



### National Pg 3 Tanzania to benefit from AfDB funding



### National Pg 5 Diabetes management and kidney diseases



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Bishop Jackson Sosthenes of the Dar es Salaam Diocese of the Anglican Church of Tanzania heads for the altar in the city yesterday to get Easter Mass going. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

# Malaria cut by 90 per cent at refugee camp

Malaria was the main challenge to most Burundian refugees when they first arrived in 2015, reaching a point where a single health post was receiving 50 to 60-patients per day, according to MSF clinical officer Christina Mabika

**By Henry Mwangonde just back from Kigoma**  
THE use of innovative interventions to combat malaria is paying off at Nduta refugee camp in Kigoma Region after experts managed to reduce the disease by almost 90 percent.  
Nduta is one among refugees camps located in the region, served by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the government.  
Malaria was a major health challenge in Nduta camp and its surrounding environs though cases have decreased recently, thanks to innovative interventions by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) meaning Doctors Without Borders - an international humanitarian medical non-governmental organization working on provision of health in the camp and surrounding environs.  
The vector control, larvae siding, packaging of mosquitoes proved how the use of innovative ideas can help combat the deadly disease.  
Malaria was the main challenge to most Burundian refugees when they first arrived in 2015, reaching a point where a single health post was receiving 50 to 60-patients per day, according to MSF clinical officer Christina Mabika.  
"In 2016, after consultation with various stakeholders, we agreed that there is need for an immediate intervention strategy to reverse the situation because it was frightening," said Dr Godson Peter, the vector control manager for MSF.  
In his explanation on packaging, Dr Peter said the organization traps mosquitoes from houses and then take them to the vector control unit then stored in petty dishes where they are killed and sought out in species.  
According to him, the types being separated are Anopheles Faestus and Anopheles

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## Sahara Energy boosts Pope Francis quest for peace in South Sudan

By Special Correspondents in Juba/Abuja

AS the South Sudanese people and the world remain in awe of the inspiring feet kissing and blessing of the nation's leaders by Pope Francis, Sahara Energy Resources DMCC, Dubai, has extended a \$600 million facility to help boost resurgent hope for peace in the world's youngest democracy.  
Pope Francis recently kissed the feet of President Salva Kiir Mayardit and Vice Presidents-designate Riek Machar and Rebecca Nyandeng de Mabior during a "spiritual retreat" at the Vatican, urging them to "remain in peace."  
Steeped in a consciousness that

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## Easter pastoral letter urges universal health insurance

By Guardian Reporter

A CROSS-SECTION of church leaders yesterday called upon the government to establish a way in which majority of Tanzanians can get health insurance cover especially for those with no ability to access it.  
Speaking at various churches across the country during Easter mass services church leaders also asked financial institutions to lower their loan interest rates, political leaders to mind their words and uphold peace as well as intensify the war on corruption.  
Reading a pastoral letter from the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) during a national

Easter Sunday Mass at Kayanga Catholic church in Karagwe District, Kagera Region, Bishop Almachius Rweyongeza called on the government to establish a way in which the majority of Tanzanians can get health insurance services especially for those with no ability to access it.  
He said the majority of Tanzanians are poor and have failed to get such services.  
"We are calling upon the government to put an arrangement where people can contribute and have a chance to receive such services," he said.  
Bishop Rweyongeza said however that TEC recognizes government efforts to ensure

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## Amboseli Park at big risk with Kili glaciers melting

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

A University of Nairobi researcher, Dr John Nyangaga, has warned that climate change is threatening the survival of livelihoods in the East Africa region.  
The Department of Geography and Environmental Studies staff member has said that the melting glaciers of Mount Kilimanjaro are a pointer to the devastating effect of climate change.  
Dr Nyangaga says the fast depletion of the snow cap on Africa's highest mountain adds to dangers of sea level rise putting in danger the presence of islands in the East African coastal zone and elsewhere.  
The don, who was coordinating an educational field trip of the coastal region for fourth year students in the department, further points out that the existence of the Amboseli National Park which

gets its water from streams emanating from Mount Kilimanjaro would dry up once the snow cap is depleted.  
The park ranger, Elijah Mutua said the park is dependent on water springs associated with Mt. Kilimanjaro. They give rise to several swamps that are critical to wildlife in the park.  
"The high primary productivity of the swamps is able to sustain a vast array of wildlife species and contributes to the high biodiversity and tourism value of the ecosystem," says Mutua.  
However, Dr. Nyangaga says global warming and thus climate change spells doom for the Amboseli ecosystem. The Mzima springs sourced at the Amboseli Swamp are equally under threat, he pointed out.  
"The chain reaction starting with the melting glaciers on Mt. Kilimanjaro, leading to drying of

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**SPECIAL FEATURE ON INDUSTRIALIZATION DEVELOPMENT IN TANZANIA**

**"NCHI YA VIWANDA"**

The Guardian Ltd, wish to inform the public and our esteemed Clients that, A special feature on Industrialization in Tanzania which was supposed to be published on 18th April 2019 was put on hold to 23rd April 2019.

We apologise for inconvenience caused.

We wish you all a good Easter Holiday

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**The Guardian Nipashe Citi**



## Easter pastoral letter urges universal health insurance

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universal health coverage for all.

He cited data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) that 28 percent of Tanzanians, about 14.2 million live in absolute poverty.

"This means a huge number of our people are not able to access such service. As a nation we have the task to ensure they are enabled to access health in all corners of the country," he emphasized.

The church being part of the society it has the responsibility to sensitize it to widen or universalize health coverage, he elaborated.

In his remarks, the Regional Commissioner, Brigadier General Marco Gaguti called upon residents to stop smuggling coffee to neighbouring countries.

He also asked them not to allow foreigners to buy land but instead accommodate them for their safety.

Bishop Dr Solomon Masangwa of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) in Arusha called upon commercial banks to lower interests so that the majority of Tanzanians access loans.

He said that to ensure an inclusive financial economy, there is need for banks to assess themselves and see whether the interest charges they impose are friendly to the poor.

Bishop Dr James Almasi of the Anglican Diocese of Masasi asked leaders mandated with the provision of justice in the country to fulfil their duties to save the nation from unnecessary civil misunderstanding.

Bishop Almasi made the remarks during an Easter mass service at St. Baltimore church in Masasi, Mtwara Region.

"It is important for the country to respect one another in an effort to maintain the country's peace and tranquillity," he declared.

For his part, Bishop Augustino Shao of the Catholic Diocese of Zanzibar called upon the two governments to be careful with foreign employment.

Bishop Shao said it was sad to see that many available jobs are taken by foreigners on pretence of investment.

"It is not possible for a Tanzanian

to sell clothes or ice cream in Italy, China, Germany or in the US, but in Tanzania this is possible. On pretence of investment foreigners are selling tea and work as labourers in factories.

The Anglican Church Bishop for the Central Diocese, Dr Dickson Cholongani said despite government efforts to fight corruption, the malpractice is still on the rise among civil servants.

On Friday, the Catholic Archbishop of Arusha, Isaac Amani, cautioned Tanzanians to reserve available food supplies for future use, as delayed rains in many parts of the country are likely cause poor harvests this year.

The prelate issued the remarks while addressing a unified congregation at the Good Friday ecumenical service at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium.

The service brought together high-profile religious leaders and worshippers from different denominations who gathered to commemorate the day.



**Bishop Rweyongeza (pictured) said however that, TEC recognises government efforts to ensure universal health coverage for all**



Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) vector control manager Dr Godson Peter (R) explains to a journalist with The Guardian how a home-based mosquito trap works. This was at Nduta Refugee Camp in Kigoma Region at the weekend. Left is MSF vector control supervisor Jean d'Amour Ndiokubwayo. Photo courtesy of MSF

## Malaria cut by 90 per cent at refugee camp

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Gambiae which are the most common mosquitoes in the country. The seeking out also involves separation of female and male Anopheles.

Dr Peter said the idea is to remain with mosquitoes that spread malaria alone (Anopheles Gambiae and Anopheles Fanestus).

"The mosquitoes are later packed into tubes then taken to the Kilimanjaro Medical Catholic University (KMCU) which conducts an analysis and send back the Sporozoite rate (ability to spread malaria) and Entomological rate (ability to bite)," he said.

On larvae siding, Dr Godson said mosquitoes are collected, fed up for various purposes including testing their resistance towards various chemicals used to treat malaria.

He said upon collected the larvae are stored into various environments for them to grow and be used in various experiments to test their resistance to chemicals hence change if needed.

He further clarified that the results gives MSF a clear idea on what to do after realizing the kind of mosquitoes available, hence finding the best interventions strategy.

Dr Saimon Masanja, the medical activity manager for MSF, said in 2017

the organization treated 153,000 malaria patients, but after interventions the number decreased to 66,000 in 2018 which was almost a 50-percent decrease.

The positivity rate also decreased from 57.3 percent to 33.7 percent in 2018, he said.

Tanzania has made significant gains in the fight against malaria, with prevalence decreasing by half from 14.4 per cent recorded in 2016 to 7.3 in 2018, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in the just released 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey.

New infections for under-five

children have dropped to 7.3 per cent, it was noted.

Nduta refugee camp was reopened in 2015 in an effort to relieve overcrowding in Nyarugusu refugee camp, the third largest refugee camp in the world.

Aid agencies needed to move fast, with the relocation of refugees beginning on the 7th of October, at the start of the rainy season, when 20,000 people were still living in mass shelters on a flood plain.

According to UNHCR 27,500 Burundian refugees were moved from Nyarugusu to Nduta and then on to another camp, Mtendele, between October and December 2015.



Institute of Finance Management lecturer Dr Nabeel Kiwia speaks at a Tanzania Muslim scientific workshop held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend on how Muslim financing improves livelihoods. Photo: Correspondent Hamisi Musa

## Amboseli Park at big risk with Kili glaciers melting

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rivers that feed the Amboseli Swamp. This will in turn affect water that feeds into Mzima Springs, and the result will be conflicts over water."

The lecturer is now asking the coastal

counties of Taita Taveta, Mombasa, Lamu, Kwale, Kilifi and Tana River to join hands in conserving the region's ecosystem.

He is equally advising Kenya and Tanzania that share Mt. Kilimanjaro

to put in measures to conserve the Mt. Kilimanjaro ecosystem so as to save livelihoods downstream.

"Another solution lies in sustainable utilisation of water from the Mzima Springs," says Dr. Nyangaga.

Already the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) says that global temperatures have risen by 1.5 degrees Celsius making the globe warmer and in effect will continue to affect the survival of many habitats.

## Sahara Energy boosts Pope's quest for South Sudan peace

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spurs reciprocal forgiveness, the Pope's widely commended gesture and ongoing support from various governments and corporate entities like Sahara Energy signpost a prospective march towards peace in South Sudan.

The \$600 million facility provided by Sahara Energy DMCC, a member of leading energy and infrastructure conglomerate Sahara Group, is expected to support the peace process and facilitate sustained economic growth and development in South Sudan.

"Sahara Group is passionate about spearheading sustainable development in Africa and remains unwavering in its resolve to support peace and trade integration on the continent to promote shared prosperity," SG executive director Temitope Shonubi said in a meeting with President Kiir.

The World Bank reports that South Sudan is the most oil-dependent country in the world, with oil accounting for almost the totality of exports, and around 60 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP).

The cost required to help six million South Sudanese - half of its population - cope with the effects of the country's economic situation was put at \$1.7 billion last year, according to the United Nations. The huge funding challenge of transforming the country makes the Sahara Energy facility and continuing global support inevitable.

In line with the governance requirement and the need to preserve the integrity of South Sudan's oil resources, the facility provided by Sahara Energy will be managed by the nation's central bank under the watch of a UN-led committee.

Shonubi said Sahara Group, working in concert with various stakeholders, would support infrastructure development and youth empowerment in South Sudan.

"Following the end of the conflict and the reconciliatory efforts made by the country's leaders, we are delighted

to partner with the government and people of South Sudan as well as support regional and global initiatives geared towards transforming the nation," he said.

He added: "Sahara Group has consistently advocated increased commitment to intra-Africa interventions through collaboration of all stakeholders. This, for us at Sahara, enhances the cause of giving wings to the aspirations of the continent's over 1.2 billion people."

Shonubi had during the 2019 African Refiners Association (ARA) meeting in Cape Town reiterated the urgent need for intra-regional trade in Africa and the commitment of Sahara Group to promote the cause.

He told delegates at the meeting that Sahara Group, in keeping with its vision of a harmonised Africa, was building an integrated energy business across Africa to harness the potential of intra-regional trade.

"We are delighted to be one of the first African companies to carry out full-cycle crude and product trade transactions using only African resources within the continent," Shonubi told the gathering of the continent's leading energy sector players, adding: "All transactions were carried out by Africans for Africans using African resources. The future of our business depends on how well we can work together across Africa."

Working through the Sahara Foundation, Sahara Group has since renovated and upgraded the University of Juba Computer Centre in South Sudan with brand new computers, central UPS and server, air conditioners, roof-mounted projector and furniture.

The facility will boost ICT penetration within and outside the university community and ultimately inspire the emergence of more 'techpreneurs' in South Sudan. Sahara Foundation has also provided farm equipment to cooperatives in a bid to boost crop production and self-sustainability in the region.



Children cared for at Ibututu satellite centre in Mshewe ward, Mbeya Region, line up for hand washing before having porridge late last week. The centre is one of 23 supported by UNICEF. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

# Tanzania to benefit from AfDB funding

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is one of the eight African countries which are to benefit from the 1.7bn/- fund released by the African Development Bank (AfDB) for Small and Medium-scale Enterprises in Africa's agricultural sector.

The funding, which part of a larger 53bn/- facility is dubbed the Agriculture Fast Track (AFT) scheme, is tailored to support the small businesses in implementing their business models.

The multi-door fund which is meant to support 10 African countries exists under the auspices of the governments of the United States, Denmark and Sweden via their various development agencies.

Thanks to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and the Swedish International Development (Sida), each beneficiary of the investment will receive between USD 100 K and USD 1.5 Mn towards the preparation of agriculture infrastructure projects.

Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Burkina Faso, and Malawi, most of which already have considerable will benefit from the fund in preparation for agricultural infrastructure projects and financing or advisory services for agribusiness expansion purposes. According to a statement, the projects are expected to be implemented within half a year, while it will finance the upstream works of project design, feasibility studies, business plans, product certification, and market analysis. Per AfDB's statement, the fund will help the benefitting countries conduct an environmental and social impact assessment.

September 2018, Premium Times

reported that the AfDB would be investing USD 24 Bn in the continent's agriculture over a ten-year course to combat the global hunger of 1 billion people.

The revelation which was made by AfDB President Akinsunmi Adesina was followed by a challenge to global partners to put hands on deck to life the entire world out of hunger. The concerted efforts by different agencies from Europe somehow proves that the charge did not fall on deaf ears. The USD 23 Mn facility is one of the largest agri-funding in Africa.

According to a recent report by the International Food Policy Research Institute, Africa could add 38 million to its number of hungry people by 2050 as a result of climate change. The organisation also predicted that the continent would experience major food shortages by 2020 and beyond, while malnutrition may be on the increase over the next two decades.

Since its inception in 2013, the AFT has been under the administration of the Agriculture and Agro-Industry Department of the AfDB, approving 36 grant projects, most of which are private-sector sponsored agribusiness SMEs.

**“The multi-door fund which is meant to support 10 African countries exists under the auspices of the governments of the United States, Denmark and Sweden via their various development agencies**

## Kigoma investment forum attracts 300 key business actors

By Guardian Correspondent, Kigoma

MORE than 300 key business actors, government officials and investors from five countries have confirmed participation in the first international investment and trade forum to be held in Kigoma Region located on the eastern shores of Lake Tanganyika.

Innocent Kahwa, Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) coordinator for western zone regions of Kigoma, Tabora, Katavi and Rukwa, said the participants will come from Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia.

He said the forum themed “Tanganyika Business Summit and

Festival” to be held from May 9 through May 11, will provide a platform for policy makers, private sector, entrepreneurs and non-governmental organizations to deliberate issues related to policy, laws, regulations, trade and investment opportunities for mutual economic development among stakeholders.

“We are getting more confirmations of participation from business firms in Burundi, Zambia, Rwanda and the DRC,” said Kahwa, adding that the forum will also be attended by 220 government officials and business firms from Tanzania.

He said: “The forum marks an important milestone in the road map towards establishing Kigoma to

be a trade and business hub within neighboring countries.”

The official said during the forum participants were expected to present illustrative practices as well as new developments in the field of cross border trade and investment opportunities for smooth mutual economic and social development among stakeholders. “Also the entrepreneurs will get opportunities to showcase various products and services offered,” added Kahwa.

He said the forum will go in tandem with a festival aimed at promoting respect for cultural diversity among participating countries.

“Artists will get chance to showcase

their talents. There will be around 10 artists from Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, DRC and Zambia,” said Kahwa, adding the festival will provide opportunities for international musicians to meet, learn from each other, and create new musical fusions.

He said the forum was aimed at establishing business networks and integration of business community among neighboring countries to improve cross border trade.

The forum was also aimed at promoting trade and investment opportunities among the neighboring countries and create conducive business environment for trade and investment among the countries.

## South Sudan's SA investment drive impresses African energy investors

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African and African private sector participants have an amazing opportunity to invest in South Sudan's peace and make huge profits.

The African Energy Chamber will join South Sudanese Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation minister Nhial Deng Nhia and his Finance and Planning counterpart, Salvatore Garang Mabiordit, here later this week.

South Sudanese cabinet ministers and business leaders will meet the African Energy Chamber and other investors this Wednesday, effectively closing a four-city global investment drive that previously took them to Washington, New York and Dubai.

The delegation is notably made up of Agriculture and Food Security minister Onyoti Adigo Nyikwec, Mining minister Gabriel Thokuj Deng, South Sudan Investment Authority secretary general Dr Abraham Maliet Mamer, Nilepet managing Director Dr Chol Thon Abel, and South Sudan Petroleum Commission chairman Caesar Marko.

The African Energy Chamber has commended Afrexim Bank for providing a \$500m financing facility to fund power transmission, infrastructure and agricultural projects.

It has also hailed South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and Energy minister Jeff Radebe for committing 1 billion US dollars in oil and gas an infrastructure projects in South Sudan.

These bankable deals are expected to be closed quickly, creating opportunities for both the South African and South Sudanese people.

“We are hopeful that the arrival of the South Sudanese delegation to South Africa will result in even more investment deals being announced,” declared Centurion Law Group CEO and AEC Executive Chairman NJ Ayuk, adding: “Johannesburg is the financial capital of Africa and I am bullish that we will be able to raise more money to secure and promote lasting peace and investment in South Sudan.”

The chamber has said it believes that South Sudan's leadership also has an obligation to creating an enabling environment of investors to put more money into the country.

It has stressed that, to reap these benefits, “South Sudan needs to safely open up new oil blocks to exploration especially to African investors”.

“It's time to build refineries, pipelines, urea, ammonia and fertiliser plants as well as power plants, large agricultural fields and set up technology hubs,” the chamber has declared.

The AEC and South Sudan President Kiir and his cabinet recently agreed that economic growth must be the front and centre of the peace and recovery efforts of South Sudan.

The chamber has said it believes that securing investments is not the problem, elaborating: “Investors need an enabling environment, and we are spending a lot of money to help South Sudan achieve that.”

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

AT LEAST 30 young people aged between 18 and 24 years old in Dodoma region are currently participating in entrepreneurship training and life skills.

The training implemented by the Tanzania Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness Centre (TECC) through sponsorship of International Youth Foundation (IYF) with funds from the MasterCard targets to train 1250 entrepreneurs in the country.

Tanzania and Mozambique are the only countries in Africa that have benefited from the global programme aimed at empowering young people.

In its fifth phase, some 863 youths from Dodoma, Mtwara, Kibaha and Dar es Salaam have undergone the training.

## Entrepreneurship underway in Dodoma

Speaking at the launch of the fifth training session here, Mwasisti Mkenbe, TECC's mentoring officer noted that after the training the youth get attached to different business people for one year mentorship programme.

“We expect to have youth entrepreneurs who can stand on their own at the end of the programme,” she said, adding that her organization will thereafter link them with various financial institutions in the country.

She noted that TECC aims to promote entrepreneurship and competitiveness in small and medium enterprises (SME) in the country.

This she said is done through skills development in entrepreneurship, innovation and competitiveness promoting local.

Consensa Mushi, one of the graduates of third phase of the training praised the programme saying it has enriched her with business skills.

After graduating from the University of Dodoma in 2017, she said she did not know how to start life on her own, following family problems that saw her kicked out of her uncle's house.

“The training gave me strength on how to move on in life independently and through

little money that I had I managed to start a small business,” she noted.

With only 30,000/- as capital at the start, her business has grown to 500,000/-.

While hoping to expand her business, Consensa, commends TECC and the trainers, saying, “They opened my eyes and helped face the challenging realities in life”.

TECC, at inception was funded by the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF), the National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC), and the Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) and is part of the Tanzania's Private Sector Competitiveness Project (PSCP).




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# Dar es Salaam, Dodoma cities in Easter prayers, celebrations



Bishop Dr Dickson Chilongani of the Dodoma Diocese of the Anglican Church of Tanzania delivers Easter sermon yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila



Choir performs during Easter mass at Dar es Salaam's Azania Front Lutheran church yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi



Christian faithful attend Easter mass in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph



Retired Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) Bishop Peter Mwamasika exchanges greetings with young Christian faithful on the sidelines of Easter mass in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph



Believers in celebratory mood at Dar es Salaam's Azania Front Lutheran church yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi



Sunday school children in Dodoma take part in Easter celebrations yesterday. Photo: Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph



Bishop Augustino Shao of the Catholic Church in Zanzibar performs an Easter ritual yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Martin Kabemba



The congregation follows a sermon by Catholic Church Bishop Augustino Shao in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Martin Kabemba



**LEADING BY EXAMPLE:** Livestock and Fisheries minister Luhaga Mpina (2nd-R, foreground) takes part in the planting of rice in his farm at Dala in Morogoro Region at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Climate-smart conservation practices pay off in Zambia

LUSAKA

THROUGH a Community Markets of Conversation (COMACO) model for rural development, 179,000 farmers across eastern Zambia - 52 percent of whom are women - have benefited from access to affordable farming inputs and formal training in low-tillage farming, mulching and composting.

The Smallholders in Zambia are receiving training in climate-smart production practices and technologies to achieve food security and access to guaranteed markets, while conserving natural resources.

COMACO's premise is that with the right training and incentives, smallholders will favour sustainable agriculture practices over more destructive methods, such as monoculture and deforestation,

and move away from elephant and rhino poaching. The scheme offers above-market prices for goods that are produced in compliance with conservation agriculture practices, and access to inputs when using these methods.

Before the programme was introduced in 2003, farmers in the area were earning around €17 per harvest; this has since risen by at least €170. "Most families in the Luangwa Valley experience 3-5 months of chronic food insecurity. With few options available to support their families, residents may turn to logging, illegal hunting, and slash-and-burn agriculture. But, since these incentives were introduced to the area, these trends have reduced and farmers involved in the programme have enough food," says chief Nsefu, a traditional leader in the area.

The promoted practices also include beekeeping, gardening in the dry season and poultry husbandry. Diversified production has enhanced productivity for smallholders and reduced the need for inorganic fertilisers, thereby decreasing nitrous oxide emissions. "Teaching how to compost may not be appreciated [by farmers] the first time but, as time has gone by, we have come to value the training. Our soils are looking healthier and even the crop yield has improved. We have enough food in our homes and income in our pockets," says Zitandala Sakala, a smallholder farmer in Luangwa Valley in eastern Zambia.

The uptake of beekeeping has also dissuaded farmers from cutting down their trees. "It has been hard work, but now, hundreds of farmers are realising the value of keeping and

protecting trees. I have felt such pride in the producers for the way they have changed their practices and it makes me so happy to see them make a better living from conservation," says Julius Kamanga, a beekeeper from Mfuwe.

Mulching has also become an integral practice among farmers in the area as a result of the project training. Smallholder Nelly Zimba feels the technique is a necessary ingredient to successful farming and provides the key to long-term maintenance of strong, biologically active soils. "If you see my field today, it is full of maize stalks; I have reserved this for mulching at an opportune time," she says. "We raise over 35 different types of fruits and vegetables with about 2 ha under production. We have 4 ha suitable for vegetable production, so we rotate the other 2 with cover crops."

By Laura Owings

AS a community health worker tasked with tracking infant vaccinations in Kenya, Collince Oluoch was overwhelmed by the burdens of the job.

He encountered mothers with no record of their children's vaccinations, caregivers who could not remember clinic visits and colleagues who fudged figures.

Is there not a better way to track this vital health information? He wondered.

Technological advancements such as mHealth or the use of mobile and wireless technologies including mobile phones to support healthcare are increasingly being viewed as the solution to this and many other questions about healthcare in Sub-Saharan Africa.

"Chanjoplus makes it easier to identify children who are falling through the gaps and provides real-time data on vaccination figures to improve outcomes."

### Collince Oluoch, Chanjoplus

As the continent experiences remarkable mobile penetration and a thriving start-up market, there is hope that technology can make a big impact. Experts, however, question mHealth's limits as projects seek traction and governments stall on regulation.

### Mobile Africa

Much is said about the booming mobile market in Africa. There were over 440 million mobile subscribers on the continent in 2017, according to the Mobile Economy Sub-Saharan Africa 2018 report from the GSM Association. By 2025, that is expected to grow to over 740 million.

On the back of those figures are soaring mHealth trends. There were 202 active mHealth services in the region in 2017, says the GSM Association report, a 58 per cent increase from 2016. And 11 per cent of the population accessed these services on their mobile phones in 2017.

It makes sense then that projects such as the Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation are supporting mHealth initiatives. Now in its fifth year, the prize aims to support engineering-driven solutions to challenges faced on the continent such as access to water, food security, healthcare and transport and infrastructure.

### Insufficient engineering capacity and skills

"Innovative engineering solutions can help to address these challenges but sufficient engineering capacity and skills to develop or implement solutions are lacking," says Meredith Ettridge, senior manager of international development at the Royal Academy of Engineering, which sponsors the prize. "The Africa Prize aims to stimulate and reward innovation and entrepreneurship by supporting the commercial development of engineering innovations that have a positive impact," she adds.

In November last year, the academy announced the shortlist of 16 engineers from Sub-Saharan Africa for its 2019 prize of £25,000 (almost US\$33,000). It included innovators from Burkina Faso, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia. Among them was Oluoch.

These finalists will get the chance to present their businesses to judges in front of a live audience in Kampala, Uganda, in June this year after which one winner will receive

## Funding Africa's mHealth innovators only half solution

the prize, and three runners up will be awarded £10,000 (about US\$13,04) each.

### Chanjoplus

Fast forward from 2015 when Oluoch was a community health worker, to 2019 when he is the founder of mHealth start-up Chanjoplus, it shows his determination to use technology to resolve key challenges in healthcare.

The mobile platform works as an electronic recordkeeping system that tracks child vaccination. Children are registered onto the platform, and healthcare workers access those records to input when and where they have received vaccinations.

The tool can be accessed on a basic feature phone even without an internet connection. "Chanjoplus makes it easier to identify children who are falling through the gaps and provides real-time data on vaccination figures to improve outcomes," Oluoch says.

Vaccination rates in Kenya are on a decline. According to the UNICEF, full vaccination coverage in Kenya fell from 83 per cent in 2012 to 76 per cent in 2016.

Chanjoplus may help change that by relieving the burdens of the current paper-based record system, where vaccine information is recorded in health

identification booklets called health cards.

"Our product provides a solution for updating records without the need for a booklet, which, if it's forgotten or lost, means there is no information on the child," explains Oluoch. "When the information is updated on the mobile phone, all records are updated in real-time and accessible to the clinic, ministry of health and caregiver."

### Community buy-in

The word 'chanjo' means 'to vaccinate' in Swahili. This was a conscious decision by Oluoch, who wanted the brand's purpose to easily resonate with Kenyans from all backgrounds.

Such attention to the community is important for establishing buy-in, says Indira Govender, a spokesperson with the Rural Doctors Association of Southern Africa.

"Innovators must research and investigate the context and people using their technology so that they can adapt to their needs, not just come in with a system and impose it," she says.

"Innovative engineering solutions can help to address these challenges but sufficient engineering capacity and skills to develop or implement solutions are lacking."

Meredith Ettridge, Royal Academy of

Engineering

According to Govender, rural community health workers may be elderly and not as tech savvy as their younger counterparts. In such cases, the technology can be overwhelming and intimidating.

"Something as simple as a software update can be difficult to understand," she adds.

The result can be a push-back from the very people the innovation is trying to help. "If innovators aren't careful, they will see people turning away from the technology," she explains. To overcome this challenge, Govender suggests innovators engage with the community before implementing the technology and provide support throughout the application process.

"If rural health workers can't get support, or encounter problems without anyone available to help, the technology risks being abandoned," she says.

### mHealth policy needed

For a project to really take off, it needs to scale up and be integrated into the healthcare system, says Jill Fortuin, senior lecturer of appropriate health technologies at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

That's where government support should enter the equation. But rather than being a

financial backer, Fortuin says government should spearhead mHealth policy.

"These innovations can't scale up unless there's an inclusive policy around regulation and governance over who is ultimately responsible for the healthcare implication of the product," she says.

Indeed, the WHO says that "effective policy will become increasingly important as the field of mHealth matures" in its report, mHealth New horizons for health through mobile technologies.

In particular, the report cites personal security as an area in most need of policy framework. "There are legitimate concerns about the security of citizen information by programmes using mobile health technologies," it adds.

Considering 83 per cent of WHO member states offer at least one type of mHealth service, the need for policy is increasingly urgent. Without such a policy, it is not just the innovators and their technologies that are impacted but patients as well. "We talk about stats around how many people have mobile phones, mobile penetration and internet access but we don't talk about the needs of the patient," says Fortuin. "Patients need quality, accessible healthcare that is made possible with sustainable solutions."

## 'Managing diabetes key to lowering kidney diseases'

By Guardian Reporter

A RISE in diabetes and obesity is increasing the global burden of kidney disease, with millions of people in lower income countries lacking access to life-saving treatment, a report by the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) warns.

By 2030, 14.5 million people will have end-stage kidney disease (ESKD) but only 5.4 million will receive the treatment they need, due to economic, social, and political factors, according to the Global Kidney Health Atlas.

It noted that diabetes-related ESKD - the advanced stage of chronic kidney disease - is rising faster than the overall incidence, and called for better diabetes management to tackle the problem.

"In many countries where ESKD care is not publicly funded, people with ESKD are unable to receive treatment, resulting in poor health outcomes and often death."

David Harris, professor of medicine, University of Sydney

Globally, more than 2 million people die each year because of little or no access to dialysis or kidney transplantation, states the report, which looked at the state of kidney health care in 160 countries.

The study found that around 0.1 per cent of the world's population has ESKD, with the highest incidence in low-income countries - up to seven times higher than high-income countries.

But only 4 per cent of populations in low-income countries had access to dialysis or transplantation compared to 60 per cent in high-income countries.

David Harris, professor of medicine at the University of Sydney said the high cost of hemodialysis - estimated at \$US100,000 per patient per year - was a key barrier for many regions.

"In many countries where ESKD care is not publicly funded, people with ESKD are unable to receive treatment, resulting in poor health outcomes and often death," he said in a foreword to the report, launched at the World

Congress of Nephrology (April 12 to 15) in Melbourne, Australia.

He said using less costly alternatives such as peritoneal dialysis or comprehensive conservative care - support in managing the disease without dialysis or a transplant - may be preferable in places with limited resources.

Access to dialysis or transplantation is limited in Africa, Latin America, and Asia, with a lack of nephrologists most prevalent in South Asia, according to the study.

Between 2001 and 2014 incidences of ESKD increased by over 1,000 per cent in Thailand, 190 per cent in the Philippines and 162 per cent in Malaysia, with diabetes being the cause in most cases.

Peter Kerr, chair of the ISN Oceania and South-East Asia Regional Board, and director of Nephrology at the Monash Medical Centre in Melbourne, told SciDev.Net. "In South-East Asia, there is a lack of recognition of increasing obesity. The rate of obesity has rocketed up in Malaysia, where 20 per cent of the adult population is now diabetic. This will lead to escalation in renal diseases and failure."

ESKD affects 10 per cent of the world's population and 160 million patients with Type 2 diabetes are at risk of developing chronic kidney disease.

The findings of a new landmark clinical trial presented on the last day of the congress show that the drug Canagliflozin, approved to lower blood sugar levels in people with diabetes, led to an approximately one-third reduction in ESKD and death from renal causes.

The CREDENCE (Canagliflozin and Renal Endpoints in Diabetes with Established Nephropathy Clinical Evaluation) trial was led by the The George Institute for Global Health in Sydney.

Kidney disease is a key contributor to the global non-communicable diseases (NCDs) burden both as a cause and consequence of other major NCDs - hypertension, stroke and cardiovascular disease.

### Jipatie Maji ya Kunywa ya Kilimanjaro kwa Bei Elekezi za Rejareja kama Ifuatavyo:-

- Nusu Lita (500ml) – TSHS. 500/=
- Lita Moja na Nusu (1.5L) – TSHS. 1,000/=
- Bei Hizi Elekezi ni Kwa Nchi Nzima
- Maji ya Kunywa ya Kilimanjaro ni Maji ya Kuaminika Kila Siku

Inaleta hisia ya ndani unayojua mwenyewe



Maji ya kuaminika kila siku

# Organic waste power plant holds great potential to advance renewable energy in Nigeria

ABUJA

THE University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN) has created and launched an organic waste power generating plant, the first of its kind by a university in Nigeria. The plant, a 100 kVA refuse-derived fuel (RDF) gasification generator, is to help address the power issues by generating a steady supply of electricity to the university and nearby communities.

According to reports, the project was initiated four years ago by Professor Chinedu Nebo, the former vice-chancellor of UNN, and was completed and inaugurated under the administration of the present vice-chancellor, Professor Benjamin Ozumba. The plant was created by a group of UNN researchers led by Prof Emenike Ejiogu, an engineer with expertise in electric power devices and systems alongside new energy systems, and was funded with a special grant by the university.

Following the success of this project, Ejiogu and his team are set to produce more than 10 250kVA plants to supply electricity to the university and neighbouring communities. "Our university's power demand is three megawatts. With 12 250kVA of RDF plants, we will meet the electricity supply needs of the university," Ejiogu said. The aim is for the institution to generate its own electricity using organic waste as fuel and save millions of Naira in electricity bills.

This innovation has significant potential to advance power generation with alternative renewable energy in Nigeria, something the country is in dire need of. With an electricity demand of 98,000MW, an installed capacity of 12,522MW, and an actual output of about 4000MW, Nigeria has a power deficit of 94,000MW with only 45 percent of its population with access to electricity. This has led to a major

dependence on non-renewable power generators despite an abundance of renewable energy sources, particularly bioenergy.

Generating 542.5 million tons of organic waste annually, Nigeria has the potential of yielding about 25.53 billion m<sup>3</sup> of biogas which translates to about 169 541.66 MW of electricity. Exploring this potential with the production of bioenergy on a large scale will greatly increase the country's electricity grid. Moreover, with the growing demerits of fossil fuels due to its negative impact on public health and the environment, renewable energy is currently the acclaimed emerging energy alternative.

So far, the launch of UNN's organic waste power plant has received nothing but positive reviews from experts who say it will help tackle noise and environmental pollution. Prof Ejiogu is optimistic that exploring bioenergy by way of the RDF plant will create employment opportunities for Nigeria's youths as there will be a demand for the production and installation of the power plant on a large scale.

Already, Nigerians who have knowledge about the innovation have contacted Prof Ejiogu with requests for installations of the plant. According to the professor, the RDF plant is more affordable and its higher voltage capacity could power a bulk of electrical appliances than the popular solar energy installations.

Vice Chancellor Ozumba is thrilled and proud that the innovation of the organic waste plant was achieved under his administration. "I am happy that under my watch the university has witnessed innovation and transformation, another feather has been added to the cap of my administration," Prof Ozumba said. "This is the first of its kind in the country, using waste to generate electricity."



Shwaibu Mushi, chairman of the Mererani branch of the Manyara Regional Mining Association, speaks on the registration of mining employees at a meeting held at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

## Ghana 2018 growth tops IMF forecast and set to quicken

ACCRA/NEW YORK

GHANA'S slower economic growth in 2018 beat the International Monetary Fund's forecast and may set the scene for the West African economy to expand the fastest in the world this year, as the lender predicted last week.

Gross domestic product expanded by 6.3 per cent last year, Samuel Kobina Annim, government statistician at the Ghana Statistical Service, told reporters Wednesday in Accra. While it was slower than 2017's growth of 8.1 per cent, it exceeded the IMF's prediction of 5.6 per cent for the year.

While the country's economic growth slowed last year, the IMF predicts that it will expand the fastest in

the world this year.

Ghana this month finalised a four-year IMF bailout programme, which set targets to narrow the budget deficit and build reserves. Vice President Mahamudu Bawumia said these requirements contributed to the slump in the Ghanaian currency (the cedi) earlier this year because the central bank couldn't intervene in the currency market.

The end of the programme could open the door to increased spending and faster growth, according to Patrick Asuming, an economist at the finance department of the University of Ghana Business School.

"The IMF growth target for Ghana is feasible but the mode of the growth

may not make the fund happy," he said by phone, adding: "The government has been held back because of the IMF programmes and now that the breaks have been released the government will be spending on infrastructure."

Gross domestic product grew by 6.8 per cent in the final quarter of last year, compared with 7.4 per cent in the three months through September. The slowdown came as oil and gas contracted 7.2 by per cent in the period.

The fortunes of the economy are closely linked to crude and if the sector is excluded, gross domestic product expanded by 8.4 per cent in the three months, Annim said, adding that the industry expanded by 3.6 per cent for the year compared with 80 per cent in

2017.

Agricultural output in the world second-largest cocoa producer grew by 4.4 per cent in the final quarter of the year and services, which account for almost half of GDP, expanded by 5.8 per cent.

Meanwhile, a Bloomberg economist says stronger service-sector activity should see overall real GDP growth holding up well in 2019, despite a weaker contribution from the oil and gas sector as well as agriculture.

"We still view the 8.8 per cent real GDP expansion projected by the IMF in its April World Economic Outlook as on the high side, and see growth in the 6 per cent to 7 per cent area as more likely," noted the economist.



A fresh-fruit vendor moves around in a style uniquely his own along Uhuru Street in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Photographer

## Canadian students busy themselves building a school in Tanzania

By JODI BRAK

IN the village of Odonyo-Sambu in Tanzania, home to just over 3,000 people of the Maasai culture, sits a school which was built with a little help from the Shuswap.

The School District #83 Me to We committee contributed funds in the past to build the school and, over spring break, members of the committee joined other students from B.C. on a trip to the village to help add a new classroom to the school.

Not only was the trip a great chance to give back to a community that needs a hand, some of the students who participated came home with a renewed sense of what they take for

granted.

"When I came home, everything seemed so different. The one little girl I saw, the last time I saw her she was carrying water on her head while waving at me and saying she would miss me," says Hannah Cosman. "That made me reflect that my biggest problem before I left was if I wanted cubed or crushed ice in my water that I poured from the fridge, while this was her third time walking to get water that day. That kind of made me very upset."

"It was a really good trip, and a really good experience. There were some things that really surprised me," says Rowan Trow. "Like when we walked to get water, we would have to keep switching back and forth while

the villagers each carried one three kilometres every single day without complaining."

Doing some hands-on volunteering in the village also allowed these students to see first hand the impact they could have on the lives of others if they are willing to put in the effort.

"It kind of gives people an insight into how others live. If you don't see it, sometimes you can't understand how to make a difference," says Keeya Corbett. "Being there was really insightful, because even though you don't always think you can help, we saw how easy it is to actually help someone who has nothing."

For student Jordan Fischer, the most memorable aspect of the Maasai

culture was not what they lacked, but their appreciation of what they had.

"They were very happy with what they had, even though they didn't have much, which is different than how it is here," he says.

Aside from helping to add on to the school, which involved laying a foundation and raising walls, some of the students also helped to repair homes in the village. In the Maasai culture, homes are constructed out of a mixture of soil, water and cow dung that dries into a type of clay. Any repairs are done by smearing a new layer of the mixture across the surface, and the students said it was interesting seeing how homes are built so differently than they were used to.

## Invasive weed 'could cut crop yields by up to 30 per cent' in SSA

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

A Dangerous invasive alien weed known as field dodder could be a serious menace to agriculture and biodiversity across Sub-Saharan Africa, and reduce crop yields, scientists say.

A scientist who has been studying the toxic weed for a decade in Africa estimates that over US\$1.1 billion will be needed for research on how to completely eradicate the weed and to mobilise farmers and policymakers to tackle the scourge.

James Koske, acting dean of the School of Environmental Studies at Kenya's Kenyatta University said the alien weed is persistently devastating the African ecosystem and threatening to wipe out the continent's rich biodiversity.

Koske noted that Africa's economy, unlike other continents, is anchored on agriculture. If not checked early enough, field dodder - known scientifically as *Cuscuta campestris* - could reduce projected agricultural yields in Sub-Saharan Africa by nearly 30 per cent by 2029, he predicted.

Innocent Ngare, a doctoral candidate at the Department of Environmental Sciences, Kenyatta University, said: "Increasing infestation of field dodder on farmlands has reduced [the] quantity of food produced. This poses a challenge to a sustained food supply."

"Even African nations that have already been infested by the weed are yet to respond. The breakthrough starts with research, funding, awareness creation and fast-track policies on plant trade."

According to the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe), based in Kenya, it is projected

that the threat of alien species in Sub-Saharan Africa will directly affect the attainment of three Sustainable Development Goals: SDG1 (no poverty) SDG2 (zero hunger) and SDG3 (good health and well-being).

Field dodder, a yellow weed native to North America, is now spreading in Sub-Saharan Africa at an increasing rate, in countries such as Botswana and Ethiopia, said Ngare. The invasive plant is affecting both indigenous and exotic host plant species.

"Global trade has acted as a pathway through importation and export of seeds that are already contaminated," Ngare explained.

"Other pathways are trade in plants grown as ornamentals in homesteads, recreational parks and cities, contaminated harvests or flooding where mature seeds are eroded and swept downstream to surrounding areas."

The scientists are calling on key institutions such as the African Development Bank, the African Union and economic blocs in Sub-Saharan Africa to start mobilising financial and human resources urgently to curtail the spread of the stubborn weed.

Julius Otieno, a farmer in Kenya's Homa Bay County said: "My live fence is almost falling down. Besides that, my grazing land is completely covered by this yellow weed that has adamantly refused to go away. I have tried to burn it, bury it and cut it in pieces but it keeps multiplying."

According to Ngare, herbicides have mostly been used to control the weed in its native continents and in Africa farmers will be forced to use large amount of their income to buy these chemicals rather than reinvest in agricultural food production.

## East African states unite to conquer female genital mutilation in region

By Special Correspondent, Mombasa

EAST African countries have signed a declaration to eliminate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and in particular the one that has cross-border dimensions.

Senior officials from Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya signed the declaration at the end of a three-day meeting held in Kenya's resort city of Mombasa.

Senior government officials from the five countries committed to supporting cross-border cooperation by facilitating information exchange on trends and good practices, establishing Standard Operating Procedures for girls and women at risk, law enforcement, and community dialogue.

"Enact and harmonize national laws and policy frameworks on Female Genital Mutilation through African Union, East African Community and Inter-Governmental Authority for Development," they said in a joint declaration.

Statistics indicate that more than 200 million girls globally have undergone FGM, including those in 30 countries in Africa.

Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda saw almost one quarter of the global burden of FGM, which means 48.5 million girls and young women, according to data from UNICEF, the UN children education fund.

According to findings from a report commissioned by UNICEF in collaboration with Kenya's Anti-FGM Board, 70 percent of respondents of the survey from Uganda, and 60 percent from Ethiopia, traveled to Kenya to undergo FGM.

Participants committed to eliminate the vice by strengthening regional coordination in the areas of legislation and policy framework, cooperation, communication and advocacy, evidence, research and data.

Kenya's Anti-FGM Board chairperson Agnes Pareiyo noted that factors that have contributed to cross-border FGM include shared traditions, fear of arrest, and lack of proximity to circumcisers, quality and affordability of FGM services, income sources of circumcisers, and absence of strong regional monitoring systems.

The national prevalence of FGM in Kenya has declined from 32 percent in 2003 to 27 percent in 2008 and 2009 to 21 percent in 2014, Pareiyo said.

Despite the decline nationally, she said, the prevalence among some practicing communities still remains high with Somalis at 94 percent, Samburu 86 percent, Kisii 84 percent, and Maasai 78 percent.

The officials noted that FGM is irreparable and irreversible abuse that poses a serious threat to the health of women and girls including their psychological, sexual and reproductive health, which can increase their vulnerability to HIV and adverse maternal and child health outcomes including death.

"Ultimate success of both national and cross-border programs will require continued political will, sustained advocacy and scaled-up programs and investment," said Anurita Bains, the acting deputy regional director for UNICEF.

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## Tanzanian food entrepreneur understands value of branding

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

"Do not despise small beginnings. Start where you are and with what you have."

This quote from Jennifer Bash, co-founder and CEO of Alaska Tanzania gives an idea of her outlook on entrepreneurship. When she and her husband left Tanzania to study in the US, they left their small egg-supply business in the hands of a manager. Upon their return, it was floundering.

But she had seen the value of branding in American supermarkets and in 2013 changed tack to create Alaska Tanzania, a value-added company that sources, packages and markets high-quality agricultural products. "There is the perception that developed countries provide superior products," she says. It therefore took a while to change consumers' and supermarkets' minds about locally produced and packaged

items. Gradually consistency in quality, the hallmarks of all Alaska Tanzania products, paid off.

Bash grew her product portfolio by introducing rice and maize flour. Crucial to her business plan is to increase revenue through a comprehensive strategy that involves an inclusive process of sourcing directly from farmers, broadening Alaska Tanzania's product offering and diversifying distribution channels.

She also works with mama lishe, Tanzania's female street-food vendors and says, "Smallholder farmers and mama lishe are our partners and strengthening their capacity is a win-win. As we grow, they grow; as they grow, we grow."

Alaska Tanzania's eggs are found in all the supermarket chains in Dar es Salaam, where they compete with other Tanzanian brands, not imported ones like before.

Because of Bash's ongoing efforts to

strengthen Tanzania's agribusiness, she is frequently invited to speak at events like the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation's briefing in Brussels last year, where she spoke on AgriSoko. This app and online portal, developed by Alaska Tanzania in partnership with WS Technology Consulting, allows farmers, mama lishe and retailers to keep accurate record of all their transactions so that they can plan, budget and obtain credit from financial institutions. At the 2017 All Africa Business Leaders Awards she was named Young Business Leader of the Year - East Africa.

\*\*\* Jennifer Bash is one of the businesspeople featured in HOW WE MADE IT IN AFRICA: THE BOOK, which tells the stories of 25 entrepreneurs who've built thriving businesses. Purchase here. \*\*\*



## Non-profit encouraging sea cucumber farming in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

OCEANS-focused non-profit Blue Ventures has taken a model it's been developing over the past decade in Madagascar for community-based sea cucumber farming to Tanzania.

The group said in an article on its website that it was worked in southwest Madagascar for years with the University of Toliara's Marine Science Institute, seafood exporter Copefrito and aquaculture company Indian Ocean Tremping to connect small-scale sea cucumber and seaweed farmers to international markets. The effort has seen some 700 people trained in aquaculture, the group said.

Now, Blue Ventures is hoping to mirror that success in Zanzibar, a semi-autonomous region of Tanzania. In

the coastal community of Unguja, the group has set up a "learning exchange" to share lessons about sea cucumber farming and jumpstart an aquaculture industry there.

This came after ten years of developing a model for community-based sea cucumber aquaculture with coastal fishing communities, Blue Ventures shared its knowledge outside of Madagascar for the first time at a learning exchange in Unguja, Zanzibar.

At the request of FAO Tanzania, four members of Blue Ventures' aquaculture team travelled to Unguja in early February to lead training workshops at this gathering of government officials, hatchery technicians, researchers, entrepreneurs, NGOs, and sea cucumber farmers.

The team led sessions designed

to provide the necessary skills and technical knowledge to build a viable sea cucumber farming industry in Tanzania.

Sea cucumbers are in high demand in Asian markets where they are considered a delicacy, health food and aphrodisiac, and this has led to wild sea cucumber stocks being overexploited. However, it is possible for coastal communities to farm sea cucumbers using simple tools and techniques.

Blue Ventures supports coastal communities to build these skills, and to develop commercial relationships with private sector aquaculture businesses to create ecologically sustainable and socially viable aquaculture businesses that are locally owned and managed.

Sea cucumber farmers from the coastal village of Tapolove in

southwest Madagascar recently experienced their largest ever monthly harvest of over 5,500 sea cucumbers. Together, 78 farmers earned a net profit of \$4,800 - an average of over \$60 per farmer - after paying all operational costs themselves. In a region where the average income is less than \$2 per day, this is a potentially transformative sustainable income. The learning exchange in Unguja was a watershed moment for the growth of community-based sea cucumber aquaculture in the western Indian Ocean. By forging and reinforcing relationships with partner organisations in new locations who already have their roots in coastal communities, Blue Ventures will be able to scale up and refine this model more quickly, effectively and equitably than we could alone.

## US family seeks help for Tanzania's Village Angels

By Kyle Stucker

A Rochester family in New York (USA) is calling on area businesses and residents to bolster a Tanzanian nonprofit's love-fueled mission, all the while hoping their involvement will help spread the group's lessons here at home.

Gabriella Roussos and her family are looking to raise \$12,000 by July to help the Village Angels of Tanzania, which hires youth to deliver food to elderly residents in a remote, impoverished area of northwest Tanzania.

The nonprofit, according to Roussos, has forged strong multigenerational bonds and united villages in the grossly underserved region, which is near the Rwandan border and Lake Victoria. It's done so by providing income and education to at-risk youth who can't afford to pay to attend school, and by providing food, medical care and other things to older residents who would otherwise be alone due to their limited supports and means. It's a dynamic from which Americans could learn a great deal, according to Roussos.

"I just feel like teenagers today need to appreciate elderly people much more," said Roussos, a physical therapist and substitute teacher at the private St. Elizabeth Seton School in Rochester. "To see these elderly people in Benaco bonding with these teenagers, it was just so touching. The only thing they had a lot of is love, and I want my children to experience that."

Roussos has known Village Angels' executive director, Sister Dativa Mukebit of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Bernardette, since they both lived in Illinois 15 years ago. She is helping Mukebit spearhead fundraising efforts to complete Village Angels' Frank Nelson Volunteer House, a modest residential building, library and chapel that Mukebit named after Roussos' late

father Frank Nelson Smith because of his passion for education, religion, civic causes and land use.

Each of those things tie into the overall mission of Village Angels, whose 16 youth participants serve meals to 70 elderly individuals twice a week, according to Roussos.

According to Johanna Burani, the president of Village Angels' board, the need for the Frank Nelson Volunteer House arose over the past four years as the organization successfully worked to bring clean water, solar energy and various revenue-producing initiatives to a region home to many refugees of the Rwandan genocide.

Burani said Village Angels' progress was often limited by the inability to house volunteers in close proximity to those they served. They're hoping the building's four bedrooms will help them overcome those issues, as well as create greater opportunity for Westerners to visit and lend skills Tanzanian residents can use to establish new, sustainable revenue streams.

The home will also include a library to help Village Angels provide even more media and technology to enhance educational opportunities.

Village Angels has already raised \$13,000 to construct the building's brick outer walls. The \$12,000 the Roussos are seeking will complete the interior.

Roussos said the project is one that allows her to honor her father's legacy and pay his lessons forward. It's also one that has helped her connect with her own African heritage - her father's family hailed from Madagascar and Ethiopia, while her mother Anna Maria Basaldella is Italian - and learn more about the continent's traditions.

"I feel like I'm passing down something he'd be really proud of," Roussos said.

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## Our Under-17 soccer side is talented but better coaching skills still a must

TANZANIA has been eliminated from the Africa Cup of Nations for Under-17 finals after losing matches in their group: 3-0 against Uganda, 4-2 against Angola and earlier 4-5 against Nigeria. Local fans moaned a situation where the country hosts the group stage of the tournament and the host team is incapable of standing its ground, but in all fairness it must be said that they tried. Only the match against Uganda saw the team really on the receiving end while in the other two the fighting spirit was high.

Whatever the case, the side has lost plenty of what it used to command or conduct on the pitch during the days of its memorable trainer or coach, Kim Poulsen, who took the side to the final of the CAF Under 17 tournament, and at another point won the CECAFA Youth Challenge Cup tournament that was played in Bujumbura.

The fact that the side could not make an impression playing at home must show all and sundry that something needs to be done in that direction, even as a team can't just keep winning once it shines in a tournament. Realism is vital but there are gaps in the side that overwhelm its prospects at present.

Obviously a number of individuals or stakeholders especially in the soccer federation are likely to object if the name of the most successful trainer of the youth team is mentioned, as they would prefer to cite organisational aspects for the success of the side rather than the coach. One way would

be to show how the world rankings of Taifa Stars dipped considerably under the stewardship of namesake Jan Poulsen, in which case simply having a foreign professional coach may not make things different.

That is plausible, but there is no doubt that the Danish youth team trainer made a huge difference, and it is unclear that he had an appropriate replacement.

There are complaints often levelled at the soccer administrators over training programs which they do not bother sufficiently to take up, and current cases in court over mismanaging FIFA funds meant especially for the development of youth soccer says plenty as to where the problem lies.

This way TFF officials are likely to need some 'happy go lucky' local coaches who are happy merely having that job, win at least two games in a year, and the job is done, setting no heights as to where the team ought to reach. Things have improved with Taifa Stars perhaps because it is under greater scrutiny, but even then the level of prowess is wanting in several areas.

The group phase tournament that we just hosted has been an eye opener on the crying gaps separating our Under-17 side from those it wishes to compete with on equal footing.

As Tanzania's senior team is in the AFCON finals for the first time since 1980, these lessons are likely to be amplified, as we were rather lucky to have arrived there. It is better to be realistic even in success.

## Marking Earth Day shows need for more support towards environmental protection

EARTH is the third planet from the Sun and the only astronomical object known to harbour life. According to radiometric dating and other sources of evidence, Earth formed over 4.5 billion years ago. Earth's gravity interacts with other objects in space, especially the Sun and the Moon, Earth's only natural satellite. Earth revolves around the Sun in 365.26 days, a period known as an Earth year. During this time, Earth rotates about its axis about 366.26 times.

Earth's axis of rotation is tilted with respect to its orbital plane, producing seasons on Earth. The gravitational interaction between Earth and the Moon causes ocean tides, stabilizes Earth's orientation on its axis, and gradually slows its rotation. Earth is the densest planet in the Solar System and the largest of the four terrestrial planets.

Earth Day is an annual event celebrated on April 22. Worldwide, various events are held to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day now includes events in more than 193 countries, which are now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network.

On Earth Day 2016, the landmark Paris Agreement was signed by the United States, China, and some 120 other countries. This signing satisfied a key requirement for the entry into force of the historic draft climate protection treaty adopted by consensus of the 195 nations present at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris.

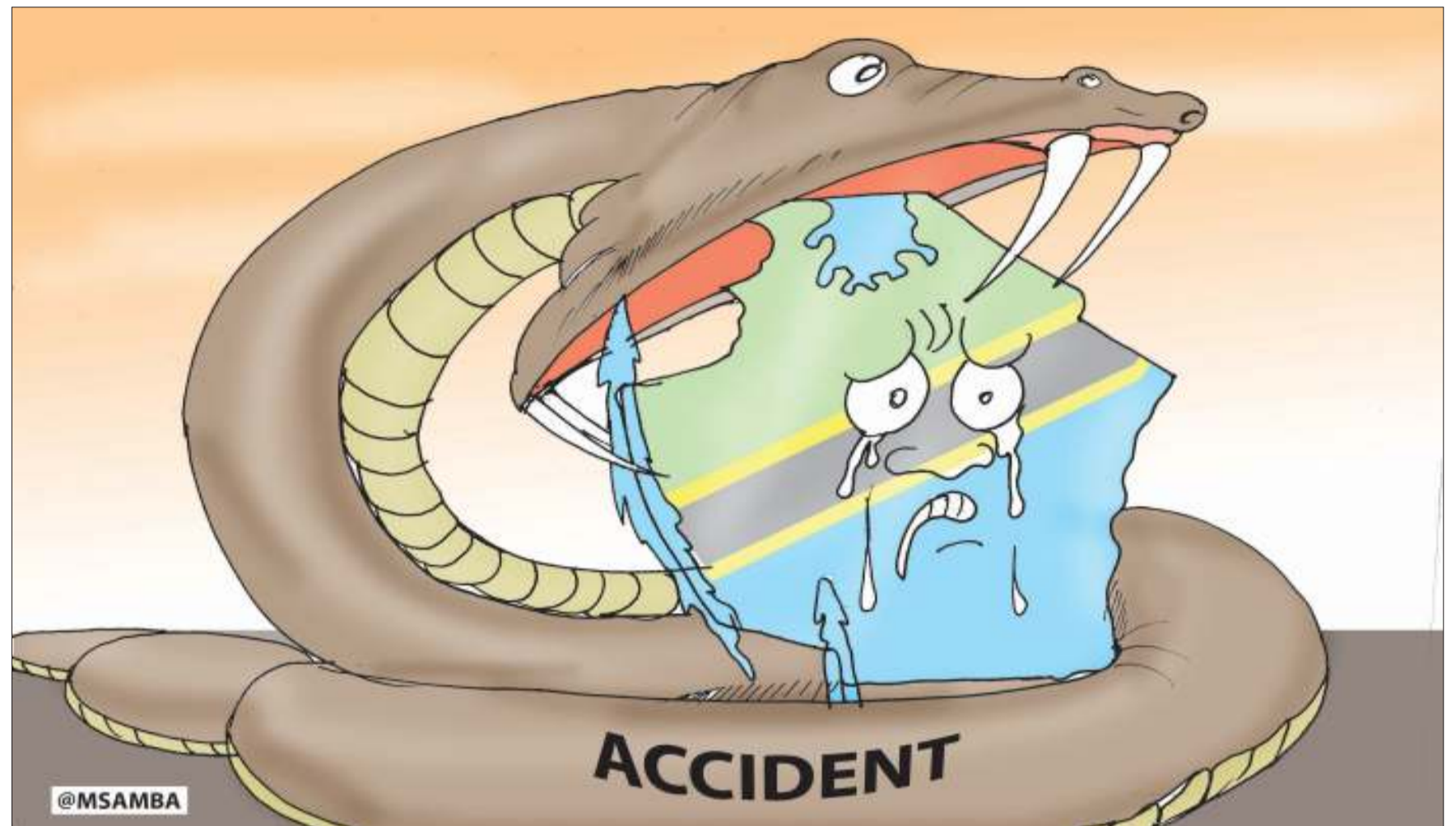
In 1969 at a UNESCO Conference in San Francisco, peace activist John McConnell proposed a day to honour the Earth and the concept of peace, to first be celebrated on March 21, 1970, the first day of spring in the northern

hemisphere. This day of nature's equipoise was later sanctioned in a proclamation written by McConnell and signed by Secretary General U Thant at the United Nations. A month later a separate Earth Day was founded by United States Senator Gaylord Nelson as an environmental teach-in first held on April 22, 1970. Nelson was later awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom award in recognition of his work. While this April 22 Earth Day was focused on the United States, an organization launched by Denis Hayes, who was the original national coordinator in 1970, took it international in 1990 and organized events in 141 nations.

Numerous communities celebrate Earth Week, an entire week of activities focused on the environmental issues that the world faces. In 2017, the March for Science occurred on Earth Day and was followed by the People's Climate Mobilization.

On January 28, 1969, a well drilled by Union Oil Platform A off the coast of Santa Barbara, California, blew out. More than three million gallons of oil spewed, killing over 10,000 seabirds, dolphins, seals, and sea lions. As a reaction to this disaster, activists were mobilized to create environmental regulation, environmental education, and Earth Day.

The first Earth Day celebrations took place in two thousand colleges and universities, roughly ten thousand primary and secondary schools, and hundreds of communities across the United States. More importantly, it brought 20 million Americans out into the spring sunshine for peaceful demonstrations in favour of environmental reform. It now is observed in 192 countries, and coordinated by the nonprofit Earth Day Network.



## Of government of debt and lamentation

By Matthew Ozah

IT was a bright cold day, the other day, the morning sun gleams alluringly. Such is the day Nigerians from all walks of life enjoy to see and be happy about. It enables farmers to work on their farm land like giants.

Traders enjoy the cool atmosphere as a form of ease of doing business. While pupils assimilate quickly without much explanations from teachers. Of course, input from civil servants will be double as there won't be any reason to complain of harsh weather that may trigger leaving the office to cool off somewhere. But on this particular day, came news too from the mass media that made Nigerians to ponder and feel uneasy to hear President Muhammadu Buhari at the inauguration of senior executive course 41, 2019 of the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) Kuru, Plateau state.

The president lamented that the inability of his government to address various health challenges have caused the nation to cough out over N400 billion naira yearly on medical tourism.

Without mincing words, Buhari is a people's delight any day. For his honesty, they cherish and marvel. For being upright and transparent he got accolade that frighten his rivals. He is not like those dishonest politicians who invoke the 'no comment' stance to put the masses in the dark and turn the peoples' focus away from their inept leadership. To be candid, Buhari's lamentation about health tourism has nothing to do with his frequent medical trips abroad.

As well as, the all too often awful government officials who are committed to global trotting in search of adequate healthcare for themselves and family members. Of course, their actions loom large enough to announce globally that Nigeria has no adequate healthcare facilities.

Incidentally, Buhari's concern about the huge foreign exchange spent on health tourism offers a roadmap to put the nation's healthcare facilities in shape.

Don't raise your eyes brow yet because public conversation has taken its course on the issue and critics have demanded that Buhari should tell Nigerians what happened to the millions of naira spent on the Aso Rock hospital.

Yet health tourism abounds among government officials and some privileged Nigerians. It is disheartening to note that, many Nigerians prefer the traditional alternative medicine of using herbs to treat all kinds of ailments because one has to pay exorbitantly to get good healthcare.



Government apologists believe it is baseless to accuse the ruling government of neglect in the health sector. This is because the rot, they argue, has been decades long and that it will definitely take time to clear the 'sixteen years' mess of the PDP.

If one may ask: Why is it now that President Buhari suddenly became aware that the nation is losing heavily on health tourism? Could that be the reason his administration refused to disclose what it caused the nation for his treatment in a London hospital at the early part of his first term? It has become obvious that lamentation and blame game have been entrenched as the style of the Buhari's administration to cover up its inability to produce positive result.

Before the current administration birthed, the party told Nigerians that petrol subsidy was a fraud and that they would not be a part of such unpatriotic and fraudulent payments when in government.

Also that, the price of fuel will be reduced considerably. Of course, the first public assault by the Buhari's government was to increase the price of fuel.

According to available statistics, what the APC government spent on petrol subsidy in 2018 is higher than health, education, infrastructure and defence all put together. The annoying issue is that more than one quarter of the 2018 budget is used to subsidize petrol which benefits the elite more than the masses.

A friend the other day said there is cause to worry as the country is entering 'next level' fraught with risk. According to economic experts, the nation's external debt burden has risen monumentally.

The failure to control borrowing and pull Nigerians out of poverty has undermine president Buhari's integrity and that of his party's holier-than-thou attitude.

Political analysts reckon that poor leadership continues to pressure Nigeria to borrow, irrespective of the

fact that some creditors like China continue to dangle loans and 'Greek gifts' before the ruling government.

At the end of the day, these creditors could exploit the nation by imposing conditions that peel Nigerians' skin away in payments. The recklessness with which the Buhari administration is heaping up debts is dangerously alarming and has raised fresh questions about the future generations whose shoulders the burden in terms of payment may lie.

In the face of all these debts that have no clear indication when to pay it off, an overzealous Minister of Science and Technology, Dr Ogonnaya Onu believes that Nigerian children will inherit a self-reliant nation that will not rely on importation of goods and services.

This gentleman should be informed that young Nigerians are already exporting (migrate) themselves out of the country having lost confidence in the government with all the glaring failure of leadership.

Many young Nigerians prefer to take their destiny in their own hands and go through ordeals like crossing the Sahara desert and the Mediterranean Sea, with their inner-power as hard-as-steel determination to embark on a freedom-or-death journey to Europe, to escape a wretch life at home.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has lent its voice and warned Nigeria of its rising debts profile. It noted that, Nigeria's debt rose from about N11trillion in the last five years to a whopping N24 trillion as at December 31st, 2018. Currently, Nigeria's desire for loans could be likened to the ants love for sugar.

An inseparable union you may say but definitely one that ends in obscure consequence. It is not surprising therefore, that the Buhari's government is increasingly reliant on loan and borrowing to survive.

So far, the government is warming up and waiting for the bank alert in the current wave to borrow to finance the 2019 budget. Of course, borrowing may

be politically satisfying and justified but the line of payback comes at a very huge and rough cost on the people.

From all these facts and figures, one does not need a soothsayer to be informed that our leaders lack vision and the determination to be self-reliant.

Recently, the Auditor-General of the federation, Anthony Ayine lamented that none of its audit report has been fully considered since 1999 by the National Assembly. Such action is not only unpatriotic but lack good governance and accountability. Also, it encourages corruption, which has stifled economic growth and development in the country.

The way government and its officials handle issues concerning the welfare of the nation shows that government care less about the people. No one expects an overnight transformation of the economy. The concern is that Nigerians need basic human necessities.

Also the ruling government must have genuine interest to prioritise rapid funding in education, health and infrastructure for Nigerians.

Government investment must be bolder in terms of financing its policy and it should cut down bureaucratic spending. Democracy demands more than four-yearly elections. They also require the rule of law, transparency and strong institutions. There is no hiding the fact, Nigeria is struggling amid plenty because poor leadership has made corruption endemic, while the oligarchs continue to dominate politics.

The nature of Buhari's rule with regard to political intimidation and lopsided appointments fuel the suspicion that the government is both obese with the letter of the law and totally disrespectful of its spirit. Of course, with these political shenanigans, it is hard to be enthusiastic about the 'next level'.

However, it is in the character of Nigerians to endure, hope and pray for the best. No matter the situation we will survive. But the leaders should chew this up: 'there is God ooh'.



Start the week with Cynthia Stacey

# Poverty eradication...yet to be eradicated!

Greetings for the coming week, which finds me in a positive frame of mind, despite the nations many challenges. But the springtime in the western world, heralding a time of renewal and hope, has cheered me in my African habitat also.

But last year, when preparing to go to 'wazungu-land', I took local newspaper stories about issues here, to show some of the fortunate citizens of the United Kingdom what real hardship is.

Depressed at the differentials of life when I first started travelling between Britain and Tanzania many years ago, I still assumed the future would bring a sort of levelling up of prosperity between the two greatly contrasting worlds.

This hasn't quite materialised, though the entrenched political elite, and the hangers on around them, gained a sort of parity with their western counterparts some time ago, with the emerging middle classes following on.

I was going to say this is in direct proportion to the disparities still suffered by the poverty stricken majority, but is it? Because for every group of aspirational

hopefuls 'going up', maybe hundreds of the hopeless sink further down, so it's not proportional at all.

I'm just guessing that vague ratio, but if roughly 70% of Tanzanians are still genuine rural peasants who've yet to experience any prosperity, as opposed to retired rich gentleman farmers masquerading as such, it's a possible supposition.

Given the cost of many basic essentials here, the concept of the 'living wage' might seem only that...a concept. Yet whilst citizens in developed nations with their high salaries and expectations, complain at small price increases, low paid workers here, and the virtually 'no paid', remain uncomplaining when prices double, or even quadruple.

Foreign visitors often gasp when they see commodity prices in this country, and learn the almost zero purchasing power of meagre wages.

Given this fact, and as I've often written...the poor in Tanzania do the biblical equivalent of the loaves and the fishes every day. (with five loaves of bread, and a few fishes, Jesus fed five thousand people)

On every return to Dar,



The price of poverty...no such vehicle as an ambulance in this rural area, but instead, good samaritans carry a patient on a local stretcher to a hospital some distance away. Is this good enough for 21st Century?. (file photo)

I'm still surprised at the harsh living conditions of daily life, as when travelling up country, and seeing tiny children walking long distances by the road side in the fierce sun, on their way to school, as huge buses and lorries thunder past them.

And whilst over the years, and admittedly with some success, the donor community and the government have raised the GDP (gross domestic

product) an indicator of the national income, yet in the rural areas, the gap between the haves and the have nots, seems slow to diminish.

Whenever I'm in London, I feast on all the edible delights I'd feel guilty eating in Tanzania, such as the prices, like my favourite supermarket cake which would require a large chunk of a minimum wage to purchase. Which reminds me,

during the French revolution, when Queen Marie Antoinette was told that the peasants had no bread...she answered..."then let them eat cake"...not in Tanzania they won't!

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

What doesn't change as I come and go, is the poverty reduction 'industry', assisted by aid organisations. But It's ironic that over the years,

large amounts of funding have gone into this, which like 'corruption', often appears to increase in direct proportion to the strategies designed to retard it.

Paul Kagame, was reputedly the first African president to describe aid as an indignity, and he was right.

In the poverty reduction battle the donor speak vocabulary has been variable, and changes often, but a long time favourite has been the word "stakeholder".

By simply being referred to as such, it fools people into believing they matter, regardless of the fact they'll probably never have a stake in anything meaningful.

I can't recall who famously said "the poor are always with us", but poverty reduction as a growth industry isn't new, though the packaging is.

It was at a workshop in Mwanza in 1998, that the government unveiled the National Poverty Eradication Strategy, under the Vice Presidents Office. This was aimed at reducing poverty by the year 2010... amazing, what happened... nine years on, and we're still poor!

Officiating at the time, the Mwanza R.C. said "in adopting this strategy, responsibilities have been assigned

to different stakeholders charged with co-ordinating eradication initiatives and welfare monitoring indicators".

This means very little, and in the two decades since it was said, how much money will have been spent on servicing...the servers?

No wonder there's so little impact from such schemes, and the time frontiers pushed forever forward, so 2010 becomes 2020, which becomes 2025 and 2030 etc., and maybe it's not in the interests of the 'brokers' who run the poverty reduction business to effectively reduce it...or they'll all be out of a job!

Well, my time frontiers have run out, but before I close, Ambassador Charles Sango writing in the Guardian in 2013, thought he had the answer to enrich the nation when he said "...if only Tanzania could receive five million Chinese tourists, through the recent visit of President Xi Jinping, the economy of the country would stand on its feet"... wasn't that wonderful...because five million people means ten million feet... if they'd gone to Zanzibar it could have sunk...what's now needed is another innovative solution...any ideas you Guardian gurus?!

By Correspondent James Kandoya

Delegates at the United Nations commemorated World Autism Awareness Day on April 2, which is also commemorated globally on this date. World Autism Awareness Day was established by the U.N. General Assembly on December 18, 2007. Members of the U.N. General Assembly expressed deep concern regarding the prevalence rates of autism throughout the world and the need to address the long-term outcomes for children, families and communities. The resolution declared that starting April 2, 2008, and on this date each year, representatives of the U.N. and nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) would raise awareness about autism throughout the world as well as address the fundamental human rights of persons with autism.

In the same vein, each year, Tanzania joins other countries across the world to celebrate the World Autism Awareness Day.

The focus for this year Autism Awareness Day celebration is access to affordable assistive technology for people with autism.

In Tanzania, the day was marked by walk awareness to increase awareness to the public and those who see it in different perspectives.

Speaking to The Guardian, over the week end, the President of the National Association for People with Autism Tanzania (NAPA-T), Dr Stella Rwezaura said although there was no specific data on the number of children affected by ASD, the number of those diagnosed on the rise than it has ever been before.

She says that ASD is neuro development that characterized by social

skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and non verbal. It main cause was not well established.

Narrating her personal experience, Dr Rwezaura a mother of three children, her first born is autistic, calling for increased awareness to the community.

"To take care of the autistic child is a big challenge because it demands you to sacrifice most of your time," she says.

"Apart from that, families with low income are affected mostly because they cannot provide their children with all necessary rights required including education, she adds.

Citing herself, Dr Rwezaura says that she has hired three house girls, where one dedicated to attend to her son who is autistic.

Dr Rwezaura who is also the hematologist at Muhimbili National (MNH), the autistic need close supervision from someone else always.

For instance, one of the servants who assist my child with autism has always to go closely with the child to and back from school.

"The disease is a challenging one because it needs to be well financially so as to give all the needed rights," he explains.

She hinted that low awareness among the general public is one of the factor contributing to an increase of the disease both in rural and urban noting that it can affect anyone.

Some Parents tend to hide their children home for some reasons including wrong believes that hinders efforts of diagnosing more children.

She has a message "I call on my fellow parents not to hide children at home instead taking them to hospital to be diagnosed whether they are autistic," she emphasized.

## Global awareness of autism spectrum disorder crucial



Also the government should increase the number of special schools teaching autistic children saying currently there were eight public and ten private schools only.

Last but not least, she further appeals to the government to invest more in the training to experts who can teach students with autism through speech therapy and behavior therapy.

In a similar sentiment, former president Jakaya Kikwete said there was a need to increase awareness about the disease to in order to diagnose more children.

The official made the call after the autism walk awareness attended by diplomats, religious leaders, health experts and officials in the government.

Dr Kikwete said he has a wide experience referring to his grandson who was autistic saying that it has social, education and economic impacts to the family.

"Taking care of autistics child need patience. I have my grandson who is autistic, so I know it in detail," he said.

"Indeed, it is paining sometimes, especially when I compare with other grandson in my family but you cannot change it. Children are blessing from the God, let protect and care them," he lamented.

He further called on stakeholders to invest in schools to cater for children with special needs such as autism which is on the rise in the country.

"Public awareness is needed about Autism Spectrum Disorder

(ASD), a silent epidemic, to ensure early diagnosis", this is according to Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) renowned don Prof Karim Manji.

He made it known to the Guardian on the sideline of his Professorial Lecture held recently in Dar es Salaam titled, 'Gaps in knowledge, prevalence and care of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in Tanzania.'

He said autism, a disease that affects children at an early stage of their development, is on the rise in Tanzania. This serious developmental disorder has a social, educational, psychological and economic impact on the family.

However, there very few schools to teach such minors and hospital

equipment to detect the disease at an early stage in the country.

A health expert says the disease, which is a spectrum, neurological and developmental disorder in early childhood lasting through a person's life, can be controlled if detected early through behavioural therapy.

Like many countries in Africa, he says there is scarcity of data and little translated and validated tools and lack of expertise to diagnose the disease in its early stage in the country.

"There is also a problem in the quality of mainstream education in public schools about autism," the expert said.

He said ASD, a disorder with onset in childhood, was being increasingly recognised worldwide as experts continued to work on establishing its exact cause.

According to him, the genetics laboratory at MUHAS needs to be fully utilised for diagnosis of children with the condition by ensuring organ samples of children with the disease are analysed and diagnosed.

"It is evident that there is serious deficiency in the awareness about the problem in the country, a situation that hinders efforts to diagnose and reach many children," he said.

He said with public awareness, more people could be reached and diagnosed to enable them embark on behaviour therapy.

The don said the move should go concurrently with the training of human resources for mental health and teachers to cater for autism sufferers.

"We are far from providing the required behaviour therapy and the psychosocial support needed by the children and their families including

building the capacity of caretakers in available schools," he said.

According to him, an increased public awareness programme will bring the issue of autism to the fore and solicit support for these children.

"Although it is difficult to find specific data on the number of children affected by autism in Africa, the number of those diagnosed was rising higher that it has ever been before," he remarked.

He said this was revealed by psychologists and psychiatry experts at Muhimbili National Hospital who remarked that they used to see many children with symptoms of autism but they were not fully engaged in their follow-ups or in their therapy at any appreciable level.

In addition, the exact number of children with ASD was not clear and schools catering for all types of mental or developmental disabilities to improve ASD presentation proved to be elusive.

Commenting on the autism situation in Tanzania, he said there were no translated or validated assessment/treatment owing to very few regional psychologists.

Citing his clinic as an example, Prof Manji said he used to attend to 120 children living with autism per year, adding that there were however many missed children for different reasons.

Although there are several schools to cater for children with special needs such as autism, most of them are either faith-based or privately sponsored.

The don has a special message: "There is a need to increase awareness about autism among the general public, primary health care workers and educators."

By Karim F Hirji

# Deconstructing identity politics in Africa - Part 1

This article clarifies the idea of identity politics, explores the varied justifications behind it, evaluates the criticisms voiced against it and promotes a socialistic perspective on the matter. You have to be able to risk your identity for a bigger future than the present you are living. Fernando Flores

In February 2019, an Egyptian soccer team was scheduled to play a Tanzanian team for an Africa-wide championship. In the lead up to the match, the headlines in our papers declared: We will teach these Arabs a lesson. I wondered: Is Egypt not in Africa? Or, is only a person with a black skin truly African? In the 1970s, it was unthinkable for a Tanzanian newspaper to display such a racist stand. Today, with the vibrant spirit of Pan Africanism of those days a distant memory, it is quite acceptable.

The year 2015 saw extensive eruption of xenophobic violence in the cities and towns of South Africa. Immigrants from other African nations, especially those running small shops, faced violent attacks, and their properties were looted. Many died. As it made front-page news, the rest of Africa stood in shock. Tanzania had, for decades, supported politically and materially the struggle of the South African people for liberation. Even its citizens were not spared the vicious mob attacks. Such attacks continue to this day (Editorial 2019b).

In March 2019, a heavily armed white supremacist stormed two Islamic mosques in New Zealand, killing 50 worshippers and injuring 41 others. As the perpetrator's online manifesto indicated, he was driven by a hatred of Muslims and immigrants. The gruesome incident made headlines internationally.

People everywhere have historically located themselves, socially and psychologically, within distinct social groups. In this era of globalisation, the practice has reached a higher level. Other than race or colour of skin, people are divided in terms of gender, religion, ethnicity, language, community, politics, nation, and even things like profession, sports team and favourite cold drink. The pervasive electronic social media multiplies and entrenches such identities.

That persons with similar characteristics cluster is not a disconcerting outcome. Due to shared beliefs and practice, a Muslim or a Christian will generally associate with persons of his or her own faith. But when these clusters turn into arenas for hostility and conflict like and when hostile divisions prevail, it becomes a serious issue. All aspects of life are then framed in terms of us (the good ones) versus them (the bad ones). The desire to find common ground and compromise is constricted as people are embroiled in continuous conflicts over the rights, role and social status of their identity groups. When not checked, antagonisms of this sort boil over into violent conflict with deadly outcomes.

This paper aims to clarify the idea of identity politics, explore the varied justifications behind it, discuss the criticisms voiced against it and promote a socialistic perspective on the matter.

Identifying identity features, a human is marked by features like ability to rea-

son, create and talk, name, ancestry, community, language, personality, educational and work trajectories, political affiliation, among many other features, which in their totality distinguish him or her as a unique person. Your personal identity is constituted by this complex totality.

Personal identity has both subjective and objective aspects. It is not just what you actually are but also what you think you are and what others think you are. It has aspects you inherited and aspects that emerged from the social and physical environment in which you grew up and live. It has aspects that are beyond your control and those that are, at least partly, under your control. It has elements of authenticity as well as elements you display to others to create an impression. And it is not a fixed, rigid entity but subject to change over time.

Individuals at the same time have another form of identity. Called collective identity and social in form, it is manifested when people sharing features of their personal identities congregate for a particular purpose. Such identity groups are active, not passive entities with roots in history, social and economic structure and politics. When women organised and began to struggle for equality and the right to vote, they constituted an identity group. And so did people with disabilities when they joined up to demand better access to services and facilities. Many identity groups emerge from long, genuine histories of exclusion, domination and discrimination in society. People from these groups unite to struggle for their rights and removal of social barriers they face. Yet, it is not just the victims of domination but those on the other side, the dominant groups, as well who can and do form identity groups. The latter groups are usually omitted from the current discussions of identity groups. Overall, we note that modern identity groups are a product of the history and the nature of politics and social divisions within the national and global capitalist systems.

Consider the case of Tanzania. Decades of exploitative and unjust colonial rule led the people to unite and organise the struggle for independence. Asserting their national identity, they demanded the actualisation of their right to self-determination. There were complexities in this process as well. British colonialism, which utilised the policy of divide and rule, had generated significant social and economic divisions within the Tanzanian society. These divisions, based on race, ethnicity, region, gender and religion, persisted after colonial rule ended. Much progress was made at the outset, yet the divisions persist to this day.

A particularly egregious case is that of African-Americans in the United States. From the days of slavery to the present times, they have been, and still are, victimised by varied forms of discrimination, overt and institutional, that leave the majority among them at the bottom rung of the social ladder, lagging far behind the white majority in terms of income, jobs, education, health services, political rights, fair treatment under the justice system and quality of residential life. Both African Americans who dem-



onstrate for equality and those among the white majority who openly or subtly seek to retain the status quo constitute identity groups.

An identity group designation that has come to the fore in the recent decades is that of People of Colour. Striving to unite the dominated racial groups, it, though, is more of a conceptual construct than a practical reality.

## Identity politics

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines identity politics as:

politics in which groups of people having a particular racial, religious, ethnic, social, or cultural identity tend to promote their own specific interests or concerns without regard to the interests or concerns of any larger political group.

Accordingly, identity politics is contrasted with traditional party-based politics and is stated to have attained its present form after the 1950s. I deem this formulation of identity politics to be unduly narrow in terms of scope and history. The same dictionary quotes a broader definition of identity politics presented by Catherine R Stimpson:

Identity politics is contemporary shorthand for a group's assertion that it is a meaningful group; that it differs significantly from other groups; that its members share a history of injustice and grievance; and that its psychological and political mission is to explore, act out, act on and act up its group identity

Identity politics plays a prominent role in the political arena, particularly in the Western nations. Identity groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and immigration status have become more vocal and assertive. They hold public protest marches to voice specific grievances, demand their rights and official recognition of their status as equal to those of the others, and restrict their electoral support to politicians who explicitly declare sympathy with their cause. And the same holds for the majoritarian identity groups that are opposed to these set of identities, such as fundamentalist Christians and white nationalists in the USA.

The conservative critique As it began to achieve a degree of prominence, identity



**The year 2015 saw extensive eruption of xenophobic violence in the cities and towns of South Africa. Immigrants from other African nations, especially those running small shops, faced violent attacks, and their properties were looted. Many died. As it made front-page news, the rest of Africa stood in shock. Tanzania had, for decades, supported politically and materially the struggle of the South African people for liberation.**

politics came under attack from the left and right sides of the political spectrum. For now, I consider the latter, as it is the one that features predominantly in the media and political landscape. The conservative take on identity politics declares that demands made by minority groups have become unreasonable and stray into the realm of absurdity and social confusion. For instance, they demand the rewriting of history. The purveyors of identity politics are accused of rejecting compromise, even when it is reasonable to do so. They want their stand to prevail. In the process, they divide society into tiny enclaves, shatter cultural cohesiveness, pit ordinary people against one another and set the stage for unending social instability.

Aram Bakshnian, an American conservative, declares that his nation faces "an identity crisis" as a result of "identity politics run amok." He laments:

It's all very divisive, and a shameful attempt to separate Americans by identifying them primarily by where their ancestors came from, their color or creed, or their behavior in bed—none of which is anybody's business or is what goes into making an American (Bakshnian 2019).

Ramnik Shah's recent piece in the *Awaaz Magazine* is an extended, conservative attack on identity politics (Shah 2019). While focusing on the situation in the United Kingdom, he also makes comments relating to Africa. Declaring that we live in Bleak Times, he decries four instances of such politics. These are: (i) restrictions on freedom of speech arising

days in South Africa. I can understand calls for the removal of the statue of the unrepentant imperialist Cecil Rhodes in South Africa but those for the removal of the Gandhi's statue are beyond me.

Gandhi was respected by the leaders of the independence struggles in Africa. He inspired the American civil rights leader, Martin Luther King. But he had faults in his early days that he later overcame. No leader or person is born with the mature stand he/she later promotes; their views evolve over time. At times, a person with a retrogressive vision becomes a proponent of a solidly progressive vision; at other times, the opposite transpires. And even within his/her mature perspective, we find ideas that will justifiably offend someone somewhere.

Charles Dickens, the British novelist whose books elegantly and starkly brought to life the dark side of capitalism and the plight of those at the bottom at the same time held racist views towards colonised people. Should school children not read his books because of that fact? It came to light in the 1980s that one of the best textbooks on human anatomy being used for medical training had utilised the findings from the abominable research done by Nazi doctors on concentration camp inmates during World War II. Should that book be banned? In both cases, the best option seems to be to continue using the books but to also highlight their negative aspects in a prominent manner in the new printing or editions of the book and through other means.

In a similar vein, I disavour denying a public platform to anyone, unless that person directly promotes inflicting harm on others, which is a criminal offense. Restrictions on speech simply rigidify extremist views, attract others to these offensive views, drive the adherents underground and encourage violent action. Let them say what they want to say, but then counter it effectively through education and debate. State officials, main media and prominent personalities should take a lead in that effort. Instead, what happens in the Western mainstream media is that the hatemongers get more space than they deserve while the other side

is restricted to a soundbite (Malik 2019).

## Limitations of the conservative critique

Despite having elements of validity, the conservative critique of identity politics has four major shortfalls.

One: It fails to adequately acknowledge the historical legitimacy of the claims being made and the generationally harmful effects of exclusion and under privilege on minority groups. As noted earlier, the type of identity politics it decries emerged from decades, if not centuries, of domination and discrimination. Even when the discriminatory practices are proscribed by law, they often continue in hidden forms and have a similar negative effect on the group. It is this reality that generates anger and protest. The automatic hostility towards their claims expressed by the dominant groups and the state compounds the problem.

Survey after survey, in the USA and UK, indicates that institutionalised discrimination in education, health service, employment, housing, etc., is an ingrained facet of life. In the UK, it adversely affects the quality of life of British citizens of African, Indian and Pakistani descent. Conservatives and majoritarian groups ignore such facts. They declare the nation to be a "liberal democracy" where such discrimination is prohibited by law and where there is equal opportunity for advancement. Thus, if some people are left behind it is their own fault. Pointing to "model minorities" to bolster their case, they depict the "complainers" as lazy persons who are seeking entitlements from the state.

Reactions of this type are not borne out by studies of various sectors of the society and the play of the economic forces therein. Visiting elementary and high public schools in the greater Los Angeles area, for example, it is hard not to conclude that it is an apartheid type system. Schools in affluent and predominantly white neighbourhoods and cities are well maintained, have state of the art facilities and good teachers who provide quality education to their students. The overcrowded, run-down schools in inner city African American and Latino areas, on the other hand, have management problems, and shortage of key items like books, photocopy supplies and teaching aids. The teachers stick to a minimalist routine and are less inclined to challenge the students, who are dealt with harshly even for minor infractions of the rules. Drop-out rates are high, grades are low and fewer students proceed to undergraduate level studies, especially at the nation's elite universities.

The dismissal of the problems that are faced on a daily basis by the disadvantaged groups only serves to fan further discontent from them and leads to an intensification of their demands.

Two: The conceptualisation of identity politics utilised by the right is too restrictive. In their view, and as reflected in the dictionary definition of the term cited above, only the strivings of African Americans, Latinos, women and people of alternate sexual orientation qualify as identity politics. Identity based political ac-

tivities of the dominant or majoritarian groups are excluded from consideration.

Assertion of religious identity is a widespread form of identity politics. While conservatives rally against violent extremism of the Islamic variety, Christian, Hindu and Jewish religious fanaticisms do not elicit equivalent opprobrium or calls for combative action. Islamophobia prevails, overtly and covertly and in some cases in a virulent form, in all Western nations. Right wing politicians rally against Islam and Islamic culture. The ban or calls for the ban of the head gear worn by Muslim women is a typical example. At the same time, the manner of coverage accorded to Islam in the main media fans the flames of aversion. No wonder then that a survey reported in February 2019 indicated that about a third of Britons felt that Islam is a threat to their way of life. Such xenophobic attitudes, which emanate from an illogical attachment to European identity, are however excluded from the rightist discourse on identity politics (Editorial 2019a).

The anti-Islamic discourse and politics at the same time ignore the legitimate historic grievances of the people among whom fundamentalist extremism takes root and the central role played by the West in exploiting and destabilising Islamic nations. On the contrary, the victims are blamed.

The conservatives are quick to condemn any act or speech they deem anti-Semitic. However, more often such a stance is used to silence legitimate and valid criticism of the brutal actions of the State of Israel against the Palestinians. Since its inception, Israel has in reality been an apartheid-colonial state. The recent declaration by the Israeli parliament that Israel is a state of the Jewish people and not of its citizens, has only elicited silence from the "civilised" Western nations and their political establishments. Yet, it is an extreme manifestation of religious identity. Instead, the Palestinians, who are forced to live in the world's largest prison camp, continue to be seen as inherently violent and anti-Jewish thus justifying any measure taken against them.

Extremist white-race identity movements have a long history, the KKK [Ku Klux Klan] in the US and the Skinheads in the UK being among them. With the rise of anti-immigrant hysteria, Islamophobia and fascist political tendencies, such movements have increased in strength and influence, leading now and then to deadly consequences. And they often use the term identity or identitarian to depict themselves. In his manifesto entitled *General Identity*, the New Zealand killer described himself as a person with a European identity and European blood. The two pillars of his staunchly white nationalism were hatred of immigrants and Muslims. For him, they were invaders who had to be eradicated.

Though the demands of the minorities and their rationale are opposed to those made by the majoritarian groups, philosophically they have the same basis: an exclusive loyalty to a particular group in society. By omitting the latter from the discourse, the conservative vision is clearly based on a double standard. In particular, Bakshnian (2019) and Shah (2019) exhibit this deficiency.

To be continued

# Drive to increase food security in East Africa through farmer training

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

ELANCO Animal Health Incorporated has advanced on its East Africa Growth Accelerator (EAGA) initiative in Kenya.

Elanco's Dr Dmytro Radko, a trained veterinarian and poultry technical consultant from Germany, engaged with local poultry farmers on issues of animal health as part of the EAGA initiative. For Dr. Radko, sharing his technical expertise is a way to contribute to tackle the food security challenge, by improving sustainable poultry production in East Africa.

"The reality is that livestock disease remains a significant threat to achieving food security in the region. Currently in East Africa, 25 percent of protein from farm animals is lost due to animal illness," says Radko.

Salmonellosis and Mycoplasma in poultry are clear examples of the challenges farmers face with reduction in the supply of high-quality protein and related significant financial losses.

"I am humbled and excited to be able to share my contribution through the EAGA project and help increase supply to meet demand and provide it sustainably and safely for people who depend on livestock for their livelihood," Radko adds.

This visit relates to an ongoing plan to impart knowledge and skills as part of a train-the-trainer program, ensuring that capabilities remain within the local farming and veterinary community, and are current with changing global trends and challenges in poultry

production.

Dr. Radko's visit was planned in close collaboration with Ultimate Vetserve Limited, a vaccines distributor in Kenya, and focused on assessing farms on animal husbandry and management improvement areas. Poultry farmers and animal health assistants were trained on relevant disease topics like Newcastle disease and Mycoplasmosis as well as good vaccination practices.

Elanco and Ultimate Vetserve Limited also led a meeting with key opinion leaders from Kenchic Limited, Muguku farm and the Directorate of Veterinary Services Kenya, where they particularly addressed the need for policy development to prevent Salmonellosis and Mycoplasma in poultry. These two bacterial diseases have a significant impact on animal mortality and farmer's operations and livelihoods, as well as food safety and security in the region.

Dr. Josiah Mandieka, MD Ultimate Vetserve Limited said: "Farmers in Kenya face a number of challenges ranging from animal diseases right through to operational and marketing issues. There is also a shortage of laboratories able to diagnose the diseases they face every day. Through EAGA, together with Elanco we assist farmers to overcome these challenges with training and education on how to prevent, manage and treat such diseases through vaccination, the use of appropriate animal health products and appropriate farm management programs."

Elanco's EAGA is a ground-



breaking project to provide sustainable development solutions to address food insecurity in East African countries - Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. This is Elanco's first pure 'Shared Value' project, which is made possible through a

\$3.1million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates foundation. The grant enables the registration, manufacturing and distribution of affordable high-quality veterinary products, along with intensive training initiatives for smallholder

farmers and channel partners.

Elanco's goal through EAGA is to train 12 000 farmers, treat 1.1 million cows and 16 million chickens and enable more than 240,000 dairy and poultry smallholder farmers to access small-sized quality

veterinary products by 2020. The grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates foundation further helps achieve this goal of improving the lives and productivity of smallholder farmers through sustainable livestock production.



A seaweed farmer in Zanzibar: Photo: IIED, which supports the Zanzibar Climate Change Alliance.

## Solar project allows lessons in cleaning in cowpats, African parents delighted

LONDON

CHILDREN from poor families in sub-Saharan Africa have been able to swap cleaning up cowpats for lessons thanks to a solar power project that rewards parents for sending them to school.

South Korean solar firm Yolk has designed a cow-shaped solar power station for schools that can be used to charge power banks for families while their children are in class.

The design references the fact that many children are removed from school in order to care for their family's cattle.

"The kids could not come to school because of the cows and now they can come to school because of a cow - but it's a solar cow," SungUn Chang, the chief executive of Yolk, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

About 262 million children between the ages of 6 and 17 - or one out of every five globally - do not attend school, according to data from the United Nations education body UNESCO, which said



access to education was largely shaped by wealth.

Many poor families require children to stay at home and help with household tasks.

"The parent is the key man - so all of this is about how we persuade parents to send their kids to school," said Chang.

She began researching how the company could help tackle child labour and said she quickly realised they had to offer a "tangible" incentive to families.

"If the value is similar or more,

then they're willing to send their children to school rather than the workplace," she said.

As a solar company, energy was an obvious solution - and power is also an expensive commodity in developing countries.

Many rural homes are not connected to the grid, meaning that households may have to walk several hours to reach a charging shop and pay to charge devices such as phones.

"Solar cow" charging stations are installed in schools and pupils

are given a milk-bottle-shaped power bank which they plug into to charge if they attend class and take home at the end of the school day to provide households with electricity.

Each milk bottle contains about a dollar's worth of electricity - a significant asset for the poorest families - and it can also be connected to a bulb fitting to provide up to 10 hours of light.

The first solar cow was set up in Pokot, Kenya, in July 2018, and Chang said it has resulted in children attending classes more regularly.

Yolk plans to establish several more in Tanzania with funding from the South Korean International Cooperation Agency, a government aid and development agency.

"This can create a really big impact," said Chang.

"When you solve problems like child labour it requires a lot of money - but because we use solar energy, the power of nature in a creative way, it can be a lot easier."

## Beekeepers and seaweed farmers bring in business flair to climate adaptation

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

MAHFOUDH Haji, a climate change activist from Zanzibar, left a conference in Ethiopia earlier this month charged with fresh ideas for helping beekeepers, farmers and children on his island earn money while restoring the environment.

The inspiration came from efforts to deal with a very different problem in Malawi - the influx of refugees. The project, which Haji heard about from fellow conference delegates, assigns plots of unused land for refugees to farm. This gives them a source of food and income, helps reduce costs on the government, and quells tensions with locals.

In Tanzania, Haji hopes to create new work from unused land and forests in eco-friendly ways.

"What I have learned is that there are people in the world dealing with similar problems," he said, sitting with his mother by the Zanzibar Climate Change Alliance's exhibition stand in Addis Ababa. "I can apply this knowledge to my society; even the youth can establish projects on unused land in Zanzibar to plant and increase incomes."

The 13th annual Community-Based Adaptation Conference (CBA13), organised by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), brings together environmental advocates and community organisers from around the developing world to talk about how they're responding to the weather extremes and seasonal changes linked to rising global temperature.

The impacts vary widely, from shortages of water for farming, drinking and hydropower; to floods that wash away crops; to heat so intense that people can't work. But they all impede development and contribute to poverty in some of the world's poor-

est and least developed areas.

Delegates came to CBA13 looking for ideas on how to adapt, and support from funders, aid agencies and non-profits. But rather than listening to speakers or watching PowerPoint presentations, at this conference it was the audience that did most of the talking and brainstorming.

People compared indigenous climate forecasting to new technology, shared stories of overcoming obstacles or failures in their work and perfected pitches for funders. They showcased their projects in an exhibition area, with local products such as traditional jewellery, essential oils and Zanzibar honey.

"This has grown out of a bottom-up, vulnerable communities-based agenda of how they can understand climate change, understand adaptation, do adaptation and help each other do adaptation," said Saleemul Huq, director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development and a senior fellow at IIED. Huq started the CBA conference in Bangladesh 15 years ago.

But funding remains a big challenge, getting stuck with governments rather than trickling down to projects that are conceived and driven by communities.

"Local solutions are grounded in local realities and build local capabilities," said Heather McGray, director of the Climate Justice Resilience Fund, a sponsor of the conference. "This makes for adaptation that is more effective and more sustainable. Channels for getting finance from the global level into local hands exist, but they need strengthening."

Faced with funding shortages, community projects in Kenya, Uganda, India, Nepal and elsewhere are designed to adapt to the climate changes they're feeling while also promoting development.

The Zanzibar Climate Change

Alliance, a network of civil society organisations, created cooperatives to help seaweed farmers, beekeepers and others cope with changes such as rising sea levels and temperatures.

The warmer water is blamed for killing seaweed. So the alliance has provided boats for the farmers - many of them women who don't know how to swim - to venture into deeper water. It has also encouraged tree-planting in deforested areas. More trees help beekeepers expand their business and reduce water evaporation in catchment areas that are drying up.

Similarly, in rural eastern India, the Development Research Communication and Services Centre combines science with indigenous traditions to grow food and generate income. It teaches people to garden nutritional plants, harvest water for drought periods, store seeds and forecast the weather.

And in Kenya, community organisers are helping women sell their colourfully beaded jewellery and cloths online, while the private Africa Agency for Arid Resources buys natural gum and resins from locals to make hair and skin oils, drinks, vitamins and other products to sell in Asia and Europe.

By growing their income and diversifying their livelihoods, these communities create options beyond their traditional farming and herding activities, which are becoming less reliable under increasingly erratic weather.

"We would like to be self-reliant," said Agnes Leina, executive director of the NGO Ill'laramatak Community Concerns, which supports Kenyan pastoralist women and girls. "We would like to have capacity to become entrepreneurial - to do our own businesses and to earn our money, so that we can use our money to do our development, so that we are not always dependent and asking for handouts."

# President: Forward ever, backward never!

By Emmerson Mnangagwa

**I**ndependence Day speech by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Cde Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, 18th April, 2019

I welcome you all who are gathered here to celebrate our 39th Independence Anniversary. I also extend a warm welcome to the multitudes assembled at various venues throughout Zimbabwe and those compatriots following this event via different media platforms.

This is a joyous day for all of us, as one nation, one people! Congratulations Zimbabwe, Makorokoto, Amhlophe! Long live Zimbabwe. God Bless Zimbabwe!

No matter where you are, today we celebrate our Independence Day, we celebrate our land and our people. Our freedom, independence and the proud heritage left for us by our departed heroes and heroines who paid the supreme sacrifice for the freedom we enjoy today.

We have within our blood, the traits of bravery, valour and resilience passed on to us by generation upon generation of our departed.

As we reflect on the path we have walked and the road ahead, we must draw lessons from the actions of our freedom fighters and the principles that guided them.

Over the years, through sweat, struggle and tribulations we have survived and never surrendered or lost our hope.

Today as we celebrate the birth of our nation, let us honour the values that underpin it. These values must drive us forward. We can no longer afford to be concerned with mere survival. Let us instead seek to blossom, thrive and prosper as a nation, as a people, towards a brighter future in the Zimbabwe we all want.

Fellow Zimbabweans;

We celebrate our Independence anniversary under a heavy cloud of grief and sorrow due to the Cyclone Idai disaster. The cyclone has indeed left a grievous scar which will be with us for long time to come.

We mourn with the governments and the people of the sisterly republics of Mozambique and Malawi who also lost precious lives due to Cyclone Idai.

I would like to once again thank the nation for the collective response to Cyclone Idai and the generous contributions to the relief efforts.

The exceptional display of gallantry, compassion, patriotism and corporate responsibility exhibited by various stakeholders is proof that if we are united in love and common purpose, nothing can prevail against us in nation building and reconstruction.

I particularly thank our brothers and sisters in Mozambique for accorded dignity to the remains of our people who were swept onto their territory. Similarly, I wish to extend our profound appreciation to the Heads of State and Government of SADC and Africa in general, for their love and tremendous support.

Our heartfelt gratitude also goes to Heads of State and Government, the United Nations family and

other distinguished dignitaries from the broader international community for their overwhelming support, goodwill and selfless generosity during our time of loss and need.

I wish to, however, mention in particular countries like China, UAE, USA, Tanzania, Botswana, Zambia and South Africa and many others who donated several quantities of medicines, tents, food and non-food items. This proves that we remain one big family, despite our distinct geographical locations.

Fellow Zimbabweans; Let us consolidate our hard-won independence through disciplined focus on the development of the economy and improvements in the quality of life of all our people.

For Zimbabwe to prosper and attain Vision 2030, we need the collective efforts of all citizens at home and abroad. While our friends and investors may assist us, the ultimate obligation to turn around our fortunes lies with us, using our own God-given natural endowments and abilities.

To this end, my administration continues to engage a broad spectrum of our society to help sharpen Government's perspective on issues across the socio-economic and political spectrum. This inclusive approach will enable us to accelerate the pace of the modernisation and industrialisation of our country.

The implementation of the Transitional Stabilisation Programme, has since gathered momentum.

My Government remains committed to address distortions in all sectors of the economy. We have made an upward review of producer prices of maize, soyabeans, wheat and cotton. Wheat supplies are set to improve, while the establishment of small-scale bakeries will be facilitated to enhance more affordable bread prices.

The setting up of Silo Foods Company will further see increased availability and affordability of many basic commodities throughout the country.

In the fuel sector, we are adopting long-term strategies to stabilise both the availability and pricing of the product. The introduction of a market-based exchange rate system is expected to stabilise the economy, in the long run.

However, Government is alarmed by the recent wanton and indiscriminate increases of prices which has brought about untold suffering to the people. This conduct by stakeholders in business, industry and commerce is inhumane, unethical, and unpatriotic and goes against the grain of economic dialogue which the Second Republic has espoused. Government remains determined to restore the purchasing power of all workers.

I want to once again reassure our citizens that the Land Reform Programme is irreversible. We fought for the land and we will never ever regret taking back our land. Neither will we ever betray our fellow comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice for this land and now lie buried in marked and unmarked graves within our borders and beyond.

Our Constitution binds us to compensation in respect to improvements effected on the land before acquisition. This will be done as and when resources are available.



Legacy issues related to the programme such as multiple farm ownership, disregard for maximum farm size, allocation of grazing land and unclear boundaries among others, must be addressed head on, without fear or favour.

The Land Audit Report is expected to help return order in this respect. Where possible, some of those still in need of land will be considered thereafter.

In view of the centrality of agriculture as a key sector in stimulating the modernisation and industrialisation of our economy, my administration is now focusing on unlocking value from the land and ensuring maximum productivity.

Foremost in this regard is the need to provide security of tenure, facilitate access to capital for farmers and generate sufficient raw materials for the revival and growth of the industrial sector.

The negative impact of climate change entails that we undertake adaptive responses that will enhance our resilience. As a result of this year's drought considerable quantities of grain in our Strategic Grain Reserves will be availed so that none of our people die from hunger.

I urge all our community leaders and Members of Parliament to avail information about those communities in critical need of assistance.

Meanwhile, my Government is always grateful to the United Nations Country Team in Zimbabwe and other international partners for their timely interventions to mitigate the impact of the drought. In the medium to long term, Government is quickening dam and weir construction, the repair of breached dams and the desiltation of dams and rivers.

Irrigation development around underutilised water bodies such as Tugwi-Mukosi Lake will gather momentum. DDF and local authorities will continue to be provided with additional rigs to accelerate borehole drilling so that our people do not have to walk long distances to fetch water.

To address the challenges besetting the livestock sub-sector, Government is increasing financial support towards the procurement of essential vaccines against high impact diseases. In addition, over 60 veterinary doctors have been deployed countrywide.

The resuscitation of the Cold Storage Company (CSC) is now on track. Productivity on ARDA farms will continue to be increased with subsidiary focus on value addition. I wish to applaud private sector players who have

headed the call to support Government programmes to increase productivity and viability in the agricultural sector. This resulted in increased output in wheat, soyabeans, tobacco and cotton, among other crops.

The mining sector is a major conduit for investment inflows and a promising source of employment creation. A number of multimillion-dollar mining investments are underway in most parts of the country's provinces.

These include mining projects such as the Prospect's Arcadia Lithium Project; Tsingshan Consolidated Mining Project; Karo Resources and the Great Dyke Investments Platinum Mining Project. Invictus Energy Project in Muzarabani is increasingly becoming promising.

Such investments will help in the economic empowerment of many communities throughout the country and also result in the expansion of our road, rail, communication, energy and housing infrastructure.

We applaud the small-scale miners who are making meaningful contribution to the country's revenue inflows. My administration will continue to tirelessly facilitate increased participation of locals in the mining sector through appropriate policy instruments and support.

A National Diamond Policy is now in place and will see the transparent and accountable exploration, value addition and marketing of the country's diamonds. ALROSA and AFEC will partner Government to bring about optimum benefits, world-class systems, technology and skills into the sub-sector.

In line with our Independence theme of "Embracing Devolution for Vision 2030", and in the spirit of our long held position of indigenisation and economic empowerment, communities must benefit from the natural resources endowments in their localities.

The tourism and hospitality sector continues on an upward growth trajectory, recording total arrivals in 2018 which surpass the highest figures in 1999. As commendation for this development, international players have named Zimbabwe the "Sustainable Tourism Destination for 2019" and ranked us number 3 "Must Visit Destination" in the world.

Information Communication Technologies are the nerve centre of socio-economic transformation in this era of the digital and knowledge-driven economy. In March this year, I

commissioned the National Backbone Fibre Link in Beitbridge. The establishment of that infrastructure will position us as a regional ICT hub and act as a catalyst for ICT-based industries and business.

The initial batch of innovation, incubation hubs within State universities have been set up to help modernise and leapfrog our economic development. This initiative will be complemented by the construction of industrial parks in each province.

I am also pleased to announce the resuscitation of the apprenticeship programme to train technicians and artisans. All our polytechnic colleges will also be capacitated to produce technical skills for our growing economy.

These multi-thronged reforms and modernisation of higher education should lead to the development of a strong research, innovative, artisanal and engineering cadres, which must vault our industrialisation agenda.

The jobs, jobs and more jobs that we desire to create are a function of a thriving agriculture, mining, manufacturing, tourism and ICT sector, among others.

Comrades and friends; Government is in the process of formulating a Renewable Energy Policy to facilitate the development of a diverse portfolio of renewable and clean energy solutions. We also urge our people to embrace clean energy products.

In the meantime, work towards implementation of the Batoka Hydroelectric Plant is now at the Environmental Impact Assessment stage. Construction work at the Hwange 7 and 8 Expansion Project has begun, creating thousands of jobs and will see an addition of 600MW into the national grid upon completion. The Rural Electrification Programme has resumed in earnest since 2018.

These efforts in the energy sector will ultimately increase our national energy output; facilitate the growth of our manufacturing sector; propel industrialisation of the economy, as well as ensure the growth of rural industry systems.

In our quest to position the country as a transportation and communication hub, given its central location in the sub-region, Government is implementing projects to enhance the country's connectivity by road, rail and air transport routes.

The dualisation of the Beitbridge-Harare-Chirundu Road, the Harare-Bulawayo Road and Harare-Mutare Road is gaining traction.

We continue to engage possible investors for the dualisation of the Beitbridge-Bulawayo-Victoria Falls-Kazungula Highway. The general rehabilitation of roads has seen more visible results on both city and country roads.

To enhance trade facilitation, a One-Stop Shop Border Post will be established in Victoria Falls and another at the Beitbridge Border Post. Meanwhile, the modernisation and upgrading of the Beitbridge Border Post is now proceeding in earnest.

The commuting public has been at the mercy of errant kombi operators for a long time. Government has now stepped in to alleviate the plight of the commuters through the reintroduction of buses under the banner of ZUPCO. We are increasing the ZUPCO fleet so that affordable bus services are extended to all areas, especially in rural areas.

Fellow Zimbabweans; My Government awaits the comprehensive report of the Commission of Inquiry on the Sale of State land which will see the re-organisation of the current unplanned settlements so that our people have acceptable habitations.

Relatedly, we have begun the urban renewal programmes, starting with the populous suburbs of Mbare in Harare, Makokoba in Bulawayo and Sakubva in Mutare. The renewal programme is anchored on the Smart City concept and will see the involvement of the private sector.

The construction of the New Parliament Building is fast taking shape. The rehabilitation, construction and modernisation of our courts is ongoing and will enhance more convenient and accessible delivery of justice.

In the housing development sector, the National Social Security Authority (NSSA) is constructing housing units as part of efforts to reduce the national housing backlog. Some private financial institutions have partnered Government in the construction of student accommodation and learning facilities at State universities.

My administration will make sure that no child has to walk more than 5km to a primary school. We will, thus, quicken the construction of more schools, particularly in marginalised areas such as parts of Matabeleland and Mashonaland Central provinces.

E-learning and learning of science subjects in schools across the country is being promoted. I call upon the service providers in the ICT industry to make the cost of bandwidth more affordable to institutions in the education sector.

The health of our people is a critical indicator of their quality of life. Government is making steady progress in revamping the health delivery system. We will accelerate the ongoing negotiations with stakeholders to guarantee adequate provision of affordable medicines and medical supplies in our hospitals.

In December 2018, I launched the National Clean-up exercise to raise awareness on the need to maintain a clean, safe and healthy environment through collective action. I wish to thank the nation for embracing this very important initiative, and further invite all those still to come on-board to do so.

Local authorities and the corporate sector should adhere to safe disposal of all waste and the provision of clean water and functioning sewer reticulation systems to prevent disease outbreaks in our communities.

Sports, Arts and Culture not only promote health and well-being, but have increasingly become a source of livelihood for many people. A more coordinated approach must be accelerated to grow the sector, improve governance and end piracy.

We congratulate our national soccer, cricket and other teams for the successes they scored in the immediate past and encourage them to work harder for future glory and in defence of our national brand.

## Comrades, Fellow Zimbabweans;

The youth and women are an important constituency in the country's socio-economic development agenda. To this end, a dynamic training programme was rolled in 2018 to provide youths with appropriate technical and entrepreneurial skills.

This process is being complemented by the entrepreneurship development programme under the India-Africa Incubation Centre, which will be rolled out to all the country's 10 provinces.

The Zimbabwe Women's Micro-Finance Bank and Empower Bank must now open branches in all provinces to be closer to traditionally marginalised beneficiaries. Government will monitor the number of loans issued and quality of businesses supported to empower women, youth and veterans of our liberation struggle.

SMEs are important to the development of our economy. As such over and above meeting the demands of the local markets, sustainable economic growth will only be achieved through export-led production by SMEs. Government remains seized with the need to construct appropriate working spaces for SMEs.

As we reform the economy, my Government will continue to put in place safety nets to protect the vulnerable groups in our society. The need to empower people with disabilities is being given due attention. The distribution of grain to food-insecure households, inclusive of those in urban areas, is underway.

## Fellow Zimbabweans;

Political reforms and the entrenchment of democratic tenets, the rule law, good governance and an orderly society remain a priority to my administration. In pursuance of this, we are accelerating our legislative reforms to ensure that our laws conform to the Constitution.

This will see the introduction of new legislation in relation to public security, protection of privacy and access to information, among other laws.

I would like to commend the Security Services for their continued loyalty and defence of the Constitution and the nation. We specifically commend our Defence Forces for the role they played during the recent Cyclone Idai disaster. Law and order are important ingredients of our national peace, develop-

ment and prosperity, as well as for the orderly enjoyment of constitutionally enshrined rights.

Government is presently facilitating the re-equipping and retraining of the police service to make the force more equipped to deal with present-day policing requirements.

We are rolling out the automated Fingerprints Identification System across the country for the speedy identification of offenders and completion of criminal investigations. The police and other partners are also installing the Electronic Traffic Management System, which is expected to help reduce road carnage.

A Ministerial Taskforce has been constituted to spearhead the process of implementing the broad recommendations of both the Election Observer Missions and the Motlanthe Commission Report.

The Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption (ZACC) is being reconstituted. The incoming members should execute their mandate with diligence, honesty and integrity. Corruption in whatever form and by whosoever, will not be condoned. We must all individually and collectively prevent, report and fight corruption wherever it occurs.

Fellow Zimbabweans; Recognising that we are a unitary but diverse State, the Second Republic will seek to facilitate the development of marginalised communities in all our activities. We are steadfast in our commitment to fully implement the devolution system. Treasury has so far allocated a total of \$310 million to facilitate the devolution programme.

The philosophy that "Zimbabwe is Open for Business" should reflect in the manner all public institutions are managed. Under my leadership, public servants will continue to be appointed based on merit, while the reform and profitability of public enterprises will be accelerated.

The restructuring of some key entities such as ZESA, GMB and the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) has begun.

The 59 approved projects under the newly established Zimbabwe Investment Development Authority is testimony of the successful implementation of the ease of doing business reforms.

On foreign relations, the Engagement and Re-engagement Policy with all countries in the international community, based on mutual respect, is progressing well. Various strategic engagements have resulted in the signing of numerous bilateral cooperation agreements and concrete investments.

We, however, call for the unconditional removal of the illegal and unjustified economic sanctions imposed on us so that our nation can realise its full development potential, free from any hindrances.

I am aware that a notable part of our citizens are currently spread across the Diaspora. The raft of reforms we have started should enable some of them to return home and assist in building our nation.

*Happy Independence Day Zimbabwe!*

*Congratulations, Makorokoto, Amhlophe!*

*God bless you all!*

*God bless Zimbabwe!*

*I thank you!*

## BUSINESS

IMPRESSIVE

## Thousands of agribusinesses, small farmers benefit from loans by PASS

By Francis Kajubi

A RECORD 929,172 agriculture entrepreneurs including smallholder farmers have benefited from Private Agricultural Sector Support Trust guaranteed loans amounting to 712bn/- between 2000 and 2018.

PASS Managing Director, Nicomed Bohay said in Dar es Salaam last Friday that the beneficiaries came from various sub sectors that include livestock, crop production, processing, crop trading, and mechanization.

"It is worth noting that in 2018 alone, PASS benefited a total of 196,873 agribusinesses through loan guarantee as well as business development services in 26 regions spread across the country," Bohay said.

He pointed out that in the same year, PASS guaranteed 15,564 business plans worth 191bn/- that were presented to various collaborating banks for financing.

"This is a big improvement com-

pared to 623 business plans worth 122.7bn/- that were submitted in 2017. This proves how we work towards supporting the government's key priority areas of job creation and investments in the country," Bohay noted.

He asserted that during the past 18 years, PASS experienced execution, expansion, success and challenges that have resulted into learning and knowledge acquisition for the trust to make use of in the future.

"Through the years, our aim has been to become an innovative development focused institution in the provision of financial and business development services in the country's agricultural sector.

PASS continues to be that symbolic organization that has truly empowered smallholder farmers with access to financial services" he added.

Effective 2018, PASS Trust targets to create a cumulative 700,000 jobs directly and indirectly in the agricultural sector by 2022 as per its five



PASS managing director Nicomed Bohay speaks at a past event. File photo.

year strategic plan. During the period, the trust will support irrigation infrastructures, transportation of agricultural commodities, bee keeping, fish farming as well as inputs trading.

Established in 2000 under the Agricultural Sector Program Support

in collaboration with Denmark and Swedish governments with a mission to facilitate access to financial and business development services by the agriculture sector, it registered as trust in 2007 after a successful pilot project.

Currently, PASS Trust is working with 15 banks that include CRDB Bank Plc, NMB Bank Plc, TIB Development Bank, African Banking Corporation Ltd, Akiba Commercial Bank Plc, Bank of Africa Tanzania Ltd, Amana Bank Ltd, Equity Bank Tanza-

nia Ltd and Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc.

Others are Access Bank Tanzania Ltd, TPB Bank Plc, Vision Fund Micro Finance Bank Ltd, Azania Bank Limited, NBC Bank Ltd and Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank.

FREE TRADE

## Concerns on China and Europe dampen global investors' sentiment, IIF says

LONDON

AN economic slowdown in China, destabilization in the euro zone and trade wars are the top risks facing the faltering global economy in the first half of the year, according to a survey of long-term investors.

Nearly three-quarters of investors surveyed said the current investment environment is less supportive compared to a year ago, according to findings from the Institute of International Finance (IIF). "Concerns about trade conflicts and a potential growth slowdown in China have eased but remain high; political and economic trends in Europe to weigh on sentiment," the IIF said.

The HI 2019 IIF Long-Term Investor Survey was conducted among the IIF's institu-

tional investor membership in March. The survey spanned 17 firms with \$12 trillion under management. China's economy grew at a steady 6.4 per cent pace in the first quarter, showing welcome signs of stabilization, although not enough for global central bankers to declare the all clear about the outlook.

The US and China are locked in tense negotiations aimed at ending their nine-month trade war, that has roiled markets and made investors jittery. Investors view geopolitical risks and a slowdown in global growth as the most important macroeconomic risk factors affecting investment portfolios, the report said.

Other significant risks include global trade frictions and potential central bank policy mistakes, it said. Investors surveyed expect

that the US Fed's interest rate to reach 2.75 per cent in the current cycle before the Fed begins to cut rates.

A majority of the participants expressed concern about a potential Fed or European Central Bank policy mistake over the next twelve months.

More than half of the participants said that policymakers still have some leeway to use monetary and fiscal policies to deal with the next global downturn. More than 95 per cent said they expect global policymakers to respond to the next economic slowdown with more monetary stimulus, while some 75 per cent of participants foresee further fiscal stimulus.

Earlier this month the International Monetary Fund revised for the third time in six

months, its 2019 outlook for global growth, to the lowest since the financial crisis a decade ago, as conditions worsened in most major advanced economies. Growth could further slow down due to trade tensions and a potentially disorderly British exit from the European Union.

The global economy will likely grow 3.3 percent this year, according to the Washington-based lender. The forecast cut 0.2 percentage point from the IMF's outlook in January. The projected growth rate for next year was unchanged at 3.6 percent.

The IIF said there is a renewed appetite for emerging market assets among long-term investors. More than three-quarters of survey participants expect a "slight increase in allocations" to hard-currency emerging

markets bonds over the next twelve months, the report showed.

Nearly 40 per cent expect higher exposure to emerging market stocks as well as increasing demand for local currency bonds.

More than half of the investors expect some decline in exposure to mature market stocks. Some anticipate a slight decline in exposure to mature market corporate bonds, citing credit quality concerns.

Investors said deteriorating credit quality, equity market volatility, and stretched asset valuations are the most important risk factors for investment portfolios over the next twelve months, according to the IIF. A majority of participants do not foresee significant cyber or environmental risks over the next 12 months.

CONCERN

## Cheap imported brands of butter challenge local ones in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa has been a net importer of butter for years. In 2018, 85% of those imports came from as far afield as New Zealand, Denmark, Ireland, and the Ukraine.

And it's cheaper to import than it is to make it locally. Imports in 2018 ranged from around R68 per kilogram to about R100 per kilogram. And with only a R5 per kilogram import duty, the imports are undercutting local suppliers.

All Woolworths-branded butter carries the "Product of South Africa" label, but Shoprite-owned Checkers has a far wider range from all four corners of the globe.

There you will find "President of France", which is priced at a premium to local butter, while American and Ukrainian butter significantly undercuts the local market.

On a recent visit to Checkers Business Insider found Kings Gold (from the Ukraine) retailing at under R50 for a 500g block, while Crystal Valley (from the USA) comes in under R60.

Local brands like Ladismith retail around R65 a block and Clover's main

offerings Springbok and Mooi River go for over R70 for half a kilo. Processed products made by the likes of Lurpak and Kerrygold from Ireland sell at premium prices in smaller formats.

Shoprite said in written replies to questions that it increasingly was receiving less butter than it needed from local suppliers and was forced to source product internationally to meet demand.

"We apply the policy of sourcing locally first and had to look to supplementing volumes required to service our customers when Kings Gold was procured.

The high price of butter does not normally make imports at large scale a viable option for us, but at the time we were able to procure a good quality product at an affordable price for our customers," Shoprite said in a statement.

And local brands are not only fighting competition from outside the country. Increasingly, large dairy concerns are internationally owned.

Ironically foreign players have been buying up local dairy businesses. French dairy group Parmalat has a

substantial presence in South Africa and has over the last two years gradually phased out the Simonsberg brand in favour of its own President brand. President is the world's second biggest cheese brand and sells in 147 countries. It happens nowadays to make cheese in Stellenbosch too.

Clover, South Africa's biggest dairy business is currently trading under cautionary and seems likely to be taken out by Israel's Milco.

The deal has been mired in some controversy with JSE listed Brimstone recently withdrawing from the consortium doing the R4.8 billion buyout under pressure from activists.

The offer though remains on the table at R25 a share, a 20% premium on the ruling price before the news of the offer broke. Investors have been disappointed in the market performance of Clover since its listing.

Expect to see more foreign butter on our shelves through the winter months too. Winter milk production is usually lower than that produced in summer and as a result will lead to further shortages and because of the laws of supply in demand could lead to price increases.



A variety of cheap imported butter selling in South African supermarkets.

## EASTER SEASON

# Chinese edible oil manufacturer cheers orphans, aims to conquer markets

By Guardian Reporter

EMPLOYEES of Sunshine Industrial Company Limited have been urged to strive to work hard and produce quality edible oil to meet demand in both the local and international markets.

Sunshine's CEO, Leo Lee said in Dar es Salaam at the weekend shortly

after handing over a donation of groceries to Mwandaliwa Orphans Centre as part of activities to mark Easter Festivities that quality products will compete in the market which will lead to profits that will be shared with vulnerable groups like orphans.

Lee said he is optimistic that the company's employees are committed to performing better because

it also awards them with increased salaries and other perks. "Workers are the biggest asset for the company to succeed which also means better salaries and livelihoods," he noted pointing out that the well off have an obligation to assist the needy.

"We as Sunshine will continue to assist vulnerable groups in the society such as these orphans who like our

children are also entitled to better living conditions," Lee added after handing over an assortment of food items, soap and cash.

"Giving back to communities is part of our culture defined through our corporate social responsibility," Lee stressed. In a vote of thanks, the orphanage's Director, Halima Mpetta said the donation will go a long way to support the needs of the children who do not have a secure source of funding to meet their daily needs.

"We thank you very much because this donation will

help cheer up our children during this festive season and beyond," Mpetta said while paying tribute to Sunshine workers and management for their generosity.

She said the centre is facing a number of challenges including food, clothes and money to pay for various bills, buy perishables such as soap and relish but also transportation for children attending schools.

"This generous donation will put a smile on these children's faces during the Easter season," the Mwandaliwa Orphanage Director pointed out.



Sunshine Industrial Company Limited's CEO, Leo Lee (L), hands over an assortment of groceries to Mwandaliwa Orphanage's Director, Halima Mpetta, as a donation by the company to cheer up the children during Easter festive season during the weekend. Photo: Guardian Photographer.

## E-COMMERCE

## Online marketing firm fetes customers to mark Easter festive season in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

AN online marketing firm, Zoom Tanzania showered its customers with various prizes as part of its giving back to community initiative to show its appreciation for their support.

The company's Marketing Manager, Stephen Swai said in Dar es Salaam during the weekend that since the company's establishment in 2009, it has been strongly backed by customers.

Swai said on Friday that to kick off the Easter season's events, Zoom Tanzania organized an East-

er egg hunt on its website while inviting customers to participate in the exercise in order to win various prizes which included a full curried rice (pilau) making ingredients.

He noted that the company's management believes in bringing families together during the festive season hence the prizes were more of family size than individuals.

"At Zoom Tanzania, we always try to find a way to be closer to our customers and these Easter holidays and we wanted to find a perfect way to bring families together

to enjoy this special occasion together," said the Zoom Tanzania Marketing Manager.

The company said the competition was also held on its social media platforms for the past two weeks with four lucky winners getting prizes. One of the lucky winners was Raymond Mauki who walked away with a curried rice ingredients package.

The prizes which also went to Dar based Evelyn Kessy who got family meal vouchers to dine at KFC; Mbeya based Gwamaka Josiah who got shopping vouchers for Game Supermarket and Zan-

zibar based Yousouph Juma who won movie vouchers for his family to watch a movie of their choice at Century Cinemax, excited the winners.

"This is a unique year which we have chosen to show our customers that we appreciate them and that we are here for them," Swai added.

The online marketplace has thousands of customers who visit its website daily to buy almost everything from groceries, automobiles, electronics, real estate and clothing using their mobile handsets and other electronic gadgets.

## DECELERATION

## Passwords, malware and why banks just aren't the bad guys

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African Banking Risk Information Centre CEO Kalyani Pillay maintains that South African banks do a great job of servicing and protecting their customers and that much of the security risks that come with banking are worsened by a lack of consumer education.

Pillay has been the CEO of Sabric for more than 11 years, since she left the National Prosecuting Authority. Speaking to Fin24 about her work and that of the organisation, Pillay says she has led an agile and growing organisation that assists banks through a unique model to improve security.

"Changes are fast paced. I have been here since December 2007 and have been CEO since. It is certainly a growing and agile organisation. We need to be and we need to adapt as the crime environment changes," Pillay said. Pillay says protecting banks and their customers from criminals has proven to be a fast-paced endeavour.

"As we collect stats and information, we analyse and study it to assist banks to know what the current landscape is and how it is evolving. The Sabric model has been an advantage to our members who can collaborate in the fight against such crimes in a non-competitive environment," says Pillay.

Pillay said Sabric's work is particularly challenging because banks are constantly innovating in terms of what they can offer consumers - and criminals in turn see each innovation as an opportunity to target unsuspecting bank account holders.

"The trend has certainly been that criminals shift their focus to where opportunities present themselves. As banks make their services to customers more accessible and convenient, criminals use these very platforms to conduct their criminal activity and steal from bank customers," Pillay said.

She said theft of personal and confidential information was rife and criminals used information they steal or harvest from various sources, to unlawfully access their victim's bank accounts or utilise their banking facilities.

"This is why public awareness and education is a key focus area for Sabric. We have various campaigns throughout the year to empower bank customers with the latest modus operandi and scams and also provide advice on how to protect oneself against these," she said.

Pillay said banks have seen the positive impact of the measures they have implemented, but often criminals move to other targets. She said the displacement of crime was not uncommon in the banking environment.



South African Banking Risk Information Centre CEO Kalyani Pillay.

"Deploying effective security strategies and measures are expensive. Banks take this very seriously and invest extensively in appropriate measures to protect their systems and their customers. This of course is a moving target and as the crime landscape changes, the banks continuously review their measures and implement the necessary interventions," she said.

Pillay said it is a priority to educate and empower bank customers on how important it is to protect themselves from becoming victims of bank related crimes.

"We are a voluntary organisation and members come to us as they see the value of collaborating and the benefit of economies of scale. While individual member banks have their own crime fighting strategies and plans, they agree on joint strategies and priorities at Sabric," said Pillay. Pillay said the world has become smaller and with cyber-crimes, Sabric is dealing with criminals who are faceless and border-less.

## GOOD NEWS

## More foreign investments come into Nigeria after general elections

LONDON

THE Nigerian economy has recorded about \$5 billion foreign investment inflows post-general elections in February/March 2019. The Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele, disclosed this Friday night, in Washington DC, USA.

He said that the development was a demonstration of foreign investors' confidence in the Nigerian economy, adding that the monetary policy outlook and the efforts on reduction of import bill would remain part of the CBN policy stance going forward.

The CBN Governor added that the apex bank was committed to ensuring the Nigerian financial system was not only sound, but able to support the real sector in boosting Nigeria's growth and development, while continuing to attract foreign investors.

He stated: "Although monumental feats have been achieved by the CBN in various aspects of development finance, foreign exchange management, financial inclusion and payments system in the past five years, challenges remain."

Emefiele revealed that Nigeria's foreign reserve has stabilised at USD45 billion from the low point of USD23 billion in 2016, stressing that the CBN's foreign exchange policy, particularly the Investors' and Exporters (I&E) Window established in 2017, was delivering desired results.

He stated: "Since its establishment, the CBN has recorded about \$35 billion in autonomous forex inflows through this Window alone. As a result, exchange rate pressures eased consider-



Nigerian Central Bank Governor, Godwin Emefiele.

ably across all markets as the rates converged to about N360/\$ and the distortive premium almost eliminated.

"At the Bureau De Change segment, there has been a significant appreciation of the Naira from over N525 per dollar in February 2017 to about N360 per dollar today. Rates at the I & E Window also appreciated from nearly N382 per dollar in May 2017 to just over N360 per dollar. In addition, exchange rate pressures normally witnessed during the general election cycles."

According to him, the outcomes of the recent CBN forex policy has led to stable exchange rate,

forex liquidity, vibrancy in the capital market, improved supply of forex impact on Purchasing Manager's Index, and the improved forex supply expected to impact positively on Gross Domestic Product, GDP, growth and more companies declaring profit and offering rights issues.

Stressing further on the impact of the policy, Emefiele noted that there has been a boost in local production of the goods on the list of the 41 items banned from official forex market, adding that the policy has created domestic demand for the items concerned, employment generation, substantial forex owing to the re-

duction in the import bills of the country and improved domestic capacity.

He disclosed that the CBN intervention in the area of agriculture, manufacturing, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and infrastructure has yielded multiplier effect on the economy.

Commenting on its Anchor Borrowers Programme (ABP) initiative, he said: "This scheme stands out as one of the major achievements of the Bank in its intervention effort. The goal of the programme is to collaborate with anchor companies involved in the production and processing of key agricultural commodities. Under the ABP, anchor firms serve as off-takers with out-growers involved in production."

As at December 2018, a total sum of N174.48 billion had been disbursed through 19 participating Financial Institutions (FPIs) to finance 902,518 farmers, working with 194 anchor companies. During the period, 2807,775 and 8,423,325 direct and indirect jobs respectively had been created under ABP."

Highlighting the remarkable achievement of the Bank in the area of financial inclusion, he said: "Financial inclusion is achieved when 80 percent of adult Nigerians have easy access to a broad range of formal financial services that meet their needs at an affordable cost."

The results of the 2018 edition of the biennial Access to Financial Services Nigeria Survey conducted by the Enhancing Financial Innovation and Access (EFInA) revealed increase in the percentage of adult Nigerians that were included in financial services from 58.4 percent in 2016 to 63.2 percent in 2018 (4.8 percentage points). The

percentage of banked adult Nigerians increased from 38.3 percent in 2016 to 39.7 percent within the same period."

On the payment system, Emefiele declared: "Since 2017, the CBN has focused its attention on the development of payments system, with a view to migrating from cash-dominated environment to an electronic payments market. Many milestones have been achieved since that time. The level of development attained in the national payments system through the implementation of the PSV 2020, has necessitated the shift of focus to managing the risks in the payment system."

The CBN Governor stated that the Bank also recorded major achievement in the last five years in the area of National Collateral Registry (NCR), which was put in place in collaboration with the International Finance Corporation, IFC.

"As at December 2018, 456 financial institutions, comprising 411 micro finance banks, 34 finance companies and 11 non bank financial institutions were registered on the NCR portal. This brought the cumulative number of financial institutions registered to 628, comprising 21 commercial banks, 551 micro finance banks, four merchant banks, four development finance institutions."

The naira value of financing statement in 2018 was 47.4 percent higher than the corresponding value N487.3 billion in 2017. Similarly, the value of the US dollar registered was significantly higher than the corresponding value of US\$20 million in 2017."

CLEARANCE

# UN's ITU says no evidence Huawei 5G equipment poses security concerns

GENEVA

INTERNATIONAL Telecommunication Union, the UN-backed internet and telecoms agency, says it doesn't share the same security concerns as the US regarding Huawei 5G equipment but China's largest technology company has to adhere to all global standards.

"So far, we have not come across any evidence pointing at security concerns of the equipment," Houlin Zhao, secretary general of ITU, told The National. "Huawei has to follow all security standards... there is no other choice."

"Our job is to develop standards and they will be the same for everyone," said Mr Houlin, who had served as an engineer in the department of Posts and Telecommunications of China, before moving to the UN's telecom union.

Shenzhen-headquartered Huawei is facing mounting global pressure - led by the US - over accusations its equipment is not secure and facilitates espionage. Following a campaign by the US, UK telecom BT has barred Huawei 5G equipment from its core network. Australia and New Zealand have also announced they would not allow Huawei to be involved in building 5G systems in their countries.

Fifth generation of cellular mobile technology, or 5G, will enable rapid data transfer, energy saving, cost reduction and widespread device connectivity through Internet of Things.

Despite the restrictions in the US and other countries Huawei has plowed forward securing 40 commercial contracts

to build and operate 5G telecommunication infrastructure globally as of the end of March. The company's earnings soared 25 per cent in 2018 and revenues grew nearly 20 per cent, crossing the \$100 billion mark for the first time.

The technology giant derived about 52 per cent of its revenue from its home market in China, which was followed by the EMEA region (Europe, Middle East, Africa) that accounted for 28 per cent, Asia Pacific in third place (11 per cent), the Americas in fourth (6.6 per cent) and other markets accounting for 2 per cent of total sales.

As a specialised agency, ITU has permanent presence in 13 countries and it has also set up a security study group of global experts to ensure the security of wireless networks. Mr Houlin said a fair ground should be provided to all global manufacturers to ensure competitiveness in the 5G industry.

"Equal business opportunities should be provided to all players and if any company is not following the right



Houlin Zhao, secretary general of ITU

practices, it could be charged," said Mr Houlin.

"Every country has its own set of rules to verify the legitimacy of 5G equipment. If they don't like one manufacturer, they can switch to another... as many more options are available in the market,"

he added. "Moreover, 5G is not the privilege of one company or one country. It is a global technology - an ITU's technology."

Despite global pressure, last month Huawei said it aims to boost its income further in 2019 on the

back of a widespread roll-out of 5G networks around the world.

The Chinese vendor has signed 23 5G contracts in Europe, 10 in Middle East, six in Asia-Pacific and one in Africa. The company has already shipped over 70,000 5G base stations globally and aims to dispatch another 100,000 by the end of May. Its main rivals Nokia and Ericsson have each secured 16 5G contracts as of the end of March.

ITU is also expected to finalise the basic standards and spectrum for 5G at its World Radiocommunication Conference in Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt, in the last quarter of this year.

"We are on track to finalise 5G standards. I don't think that security concerns, raised against equipment, will slow down the roll-out process globally," said Mr Houlin, admitting that concerns have impacted the industry negatively to some extent. "Only last week in Geneva, a delegation told me that they have decided to not go for 5G because of security issues. So there is a negative effect."

CAUTION

## British companies are planning to stockpile for the 'nightmare' of a Christmas time no-deal Brexit

LONDON

BRITISH companies are planning to stockpile goods including food, clothes and medicine amid fears that a no-deal Brexit on October 31 would create the "nightmare" of severe shortages in the run-up to Christmas.

Prime Minister Theresa May and other European leaders prevented the United Kingdom leaving the European Union without a deal last week by agreeing to delay Brexit by six months until October 31, 2019.

Since then, UK companies have been calculating how much money they lost preparing for a no-deal exit in the spring, after spending millions on measures like stockpiling goods and hiring staff to handle new customs checks. The Confederation of British Industry estimates that businesses collectively spent billions of pounds.

Companies are now looking ahead to Halloween, and the prospect of a no-deal Brexit creating an array of costly checks on the UK-EU border just weeks before Christmas, when the demand for many goods rockets. A number of companies have already started making new no-deal plans, Business Insider understands.

One of the UK's biggest beer companies is set to stockpile "two of three times as much" as it did in the run-up to March 29, to ensure that it meets Christmas demand, an industry figure familiar with the plans told Business Insider.

"It is a nightmare on the goods side," the source said, adding that there is also the issue of almost all goods being seasonal, meaning many products that were stockpiled for a spring Brexit can't be re-used later in the year. The seasonal problem is set to affect the UK's clothing retailers.

"You might think things like clothes are less problematic," Pauline Bastidon, Head of Global and European Policy at the Freight Transport Association, told

Business Insider this week.

"But fashion changes on a seasonal basis, sometimes on a monthly basis. If they [companies] have stock which they want sell in spring, it won't be much use to them in the autumn." Retailers face another practical challenge in that winter clothing is generally bulkier than clothing sold earlier in the year, meaning that they will need more warehousing space for stockpiling.

Pharmaceutical companies are also planning to stockpile large quantities of certain of goods as Brits are more likely to develop illness and require medicine in the winter compared to other times of the year.

May's government this month told civil servants to wind down immediate no-deal planning with "immediate effect." However, business groups are urging members not to be complacent or overcome with Brexit fatigue.

The FTAs Bastidon is set to meet with industry figures early next month to discuss the next round of no-deal planning. She told Business Insider that while "the prospect of any immediate no-deal has gone away" for now, "the more distant prospect of no-deal on October 31 is still very much on everyone's minds." Bastidon added: "The government tells us it's highly unlikely but where's the evidence to say that it's highly unlikely? It's still the default. Yes it's not tomorrow so we can breathe a little bit but it could definitely happen."

Nicole Sykes, the CBI's Head of EU Negotiations, told Business Insider that UK companies "have spent billions on no deal planning" including stockpiling, relocations, and hiring staff to handle new customs checks.

She said that while the six-month Brexit delay removed the threat of an immediate no-deal, it had not provided businesses with enough certainty to suspend no deal planning or make long-term investments in the UK.



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STARTING 7:30 PM

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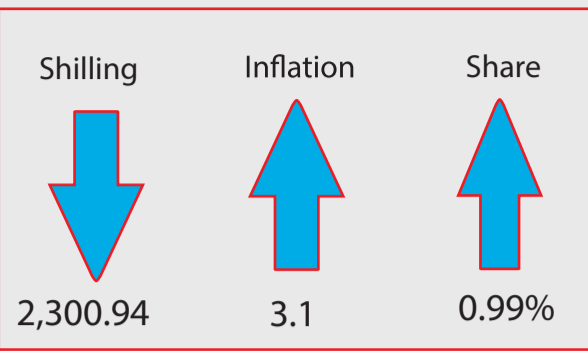
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<p><b>FRIDAY 19 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Movie : DNA prt 1&amp;2 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Jagina rpt 13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino) 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Movie: Bahasha 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 18:30 Shamba lulu 19:00 Uchumi na biashara 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima joto 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 CNN International</p> <p><b>SATURDAY 20 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt 11:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt 11:30 Usafiri wako 12:00 Shamba lulu 12:30 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino) 14:45 Igizo rpt: Riziki 15:15 Igizo rpt: Elininyo 15:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 16:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Milele 16:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt 17:00 Shamsham za Pwani 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Igizo: Elininyo 19:00 Sanaa na wasanii 19:30 Jungu Kuu 20:00 Habari 21:00 Igizo: Kimya Milele 21:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo 22:30 Isidingo rpt 01:00 CNN International</p> <p><b>SUNDAY 21 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari</p>	<p>8:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Watoto Wetu 10:00 Isidingo 11:45 Aibu Yako 11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt 12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: Magic house 2 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo 15:00 Mwangaza 16:00 Korean drama: The great queen Seonduk 16:45 Mjue zaidi 17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Mizengwe rpt 18:45 Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Mtego 20:00 Habari 21:05 Mizengwe 21:00 Bongo Movie: It wasn't me 22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)</p> <p><b>MONDAY 22 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Movie: Deception 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jungu kuu rpt 13:00 Mjue Zaidi 14:00 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino) 15:00 Movie: Big daddy 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Aibu yako rpt 18:15 Mapishi rpt 18:30 Kesho Leo 19:00 Afya ya Jamii 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 22:00 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino) 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 CNN International</p> <p><b>TUESDAY 23 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo</p>	<p>11:15 Igizo: Mtego 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Afya ya jamii rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Uchumi na biashara 13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt : TFDA 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Mizengwe rpt 14:15 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino) rpt 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 The great queen Seonduk 19:00 Jarida la wanawake 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Tanzania yetu 21:30 Kipindi Maalum: Uongozi 22:00 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino) 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 CNN International</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY 24 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Shamba shape up 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Korean: The Great Queen Seonduk 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino) 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi rpt 18:30 Ijue Sheria 19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TFDA 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Aibu Yako! Hata wewe? 21:10 Kipindi Maalum : Tanesco 21:40 Kipindi Maalum 22:00 Kipindi Maalum: Tatu mzuka 22:10 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino) 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base</p>	<p>00:30 Al Jazeera 2:00 CNN International</p> <p><b>THURSDAY 25 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Igizo: Riziki 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Igizo: Elininyo 11:15 Kesho leo rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Ijue Sheria 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Sanaa na wasanii 13:30 Tanzania yetu 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)</p> <p>14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Jagina 19:00 Usafiri wako 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 CNN International</p> <p><b>FRIDAY 26 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Movie: 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Jagina rpt 13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino) 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Movie: 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 18:30 Shamba lulu 19:00 Uchumi na biashara</p>	<p>19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima joto 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 CNN International</p> <p><b>SATURDAY 27 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt 11:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt 11:30 Usafiri wako 12:00 Shamba lulu 12:30 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino) 14:45 Igizo rpt: Riziki 15:15 Igizo rpt: Elininyo 15:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 16:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Milele 16:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt 17:00 Shamsham za Pwani 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Igizo: Elininyo 19:00 Sanaa na wasanii 19:30 Jungu Kuu 20:00 Habari 21:00 Igizo: Kimya Milele 21:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo 22:30 Isidingo rpt 01:00 CNN International</p> <p><b>SUNDAY 28 April</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Watoto Wetu 10:00 Isidingo 11:45 Aibu Yako 11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt 12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: It wasn't me 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo 15:00 Mwangaza 16:00 Korean drama: The great queen Seonduk 16:45 Mjue zaidi 17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Mizengwe rpt 18:45 Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Mtego 20:00 Habari 21:05 Mizengwe 21:00 Bongo Movie: It wasn't me 22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)</p>
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Brexit Secretary Stephen Barclay.



**Total Market Capitalization**

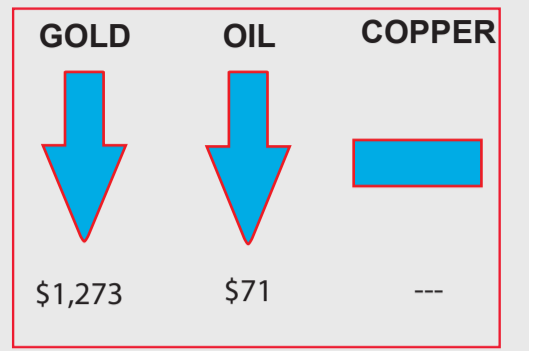
TZS	19,091.90 bln (USD 8,338.84 mln)
Indices April 16, 2019	
TSI	3,256.85 -68.53
DSEI	1,980.73 -45.71

**AVERAGE PRICES FOR FOOD CROPS TSH/100KG**

Maize	5364.00	Finger Millet	144052.63
Rice	183125.00	Wheat	129866.67
Sorghum	80476.19	Beans	175416.67
Bulrush Millet	84066.67	Round potatoes	71458.33

**Exchange Rates (DSE)**

Currency	Buying	Selling
EUR	2,578.38	2,605.09
USD	2,278.12	2,300.91
KES	22.57	22.75
GBP	2,986.62	3,017.64



**Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange**

Date: April 16, 2019

Company	Closing	Prev	Chg (%)
CRDB	125.00	125.00	0
ACA	5,150	5,600.00	-8.04
DCB	340	340	0
DSE	1,260	1,260	0
EABL	4,760.00	4,880.00	-2.46
JHL	9,150.00	9,150.00	0
KA	120.00	120.00	0
KCB	1,020.00	1,020.00	0
MBP	490.00	490.00	0
MCB	500.00	500.00	0
MKCB	800.00	800.00	0
MUCOB	400.00	400.00	0
NICO	170.00	170.00	0
NMB	1,980.00	2,340.00	-15.38
NMG	1,500.00	1,400.00	7.14
PAL	400.00	400.00	0
SWALA	490.00	490.00	0
SWIS	1,700.00	1,700.00	0
TBL	10,000.00	10,000.00	0
TCC	17,000	17,000.00	0
TCCL	600.00	600.00	0
TICL	385	385.00	0
TOL	660.00	660.00	0
TPCC	2,100.00	2,100.00	0
TTP	120.00	120.00	0
USL	10.00	10.00	0
VODA	800.00	800.00	0
YETU	600.00	600.00	0

**DSE MARKET SUMMARY**

TSI	3,256.85	-68.53
DSEI	1,980.73	-45.71

**TRADING STATS**

Market Cap (bln)	19,091.95
Equity Turnover	229,689,375.00
Total Volume	659,575
Total Deals	48

**TOP MOVERS**

CRDB	125	583,371
NMB	1,980	50,990
NICO	170	19,500

**GAINERS & LOSERS**

Company	Price	Change
ACA	5,150	-8.04%
NMB	1,980	-15.38%
EABL	4,760	-2.46%
NMG	1,500	+7.14%

**Interbank Foreign Exchange Market (IFEM)**

Date	Amount Traded (Mn USD)	High	Low	Weighted Average
17/Apr/2019	2.20	2,308.00	2,298.45	2,300.94
16/Apr/2019	2.10	2,308.00	2,298.40	2,300.84
15/Apr/2019	1.70	2,316.00	2,298.40	2,300.93
11/Apr/2019	1.50	2,309.00	2,298.45	2,300.94
10/Apr/2019	1.65	2,310.00	2,298.50	2,300.96
9/Apr/2019	1.30	2,310.00	2,298.40	2,300.92
8/Apr/2019	1.25	2,310.80	2,298.45	2,300.93

**Inter-bank Local Money Markets**

Date	Volume (million-TZS)	High	Low	Weighted Average Rate (WAR)
17/Apr/2019	41,200	5.50	5.00	5.29
16/Apr/2019	53,550	5.50	4.90	5.24
15/Apr/2019	18,450	6.00	5.25	5.44
11/Apr/2019	39,000	6.00	5.00	5.15
10/Apr/2019	43,300	6.00	4.90	5.18

**Tanzania Shilling On Average bases**

The USDZTS traded at 2,310.0000 on Monday April 15. Historically, the Tanzania Shilling reached an all time high of 23660 in March of 2019 and a record low of 1014.30 in December of 2004.

**Gold slips to 2019 low as global economic outlook improves**

- \* Bullion down about 1.3 percent so far this week
- \* Holdings of SPDR Gold Trust near their lowest since Oct
- \* Palladium trading below previous session's 2-week peak

**LONDON, April 18.** (Reuters) - Gold traded near its lowest level since end-December on Thursday as indications that the global economy might not be as pain-stricken as previously feared prompted investors to take risks ahead of a slew of economic data.

Spot gold eased 0.1 percent to \$1,273 per ounce by 0722 GMT, having fallen to \$1,270.99 earlier in the session, its lowest since December 27.

The metal has so far lost about 1.3 percent in the holiday-shortened week, and is on track for a fourth straight weekly decline. Most markets are closed for Good Friday on April 19.

U.S. gold futures lost 0.1 percent to \$1,275.60 an ounce.

"What we see here is the moderation of some of the extreme concerns about the global growth outlook," said Michael McCarthy, chief market strategist at CMC Markets.

"Recent data over the last 10 sessions or so have eased concerns and safe-haven assets have been under significant pressure."

Among a string of positive economic indications were data from both United States and China that tempered concerns about global growth and took the sheen off safe-haven bullion.

China's economy grew at a steady pace in the first quarter, defying expectations of further weakness, while trade deficit in the U.S. fell to an eight-month low in February, boosting the country's economic growth in the previous quarter.

The two counties have set a tentative timeline for the next round of trade talks and aim to conclude negotiations by early June, according to a Wall Street Journal report on Wednesday.

"Gold prices continue to sag on better economic data broadly while trade optimism appears poised to finally deliver a deal by early June at the latest," OANDA senior market analyst Edward Moya said in a note.

"The yellow metal is also weaker from momentum on China's surprising better-than-expected GDP, retail sales and industrial production data."

Asian shares remain close to a nine-month peak. Focus has now turned to the release of Purchasing Managers' Indexes (PMIs) for the manufacturing and service sectors in Europe later in the day to provide more cues on the strength of the euro zone economy.

Investors also await the U.S. retail sales data later in the day.

Holdings of SPDR Gold Trust, the world's largest gold-backed exchange-traded fund, were at 752.86 tonnes on Wednesday, still around their lowest levels since Oct. 27.

Elsewhere, silver was unchanged at \$15 an ounce and platinum dipped 0.1 percent to \$881.85.

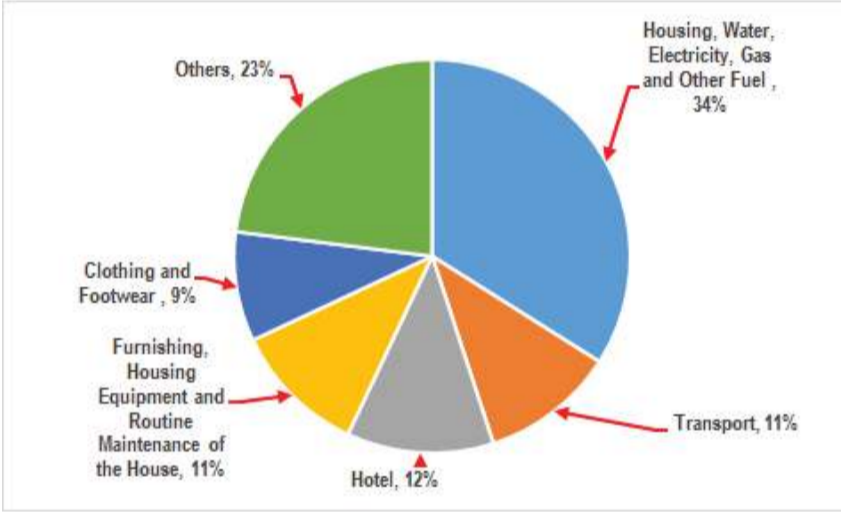
Palladium slipped 0.8 percent to \$1,389.68 an ounce, having jumped 3.9 percent to a two-week high of \$1,406.81 in the previous session.

**All Share Index : 18 April 2019**

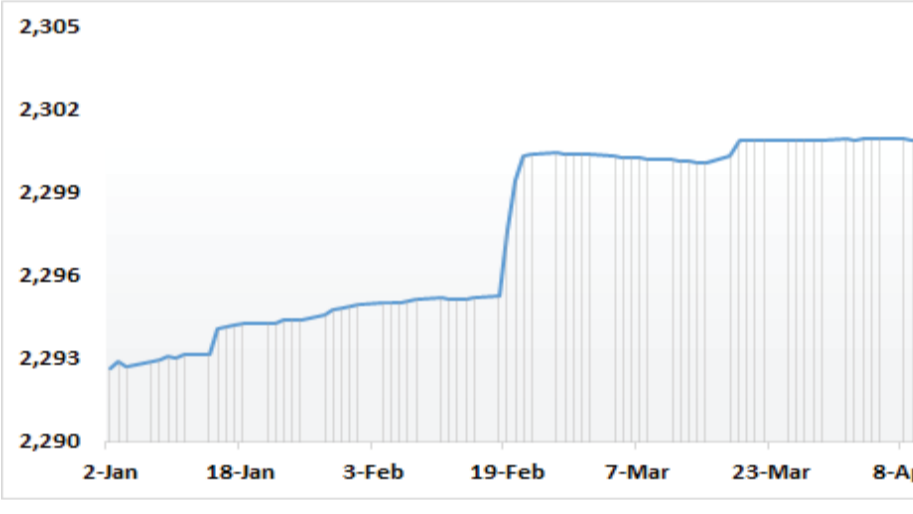
Africa	Actual	Change	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
NSE-All Share	29,746	250.33	0.85%	2.05%	-4.43%	-27.07%
FTSE/JSE TOP 40	52,385	204.95	-0.39%	0.43%	3.96%	2.66%
JALSH-All Share	58,665	237.43	-0.40%	0.43%	3.34%	1.65%
Egypt EGX 30	14,922	51.24	-0.34%	-1.22%	0.07%	-15.72%
Casablanca CFG 25	11,056	7.71	-0.07%	0.53%	0.63%	-14.21%
NSE All Share	158	0.29	0.18%	-0.49%	-1.58%	-14.73%
Nairobi 20	2,889	10.22	-0.35%	2.29%	-0.50%	-22.85%
DSEI	1,981	45.71	-2.26%	-4.22%	-4.84%	-19.30%
TUN	6,942	6.24	-0.09%	0.14%	1.63%	-2.15%
GGSECI	2,360	9.61	-0.41%	-0.74%	-2.12%	-31.35%
Gaborone	7,864	0.00	0.00%	-0.16%	-0.18%	-7.08%
NSX Overall	1,397	2.23	0.16%	1.18%	4.23%	-1.94%
SEMDEX	2,160	7.82	-0.36%	-0.85%	-1.39%	-5.19%
Zimbabwe Industrial Index420	0.70	0.17%	1.17%	-1.98%	-1.98%	32.69%

The DSEI decreased 52 points or 2.55% since the beginning of 2019, according to trading on a contract for difference (CFD) that tracks this benchmark index from Tanzania. Historically, the Tanzania All Share Index DSEI reached an all time high of 3686.97 in January of 2019 and a record low of 1161.30 in December of 2010.

**Inflation 3.1% - February 2019: Top Movers**



**Fluctuation of a Shilling**



**Oil prices slip, but ongoing supply cuts support**

**LONDON, April 18.** (Reuters) - Oil markets fell on Thursday despite a surprise decline in U.S. inventories, but the price drops were tempered by a smaller-than-expected reduction in gasoline stocks and ongoing OPEC-led supply cuts.

Brent crude futures were at \$71.43 a barrel at 0700 GMT, down 19 cents, or 0.3 percent, from their last close and further away from Wednesday's five-month high of \$72.27 a barrel.

U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures were at \$63.62 per barrel, down 14 cents, or 0.2 percent.

Both contracts had traded slightly higher earlier in the day.

U.S. crude inventories fell by 1.4 million barrels in the week to April 12, compared with analyst expectations for an increase of 1.7 million barrels, Department of Energy (DOE) data showed on Wednesday.

"The unexpected drawdown in U.S. commercial crude oil stocks was balanced by lower-than-expected withdrawals in the country's gasoline and distillate inventories," said Abhishek Kumar, head of analytics at Interfax Energy in London.

Gasoline stocks fell by 1.2 million barrels, less than analyst expectations in a Reuters poll for a 2.1 million-barrel drop.

Distillate stockpiles, which include diesel and heating oil, fell by 362,000 barrels, also not as much as forecasts for a 846,000-barrel drawdown, the EIA data

showed.

Graphic: U.S. crude inventories, weekly changes since 2017, click tmsnrt.rs/2XIX17b

Prices have been supported this year by an agreement reached by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies, including Russia, to limit their oil output by 1.2 million barrels per day.

Global supply has also been tightened further by U.S. sanctions on OPEC members Venezuela and Iran.

Iran's crude exports have dropped in April to their lowest daily level this year, tanker data showed and industry sources said, suggesting a drawdown in buyer interest ahead of expected further pressure from Washington.

Growing U.S. oil production and concerns over the U.S.- China trade dispute are keeping prices in check.

"A persistent rise in U.S. oil output, together with lingering demand-side concerns emerging from the U.S.-China trade dispute, is limiting price gains," Kumar said.

U.S. crude oil output from seven major shale formations was expected to rise by about 80,000 bpd in May to a record 8.46 million bpd, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said in its monthly report on Monday.

Surging U.S. production has filled some of the gap in supplies, although not all of the lost production can be immediately replaced by U.S. shale oil due to refinery configurations.

**Fuel Wef. Wednesday, 6th Mar 2019**

Town	Petrol (TZS/Litre)	Diesel (TZS/Litre)	Kerosene (TZS/Litre)
Dar es Salaam	2,098	2,131	2,096
Arusha	2,191	2,195	2,286
Pwani	2,102	2,135	2,101
Dodoma	2,157	2,189	2,155
Geita	2,263	2,296	2,262
Iringa	2,162	2,195	2,161
Kagera (Bukoba)	2,313	2,346	2,312
Katavi (Mpanda)	2,306	2,339	2,304
Kigoma	2,329	2,362	2,328
Moshi	2,181	2,185	2,276
Lindi	2,141	2,236	2,155
Manyara	2,225	2,229	2,320
Mara	2,276	2,309	2,275
Mbeya	2,205	2,238	2,204
Morogoro	2,123	2,156	2,121
Mtwara	2,127	2,222	2,169
Mwanza	2,248	2,281	2,247
Njombe	2,190	2,223	2,189
Rukwa (S'wanga)	2,271	2,304	2,269
Ruvuma (Songea)	2,213	2,308	2,220
Shinyanga	2,227	2,260	2,225
Singida	2,188	2,221	2,187
Songwe (Vwawa)	2,214	2,247	2,213
Tabora	2,252	2,285	2,251

**Foreign Exchange- April 17**

	Actual	Chg	%Chg
EURUSD	1.13034	0.00234	0.21%
GBPUSD	1.30519	0.00039	0.03%
AUDUSD	0.71947	0.00197	0.27%
NZDUSD	0.67343	0.00267	-0.39%
USDJPY	111.99	0	0.00%
USDCNY	6.68275	0.02945	-0.44%
USDCHE	1.0086	0.0008	0.08%
USDCAD	1.32915	0.00575	-0.43%
USDMXN	18.8349	0.0361	-0.19%
USDINR	69.371	0.1490	-0.21%
USDBRL	3.9043	0.0012	0.03%
USDRUB	63.8986	0.1819	-0.28%
US Dollar	96.92	0.12	-0.13%
BTCUSD	5,244.58	42	0.81%

**Exchange Rates for April 18, 2019**

Currency	Spot	Buying	Spot	Selling
<b>EAST AFRICAN CURRENCIES</b>				
Kenya SHS	2,253.37		2,271.41	
Uganda SHS	57.41		61.52	
Rwandan Franc	251.53		254.55	
Burundi Franc	218.12		219.77	
<b>OTHER SELECTED CURRENCIES</b>				
USD	227,815.84		230,094.00	
Pound STG	297,322.45		300,410.73	
EURO	257,454.68		260,121.27	
Canadian \$	170,802.10		172,458.40	
Switz. Franc	225,806.17		227,973.84	
Japanese YEN	2,034.43		2,054.23	
Swedish Kronor	24,671.95		24,907.88	
Norweg. Kronor	26,898.06		27,151.02	
Danish Kronor	34,494.56		34,838.97	
Australian \$	163,822.37		165,506.61	
Indian RPS	3,282.18		3,313.95	
Pakistan RPS	1,531.45		1,620.38	
Zambian Kwacha	18,373.74		18,668.88	
Malawian Kwacha	289.30		308.71	
Mozambique-MET	3,537.51		3,567.35	
Zimbabwe \$	42.63		43.49	
SDR	316,657.19		319,823.76	
Gold (T/O)	290,625,352.56		293,599,230.71	
S. African Rand	16,293.16		16,444.33	
UAE Dirham	62,031.22		62,634.47	
Singapore \$	168,440.55		170,099.80	
Hong Kong \$	29,040.36		29,330.02	
Saud Arabian Rial	60,747.65		61,353.49	
Kuwait Dinar	749,369.57		756,589.50	
Botswana Pula	21,460.25		21,858.93	
Chinese Yuan	34,061.34		34,394.75	
Malaysia Ringgit	55,121.18		55,632.01	
South Korea Won	201.06		203.05	
New Zealand	153,320.06		154,899.28	



## WORLD

## Curfew declared after 138 killed in Lanka church, hotel attacks

COLOMBO

EASTER Day bomb blasts at three Sri Lankan churches and four hotels killed 138 people and wounded more than 400, hospital and police officials said, following a lull in major attacks since the end of the civil war 10 years ago.

The explosions, some of which officials said were suicide bomb attacks, led to an immediate clampdown, with the government declaring a curfew and blocking access to most major social media and messaging sites.

It was unclear when the curfew would be lifted.

More than 50 people were killed in St. Sebastian's gothic-style Catholic church in Katuwapitiya, north of Colombo, a police official told Reuters, with pictures showing bodies on the ground, blood on the pews and a destroyed roof.

Media reported 25 people were also

killed in an attack on an evangelical church in Batticaloa in Eastern Province.

The three hotels hit were the Shangri-La Colombo, Kingsbury Hotel in Colombo and the Cinnamon Grand Colombo. It was unclear whether there were any casualties in the hotels.

The first six explosions were all reported within a short period in the morning just as church services were starting.

Nine foreigners were among the dead, the officials said.

Early in the afternoon, police reported there had been two more explosions. One was at a hotel near the national zoo in the Dehiwela area near Colombo.

A witness told local TV he saw some body parts, including a severed head, lying on the ground near the hotel.

The other explosion was in a house in Colombo, authorities said.



Sri Lankan security personnel keep watch outside the church premises following a blast at the St Anthony's Shrine in Kochchikade, Colombo, yesterday. (AFP)

There were no immediate claims of responsibility for the attacks in a country which was at war for decades with Tamil separatists until 2009 during which bomb blasts in the capital were common.

Christian groups say they have faced increasing intimidation from some extremist Buddhist monks in recent years. And last year, there were clashes between the majority Sinhalese Buddhist community and minority Muslims, with some hardline Buddhist groups accusing Muslims of forcing people to convert to Islam.

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe called a national security council meeting at his home for later in the day.

"I strongly condemn the cowardly attacks on our

people today. I call upon all Sri Lankans during this tragic time to remain united and strong," he said in a Tweet.

"Please avoid propagating unverified reports and speculation. The government is taking immediate steps to contain this situation."

President Maithripala Sirisena said he had ordered the police special task force and military to investigate who was behind the attacks and their agenda. The military had been deployed, according to a military spokesman, and security stepped up at Colombo's international airport.

## ATTACKS ON CHRISTIANS

One of the explosions was at St. Anthony's Shrine,

## Fueled by Notre Dame fire, yellow vest anger burns in France

PARIS

FRENCH yellow vest protesters set fires on Saturday along a march through Paris to drive home their message to a government they believe is ignoring the poor: that rebuilding the fire-ravaged Notre Dame Cathedral isn't the only problem France needs to solve.

Like the high-visibility vests the protesters wear, the scattered small fires in Paris appeared to be a collective plea to French President Emmanuel Macron's government to "look at me - I need help too!"

Police fired water cannon and sprayed tear gas to try to control radical elements rampaging on the margins of the largely peaceful march, one of several actions around Paris and other French cities.

The protests marked the 23rd straight weekend of yellow vest actions against Macron's centrist government, which they see as favoring the wealthy and big business. Protesters view themselves as standing up for beleaguered French workers, students and retirees who have been battered by high unemployment, high taxes and shrinking purchasing power.

But violence and divisions have marred the movement. Associated Press reporters saw a car, motorbikes and barricades set ablaze around the Place de la Republique plaza in eastern Paris. The smell of tear gas mixed with the smoke, choking the air.

Paris firefighters - who struggled earlier this week to prevent the 12th-century Notre Dame from collapsing - quickly responded to extinguish the flames at Saturday's protest.

Masked protesters hurled paving stones and flares. Helmeted riot police repeatedly charged as they tried to contain the crowd. AP reporters saw at least two journalists injured in the melee. Troublemakers also ransacked at least two stores and one black-clad protester jumped on a parked Mercedes, smashing its windshields.

Paris police said authorities detained more than 200 people by early afternoon and carried out spot checks on more than 20,000 trying to enter the capital for the protest.

The violence contrasted sharply with the peaceful atmosphere at another march through Paris, where demonstrators mourned the Notre Dame blaze while also keeping up the pressure on Macron. They tried to march to Notre Dame itself, but were stopped by police a few hundred meters away.

Young women at that march skipped down a street along the Seine River, accompanied by drum-

mers and singers. One protester carried a huge wooden cross resembling those carried in Good Friday processions.

Many protesters were deeply saddened by the fire at a national monument. But at the same time they are angry at the US\$1 billion in donations for Notre Dame renovations that poured in from French tycoons while their own economic demands remain largely unmet and they struggle to make ends meet.

"I think what happened at Notre Dame is a great tragedy but humans should be more important than stones," said protester Jose Fraile.

Some 60,000 police officers mobilized for Saturday's protests across France, and the heavy security thwarted some tourists trying to enjoy the French capital on a warm spring day.

"Paris is very difficult right now," said Paul Harlow of Kansas City, Missouri, as he looked sadly at the damaged Notre Dame.

He and his wife Susan were in Paris only for a few days and didn't make it in time to see the cathedral. On Saturday, their efforts to visit museums were derailed by closed subways and barricaded roads.

"I don't think we'll be back," he said.

Other visitors showed solidarity with the yellow vest cause. "I am not interested in joining them, but I can understand what they're angry about," said Antonio Costes, a retiree from the Paris suburb of Montreuil who came Saturday to see the damage to Notre Dame. "There is a lot of injustice."

Macron champions pro-business policies that he believes will create much-needed jobs in France. He had been scheduled to lay out his responses to yellow vest concerns on Monday night - tax cuts for lower-income households and measures to boost pensions and help single parents - but canceled the speech after the Notre Dame fire broke out. He's now expected to address the nation on Thursday.

Some yellow vest critics accuse Macron of trying to exploit the fire for political gain. One protester carried a sign targeting Macron that read: "Pyromaniac - we are going to carbonize you."

Another huge sign read: "Victor Hugo thanks all the generous donors ready to save Notre Dame and proposes that they do the same thing with Les Miserables," referring to the famed author's novels about the cathedral and the struggles of France's poor.

The government estimated that some 27,900 people marched Saturday around France, including some 9,000 in Paris. That was below organizers' estimates.

Agencies

## UN: 220 killed in battles for Libya's capital last 2 weeks

BENHAZI, Libya

FIGHTING between rival Libyan forces for control of Tripoli escalated in the past couple of days, a spokesman for the self-styled Libyan National Army (LNA) said on Saturday, as the death toll rose to at least 220, including combatants and civilians, since the LNA declared a major military offensive to take the capital earlier this month.

Fighting erupted April 5 pitting the LNA, led by Field Marshal Khalifa Hifter and aligned with a rival government in the east, against militias affiliated with Tripoli's UN-supported government.

Ahmed al-Mesmari, LNA spokesman, told a news conference in the eastern city of Benghazi that heavy clashes have been underway between his forces and rival militias in the towns of Swany and al-Aziziya, south of Tripoli, which Hifter's forces seized earlier this month.

He said militias allied with the UN-supported government launched airstrikes on the Alwatya air base, southwest of Tripoli. There were also airstrikes on the town of Gherian, he said.

Residents in Tripoli said Hifter's forces seem to be making small progress and gains on the ground. They said fighting has been ongoing in residential areas, a few kilometers south of Tripoli. Both sides have used heavy artillery and airstrikes, they said.

The residents spoke on condition of anonymity for security rea-



Women take part in a protest in Tripoli, Libya as they wave national flags and chant slogans against Libya's Field Marshal Khalifa Hifter, who is leading an offensive to take over the capital of Tripoli, on Saturday. (AP)

sions.

The fighting has killed 220 people, including civilians, since Hifter declared his offensive on April 5, the UN health agency said Friday.

The World Health Organization said that 1,066 others have been wounded. President Donald Trump phoned Hifter earlier this week, expressing US support for the leader's perceived stance against terrorism.

A White House statement Friday said: "The President recognized Field Marshal Hifter's significant role in fighting terrorism and securing Libya's oil resources, and the two discussed a shared vision for Libya's transition to a stable, democratic political system."

AP reporters saw Hifter's foreign

minister Saturday in the Tunis hotel where he was staying, but the press conference he had scheduled was postponed at the last minute.

His press service distributed a statement saying it was because of "developments in Libya and the positive and fast-advancing evolution of events." The statement did not elaborate but said a new press conference would be arranged at a later date. The Tunisian Foreign Ministry spokesman suggested that the Libyans hadn't requested permission from Tunisia's government to hold the news conference.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Khemais Jhinaoui has intensified contacts in recent days with UN envoy Salame and various Libyan parties,

calling on them to cease hostilities and resume negotiations. Tunisia is officially neutral in the Libyan conflict and has hosted repeated diplomatic negotiations on Libya's future. Tunisia wants to hold a meeting among the top diplomats of Egypt, Algeria and Tunisia in the coming days to discuss ways to solve Libya's crisis.

The battle for Tripoli could ignite civil war on the scale of the 2011 uprising that toppled and killed longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi. Since Gadhafi's ouster, Libya has been governed by rival authorities in the east and in Tripoli, in the west, each backed by various militias and armed groups fighting over resources and territory.

Agencies

## Russian embassy prepares report on claims of Russia's 2016 US election meddling

WASHINGTON

THE Russian Embassy in the United States has released a 120-page report with examples of unfounded accusations of Moscow's alleged interference into the 2016 US presidential elections, made by the US media and officials.

The document lists articles by

New York Times, Washington Post, Politico, CNN and NBC, as well as examples of verbal attacks on the Russian embassy over alleged Russian cyberattacks worldwide.

The report also includes statements made by the US Department of Homeland Security, as well as government officials, Congress members and political ex-

perts.

It also gives a detailed account of efforts made by Russian diplomats to refute those claims.

The US Department of Justice announced on Thursday the final report of US Special Prosecutor Robert Mueller, who was investigating the circumstances of interference attributed to Moscow in

the course of the 2016 American elections. The special prosecutor claims that Russia tried to influence the course of the presidential election campaign in the United States in 2016. At the same time, Mueller admitted that the investigation did not reveal collusion between US President Donald Trump and Russia.

## Belt and Road helps unlock potential of emerging markets, expert says

PHILADELPHIA

THE Belt and Road Initiative is helpful for unlocking the potential of emerging markets and many U.S. businesses want to know more about it for making investment decisions, according to experts at the 2019 Penn Wharton China Summit held here.

"Belt and Road is enormous. It's no overstatement to say it could be the project of the century," Geoffrey Garrett, dean of the

Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania (Penn), told the event while commenting on the China-proposed initiative aimed at building trade and infrastructure network connecting Asia with Europe, Africa and beyond.

"My bottom line on this is quite simple: for every emerging market in the world other than China, infrastructure is about the biggest challenge they face. If you want to unlock the full potential of emerging markets, we need to help emerging markets build in-

frastructure," Garrett said in his keynote speech at the student-run Wharton summit beginning Friday.

The U.S. government, he said, has expected the private sector to "become the big infrastructure developers in emerging markets." However, the U.S. private sector has been disinvesting in Africa as increasing Chinese funds go into the continent, he added.

"Because the Chinese government is thinking about 20

years from today, 50 years from today," he said. "I think that the U.S. needs to follow China's lead and think differently about the way it finances infrastructure development."

Sun Zhe, co-director of the China Initiative at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, said there is a desire on the U.S. side to know more about the Belt and Road.

He told Xinhua on the sidelines of the event that many U.S. businesses want to know how

many countries have joined it, and how much China has invested in it and how it cooperates with international capitals, so that they could decide whether to be part of it. Regarding Washington's recent allegations against the initiative, Avery Goldstein, director of Penn Center for the Study of Contemporary China, said he believes that it is a mistake to have a blanket condemnation of the BRI.

"You have to begin with facts," said Goldstein, a professor of

global politics and international relations. "I don't think it makes sense to simply refer to the entire Belt and Road Initiative as a grand effort at debt trap diplomacy by the Chinese side," he said, noting the positive contribution to the development of participating countries by some projects in the Belt and Road framework.

The three-day Philadelphia event takes place several days ahead of the second edition of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF)

, scheduled for April 25-27 in Beijing, which is to promote the high-quality development of the BRI cooperation as according to Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

The China summit was launched in 2016 and intended to bring students, experts, and business people together to discuss China's social and economic development as well as its interactions with the United States and with the rest of the world.

Xinhua

The  
Guardian

# SPORT



Utah Jazz guard Donovan Mitchell (45) defends against Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) as he drives up court in the first half during an NBA basketball game Saturday, April 20, 2019, in Salt Lake City. (AP Photo)

## Rockets beat Jazz 104-101 for 3-0 series lead

NEW YORK

JOEL Embiid scored and rebounded. He blocked shots and even threw the most important pass of the game.

The only thing he didn't do is lose his cool after his hard foul triggered a scuffle.

After having to sit out the last game, there was no way Embiid was going to risk an ejection and miss his chance to help the Philadelphia 76ers seize control of the series.

Embiid had 31 points and 16 rebounds, and passed to Mike Scott for the go-ahead 3-pointer with 18 seconds left as the 76ers beat the Brooklyn Nets 112-108 on Saturday to take a 3-1 series lead.

Embiid also had a flagrant foul that led to a scuffle and two ejections during an eventful return to the lineup after missing Game 3 with a sore left knee.

"I know these guys are going to go at me because they want me to retaliate, so I've got to be mature when I'm on the court and just stay cool and not react," Embiid said.

"Today I could have reacted but I felt like my team needed me more than they needed Jared Dudley, so I've just got to stay cool and mature and do my job."

Tobias Harris had 24 points, eight rebounds and six assists for the 76ers. They can advance to the Eastern Conference semifinals for the second straight season with a victory at home Tuesday night.

They got a big boost from the return of Embiid, who scored eight straight points in the fourth quarter after the Nets led by seven. He helped the 76ers overcome the loss of Jimmy Butler, who was ejected in the third quarter after Embiid's hard foul on Jarrett Allen.

Even that ended up working out for the 76ers. Scott took what probably would have been Butler's position on the floor in the final seconds and turned Embiid's seventh assist into the go-ahead basket.

Embiid also had six blocked shots.

"Just look at the magnitude of what the numbers say, the influence that the numbers say that he must have had on the game," Sixers coach Brett Brown said. "To have 31 points, 16 rebounds, seven assists, six blocked shots and you win, well it's hard to sort of say it any better than that. He was dominant."

Caris LeVert scored 25 points after being inserted into the Nets' starting lineup. D'Angelo Russell and Allen each added 21.

Dudley also was inserted into the starting lineup for the Nets and had been agitating the 76ers with his defense and his talking, but was gone midway through the third quarter as one of the central figures in the scuffle that spilled into the stands.

Embiid swung his arm forcefully while fouling Allen, and Dudley quickly moved in and bumped Embiid. Butler then ran in and pushed Dudley to start the shoving. Dudley, Simmons and referee Ed Malloy all got knocked into the seats, and after a lengthy video review, Butler and Dudley were given technical fouls and ejected, and Embiid's foul was ruled a flagrant 1.

Dudley said he was trying to send a message. The Nets have been upset over an elbow Embiid hit Allen with in Game 2 that they felt should have been an ejection, and were further angered after when Embiid laughed as he apologized in his press conference.

"When you have a guy giving flagrant fouls, I mean Joel Embiid is second in the league in flagrant fouls," Dudley said. "So for that elbow he had before just to have a flagrant 1, no fine, no nothing, laughing in the media, if you think that a team that I play on is going to have (to accept) that, that's another thing coming, especially on this young team."

Embiid would later make the biggest mark with his offense. The 76ers were trying to get the ball to him trailing by one after Joe Harris' layup, but Embiid couldn't control the pass under the rim. But he regained the ball and found Scott in the corner for a 3 and a 110-108 lead. **AP**



Brooklyn Nets guard Spencer Dinwiddie, center drives against Philadelphia 76ers forward Tobias Harris (33) and guard Jimmy Butler (23) during the first half of Game 4 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series, Saturday, April 20, 2019, in New York. (AP Photo)

## Embiid returns, leads 76ers past Nets 112-108 for 3-1 lead

NEW YORK

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Allen then turned the ball over after three Sixers surrounded him and Harris closed out the scoring with two free throws. Nets coach Kenny Atkinson was angry afterward, feeling

Allen was wrapped up by Harris as he tried to roll to the basket.

Dudley and Simmons jawed at each other after Dudley gave him a long stare with his arms up after hitting a 3-pointer during a 9-0 run that gave Brooklyn a 63-53 lead shortly before halftime. The Nets led 63-57 at the break.

Meanwhile, in Detroit, the Milwaukee Bucks know they are often considered a one-man team. Saturday night, they took some major steps toward changing that perception.

On a night where Giannis Antetokounmpo was limited by foul trouble, the Bucks had seven players score in double figures and beat the Detroit Pistons 119-103 to take a 3-0 lead in the first-round series.

"That's something we've been working on all year," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said. "We play together and take what the opponent gives us. It isn't all about Giannis, as great and amazing as he is. We have a lot of guys who can make plays and Giannis knows when to step back and let them carry the load."

The Bucks can finish off the Eastern Conference series Monday night in Detroit after winning the first three games by an average of 24 points.

The Bucks overcame 27 points, seven rebounds and six assists from Blake Griffin in his return from a right knee injury. He missed the first two games of the series after sitting out four of the final six in the regular season.

"That young man is giving us everything his body will give, and we need every bit of it," Pistons coach Dwane Casey said. "He has a presence that no one else on our team can provide."

Griffin had an immediate defensive impact, forcing two turnovers on Milwaukee's first three possessions, but struggled to keep up in transition. **AP**

## Crawford wins by TKO when Khan doesn't go on after low blow

NEW YORK

TERENCE Crawford knocked Amir Khan down just a few punches into their fight.

The punch that finally ended it was below the belt.

Crawford retained his welterweight title by technical knockout Saturday night when Khan wasn't able to continue after being hit with a low blow in the sixth round.

Crawford threw a left hand that hit Khan on his right hip and Khan retreated toward his corner in pain. After taking a couple minutes trying to shake off the pain, his corner told the referee that Khan couldn't continue.

"I could tell I was breaking him down. It was just a matter of time," Crawford said.

It was a strange, unsatisfying ending to Top Rank's first ESPN pay-per-view card, drawing loud boos from the crowd of 14,091 at Madison Square Garden. The finish left Crawford and promoter Bob Arum with plenty of time to lobby for the fight they

want next.

"The fight I want next is Errol Spence," Crawford said. "Whenever he is ready, he can come and get it."

Crawford (35-0, 26 KOs) had knocked Khan down in the first round, but the final couple rounds had been competitive, with both fighters throwing hard shots from close range.

Referee David Fields didn't appear to see the final one that hit Khan (33-5) low. Khan could have taken five minutes trying to recover, but his trainer, Virgil Hunter, made the decision before then that Khan was finished.

"I didn't want to send him back out there when he didn't have his legs," Hunter said.

Crawford was ahead 49-45 on two judges' cards and 50-44 on the other.

"I was disappointed the corner stopped the fight in that manner, but Virgil is a great coach, and he was looking out for his fighter," Crawford said. "I know he didn't want to go out like that."

Crawford started fast in the

second defense of his WBO version of the 147-pound belt, throwing a short right hand to the head followed by a left that sent Khan to the canvas. He hurt Khan again late in the round and had no trouble controlling the early part of the fight.

They both threw hard shots in the fourth and Khan landed some of them in his best moments of the fight. But Crawford hit him with a pair of good lefts in the fifth and was scoring again in the sixth when his final punch accidentally drifted low.

Arum said he thought Khan could have continued.

"He had five minutes to recover," Arum said. "It was an accidental low blow. He could have recovered from it. They have a cup, right? But he was looking for a place to fall."

Khan, the 2004 Olympic silver medalist from Britain, was looking for what could have been the biggest victory of his pro career. The former 140-pound champion could have looked to fight fellow British star Kell Brook

in perhaps a more lucrative and winnable match, but instead took the opportunity at Crawford, the Omaha, Nebraska, product widely considered one of the best fighters in boxing.

Hunter thought Khan had been steady himself, even though he wasn't winning the rounds.

"I now know why Terence is one of the best pound-for-pound fighters in the world," Khan said.

The biggest fight for Crawford would be a match with Spence, the IBF champion who is also unbeaten. But Spence fights under Premier Boxing Champions, run by Al Haymon, and Arum said Haymon won't let his fighters risk losing to fighters from other organizations.

Arum criticized Haymon in the ring and then again afterward for refusing to allow a fight he said that the fighters and fans want to see.

"We want to fight Errol Spence," Arum said. "Everyone wants the fight. There is one guy stopping it, and that is Al Haymon." **AP**



Terence Crawford, right, punches England's Amir Khan during the fifth round of a WBO world welterweight championship boxing match Sunday, April 21, 2019, in New York. Crawford won the fight. (AP Photo)

## 'I couldn't have done that' says Guardiola after City bounce back

MANCHESTER, England

MANCHESTER City manager Pep Guardiola said he would not have been able to recover, as a player, from Wednesday's Champions League exit to Tottenham and then beat the same opponents on Saturday in the Premier League.

City went out of Europe on away goals despite beating Spurs 4-3 but a single goal from 18-year-old Phil Foden was enough to send Guardiola's side back to the top of the Premier League ahead of Liverpool's trip to Cardiff on Sunday.

"The last two days have been really tough for us," said Guardiola a former Barcelona and Spain midfielder.

"We could have lost the Premier League today -- after Wednesday it was really tough. As a footballer, I could not have done what my players have done today. The title is still in our hands."

Guardiola said he had not pushed his players to adopt a particular way of handling the bitter defeat -- which saw a late VAR decision deny them progress to the last four.

"I told my players that if they had forgotten what happened it's good but if it still hurts then it's good," he said.

Saturday's game was a tense and nervy encounter with few clear-cut chances as City held on to secure their tenth win in a row in the Premier League and move one point above Liv-

erpool.

"Both teams have incredible players with heart and personality. It was a real tough game after our mental defeat on Wednesday," said the Spaniard.

"It was our not best performance, compared to the other day but today they (Spurs) had nothing to lose and we played to (not) lose the Premier League and after our defeat last Wednesday it was really tough the last two days."

The former Barcelona coach also asked for some perspective about what his team have achieved this season, fighting on several fronts as they look to retain their Premier League title.

"Even if we don't do it, we've been on a remarkable run; every day with this club and these players. It doesn't matter what happens next; we'll fight until the end -- we'll see how far we get."

"Twenty-four months doing that, when you have 100 points and 86 now... after what we have done last season, being in the final of the FA Cup, the team was incredible this season and that's why they don't have to show me their character."

"This is one of the best Liverpool (sides) ever, one of the best sides I ever play (against) and every three days being there, being there, being there, it is remarkable. I want to win it but I will not judge (them) if we don't".

REUTERS

## Ronaldo '1,000 percent' staying as Juve clinch title

TURIN, Italy

CRISTIANO Ronaldo has said it is "1,000 percent" certain he is staying at Juventus next season after he clinched the Serie A title in his first season with the club.

Juve, having missed an opportunity to secure the Scudetto last weekend, made sure Saturday against Fiorentina with a 2-1 victory, which meant second-place Napoli could no longer catch them.

Italian media reports that Ronaldo was looking to leave after the disappointment of exiting the Champions League at the hands of Ajax were denied by Massimiliano Allegri in the lead-up to this match, and the Portugal international has now put the notion to bed.

"I'm really happy to have won the Italian title in my first season here. It has been a great season for this Juventus, we also won the Italian Supercup," said Ronaldo, who has scored 19 league goals. "We didn't do so well in the Champions League, but there is always next year."

Asked whether he would be wearing a Juventus shirt next season, Ronaldo added: "1,000 percent."

Giorgio Chiellini has been part of all eight of Juve's consecutive title wins -- as well as the 2005-06 victory which was later taken away following the Calciopolicandalo -- but this was his first as captain.

And the Italy international, who missed the match against Fiorentina through injury, said the ex-Manchester United and Real Madrid man is part of a "milestone" for himself and his teammates.

"Cristiano arrived with great humility and helped us improve -- all of us," Chiellini said. "He is totally dedicated to football."

"He is different to the others and to us he is a milestone for the future. I had no doubts he would stay."

Chiellini also paid tribute to centre-back partner Andrea Barzagli, who recently announced he would be retiring at the end of the season.

"I would also like to say a few special words about Barzagli who, like good wine, has improved with age," Chiellini said of the 37-year-old Barzagli. "He is really unique."

"He makes everything seem so simple and deserves a special send-off."

(AGENCIES)

## Solskjaer: Utd won't buy 6 players in summer

LONDON

MANCHESTER United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has said there is no "quick fix" to the club's struggles and has ruled out making major changes in the transfer window.

United were comprehensively beaten 4-0 on aggregate against Barcelona in the Champions League quarterfinals and are well off the pace in the Premier League, with Manchester City and Liverpool in a two-way fight for the title.

Solskjaer's side are in a real battle to finish in the top four this season but he has told fans not to expect major changes in the transfer window following a difficult campaign that saw Jose Mourinho sacked in December.

"There will be new players coming in over summer but I don't think you can expect six," Solskjaer said. "I don't think any manager you ask would be in favour of that amount of change anyway. We want to rebuild but it is going to have to be gradual, over a few windows."

"We plan to be in the top four, we plan to be in the Champions League next season and we want players who can keep us in the Champions League and move us up the table. But we know there is not going to be a quick fix. We have to take it step by step."

United have lost five out of their past seven matches and Solskjaer has warned any under-performing

players they will be moved towards the exit.

"When I was given the job there was an understanding that we had to get Manchester United's DNA back into the club and the team," he added. "That doesn't mean I want to live in the past. It would be naive to tell players to do all the same things we did when I played. But I want to create a culture that we all believe in."

"When I played the manager trusted us and we took responsibility for our own careers. If anyone stepped out of bounds, they wouldn't stay here long. That's the way it has to be at a club like this."

(AGENCIES)



# Juve's title feels more mundane than extraordinary

TURIN, Italy

JUVENTUS coach Massimiliano Allegri has said several times that winning Serie A for an eighth year in a row would be "something extraordinary" but, for all the impressive statistics and records, it turned out to be all rather mundane.

The Turin side extended their dominance of Italian football when a 2-1 home win over mid-table Fiorentina on Saturday to clinch the championship with five games to spare -- equalling the record for the earliest title win jointly held by Torino, Fiorentina and Inter Milan.

Juve, who have the joint-best attack and best defence in Serie A, also became the first team in one of Europe's big five leagues to win eight titles in a row and are still on course to equal their own domestic Serie A record of 102 points. Yet, despite Allegri's protestations about how winning should never be undervalued, it was strangely unsatisfying, especially as it came four days after they were knocked out of the Champions League -- the competition they really wanted to win -- in the quarter-finals by Ajax Amsterdam.

This was partly because the outcome was so predictable -- adding Cristiano Ronaldo, still regarded as one of the world's two best players at the age of 34, to an already dominant team was never likely to improve the league's competitive balance.

But there were also none of the awe-inspiring displays served up by teams such as Manchester City or Barcelona, nor the raw passion of Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool.

Coach Massimiliano Allegri is a pragmatic character and his Juve side do not have an easily identifiable style of play.

their strengths being their resilience, flexibility and an uncanny knack of always being able to step up a gear, or sometimes get a lucky break, when it matters.

There were, of course, highlights such as Ronaldo's stunning long-distance winner at Empoli -- a wickedly dipping shot from 25 metres -- and the emergence of teenage forward Moise Kean.



Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri celebrates winning the league after the match with team mates after their Serie A match against Fiorentina at Allianz Stadium in Turin, Italy on Saturday. REUTERS

The 19-year-old played a grand total of two minutes in their first 26 league games but, in his first start, scored twice in a 4-1 win over Udinese and netted another three goals in his next five matches.

Yet in most games it was a case of getting the job done as efficiently as possible and leaving enough energy for their ultimately failed assault on the Champions League.

Fourteen of Juve's 28 victories have been by one-goal margins, nine by two and five by three.

### VERSATILE APPROACH

They were certainly versatile, with Allegri fielding 33 different line-ups in the 33 match-

es and effortlessly switching formations, often catching opponents cold.

They have also been at their most dangerous when cornered, coming from behind to win on six occasions.

In their first match, on a sweltering afternoon in Verona with Ronaldo making his debut, they trailed 2-1 at Chievo with 15 minutes left before an own goal by Mattia Bani and a last-gasp winner from Federico Bernardeschi gave them a 3-2 win.

Juve also fell behind at home to bitter rivals Napoli but hit back to win 3-1 and survived another scare in late October when they trailed at lowly Empoli before two Ronaldo goals -- a penalty and his stunning long-range strike --

gave them the win.

They avoided a first defeat of the season at Atalanta when they recovered from 2-1 down to draw 2-2 with 10 men and also came from behind to beat Lazio 2-1 and AC Milan by the same score in their previous match.

The last two were exactly the sort of performances -- winning games they could easily have lost -- that summed up why Juventus are so exasperating to their rivals.

"Winning eight titles in a row is never easy," said Allegri.

But, in the end, they made it look exactly that and, in doing so, turned it into a largely forgettable Serie A season.

REUTERS

## Is there any future for Alexis Sanchez at Man United?

LONDON

THE Camp Nou was generous with their applause for Alexis Sanchez when he came off Manchester United's bench with 10 minutes left on Tuesday night. It was some noise from 92,000 home fans -- and maybe some in the away end too. Not everyone has fully given up on Sanchez at United, of course, but they know a comeback to greatness is as likely as a United one was the other night. Still, Sanchez looked lively in that short spell.

It's easier to be magnanimous as the Catalans were to their former player when your side are leading 4-0 on aggregate in their Champions League quarterfinal, second leg, but the sentiments towards Sanchez were genuine. He did well in his three years at Barca, although not quite well enough for fans to want him to stay before he was sold and the money used to pay for Neymar.

Barca won the Champions League months before Sanchez arrived and next won it the season after he left, when he scored 21 times in 54 games. He's scored just five times in 42 games for United. He's a huge flop, a massive disappointment and has given United a big headache. Celebrated and welcomed when he signed to a huge fanfare and no little desperation in January 2018, he looks finished not only as the top-level player that he was, but even one good enough to get into England's sixth-best team at the time. He's started eight league games this season; David de Gea has started 33.

Sanchez should be one of United's top three scorers; instead he boasts a solitary league goal. It's abysmal. He's also notched just three assists, three little glimpses of what might be.

Injuries have hit Sanchez this season, but they are no real excuse. He might yet come good and become the player he was, but he turned 30 back in December; he's not a 22-year-old whose game can be changed. He's also at a club in transition rather than, say, being asked to join the best team in world and pass the ball to Lionel Messi. (Transition is a diplomatic word. "Clearing up the mess left by the previous manager" is the verdict of those who like to sit in judgment.)

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has been diplomatic and positive with Sanchez but has little choice to be anything else. He could freeze him out, but for all he knows he still has a decent footballer who could help him, even though he's one of the few yet to experience an uplift in form after the Norwegian arrived.

The crux of the problem is not Sanchez's dire form, but his massively lucrative contract that could keep him at Old Trafford until 2022. It's so big that the longer he stays and underwhelms, the more it costs the club because his inflated wages have



Alexis Sanchez

become the benchmark for other players' negotiations.

Sanchez wanted the money when he left Arsenal, but he didn't want it to be like this. He wanted to continue being the successful footballer that he's usually been. He trains well and nobody can doubt that he tries in games, but sources suggest he's still not particularly close to his teammates. He also has little interest in doing any media to put forward his own perspective. The fans would quite like to hear what he thinks, but there's nothing. He's as cold as Angel di Maria was in Manchester, mean-

ing his silence might be diplomatic.

Sanchez adds little to the dressing room ambience too. When the cold air from an open fridge door was drifting in his direction at the training ground earlier this season, he asked for the door to be changed so that it opened away from him. This was done without question.

How do United get out of this mess? Nobody with a right mind is going to match his wages.

"Getting Sanchez off the books will help United rebalance the wage structure," a leading agent told ESPN. "It'll cost United

to get rid of him, but it's costing them to keep him, too. People say that a Chinese club might take him, but the rules have been tweaked in China. Transfer fees over a certain level mean the club must invest the same amount into developing their own youth system, meaning a transfer costs twice as much."

United included Henrikh Mkhitaryan in the deal with Arsenal but didn't pay a transfer fee for Sanchez.

"They could get very lucky with someone like PSG not doing their homework," the agent said. "But other than that it will mean paying a percentage -- and likely a high percentage -- of his wages if he goes on loan somewhere."

Man United have experience in his area. Nani's wages were heavily subsidised when he was let go during Louis van Gaal's disastrous talent purge, but he earned nothing like Sanchez.

United have money to spend this summer, but the wage bill is already too much for an underperforming team who have been outclassed by Wolves three times this season. This is the area crying out for a new sporting director to sort it out, but United have said "no thanks" to some of the very best sporting directors in football, indicating that the club know what they are going to do with regards to that appointment.

Solskjaer knows he has a significant rebuilding job alongside that appointee. He can hope that Sanchez finishes this season well and pick expectations up off the floor. He could start by doing as well this Sunday at Everton as he did on his last visit to Goodison when he scored and set a goal up in a 5-2 win for Arsenal.

Play like that and he might have a future at Old Trafford. But does Sanchez even believe that himself?

(AGENCIES)

## Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Juve's title feels more mundane  
than extraordinary

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Castle Lager Brand Manager, Pamela Kikuli, kicks the ball to inaugurate the second season of Castle Lager Africa's 5-a-side competition in Dar es Salaam recently.

## Barty guides Australia into Fed Cup final

SYDNEY

WORLD number nine Ashleigh Barty continued her recent strong run of form and guided Australia to their first Fed Cup final since 1993 with a 3-2 victory over Belarus in Brisbane yesterday.

Barty, who won both her singles matches in the semi-final tie, and veteran Samantha Stosur beat Victoria Azarenka and Aryna Sabalenka 7-5 3-6 6-2 in the deciding doubles to set up a final against either France or Romania in November.

Australia, who have not won the title since 1974, will host the final against the winner of the second semi-final, which was locked at 1-1 in Rouen.

"It's super exciting to be in a Fed Cup final," Stosur said. "We all work so hard all year and we're such a tight team. We're going to be giving it our best shot here in November."

Barty had earlier given Australia a 2-1 lead after a superb mixture of tactics, scrambling defence and a powerful service game to beat Sabalenka 6-2 6-2.

It was her second singles win of the tie after she beat Azarenka on Saturday and her success came on the back of winning her first WTA Premier level tournament in Miami last month.

Azarenka was originally not listed to play the doubles but after she dismantled Stosur 6-1 6-1 in 59 minutes to send the tie to the decider, she quickly had her racquets restrung and joined the 20-year-old in the doubles.

SINGLES EVEN

The tie had been locked at 1-1 after the opening day's singles before Barty produced a high level of intensity to beat Sabalenka in Sunday's first match.

Despite the lop-sided scoreline, Barty was made to work hard by her fellow top-10 player Sabalenka, who lost control of the match in the fifth game of the first set when she served four double faults.

Barty, who was forced to produce big serves to neutralise breakpoint opportunities in both the second and fourth games of the second set, broke Sabalenka and ended the Belarusian's resistance when she served her eighth double fault.

Azarenka sent the tie into the decider when she produced some of the high quality tennis that had propelled her to two Australian Open titles.

The 29-year-old is making her way back up the rankings after she had a child and then faced a custody battle that restricted her travel.



Tanzania's athletes battle it out in a recent Ngorongoro Half Marathon in Arusha.

## Kigwangalla calls for formation of special academy for athletics

By Guardian Reporter, Ngorongoro

MINISTER for Natural Resources and Tourism, Khamis Kigwangalla, has said it is high time special sporting events are packaged in such a way that they become tools for tourism promotion, both in the country and overseas.

Kigwangalla issued the statement after the completion of this year's Ngorongoro Half Marathon, which took place in Karatu, Arusha over the weekend.

He said the event, which attracted nearly 2000 participants, is proving to be an important tourism promotion entity in its own right.

"I intend to involve other ministers especially those whose portfolios deal with Youth Development, Employment, Sports and Culture, so that we may build a center to seriously tap from sports, culture and local youths and promote the country abroad," Kigwangalla said.

Despite suffering injuries in a recent road accident, he proved to be in good physical fitness after managing to run the entire 21 kilometers of the Ngorongoro Half Marathon, completing it in good time.

More than 1500 athletes participated in this year's edition of the race, which was flagged off at Loduaire Gates the entrance Ngorongoro Conservation Area and gateway to Serengeti National Park.

Afterwards, led by the minister, participating runners raced down past Karatu

Township, onwards to Rhotia shopping center along Makuyuni-Ngorongoro road.

They turned at Rhotia Hill, returning back to Karatu where they wound up the race at Mazingira Bora ground.

Kenyan runner, Abraham Too, who completed the race in one hour, five minutes and 59 seconds, won the men's category of the race. He was a minute behind last year's winner, fellow countryman Joseph Mbatha.

Michael Kishiba from the National Service (JKT), who covered the distance in one hour, five minutes and 45 seconds, was second and only Tanzanian in the top three.

He was ahead of the third-placed athlete, Kenyan Festus Cheboi.

The same case applied to the female runners winning bill. Esther Chesang from Kenya topped the lot, having raced the 21 kilometers in one hour, 16 minutes and 49 seconds.

She beat Natalie Elisante from Talent Club of Arusha, who completed the round in one hour, 16 minutes and 41 seconds to finish second.

The third-placed athlete, Angelina Tsere of JKT, is also coincidentally from Arusha. She recorded one hour, 18 minutes and 57 seconds. Apparently, JKT had two top winners in the 2019 Ngorongoro Half Marathon.

For the junior runners, covering 2.5 kilometers, Lucia Mchemba from Moitengi Serengeti topped the bill in the girls' category while Elisha Herman from Lighwa Singida was declared the boys' category winner.

Kigwangalla, who also ran and managed to complete the main race, praised the participants and the main sponsors of the race, Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) for managing to combine sports, physical exercise and tourism in one package.

The event also brought fun and excitement to the residents of Karatu, Rhotia and Ngorongoro, the minister noted.

Winners of the main race in both men and women categories pocketed 1m/- apiece while the first runners-up got 500,000/- apiece. The third-placed athletes walked away with 300,000/- apiece.

During the last year's Ngorongoro Half Marathon, Kenyans also topped the race in the form of Joseph Mbatha that won the race in an hour, four minutes and 54 seconds.

The 2017 race's champion, Faraja Lazaro of JKT, used 1 hour, three minutes and 42 second in laying his hands on the top honour and his record has yet to be broken.

Another Kenyan, Benard Mussa (1:05:09) completed the race in the second position. Paschal Mombo from Hanang' (1:06:05) was a Tanzanian runner that made it to the top three.

Even in the ladies' category, Monica Cheruto from Kenya (1:18:07) topped the bill last year, followed by Tanzanians Failuna Abdi (1:18:20) in the second position and Fadhila Salumu (1:19:58), in the third position.

## Girl Queens win Castle Africa 5-a-side soccer bonanza

By Guardian Reporter

GIRL Queens, a women's soccer team based at Msimbazi in Dar es Salaam, emerged winners of women's bonanza, dubbed Castle 5-a-side, held at the Leaders Club ground in the city on Saturday.

The winners were awarded a trophy, gold medal, cartons of Castle Lager and cash worth 900,000/-.

They will, as well, represent Tanzania in the forthcoming Africa's biggest 5-a-side tournament, which will be held in the city next month.

Girl Queen beat the rest of the participating squads in the bonanza, sponsored by Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL), after scoring 12 goals.

Msimbazi Queens that scored nine goals took the second position and got 600,000/-, Wema Queens took the third position, scooping cash worth 300,000/-.

Speaking to journalists and participating squads after the completion of the bonanza, TBL Sales Manager, Joseph Nicholas, congratulated winners and all teams which took part in the unique tournament.

He also lauded Girl Queens for winning the title, urging them to use the awards as a motivation for their preparations ahead of the women's Castle Africa 5s tournament.

Castle Lager Brand Ambassador, Ivo Mapunda, commended TBL for organizing this year's women soccer the tournament, which ended up getting winners who will represent the country in the Castle Africa 5s tournament.

The women soccer bonanza involved Chinga Queens from Kariakoo, Siza Sisters (Kariakoo), Tabata Queens (Tabata), Dragon (Mwananyamala), Bulyaga (Temeke), Mwangaza Queens (Temeke), Furaha Queens (Gerezani), Umoja Queens (Kidongo Chekundu) and MRJ Queens (Mlandizi).

Wema Dallas Queens (Mlandizi), Jupita (Buguruni Sukita), Mercury (Msimbazi), La Capilla (Mbagala), Santiago (Mbagala), Girls Queens (Msimbazi) and Msimbazi Queens (Msimbazi) also took part in the competition.

**5 UJENZI**  
EATV

**TONIGHT @ 21:00**

**MONDAY**  
11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)  
15:00 FUNGUKA  
16:00 UTAKA  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELECT  
17:55 KURASA  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:30 MJADALA  
21:00 UJENZI  
21:30 SPORTS LIVE  
22:30 BONGO HITS

*Ujenzi Watch this informative show on the domestic construction process both on site construction and interior/ exterior designing whilst using the latest technology and appliances that have made construction easier*

**eastafrika RADIO**

05:00 EA Breakfast  
09:00 Supamix  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

