules.

Trump has raised unsubstantiated charges

that Biden improperly tried to halt a Ukrainian probe of a company with ties to his son, and has said he wants Biden to testify in the impeachment trial.

Ross Garber, a Washington lawyer specializing in impeachment proceedings, said it was "incredibly unlikely" that Republican senators would back an effort to push for Biden's testimony.

Agencies

Programme rids Tibet of extreme poverty

ALL counties and prefectures in Southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region have now been lifted out of extreme poverty, reaching a significant milestone in the region's poverty alleviation efforts, the regional government announced on December 23.

The regional government said 19 counties and prefectures, such as Gyangze county in Xigaze, Markam county in Qamdo, can now delete the title "poverty-stricken" from their profiles, according to a document sent to the Global Times by the Tibetan regional government.

This signals that all 74 counties and prefectures in the region have shaken off extreme poverty.

Tibet, a place deemed as the most difficult to get rid of extreme poverty, now achieved a huge progress in this arena and moved one step closer to meet the country's goal of lifting the entire population out of extreme poverty by the end of 2020. Zhu Weiqun, a former head of the Ethnic and Religious Affairs Committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, told the Global Times.

Zhu, who has long-term and first-hand experience of Tibet's poverty alleviation work said the government has laid out measures for different places to become rich.

For instance, Markam county was encouraged to make use of their abundant grape resources to develop relevant industries and this successfully helped all its 206 extreme poverty-stricken families to shake off poverty in 2018, China Central Television (CCTV) reported in September.

Hinterland villages in Shannan



The picture shows the residents of the small town Gangga at the foot of Mount Everest sewing tourist souvenirs.

Prefecture started to bolster their tourism services. Some 49 out of 66 families in Mamacun village of Shannan work in tourism and the villages' per capita disposable income reached 19,000 yuan annually (\$2,710), CCTV said.

A resident of Nyemo county told the Global Times that farmers and herders benefited most from poverty alleviation and learned skills such as handicrafts. They used modern technologies to sell their products online and gained education opportunities.

Ngabo Jinyuan, president of Tibet's association of industry and commerce, said that private en-

terprises also played an important role in assisting poverty alleviation and boosting employment.

Altogether 703 private companies registered to take part in Tibet's poverty alleviation system, investing 2.32 billion yuan (\$0.35 billion).

In 2019, more than 82,000 people were lifted out of extreme poverty and the association helped more than 800 university graduates find jobs in Tibet, said Jinyuan. Another effective measure was to support poor students' education, said Zhu.

Both the central and regional governments issued preferential

policies to relieve poor Tibetan students' economic burden from elementary education to university, Pu Zhengxue, an official from Tibet's office of poverty alleviation and development, said in a conference in November.

"Tibet has poor natural conditions, but the poverty alleviation achievements are quite rich," said Pu.

"Most importantly, poverty alleviation spread the warmth of the central government to all ethnic groups in this region and pulls close the public with the Party and officials," Pu said.

Southern Xinjiang, Tibetan au-

tonomous prefectures in Northwest China's Gansu and Qinghai provinces and some areas in Southwest China's Yunnan and Sichuan were also deemed as most difficult places to shake off extreme poverty.

A total 48 extreme poverty-stricken counties in Yunnan got rid of extreme poverty from 2013-18, China News Service reported in August. Gansu vowed to lift all of its extreme poverty-stricken counties including cities and prefectures out of extreme poverty by 2020, Xinhua reported.

Global Times

China's 5G rollout: Faster speed leads to new possibilities

EVER since the era of 2G, ICT giants worldwide have never hesitated to add more "Gs" to their industrial lexicon, creating new connective solutions and incredible innovations. In this challenging era, China stands out as a global leader in 5G technology, rolling out over 126,000 5G base stations in 2019 to create one of the largest 5G networks in the world.

Known as the fifth-generation of mobile internet connectivity, 5G promises much faster data download and upload speeds, broader coverage and more stable connections. The new technology is not just about speed - its low latency and high accuracy, driverless cars, long-distance surgery, and even the construction of smart cities are fast becoming new realities.

Fancy knowing more about China's 5G? Check out our stories and dive into a new technological adventure with us!

5G forerunner

Though over 40 countries around the world have already tested the new technology or put it in use in some areas, China is by no means the first country to release 5G technology to consumers.

In early June, China granted 5G licenses for commercial use, marking the beginning of a new era in the country's telecommunications industry.

In November, China Mobile, China Unicom and China Telecom, the country's three major telecom operators, simultaneously launched their monthly 5G plans, deploying 5G stations in 50 cities, with a monthly cost price of \$18 to \$85 depending on the amount of data and talk time required. The announcement has initiated the construction of the world's largest 5G network.

Heading to global market

China Mobile has nearly 50,000 5G base stations in use so far. According to the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology, 5G technology is expected to create more than eight million jobs by 2030.

In addition to exploring domestic markets, China's telecom giants and smartphone producers have also aimed at the global market, introducing China's 5G technologies and equipment to the world.

According to Huawei, the world's largest telecommunications equipment maker, the company signed 60 commercial 5G contracts with carriers around the world, beating its main rivals Ericsson and Nokia.

The company's 5G smartphone has also amazed the world with its high-tech design and foldable screens. Other Chinese smartphone designers, including Huawei's rival Vivo, also released two 5G models in a month, offering a lower price of 6,000 yuan. At the same time, Beijing-based Xiaomi launched the world's cheapest 5G mobile phone, at just 3,699 yuan (\$520).

Fierce competition

Other nations, including the United States and South Korea, have also launched 5G services in selected areas, but it's hard to compete with China in scale, as China now has more mobile internet users than any other country, with about 850 million using their smartphones to surf the web.

According to CNN, analysts at Jefferies predict that China will have 110 million 5G users, about seven percent of the country's population by 2020. A Deloitte report also noted that in 2018, China outspent the US by approximately \$24 billion in wireless communications infrastructure since 2015.

Despite persuasion from the US, many countries have chosen to cooperate with China in 5G construction. Huawei, under pressure, has already signed 60 5G contracts worldwide.

China has already aimed higher for the future by officially launching research and development work for 6G mobile networks, with the Ministry of Science and Technology announcing in November that it would set up two working groups to carry out the task.

People's Daily



Global Times

US delays visas for UN-bound diplomats, UN chief voices concern

UNITED NATIONS,

OVER the past few months, a number of countries' UN-bound diplomats have suffered visa delays or denials by the U.S. government, for which UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres voiced his concern recently.

On Thursday, Guterres' spokesperson said the secretary-general "remains very concerned" about delays in the issuance of U.S. visas to multiple member states' officials and academia.

For months, Guterres (pictured) and the UN Legal Counsel have repeatedly conveyed their concerns as well as the legal position of the United Nations to U.S. senior representatives, according to the spokesperson.

"The secretary-general and his team will continue to follow this matter closely."

Headquartered in New York, the UN is largely seen as an "international realm," but delegates from outside of the United States need a U.S. visa to attend its meetings. Under the 1947 Headquarters Agreement, the United States is required to let foreign diplomats enter the country on UN-related business.

However, Russian and Iranian officials traveling to the United States for the 74th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA74) this year were faced with visa problems.

Russia said the U.S. government failed to process 18 visas for Russian officials participating in the annual



gathering of world leaders, and Washington has deliberately delayed issuing visas to Russian officials traveling to the UN.

Also, doubts were cast over the issuance of visas for Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, both of whom got their visas only days before the UNGA74's high-level events. On Dec. 18, the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus a resolution calling on the United States as the host country of the world's body headquarters to promptly issue visas to diplomats.

The resolution also requests the secretary-general to remain actively engaged in the matter of relations between the United States and the

organization.

According to a Sputnik report, the 18 Russian diplomats, who were denied visas for the UNGA74, were to participate in meetings of the disarmament and legal committees of the General Assembly.

Russia proposed in October to shift the location of the First Committee of the UN General Assembly from New York to Geneva or Vienna in protest of Washington's unfriendly visa policies.

The report of the UN Committee on Relations with the Host Country noted that besides Russia, other countries including China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran, Syria and Cuba also complained about the U.S. visa policy. Xinhua

FBI investigating British socialite and others who 'facilitated' Epstein

WASHINGTON

THE FBI is investigating British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell and several other people linked to U.S. financier Jeffrey Epstein, who killed himself while awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges, according to two law enforcement sources familiar with the investigation.

They said a principal focus of the FBI's investigation is Maxwell, a long-time associate of Epstein, and other "people who facilitated" Epstein's allegedly illegal behavior.

Maxwell has not been accused of criminal wrongdoing. Her lawyers Jeffrey Pagliuca and Ty Gee did not respond to a request for comment.

The FBI also is following up on many leads received from women who contacted a hotline the agency set up at its New York field office in the wake of Epstein's arrest in July, the sources said.

One of the sources said the probe remains at an early stage.

The sources declined to give further details or identify the people they are looking at apart from Maxwell. However, they said the FBI has no current plans to interview Britain's Prince Andrew, a friend of Epstein's who stepped down from his public duties in November because of what he called his "ill-judged" association with



Convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein (L) and longtime associate Ghislaine Maxwell in this combination photo. New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services/UNTV/Handout via REUTERS

the well-connected money manager.

A spokeswoman for the FBI declined to comment. A representative for the British royal family said that whether the agency interviewed Andrew was "a matter for the FBI."

Epstein's suicide in August, at age 66, came a little over a month after he was arrested and charged with trafficking

dozens of underage girls as young as 14 from at least 2002 to 2005. Prosecutors said he recruited girls to give him massages, which became sexual in nature.

He had pleaded not guilty.

Following Epstein's arrest, the FBI urged anyone who had been victimized by Epstein or had additional information to call the agency's hotline.

U.S. Attorney General William Barr vowed to carry on the case against anyone who was complicit with the financier.

"Any co-conspirators should not rest easy," he said in August.

The sources said they had received numerous tips from the hotline, which they are looking into.

Maxwell, the daughter of late British media magnate Robert Maxwell, is an ex-girlfriend of Epstein who remained a member of his inner circle. She has largely disappeared from public view since 2016.

Virginia Giuffre, one of Epstein's alleged victims, has said in a civil lawsuit that Maxwell recruited her into Epstein's circle, where she claims Epstein forced her to have sex with him and friends including Andrew.

Maxwell has called Giuffre's allegations lies. Giuffre in response filed a defamation suit against Maxwell in 2015.

Giuffre repeated the claims about the prince in a BBC interview that aired this month.

Andrew, 59, also categorically denies the accusations and has said he has no recollection of meeting Giuffre, who was previously named Virginia Roberts.

The two law enforcement sources said the FBI's principal focus is on people who facilitated Epstein and that Andrew does not fit into that category. They did not rule out the possibility that the FBI would seek to interview Andrew at a later date.

Agencies

Lungu assures investors in gold exploration of support

LUSAKA

ZAMBIAN President Edgar Lungu on Saturday said that his government will continue to strengthen policy implementation and regulatory enforcement in a way that does not stifle but enhances exploration of new gold and other mineral deposits.

The Zambian leader said both local and foreign investors were free to increase and get involved in value chains, industrialization as well as mining-based value additions.

The Zambian leader notes that the private sector involvement should be commended because the overall success of the gold mining sub-sector will be driven by the private sector investment while the government will continue to improve the policy and business environment.

According to him, the growth potential of gold mining in Zambia was huge and largely untapped. The government, he said, has focused on formalizing and empowering small-scale miners in order to make them more productive through capacity building programs.

"Collectively, these interventions by my government, coupled with full private sector participation, will yield the desired inclusive and robust economic growth and development, poverty reduction and employment," he added.

Xinhua

Money Politics Exposes the Hypocrisy of 'US-Style Democracy'

THE China Society for Human Rights Studies on Thursday published an article argued that money politics is the main reason for the severe divisions in politics and society in the United States.

The following is an abstract translation of the article:

The United States always praises itself as the "beacon" of democracy, advocating that people have the right to participate in public affairs, elections, and supervision over their governments.

Nevertheless, in reality, given the severe divisions in US politics and society, a large number of US citizens do not have a chance to participate in politics. The main reason for this phenomenon is money politics. Money politics exposes the hypocrisy of US democracy.

Money politics runs through all aspects of US elections, legislation, and governance, and has become a persistent disease in US society.

Under such circumstances, elections, whose original purpose is to express the will of the voters, determine the political direction, and choose qualified leaders, have been reduced to money games.

The money politics of the United States has distorted public opinion and turned elections into a "one-man show" of the wealthy class. Money is deeply involved in every aspect of US elections.

Raising funds is a prerequisite for a candidate to run in an election at any level. Without enough money, it is simply impossible to compete for any important political position.

In 2016, US elections, including presidential and congressional elections, cost a total of US\$6.6 billion, making it the most expensive political election in US history.

In addition to publicly registered election funds, a large amount of secret funds and "dark money" have also been injected into the US election activities.

As reported by National Broadcasting Company (NBC) News in 2018, as the United States Department of the Treasury (USDOT) announced that it would no longer require most non-profit organizations to report their source of donations, the transparency of election funding would be significantly reduced.

Over 40 percent of TV commercials broadcast by these outside groups to influence congressional elections are funded by secret donors.

Money politics is an inevitable



result of the US capitalist system. The United States is a capitalist country, and US democracy is a political form through which the bourgeoisie rules.

Given this, US democracy naturally reflects the will of the capitalists and serves their interests. Candidates of the two major political parties in the United States are merely representatives of different factions within the bourgeoisie.

Lobbying is an important way to implement money politics. Lobbying is a political phenomenon peculiar to the United States, and lobbying-induced corruption is an inherent dysfunction of the US political system.

Interest groups hire lobbyists to lobby members of the US Congress and their aides, influence the formulation and

amendment of bills, and seek their own interests.

Over the past 40-odd years, the lobbying industry in the United States has developed rapidly, showing explosive growth. In 1971, there were only 175 registered lobbyists in the United States, but the number quickly increased to 2,500 in 1981 and to 13,700 in 2009.

This means that, on average, each member of the US Congress, including the House of Representatives and the Senate, is lobbied by more than 20 lobbyists.

Money politics brings serious consequences. First, money politics deprives ordinary people of their political rights. Although the United States often shows off its "one person, one vote" US-style democracy, the reality is that the voting rights of low-income US citizens are severely

restricted.

As reported by U.S. News & World Report, from 2010 to 2015, 21 states in the United States formulated new laws restricting voting rights, and 14 states implemented new measures to restrict the exercise of voting rights in the 2016 presidential election.

The main purpose of these laws and measures was to prevent the poor from registering to vote.

As reported by the website of Newsweek on November 21, 2017, thousands of US citizens have been deprived of their voting rights because of poverty.

Second, government posts have become exclusive for rich people and the upper class.

According to the US political practices, after winning an election, the elected candidate will usually reward those persons

who have made significant contributions to the election campaign, such as major donors and fundraisers, with government posts.

After taking office, the newly elected US president will usually appoint a group of major donors as ambassadors.

Third, money politics is blatantly delivering benefits to the rich. As money affects legislation and government decisions, the rich people can make politicians serve them through campaign donations and promises of the return of benefits and legislate on their behalf.

The presidents and administrations elected with the help of money will definitely favor the rich when formulating policies, and they will openly or implicitly pass on benefits to the rich. This is a disguised transaction of mon-

ey and power.

Fourth, money politics makes it more difficult for the United States to solve its pressing political and social problems.

In the United States, the proliferation of guns and gun violence are major political and social problems, which have plagued US society for many years.

Nevertheless, interest groups such as the National Rifle Association of America (NRA), who oppose gun control, have successfully disrupted the governmental gun control efforts by participating in elections and lobbying.

These interest groups have made significant political contributions to the US presidential and congressional elections. They donated US\$113 million through PACs between 2010 and 2018 alone.

Money politics exposes the na-

ture of US society and the lies of the United States when it is praising itself as the best example of exercising democracy and safeguarding human rights for the world.

"US-style democracy" is the democracy of the rich people and the capitalists. It seldom benefits the lower classes of US society.

The democratic rights stipulated in the US Constitution can only be enjoyed by the people who have enough money in their pockets.

In the United States, where money governs politics, political participation and discussions can never be actualized without the help of money. Money politics has ruthlessly crushed "US-style democracy".

People's Daily



SportPesa Tanzania Public Relations Manager, Sabrina Msuya (7th L), hands over sports kits to a section of Tabata Combine Club's leaders and players as part of the company's giving back to the community initiative, particularly in soccer. The event took place in Dar es Salaam last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SPORTPESA

Serena Williams aces AP Female Athlete of the Decade honors

BY HOWARD FENDRICH

SERENA Williams dominated the decade, on the court and in conversation.

There were, to begin with, the dozen Grand Slam single titles – no other woman had more than three over the past 10 seasons – and the 3 1/2 years in a row at No. 1 in the WTA rankings.

And then there was the celebrity status that transcended tennis, making everything she did and said newsworthy, whether it was the triumphs and trophies and fashion statements or the disputes with tournament officials, the magazine covers or the Super Bowl ad with a message about women's power, the birth of her daughter or the health scare that followed.

Still winning matches and reaching Grand Slam finals into her late 30s, still mattering as much as ever, Williams was selected by The Associated Press as the Female Athlete of the Decade on Saturday after a vote by AP member sports editors and AP beat writers.

The AP Male Athlete of the Decade will be announced Sunday.

"When the history books are written, it could be that the great Serena Williams is the greatest athlete of all time. ... I like to call it the 'Serena Superpowers' – that champion's mindset. Irrespective of the adversity and the odds that are facing her, she always believes in herself," said Stacey Allaster, CEO of the WTA from 2009-15 and now chief executive for professional tennis at the U.S. Tennis Association, which runs the U.S. Open.

"Whether it was health issues; coming back; having a child; almost dying from that – she has endured it all and she is still in championship form," Allaster said. "Her records speak for themselves."

Gymnast Simone Biles, the 2019 AP Female Athlete of the Year, finished second to Williams in voting for the decade honor, followed by swimmer Katie Ledecky. Two ski racers were next, with Lindsey Vonn finishing fourth and Mikaela Shiffrin fifth.

Three of Williams' five AP Female Athlete of the Year awards came during the last decade, in 2013, 2015 and 2018. She also won in 2002 and 2009.

"She's been my idol growing up," Biles said. "She's remained humble. She's stayed true to herself and her character and I think that's really neat about an athlete," Biles said. "Once you start winning, some get cocky, but she's stayed true to herself, win or lose."

It's the defeats that seem to drive Williams, helping propel her to heights rarely reached by any athlete in any sport.

"Whenever I lose, I get more determined,



Serena Williams

and it gives me something more to work toward," Williams said in a 2013 interview with the AP. "I don't get complacent, and I realize I need to work harder and I need to do better and I want to do better – or I wouldn't be playing the game."

With a best-in-the-game serve, powerful groundstrokes and relentless court coverage, she has won 23 Grand Slam singles titles, more than anyone else in her sport's professional era, which began in 1968.

More than half came from 2010-19: four at Wimbledon, three apiece at the U.S. Open and Australian Open, two at the French Open. That includes a run of four in a row from the U.S. Open in 2014 through Wimbledon in 2015, her second self-styled "Serena Slam."

Williams also was the runner-up another seven times at major tournaments over the past decade, including four of the seven she's entered since returning to the tour after having a baby in 2017.

In all, she made the final at 19 of the 33 majors she entered during the decade, a nearly 58% rate.

The decade began inauspiciously in 2010, when Williams cut her feet on broken glass at a restaurant and was hospitalized with blood clots in her lungs.

Among her many accomplishments, though:

- reaching at least one Slam final every year, a streak that dates to 2007;

- winning gold medals in singles and doubles (with her sister, Venus) at the 2012 Olympics;

- becoming the oldest woman to win a Grand Slam singles trophy in the professional era;

- becoming the oldest No. 1 in WTA history and equaling Steffi Graf's record for most consecutive weeks atop the rankings;

- leading the tour with 37 singles titles, 11 more than anyone else in the decade.

The day she won Wimbledon in 2016, Williams discussed the way she constantly measures herself.

"I definitely feel like when I lose, I don't feel as good about myself," she said.

"But then I have to, like, remind myself that: 'You are Serena Williams!' You know? Like, 'Are you kidding me?'" Williams continued with a laugh. "And it's those moments that I have to just, like, come off and be like, 'Serena, do you know what you've done? Who you are? What you continue to do, not only in tennis (but also) off the court?' Like, you're awesome."

Kennedy Juma comes from the cold

Eight changes were unexpected but not as much as that of Kennedy Juma inclusion. The big central defender had not started a single competitive game since his move from Singida United at the start of this season's campaign.

As the Brazilian Tairone Santos was dropped to the bench, Juma started and based on this evidence he could yet become an important squad member in the Msimbazi Street-based outfit's big family.

Brazilians silencing doubters

The Brazilian trio of Tairone Santos, Gerson Fraga and Wilker Henrique da Silva had a slow start to life in Tanzania following a surprise move from India.

It is true they are yet to light up the league but they are slowly

showing they are not out depth playing for Simba. Fraga has two goals to his name already while Santos is also accumulating minutes.

The jury is out on the injured Da Silva who despite scoring the only goal in a friendly match against JKT Tanzania is yet to get minutes under his belt.

Francis Kahata continues to thrive

The Kenyan international attacking midfielder is another foreigner who had a slow start at Simba but seems to have suddenly switched up gears.

Kahata has now been directly involved in four goals for Simba, scoring two and assisting two in all competition. Against KMC he delivered another good performance that reminded fans his signing was justified.

His recent form might per-

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It should be remembered Simba have Ibrahim Ajib, Clatous Chama, Hassan Dilunga, Sharaf Shiboub and Kahata all competing for a starting place in the congested midfielder department.

KMC woeful season continues

When KMC booked their ticket to the Premier League, many had hoped they would be a solid team. They certainly did well in their debut top flight season by finishing in fourth place.

Even with the exit of coach Etienne Ndayiragijje, KMC were expected to be comfortable in their second season before building up in subsequent seasons with Jackson Mayanja

at the helm. But with every passing week, they are frustrated with results not matching the performance they deserve.

The Kinondoni Municipal team has won just two of their opening 13 games of the new campaign and sit in the relegation zone, six points off safety. Although this is by no means a gap they can't overcome, recent form counts against them.

They have lost four of their past five league games, managing a draw against Young Africans (Yanga) thanks to an injury time penalty. They have only gained one win since sacking head coach Jackson Mayanja.

While it is understandable to assume they are too stable to go down, nothing is guaranteed and they need to quickly reverse their fortunes before it is too late.

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Kahata has now been directly involved in four goals for Simba, scoring two and assisting two in all competition. Against KMC he delivered another good performance that reminded fans his signing was justified.

His recent form might per-

suade Simba not sign Mozambican midfielder, Luis Misquisono who is reportedly on Msimbazi Street side shopping list.

It should be remembered Simba have Ibrahim Ajib, Clatous Chama, Hassan Dilunga, Sharaf Shiboub and Kahata all competing for a starting place in the congested midfielder department.

KMC woeful season continues

When KMC booked their ticket to the Premier League, many had hoped they would be a solid team. They certainly did well in their debut top flight season by finishing in fourth place.

Even with the exit of coach Etienne Ndayiragijje, KMC were expected to be comfortable in their second season before building up in subsequent seasons with Jackson Mayanja

at the helm. But with every passing week, they are frustrated with results not matching the performance they deserve.

The Kinondoni Municipal team has won just two of their opening 13 games of the new campaign and sit in the relegation zone, six points off safety. Although this is by no means a gap they can't overcome, recent form counts against them.

They have lost four of their past five league games, managing a draw against Young Africans (Yanga) thanks to an injury time penalty. They have only gained one win since sacking head coach Jackson Mayanja.

While it is understandable to assume they are too stable to go down, nothing is guaranteed and they need to quickly reverse their fortunes before it is too late.

showing they are not out depth playing for Simba. Fraga has two goals to his name already while Santos is also accumulating minutes.

The jury is out on the injured Da Silva who despite scoring the only goal in a friendly match against JKT Tanzania is yet to get minutes under his belt.

Francis Kahata continues to thrive

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Stunning win for Hilal, El Kaabi bags Wydad hat-trick

JOHANNESBURG

A STUNNING victory for Al Hilal of Sudan and an Ayoub el Kaabi hat-trick for Wydad Casablanca of Morocco were the CAF Champions League matchday three highlights on Saturday.

Hilal won a group game in the elite African club competition for the first time after 22 failed attempts from 2007 by shocking Etoile Sahel of Tunisia 1-0 in Rades.

Athar el Tahir scored the match-winner on 59 minutes by rifling a low shot past Achraf Krir and into the corner of the net after a neat three-man build-up.

The triumph lifted Hilal to first place in Group B, ahead of Al Ahly of Egypt and Etoile on head-to-head records as the three contenders have six points each.

With home fixtures to come against Etoile and Ahly, a Hilal team coached by Egyptian Hamada Sedki can entertain realistic hopes of a top-two finish and a quarter-finals place.

Based in Omdurman, a city on the western bank of the River Nile opposite the Sudanese capital Khartoum, Hilal are trying for the 33rd time to win the top African club prize.

They came closest in 1987 and 1992, losing two-leg finals against Ahly and Wydad respectively 2-0 on aggregate.

Walid Soliman, the 35-year-old Ahly veteran, scored in each half to earn the record eight-time African champions a 2-0 win over platinum Zimbabwe in Cairo.

Electric atmosphere - Meanwhile, China-based Moroccan El Kaabi ended a loan spell at Wydad with a treble as Wydad fin-

ished 4-1 winners over Petro Luanda of Angola in an electric Casablanca atmosphere.

Against a backdrop of singing, flag-waving supporters, Wydad were stung midway through the second half when Brazilian Antonio 'Tony' Ribeiro equalised.

But El Kaabi netted a second time to put Wydad ahead again on 79 minutes and completed the scoring after Wilson Carmo conceded an own-goal.

Despite the convincing victory, two-time champions Wydad remained second in Group C, two points behind leaders Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa.

USM Alger of Algeria have two points and Petro one and it is difficult to imagine either club qualifying at the expense of 2016 champions Sundowns and Wydad.

Sundowns punished woeful defending to win 1-0 away to USM in Blida with captain Hlompho Kekana marking his 300th appearance for the club with the 59th-minute winner.

Mustapha Kheiraoui struck a back pass to captain and goalkeeper Mohamed Zemmamouche far too weakly and 34-year-old Kekana darted forward to secure possession and score.

In Group A, Zesco United of Zambia suffered a setback when held 1-1 in Ndola by Zamalek of Egypt, who led thanks to Mostafa Mohamed for six minutes before Quadri Kola levelled.

TP Mazembe of the Democratic Republic of Congo top the table with seven points, Zamalek have four, and Zesco and Primeiro Agosto of Angola two each.

AFP

Mourinho now rues Spurs defence in VAR-tinted draw

LONDON

TOTTENHAM Hotspur manager Jose Mourinho lamented his side's defensive miscues after a 2-2 draw on Saturday at Norwich.

Harry Kane struck a late penalty to salvage a draw against Norwich, who were controversially denied a goal by a VAR review, in an entertaining Premier League clash on Saturday.

Kane was brought down in the area and stepped up to secure a point in his 200th Premier League match after Serge Aurier's own goal had given battling Norwich the lead for the second time.

A first-half strike by the home side's Mario Vrancic was cancelled out by Christian Eriksen's free kick after the break.

"I think we made the same mistakes in the second half as we made in the first half," Mourinho told Sky Sports after the match. "This has been a little bit our story."

Vrancic's goal came after Spurs defender Juan Foyth was dispossessed by Emiliano Buendia.

"We started very, very well. I think we had three or four big chances in the beginning of the first half, but we conceded two

very bad goals -- the first one and the one that was offside.

"Then, in the second half, we were very, very good with the ball. We created, we dominated, but again the goal is a very bad one. You cannot concede as many goals as we do. But our defensive mistakes are match after match.

"I have lots of work to do but it's difficult. I always say we have to try to hide our fragilities. That is an important thing in football. If you have fragilities, you have to try to hide them."

Spurs were lucky enough to not go down 2-0 after Pukki's goal was harshly ruled out for a wafer-thin offside decision following a VAR review that left the home fans singing, "It's not football anymore."

Mourinho did praise his side for scraping out a point against a side who finds itself at the bottom of the table.

"A normal team with a normal soul would lose the game but the boys kept playing," Mourinho said in his post-match news conference. "We scored the second goal, we could have scored a third. We created chances from minute one to minute 90."

(Agencies)

Ronaldo: I'd like to be an actor after I retire

DUBAI

CRISTIANO Ronaldo has said that when he eventually retires from football, he would like to test his skills as an actor.

Speaking at the Dubai International Sports Conference on Saturday, the Juventus star revealed his ambitions following his playing career.

"One of the things that I seek to challenge myself in, for example, is acting in a movie," the Portugal captain said.

Ronaldo, ranked as the world's No.2 forward in ESPN FC 100, said that -- while he is in a position to hang up his boots at any time -- he expects to continue playing for the

foreseeable future.

He added that wants to "continue my studies after retiring from football."

Ronaldo recently became the only player in Europe's top five leagues to hit double figures in all competitions in each of the last 15 seasons. He won four of his five Ballon d'Or awards and three Champions League titles while with Real Madrid before joining Juventus in the summer of 2018. He won his first Champions League trophy with Manchester United before his move to Spain.

On the international level, he is one goal shy of 100 for his career with Portugal.

(Agencies)

West Ham's Pellegrini sacked, Leicester back on track

LONDON

WEST Ham United sacked manager Manuel Pellegrini on Saturday after a 2-1 home defeat by Leicester City put the Foxes' distant pursuit of Premier League leaders Liverpool back on track.

Tottenham Hotspur's hopes of moving into the top four stalled in a 2-2 draw at bottom club Norwich City, while Manchester United moved within a point of the Champions League places after a 2-0 win at Burnley.

Carlo Ancelotti and Nigel Pearson continued to revive their respective new clubs with Everton and Watford claiming their second Christmas wins, but once again the use of VAR dominated the airwaves and social media with further controversies.

The day's major drama came at the London Stadium where West Ham's loss proved the final straw for the club's owners, who announced Pellegrini's dismissal after the Leicester defeat.

After the result left the Hammers one place above the relegation zone in 17th place, joint chairman David Sullivan announced in a statement: "It is with great disappointment that we've had to make this decision.

"We felt it was necessary to act now in order to give the new manager as much time as possible to try and achieve that goal."

After second-placed Leicester's heavy defeats by Manchester City and Liverpool, manager Brendan Rodgers made nine changes to his side for the trip to West Ham -- the most by a Premier League manager so early in the season since 2010.

But the Foxes had too much for flimsy West Ham as goals by Kelechi Iheanacho and Demarai Gray, who also missed a penalty, helped close the gap at the top to 10 points, albeit with Leicester having played two



Manuel Pellegrini

more games than Liverpool.

The win, less than 48 hours after a 4-0 home drubbing by the Merseysiders, lifted Leicester four points above third-placed Manchester City and revealed the depth in their squad.

"It was such a quick turn-

around it was a game I felt we had to be fresh," Rodgers, without league-leading scorer Jamie Vardy who was excused duty after becoming a father again on Saturday, said.

VAR CONTROVERSY

Not for the first time in the league, several VAR in-

terventions overshadowed the action, none more so than at Norwich where the hosts thought they had gone 2-0 up against Tottenham, only for Teemu Pukki's effort to be ruled out for an offside decision not detectable by the naked eye.

Earlier, Brighton & Hove Albion's Dan Burn had a goal wiped out by VAR, although it was not costly as his side beat Bournemouth 2-0 to ease away from trouble.

Crystal Palace's Max Meyer also had an effort ruled out for offside after a VAR check as they drew 1-1 at Southampton.

Tottenham twice trailed at bottom club Norwich but Harry Kane's late penalty earned them a point.

Norwich, for whom Mario Vrancic scored early, could feel hard done by though as Pukki's goal was ruled out.

"I thought we wanted to support the attacking players and if there was any doubt it should go to the offensive players," Norwich manager Daniel Farke said.

Christian Eriksen levelled for Spurs only for a Serge Aurier own goal to hand the Canaries the lead before Kane fired in a spot kick on his 200th Premier League appearance.

Victory would have taken Tottenham above London rivals Chelsea into fourth but instead they slipped to sixth, two points behind.

TOP FOUR

While the title race may lack drama, the battle for the top four is set to be a close one and Manchester United are firmly in contention after ending the year with back-to-back wins.

United dominated Burnley at Turf Moor but did not go ahead until Anthony Martial scored in the 44th minute after an error from full back Charlie Taylor.

Sean Dyche's side put United under late pressure and David De Gea did well to keep out a low drive from Phil Bardsley before Marcus Rashford made sure of the points with a goal in stoppage time.

Everton continued to move in an upward direction under Ancelotti who has won both of his matches in charge. Two goals by Dominic Calvert-Lewin sealed a 2-1 victory at Newcastle United that lifted the Toffees into the top half.

Watford beat Aston Villa 3-0 and, despite remaining second from bottom, fans are dreaming of a great escape of the sort Pearson engineered at Leicester in 2014-15.

Pearson's side played for more than half an hour with 10 men after defender Adrian Mariappa was sent off but they already led through Troy Deeney's opener in the 42nd minute. Deeney then slotted home a penalty and Ismaila Sarr added a third.

REUTERS

Man United's positive end to 2019 ensures hopeful start to 2020

BURNLEY, ENGLAND

MANCHESTER United ended 2019 with a 2-0 Premier League win over Burnley and in doing so ensured Ole Gunnar Solskjaer will begin the most important 12 months of his managerial career on a high.

Victory at Turf Moor means United will start the new year within touching distance of the top four, but it is how 2020 unfolds that will tell you everything you need to know about Solskjaer and whether he is the right man for the hot seat at Old Trafford. The jury is still out.

This is a team capable of beating Tottenham and Manchester City and losing to Watford. Back-to-back wins over Newcastle and Burnley is an encouraging way to end the year, but the supporters travelling to Arsenal in four days' time will do so still not knowing what to expect. This is where United are, but if the ultimate goal is to challenge for the title and the Champions League, they cannot continue to be here.

In 12 months, most of the lingering questions should have been answered. Is Solskjaer a good manager who has been hampered by a thin squad? Or is it the Norwegian, rather than his players, who lacks the tools?

By December 2020, he will have had the benefit of another summer transfer window. The gaps in the squad -- most notably in midfield and up front -- should have been filled and those not up to scratch should have gone.

This is a team in transition, but Solskjaer and the club cannot hide behind that indefinitely. Talk of visions and plans has been welcomed after six and a half years of shambolic recruitment, but it is only tangible results that keep wolves from the door. There need to be considerable strides taken in the next year.

Against Burnley, there was enough to suggest it is possible.

Anthony Martial and Marcus Rashford scored again. The defence, anchored by £85 million Harry Maguire, kept a clean sheet for the first time in 15 league games. Brandon Williams, 19, was good and so was Andreas Pereira. David De Gea showed he is still one of the best goalkeepers in the world with a terrific late save to deny Phil Bardsley an equaliser.



Marcus Rashford's goal sealed Manchester United's win at Burnley. (Agencies)

Even in a state of flux, United were too good for Sean Dyche's side.

"We want to keep the momentum going," said Solskjaer afterward. "Two wins now and good response after the disappointing game against Watford. We have not lost a game straight after we have lost another one, so happy with that. Good response from the players, they are learning.

"We're getting better and improving. We've had too many draws early on and it has put us in position we're in. We've only lost once each month, and if you go a month between every

time you lose, it's not bad for a team that's learning. Tonight was a big step forward anyway."

United had to wait until the final minutes of the first half to score, but it was only by sheer fortune that Burnley managed to hang on that long. Rashford drilled a free kick at Nick Pope from 40 yards before hitting the base of the post with a whipped shot from inside the penalty area.

Martial thought he had done enough to open the scoring only for his shot to be cleared off the line by

Bardsley. Williams' cross from the left then evaded everyone when it needed only a touch into the net.

A minute before the break and Burnley reached breaking point. Pereira's ferocious pressing caught Charlie Taylor off guard and the Brazilian rolled a beautifully weighted pass toward Martial, who scored his 10th of the season.

Pereira has taken more than his fair share of criticism from some United fans this season, but he has been impressive against Colchester and Newcastle this month, and he was again here. He looks far more comfortable as the No. 10 with the insurance of two others behind him.

It is easy to forget he is still only 23 and is yet to make 50 Premier League appearances. He has work to do to show that he is entirely at home at this level, but the flashes of brilliance are becoming more and more frequent.

The scoreline would have been more comprehensive had Martial taken two second-half chances, both laid on by Pereira. And only De Gea's save from Bardsley and Rashford's 16th goal in his past 19 appearances for club and country, with the last kick of the game, made the result safe.

It is this type of performance, replicated again and again, home and away, against big teams and small, that will keep Solskjaer safe in 2020. He is facing a crucial year but it will, at least, start with hope.

(Agencies)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Vardy dilemma for Leicester as champions-elect Liverpool lie in wait

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Shiwa Lyambiko (3rd L) pictured at his residence at Mkwajuni Street in Morogoro recently. Others are (L-) a soccer fan, Lyambiko's daughter (standing), and Yanga's Morogoro branch's spokesman, Hamad Ali Islam. PHOTO: MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

Moro soccer veteran counsels young players

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

MOROGORO-based football veteran, Shiwa Lyambiko, has advised domestic junior soccer players to embrace patriotism, should they excel in the sport.

Lyambiko, who was one of dependable strikers for the then Mseto FC, pointed out the youngsters should demonstrate patriotic spirit in and outside pitch.

"I love soccer, I loved regional teams I turned out for, I played my heart out to land a place in the teams, without such a spirit nothing will be accomplished," he noted.

He called on the youngsters to concentrate on fitness training in the morning and evening, insisting the approach will help them improve their fitness prior to featuring in team training sessions.

The players are likely to find it difficult to feature in both first and second halves of a match, should they not adhere to fitness training on regular basis.

"When I turned out for Mseto FC as a right winger, there were other players battling for the spot in the first choice squad," he disclosed.

"Due to an extra training sessions I went for under supervision of from our squad's head coach, team's head coach, Mohamed Hussein Hassan, I managed to maintain the spot and none of the others were given opportunity to play in the position when I was around."

He added youths are presently expected to perform wonders since soccer is currently a lucrative profession.

He noted advancement in technology in the sport has as well given players chance to easily get knowledge on individual training regime.

He disclosed that with smartphones players can get information on training sessions with no assistance from gaffers.

Players had in the past been forced to walk long distance to look for training pitch and a coach, he added.

He asked soccer clubs in Tanzania to make full use of advice offered by veterans available across the country.

Lyambiko, who had in the past also served as a teacher at Towelo Primary School located in the region, lost his sight over 10 years ago.

Much as he lost sight over 10 years ago, he is still one of reputed soccer analysts in the country.

"I've lost sight but I'm still physically fit, I get soccer reports and games' broadcasts on radio, I later come to realize there's need the youths and soccer clubs to ask for technical assistance from veterans," he disclosed.

He noted he will never forget two goals he scored for Mainland Tanzania team in either half of the squad's Senior Challenge Cup clash with Uganda, which took place in Dar es Salaam in 1974.

His contribution on the pitch was instrumental in Mseto FC's success in domestic top flight tournament in 1970s.

He and his teammates won the domestic top flight tournament for Mseto FC in 1975.

The Morogoro squad, as a result, became the first club outside Dar es Salaam to emerge as the competition's champions, after years of Dar es Salaam teams' dominance.

Matola: Rotation at Simba is inevitable

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

SIMBA Sports Club assistant coach, Selemani Matola, has admitted that it is inevitable that they have to rotate their squad due to a tight league schedule.

After playing three matches in the past one week, Simba, aka 'the Msimbazi Reds', will end the year with one more match against Ndanda on Tuesday at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

"We played Lipuli muli FC on Wednesday, two days later we are facing KMC FC and on

Tuesday we will be up against Ndanda. It's inevitable that we have to rotate."

"We have to do these kinds of changes. We need fresh legs. The demands are extreme but we have the strength in depth to make changes," Matola said shortly before kick-off at Uhuru Stadium when the recently appointed assistant coach had been asked to explain the team selection.

A tricky tie against KMC FC seemed a strange time to make heavy rotation.

Head coach Sven Vanderbroek made eight changes to

his starting line-up after their win over Lipuli last time out on Wednesday, with only Paschal Wawa, Meddie Kagere and Hassan Dilunga retaining their starting places.

There was no place for Shomari Kapombe and Jonas Mkude in the squad.

Clatous Chama, Beno Kkolanya, Mzamiru Yassin, Sharaf Shiboub, Tairone Santos and Francis Kahata dropped down to the bench.

Haruna Shamte, who was not part of the squad last time, started in the Saturday clash. Kennedy Juma who was signed from Singida United

was also handed a rare start in defense.

Despite the heavy rotation, KMC FC were swept away as goals from Deo Kanda and Gerson Fraga sealed a comfortable 2-0 win that kept Simba seven points clear at the top of the Vodacom Premier League table.

Vanderbroek predecessor, Patrick Aussems, was criticized for his constant rotation which he always explained were inevitable due to the packed schedule.

The Belgian was accused of not having a proper first eleven amidst constant changes.



Simba's player Hassan Dilunga (L), challenges KMC FC keeper, Jonathan Nahimana, during this season's Vodacom Premier League clash, played in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

TONIGHT @ 21:00

UJENZI

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)
12:00 FUNGIKA
14:00 UTAGE
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SLEKET
17:55 KURASA
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SPORTS LIVE
22:30 BONGO HITS

Ujenzi Watch this informative show on the domestic construction process both on site construction and interior/exterior designing whilst using the latest technology and appliances that have made construction easier.

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
15:00 EA Drive
16:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Australia captain Paine lauds Pattinson 'spark' in New Zealand win

MELBOURNE

AUSTRALIA captain Tim Paine lavished praise on fiery seamer James Pattinson for lighting the spark that led to an emphatic series-sealing victory over New Zealand in the Boxing Day test on Sunday.

Pattinson, who replaced the injured Josh Hazlewood in Australia's formidable pace attack, crashed through New Zealand's top order with a three-wicket burst in nine deliveries in the morning, all but ending the Black Caps' hopes of saving the match.

He finished with a six-wicket haul in Australia's 247-run victory and teamed brilliantly with fellow paceman Pat Cummins on a much scrutinised Melbourne Cricket Ground wicket in the first innings.

It was a fine return for the 29-year-old Pattinson who was suspended for a match in the leadup to the earlier two-test series against Pakistan for an offensive sledge at an opponent when playing a Sheffield Shield game for Victoria.

He was subsequently left out of the test team as Cummins, Hazlewood and Mitchell Starc combined with aplomb in the 2-0 series defeat of Pakistan.

However, Paine said his side had "no doubts" Pattinson would slot back in seamlessly after Hazlewood broke down in the series-opener against New Zealand in Perth.

"We know the quality of 'Patto', we've said for a long time that we're very lucky to have high quality bowlers on the sidelines such as him," Paine told reporters.

"I think he was awesome today in particular, but he also bowled superbly in the first innings and built pressure with Pat at times.

"Then today when it was his turn to step up he provided the team with the spark as he does and his energy around our group is infectious."

Having thrashed New Zealand by 296 runs in Perth, Australia took an unassailable 2-0 lead in the series and will head to Sydney looking to whitewash Kane Williamson's team.

Veteran seamer Peter Siddle will not be a part of the group, having announced his retirement from internationals on Sunday.

Siddle, who took 221 wickets in 67 tests, announced his decision to the players before the start of day four on Sunday, prompting emotional tributes from team mates.

"He left everything out on the field," said Paine.

"We think he played the game of cricket the way it was meant to be played.

"We spoke to the boys this morning about carrying on his legacy, how much he loved playing for his country, how much it meant to him, and how much his team mates meant to him."

REUTERS

Flexibles by David Chikoko

