



National Pg 3 President Mwinyi's vibrancy wins many hearts



National Pg 4 Mwanza abattoir lacks clean and safe water



National Pg 7 Pangani bridge construction to start soon



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (L) exchanges greetings with Malawi's President, Dr Lazarus Chakwera, at the Bingu International Conference Centre in the Malawi capital, Lilongwe, yesterday. Photo courtesy of Tanzanian Parliament

CAG queries: PM suspends city director, nine officers

■ Wants municipality billions spent on development projects

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has suspended city director Jumanne Shauri and nine other city council officials to pave way for probing mismanagement of funds reaching over 10bn/- collected and not remitted to bank as the law provides, an anomaly noticed in the last annual

report of the Controller and Auditor General (CAG).

The premier announced the decision at a meeting with officials of the regional secretariat, along with members of Parliament for the various city constituencies ward councillors and Ilala district officials at the Karimjee Hall as

TURN TO PAGE 2

'ATCL's Guangzhou ticket prices due to Covid seat space, empty return flights'

By Guardian Reporter

THE sharp increase in fares for Air Tanzania Co. Ltd (ATCL) flights to Guangzhou, China, is due to rising costs of fuel as well as stern conditions imposed by the Chinese authorities to fight Covid-19 pandemic, Tanzania's Embassy in Beijing has declared.

In an audio message posted on the embassy's website following intense social media unease on the fare hikes, Ambassador Mbelwa Kairuki

said that transport costs to enter China have sharply risen for most business travelers owing to restrictions imposed by authorities to fight the spread of Covid-19.

This puts transporters in a difficult situation, the message intoned, noting that airlines are in many cases required to make only one trip per week with a capacity of not more than two-thirds of seats in a passenger plane. The reason is the need to keep the distance between passengers to

TURN TO PAGE 2

'Speed up IDA funds for strategic projects'

By Guardian Reporter

FINANCE minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba has appealed to the World Bank to fast track issuance of funds to facilitate timely implementation of various strategic projects.

He issued this appeal in a meeting with Dr Victoria Kwakwa, the newly appointed

World Bank vice president for Eastern and Southern Africa, whose delegation held talks headed by the minister, grouping top Treasury officials and others from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation.

The government would appreciate if the World Bank WB increases the funds disbursed to Tanzania, for the government

to be able to successfully implement strategic projects estimated to cost \$4.9bn, he declared.

He explained that the government had decided to invest heavily in productive sectors, increasing the budget for Agriculture from 200bn/- to 900bn/-, likely to economic activity in that area and create jobs. The minister acknowledged the bank's investment, reaching \$2.8bn in the country's strategic projects, expressing gratitude at the recent approval of \$2.1bn for development projects via the International Development Association (IDA-20) arrangement starting July 2022.

IDA is acknowledged to be a major source of development project funds for 76 countries, 39 of

TURN TO PAGE 2

CEO Ruth Zaipuna lands UK's Africa business leadership prize

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank chief executive officer, Ruth Zaipuna has been awarded the prestigious African Business Leadership Commendation Award for 2022 for outstanding stewardship of a rising continental commercial bank.

The CEO was awarded the UK's top business management for this part of the world by the African Leadership Magazine, the nomination having been announced earlier, to coincide with the Africa summit and African business leadership awards (ABLA), a gathering of business publicists and networking organisations.

Organisers said she was handed the prize in recognition of her efforts in enabling NMB

Bank impact positively on public welfare and its contribution to socio-economic development in the country.

The magazine is the mouthpiece of the public relations firm, the African Leadership Organization Ltd, which links the UK business establishment with the inner circles of African business activities, observers noted.

"The UK-based magazine principally seeks to celebrate African achievements and excellence by primarily focusing on showcasing the best of Africa to a global audience," the PR firm stated, whose founder and executive chairman, Dr Ken Giami, said Zaipuna was recognised for leadership excellence and making NMB an innovation leader.

Apart from being a seasoned banker with business tenacity, the NMB chief executive excelled in helping to create jobs and supported wealth generation in countries in which it operates, he stated, noting that the award decision was unanimous, after a rigorous vetting and merit-based selection process by a panel of its editorial board.

Kwame Makundi, the bank's chief of technology and digital transformation,

TURN TO PAGE 2



Kwame Makundi (L), NMB Bank Plc's Chief of Technology and Digital Transformation, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday handing over a trophy to the bank's CEO, Ruth Zaipuna. The latter was honoured with the African Business Leadership Commendation Award for 2022 at the Africa Summit and African Business Leadership Awards (ABLA), a ceremony held at the UK House of Lords in London at the weekend, with Kwame receiving it on her behalf. The award is in recognition of the CEO's exceptional corporate practices and outstanding achievements on the continent's business landscape. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



CAG queries: PM suspends city director, nine officers

FROM PAGE 1

part of his working tour of the region. Along with the city director, others suspended are Tulusubya Kamalamo (treasurer), James Bangu (accountant), Abdallah Mlwele (chief financial officer) and Mohammed Khamis (markets accountant). They are jointly suspected of mishandling 10.1bn/- collected by municipal agents but not banked.

The premier cited other officials touched by the measure as Jesca Lugonzigwa (accounts officer), Josephine Sandewa (accounts officer), Tatu Mkwangwa (messenger) and Felician Maro (assistant accountant), all suspected of being connected with 1.2bn/- loss to the municipality.

Earlier, the premier had emphasized on the need for local authorities' internal funds to be directed to development projects instead of depending entirely on funds from the central government.

Addressing the Dar es Salaam regional secretariat and Kinondoni District administrators in his tour of Dar es Salaam Region, he explained his tour on the need to meet with public officials to remind them of their responsibilities, to revitalise their work spirit, to manage their areas well, professionally and ethically.

In the 2020/21 financial year the district collected more than 40bn/- in revenue, but the government is not seeing huge projects being implemented through those funds, he stated, urging proper supervision of collections and expenditure in various development projects.

Inspecting the Sinza/Ngombe river bank development project and the Kiboko Canal in Mtogole area, he appealed to residents to preserve the environment and use the canal as a rubbish dump, directing that Kinondoni municipality officials

build small bridges to ease crossing at various places and install road lights.

He also made a visit to the Machinga clothing market at Mwenge area and a soccer field project for the municipality, with Innocent Bashungwa, the Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) assuring the premier that the ministry shall coordinate implementing of the directives with regional officials.

Earlier, the regional commissioner, Amos Makalla expressed gratitude to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for adequate funds delivered for new and improvement of old social services facilities in the region.

The region received a total of 4.5bn/- from mobile transactions toll for the development of health centres, which has been spent on new buildings for outpatients and dispensaries, he added.



Earlier, the premier had emphasized on the need for local authorities' internal funds to be directed to development projects instead of depending entirely on funds from the central government

CEO Ruth Zaipuna lands UK's Africa business leadership prize

FROM PAGE 1

represented the CEO at the event, expressing delight at the international honour, saying it means a lot to the lender and Tanzania generally. It was testimony to impact of deliberate efforts in enhancing the sector to improve lives.

In remarks aired to the ABLA gathering, the CEO said the award recognises achievements as a business leader and acknowledges the support NMB obtains from the government and the Bank of Tanzania. This has enabled NMB Bank to thrive, delivering sustainable value to stakeholders.

She described the bank as an organization with a growing reputation as a socio-economic development financier "that positively impacts the lives of so many every day," affirming that she doesn't take the responsibility and privilege lightly.

Other award recipients on the July 4 event included Lesotho's billionaire businessman Sam Matekane who bagged the Lifetime Achievement Award. Another was Dr Renganaden Padayachy, the Mauritius minister for finance, economic planning and development, who bagged the African Finance Minister of the Year award.

The African business leader of the year award was presented to Dr Akintoye Akindele the chairman of Platform Capital of Nigeria, while Peter Ashade, Group CEO of United Capital Plc received the African CEO of the Year award.

Dr Emmanuel Nwogbo, group managing director for Alfa Centauri (West Africa) Ltd in Nigeria won the African inspiration leadership impact award, while the company, MasterCard Africa, won the African business

integrity leader prize. Joao Figueiredo, CEO of Moza Banco in Mozambique won the African inspirational business leadership award.

Similarly, Dr Ifie Sekibo, CEO for Heritage Bank Plc in Nigeria, won the African business integrity leadership award; Kashifu Abdullahi, the director general for the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) also in Nigeria, won the special African leadership commendation award, while Peter Ejiofor, CEO of Ethnos IT Solutions in Nigeria won the African leadership excellence award.

Previous participants at the recent African Leadership magazine's events and editorial coverage include: Nana Akufo-Addo, Ghanaian president; Lazarus Chakwera, currently president of Malawi; David Mabuza, the South African deputy president; Goodluck Jonathan, former president of Nigeria; Patricia Scotland, the Commonwealth secretary general; Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the World Health Organisation (WHO) director general; Akinwumi Adesina, president of the African Development Bank; Adesola Kazeem Adeduntan, CEO for the First Bank of Nigeria; Dr. Akintoye Akindele, chairman of Dupont Midstream Corporation in Nigeria. Others are Mohammed "Mo" Dewji, CEO of MeTL Group in Tanzania, Ahmed Shide, Ethiopian minister for finance and economic cooperation; Samuel Tweah, Liberian finance minister; Melaku Alebel, Ethiopian trade and industry minister, along with members of the House of Commons and House of Lords in the United Kingdom; members of the House of Representatives in the United States, and other notable political and business leaders from across Africa, the magazine added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday having a first-hand account of the construction of a canal designed to tame the Tandale-kwa-Mtogole stretch of River Ng'ombe in Kinondoni District, his delegation including Kinondoni Municipal mayor Songoro Mnyonge, Kinondoni legislator Abbas Tarimba, and Kinondoni district commissioner Godwin Gondwe. Photo: PMO

FROM PAGE 1

prevent Covid-19 transmission.

Reducing the number of passengers for social distancing and higher fuel prices in the world market compels airlines to alter ticket pricing to manage the provision of travel services, he stated.

The disquiet started after ATCL announced a resumption of direct flights from Dar es Salaam to the Chinese business hub while citing ticket prices that many were saying are too high for Tanzanians to afford, in comparison with other flights.

'ATCL's Guangzhou ticket prices due to Covid seat space, empty return flights'

The pricing structure indicated that a passenger has to pay \$4,800 for economy class one-way ticket and \$6,850 for business class ticket.

The envoy underlined that there is a time passengers are required to pay round-trip prices since planes at times return without passengers on account of prevailing restrictions to enter and

leave the country.

Most Chinese people are not leaving China now due to travel restriction posed by authorities, so this brings more costs for airplanes as planes return, making operational costs unbearable, so the new prices are meant to balance the costs, he explained.

He urged the public to remain calm as the situation may not last for long, likely to decrease as the country relaxes Covid-19 conditions. Allowing airlines such as Air Tanzania to restart their routes to China is part of that relaxation, he pointed out, airing expectations that prices will drop sooner than later.



Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (L) makes a remark during talks in Dar es Salaam yesterday with Victoria Kwakwa (R), the World Bank Group's Regional Vice President for Eastern and Southern Africa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Speed up IDA funds for strategic projects'

FROM PAGE 1

which are in Africa, basically classified as poor, using the IDA concessional borrowing window, bringing positive change to the 1.6bn people living in countries benefiting from IDA loan funds.

Since 1960, IDA has supported development work in 113 countries, with annual commitments averaging \$21bn over the past three years, 61 per cent of that amount being directed to Africa.

Dr Kwakwa was starting a two day visit to meet with senior government officials and World Bank project beneficiaries to obtain feedback on the impact of the projects. At present IDA presence is comprised of 24 national projects with total net commitment of \$6.1bn and six regional projects pegged at \$780m, officials noted earlier.

The key sectors supported under the national commitments are transport (32.5pc); education (26.7%); water (9.7pc); urban development (10.1pc);

social protection (7.6pc); energy (5.4pc); environment/natural resources (2.5pc); digital development (2.5pc), along with governance and statistics (3pc). Under the regional portfolio, the main sectors are energy (81pc), education (14pc) and environment (5pc).

The IDA regional chief executive said the World Bank was satisfied with the government's thrust in productive sectors like agriculture, livestock and fisheries, noting that this promises to stimulate the country's economic growth and boost incomes.

The bank and its partners will keep up with the government's efforts through provision of funds and technical assistance, seeking to make the agricultural, livestock and fisheries sub-sectors more productive.

COVID-19 challenges and the on-going war between Russia and Ukraine have resulted in serious shortage of grain products, she affirmed, pointing out that if well prepared Tanzania can move to self-sufficiency in food production and even spare substantial amounts for export.



IPP Media and Dentsu Aegis Network Tanzania officials pose for a photo shortly after attending a business meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday. They are The Guardian Limited commercial director Ajay Goyal (L), finance manager Bernard Mshana, media partner Issack Noah, The Guardian Ltd director Joyce Luhanga (5th-L), Dentsu Aegis Network Tanzania managing director Edward Shila (4th-R), The Guardian Ltd advertising manager Angel Navuri (3rd-R), EATV/EA Radio manager of sales and marketing Roy Mbowe, and IPP Media relations manager Nancy Mwanyika. Photo: Guradian Correspondent

Mwinyi's vibrancy wins many hearts

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi's efforts in combating corruption and strengthening revenue collection systems have won many accolades from the Isles and Tanzania mainland.

"It is vivid that President Mwinyi's measures on combating corruption and strengthening tax collection systems are crucial in revamping the Isles economy and improving people's standards of living," said Kassim Masoud Ismail a business man based in Mto wa Mbu area in Arusha.

Ismail, who hails from Migombani area in Unguja, further said that President Mwinyi has achieved a lot in the mere two years in office where he has managed to restore discipline among public servants and equality among members of the society.

"I would like to encourage President Mwinyi to keep the spirit alive despite the animosity from some unscrupulous people who are trying to undermine his efforts. The future of Zanzibar economy is brighter under his leadership," he said.

Another resident of Arusha who is also a Tour Guide, Nasoro Majid Mloweni warned against high-profile persons who are pretending to advise President Mwinyi with ill motives of benefiting themselves.

"President Mwinyi's wisdom and compassion in serving people of Zanzibar irrespective of their religious affiliation and ethnicity has earned him respect and trust from people of all walks of life," said Mloweni who hails from North Pemba Region.

Mloweni who is an accountant by profession said the resistance that President Mwinyi is facing from dishonesty among businessmen is yet proof that he has acted tough on tax evasion.

Dennis Njoka who is a businessman from Darajani area in Zanzibar has expressed President Mwinyi as a visionary leader who has also been

able to maintain peace and very good relations among Zanzibaris.

"This President (Mwinyi) is a true servant of citizens. We love him because the decisions that he has been making so far are vital and targets in improving people's lives," he said.

Another analyst, Dr Paskalis Mtegete articulated President Mwinyi as a pragmatic leader who is interested in utilizing all the economic potentials of his country, especially the ones linked to the blue economy.

"What is needed is sensitization and listing all the opportunities related to the blue economy. Zanzibar is endowed with plenty of beautiful beaches and islets with potentials of investments," he said.

Dr Mtegete who is a medical doctor by profession and hailing from Njombe said President Mwinyi has significantly revamped the economy of Zanzibar and blocked all the loopholes that led to the loss of revenues.

Simtaji Zuberi Mahamud recalled former Zanzibar President Dr Salmin Amour's administration when he made bold decision welcoming investors to invest in hotels and services despite stiff resistance from those who were against the move.

"Today, everyone can be a witness on how the decision stimulates growth of government revenue collections. The former president put in a place infrastructure suitable to attract more investments flow into tourism and services sectors," said Mahamud residing in Chakechake, Pemba.

He called on President Mwinyi to keep going, saying that the last two years has won him confidence of Zanzibaris from all walks of life. The entire public was behind the president Mwinyi's economic transformational drive.

Recently Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) elders called on fellow senior citizens to support efforts being taken by President Mwinyi to revamp the economy and raise people's standards of living.

'Rural farmers are armies that protect East African countries during global epidemics'

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE biggest army which shields East African countries during pandemics is not military ones, but rather the humble peasants who produce food crops in rural farms.

That's among the findings by the East African Business Council as tabled during the regional press conference on the impact of COVID-19 on logistics, manufacturing, agriculture and tourism.

During the two and a half years of Covid-19 pandemic, global recession and lockdowns, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and the other four East African Countries remained stable

economically due to the resilient agricultural sector in the region.

"It is high time that all the East African Member States start taking farming activities seriously including allocating more funds into their respective agricultural budgets," stated John Bosco Kalisa, the Executive Officer for the East African Business Council.

Despite being usually taken for granted as a sector for the less educated majority, it was actually the Agriculture sector which shielded all East African Countries from facing recession during the two years of global pandemic.

"The whole world did suffer from

the pandemic, but inflation among East African countries remained under control because the region was food sufficient," points out Kalisa.

The mostly informal agricultural sector employs more than 80 percent of the populations in Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, South-Sudan and DR Congo.

But other than the strong agriculture sector, cohesion among partner states was yet another factor which fortified the East African Region against negative effects of the pandemic.

Still COVID-19 disrupted international and regional supply chains, adversely affecting transport and logistics sectors, in the process.

In East Africa cross-border business operations and consequently intra-EAC trade and investments were also affected but authorities rapidly moved to address the matter.

"Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, EABC partnered with Trademark East Africa on the Safe Trade Project to reduce barriers to trade within the region," added the EABC Executive.

Trademark East Africa pumped USD 32 Million in support of the Safe Trade Project.

The fund was invested in undertaking intervention measures to rescue cross-border logistics and trading activities in East Africa.



SOS Children's Villages Tanzania
P.O. Box 80462 Dar es Salaam Tanzania
www.sos-childrensvillages.org
A loving home for every child

CALL FOR PROPOSAL

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PROVISION OF INTERNET SERVICE WITH DEDICATED BANDWIDTH

1.0 Introduction

SOS Children's Villages is a child focused, non-governmental organization providing care and support to children who have lost parental care or at risk of losing parental care of their biological family. SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania is a member of SOS Children's Villages International, the largest private organization for children all over the world. In Tanzania, there are four SOS Children Villages under the SOS Family Care programme i.e. in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Zanzibar (Unguja). Other programs include: Family Strengthening, Advocacy, Education and Youth Empowerment. SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania implements its programs in six locations i.e. Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Iringa, Mwanza, Pemba and Unguja.

2.0 Overall Objective

The main objective is to engage Internet Service Provider (ISP) to provide full TCP/IP internet service with dedicated bandwidth across SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania except Zanzibar Office. The service is expected to be **highly of high quality, reliable** and stable with overall uptime of not less than 99%.

Target programme locations/Offices are:

- SOS Children's Village Dar es Salaam located at Plot 2005/5/2 Block C Sinza, TanESCO Street opposite University of Dar es Salaam,
- SOS Children's Villages National Office Tanzania located at Plot 255 Kiko Avenue, Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam.
- SOS Family Strengthening Office located at, Chanika Ward, Dar es Salaam,
- SOS Children's Village Arusha located at Ngarantoni Urban area, Old Forest Rda, Arusha,
- SOS Social Centre Arusha located at Ngarantoni Urban area, Arusha,
- SOS Social Centre Mwanza located at Bugarika nearby Igelele primary school
- SOS Children's Village Mwanza located at Bugarika, Mwanza.
- SOS Children's Villages - Iringa, located at Iringa town near Toyota Office.

3.0 Technical requirements

- Dedicated bandwidth requirement is as follows:-
 - 20 Mbps for SOS Children's Village Dar es Salaam located at Plot 2005/5/2 Block C Sinza, TanESCO Street opposite University of Dar es Salaam,
 - 40 Mbps for SOS National Office Tanzania located at Plot 255 Kiko Avenue, Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam,
 - 15 Mbps for SOS Family Strengthening Office located at, Chanika Ward, Dar es Salaam,
 - 20 Mbps for SOS Children's Village Arusha located at Ngarantoni Urban area, Old Forest Rda, Arusha,
 - 15 Mbps for SOS Social Centre Arusha located at Ngarantoni Urban area, Arusha,
 - 15 Mbps for SOS Social Centre Mwanza located at Bugarika nearby Igelele primary school
 - 20 Mbps for SOS Children's Village Mwanza located at

Bugarika, Mwanza.

- 10 Mbps for SOS Children's Villages Iringa, located at Iringa town near Toyota Office.
- Provisioning of static Public IP addresses for each Programme Location
- Connection is **fiber optic** starting from the ISP to the internet backbone plus a backup link on every location.
- All necessary hardware, cabling and software (if required for Internet service) should be provided and set up by the provider.
- ISP must be able to manage the Customer Premises Equipment (CPE)
- No limitations on traffic/ports; bandwidth capacity should be ensured through direct IP connection.
- Data confidentiality guarantee; internet service provider may not scan traffic
- Seven days a week, 24 hours per day and 365 days per year coverage for technical assistance and/or helpdesk facilities.
- Any problem should be resolved within a maximum of 1 to 3 hours after the notification.
- It is preferable if the ISP has a physical presence, including availability of technical support, in all the locations of SOS Children's Village in Tanzania listed above.
- The ISP must have a Network Monitoring System and provide access to SOS Children's Village technical team for monitoring purposes as well.
- ISP should provide a clear alternate or fallback options when their backbone providers are disconnected from Internet
- Free and unlimited technical support
- Latency from the SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania/all locations to Innsbruck, Austria shall be no more than 60ms (<=60 -> 4, <=80 -> 2, >80 -> 0)
- Traffic management, network monitoring and access to raw log files
- Relevant experience in provision of services in nature >=6yrs -> 5 or else 0
- Provide direct support personnel with the Line manager details

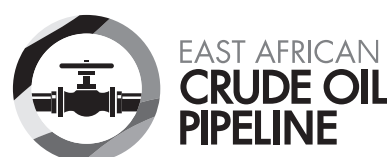
4.0 Requirements:

- 5-6 years of working experience with Government, local or INGOs in Tanzania
- Proof of three related ongoing contracts
- Physical address & contacts of supporting helpdesk in each location as it's mentioned
- Have a valid license (Business registration and Tax Clearance)
- All documentation to indicate its full operations in Tanzania issued by Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA).
- Company profile

5.0 Submission of Proposal:

All interested/qualified vendors/ISP are invited to submit their **technical and financial proposal** physically to SOS Children's Villages, National Office P.O. Box 80462 White Star Tower, Ground Floor Wing B, Kiko Avenue, Mikocheni, Dar-es-Salaam, on or before **Monday, 18th July 2022 at 17:00 EAT.**

216939501



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: TRAVEL SERVICES FOR EACOP REFERENCE NO. 0010007769

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Ltd, an Oil and Gas company, invites experienced and reputable organizations to express their interest in providing Travel Services and arrangements covering air tickets, car hire and associated booking to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania, to Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

- Design a tool and/or platform for on-line booking services covering accommodations, car hire, ticketing and conference booking
- Provide information on appropriate mode of transportation, accommodation arrangements, car hire, cost and generation of itineraries.
- Be on standby 24/7 to resolve travel issues, complaints, and refunds as and when they arise from the client.
- Provide 24/7 services to the client.
- Maintain client information and financial records.
- Be in position to provide alternative arrangements if changes arise before or during the trip to the client

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax (TRA) Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Previous experience doing similar works of facility management for International companies/corporation
- Provide financial statements for the previous financial year

Companies which have the ability, capacity and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to procurement.tz@eacop.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before 15:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on or before 23rd July 2022. Email subject should be 0010007769.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.

All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.

216939501

Government commends Barrick on CSR activities

By Francis Kajubi, Mara

THE government has commended Barrick Gold Corporation for its contribution to the country's economy and in equipping host communities surrounding the mining areas through community social responsibility (CSR).

Treasury Registrar Benedicto Mgonya said the mining company that operates in 16 countries globally had between 2020 and 2022 issued an estimated 200 billion/- in dividends to the government.

Mgonya revealed the news at a media briefing occasion organised by Barrick at the weekend to shed insights on the current company's operation performance.

"Barrick stands to be the best investor in the country's mining sector. The government is benefiting a lot with the company's existence in Tanzania through royalties, taxes and service charges," said Mgonya.

Minerals Deputy Minister Steven Kiruswa who graced the event as the guest of honor commended Barrick for its dedicated support to the host communities whereby almost US\$7million has been remitted by the company to finance health and water projects in North Mara vicinity.

"The government through the joint venture of Twiga Minerals Corporation and Barrick Gold Corporation has created a strong bond within the three years of collaboration," said Kiruswa.

According to him, the mining company has already disbursed another 5.6bn/- through community social responsibility that the government is setting proper mechanisms of how the money will reach benefiting communities without any kind of embezzlement in between.

Addressing journalists on the company's progress on Sunday, Barrick President and Chief Executive Officer Mark Bristow said that since the company took control of North Mara and Bulyanhulu in September 2019, its total in-country investment has totaled US\$1.995 billion.

According to him, in the first half of this year, Barrick has paid US\$158million in taxes, royalties and levies, US\$42million in distributions to the government in the form of dividends and shareholder loans as well as US\$210 million to local suppliers. It has also now paid \$140 million of its US\$300million settlement with the government.

"When we took over these mines

they were a moribund burden on the government and their investors. In a very short time, we redesigned and re-engineered them, creating what are in effect two new mines," he said adding.

"They are well placed to deliver their annual production guidance and have the potential to achieve a combined Tier One status in Barrick's portfolio, meaning that they are capable of producing at least 500,000 ounces of gold annually for more than 10 years at the lower end of the cost spectrum as a combined complex".

He asserted that the company is continuing to replace resources depleted by mining and are targeting new opportunities as well, increasing its footprint around Bulyanhulu through the acquisition of six highly prospective licences.

It is also updating the geological models in the North Mara region and identifying potential targets elsewhere in Tanzania.

He said in line with Barrick's policy of local employment, Tanzanian nationals now account for 96 percent of the two mines' workforces and 64 percent of their senior management are Tanzanians.

The mines are also driving the increased employment of women in a traditionally male-dominated industry through targeted recruitment and development programmes.

"Barrick has committed US\$6 for every ounce of gold sold by the two mines to improving healthcare, education, infrastructure and access to potable water in their communities.

A further \$70 million has been allocated to investment in value-adding national projects, including mining related training and scientific facilities at Tanzanian universities," affirmed Bristow.

During the past quarter Bulyanhulu was named the overall winner of the Tanzanian OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Authority) award for 2022 while North Mara received the award for the best community health outreach programme.



It is also updating the geological models in the North Mara region and identifying potential targets elsewhere in Tanzania

UN projects world population to reach 8 billion by November 15

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Nations (UN) has said that the global population is projected to reach 8 billion on November 15, this year, with India projected to surpass China as the most populous country in 2023.

In a statement on the World Population Day, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said: "It is a reminder of our shared responsibility to care for our planet and a moment to reflect on where we still fall short of our commitments to one another."

The growth rate is at its slowest since 1950, having fallen under 1 percent in 2020, according to the World Population Prospects 2022.

The world's population could grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030 and 9.7 billion in 2050 and peak at around 10.4 billion during the 2080s, and countries in sub-Saharan Africa are expected to contribute more than half of the increase through 2050, said the report.

More than half of the projected increase up to 2050 will be concentrated in eight countries: the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and the United Republic of Tanzania, it added.

"Rapid population growth makes eradicating poverty, combatting hunger and malnutrition, and increasing the coverage of health and education systems more difficult. Conversely, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, especially those related to health, education and gender equality, will contribute to reducing fertility levels and slowing global population growth," said Liu Zhenmin, UN under-secretary-general for Economic and Social

Affairs.

Fertility has fallen markedly in recent decades for many countries, the report said, noting that two thirds of the global population today lives in a country or area where lifetime fertility is below 2.1 births per woman, roughly the level required for zero growth in the long run for a population with low mortality.

Due to sustained low levels of fertility and, in some cases, elevated rates of emigration, the populations of 61 countries or areas are projected to decrease by 1 percent or more between 2022 and 2050, it said.

The share of the global population at 65 and above is projected to rise from 10 percent in 2022 to 16 percent in 2050, it said.

"Countries with aging populations should take steps to adapt public programmes to the growing proportions of older persons, including by improving the sustainability of social security and pension systems and by establishing universal health care and long-term care systems," the report noted.

The average global longevity is projected to be around 77.2 years in 2050 with further reductions in mortality, as 2019 saw a global life expectancy at birth of 72.8 years, an improvement of almost 9 years since 1990.

However, in 2021, global life expectancy at birth fell to 71 years, due mostly to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the life expectancy in the least developed countries lagged 7 years behind the global average.

Since 1990, World Population Day has been observed on July 11 to raise awareness of issues related to population growth around the world.



Barrick President and CEO Mark Bristow makes remarks at a press briefing held at North Mara gold mine in Tarime District at the weekend, chiefly on the firm's performance. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Nyakato abattoir has no water for nearly 3 weeks'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

TRADERS and workers at Nyakato abattoir in Nyamagana District, Mwanza Region are forced to go with buckets of water to clean the meat due to lack of water supply service in the area for nearly three weeks.

The abattoir that cost 900m/- to build until completion has no water service for the slaughtering machines, other general cleanliness as well as cattle offloading within the entire fence.

Addressing the traders at the abattoir yesterday, Mwanza City Council Mayor, Sima Constantine admitted on the existence of the problem and pledged to find solution thereof.

He said he will speak to Mwanza

Urban and Sanitation Authority (MWAUWASA) to make sure water is available at the slaughterhouse.

He also pledged to speak to Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) in order to improve the infrastructure of the area and that in regard to the fence: he will speak to Mwanza City Director to set aside funds as well as for the installation of the slaughtering machines.

The mayor, who visited the abattoir at 4:00 in the morning witnessed workers working in very difficult environment due to lack of essential services, in particular water.

He said water had been available at the abattoir but to its disruption for more than three weeks. "I will speak to MWAUWASA on how to solve this

problem as soon as possible because it was caused by the burst on the main pipeline that supplies water to the abattoir," Mayor Constantine said.

"In regard to the infrastructure issue, I will speak to TARURA people to improve it so as it becomes friendly for those working at the abattoir," he said.

Airing their complaints to the mayor, some workers at the slaughterhouse and other officials called on the government to solve the challenges due to health considerations.

"We have been working in a very difficult environment here, we are forced to come here with buckets of water from our homes to clean the meat and the entire working area," said Francis Kinyundo, one of the workers.

"At this abattoir, we are faced with

many challenges, the biggest one is lack of water, as this threatens our own health and that of consumers, roads are virtually impassable, there is no fence, while the area for offloading the cattle is very dangerous, as sometimes the animals break their legs when being offloaded thereby causing much difficulties in sending them to the slaughterhouse," he added.

Another worker, James John said despite the abattoir being a modern one and cost 900m/- there is no water, but also it lacks cattle slaughtering machines.

Addressing reporters who came to the area, the abattoir's manager, Kamilius Bajuga confessed facing these challenges.

The construction of the abattoir was completed August 15, 2018 and serves residents of Ilemela and Nyamagana districts.

President samia Suluhu Hassan, who by then was Vice President once directed Mwanza City Council to install modern machines at the abattoir, but to date nothing came of it.



Dar es Salaam Region's economic and production administrative secretary, Dr Elizabeth Mshote, and Unilever Tanzania CEO David Minja (R) display the latest brand of the firm's OMO washing powder soap at a function held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Mwinyi calls upon public to support orphans

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has suggested the need for the community to create a better environment for orphans that will give them opportunities and relieve them of the sadness and desolation of their parents.

Dr Mwinyi made the suggestion yesterday when speaking at the luncheon meant for orphans, which was made possible by Nuru Foundation in collaboration with the Grand Mufti's Office of Zanzibar at the Mao Tse Dong grounds.

In his speech, Dr Mwinyi called

upon teachers in all religious and educational centres to set aside special rooms for caring orphans and children with special needs.

Dr Mwinyi asked parents and guardians to put more efforts in caring for orphaned children as well as teach them how to live with the public.

"This will be possible if we build a strong foundation for them from a younger age while they are at school, Madrassa and other child keeping centres so that we all know that it is a responsibility of everyone," he said.

Dr Mwinyi hailed Nuru foundation for the efforts currently ongoing to strengthen childcare and wellbeing of

children in all regions in Unguja and Pemba.

The leader gave a nod to a request to set up a special day for such an event to take place yearly saying this will help resource mobilization which facilitate formulation of a special fund for the matter.

"We all believe that effective use of resources will help Zanzibar to remain peaceful but also continue to record economic development as we have witnessed in the past years," he added.

According to Dr Mwinyi, historically religious holidays have been used as a tool to help the needy in Zanzibar saying most of the time elders and

other religious institutions used the opportunity to feed the needy.

During the event, Dr Mwinyi donated 10m/- from the 50m/- which was required and led in a fundraising campaign which generated more than the amount. The chairperson for the committee Zainab Othman Masoud spouse to the Zanzibar first Vice President Masoud Othman Masoud hailed the participating audience including the higher office.

Religious leaders at the event called for the need for caring for the orphans warning on the consequences of misusing funds meant for such purposes.

UNFPA for end to norms seen discriminating against people

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has called for transforming discriminatory norms that hold individuals and societies back in order to have economics that work for all people instead of few.

UNFPA Executive Director Dr Natalia Kanem said that yesterday in Dar es Salaam when conveying the message to mark the World Population Day.

She said the theme set by the United Nations for this year's World Population Day was, 'A world of 8 billion'.

She said achieving demographic resilience starts with a commitment to counting not just numbers of people but also opportunities for progress and barriers that stand in its way.

"People are the solution, not the problem. At UNFPA, we advocate for measuring and anticipating demographic changes. Each country should have the information it requires to meet the needs of diverse population groups and ensure that individuals can realize their full potential," she said.

She said when people have the power to make informed choices about whether and when to have children, when they can exercise their rights and responsibilities, they can navigate risks and become the foundation of more inclusive, adaptable and sustainable societies.

"Achieving this demographic resilience starts with a commitment to counting not just numbers of people but also opportunities for progress and barriers that stand in its way" she added.

She explained that the World Population Day offers a moment to celebrate human progress, adding that despite its challenges, it is one where higher shares of people are educated and live healthier lives than at any previous point in history.

Furthermore, societies that invest in their people, in their rights and choices, have proven time and again

that that is the road to the prosperity and peace that everyone wants—and deserves.

She said focusing only on population numbers and growth rates often leads to coercive and counterproductive measures and the erosion of human rights, for example, women being pressured to have children or prevented from doing so.

Furthermore, It can deepen already acute inequalities, such as through policies shutting down reproductive health care or denying adequate pensions for the elderly, further marginalizing the most disenfranchised," she said.

According to her, a growing number of countries face population ageing, and roughly two-thirds of the world's population now lives in a country or area with below-replacement fertility, or fewer than 2.1 births per woman.

Others have youthful and growing populations. And more people are on the move, either by choice or driven by crises ranging from conflict to climate change. Understanding the shifts was critical to harnessing opportunities and mitigating potential downsides.

UN Secretary General, António Guterres said, "Reaching a global population of eight billion is a numerical landmark, but our focus must always be on people"



Achieving this demographic resilience starts with a commitment to counting not just numbers of people but also opportunities for progress and barriers that stand in its way

Z'bar govt vows to take stern measures against illegal sand extractors

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar Government says it will take stern measures against any person who will be found dealing in sand business in violation of the laid down laws.

Briefing reporters here at the weekend during the inauguration of a new sand quarry, Zanzibar Deputy Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals, Shaaban Ali Othman said his ministry has already issued instructions in regard to accessing to the natural resource and that the people are required to purchase sand according to the laid down system.

He said since the sale of the non-renewable resource is done by the government and not private people, stern steps will be taken to anyone who will be found engaging in the business.

Othman said the government has put in place special procedures in opening up and closing sand quarries and the

people are required to purchase the resource via <https://madinismz.go.tz/> which he said is the only procedure for anyone wishing to buy sand.

He said on July 9 2022 his ministry has opened a new sand quarry at Bumbwini Misufini area belonging to Juma Mwinyi family in Zanzibar North District "B" for the use by the people.

"The ministry is opening up this quarry and has closed the quarry belonging to Asha Ibrahim at Donge Mchangani that has been in use by the people," Othman added.

He explained that the indicative price for a tonne of sand is 10,000/-, 7,000/- of which will be paid through the Ministry's account, and 3,000/- to be paid to the owner of the area.

He said there are many conditions in opening up a sand quarry, one of which is that the land area should be legally owned thereafter experts will make an assessment, as it should not be near the sea, cemetery area or a forest reserve.



Motion Africa operations manager Abubakar Mruma (2nd-L) briefs Energy minister January Makamba (in glasses) on the running of electric cars. This was at the on-going 46th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

RC Makalla expresses government readiness in supporting investors

By Henry Mwangonde

DAR ESALAAM Regional Commissioner, Amos Makalla has expressed government commitment to support investors who are ready to invest in the country through creation of a conducive environment for doing businesses.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday when he attended an event to rebrand

OMO, a product by Unilever Tanzania Limited Makalla said President Samia Suluhu Hassan has issued a plan which focuses on having clean cities.

"Unilever is among the key development stakeholders, we are already working with them in a campaign to make Dar es Salaam city clean which is among the key issues under president Samia's agenda," he said.

In the speech which was read on behalf by Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) responsible for Production and Economy Dr Elizabeth Mshote.

Managing Director of Unilever Tanzania, David Minja said the company conducted research on the market which led to the changes in the detergent soap Omo among the brands which the company sells in Tanzania.

"We have embarked on a plan to support government clean city agenda, therefore we are engaged in providing support to hygiene and cleanliness campaign through our products," he said.

Minja said the rebrand of unilever's biggest laundry brand has signals the beginning of a cleanest and greenest product yet, with plans to engage millions of young people in taking positive action on the things they care about.

Unilever is one of the leading suppliers of food, home, beauty and personal care products across East Africa, has been in existence for the last 80.



Dr Saada Mkuya Salum (2nd-R), Minister of State in the Zanzibar President's Office (Finance and Planning), exchanges ideas in Zanzibar yesterday with DCB Commercial Bank managing director Godfrey Ndaluhwa (L), and head of marketing and communication Rahma Ngassa. This was on the sidelines of a roundtable conference that brought together the chief executives of financial institutions from both the Mainland and Zanzibar. The focus was on opportunities related to the blue economy initiatives pioneered by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi. The function was held in the Isles yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Two schools in dire need of water in Handeni district

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Handeni

TEACHERS at Kisaza and Handeni high schools in Handeni district have appealed to authorities in Tanga region to help them get reliable clean and safe water services, saying the shortage contributes to increased school running costs.

In separate interviews, teachers are concerned that monies being spent to purchase the precious liquid would have been directed to other expenditures.

Kisaza high school is located at Kwamkongwa ward and Handeni district.

They claimed that currently, schools

are getting water from the Handeni Trunk Main (HTM) project sourcing its water from the Pangani River Basin in Korogwe district.

According to them water services from the HTM project are not reliable as they are only enjoying tap water once per week.

Headmaster at Kisaza high school,

Imam Said claimed that the school spends nearly 700,000/- to purchase water from local suppliers.

"We also need water wells as a permanent solution, authorities should consider improving water services especially at schools," he said.

Kisaza high school with a total of 214 students teaches two major

combinations—History, Geography and Kiswahili (HGK) and Chemistry, Biology and Geography (CBG).

Handeni high school Headmaster, Sichone Lusibi asked the government to take the issue seriously because the school has a total of 1,254 students and 55 workers. He said students are now fetching water from unsafe sources

including dams. "The demand for water at my school is high as the number of students increases every day. Water services from the HTM project are not reliable, thus forcing us drinking water at 230,000/- per 15,000 litres," said Lusibi.

The school teaches Physics, Chemistry, Biology (PCB), Chemistry, Biology and Geography (CBG), History, Geography and Kiswahili (HGK) and History, Geography and Literature (HGL).

Manufacturing firms from China sign MoU with local companies to boost food items processing capacity

By Francis Kajubi

EIGHT manufacturing firms of equipment and machineries required by investors in establishing agricultural products processing and milling plants have entered a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with local firms to widen the scope of food products processing capacity.

The Chinese firms from Shandong province of China have entered the MoU with GSB Smart Doors Limited and EFL Tanzania Company Limited to widen the scope in processing wheat, maize flour, paddy, groundnuts and nutritious fortified flour.

Addressing reporter in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the ongoing 46 International Trade Fair (DITF), East African Commercial and Logistic Center (EACLC) Director General Cathy Wang, said that the MoU comes after China had found potential opportunities in the agriculture value chain especially on the value addition and marketing components.

"The agriculture sector in Tanzania offers a number of opportunities that gives local and foreign investors a reason to inject their money in the whole value chain," said Wang.

According to her, this year's DITF has proved the 52 Chinese companies from the Shandong province that agricultural machineries and equipment offers a great potential for the business community to explore and prosper.

She mentioned the Chinese firms as Shandong Xingfeng Flour Machinery Limited, Shandong Xwqiyu Daily Chemicals Co. Ltd, Sino-Agri ShengBang Agricultural Production Materials Co Ltd and SMS Co Ltd.

Others are Weihai Zhihuigang International Trade Co Ltd, Ahandong Wuzheng Group, and Shandong Haisheng Jingmi Jine.

"Production of enough and durable equipment can help entrepreneurs in the agriculture value chain to explore markets through value addition. Most of the equipment can be used to establish machinery that can process 20 tonnes of maize or paddy," said

Wang.

She asserted that her office has already communicated with manufacturers in China to start manufacturing steel sheets so that the products could soon be brought in the country as market opportunities grows.

Deputy Minister of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements, Ridhiwani Kikwete applauded China for bringing products that not only favor the agriculture sector, but also the construction sector especially materials that facilitated building of residential houses and commercial ones.

"My ministry is happy with Chinese companies that are bringing new technologies that are cut across different sectors," said Kikwete.

He noted that the initiative will at large contribute in strengthen the bilateral relationship between China and Tanzania.

According to him, more foreign firms are needed to partner with the private sector and the government institutions to expand businesses in the country.

"It's really encouraging to see that investors' courage increases especially with President Samia Suluhu Hassan's regime. Conducive policies are initiated within the short period since she has been in office, she has revived foreign investors' confidence," added Kikwete.



Production of enough and durable equipment can help entrepreneurs in the agriculture value chain to explore markets through value addition. Most of the equipment can be used to establish machinery that can process 20 tonnes of maize or paddy

Pope Francis calls upon the church in East, Central Africa to ensure mother Earth safe

By Beatrice Philemon

HEAD of the Catholic Church POPE Francis has called upon the church in East and Central Africa to form strategies aimed at reducing harm to the environment to ensure that Mother Earth is protected from degradation.

In his message read on behalf by Cardinal Luis Antonio the Prefect-Congregation for the Evangelization of People from the church's headquarters at Vatican, Rome, Italy during the 20th assembly of the Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in East Africa (AMECEA) Pope Francis said countries in the region can easily address the matter if they work collectively.

"Environmental degradation in the region is high, my special message to AMECEA members is 'give them my love and peace, I encourage the church in the region to take systematic solutions in controlling degradation so that nothing is changed on our mother earth,'" said Cardinal Antonio.

He called on Archbishops, bishops and others who will attend the assembly to use this opportunity to share experience on environmental conservation and degradation and come up with the best solution that will help AMECEA's countries to address the matter.

"We are gathered in Tanzania to discuss issues relating to environmental issues because we see lack of caring of environment in many countries across the world, we see a lot of conflicts, violence and environmental degradation is very high," he said.

The mass was also attended by Minister of Land, Housing and Human Settlements Development, Angelina Mabula, Minister of Finance, Mwigulu

Nchemba, priests from different Catholic Churches from Zanzibar and Tanzania mainland, religious associations, cardinal from Nairobi, Ethiopia, Italy and followers.

About 120 Bishops from nine countries are attending the AMECEA assembly beginning which began on Sunday, top among agenda being environmental conservation.

The nine AMECEA member states include Tanzania, Ethiopia, Malawi, Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea.

Data shows that despite various efforts to conserve the environment, degradation is at an alarming rate in various parts of the country saying studies have shown that there are areas in Tanzania where every single day a percent is lost in forests due to charcoal burning.



We are gathered in Tanzania to discuss issues relating to environmental issues because we see lack of caring of environment in many countries across the world, we see a lot of conflicts, violence and environmental degradation is very high



George Simbachawene, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), follows up the implementation of postal residential address system at Mpwani in Kibakwe constituency, Mpwapwa District, yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Zanzibar SWIL project enhances accountability in leaders - report

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE implementation of the project for mobilising women in leadership (SWIL) in Zanzibar has been cited as a solution that spurs accountability in leaders in dealing with various challenges facing the people.

Submitting their six-month report for January to June this year, Community mobilisers have said when they started the job they faced many challenges facing the people with many failing to raise their voices and not knowing what to do.

The meeting for submitting the report was held at Jang'ombe School attended by the mobilisers from both

Unguja and Pemba.

Imran Mohamed, one of the participants from Unguja said when they went to the Shehia (ward) of Mlandege, many people complained on the lack of water supply services and through the campaign they were able to raise their voices and ultimately the water challenge was solved by the area's Member of Parliament, Mohamed Suleiman.

Imran said for a long time in the past the area had acute shortage of water and through campaign they have been able to persuade their MP to provide various equipment that have enabled them to solve the problem.

He added in the past six months they were also able to empower many women to stand up and raise their voices in regard to their feeling, the procedure which they did not think of in their lives.

He added that through the project, great accountability will be realised that will push along development from the Shehia to the national level as well as empowering many women to vie for leadership positions.

Moza Rashid, another mobiliser said in other areas the people had identity cards as Zanzibar residents saying the situation posed challenges for many of them in accessing various services.

She cited an example of the Shehia of Mkwajuni saying during their meetings they discovered that 34 among them had no Zanzibar IDs while claiming they often face various challenges to get them.

She said through their project, they were able to help them get their IDs with many receiving them while some still were still pursuing them.

The SWIL project for mobilising women participate in leadership positions is being implemented by Tanzania Media Women association Zanzibar (TAMWA-ZANZIBAR), Zanzibar Women Lawyers association in collaboration with the Norwegian Embassy in Tanzania.



Levi Msemwa (L), an integrated services coordinator with a village community bank project implemented in Moshi District by Tusonge CDO Development Agency, explains how they managed to reach out to 540 beneficiaries in Njiapanda ward by yesterday's conclusion of project. Photo: Godfrey Mushi

ADDIS ABABA

AT least 7 million livestock have died across drought-affected Horn of Africa (HOA) countries, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) has disclosed.

"At least 7 million livestock, which pastoralist families rely upon for sustenance and livelihoods, have died across the region," the UNOCHA said in its latest humanitarian update for the Horn of Africa issued on Monday.

As the impact of the ongoing drought on the region's livestock numbers mounted with the worsening emergency situation, more than 1.5 million livestock in Kenya, between 2.1 million and 2.5 million in southern and south-eastern Ethiopia, as well as 3 million more in Somalia have died,

UN: 7 million livestock died across HoA nations affected by droughts

according to figures from the UNOCHA. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) had recently warned that the drought-induced livestock deaths are consequently affecting children's development as they have less access to milk, eventually negatively affecting their nutrition. It said malnutrition rates are rising across the three affected countries, in which more than 7.1 million children are currently acutely malnourished, including about 2 million children who are severely acutely malnourished.

The UNOCHA also warned that the situation could further deteriorate as forecasts indicate that the October-December 2022 rainy season could also fail, leading to "an unprecedented and catastrophic situation, the likes of which has not been witnessed in the Horn of Africa in recent history."

Amid the continued drought conditions, communities in the region are facing the threat of starvation following four consecutive failed rainy seasons in parts of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia -- a climatic event not seen in

at least 40 years.

The UNOCHA said at least 18.6 million people are already experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity and rising malnutrition across Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. This figure could increase to 20 million by September.

Amid the worsening drought, more than 11.6 million people cannot access enough water for drinking, cooking and cleaning across the region, including 4.4 million in Ethiopia, 3.9 million in Somalia, and 3.3 million in Kenya, according to the UNOCHA.

Have go at science subjects, Dr Mafumiko tells students

By Correspondent James Kandoya

CHIEF Government Chemist, Dr Fidlice Mafumiko has advised students to venture more on science subjects because of its important in building the nation.

Dr Mafumiko made the advice in Dar es Salaam over the weekend when handing over different prizes to 36 Form Four students who performed well in biology, physics and chemistry subjects during their 2020 national examinations and Form Six students who sat for their final examinations in 2021.

He said science was an important tool towards technological development adding that without it no country in the region can develop.

He outlined the authority's plans to continue awarding the best students to complement government efforts of ensuring the country produces more experts.

He said the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) decided to complement the government's efforts by putting in place a mechanism to recognize students who perform well in the subjects in order to motivate them to pursue their studies in Biology, Physics and Chemistry.

Dr Mafumiko said that the awards also aimed at encouraging students to study hard because the country needs more scientists to run industries which are the drivers of development.

"The government is making efforts to ensure that children have access to education at all levels and provides opportunities for science students by allocating them to special schools," he said.

"Our role is to complement what

has been done by the government to ensure students' goals are achieved," he said, adding that since its inception in 2007, a total of 312 students who performed well in the subjects have been awarded as well as 36 teachers in recognition of their contribution to the students' performance.

GCLA Board Chairperson, Prof Ester Rugwisha said science was important in human life and that science fields need competent people who study Chemistry, Physics and Biology at secondary school levels who will join universities and colleges in various science professions.

Prof Ester said during the ceremony, the best three female and male's students in each subject were given awards in the ceremony, celebrated for fifteen years consecutively.

She said the GCLA handed over certificates and cash prizes to inspire more students to pursue science's subjects, to increase the number of experts and to motivate and inculcate a culture of students to pursue science subjects, especially girls.

"We call on other stakeholders to join efforts made by the authority so far, to ensure more students pursue science subjects- physics, chemistry and biology in future," she said.

She said that those who performed well in form four examinations, the winners received 700,000/- each for the first places, 650,000/- for the second winners and 600,000/- for the third winners.

Likewise, in the form six examination, first winners received 800,000/- each, second winners received 750,000/- and third ones walked away with 700,000/-. Teachers and others received 700,000/-.

Narco seals contract with Oman-based meat company to enhance cooperation

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE National Ranching Company (NARCO) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Oman-based Al Bashayer Meat Company in readiness for the bilateral trade of live animals, meat as well as other livestock products, such as skin and hides, to mention but a few.

The vital development which is projected to play a meaningful role in helping improve performance of the country's livestock sector has surfaced following the recent visit by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to the Middle East nation.

NARCO's Managing Director (MD), Prof Peter Msoffe said in an interview that through the trading tie, Tanzania will stand a better side to benefiting a lot in terms of getting and familiarizing with modern livestock technologies.

"Apart from exporting live animals, meat and other livestock-related products, the Oman side has assured to help us to adopt and make effective use of modern technologies, purposeful for assisting us to meet the set standard in slaughtering as well as meat packaging," Prof Msoffe informed.

He said the state-owned company was implementing numerous projects to help improve quality of its service delivery with an eye to ensuring the country is reaping benefits of the vital looming international livestock market.

"The government during the 2022/23 fiscal year has set aside a reasonable budget to revamp the performance of NARCO. With the fund, we're expecting to run diverse initiatives for expanding quantity and quality of our performance, basically, in readiness to cater for the envisaged lucrative Oman-market demand," he assured.

With the recent move by the government of Saudi Arabia to lift a ban that lasted for at least 21 years on importing from Tanzania meat and relevant products, Prof Msoffe expressed optimism that the country's livestock trading sector was indeed moving towards an impressive destination.

Moreover, in further good development, the Oman firms have shown interest to extend their investments into Tanzania, in meat processing and modern fish farming.

Since last year, Tanzania saw impressive investment pace in the livestock sector from diverse large

stakeholders from Arabian sides, basically emerging as a result of a meeting between President Samia Suluhu and Saudi's Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan.

Among others, the investments included the Egyptian-owned \$10 million Tan Choice meat processing factory in the EPZ near Dar es Salaam region, with a capacity to slaughter 1,000 head of cattle and 4,500 goats and sheep per day, and produce 100 tonnes of beef daily for the export market of United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, China, Indonesia, Vietnam and Malaysia.

Others are the Al-Kaffir of Oman and the Tanzania Meat Company (TMC), both in Dodoma Capital City. The latter has a capacity to slaughter 400 cattle and 6,000 goats and sheep daily.

Moreover, Mwanza-based Chobo Investment Factory, which opened two years ago, has capacity to slaughter at least 600 cattle and 920 goats per day.

Currently, Tanzania has at least four meat processing plants that are operating below their capacities, not crossing the 30 percent of installed capacity owing to failure to get international markets.

Tanzania is targeting to grow the gross domestic product input from the livestock business from the current 7.4 percent to 15 percent GDP by 2025.



The government during the 2022/23 fiscal year has set aside a reasonable budget to revamp the performance of NARCO. With the fund, we're expecting to run diverse initiatives for expanding quantity and quality of our performance, basically, in readiness to cater for the envisaged lucrative Oman-market demand



An eye care specialist from Arusha Region's Mount Meru referral hospital attends to a Monduli resident during a free eye camp held at the facility at the weekend under Al Ata'a Charitable Foundation sponsorship. Photo: Correspondent Cynthia Mwilolezi

Don't hide PWDs during census, Iringa residents asked

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

RESIDENTS in Iringa Region have been asked to stop hiding people with disabilities (PWDs) so that they are also counted in the 2022 August 23rd National Population and Housing Census.

Special Seats legislator Ritta Kabati (CCM) made the appeal over the weekend when addressing participants at the PWDs conference held at the municipal garden grounds.

Kabati who is the Director of the Ritta Kabati Trust Fund organised

the meeting to educate people on the importance of participating in the forthcoming national counting exercise.

Kabati said people with disabilities have a responsibility to participate in the census exercise as it will help the government to get accurate statistics on the number of PwDs, thus making it easier for them to benefit with various opportunities available in government including loans, education, entrepreneurship training and many others.

Iringa Regional Commissioner,

Queen Sendiga said it is important that the group participates in the coming national census calling upon families living with PWDs to make sure they are counted.

"People with disabilities shouldn't be left to stay inside your houses; you should not hide them because we want every Tanzanian to be counted on August 23rd," she said.

Earlier, Iringa Municipal Council Statistician, Raymond Nyanzwa said the census will help the government to get accurate statistics on people with disabilities, thus knowing their

challenges and how to resolve them. CCM National Executive Committee member, Theresia Mtebele said the party is committed to provide education through its leaders at ward, district, regional and national level. He urged Iringa residents to make sure they all participate in census.

The census exercise helps the government to obtain basic information that will support implementation of the national 2025 development vision and reforms in various sectors.



M-Pesa director Epimack Mbeteni (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend receiving a digital insurance licence from Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority insurance commissioner Baghayo Saqware. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Pangani bridge construction to start soon - Tanroads official

By Correspondent George Sembony, Pangani

CONSTRUCTION of the long awaited 525 meter bridge across the Pangani River is slated to start soon following the signing of a contract between Tanzania Roads Agency (TANROADS) and Chinese construction company-M/s Shandong Luquiao Group Co Ltd two months ago.

TANROADS' acting regional manager, Eng Zuhura Amani said that the bridge is part of the African Development Bank (AFDB)-funded project Tanga - Saadani- Bagamoyo Highway and is to be built at tune of 82.19bn/-.

Eng Zuhura said that the contractor

is currently making preliminary preparations for the commencement of the construction work that is scheduled to take 36 months, explaining that LEA International Limited (Canada) would be the project consultant jointly with LEA Associates South Asia (India) in cooperation with RAY Associates Ltd of Tanzania.

Eng Zuhura said that the construction of the bridge is the lot 2 of the construction of the 256 km Tanga - Pangani-Saadani- Bagamoyo (Makurunge) highway, noting that the bridge construction project would include construction of 14.3 km approaches, a 5.9 km spar road to

Uashingo and 5.4 km of Pangani town roads.

Pangani District Council Chairperson, Akida Bahorera thanked the government for listening and acting to relieve Pangani residents from their long cry of a road that would open the district to investment.

"We're in a cave but now we will definitely fly," said DC Bahorera.

Pangani residents depend on a ferry to cross either side of the historical town but according to some residents the bridge enables them to move more goods between either sides of the town at will.

Special Seats Councilor, Fatma Issa

Masawila lauded Pangani MP, who is a minister for Water Jumaa Aweso for his concerted effort to ensure that the road is to be built in the area.

The road according to Fatma will connect them to Tanga and Dar es Salaam.

Pangani District Commissioner, Ghaib Ringo appealed to residents to take the construction of the road and bridge as a challenge to increase efforts to utilize the road infrastructure to cultivate and sell more goods to city centres.

"Pangani residents must conduct a self evaluation. They must work harder to see the impact of the road," he said.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

PURA opening likely to work better with property reforms

ONE positive news item during the latest festival season, the religious event and the trade fair, is registered buoyant mood among local entrepreneurs eyeing the oil and gas sector, who are pleased with efforts by the Petroleum Upstream Regulatory Authority (PURA). This is a relatively new entity in the area, taking up long constrained demands, raised extensively during the past decade, chiefly for promoting them with opportunities, where one aspect is ability to work with big investors in the sector. These are still early days in the area but it makes sense to map out preliminary issues, not learn by failing. Upstream operations involve gas exploration, drilling and bringing to the market, while downstream operations follow from the time the oil or gas is 'flowing' on a relatively flat gradient into the market.

Some interviewed investors said things have improved and it is now easier to venture into that field, with the close support they receive from the government. This was at the ongoing 46th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF), where they explicitly said they earlier faced challenges of lack of trust.

Foreign companies now tend to give more trust to the work of local firms, advising the newcomers how to operate in the sector, thus strong relationships are being forged and opportunities in the sector being taken up. They explicitly credited their new found abilities to interact positively with foreign investors to preliminary

work by the new regulatory entity. Yet it was unclear how far it will be feasible for "other companies and the youth to stop being reluctant to enter in the industry as there are good opportunities."

There are more of opportunities, being trusted in the work by foreign firms, which means the work is complementary rather than in competition with foreign companies in upstream activities. There is hence an air of relaxation about taking up such opportunities and even the feeling that there are plenty of such openings, implying that local firms are being handed subcontracting work for projects essentially in the hands of large foreign firms. If it was different competition would be cited. Debates in the early years of the past decade revolved around local firms taking up exploration or drilling as investors in their own right. A modus vivendi appears to have been forged now.

Whatever the parameters of the carving out of opportunities for local firms in ways that don't seem to contest prerogatives of foreign private firms in the sector, it is possible the modus operandi has hidden limitations to the growth of local firms, or in their cooperation with foreign firms. The point here is that a more open structure where foreign firms have the capacity to purchase local firms having an established level of goodwill shall help the market to grow. Alternatively, Tanzanian entrepreneurs ought to be able to buy shares into foreign firms, that is, if their local operations are converted into shareholding entities.

Feed blocks innovation need livestock and modernisation for generalisation

CHANGE is in the air for the local livestock sector as the Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI) moves into research and production of locally-made complete feed blocks, where cattle can consume measured grass and other ingredients on zero grazing basis. Researchers there say the project is targeted to assist indigenous pastoralists to feed their livestock more professionally at affordable costs. Strictly speaking, the proper use of that method would shift them from being 'indigenous' to just 'local.'

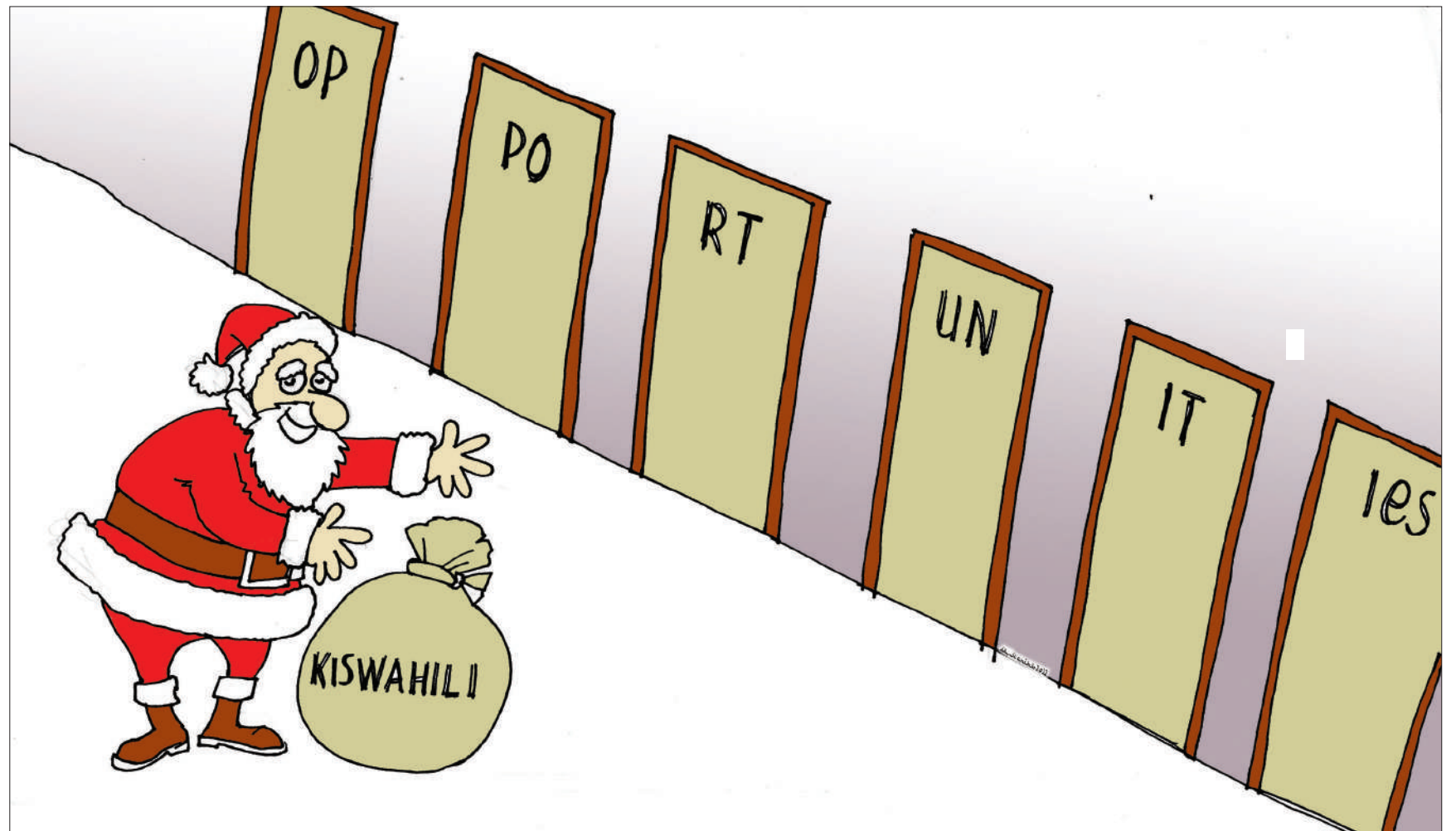
Being 'indigenous' involves being unable or unwilling to steer clear of the traditional setting of livestock herding, namely a migratory life in seek of pastures for overwhelmingly large herds of cattle. The resettlement project for a portion of Ngorongoro livestock keepers tries to combine the two approaches, where each of the nearly 250 (if not more) planned family houses is surrounded by three hectares of land for livestock use. Additionally, there are community herding zones beyond the specific housing locations.

Researchers say the feeding block is an alternative to blocks essentially made from minerals, saying the blocks are fairly expensive. Yet if the feeding is essentially one of minerals it would lack plenty of what is routinely needed for a balanced diet, including a substantial intake of carbohydrates, which a feeding block evidently assures. If anything, the minerals block was an additional input, as dependence of haphazard grassland can't ensure an adequate input of vital mineral requirements for balanced feeding.

Still, for this method of feeding to make the difference it potentially harbours, it is evident that livestock keepers be resettled at specific places as they no longer need to move around in search of grass. Selling one big cow or bull at close to 0.8m/- could purchase feed for a considerable period of time, but this will be possible when all land use is mapped out and registered by local authorities and the general land use map with central government authorities. Eliminating the search for grass eliminates the right to migrate.

In that context a livestock keeper can migrate by first travelling to find out where he wishes to settle, then come for his cattle, and definitely he will have to find quite serious reasons for such a move. In general such a wish can be discounted if there is grass where a livestock keeper is registered on a specific plot of land, and can purchase feed blocks during dry seasons, or for special purposes. Usually mapped don't take much time before they have reliable water supply, and contracting loans to dig well will be simpler.

Explaining, the researchers say the feeding block refers to solid products containing roughage and mineral concentrates in desired proportions, capable of fulfilling nutrient requirements for cattle or other domesticated dairy animals. They are technically seen as a catalyst or supplement, enabling a more balanced supply of the main nutrients, listed as energy, nitrogen, minerals and vitamins for animals. When such 'balancers' are in place, getting large grass producers harvesting multiple times a year will be equally feasible.



Top fertiliser producer promises to hold key to the world's food supply

By MICHAËL TANCHUM

MOROCCO has a large fertiliser industry with huge production capacity and international reach. It is one of the world's top four fertiliser exporters following Russia, China and Canada.

Fertilisers tend to divide into three main categories; nitrogen fertilisers, phosphorus fertilisers, potassium fertilisers. In 2020 the fertiliser market size was about US\$190 billion.

Morocco has distinct advantage in the production of phosphorus fertilisers. It possesses over 70% of the world's phosphate rock reserves, from which the phosphorus used in fertilisers is derived. And this makes Morocco a gatekeeper of global food supply chains because all food crops require the element phosphorus to grow. Indeed, so does all plant life. Unlike other finite resources, such as fossil fuels, there is no alternative to phosphorus.

In 2021, the global phosphorus fertiliser market amounted to about US\$59 billion. In Morocco, the sector's 2020 revenues amounted to US\$5.94 billion. Office Chérifien des Phosphates, the producer owned by the Moroccan state, accounted for about 20% of the kingdom's export revenues. It is also the country's largest employer, providing jobs for 21,000 people.

Morocco plans to produce an additional 8.2 million tonnes of phosphorus fertiliser by 2026. Currently production is at about 12 million tonnes.

The state company recently announced that it would increase its fertiliser production for the year by 10%. This would put an additional 1.2 million tonnes on the global market by the end of the year. This will significantly help markets.

But, as I argue in a new report, Morocco faces new challenges. Its production of fertiliser is threatened by increasingly daunting environmental and economic challenges. They include the COVID pandemic and the severe supply chain disruptions that have followed.

The timing to address these is crucial. Russia is currently the world's largest fertiliser exporter - 15.1% of total exported fertilisers. And fertiliser represents one of the greatest vulnerabilities for both Europe and Africa. For instance, the EU27 (all of the 27 member state of the European



Union) as a whole depends on Russia for 30% of its fertiliser supply. Russia's advantageous position is amplified by its status as the world's second-largest natural gas producer. Gas is a main component of all phosphorus fertilisers as well as nitrogen fertilisers.

Because of this, Russia's invasion of Ukraine has serious implications for global food security. Both in terms of supply, and also because fertiliser can be used as an economic weapon or tool.

Morocco could therefore become central to the global fertiliser market and a gatekeeper of the world's food supply that could offset the attempt to use fertiliser as a weapon.

The journey

Morocco started to mine phosphorous in 1921. During the 1980s and 1990s it began to produce its own fertiliser. Office Chérifien des Phosphates built the world's largest fertiliser production hub in Jorf Lasfar on Morocco's Atlantic coast.

Before the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine war, the company had over 350 clients on five continents. About 54% of phosphate fertilisers bought in Africa come from Morocco. Moroccan fertilisers also account for major domestic market shares in India (50%), Brazil (40%) and Europe (41%). India and Brazil have reached out to Morocco to fill additional supply gaps.

Morocco's economy has reaped the benefits of the transformation into an international fertiliser exporting giant. And in sub-Saharan Africa in particular, the combination of joint venture partnerships in local fertiliser production and direct outreach to farmers has resulted in a remarkable

nitrogen fertiliser.

This means the price of natural gas massively affects production costs. But Morocco has scant natural gas resources. And natural gas prices have been soaring.

How well Morocco manages the food-water-energy nexus will affect both its own economic development and the stability of food supplies across the world.

Some answers

The key is to expand its renewable energy sector. Morocco holds considerable solar and wind resources. Fertiliser manufacturing could become powered by renewable energy, and renewable energy could be used within the fertiliser itself.

In 2020, the state's fertiliser company covered 89% of its energy needs by co-generation (producing two or more forms of energy from a single fuel source) and renewable energy sources. Its aim is to eventually cover 100% of its energy needs in this way.

Renewable energy could also be used within the fertiliser itself. Instead of importing ammonia derived from natural gas, Morocco could produce its own using hydrogen produced from its domestic renewable energy resources.

According to the state company, 31% of its water needs are met with "unconventional" water resources, including treated wastewater and desalinated seawater.

Morocco's growing reliance on desalination plants to satisfy industrial, agricultural and residential needs will require sizeable new investments in power generation from renewable energy sources. Desalination plants require 10 times the amount of energy to produce the same volume of water as conventional surface water treatment.

To sustain operations and expand green ammonia production, Morocco will have to strike a careful balance between its fertiliser exports, its drive to expand its high-value agricultural exports and the provision of drinking water to its population.

Using its large solar energy resources to power green hydrogen and green ammonia production, along with desalination, Morocco could escape the vicious cycle of the upward spiralling of prices in the food-energy-water nexus.

Michaël Tanchum, Associate Senior Policy Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations and Professor, Universidad de Navarra

boost to African agricultural yields.

It's also expanded Morocco's soft power influence across the continent. For instance, Morocco supplies over 90% of Nigeria's annual fertiliser demand.

But, how well Morocco manages challenges to the industry will affect both its own economic development and the stability of food supplies across the world.

The challenges Water and energy constraints

Phosphate extraction and fertiliser production uses a lot of energy and water. Morocco's phosphate and fertiliser industry consumes about 7% of its annual energy output and 1% of its water.

But Morocco is among the countries suffering the most from water scarcity. This is due to a dry climate, high water demand, climate change and reservoir contamination and siltation.

Morocco is trying to address this through a National Water Plan 2020-2050. It envisages building new dams and desalination plants and expanding irrigation networks, among other measures, to sustain agriculture and ecosystems. It's estimated to cost about US\$40 billion.

Natural gas costs

Nitrogen is the other basic fertiliser element that plants need. Diammonium phosphate, the most popular type of phosphorus fertiliser worldwide (and which Morocco makes along with monoammonium), is composed of 46% phosphorus and 18% nitrogen. Natural gas accounts for at least 80% of the variable cost of

HARARE

Two-decade-old Washington sanctions leave Zimbabweans suffering, triggering protests

OPPPOSITE the U.S. embassy northwest of the Zimbabwean capital of Harare sits an anti-sanctions camp marking 1,200 days of protest. On July 4, the organizer of the camp – Broad Alliance Against Sanctions (BAAS), organized a demonstration outside the U.S. embassy compound while the Americans were observing their Independence Day.

"We're demonstrating against the Americans for celebrating their Independence Day while we are suffering because of their sanctions," said protestor Jesca Vhiyai, a BAAS member and mother of five.

The 48-year-old woman spoke out partly due to the agony afflicting millions of Zimbabweans from decades of sanctions imposed by the United States and its western allies.

The anti-sanctions lobby BAAS said their camp set up on March 29, 2019, would only be removed when the sanctions are lifted.

The sanctions against Zimbabwe have been piled on since 2001, following a government decision to repossess land from minority white farmers for redistribution to landless indigenous Zimbabweans.

Though the Zimbabwean government said the land reform would promote democracy and the economy, Western countries launched repeated sanctions with little regard for the average person's suffering.

Over the years, Zimbabweans have spoken out against the sanctions. BAAS is one of the staunchest. "So we are here to stay until they remove these illegal embargoes that they have enforced on our nation," said BAAS spokesperson Sally Ngoni.

"We realized that most industries closed due to sanctions, meaning that sanctions are actually the major cause for all our other problems in Zimbabwe," she said.

Ngoni said they would soon build an anti-sanctions village at the campsite, which will be molded along the traditional African huts in rural areas, adding that they want the Americans to "feel the pinch" by seeing firsthand how the sanctions

have impacted the lives of the poor.

According to BAAS Chairperson Calvern Chitsunge, officials from the U.S. embassy have tried to bribe the group's four leaders. "They even offered us money," Chitsunge said, noting the American staff have promised them each 100,000 U.S. dollars, a car and free accommodations at a location of their choosing.

"We said no. Paying us will not empower the 15 million Zimbabweans. Paying us will not change our industry," he said. "We want our industry to function. We want our people to go to school. We want our people to seek medication which will be affordable."

The U.S. embassy in Harare did not comment on the alleged bribe in its reply to Xinhua. Linda Masarira, president of the Labour Economists and Afrikan Democrats (LEAD) political party, said sanctions have been used as a tool of economic warfare against Zimbabwe.

"It was an action that the United States of America decided to do on Zimbabwe to ensure that they make our economy scream, they make things hard for Zimbabweans and imply that black Zimbabweans, native Zimbabweans cannot do their own farming, or run their own economy," she said.

When asked about the impact of the sanctions, the U.S. Embassy in Zimbabwe directed Xinhua to a 2021 briefing by U.S. State Department spokesperson Ned Price in which he repeated that the sanctions target only 83 individuals and 37 entities, denying the Zimbabwean people as the targets.

However, the sanction-induced economic mire has inflicted a myriad of real challenges on Zimbabweans, especially amid an unprecedented global pandemic.

"The sanctions are slowing down our progress, inhibiting our economic recovery and punishing the poorest and most vulnerable in our society," said Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

Celia Rukato, founder of Chjaa Enterprises, a textile print and garment manufacturing company based in Harare, is one of the entrepreneurs suffering under sanctions.

Like many modern retailers, her brand promoting a Zimbabwean identity has utilized online platforms to reach a more extensive customer base in and outside Zimbabwe. However, payment options have been a problem due to Western sanctions.

"There are certain companies that are not allowed to interact or work with Zimbabwean-based companies," she told Xinhua, citing U.S. firm PayPal.

"We have to make alternative plans that cause the customers to pay more for transaction costs or a middleman's commission in a third country," said Rukato, adding that these barriers have made Zimbabwe-based startups miss opportunities and funding.

In early June, The Herald newspaper reported that Andela, an international job placement network for software developers, had denied Zimbabwean national Michael Nyamande's attempt to join the service because he resided in a country under U.S. sanctions.

"Sanctions are actually targeted at the ordinary men and women in the street, in the townships, in the rural areas," said Obert Gutu, member of the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission and former deputy minister of justice and legal affairs. Describing the sanctions as a weapon of mass destruction, Gutu said Zimbabwe has failed to build new roads, hospitals, clinics or even rehabilitate old infrastructure because it "has been denied access to affordable finance by international institutions." "Since 2002 when the sanctions were effected, this economy has never been the same again because the most deadly effect of sanctions on Zimbabwe was just to first and foremost paint Zimbabwe as a pariah state," said Gutu.



Members of the Broad Alliance Against Sanctions hold anti-sanctions placards in front of the U.S. embassy in Harare, Zimbabwe, on July 4, 2022. Xinhua

Denford Mutashu, president of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Retailers, said the sanctions had a devastating impact on the Zimbabwean economy and the competitiveness of local businesses. "The business operating environment changed for the worse, and foreign direct investment ceased to flow into the country," he said. "We will not allow the U.S. to continue lying to the people of Zimbabwe that the sanctions are targeted," LEAD President Masarira said. On a public occasion in March 2022, Zimbabwean Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube said the country is reeling from the effects of sanctions. "Banks lost over 100 corresponding resources. We experienced massive loss of jobs, and we were unable to create jobs easily."

The minister said foreign direct investment was 95 million dollars in the 1990s before plummeting to around 20 million yearly in the 2000s.

Given the distressing effect of the sanctions on the viability of businesses in Zimbabwe, there have been outcries against the economic punishment in and outside the country. "You cannot do much when you are under a yoke," said Mutashu, adding that some regard the sanctions as a new form of neo-colonialism. "We should be seeing countries being able to determine and chart their own destiny according to their own traditional cultural, political, socio-political and socio-economic backgrounds," Mutashu said, urging an immediate removal of the sanctions.

Led by President Mnangagwa, Zimbabweans embarked on a march to demand an end to foreign sanctions in 2019, which has gained support from various regional and international organizations. In a statement released in October last year, Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission Moussa Faki Mahamat said the AU calls "for the immediate and unconditional removal of sanctions imposed against the Republic of Zimbabwe."

The Southern African Development Community, a 16-country regional bloc, has designated Oct. 25th of each year as Anti-Sanctions Day since 2019 to show solidarity with Zimbabwe against illegal Western sanctions.

The United Nations special rapporteur on unilateral coercive measures, Alena Douhan, also called for the lifting of the sanctions after her 10-day visit to Zimbabwe to assess the impact of the sanctions in October last year.

"Over the last 20 years, sanctions and various forms of over-compliance with sanctions have had an insidious ripple effect on the economy of Zimbabwe and on the enjoyment of fundamental human rights, including access to health, food, safe drinking water and sanitation, education and employment," Douhan said.

Despite minimal progress with several individuals and state entities removed from the sanctions list, mainly by the European Union, Zimbabwe and its anti-sanctions fighters have never given up.

"We have seen some institutions such as the Infrastructural Development Bank of Zimbabwe being removed from the sanctions list as well as some individuals," said BAAS spokesperson Ngoni, who is confident that their efforts yielded some results. "We can't really say it was a direct result," said Ngoni, "but it did contribute to the removal of those sanctions."

Hong Kong to make new achievements on new starting point

JULY 1, 2022 marks the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland. Twenty-five years ago today, Hong Kong returned to the embrace of the motherland. This ended past humiliation and marked a major step forward toward the complete reunification of China.

Since the very day of its return, Hong Kong has been re-integrated into China's national governance system, embarking on a broad road along which it and the mainland draw on each other's strengths and pursue common development, and starting a new era featuring a high degree of autonomy.

Thanks to the support of the motherland and with an international vision and an innovative spirit, Hong Kong has in the last 25 years continued to develop itself as a modern metropolis. The practice of "One Country, Two Systems" in Hong Kong, like the growth of a seedling, has become strong and robust despite wind and rain and yielded many fruits.

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the CPC Central Committee and Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, proceeding with a strategic view and bearing in mind the big picture, have made a series of important remarks and major decisions on the work related to Hong Kong. The practice of "One Country, Two Systems" has gained new experiences and progress.

Under the support of the Central Government and the mainland, as well as the joint efforts of the government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and the people of Hong Kong, the special administrative region has constantly developed its economy

and consolidated its status as an international financial, shipping and trade center. The democratic rights and freedom enjoyed by Hong Kong citizens are better guaranteed, and progress has been made in all aspects of Hong Kong.

When Hong Kong faced an extended period of damaging social unrest, the CPC Central Committee with comrade Xi Jinping at the core has taken a series of major decisions, based on a clear understanding of the situation in the region. These include enhancing the central government's exercise of overall jurisdiction over the special administrative region in accordance with the Constitution and the Basic Law, and to improving relevant systems and mechanisms for enforcing the Constitution and the Basic Laws. The CPC Central Committee has pushed for the establishment and improvement of the special administrative region' legal systems and enforcement mechanisms for safeguarding national security, the enactment of the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the HKSAR, the refinement of the electoral system of the HKSAR, and the implementation of the principle of patriots governing Hong Kong. The Central Committee supported the special administrative regions in improving the oath-taking system for holders of public office. These measures address both the symptoms and root causes of the unrest, and have restored order to Hong Kong.

Practices have fully proved that "patriots governing Hong Kong" must be followed in order to ensure long-term stability of "One Country, Two Systems." It is a fundamental principle concerning national sovereignty,



Photo taken on June 28, 2022 shows an installation marking the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland in Hong Kong, south China. July 1 this year marks the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland. File photo

security and development interests, as well as the long-term prosperity and stability of the HKSAR.

Only when Hong Kong is governed by patriots, can the Central Government effectively exercise overall jurisdiction over the special administrative region, and the constitutional order established by the Constitution and the Basic Law well protected.

Only when Hong Kong is governed by patriots, can deep-rooted problems be addressed and Hong Kong's long-term stability ensured.

One who has waded through a muddy road knows the value of a broad path; one who has weathered rains and storms cherishes the warmth of sunshine. The extraordinary experience of Hong Kong in the past 25 years since its return to the motherland fully proves that the implementation of "One Country, Two Systems" is conducive to protecting the fundamental interests of the country, of Hong Kong and of Hong Kong citizens.

General secretary Xi pointed out that despite challenges over the past 25 years, the practice of "One Country, Two Systems" in Hong Kong has been a resounding success.

The CPC Central Committee will keep unwaveringly implementing "One Country, Two Systems." As progresses are made and relevant systems improved, "One Country, Two System" will further release its advantages and achieve greater success.

The destiny of Hong Kong has always been intricately bound

with that of the motherland, and the development of the country has always been the foundation for that of Hong Kong.

The motherland, being open and enjoying rapid development, is completely able to offer a strong impetus for Hong Kong to expand advantages, broaden development space and tackle challenges.

In particular, the country's efforts to build a new development paradigm, advance Belt and Road cooperation, deepen the construction of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and implement the 14th Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development and Long-Range Objectives through the Year 2035, are creating new important opportunities for the development of Hong Kong.

Embarking on a new journey, the Central Government will further improve the policies and systems that support Hong Kong to pursue complementary advantages and coordinated development with the mainland, promote institutional innovation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, give play to the unique role of Hong Kong in the Belt and Road construction, improve the policies and measures facilitating Hong Kong citizens' study, employment, entrepreneurship, and life in the mainland, and optimize cooperation mechanisms between Hong Kong and the mainland in various aspects.

Facts will keep proving that as long as Hong Kong stays committed to the basis of "One Country" and well leverages the benefits of "Two Systems," and find its position in national development, it can surely foster new advantages, play new roles, achieve new development, and benefit its citizens with development outcomes.

For Hong Kong, "One Country, Two Systems" is its biggest advantage, and the reform and opening up its largest platform. In the reform and opening up in the new era, Hong Kong enjoys a special status and unique advantages, and will play an irreplaceable role. Such status and role will become only more important.

Today, Hong Kong has returned to the right track of development. Hong Kong citizens need stability and security. Being at a crucial stage of advancing toward prosperity, the special administrative region will further give play to its advantages in its market-oriented, international and law-based environment, talents, cultural diversity, infrastructure and business environment.

Hong Kong compatriots completely have the capability and wisdom to manage, construct and develop Hong Kong well, and will play an important role in national development and even on the world stage at large.

They will keep joining the country's reform and opening up with patriotism and pioneering spirit, and definitely achieve better personal development as Hong Kong integrates into the national development.

After a 25-year journey that witnessed ups and downs and achieved fruitful results, Hong Kong has come to a new starting point today.

General secretary Xi stressed that the central authorities' resolve to fully and faithfully implement the principle of "One Country, Two Systems" has never wavered, still less will it change.

Today's Hong Kong enjoys a foundation more stable than in any other period of history. It can better protect national sovereignty, security and development interests, and better maintain its long-term stability and prosperity.

At present, China has embarked on a new journey to build itself into a modern socialist nation in all respects and achieve the Second Centenary Goal. Hong Kong will definitely see a brilliant future as China pursues its great rejuvenation.

We believe that Hong Kong compatriots will carry forward the glorious tradition of patriotism, forge ahead with the people of all ethnic groups across the country and open up new prospects of "One Country, Two Systems." Hong Kong will make new achievements on the new starting point and contribute to the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

By Malik Samuel

ON 5 July, the Boko Haram breakaway faction Islamic State West Africa Province (Iswap) led a successful attack on a well-secured prison in Nigeria's capital, Abuja. The group shot its way into the Kuje Medium Security Custodial Centre after overpowering security guards in a well-coordinated assault.

The government said 879 detainees escaped, including all 68 imprisoned Boko Haram members. About half the escapees were recaptured, one confirmed to be from the violent extremist group.

The attackers may have responded to Islamic State's (Isis) call in April to free jailed fighters. Detained Ansaru (an al-Qaeda affiliate in Nigeria) members are also believed to have escaped.

This is the latest in a string of high-profile strikes that question the government's ability to protect its citizens. The attack came hours after President Muhammadu Buhari's convoy was targeted by bandits in his home state of Katsina. Less than a week before, attackers invaded a mine site, killing about 40 security personnel and abducting four Chinese nationals. And a month ago, unknown shooters killed 40 worshippers in a church in Ondo State.

Last week's prison break, the fourth in a year, is perhaps the most significant incident for Nigeria, the Lake Chad Basin and beyond, considering that it involved Boko Haram detainees. The region is facing a surge in terror attacks, notably from Iswap. The group has expanded and become the region's prime security threat.

This isn't the first time Boko Haram has targeted detention facilities. In December 2013, the group attacked the Maiduguri air force base, freeing its members and destroying five aircraft. Three months later, the terrorists bridged Maiduguri's well-fortified

Giwa army barracks, freeing detained members.

How was Iswap able to carry out this latest attack? Kuje is one of Nigeria's most secure prisons. The Nigerian Correctional Service said that at the time of the attack, the jail was guarded by soldiers, police, Civil Defence Corps, the State Security Service and the prison's armed squad.

The facility is less than 50 km from the presidency, and over 800 km from Iswap's comfort zone, Borno State in north-east Nigeria. The operation's resources (both human and material), planning and coordination would have been massive. The group's success shows its strength and determination to spread terror beyond Nigeria's northeast.

Could Iswap have had help from inside the prison or the security forces? Buhari was visibly angry when he visited the prison after the attack. He questioned the intelligence system in place, the attackers' easy access to the facility, and their ability to leave without a trace. The arrest of two police officers who allegedly communicated with Boko Haram after their escape suggests there may have been collusion.

Former fighters who had left the group told the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) that while one of the escaped terrorists



A total of 1,486 people in Nigeria were victims of insecurity in January 2022 – 915 of whom were killed and 571 kidnapped. (Photo: daysoftheyear.com/Wikipedia)

was in jail, he communicated easily with Iswap members outside. The detainee – reportedly a pioneer member of Boko Haram – apparently owned a cellphone that he used to send dozens of messages, especially sermons, through voice notes, to Iswap members.

ISS security monitoring in the Lake Chad Basin shows that over the past year, follow-

ing Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau's death, Iswap has sought to expand its territories beyond the eight Boko Haram-affected regions. These are Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states in north-east Nigeria; North and Far North regions in Cameroon; Lac and Hadjer-Lamis regions in Chad; and Diffa Region in Niger.

The growth has seen the group establish new cells in Nigeria – Fufore Forest in Adamawa State, Falgore Forest in Kano State, north-west Nigeria, and an unidentified location in Kogi State, north-central Nigeria.

Already the results are clear. For the first time since its formation in 2016, Iswap has carried out attacks in Taraba, Kogi and Niger states and Abuja. These were all in 2022 and outside the BAY states (Borno, Adamawa and Yobe), with new cells spearheading the strikes. ISS data reveals that the Taraba State attacks were conducted by the cell in Fufore, while the Kogi, Niger and Abuja incidents

were led by the Kogi cell.

Using these cells, Iswap significantly reduces the risks and logistical requirements associated with attacks far from its Borno State base. For instance, the 200 km distance from Fufore to Jalingo, the Taraba State capital, is less than half the 450 km distance between Borno and Taraba state.

The ISS data also suggests that the Kuje prison break involved a collaboration between Ansaru and Iswap. Ansaru, which is affiliated with al-Qaeda, wants to work with Iswap. And while Iswap is receptive, it requires Isis's backing to ally with Ansaru. In the interim, the two groups have maintained informal communication. Ansaru has been touting its reconnaissance on Kuje prison and another facility holding Boko Haram members in Niger State.

ISS hasn't been able to verify that Iswap has accepted Ansaru's overtures, but the two may have worked together, even if only for the jailbreak. Ansaru's familiarity with Nigeria's northwest and north-central regions is an advantage. Also, Iswap's Kogi cell is relatively new and small, according to ISS sources in the area. So joining forces to free their members would be a win-win for Iswap and Ansaru.

While the jailbreak investigation continues, authorities must consider the attack's implications. Iswap and Ansaru would see this as a major victory and morale booster, especially as some escapees were pioneer Boko Haram members. These senior figures bring leadership skills that could deliver more recruits and attacks.

The government must urgently work to prevent these violent extremist groups from amalgamating and counter the threat if they do join. Both groups share common enemies – the state and non-Muslims.

So far, officials have responded to the jailbreak with shock, condemnation and the usual promises of bringing perpetrators to justice. That isn't enough. The government must review its counter-terrorism strategy, which has proved ineffective and was last assessed in 2016. Every region in the country now faces security threats, and those tasked with protecting Nigerians should be held accountable. **DM**

How much true power will the future SA presidency hold?

By Stephen Grootes

WHOEVER takes over from Cyril Ramaphosa will probably have even less direct political power than he appears to have. This apparent weakening of the centre demonstrates important dynamics in our politics. It also reveals that the era of an 'all-powerful president' in our politics may be coming to an end.

AS the country continues to examine the causes and consequences of the 2021 riots in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng, many are trying to gauge the real political power held by President Cyril Ramaphosa. He appears to be under pressure for all manner of reasons, not least the sheer ineptitude of his government in solving our power crisis.

It is clear that whoever takes over from Ramaphosa will probably have even less direct political power than he does currently. This apparent weakening of the centre demonstrates several important dynamics taking place in our politics. It may also reveal the era of an "all-powerful president" in our politics coming to an end.

There can be no doubting the power held by our immediate past presidents, and how they directly impacted on our lives in important ways.

It is accepted by almost everyone that the trigger for last year's violence was the incarceration of former president Jacob Zuma. If anyone else had been in his place, there would have been a much less bloody outcome.

Even before that, Zuma had demonstrated his power by simply enacting an agenda of corruption through State Capture. If there is one thread running through the revelations and findings of the Zondo Commission it is that Zuma played the central role – he allowed it and enabled it to happen. He was able to ensure that the ANC, as Zondo put it, "permitted, supported and enabled corruption".

Throughout the Zuma era, he manifested his power in many ways, not the least of which was the number of supporters who came out for him during his campaign to be ANC leader, and the huge bump in support his party received during his time in office when KZN voters opted for the party.

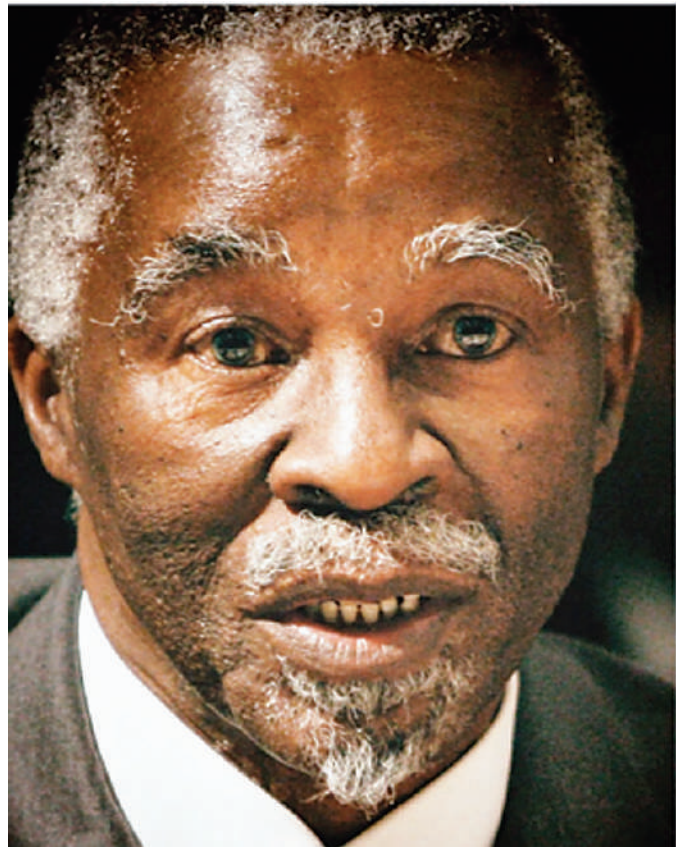
Mbeki in the right gear

Before Zuma, former president Thabo Mbeki was able to do the same. Using his political power, he was able to force through the Gear budget of 1996 (what the SACP still calls the "1996 Class Project").

But, more than that, in the face of vociferous opposition from the civil society, Mbeki was able to enforce his bizarre views on HIV/AIDS, a move that cost hundreds of thousands of lives. This was despite almost universal condemnation.

At one point in 2002, Mbeki had overseen the ANC's national executive committee's heckling of Nelson Mandela for his criticism of his predecessor's stance.

And, of course, before Mbeki, Madiba himself was seen as central to everything about our future – his comments and attitudes set the tone for the "rain-



From left: Former president Thabo Mbeki, Former president Jacob Zuma and President Cyril Ramaphosa.

bow era" many presumed the country to be living through at the time.

It is important to consider how far all of this goes in our history.

Former president FW de Klerk also had important power, mainly through his control of the police and the South African Defence Force. He was able to end apartheid against considerable pushback from within his party.

Before him, PW Botha was able to refuse calls for change and used violence, assassinations and shootings as a political tool against liberation movements.

One could go back much further to bolster the argument that up until recently, presidents (and prime ministers) had immense personal power.

False start

All of this appears to stand in strong contrast with our situation now.

Even though Ramaphosa did everything he could to concentrate as much power as possible within his presidency, the President does not appear to have the political power to fix South Africa's energy crisis, or to create any kind of order in our society.

He does not even have the political power to follow his own stated agenda of renewal in the party. How else does one explain the continued presence of Mosebenzi Zwane as chair of Parliament's standing committee on transport, despite the finding that he was a "Gupta Minister"? He is just one among so many other examples; there are hundreds of them.

Anyone who takes over from Ramaphosa in the future could be even weaker.

Should the ANC drop below 50% in the 2024 elections, as appears likely, any coalition it may lead will have less power at the centre than it had in the past. And, of course, if any other group of parties tries to form a coalition in the national government, the same will apply. (The bigger the number of parties in power, the more unstable will be the power of the sitting president.)

Broadening the power spread

This is an important dynamic because it reveals several elements in our politics. The first is how a process of deep democratisation can take a long time, and can often run as a process despite the interests of those who try to stop it.

In the mid-1990s, with a new government, the person in charge of the ANC had a huge amount of power. Since then, as has been noted many times, political power in the party spread to the provinces and regions. (Why else would we spend so much time talking about the "war zone" that was the Ekurhuleni ANC conference earlier this year, or the eThekweni conference that saw Zandile Gumedze being elected leader despite corruption charges against her?)

As the ANC loses political power and more parties enter our politics, this process of power-spread has continued.

There are important features that may now emerge from all of this.

It may now be that a weaker president is a more democratic scenario, in that it will be difficult for anyone in that position to do anything without broad electoral support.

This could prevent the kind of corruption that was found to occur during the Zuma era or the kind of policy tragedy committed by Mbeki that cost

the lives of hundreds of thousands of people.

But it will also make decisive action harder in times we need to solve previously unheard-of problems.

This could result in the prolonging of disastrous results, as we are seeing with the electricity crisis. It is surely because of internal ANC squabbles and Ramaphosa's political concerns about taking on Energy Minister Gwede Mantashe that we do not have more development and a well-developed power procurement from the private sector.

This may also then turn attention to where the real power of the president could lie: the legal authority that office has over important appointments.

During the Zuma era, it was obvious to all how he used this power to stack every level of government and parastatals with his own ethically challenged appointees and then to prevent the National Prosecuting Authority and SARS from doing their jobs.

Through this power, he deliberately weakened those institutions while showering spies and compliant security people with money and personal power. (Although Ramaphosa has many critics, even they would surely find it difficult to argue against his choices for the people now running the NPA, SARS

and other important institutions.)

This may mean that how a president uses their power becomes more focused on their choices for these institutions.

Direct election

At the same time, some may argue that the way to ensure there is a stronger Presidency to "get things done" and solve problems is to implement the Zondo Commission finding that a president is elected directly.

Even this may not stop the longer-term trend of broadening the power spread – there are only a few people in this society who are universally popular. There are just too many different groups with different views about politics and life in general.

It may be that the net result of a directly elected president is simply a person with a low mandate (someone elected with, say, 35% of the vote) trying to manage an impossible situation with a large number of parties in Parliament, who could all gang up on them as they deem necessary.

Our politics is changing in important ways right in front of our eyes. Even the person in power at the centre could soon have very little influence over our future. We're entering truly unknown territory. **DM**

Unchecked emissions may double child mortality due to heat in Africa

By Madhumita Paul

REDUCING carbon emissions can prevent 4,000 to 6,000 child deaths due to heat in Africa every year, a study has found. Heat-related child mortality due to high emissions is projected to double in the continent by 2049, compared with 2005-2014.

The study was conducted by a team of international scientists led by University of Leeds, in collaboration with researchers at London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).

Limiting temperature increases to Paris Agreement's 1.5°C targets through 2050 can prevent heat-related child deaths, found the study.

It also estimated the impact of climate change on annual heat-related child deaths for the current (1995-2020) and future time periods (2020-2050).

A comparative risk assessment was conducted to project the numbers of heat-related child deaths under low, medium and high-emissions scenarios.

In the high-emission scenario, where carbon emissions were not re-

duced, heat-related child deaths can double by 2049 compared to 2005-2014. An estimated 38,000 child deaths can occur every year by 2049.

Under the low-emission scenario, approximately 4,000-6,000 heat-related child deaths annually can be prevented in Africa. Rapid carbon emission cuts across sectors are required to achieve this and to remain in line with the Paris agreement target of limiting global warming to 1.5°C.

The medium-emission scenario, which combines elements of the low and high circumstances, would still prevent 2,000-3,000 deaths per year.

The study co-author Cathryn Birch from School of Earth and Environment at Leeds said:

Temperatures are already increasing in Africa. Since 1980, temperatures have risen between 0.2-0.4°C per decade. As temperatures continue to increase due to climate change, so will heat-related deaths. Young children are especially vulnerable to the effects of heat exposure. They have limited ability to thermoregulate and high temperatures can increase disease transmission and out-



die on average each year across the world due to extreme temperatures, according to a 20-year study. Of this, 4.6 million deaths on average occurred annually due to extreme cold, while 0.48 million deaths occurred due to extreme heat.

According to another study, more than a third of heat-related deaths (37 per cent) across the world between 1991 and 2018 were caused by the planet's warming due to anthropogenic activities. The share of heat-related deaths attributable to warming was above 40 per cent in Mexico, South Africa, Thailand, Vietnam and Chile.

The researchers acknowledge the limitations of this study, which include the reliance on heat-mortality relationships from existing literature that allowed the use of only two regions – Ghana and Kenya.

Population-specific temperature mortality relationships have been found to vary by latitude, altitude, socio-economic factors such as income inequality and factors relating to the built environment, such as the prevalence of air-conditioning use.

The study urged more research to understand how extreme heat affects the health of children and which interventions can effectively manage and mitigate heat impacts on vulnerable populations and save thousands of children from dying unnecessarily.

breaks.

The study emphasises the need for urgent child health-focused climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.

Minimal epidemiologic informa-

tion is available on the relationship between temperature and mortality in children in African countries. The team used previous studies in Ghana and Kenya to represent high and low bounds of heat-related mortality bur-

dens for the continent.

The researchers did not project heat-related child mortality beyond 2050 because of uncertainties in the socio-economic projections.

More than five million people

Zimbabwean girls resort to cow dung for sanitary pads

By Nyasha Mutizwa, Harare

GIRLS in rural Zimbabwe are forced to use cow dung for sanitary wear as inflation hits feminine hygiene products.

Constance Dimingo, 19, wriggles in her wheelchair as she tries to remember the last time, she used a sanitary pad. "I last wore a pad before my mother died last year," she laments.

A congenital physical disability compounded by poverty has made a natural monthly cycle a period of shame.

"Now, I have to use anything I can find, cow dung, leaves, newspapers and clothes, to stop the blood from leaking. I wish my mother was still alive to buy me pads and medication for my menstrual pain," she concludes.

Constance is one of the 72 percent of girls located in the rural town of Domboshava, 30 km north of the capital Harare who do not have access to commercial sanitary wear, according to a study by SNV Netherlands Development Organisation in Zimbabwe.

For an equivalent of US\$2, sanitary pads are beyond reach for most of the country's 3 million menstruating girls, who live below the poverty datum line.

Constance, her epileptic sister and three other girls rely completely on the assistance of their visually impaired grandmother to manage their menstrual hygiene during that time of the month.

Six females, three disabilities and one bloody mess.

"Sanitary pads are a luxury I cannot afford for my girls," Grandmother Vhene Gumedhe shares, explaining how the cow dung process works.

"I take the dung, mould it and leave it to dry so that it easily absorbs the blood. The girls do not put the cow pattie directly on the skin. I wrap many clothes over it to avoid itching when placed on the underwear. Then I show them how to close their private parts to block the bleeding."

She concludes, "The girls have heavy flows with cycles that typically last six days. We prefer this method because cow patties soak up a lot of blood. Once soaked, we dispose of it privately by burying it in the ground. Our Shona culture does not allow that men see such things."

This family's story mirrors that of millions of impoverished women around the Southern African nation who



Pupils show some of the reusable pads they make

have resorted to desperate methods to manage their periods.

According to the Ministry of Women and Youth Affairs, 67% of girls miss school during menstruation due to a lack of access to sanitary products and clean sanitation facilities. Girls with disabilities usually drop out of school altogether, as was the case with Constance.

Apart from missing school, health experts say these methods are breeding grounds for salmonella, E.Coli and several bacteria that can result in reproductive

health infections.

"The girls complain of itching and burning sensations in the genitalia. When examined at the hospitals, we notice yeast infections, urogenital tract infections and early signs of cervical cancer due to insertion in the vaginal tract," shares Theresa Nkhoma, Community Childcare Worker under the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare.

"We are advocating for the ladies to receive sewing machines in the villages so they can learn to make reusable pads," the health worker proposes.

The government of Zimbabwe has made efforts to ease the situation by scrapping taxes on all sanitary products. But period poverty is being exacerbated by inflation standing at over 191.6 percent, according to the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency.

Families have to choose between purchasing feminine hygiene products and buying food, with most settling on the latter.

Living on less than a dollar a day, pads remain a frill for Constance and her sisters who continue to bear the brunt of Zimbabwe's economic crisis.

Solar-powered health truck delivers COVID-19 vaccines to remote areas

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

PARKED up in the Kasarani district of the Kenyan capital Nairobi is a group of health workers on a mission to drive up COVID-19 vaccinations.

According to the World Health Organisation, the overall trend of the virus on the African continent is down, but it is still not completely contained.

WHO figures report that as of 6 April 2022, there were 11.5 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 and more than 252 000 deaths reported on the continent.

In Kenya, there were 334,551 confirmed cases and 5,656 deaths from 3rd January 2020 to 6th July this year according to WHO figures.

So far the country has administered 18,535,975 vaccine doses, but encouraging everyone to get jabbed is a challenge.

AMREF (African Medical and Research Foundation) is taking the battle to the streets, with a mobile clinic hoping to increase the number of people getting immunized.

The mobile clinic is able to reach densely populated areas as well as more rural populations while maintaining the need for cold storage of vaccines like AstraZeneca and Moderna.

Cold storage in the field has proven difficult in the hot and humid climate of some African countries, but according to AMREF's Dr Catherine Kanari, this unit has a solar-powered system that is helping to overcome that obstacle.

"So in general this is a mobile vaccination unit which then means we are going to the people. If the people are unable to go get the vaccines at health facilities we are coming to the people. We want to increase our population coverage for vaccination, looking at what has been recommended by WHO at the 70 percent achievement for vaccination. So this particular unit has utilized innovation. It can be able to go



deeper into the communities where access is a problem so not only in Nairobi but even in other counties where

we have issues with access and also because it utilizes solar (energy) to maintain the cold chain. It is an efficient

way of ensuring that we have effective vaccines," says Kanari. Businesswoman Seradelphine Wairimu says she has wanted to get the vaccine because she knows so many people who've been sick with the virus.

But Wairimu says until now she just hasn't had the time to visit a hospital.

She says: "This is the first vaccine I have never received it before. I have been doing some research and many people have passed away, even my closest friends and relatives, and I have seen that I will endanger the lives of my fellow Kenyans and even neighbors if I do not get the vaccine. I am very happy because as a business lady I never have enough time. I have been hearing that people are getting vaccinated in hospitals that are far (away) from where I am. I used to wonder what I am going to do about the hospital, but now that they have come near me to where I work, I have decided to take this step."

This is the first COVID-19 mobile clinic in Kenya, but there are plans to introduce 10 more which will serve several different counties.

The success of this program could help to change and improve the way health care, in general, is delivered across the country and possibly the region as a whole.

Another resident William Mbuthia says he has now had his first dose of the vaccine and he would encourage others to do the same.

"Today is my first time receiving the vaccine. When it first came everyone had something negative to say, when you get the vaccine you develop complications. But I decided I must receive my first jab today here in Mwiki and I am very happy. I would like to urge fellow Kenyans to make sure that they get this vaccine."



Walkabout announces the start of graphite mining in Tanzania

Page 14



Digital Marketing; Brand Safety: Part 3

Page 14



Safaricom makes billions in profit from M-Pesa unit

Page 15

Unlocked potential of fresh water fish farming in Tanzanians

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA'S aquaculture sector offers vast potential for growth. Its climate is ideal for fish farming and the demand for fish is rapidly rising due to population growth.

It is dominated by freshwater fish farming in which small-scale farmers practice both extensive and semi-intensive modes.

Currently, it is estimated that a total of 14,100 freshwater fishponds are scattered across Tanzania mainland. However, despite the increased demands for fish, the sector has not yet unlocked to its full potential.

This is driving up fish prices, making fish less affordable for the lower- and middle-income segments of the population. Tanzania has a deficit of 480,000 tons of fish demands per annum.

According to the Inception Study Aquaculture Sector Tanzania conducted by Larive international and Lattice Aqua, improving the country's aquaculture sector requires a holistic approach, focused on increased domestic productivity in an environmentally and socially responsible way.

Furthermore, the demand deficit will also drive up fish market prices and make fish farming a more lucrative business for Tanzanians.

The study commissioned by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Tanzania aimed at identifying commercial freshwater aquaculture development targets of the Tanzanian government which are not or insufficiently met by existing development initiatives and programs.

The report recommends that the enabling environment can be upgraded by creating conducive regulatory framework, market oriented educational institutes and an established private sector organization.



Aquaculture has strong domestic consumption trends, and was the most commonly farmed fish in Tanzania and East Africa PHOTO/FILE

Also, positive initiatives such as the development of a dedicated aquaculture law and investments in education and research were observed and provide confidence in a continued commitment by Tanzanian public stakeholders.

Besides that, several specific interventions are recommended to address the most pressing development opportunities which were identified by this study. Practically, all value chain actors can play an important role in realizing these recommendations and hence become drivers for growth and positive change.

Jerry Mang'ena, the director and co-founder of Aqua-Farms Organization in Coast Region is among young Tanzanians who own commercial ponds.

In his view, aqua-Farms business is not a quick or fast moving business like any other business because it takes more time. For instance, one tilapia fish takes 6 to 8 months to reach 350 to 500 grams.

"Shortage of fingerlings is one of the major challenges we are currently facing in the country," he said.

Mang'ena says the target is to produce two million fingerlings annually by 2025, where the demand will be reached by 7 percent.

Tanzanian hatcheries have insufficient access to quality tilapia and catfish brood stock, as well as lack of expertise to develop their own brood stock improvement programs.

"In order to solve this issue, it requires a long-

term improvement program of the tilapia and catfish gene pools in which the quality is controlled," he noted

He mentions other challenges facing the sector such as the existing knowledge gap within the sector and lack of practical skills, poor access to affordable quality fish feed and seed.

Others are inadequate sector coordination and market linkages and the challenging business environment due to imported fish, tax regimes, high cost of inputs and aquaculture policy.

Mang'ena further noted that most of the foods are imported from the Netherlands which are very expensive. The aquaculture farms are both in need of investment capital as well as working capital, the latter being sometimes half of the total required capital but often overlooked by farmers.

Importing aquaculture farm equipment, such as tanks and water treatment systems, should be exempted from import duties and attract VAT.

Currently, there are several financial institutions with a focus on the agricultural sector in the country, for example, the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank Limited.

Although no specific aquaculture financial products or services exist, the general agricultural finance instruments are also available to the aquaculture sector.

However, financial institutions have not yet provided much capital to the aquaculture sector. The main reason is the lack of established and profitable fish farmers in the country.

Tanzania is currently mainly relying on inland fisheries from Lake Victoria (85 percent) and marine fisheries (14 percent) for

its fish consumption.

Only around 1 percent or 3,942 tonnes is produced by aquaculture.

However, its domestic market for tilapia is estimated to reach \$380 million by 2030, where 64 percent of which remains obtainable to new aquaculture production.

According to the report on Aquaculture Investment Opportunities, phase II (2018), conducted by the Darberg - the strategy and policy advisory firm in the country under the sponsorship of USAID, the initial review suggests freshwater tilapia farming has the highest potential.

The report entitled "Market Analysis and Value Chain Prioritization in the Livestock & Fisheries Sector in Tanzania" screened 18 sub-sectors to appraise commercial and social potential of which aquaculture was selected as a main priority based on commercial viability.

The report reveals that aquaculture has strong domestic consumption trends, and was the most commonly farmed fish in Tanzania and East Africa.

"To unlock this potential, commercial aquaculture operation will need to be introduced at scale; options exist for cage, pond and re-circulation systems," it suggested

Tanzania will require up to 69 million tons of additional tilapia production, the supply could be either fresh or frozen. The report however notes that despite the clear opportunities for local fish productions, the sector has not yet unlocked its full potential.

Currently, the potential opportunity is underpinned by strong domestic demand growth, constrained conventional supply, surmountable competition and strong regional precedents of technology application

Rise in demand for exports pushes wholesale food prices up

By Guardian Reporter

AN increase in demand for exports in neighbouring countries continues to push the wholesale prices of food commodities in Tanzania up, crowding consumers spending amid expected low harvests.

Data from the ministry of industry, trade and Bank of Tanzania (BoT) have shown that the wholesale prices of selected food commodities, including staples, increased in May this year compared with both May last year and April this year.

The ministry report shows the price of maize, rice, beans, sorghum and finger millet were high in May this year, compared with April this year and May last year. However, the slowed price recorded on round potatoes.

"The increase in prices is associated with high demand for food from neighbouring countries and expectation of low harvests as a result of delayed short rains," BoT says in its Monthly Economic Review for June.

Tanzania is becoming the major source of food commodities in eastern and southern Africa, which has resulted into creating shortages of domestic supplies.

According to the ministry of trade and marketing, the wholesale price of maize reached 69,771.2/- per 100 kilogramme in May this year from 43,545.8/- in May 2021 and 62,542/- in April this year.

During the month, BoT says the National Food Reserve



The National Food Reserve Agency sold 40,963.25 tonnes of maize to grain traders and millers in May to stabilise domestic prices. PHOTO/FILE

Agency (NFRA) sold 40,963.25 tonnes of maize to grain traders and millers to stabilise the domestic market.

The high domestic and regional demand of maize started pushing prices up towards

above-average levels in markets in Tanzania nearer Kenya like Arusha, according to Global Agriculture Information Unit (GAIU).

According to May 2022 Price Watch by Famine Early Warning System maize prices

increased typically in the southern main producing markets due to high demand in distant domestic and regional markets and in the domestic consumption markets where there is inadequate supplies.

The GAIU says during 2022/23 maize production in Tanzania is forecast to decrease by approximately 16 percent to 5.9 million metric tons (MMT) due to drought conditions, fall armyworm infestations, and high fertilizer prices.

The current market price of a 50kg bag of Urea ranges from 58,000/- (\$25.1) to 88,000 TZS (\$38). The price of a 50 kg bag of diammonium phosphate (DAP) ranges from 72,000/- (\$31) to 100,000/- (\$43.35), according to GAIU.

Other report by United

Nations COMTRADE database on international trade shows Tanzania exports of maize valued \$1.2million to Burundi in 2021. According to the Ministry of Agriculture Tanzania mainland exported 189,277 Metric Tonnes of maize valued 72.4bn/- last year alone.

The reports also show the wholesale price of rice increased to 199,082/- per 100 kilogramme in May this year from 136,447/- in May last year and 188,079/- in April this year. Ministry of Agriculture data shows Tanzania mainland exported 441,908 Metric Tonnes of rice in 2021 (valued at 476.8bn/-), amid increase of three million metric tonnes of production.

However, the implementation of the 2019-2030 National Rice Development Strategy Phase II (NRDS-II) propel Tanzania to become the regional hub for rice and associated products on or before the close of the decade.

Tanzania is the 4th largest producer of rice in Africa and the second-largest in Eastern and Southern Africa.

It has been said by the ministry of agriculture that commercialisation of smallholder farmers in Mbeya, Morogoro, Iringa, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu and Coast Regions can produce adequate rice to feed Africa with existing potential opportunities

The price of the same quantity of beans also went up to 186,074/- in May this year from 177,437/- in May last year. The price slightly increased from 185,343/- in April this year.

The report shows the price of sorghum reached 122,373/- in May this year from 92,144/- in May last year while those of finger millet jumped to 176,012/- from 153,415/-, respectively.

Youth in Tanga benefit from mobile money agency

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

THE growing of digital mobile money services in Tanzania has provided direct and indirect employment opportunities to youths, sustaining their living conditions through incomes generated from serving clients.

Since Tigo Pesa re-launched its digital payment service platform 'Lipa kwa Simu' a year ago, Tigo sales freelancers have put more efforts in convincing customers using the platform to withdrawal money from Tigo merchants easily, securely and fast.

Speaking with this paper some tigo pesa agents have revealed that the profits they're making through 'Lipa kwa Simu' platform have changed their

lives.

Hassan Juma, a merchant based in Tanga told The Guardian that the platform has enabled him to generate incomes that have improved his livelihood.

"Through Lipa kwa Simu", I am making living, as I make negotiation with customer to pay through mobile, which boosts my monthly commissions," he said.

Mariam Salmin, a Tigo pesa agent who operates her business along 12th street in Tanga city said since she started using Lipa kwa Simu, number of payments transactions increased, boosting her monthly commission from Tigo Tanzania.

"I am earning nearly 10,000 per day as commission from 20



By the end of December 2019, Tigo Tanzania had around 12.6 million customers, according to market research statistics.

to 25 transactions. The income I am getting from commission is re-invested to other economic activities, which have automatically improved my life," she said.

Lipa kwa Simu is a financial and digital service that enables businesses and institutions to receive payments from customers using their mobile wallets from all Mobile Network Operators.

It is a convenient and secured service for both businesses and customers, she said.

The two agents said the service was first introduced into the market in 2014 dubbed Lipa kwa Tigo Pesa to digitize the Tanzania retail business ecosystem.

The revamped service now

named "Lipa kwa Simu" came into the market with advanced features that one can have in a mobile financial services payment system, which includes, but not limited QR codes scanning and In-App experience.

By the end of December 2019 Tigo Tanzania says had almost 12.6 million customers, according to statistics from market research.

According to Statista, in June 2019, mobile money transfers in Tanzania had a value of over \$3.6 billion, with 23 million subscriptions with around 40 percent of Tanzanians use of mobile money technology, while small minority of citizens have access to traditional banking services.

Walkabout announces start of graphite mining at Lindi Jumbo

PERTH

ORE mining has started at the Lindi Jumbo graphite mine, in Tanzania.

Australia Stock Exchange-listed Walkabout Resources on Friday last week said that the first production blast was successfully completed at the end of June, and mining of the pit has now started.

The ore will be stockpiled for use in the commissioning of the processing plant.

"The first blast and mining of the starter pit is a new chapter in the development of the Lindi Jumbo graphite mine and for Tanzania, as it also represents the commencement of the first high-grade, large flake stockpile of responsibly sourced graphite in Tanzania," said CEO Andrew Cunningham.

"The effort and expertise put in by our earthmoving contractor TNR, as well as our Lindi Jumbo team on site to conduct the inaugural blast in a safe and controlled operation was a proud moment for all involved."

Construction of the tailings storage facility is nearing completion, while civil works at the processing plant are 83 percent complete.

The Lindi Jumbo project will be connected to grid power through two lines through an agreement with the Tanzanian Electrical Supply Company and installation of a 33 kV powerline is now complete and reaches to the project site.

Once the transformer has been installed, grid power will be available to support the completion of construction activities.

Installation of a 4.5 MW powerline is also progressing, and on completion, the line will supply continuous power for the entire operation once commissioning starts.

Over its 24-year mine life, the Lindi



The measured, indicated and inferred mineral resource contains a super high-grade core of 5Mt at 22.5 percent TGC for 1.1 Mt of contained graphite, making this the highest grade reported ore reserve within Africa. PHOTO/COURTESY OF WALKABOUT

Jumbo project is expected to produce 40 000 t/y of graphite concentrate.

This is despite the delayed drawdown of the \$20 million project debt facility through CRDB Bank Plc (CRDB) announced on 6 June 2022.

In 2018, the company announced a mineral resource of 41.8 Mt at an estimated grade of 10.8 percent Total Graphitic Carbon (TGC).

The measured, indicated and inferred mineral resource contains a super high-grade core of 5Mt at 22.5 percent TGC for 1.1 Mt of contained graphite, making this the highest grade reported ore reserve within Africa.

The CEO said last month that processing plant, supporting infrastructure and mining area are now rapidly taking shape and continue to advance Lindi Jumbo safely to commissioning and achieve Tanzania's first sustainable graphite

production under the new Administration.

In July last year non-executive chairman Michael Elliot acquired a total of 1.43 million shares for a total value of \$286,000 in a mix of direct and indirect interests, taking his total holding to 15.83 million shares with 2.2 million of these held in a direct interest.

Executive director and CEO Andrew Cunningham acquired a total of 91,908 shares valued at \$18,382 in direct and indirect interests.

He now holds a total of 659,873 shares in two indirect interests and 772,223 shares in a direct interest.

Director Allan Mulligan acquired 200,000 shares valued at \$40,000 in a direct interest, taking his holding in that interest to almost 3.969 million while a further 1,705,801 shares are held in an indirect interest.

Digital Marketing; Brand Safety: Part 3

By Alley Mtatya

A PREDOMINANT portion of today's marketers are qualitative; they're into design, they're into statistics, they're into psychology, they're into understanding the strategic aspect of behavioral economics and so forth, but the world is shifting to a tech or data driven arena in a significant way. Any marketer knows that the secret duty of any marketer is to build, nature and protect the brand, "that is sacred".

It is very important to get clarity on the goals of your brand, nowadays marketers now have clarity on brand safety and suitability as strategic goals of their company. There should be a clear definition, clear on the importance of protecting their brand equity and their brand reputation as well as being clear on what their true north is as marketers. I remember years back when all we marketers wanted was data, like give me all the data, I want all the data then after collecting I would go and figure out a marketing strategy.

Which leads us back to square one; Marketers must know what the true north of their brand is? What are the governing principles and the code of conduct for their brand, that point you to the statement mentioned above around brand reputation and brand equity. Knowing that the world that we will live in 2 or 3 years from now will be very different from the world that we are living in today.

Having a true north as a guiding compass is great and which is also the right thing to have but how do you bring the true north to life, is something else, and were most marketers fall short. This subject requires extensive training, extensive research and reading because this is by far the main responsibility of a marketer by protecting, nurturing and building their brand.

How Expensive Is It?

How expensive is it to enforce brand safety? Large brands can spend billions and billions, but what if I am a small player in the industry; a start-up maybe or a medium sized company maybe, because for this sector they care a lot about every



shilling or penny spent that it must generate a visible return that leads hopefully to a sale of their product, compared to larger companies for them every penny hurts and they're not too many pennies to count. For them that is what really counts or stand being out of business very quickly.

Things like transparency of supply path optimization that help advertisers to be able to navigate, how to optimize their inventory and also help them move away from their inventory that is not helping them yield on their ROI. More and more mid-sized firms will be leaning into this service over time and advertising will shift more to live feeds and live social media video platforms. Digital marketing will shift to more contextual targeting and another section that I have

not mentioned is pre-paid TV or home entertainment platforms the likes of Netflix. It will be a situation whereby businesses can advertise on content or platforms were they find higher engagement and the likes of Netflix is where the younger generation is shifting too.

Trust Issues

In the fifth paradigm technology is a leveler in the competitive field, even a small company is able to effectively compete with a large company and rise. In that kind of a democratic competing field that will work in favor of any brand is trust. Trust gets endangered in so many ways and one of it is definitely brand safety, so if you're operating in a way that nurtures trust then that is spot on, but if you're

inadvertently appearing on those sites or inadvertently funding those sites that can damage your brand reputation, you're eroding the trust and your brands reputational risk.

This leads me to ask ad agencies or marketers or businesses for example, do they have the ability to post factor by looking at the type of content despite of all the controls in place, pre-bid or post-bid but then post factor after the ads have appeared to track and say look, x number of ads have gone through the filters and have gone to the wrong sites and therefore two things arise from that; 1. You need to know, how much did it cost the company? 2. What is the extent of the damage? And 3. How do you recover that money?

As you need to compensate the brand for lack of proper safety controls, it is also about accountability. If I give the agency or marketer or social media company money and I have also given you the specs of what I want as a business in terms of advertising my brand but then my brand appears in some other place (say an adult entertainment site), which is contrary to my brand's values). Where does the accountability reside and why is it that my brand should pay for it in terms of the reputational damage.

Businesses are investing more and more on digital marketing and shifting their brand presence more towards new social media platforms that are trending, engagement is KING!

Marketing in the near future is also shifting to live feeds, so how will this be controlled as it gets more and more difficult to regulate live speeches that could go wrong (hate speech, racial slur, promotion of violence etc.)

Let me leave this for thought and challenge those in the marketing industry on brand safety, accountability and brand trust in the near future.

Alley Mtatya is the Marketing Coordinator - Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania

Nairobi's water prices to rise by up to 40 percent

NAIROBI

WATER bills for homes and businesses in Nairobi are set to rise up to 40 percent if the regulator agrees to a fresh tariff review, setting the stage for a further squeeze on household budgets.

The water services regulator said Friday that Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company (NCWSC) had sought higher tariff review to recover costs, pay loans and upgrade infrastructure.

The Water Services Regulatory Board (Wasreb) has given the more than five million residents of the capital a month to submit their views on the proposed higher consumer tariffs.

The NCWSC, a subsidiary of Nairobi County, has sought the regulator's approval to increase water tariffs by between 20.44 percent and 39.57 percent depending on monthly consumption levels.

The planned tariff adjustment will force water consumers to dig deeper into their pockets, a painful blow coming at a time when the cost of living has risen to unprecedented levels.

The combined impact of high water tariffs and costly petrol, cooking oil and staple maize flour will pile inflationary pressure in an economy where households have knocked off some goods and services from their budgets to navigate the turbulent times.

Inflation surged to a 58-month high of 7.9 percent in June from 7.1 percent in May, breaching the government's preferred target range of 2.5-7.5 percent.

Nairobi residents who consume an average of 15 cubic metres of water per month or 15,000 litres should expect to part with about Sh1,685 up from the current Sh1,241.

This amount is inclusive of sewerage charges - which are 75 per cent of the amount charged on water units consumed - and Sh50 as meter rent.

High-end homes that gobble up 55,000 litres monthly to support facilities like swimming pools and watering lawns will pay Sh6,922 from Sh4,952, reflecting a rise of Sh39.57 percent.

"NCWSC proposes an upward tariff review to enable the utility water to operate at full cost recovery and meet conditions necessary for improving service delivery," said Peter Nyagah, the director for licensing, standards and advocacy at Wasreb, in Friday's Kenya Gazette notice.

Water service providers have been lobbying for the review of tariffs that were last revised more than five years ago in order to cover the ballooning costs of operation and maintenance.

Under the proposed tariff guide-

lines, each service provider is expected to recover its full cost of providing services in the medium- to long-term and leave a surplus to allow them improve infrastructure.

The utility is proposing to double the consumption blocks for billing to six and remove the flat monthly rate of Sh204 for homes that use less than six cubic metres or 6,000-litre units of water.

Homes consuming between 7,000 litres and 60,000 litres monthly will pay Sh67 for every a thousand litres from the current Sh53.

Schools using up to 600,000 litres monthly will part with Sh50 from the current Sh48 for every a thousand litres.

Water tariff reviews are usually done every three years.

Nairobi Water has defended the proposed tariffs increase, arguing it will help offset nearly Sh10.38 billion average annual operation costs.

The firm says its estimated annual average costs comprise Sh8.86 billion for operation and maintenance, Sh616.31 million for investment and Sh900.33 million for servicing its debts from French Development Agency, the World Bank and African Development Bank.

The utility firm projects the new tariffs will generate about Sh10.68 billion in annual revenue, leaving it with a margin of 2.89 percent.

"The WSP [water service provider or Nairobi Water] shall adhere to the budgetary levels set in the tariff," Mr Njagah said.

"The surpluses projected to be realised shall only be used in extension on water/sewer network system to increase coverage/access to water and sanitation services."

The firm has committed to invest Sh1.95 billion in the three years to June 2025

It has pledged to cut revenue losses largely due to leakage in the aged pipe systems and illegal connections from 46 percent of water that gets to its network in the year ended June to 44 percent this financial year.

It will further cut the system losses to 43 percent the following year and 41 percent in the one ending June 2025. The cuts will translate to additional revenues.

Costly commodities have hit workers hard given that the average real wages, adjusted for inflation, stood at negative 3.83 percent last year compared to negative 0.59 percent in 2020.

Employers say the real wages will take longer to improve amid the recovery of the economy from Covid-19 economic hardships, which delivered layoffs, pay cuts and business closures.



A lady fetches water at a watering point in Kibra on August 25, 2021. PHOTO | DIANA NGLIA | NMG

Recession angst spurring pivot to emerging world's growth engines

JAKARTA

AS panic over inflation gives way to fears about a global recession, emerging-market investors are making a pivot too -- they're now favoring countries where interest rates are still low.

Investors have snapped up local bonds from Indonesia and Thailand, where benchmark rates had hovered around the record lows to which they were cut during the depths of the pandemic. The same happened with debt from India, where the central bank has delivered just one hike.

That's a reversal from the first months of the year, when low-yielding bonds were dumped in favor of debt from nations like Brazil and Chile, which led the world's tightening cycle.

But with fears of recession superseding concerns about prices over the past weeks, even as inflation continues to spur pain from Sri Lanka to Argentina, having high interest rates is no longer seen as the benefit it once was. It could even be viewed as a drawback when low inflation and growth are at a premium.

"These countries will be in better position to fight a global slowdown, but they are in this position because the rise of inflation in these Asian countries has lagged other countries in the first place," said Sebastien Barbe, head of emerging-market research at Credit Agricole CIB. "Countries with already high inflation a few months ago had less choice to keep rates low."

Of course, while some countries will do well from investors' emphasis on growth, others will look even weaker. There's \$237 billion of emerging-market sovereign debt trading at distressed levels, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. And a high profile default by Sri Lanka -- which is in the midst of negotiations with the International Monetary Fund and is set for a new prime minister and president -- has spurred concerns that more non-payments could follow.

Still, Central Asia and Asia Pacific are the only two regions in emerging markets handing local-currency bond investors positive returns this month, according to a Bloomberg index. The worst performers, mean-



Indonesia raises \$1.5b from gov't bonds, some bought by central bank PHOTO/JAKARTA POST

time, are Latin America and Eastern Europe.

Out of the eight Asian countries in a Bloomberg index of local emerging-market debt, two haven't started to raise rates yet, while the remaining delivered no more than 90 basis points in hikes since their tightening cycles started.

The sole outlier is South Korea, which has raised rates by 135 basis points.

Meanwhile, all Latin American countries in the gauge have raised borrowing costs, with Chile and Brazil hiking 850 and 1,125 basis points, respectively, in the current cycle. In Eastern Europe, Poland has tightened by 640 basis points. There have also been calls for bolder central bank action to shore up currencies to protect against inflation.

"With evidence of still high inflation in the US and it becoming clear that the Fed would need to tighten aggressively, then the earlier tightening by EM central banks counted for less," said Razia Khan, head of research at Standard Chartered Bank in London. "Growth concerns are also playing out more broadly."

India is expected to grow 8.7% this year, according to a Bloomberg survey, and the central bank delivered its first hike of the cycle just three months ago. Economists, meantime, see Indonesia's gross domestic product at 5.2% in 2022. Policy makers there have reiterated their commitment to holding interest rates at a record low of 3.5%.

It's a sharp contrast with Chile and South Africa, where economic growth may reach 2.1% this year. In Brazil, the economy is set to expand just 1.3%, according to the same survey.

"The Asia region is interesting right now," said Valerie Ho, a portfolio manager at DoubleLine

Group in Los Angeles. "Asia tends to be more insulated and it tends to perform a bit better in those episodes. It also hasn't seen the price pressures that Latin America and Central and Eastern Europe have."

What to watch this week:

Sri Lanka's negotiations with the IMF enter an uncertain phase with new leadership expected. The IMF has said it plans to continue technical discussions with the central bank and finance ministry.

In Chile, the central bank is expected to slow the pace of tightening cycle and raise the benchmark interest rate by 50 basis points to 9.50%, according to all five economists surveyed by Bloomberg.

The People's Bank of China will probably keep the rate on its one-year medium-term lending facility steady again, according to Bloomberg Economics.

China will report 2Q GDP data, which is expected to show a contraction due to Covid lockdowns, though June activity should show the economy starting to bounce.

Investors will watch out for a possible lower house vote in Brazil Tuesday, on the constitutional amendment that would pave the way for the government to breach the spending cap.

Money managers will also keep an eye on South Africa for readings of manufacturing production and retail sales in May.

India's CPI inflation likely inched higher in June, lifted by gains in food and core components driven by supply shocks and a lower year-earlier base, according to Bloomberg Economics.



China Central Bank

China's credit flow jumps with govt economic stimulus boosts

BEIJING

CHINA'S credit jumped more than expected last month to the highest on record for June due to a strong rebound in bank lending and record government bond sales.

Aggregate financing, a broad measure of credit, reached 5.2 trillion yuan (\$775 billion), the People's Bank of China said Monday. That was the highest for any June in comparable data back to 2017 and beat the consensus estimate of 4.2 trillion yuan.

Financial institutions made 2.8 trillion yuan of new loans in the month, also better than economists' projection. The end of the lockdown of Shanghai in June may have contributed to the increase in borrowing demand.

The data indicates that stimulus from the central bank and government is starting to have an effect on boosting the supply of credit to the economy.

In recent months consumers and businesses curbed borrowing as a resurgence in Covid outbreaks and a persistent housing slump dampened economic growth, and it is unclear whether the large increase in credit will actually boost demand and real economic activity.

"The financing statistics have improved significantly driven by the series of policy supports in May and June," said Ming Ming, chief economist at Citic Securities Co. "There's not much necessity or probability for a cut in interest rates or banks' reserve requirement ratio in the short term."

The growth of M2, the broadest measure of money supply, accelerated to 11.4% from 11.1%, the fastest pace since November 2016. The stock of outstanding credit grew 10.8% to 334.3 trillion yuan, faster than the 10.5% expansion in May.

The upside surprise in China's aggregate social financing in June is a reflection of stronger credit and fiscal sup-

ports from the government to stimulate the Covid-damaged economy. Household and corporate loans demand also showed some signs of healing.

That said, even with more fiscal stimulus in the pipeline -- set to be a strong support to credit in the second half -- China's strict Covid Zero restrictions mean the recovery will probably be slow and bumpy.

June is usually a bumper month for credit as banks ramp up lending at the end of each quarter to meet regulatory demand to increase loans. The central bank has urged lenders to boost lending, while policy banks have been allocated 1.1 trillion yuan to use to finance infrastructure projects. A record 1.4 trillion yuan local government special bond issuance last month also likely contributed to the overall financing.

New corporate medium and long-term loans, which reflects companies' willingness to expand investment, jumped to 1.5 trillion yuan, the highest level on record for June. Bill financing, a form of short-term corporate borrowing, shrank to almost 80 billion yuan from 713 billion yuan in May. The funding is widely used by banks to boost the scale of loans and meet regulatory requirements in time of weak borrowing demand.

New household medium and long-term loans, a proxy for mortgages, improved from May but still remained below the level in June last year. That came as the slump in home sales eased in June for the first time this year as local governments' stronger supportive measures started to attract more buyers.

An official from the China Banking & Insurance Regulatory Commission said over the weekend that the industry will "go all out" to bolster funding in order to stabilize the economy. China's debt will likely hit a record this year, driven by the slowing economy and Beijing's push for more credit, according to forecast by a government-backed think tank.

Safaricom makes billions in profit from M-Pesa unit

NAIROBI

SAFARICOM'S mobile money business made a profit of Sh50 billion before tax in the year ended March, contributing nearly half of the company's total gross earnings and solidifying M-Pesa's position as its most profitable service.

The telco in its latest annual report outlined the share of profits attributable to the mobile money business for the first time, having previously just reported the contribution to revenues.

The performance statement shows that while M-Pesa business contributed 49 percent of the telco's profit before tax of Sh102.2 billion, its revenue of Sh107.7 billion accounted for 36 percent of the company's total revenue of Sh298.07 billion.

This indicates that the mobile money unit has superior profitability compared to other business lines such as voice and data.

In the previous financial year, the gross profit from mobile money stood at Sh39 billion, accounting for 41.7 percent of the group's total profit before tax.

The growing profitability has been helped by the increased adoption of mobile payments in the past two years, after the transaction limit was increased to Sh150,000 and the mobile money wallet amount raised to Sh300,000 from March 2020.

"Uptake of mobile money services continued to grow, as with its convenience and cashless nature it was perceived as helping curb the spread of Covid-19," the telco says in the report.

"In general, the Kenyan ICT sector has experienced robust growth as a result of the pandemic having pushed consumers to adopt online



ways of conducting business and mobile money payments."

Mobile payments have also gone up among businesses, backed by the higher transaction and wallet size limits and the removal of charges for cash transfers between mobile wallets and bank accounts.

The telco has also widened the number of services it offers on the M-Pesa platform beyond personal cash transfers. Merchant and utility payments have gone up, as has the usage of mobile platforms for borrowing loans from banks and also Safaricom's own overdraft

service known as Fuliza.

This ability to scale up the number of services riding on the M-Pesa digital platform has allowed Safaricom to grow revenue from the fees on the service without having to match it with high capital expenditure.

Revenue growth for the mobile money unit, which stood at Sh25 billion in the year to March 2022, has thus outpaced that of cost of sales and operating expenses, which rose by Sh9.7 billion and Sh4.9 billion respectively in the period to Sh52.3 billion and Sh13 billion.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Payment giant holds SWIFT alternative for Indian expats

NEW DELHI

THE company that built India's digital payments backbone plans to make it cheaper and easier for the nation's 32 million expatriates to bring their money home.

Indians overseas remitted \$87 billion last year, the biggest inflow for any country tracked by the World Bank. The remittances market, where it costs \$13 on average to send \$200 across borders, is ripe for disruption, according to Ritesh Shukla, chief executive officer of NPCI International Payments Ltd.

"We have displaced cash in India to a large extent and are now looking to repeat the success in cross-border corridors," said Shukla in a recent interview. "Overseas Indians can use our rails to remit money inwards straightway into their bank accounts, and for the markets where Indians travel frequently, we will build acceptance for our instruments."

Successful overseas forays by NPCI would give India a home-grown alternative to SWIFT, the Belgium-based cross-border payment system operator, though Shukla stressed that the objective was not to displace existing platforms. About 330 banks and 25 apps -- including Alphabet Inc.'s Google Pay and Meta Platform Inc.'s WhatsApp -- share NPCI's

unified payment interface, which has helped make instantaneous digital transactions a \$3 trillion market in India.

NPCI is in the process of connecting the UPI platform to systems in other countries to replicate its domestic success. It is negotiating collaborations with governments, fintech companies and service providers around the world, aiming to reduce transaction costs and enable more small-ticket transactions, Shukla said.

"This is going to take the payments world by storm," said Mayank Goyal, CEO of moneyHop, a cross-border banking app that lets users make international remittances through the SWIFT network. The company will seek to integrate UPI rails into the app as it makes cross-border payments easier, Goyal said.

UPI's linkage with overseas nations will further anchor trade, travel and remittance flows between the countries and lower the cost of cross-border remittances, the Reserve Bank of India said in a report.

The Reserve Bank of India set up NPCI along with the country's lenders to make retail payments faster, more accessible, and cost-efficient. A user just needs a virtual payment address to instantly transact with vendors and exchange cash between friends or family members.

WORLD

British Foreign Secretary Truss enters prime minister race

LONDON

BRITISH Foreign Secretary Liz Truss entered the race to replace Boris Johnson as prime minister yesterday, taking the number of candidates in an increasingly bitter and unpredictable contest to 11.

Truss, who has held ministerial jobs in a number of government departments including trade, justice and the treasury, said she would slash taxes and maintain a tough line against Russian President Vladimir Putin.

She is seeking to replace Johnson who was forced out on Thursday after

his government imploded over a series of scandals. The rules for the leadership election will be set out later on Monday, aiming to find a successor by September.

"Under my leadership, I would start cutting taxes from day one to take immediate action to help people deal with the cost of living," Truss wrote in the Daily Telegraph. "It isn't right to be putting up taxes now."

The race for a new leader followed one of the most remarkable periods in modern British political history, when more than 50 government ministers quit, denouncing Johnson's character,



Britain's Foreign Secretary Liz Truss arrives at 10 Downing Street, to attend Cabinet Meeting, in London, June 14, 2022. AP

integrity and inability to tell the truth.

With many lawmakers unhappy with Johnson remaining in office until a successor is found, the party is likely to accelerate the election process. It could insist that candidates have the backing of around 30 lawmakers to enter the process, before voting begins this week to whittle the number down to two.

Around 200,000 members of the Conserva-

tive Party will then choose a winner after weeks of hustings across the country.

Former finance minister Rishi Sunak is the early front runner, but that has prompted his rivals to attack his economic record and vow to cut taxes, even if it pushes government borrowing higher.

One lawmaker confirmed that a dossier criticizing Sunak's record had been circulating on WhatsApp groups.

Nadhim Zahawi, appointed finance minister in the turmoil of last week, said he was also being smeared by his rivals after media reports raised questions about the former businessman's personal finances and tax record.

"I was clearly being smeared," he told Sky News on Monday. "I was being told that the Serious Fraud Office, that the National Crime Agency, that the HMRC (tax office) are looking into me. I'm not aware of this. I have always declared my taxes, I paid my taxes in the UK."

Other candidates include the attorney general, Suella Braverman, former health secretary Jeremy Hunt, former health and finance minister Sajid Javid and transport secretary Grant Shapps.

One Conservative member of parliament said he was astonished by the number of his people entering the leadership contest.

"I shouldn't be surprised by the ambitions and the delusions of some of my colleagues, but I am," he said. "I expect we will narrow down the list of candidates very quickly."

Agencies

Israeli ministers say to run jointly in upcoming elections

JERUSALEM

LEADERS of two parties in Israel's outgoing coalition government announced on Sunday that they would run jointly in the upcoming national elections.

Benny Gantz, Israel's defense minister and leader of the centrist Blue and White party, and Gideon Sa'ar, justice minister and leader of the right-wing New Hope party, called in a joint statement for a centrist unity government with Gantz at the helm that would "say no to extremism."

"Today, we are laying the foundation of the next government," Gantz said.

Sa'ar said the new alliance was formed in a bid to break Israel's three-year political deadlock and establish "a broad national unity government not dependent upon the fringes."

Gantz was "the best-suited leader to stand at the helm of a unity government," he added.

The announcement marked the first shift in the political map since the parliament voted to dissolve itself on June 30 following the collapse of the coalition government, sending the country to its fifth elections in fewer than four years.

Gantz previously served as chief of staff of the Israel Defense Forces and Sa'ar was a member of former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's right-wing Likud party.

Both Gantz and Sa'ar were part of the outgoing coalition government composed of eight ideologically diverse parties united only by the will to oust Netanyahu, who is facing a criminal trial in three separate corruption cases.

Agencies



IMF's MD warns against 'complacency' on global debt issues

INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva is pushing China and other Group of 20 economies to speed up debt relief for a growing number of heavily indebted countries, warning that failure to do so could unleash a damaging "downward spiral."

Georgieva (pictured) told Reuters it was crucial to jumpstart the largely stalled Common Framework for debt treatments that were adopted by the G20 and the Paris Club of official creditors in October 2020 but has failed to deliver a single result thus far.

"This is a topic we cannot have complacency on," she said. "If trust is eroded to a point that there is a downward spiral, you don't know where it would end," the head of the International Monetary Fund said in an interview late last week

ahead of this week's meeting of finance officials in Indonesia.

Georgieva said she spoke with Indonesian President Joko Widodo, who holds the rotating presidency of the G20 this year, during last month's Group of Seven meeting in Germany and urged him to push for greater unity on debt before the G20 leaders' summit in November.

"G20 leaders don't want to be in a situation in which that issue dominates the conversation just because we are not making progress," Georgieva said.

Western officials are stepping up criticism of the G20 Common Framework process after nearly two years of glacial progress blamed largely on foot-dragging by China, the world's largest sovereign creditor, and private-sector creditors.

Georgieva said almost a third of



emerging market countries and twice that proportion of low-income countries were in debt distress, with the situation worsening as advanced economies raised interest rates.

Capital outflows from emerging markets were continuing and

almost one in three of these countries now had interest rates of 10% or higher, Georgieva said, noting more middle-income countries, including Sri Lanka and Malawi, were seeking help from the fund, with others likely to follow.

"The pressure on us to move is

very high," she said, noting the war in Ukraine had exacerbated the crises emerging market and developing economies faced because of the pandemic. Georgieva said it was imperative to agree on debt relief for Zambia, Chad and Ethiopia, three African countries that have requested help under the Common Framework and whose creditor committees meet this month.

She urged China to better coordinate among its multiple lenders, warning Beijing would be the "first to lose dramatically" if current debt problems tipped into a full-blown crisis.

Georgieva said she was encouraged China had agreed to co-chair Zambia's creditor committee.

"My message to everybody is, let's stop the finger pointing," she said. "There's a job to be done."

Agencies

Key Russian MP hits back at ex-Polish president's remarks

MOSCOW

LDPR leader and Chairman of the Russian State Duma Committee on Foreign Affairs Leonid Slutsky yesterday excoriated remarks by ex-Polish president Lech Walesa calling for "an uprising" by citizens of Russia.

The legislator fired back at the West and its allies, urging them not to hold their breath for a "bloody coup" in Russia, since Europeans are more likely to stage an uprising over their anger with the incompetent anti-Russian policy of their governments.

"He [Walesa - TASS] immediately gives license to the US, Europe and NATO to 'expand their sphere of influence' since they allegedly are on the 'democratic' track. We remember all too well how they imposed this sort of 'democracy' in Iraq, Libya, Syria, Afghanistan or in Ukraine as well.

With weapons and by staging bloody coups. Don't hold your breath for the same in Russia. They will respond both to the ex-Polish president and to his Western overlords," the legislator wrote on his Telegram channel.

According to him, Walesa made these remarks "not displaying particularly great intelligence." "Warsaw, apparently, dreams of weakening Russia following the model of the breakup of the USSR or the dismemberment of Yugoslavia.

Where would you find the strength to do so? This is complete schizophrenic nonsense," the lawmaker emphasized.

He added that an uprising can be fired up by "frozen citizens in Warsaw, in Brussels" or other European cities when fuel prices this winter "will go through the roof over the incompetent Russia policy of these Walesas." "So, take care of your own problems," the politician concluded.

Agencies

ROK's Yoon suspends informal media briefings, citing COVID

SEOUL / NEW DELHI

THE Republic of Korea's president will suspend informal media briefings that he has held nearly every day since taking office in May, his office said yesterday, citing rising numbers of COVID-19 infections as a survey showed a fall in his approval ratings.

The end of the free-wheeling briefings, which broke with years of tradition as President Yoon Suk-yeol sought to step up transparency, also comes amid growing questions over scandal and party turmoil.

Yoon's approval ratings stood at 37 percent, pollster Realmeeter's survey showed on Monday, down from more than 52 percent in the first week of June, while 57 percent now disapproved of his performance.

In its statement, Yoon's office said other coverage of the president would also be limited, with spokespersons switching to mainly written comments, along with photographs and videos of his events, rather than holding in-person brief-



The President of the Republic of Korea Yoon Suk-yeol

ings. "In view of the vulnerability to the spread of infectious diseases, we ask for your understanding," it added.

Health authorities have warned the country is facing a new wave of infections, with some experts predicting hundreds of thousands of new cases in coming weeks.

Yesterday's 12,693 new COVID-19 infections took the ROK's tally to 18,524,583, with 18 deaths for a toll of 24,661 since the pandemic began.

After holding down infections and deaths for much of the pandemic with strict tracing, tracking and quarantine measures, the country dropped most curbs this year despite a huge wave of Omicron-variant infections.

Scandal has cost Yoon two nominees for a single ministerial position, a first in the ROK's history, and ethics questions have plagued several other picks for top office.

On Friday, his conservative People Power Party was forced to suspend its leader Lee Jun-seok, 37, over accusations of sexual misconduct in 2013.

Lee has denied the allegations, vowed to appeal the suspension, and accused the party of using him for political gains, saying it waited until after the March election to look into punishing him.

His election last year as the youngest head of a major party

in the country's history was seen as a bid to woo young people concerned over rising home prices, graft and the risk of being disadvantaged by government policies to benefit women.

Yoon's popularity has taken a particular hit among young people, with approval from just 30.9 percent of those in their 20s, the survey showed.

India

India reported 16,678 fresh cases amid fears of new COVID-19 sub-variants, taking the total tally to 43,639,329, the data released by the country's federal health ministry showed yesterday.

With this, the number of active cases in the country rose to 130,713.

According to the ministry, 26 new COVID-19 related deaths have been recorded, which has pushed the overall death toll to 525,454 in the country.

Health officials warn that Omicron sub-variants BA.4 and BA.5 may fuel a new COVID-19 infection surge.

Agencies

Death toll rises to 15 in Nigeria boat capsizing

LAGOS

THE death toll from Friday's boat capsizing in Lagos, Nigeria's economic hub, rose to 15 as more bodies were recovered, authorities said.

Recovery operation were still ongoing, Ibrahim Farinloye, zonal coordinator of the National Emergency Management Agency in the southwestern region, said in a statement on Sunday.

The boat with at least 16 people on board capsized at around 7:45 p.m. local time on Friday along a waterway in the Ojo area of Lagos, when "the tide of the water drifted the boat to a stationary barge, which caused it to overturn," Farinloye said in a separate statement on Saturday.

Xinhua

Chinese ship making industry eyes on green, intelligent vessels

CLEAN energy, such as hydrogen fuel, liquefied natural gas and methyl alcohol, is gradually replacing traditional fuels as a primary power source for vessels, offering a new alternative for the navigation industry amid the global green and low-carbon transition.

Yangtze River Three Gorges 1, the world's largest electric cruise with the highest battery capacity, completed its maiden voyage earlier this year.

The China-made electric ship is 100 meters in length and 16.3 meters in width, and as high as a four-storey building, said Zhang Yu, business manager of the technology management department of Three Gorges Electric Energy Co., Ltd. under China

Three Gorges Corp, one of the co-developers of the vessel.

"It is powered by 7500 KWH power battery from CATL, which is comparable to the total battery capacity of more than 100 electric cars. All power-related parts of the vessel are domestically produced," Zhang said.

The battery-powered vessel is free from the annoying noises and smell generated by diesel engines. It is also steadier due to the absence of engine vibration.

"The battery is powered by the clean hydroelectric electricity generated by the Three Gorges Dam, which helps save 530 tons of fuel and will account for a reduction of 1,660 tons of emissions each year," the business

manager noted.

Since its maiden voyage in March this year, the vessel has carried around 30,000 passengers on over 40 trips.

The first 49,900-ton methanol-powered dual-fuel chemical tanker built by Chinese company Guangzhou Shipyard International was recently delivered in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong province. It is the first methanol-powered dual-fuel tanker constructed in China.

"It adopts a methanol-powered dual-fuel power system and can operate in any of the four fuel modes - fuel oil, fuel hydrate, methanol, and methanol hydrate," introduced He Guangwei, deputy chief engineer of Guangzhou Shipyard International.

According to him, the ship can reduce up to 75 percent of carbon emissions, 15 percent of nitrogen emissions, and 99 percent of sulfur and particulate emissions.

The wide application of clean energy in the ship making industry has resulted in more intelligent vessels. Complicated functions, such as autopilot and automatic operation, are now available on ships.

In Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu province, unmanned cleaning boats are employed to remove floating weeds and garbage from waterways. To perform cleaning missions, sanitation workers don't have to get on the rivers, and all they have to do is to dump the trash bins by the rivers, as unmanned

cleaning boats would automatically clear river courses along preset routes. The boats can also return to charging stations automatically when the battery runs low.

"Two sanitation workers can keep 45 mu (3 hectares) of water areas clean by working eight hours a day, but our unmanned cleaning boats can clean 70 mu in 7.5 hours even if 98 percent of the water surface is covered by floating garbage," said Zhu Jiannan, CEO of Orca Tech, the developer of the boat. The application of such boats can make sanitation missions safer and more efficient in extreme weathers, the CEO added.

China's first autonomous 300TEU container ship "Zhi Fei" was recently

put into operation on a sea route between two ports in Qingdao, east China's Shandong province. The diesel-electric hybrid vessel is equipped with an intelligent navigation system, with functions including independent route planning, collision avoidance, and remotely controlled navigation.

It can also be connected to shore-based production, services, controlling and monitoring facilities, including ports, navigation, and marine affairs offices, as well as navigation support departments, through 5G network and satellite communication, said Jiang Haiying, chairman of Navigation Brilliance, a Qingdao-based smart ship technology company and one of the vessel's developers. *People's Daily*

Sri Lanka's president, cabinet to resign, c. bank governor to stay

COLOMBO

SRI LANKA'S President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and the entire cabinet will resign to make way for a unity government, the prime minister's office said yesterday, after tens of thousands of protesters stormed the official residences of both men.

After Saturday's sweeping protests in the wake of a debilitating economic crisis, the speaker of parliament said Rajapaksa would resign on Wednesday. However, there has been no direct word from Rajapaksa on his plans.

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe has said he would also step down to allow an all-party interim government to take over. Wickremesinghe's office said Rajapaksa had confirmed his resignation plans to the prime minister, adding that the entire cabinet would resign once a deal was reached to form an all-party government.

The political instability could hurt the country's negotiations with the International Monetary Fund for a bailout package, the central bank governor told Reuters in an interview.

Governor P. Nandlal Weerasinghe

signalled he would stay on in the job although he had said in May he could resign if there was no political stability in the island nation of 22 million.

Asked if he would continue to steer the central bank, Weerasinghe said: "I have the responsibility once I have been appointed to serve for (a) six-year term."

Colombo, Sri Lanka's largest city, was calm on Monday as hundreds of people strolled into the president's secretariat and residence and toured the colonial-era buildings. Police made no attempt to stop anyone.

"We are not going anywhere till this president leaves and we have a government that is acceptable to the people," said Jude Hansana, 31, who has been at a protest site outside the residence since early April.

"The people's struggle is for wider political reforms. Not just for the president to leave. This is just the start."

Another protester, Dushantha Gunasinghe, said he had traveled to Colombo from a town 130 km away, walking part of the way because of the fuel crunch. He said he finally reached on Monday morning. "I'm so exhausted I can barely speak," said the 28-year-old as he sat on



Sri Lanka's President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

a plastic chair outside the president's office. "I came alone all this way because I believe we need to see this through. This government needs to go home and we need better leaders."

Rajapaksa and Wickremesinghe were not in their residences when the protesters surged into the buildings and have not been seen in public since Friday. Their whereabouts are unknown.

Wickremesinghe's private home in an affluent Colombo suburb was set on fire, and three suspects have been arrested.

police have said.

Constitutional experts say once the president and prime minister formally resign, the next step would be for the speaker to be appointed as acting president and for parliament to vote for a new president within 30 days to complete Rajapaksa's term that was to end in 2024.

Ordinary Sri Lankans have mainly blamed Rajapaksa for the collapse of the tourism-dependent economy, which was hammered badly by the COVID-19 pandemic and a ban on chemical fertil

izers that was later reversed.

Government finances were crippled by mounting debt and lavish tax breaks given by the Rajapaksa regime. Foreign exchange reserves were quickly depleted as oil prices rose.

The country barely has any dollars left to import fuel, which has been severely rationed, and long lines have formed in front of shops selling cooking gas. Headline inflation in the country of 22 million hit 54.6 percent last month, and the central bank has warned that it could rise to 70 percent in the coming months.

The political crisis sent Sri Lanka's government bonds, which are already in default, to new lows. The country's 2025 bond fell as much as 2.25 cents on the dollar while most were now under 30 cents, or 70 percent below their face value. Lutz Roehmeyer of Capitulum Asset Management, which holds Sri Lanka dollar bonds, said an IMF deal could happen this year or next, but for bondholders, a restructuring was likely only in 2024 or 2025, not next year.

"It's total chaos," Roehmeyer said. "Expectations are that the transition of power will be more chaotic and it will take longer to strike a deal."

Russia's special operation prevented humanitarian catastrophe, says lower house speaker

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin prevented a humanitarian catastrophe when he launched a special operation in Ukraine, speaker of the Russian State Duma (lower parliament house) Vyacheslav Volodin said on Sunday.

The Russian president "has done his best to ensure Russia's security," to protect people living in the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics (DPR and LPR), he said in an interview with the Moscow.Kremlin.Putin program on the Duma TV channel.

"Something horrible might have happened but for his decision to begin the special military operation. He warned about what might have happened."

Troops had been already pulled to the Donbass boundaries and the whole thing might have ended in a humanitarian catastrophe, might have entailed numerous casualties," he said.

On February 24, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced a special military operation in response to a request for help by the heads of the Donbass republics.

He stressed that Moscow had no plans of occupying Ukrainian territories, but aimed to demilitarize and denazify the country.

After that, the West began to impose large-scale sanctions on Russia and intensify weapons supplies to Ukraine.

Some Western politicians admit that this is actually an economic war on Russia.



World population to reach 8 billion on Nov 15 - UN

UNITED NATIONS

THE global population is projected to reach 8 billion on Nov 15, with India projected to surpass China as the most populous country in 2023, the United Nations said yesterday, World Population Day.

"It is a reminder of our shared responsibility to care for our planet and a moment to reflect on where we still fall short of our commitments to one another," said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

The growth rate is at its slowest since 1950, having fallen under 1 percent in 2020, according to the World Population Prospects 2022.

The world's population could grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030 and 9.7 billion in 2050 and peak at around 10.4 billion during the 2080s, and countries in sub-Saharan Africa are expected to contribute



Children wait to be vaccinated against polio in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on May 18, 2022. File photo

more than half of the increase through 2050, said the report.

More than half of the projected increase up to 2050 will be concentrated in eight countries: the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia,

India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and the United Republic of Tanzania, it added.

"Rapid population growth makes eradicating poverty, combatting hunger and malnutrition, and increasing the cov-

erage of health and education systems more difficult. Conversely, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, especially those related to health, education and gender equality, will contribute to reducing fer-

tility levels and slowing global population growth," said Liu Zhenmin, UN under-secretary-general for Economic and Social Affairs.

Fertility has fallen markedly in recent decades for many countries, the report said, noting that two thirds of the global population today lives in a country or area where lifetime fertility is below 2.1 births per woman, roughly the level required for zero growth in the long run for a population with low mortality.

Due to sustained low levels of fertility and, in some cases, elevated rates of emigration, the populations of 61 countries or areas are projected to decrease by 1 percent or more between 2022 and 2050, it said.

The share of the global population at 65 and above is projected to rise from 10 percent in 2022 to 16 percent in 2050, it said.

"Countries with aging populations should take steps to adapt

public programs to the growing proportions of older persons, including by improving the sustainability of social security and pension systems and by establishing universal health care and long-term care systems," the report noted.

The average global longevity is projected to be around 77.2 years in 2050 with further reductions in mortality, as 2019 saw a global life expectancy at birth of 72.8 years, an improvement of almost 9 years since 1990.

However, in 2021, global life expectancy at birth fell to 71 years, due mostly to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the life expectancy in the least developed countries lagged 7 years behind the global average.

Since 1990, World Population Day has been observed on July 11 to raise awareness of issues related to population growth around the world.

Xinhua

Digital technology turns century-old Chinese grottoes vibrant

IN a cave at the Yungang Grottoes, an ancient Chinese Buddhist site in Datong city, north China's Shanxi Province, several technicians were taking close-up photogrammetry and collecting image data with instruments such as HD cameras, station scanners and 3D laser scanners.

"We are collecting digital information about the Yungang Grottoes, which will provide important data support for the long-term conservation of the historical site," said Zhang Zhuo, secretary of the Party committee of the Yungang Grottoes Academy.

Excavated in the Northern Wei Dynasty (386-534), the Yungang Grottoes have a history of over 1,500 years. The cave relics are prone to weathering as the historical site is located in an open environment.

"The ongoing digital program is a basic project for the site to obtain accurate data for permanent preservation and perpetual use," Zhang said.

During information collection, subtle damage and potential risks could be discovered and then been timely fixed and eliminated, Zhang said, adding that the high-precision data and information collected would be digitalized to restore the grottoes in a database, providing data and image support for the protection, repairing and even reconstruction of the caves.

A number of projects have been launched at the Yungang Grottoes in recent years, including cave maintenance and investigation, construction of monitoring systems, waterproofing projects, digital collections of cultural relics, and 3D printing. The application of digital technology has made the protection work



Technicians survey and collect digital images in a cave at the Yungang Grottoes. (Photo from the official website of the Yungang Grottoes)

more precise, which helps realize the coordinated development of relics reservation and cultural research.

Digital technology is also bringing more people closer to the splendid Yungang Grottoes.

The Cave No. 12 of the grottoes, known as a "music cave", contains dozens of carvings of ancient musicians and musical instruments.

In collaboration with Zhejiang University, the academy collected high-fidelity digital information with 3D laser scanning technology and made a 1:1 replica of the "music cave" by 3D printing. All the clone parts are assembled like building blocks, so as to make transportation easier.

More projects have been implemented based on cave digitalization, including digital modeling,

construction of the 3D information system and digital sampling. The academy also replicated Caves No. 3, No. 12 and No.18 of the same size in cooperation with institutes such as Zhejiang University and Wuhan University.

The Cave No.3 and Cave No.18 replicas are now respectively placed in Qingdao, east China's Shandong province and Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture, as promotion landmarks of the grottoes. The Cave No.12 replica, which can be disassembled, has been exhibited at Zhejiang University and Shanghai Powerlong Museum, and will start its tour to Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province for display this year.

Ning Bo, director of the digital protection center of the Yungang

Grottoes Academy, introduced that the grottoes were the first in the world to make 1:1 replicas for super large cultural relics using 3D printing and block-style assembly technologies.

Remarkable progress has been achieved in enabling the movable display of immovable cultural relics, which marks a solid step of the Yungang Grottoes going global, Ning remarked.

Besides, the Yungang Grottoes have also made the cultural relics online using virtual reality and other cutting-edge technologies, which helps present the century-old Chinese grotto art to more people around the world and makes the cultural relics vibrant in the digital era.

People's Daily

G20 watchdog to propose first global crypto rules in October



This April 3, 2013, file photo shows bitcoin tokens in Sandy, Utah. AP

LONDON

THE Financial Stability Board said yesterday it would propose "robust" global rules for cryptocurrencies in October, following recent turmoil in markets that has highlighted the need to regulate the "speculative" sector.

The FSB, a body of regulators, treasury officials and central bankers from the Group of 20 economies (G20), has so far limited itself to monitoring the crypto sector, saying it did not pose a systemic risk.

But recent turmoil in crypto markets has highlighted their volatility, structural vulnerabilities and increasing links to the wider financial system, the FSB said.

"The failure of a market player, in addition to imposing potentially large losses on investors and threatening market confidence

arising from crystallization of conduct risks, can also quickly transmit risks to other parts of the crypto-asset ecosystem," the FSB said in a statement.

The value of bitcoin, the largest cryptocurrency, has slumped some 70 percent since its November record of \$69,000 and was trading at \$20,422 on Monday, leaving many investors nursing losses.

TerraUSD stablecoin collapsed earlier this year, and withdrawals and transfers from major crypto firms Celsius Network and Voyager Digital have rattled markets.

Stablecoins should be captured by robust regulation if they are to be used as a means of payment, the FSB said.

"The FSB will report to the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors in October on regulatory and supervisory approaches to stablecoins and oth-

er crypto-assets," the FSB said. The FSB has no lawmaking powers but its members commit to applying its regulatory principles in their own jurisdictions.

The watchdog is lagging the European Union, a leading member of the FSB, which agreed comprehensive new rules for the crypto market this month.

The FSB said cryptoassets are predominantly used for "speculative purposes" but don't operate in a "regulation free space" and must comply with relevant existing rules.

Many countries require crypto firms to have anti-money laundering controls.

"FSB members are committed to using the enforcement powers within the legal framework in their jurisdiction to promote compliance and act against violations," the FSB said.

Agencies

SPORT



Some Yanga players jubilate with the 2021/22 NBC Premier League's silverware shortly after receiving it at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya last month. The outfit received the trophy after facing Mbeya City FC in the top-flight match that took place at the venue and ended in a 1-1 draw. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Tanzania tournaments' titles should serve as an identity

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

HAVE any domestic football enthusiasts ever come across the Dutch Premier League's silverware?

If an individual follows the Dutch Premier League, popularly known as 'Eredivisie', he/she will notice that the league's champion is presented with a title that looks like a plate.

English Premier League, La Liga, and UEFA Champions League titles are all easily recognized.

How about in the Mainland Tanzania Premier League, have any of the football fanatics been following it for the past 10 seasons? Have they seen the top-flight's champions receiving different trophies?

In the Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC), the winners are each season presented with new trophies. No cup identifies the tournament, as is the case with the Community Shield.

A person ought to follow the Community Shield matches for the past 10 seasons and he/she will know what I mean, a new silverware is handed over to the winners each season.

That is confusing, one hardly knows what the problem is, and even the organizers of the tournaments have failed to present trophies that can easily identify the respective tournaments. In England, the Premier League title is not the same as either the League Cup's silverware or the FA Cup.

The same can be said of other top-flight tournaments held in Germany, Spain, France, and even Italy.

Immediately after the Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) and the 2021/22 Premier League's main sponsors, NBC Bank, introduced the trophy to be handed over to the top-flight's champion, Yanga, various debates erupted on social media.

The controversy erupted over the appearance of the trophy handed to Yanga after a dramatic end to the Premier League season, with some going as far as making jokes and comparing it to a juice jug. Some people call it a grinding machine.

The new trophy handed over to Yanga this season is different from the one that was presented to Simba SC once the club won the previous season's top-flight, although the showdown was sponsored by another firm.

Federation Cup showdown and even the Community Shield have also seen winners get different titles every season although for the past two seasons, Federation Cup sponsors, Azam Media Group, have managed to bring the same trophy to the ASFC.

The Community Shield has a different design every year as there are times the title is made of glass and sometimes it is wooden, thus, confusing football stakeholders that question why there should not be one type of shield every year. The Mainland Tanzania Premier League trophy has as well been changing every year, the trophy handed over to Simba last season is different from the one presented to Yanga this season.

Even though the Premier League's sponsors have been changing, that has not been the reason for making the showdown's titles change in appearance.

Many soccer enthusiasts suggest that the title should be the same as is the case with other leagues in the world including the English Premier League.

The fanatics recommend the trophy ought to be adorned with the colours of the respective champions' jerseys at that time.

In the English Premier League, the trophy has been the same for a long time despite the change in the top-flight sponsors.

The FA Cup and the Community Shield's titles handed over to champions have been the same every season so it is easy for football fans around the world to realize that this is a particular tournament.

In other high-profile soccer leagues such as La Liga of Spain, Germany's Bundesliga, and the UEFA Champions League, there is a single trophy that identifies the tournament.

There is another example of the League Cup showdown in England which is currently known as the Carabao Cup due to the sponsorship of the company.

The League Cup competition's silverware was made up of three designs, designed and manufactured by Mappin & Webb and weighed 2.976 kg, and measured 27 cm by 20.5 cm. It was first used in the 1980/81 tournament.

From 1981 to 1986 the Marketing Board sponsored the competition and decided to create another type of championship, as it was from 1987 to 1990 the Littlewoods came in to sponsor the competition and decided to create their trophy.

However, from 1990 to date, despite the competition being sponsored by different sponsors, the tournament's champion was awarded the same type of trophy as the one that was handed over to the winner in the 1980/81 season.

Since the return of the FA Cup after a 10-year hiatus, from 2003-2015, the tournament's title has varied every season.

The ASFC silverware handed over to Yanga in Arusha is not the same as the one presented to their hometown rivals, Simba, and it is not the same as the one the former received when they emerged winners in the inaugural showdown in the 2015/16 season.

The ASFC trophy handed over to the then Yanga captain, Nadir Haroub 'Cannavaro', by the then TFF president, Jamal Malinzi, in the 2015/16 season is different from the one presented to Simba that won the following season's tournament, and it is also different from the title presented to 2017/18 ASFC winners, Mtwara Sugar, in Arusha.

The ASFC silverware handed over to Azam FC which was the tournament champion after beating Lipuli in Lindi in the 2018/19 season was not the same as the title presented to Mtwara Sugar. The silverware is also different from the two trophies presented to Simba in a row before Yanga clinched the 2021/22 ASFC trophy by beating Coastal Union 4-1 in the penalty shootout of the final.

This is in contrast to England FA trophies handed over to Man United, Chelsea, Arsenal, Liverpool, or Manchester City FC, as the structure is the same as that of the Carabao Cup, proving Tanzania's football administrators and sponsors are wrong.

SPORTS

Focus shifts to academies after buying best players proves elusive to top clubs

By Correspondent John Kimbute

INDIVIDUALS who aspired to positions of leadership in Young Africans SC, popularly known as Yanga, showed a singular streak in their campaign promises via interviews on city FM radio stations, on the need to focus on a club academy to nurture in-house rather than expect to buy top-rated players once they appear on the Mainland Tanzania Premier League.

Academy ideas or needs have always been there, and not just with clubs but the Tanzania Football Federation and international soccer organization, FIFA.

There are youth teams with all Premier League sides precisely to nurture local talent, but the reasoning there is different from the current need.

In part, the sense of urgency on the issue of an academy for each of the top sides has come up with the relative failure of the next street archrivals, Yanga and Simba SC, to seek the sign of Geita Gold FC player George Mpole.

Had Yanga lost the final encounter for the 2021/22 Azam Sports Federation Cup with Coastal Union, the player would probably have been cheaper because his club would not be part of the continental tournaments, specifically the CAF Confederation Cup.

Up to that point, it was Simba SC that looked in pole position to take the Geita Gold FC player, as unlike Abdulhamis Suleiman 'Sopu' at Coastal Union, he is a well-known goal-getter.

Considerations being heard from Yanga may not be different from drawing room discussions at the next street club, namely paying a stiff price for the Geita Gold FC player only for him to battle for placing on the first team with acknowledged professionals from outside, or loyal players already in the team.

As Msimbazi Street club's leaders are keen on regaining their position as the local leading club, and putting up a more spirited performance in the CAF Champions League - and they have deeper pockets than the Jangwani Street side - it was still possible they pursue the signature. But it was clear



One of Spain's Celta Vigo FC's coaches (3rd L) drills a section of Tanzania's coaches at Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park in Dar es Salaam recently. The Spanish Premier League club's coaches are in Tanzania for 10 days courtesy of Magnet Football Academy. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MCHEKADONA

the chasing was not exactly 'hot.'

Tussling over George Mpole may have helped to polish youth soccer improvement plans at the leading city sides but it is only the tip of the iceberg.

What is visible is that there is a sharp growth in financial capacity among Premier League sides, not just among the two city rivals, for the simple reason that the conditions which enable the city rivals to prosper largely also apply to several other sides.

Yet this situation is not an even factor across the board, as formerly powerful Mtwara Sugar SC was approaching relegation in the outgoing season, similar to their neighbours Ruvo Shooting, a military side that has seen its best days.

Parastatals and public organizations or departments cannot, frankly, compete.

There are two aspects to recruitment difficulties that lead to the issue of reinforcing the role of a club academy, in that it is expensive to get each position a good player capable of performing well in international competition.

Mostly these are obtained from outside, from good clubs which can dispense with such players, for the simple reason that trying to do the same thing for local clubs would either be deceptive or in some cases too costly.

At present, the city rivals chiefly rely on players whose contracts have run out and can give a better offer, or who have simply been dropped and are looking for an engagement.

In like manner, for players recruited from local sides, namely Premier League sides that have done well in the tournament, the city rivals have gradually learned that they find it difficult to stand the pressure when drafted into either Yanga or Simba SC.

That has also been noticed for recruits from outside, so it is not exactly a failing of local players as it is observed everywhere when excellent players leave high-level clubs in the England Premier League to either rub benches or appear regularly as routine players in Spanish 'galactico' sides.

In that case, there is a sort of balance in recruitment, also reflected in the 10 players limitation regulation.

The clean sweep of Mainland Tanzania soccer competitions titles by the Jangwani Street side, with their next-door rivals settling for the Mapiinduzi Cup in a drawn-out final with Azam FC that Simba SC won 1-0 indicated that the gap that the Msimbazi Street side had created since the fall of former Yanga sponsor, Yusuf Manji, was a clear indication that the gap had now been closed.

Even the ranking of players by top sports writers at the end of the Premier League season indicated that on a one-to-one basis, there is a chance that Yanga might have had an edge over Simba SC.

The picture was marred by the first-round departure in the 2021/22 CAF Champions League, partly on account of landing a Nigerian winning club, which called for greater preparation than if the side had met a club from a less noticeable African soccer league.

Caravans Cricket Club makes it to 2022 DC GP T20 Big Bash League semis

By Guardian Reporter

CARAVANS Cricket Club has secured progression to 2022 DC GP T20 Big Bash League's last four, notching a 21-run victory over rivals, Aga Khan SC, in a tie that took place in Dar es Salaam last week.

It was the showpiece's second group stage match for the two outfits, a winner-takes-all scenario with semi-final qualification at stake.

Caravans Cricket Club won the toss, elected to bat first, and set a target of 117 runs, with Jitin Pratap Singh, Nandakishan Pottachira, and Akhil Anil leading the line.

Singh registered 37 runs (38), Pottachira posted 27 runs (20), and Anil ended with 20 runs (19).

Harsheed Chohan was the pick of Aga Khan SC's bowlers with a five-wicket haul, giving away only 11 runs in his four-over quota.

In reply, Aga Khan SC struggled to maintain a partnership, with wickets falling at regular intervals.

Aga Khan SC ultimately fell short of the target by 21 runs, having notched 95 runs dropping eight wickets in 20 overs with Vipin Abraham's 30 runs not out (19) being the only notable performance at the crease.

There were as well two-digit figures that Riziki Kisetu, Chohan, and Laksh Snehal had notched in the innings as the club vainly attempted to reach the target.

The experienced Kisetu recorded a 29-ball 14, tail-ender Snehal posted 10 runs, and Chohan returned with 11 runs consisting of a four.

Anil led Caravans Cricket Club's bowling onslaught with figures of 4-1-2-3, the performer was as a result adjudged Man of the Match for his solid all-around performance.

Caravans Cricket Club will consequently lock horns with big hitters Pak Stars in the showdown's



Caravans Cricket Club's Akhil Anil poses for a picture with the Player of the Match award when the side confronted GP Pak Stars in the 2022 DC GP T20 Big Bash League match that was held at the University of Dar es Salaam venue recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

semi-final on Saturday.

Caravans Cricket Club had started its quest for success in the 2022 DC GP Big Bash T20 League, coming up against GP Pak Stars in one of the opening day's duels at Annadil Burhani Club's venue on July 3. The GP Pak Stars, having won the toss and chose to bat first, registered 129 runs dropping nine wickets in 20 overs, with captain Muzamil Hussain leading the pack with his 63 runs (41).

Opener Humayun Taj had earlier chipped in with a double-

digit figure, having posted 24 runs that consisted of four fours.

Caravans Cricket Club had a breakthrough thanks to Manoj Kumar delivery that led to the dismissal of Hussain and helped to restrict the target.

Caravans Cricket Club's all-rounder Kassim Nassor ended with three wickets, Jitin Pratap Singh and Akhil Anil notched two wickets apiece and became the pick of the squad's bowlers.

In response, Caravans Cricket Club started well with both openers Nassib Kelvin and

Nandakishan Pottachira providing a solid foundation.

Kelvin scored 25 runs (18), and Pottachira registered 38 runs (16) for the fearsome cricket giants.

The match was eventually won in 12.2 overs, as Caravans Cricket Club wrapped the win convincingly, scoring 127 runs for the loss of six wickets.

Anil ended with 30 runs not out (14) and, as a result, played a pivotal role in the chase.

He, eventually, was awarded Man of the Match for his exploits at the crease.

How are Barcelona signing players? Explaining their financial issues

By Sid Lowe, ESPN Spain writer

BARCELONA president Joan Laporta was back eating at his favourite restaurant on Thursday night, joined by Chelsea's new co-owner, Behdad Eghbali (the co-chairman of Clearlake Capital is part of the consortium that bought the Blues from Roman Abramovich, alongside Todd Boehly.)

When Laporta came out and was bundled into the back of a van to avoid the media, all Eghbali would say was that the meal at Via Veneto had been very good. Barca's CEO, meanwhile, described the visit as "institutional," whatever that's supposed to mean. It wasn't very convincing and reporters didn't buy it: one asked if Eghbali was there to confirm Cesar Azpilicueta's move to Camp Nou, and the Chelsea captain wondered so too.

It was not just him left to wonder; there's also left-back Marcos Alonso. Centre-back Andreas Christensen had already turned up in Spain, clutching a piece of paper that proved that coming to Catalonia had always been his dream, now fulfilled after his Chelsea contract ran out.

Written when he was little and in neat handwriting, it declared his intention to be a fodbolspiller who would play for FC Barcelona. He said he had told Alonso and Azpilicueta of his move, and hoped that they would soon join him. The day before, midfielder Franck Kessie had arrived after his contract expired at AC Milan, looking sharp in a blue suit.

News came a couple of days later of another, increased bid for Leeds United attacker Raphinha, with optimism that he might actually join Barcelona despite competition from other clubs who had placed bids above €60 million. And news on Robert Lewandowski, the transfer fee reportedly edging closer to €40m for the Bayern Munich forward.

Laporta had openly talked about Man City's Bernardo Silva, too; Sevilla defender Jules Kounde was another one. And still the Ousmane Dembele story was going on, six months after they told him to leave the club and a week after he had officially become a free agent, his future no longer clear and no longer formally linked to FC Barcelona, either.

Then there was Frenkie de Jong. Barca had been negotiating his €85m transfer to Manchester United, trying to get him to go even when he didn't really want to, but now the president was saying he didn't intend to let the midfielder leave. It was heavily caveated, and not exactly a vow, but here he was saying that he would like the 25-year-old to stay.

All of which poses a question: How?

How could Barcelona, a club reportedly €1.3 billion in debt, do this? How could they, with a salary limited set by LaLiga of €144m, chase so many players and at such a cost? And why would the league let them? How

can a club described by their own vice president as "clinically dead" when they took over from the regime that led them almost to ruin, with aspirations only to get out of the ward – never mind the hospital – sign all these players?

The short answer is that they can't. Kessie and Christensen were presented this week, but they can't be registered because Barcelona don't meet the league's financial fair play criteria. They are not within the salary limits LaLiga sets, in other words, and those budget deficits prevent their new players from formally joining the squad.

For now, anyway. They will eventually, or at least that's the aspiration and the expectation. Which is why "they can't" isn't really the answer, even if it's strictly speaking about the present. And even that may need a little explaining.

Indeed, judging by many reactions, it does need an explainer, even if a necessarily simplified one – otherwise it gets very complex, very boring and we will be here forever. Nobody wants that.

So, beyond the obvious answer that no team ever signs all the players they pursue, still less all the players they are linked to, here are a few pointers as to how a club that appear unable to sign any players will end up signing players. Maybe even quite a lot of them, and maybe for quite a lot of money too.

First of all, there are different yet interrelated processes running in parallel here:

- One is the general financial state of the club, something that always has to be balanced with the competitive state of the club in the short-, mid- and long-term.

- Another is the ability of the club to hit budgetary targets, which is why there was a rush to bring in the first of the now-famous "economic levers" – more of these in a minute – before July 1.

- The third is the ability of the club to fulfil the league's criteria to sign. And that's the one which, right now, is the most significant.

The *limite salarial*, LaLiga's equivalent of financial fair play, is the amount – defined by the league after analysing the club's audited accounts – that they are allowed to spend on the first team, basically made up of transfer fees, amortisations and wages. It is an over-simplification, but it is essentially a calculation of what the club can afford based on the income against outgoing. There are recommendations that salaries should not represent much more than 60% of a club's income, but the correlation is not as direct as that.

It is also – and this is important – applied prior to signings. This isn't like other financial controls, where a club that breaks the rules gets punished later on. If a club does not meet the criteria, they will simply not be able to sign a player. Registrations are done digitally with an app that will actually not allow you to click

"Accept." And so a player you try to add just will not be added, and his registration will not be completed. The computer will say no.

There are ways to move money around, defer payments and spread costs, of course – remember the Arthur/Miralem Pjanic swap deal with Juventus, for example – but that can't go on forever, and it only takes you so far.

Salary limits shift all the time, depending on the amount of money coming in and going out. Barcelona's €144m, the only negative figure in the league, was prompted by costs being greater than anticipated and some losses being loaded into last year. That figure is the last published limit, rather than the actual figure right now.

The next figure will be defined later this summer; as it is in the negative today, it means that Barcelona have to make good on €144m before they get to 0. Which would still mean, well, quite literally, that they have nothing to spend on players.

But that does not mean Barcelona do not spend any money on their squad – the actual salary mass they are spending annually was at around €560m – it means that they cannot. Or rather, they cannot spend anew: Because they do not hit the targets, they cannot add to that, except under certain and limited criteria (more of which in a minute.)

So what does it all mean? Well Barcelona need to cut costs and make money – and fast. The obvious thing is to offload players for a lot of money or to let their biggest wage-earners find new clubs. They've tried both, and are still trying, but neither are easy; players tend not to be that keen to take pay cuts or leave clubs where they're happy and earning a lot.

And there's only one thing worse than being on the market when you have very little money: being on the market when everyone else knows that you have very little money.

There are other ways of generating money – the Spotify sponsorship deal, for example. Increased revenue in match day, marketing and more. And then, faced by a crisis, Barcelona came up with what they called *palancas*, or "economic levers."

There were two ways they hoped to do this. One was a deal to sell up to 25% of their LaLiga TV money for up to 25 years. The other was to sell up to 49.9% of BLM, the company they set up to manage their marketing and licensing. Is this a good idea? It's a reasonable question, but it may not be the question, at least not now. The answer may well be "no, not really" – you are, after all, selling an asset or a share of future earnings – but they had to seek some solution. Privatising assets was always likely to be a way out.

The first of these *palancas* was confirmed recently and after two years of losses, it allowed Barcelona to hit budgetary targets, turning a profit for the financial year, which closed July 1, and also having an impact on



Barcelona's president, Joan Laporta, is talking a good game while the club continues to wheel and deal in order to be able to make some signings. So far, it's been a mixed effort. (Agencies)

that *limite salarial*.

Barcelona sold 10% of the money they are due to make from their LaLiga TV rights (not their Champions League rights) over the next 25 years for €207.5m. The TV deal is currently worth €166m to them. So if that deal does not change (which it should of course) they would be handing over €16m a year, starting this year, for 25 years: A total of €400m over that period in return for €207.5m now, when they need it most. Essentially, a loan secured against future earnings.

Barcelona now hope that, having relieved the pressure with that deal and bought themselves some time, they can sell a further 15% for closer to €400m. Hitting that target is far from easy, but if they do it would mean – again simplifying more complex calculations for the ease of understanding – raising a little under €600m (€607m minus the €16m they lose this year.)

Then there was the potential BLM deal, which Barcelona were predicting could be around €300m. (It would be a joint venture and offers of €270m-plus had already been turned down.)

Does that package mean they can sign and register players? Yes, but not on its own. A few weeks ago, Barcelona suggested that even if they made €600m from the *palancas*, it might not be enough. Not long after, though, LaLiga president Javier Tebas said that €500m should allow them to sign.

To explain why, in simple terms: Taking Barcelona's salary limit at €144m and their actual salary mass at €560m (they aim to reduce it to €400m), they would need to hit €704m to generate a positive balance. If they could make €600m, the lower

end of the initial predictions, they would fall short. If they made €800m, the upper end of early predictions and unlikely to be the case, they would have around €96m surplus, which could be invested.

If they did fall short, they could still spend by taking advantage of LaLiga criteria put in place because of the COVID-19 pandemic and designed to give clubs some room for manoeuvre within the framework of reducing costs, based on the belief that they could not prevent clubs from having any access to any means at all by which to alter their squad even as they have to be locked into a commitment to balance the books.

This is the 1:4 rule by which clubs are allowed to invest €1 for every €4 they saved. Put crudely, offload a player for €10m and you can invest €2.5m. Or if that player alone accounts for 5% of their budget, they can invest 50% of what is saved.

If a club gets to a point where their *limite salarial* actually does correlate to the existing salary mass, then it can invest at 1:1. In other words: Every euro you demonstrate that you can save, you can invest because you're keeping that level. And that's the ratio Barcelona aspire to, rather than a sudden surplus for signings.

Laporta has recently said that he hopes to do so even while resisting selling off half of BLM, and that's because they continue to cut across the board: sales, salary reductions, cuts. This summer will show us just how realistic that is.

Hence Barcelona trying to offload De Jong first and now, as they say they no longer want to him to go, admitting that wage adjustments would have to be made in order to keep him. Hence Kessie and

Christensen coming on free transfers. Hence the contract offer to Dembele involving a pay cut, and to Sergi Roberto renewing on reduced wages.

Hence Clement Lenglet going out on loan to Tottenham, the renewal of Samuel Umtiti only to renew attempts to offload him, the pressure applied on Gerard Pique. Costs must still be reduced and dramatically. It's not chance that Laporta talks about hoping not to have to let the Dutchman go; he knows he still might and that De Jong is the squad's most attractive talent.

Laporta has this week again insisted that while they want to build the squad that manager Xavi Hernandez wants, and while he feels some obligation to follow through on his promise to Lewandowski, even as the transfer fee rises way beyond what they'd hoped, any decisions must balance financial criteria, too. (Hence some of those deals being touted being every bit as implausible as they appear.) There are still too many players earning too much money, exits that need to be found, ways of reducing the costs – not just to improve their *limite salarial*, although that's the immediate issue, but because they just have to. Yet they also have to improve their squad – or believe they do. It is not easy. As one neat line put it: It's not easy to breathe in and breathe out at the same time.

"First we have to secure that second *palanca* and then we can sign at 1:1," Laporta said.

If they get to that point, will they be able to find a euro for every euro they want to invest? They will have to, which brings us back to the initial question: How?

This is how, the mechanics by which it is possible. Whether it is the right approach is debatable, whether you believe all you are told is another matter, whether this summer ends the way the optimists think, or the way the pessimists fear remains to be seen, but yes it is possible to sign some players and even some expensive ones – Barcelona have set a target of €200m in outgoing. Yet no, it is not possible to sign all of them. The system won't allow for it, a fact often seemingly overlooked.

Much has been made of the fact that Barcelona (and other clubs) are even allowed to sign at all; it has often been claimed that they have been permitted to just keep on spending, repeating the errors of the past, loading up further debt.

The accusation stands that they have been indulged or escaped punishment for their financial mismanagement, carrying on regardless and never forced to face the consequences. If there may be something in the former, the latter really isn't true. However quickly people seem to forget, there are two words that underlie that.

Lionel and Messi.



Former Milan midfielder Franck Kessie, middle, was also introduced in Barcelona this week despite being in a similar limbo to Christensen. (Agencies)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Andreas Christensen, left, was unveiled by Barcelona this week even though he's not yet eligible to actually register as a LaLiga player. (Agencies)

SPORT

Ronaldo has left Man United high and dry with handling of desire to leave

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Phiri looks forward to enjoying good coordination with Chama

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

NEW Simba SC striker, Moses Phiri, has said he hopes to enjoy great coordination with midfielder Clatous Chama to achieve the goal of helping the side excel in next season's Mainland Tanzania Premier League, Azam Sports Federation Cup, and Total CAF Champions League.

Phiri is the only foreign player registered by Simba SC and introduced to the side's members and supporters during this registration window.

The Zambian forward made the statement, adding that the main task ahead of him is to help the team regain its champion status.

He said his compatriot Chama is the only player who knows him well in the Simba SC squad due to the partnership they have built for Zambia's senior national team.

The newly signed goal-getter noted that he believes his presence in the Msimbazi Street outfit will help him a lot.

The attacker revealed: "I hope to get good co-operation from Chama towards next season, we have played for the Zambian national team."

Phiri pointed out: "I know him very well, he is a very good player and I believe we will together give Simba SC the best for next season."

Regarding Simba SC faring dismally in the 2021/22 season, the striker said that hardly bothers him as he believes next season the team will improve and perform well in both local tournaments and Total CAF Champions League.

"I know Simba SC has this season not been at its best but I believe next season everything will be fine, we will give our all to win the title," the former Zanazo FC forward pointed out.

Phiri is expected to return to Dar es Salaam next week to join his teammates at Simba SC, ready to start camp in preparation for 2022/23 Mainland Premier League, Azam Sports Federation Cup, and CAF Champions League which will officially start in August.



Indian visual artist, Praveen Maripelly, poses for a picture at the Mount Kilimanjaro summit last weekend. Maripelly, also a community yoga teacher, moreover took the challenge of performing yoga exercises on top of the mountain. He has, since 2013, been practicing yoga exercises, dubbed 'Surya Namaskars', 108 times every day at sea level. His project aims at unlocking human potential and the role of yoga in expanding and challenging human physical and mental boundaries. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT



MultiChoice Tanzania's Managing Director, Jacqueline Woiso (C), admires trophies won by films titled 'Mvamizi' and 'Uncle', shown by the DSTV channel Maisha Magic Movies, at the firm's offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The two films scooped top awards during the 2022 Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF). The films, commissioned by Mnet, premiered on the Maisha Magic Movies and were produced by Khatibu Madudu, and MultiChoice Talent Factory Academy graduate, Philipo Ngonyani. Others are (L-R) Ngonyani, 'Mvamizi' producer, actress Tunu Mbegu, actress Jaaila Ngonde, and Madudu, 'Uncle' producer. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Yanga players pocket millions from 2021/22 Premier League, ASFC tourney triumph

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC players and technical team have done good business and brought 750m/- to the club from the competitions they took part in and those they won in the 2021/22 campaign.

As is the norm at the club, alias Yanga, the players and technical staff will share a big part of the prize money as part of the management's effort to motivate them towards even more success.

That means the players and technical bench led by Tunisian Nasreddine Nabi will be smiling on their way to the bank.

The Green and Yellow outfit made a clean sweep of titles by winning all domestic trophies available.

They started the campaign by lifting the Community Shield in August, then claimed the NBC Premier League's silverware with three games.

They wrapped the season with the Azam Sports Federation Cup show-down title.

In the NBC Premier League, Yanga took home 500m/- prize money for the champion, and then grabbed 50m/- for the Azam Sports Federation Cup.

They received 100m/- for winning the Premier League title from the main sponsors.

For their first-place finish, the Jangwani Street club collected a tidy enough 100m/- from the club's main sponsors, betting firm SportPesa which has a five-year contract that is set to be renewed soon.

It adds up to an impressive 750m/- and, though it is a drop in the ocean in their annual budget, the club bosses should be pretty happy with this return on investment.

The players and the technical bench lived up to the saying that to make money, you have to spend money.

Nabi's players have been handsomely remunerated for pulling off the feat.

The players and the technical bench collectively scooped upwards of 100m/- in bonuses for completing the season unbeaten.

The Guardian understands the bonuses, written into contracts, are determined on an individual basis.

It is believed the winning bonuses range between 400,000/-, and 750,000/- for the vast majority of Nabi's first team.

The team won 22 Premier League games, which translates to seasonal bonuses of upwards of 15m/- for the majority of first-team starters, adding up to a sizable windfall.

The players and technical bench also earned handsomely for beating age-old rivals Simba SC on two different occasions last season.

Yanga won 1-0 against Simba SC in the Community Shield and also repeated the feat in the Azam Sports Federation Cup semi-final in Mwanza.

The squad's footballers have been given two weeks off to rest and recharge their batteries ahead of a grueling 2022/23 campaign where they look to retain their titles and compete in the CAF Champions League.

Simba SC snaps up former Kagera Sugar midfielder

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC has confirmed that it has signed Nassoro Kapama from Kagera Sugar.

The former Ndanda FC and Coastal Union midfielder joins Simba as a free agent, having parted ways with Kagera Sugar when his contract expired last month.

The utility player arrives at the Msimbazi outfit after a storming season with Kagera Sugar.

He helped Kagera Sugar to a sixth-spot finish in the NBC Premier League and the Azam Sports Federation Cup quarterfinal where they lost to finalists, Coastal Union, in penalty shootouts.

At Kagera Sugar, Kapama primarily operated as an attacking midfielder. However, the 25-year-old played as a central defender towards the end of the season.

He made 28 appearances for Kagera Sugar in all competitions last season.

Kapama's acquisition brings Simba's signings to four players ahead of the new season.

Habib Kyombo from relegated Mbeya Kwanza FC, Victor Akpan from Coastal Union, and Moses Phiri from Zanaco FC have already been revealed as new Simba SC signings.

Simba released three players at the end of last season which witnessed the squad having a difficult run which resulted in then head coach Pablo Franco Martin being discarded.

Zoran Maki has since been installed as the new man to guide the Msimbazi Reds to reclaim their glory.

They could part ways with more players in this transfer window, with some popular players believed to be in negotiations with the club.

Veteran striker Meddie Kagere could see his four-year stay come to an end if the club manages to get its target.

Congolese striker Chris Mugalu still has a year left on his contract with the club, but given the lack of game time last season - albeit his exclusion due to injury - he could also be on his way out of the club.

Kapama's arrival could also spell out the end of the road for utility player Erasto Nyoni.

A new center-back is wanted to replace the departed Ivorian international Pascal Wawa.

They are also expected to bring in at least two more players to increase competition for places up front.

Central African Republic's forward Caesar Manzoki and Ghanaian livewire Augustine Okra are reportedly on the verge of completing their deals to the Msimbazi Street outfit.



Nassoro Kapama

ing their deals to the Msimbazi Street outfit.

In a related transfer development in the NBC Premier League, newly promoted Singida Big Stars have completed the signing of goalkeeper, Metacha Mnata, from Polisi Tanzania on a two-year deal.

The goalkeeper that is also a senior national squad 'Taifa Stars' player joins central defender, Abdul Majid Mangalo, who has joined from relegated Biashara United, Aziz Andambwile from Mbeya City FC, and striker Kelvin Kongwe from Mtibwa Sugar.

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The players and the technical bench lived up to the saying that to make money, you have to spend money

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 EATV TUESDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
11:55 MPYA
12:00 Mperampera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 SPORTS (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mperampera
16:00 Zote kuntu
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hits
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and; is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM