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TANZANIA

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WFP grants TRC 1.3bn/- for 40 wagons repair

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the World Food Programme (WFP) for a 1.3bn/- grant to renovate 40 cargo wagons.

WFP uses TRC services to transport shipments for use in refugee camps and similar cargoes destined for Uganda, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and South Sudan. The wagons will be part of TRC equipment used to transport WFP cargo at a concessional rate.

TRC director general Masanja Kadogosa and WFP Country Representative Michael Danford signed the agreement, witnessed by the Minister for Works, Transport and Communication, Isack Kamwelwe.

The MoU states that WFP will release the money for the renovation, USD 600,000 while TRC will oversee the renovation work using its own experts and facilities.

Speaking after witnessing the signing,

“WFP is a great partner in using our railway to transport foods from the port to neighbouring countries. We look further to strengthen the bilateral collaboration...”

Kamwelwe said the support from the WFP will complement government efforts to revive operations of the corporation.

The government had already disbursed 4bn/- to renovate 200 coaches and cargo wagons, and had renovated 40 wagons so far, he said, noting that upon completion of renovation, TRC will have renovated 240 wagons.

“WFP is a great partner in using our railway to transport foods from the port to neighbouring countries. We look further to strengthen the bilateral collaboration to improve our railway services to increase revenue,” he said.

The support will help TRC improve its services to customers, he stated, urging sustained collaboration between the WFP, TRC and TPA to improve transport services to and from each destination.

Country Representative Danford said since 2010, WFP had invested UDS3.6 billion in the country's transport sector.

He hinted that in the year 2019, WFP plans to procure between 120,000 and 160,000 tonnes of maize for transporting to Uganda, Rwanda and (DRC).

“WFP will continue supporting efforts



Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan exchanges greetings with Kenyan Deputy President William Ruto at the Africa Now Conference 2019 in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, yesterday. The event is meant to harness the energy of the African youth in forging a secure, integrated and growing Africa. This is in the belief that building effective youth-business alliances is critical for growing economies, generating opportunities to address youth employment, as well as building and sustaining innovation, creating knowledge-based economies and building the future of Africa. Photo: VPO

Rovos comfy train brings in 69 tourists

By Guardian Reporter

SIXTY-NINE tourists from three Scandinavian countries arrived in Dar es Salaam at the weekend aboard South Africa's Rovos train, rated as one of the most luxurious trains in the world.

The train stationed at the TAZARA station at 10am on Saturday with the tourists originating from Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

Geoffrey Tengeneza, senior public information officer for the Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB), said the arrival of the train is another milestone in efforts geared at promoting tourist attractions in the country and boost the country's economy through tourism.

“Before they arrived at the station, the tourists were able to visit Selous Game Reserve and from here they will visit various tourist attractions in

the regions and in Zanzibar,” he said.

“This is an opportunity not only to TAZARA but rather Tanzania as a whole to benefit through various ways including hotel occupancy, tourist sites visitations, viewing animals in game reserves and using various transportation services.

The train comes to Tanzania five times a year and one needs to do its booking three months before travelling. The train that arrived on Satur-

day has two locomotive engines and 16 carriages.

The carriages are divided into three classes of royal suites, deluxe suites and Pullman suites meant for elderly travellers.

The train has been operating for 30 years now from 1989 where the company established and has been operating the route from Cape Town to Dar es Salaam's TAZARA station for 26 years now, since 1993.

Ethiopia torn over crash black boxes

ADDIS ABABA

AMERICAN air safety experts are trying to persuade their Ethiopian counterparts not to send the flight data to crash investigators in London, The Wall Street Journal reported. Instead, they want it examined by the National Transportation Safety Board in the United States.

The news comes in the wake of Ethiopian authorities announcing that they will ask a foreign country for help in analyzing the flight data and

voice recorders recovered from the wreckage of Flight 302.

Asrat Begashaw, a spokesman for Ethiopian Airlines said on Wednesday that the airline had not yet decided where to send the “black boxes,” which investigators believe are critical to determining the cause of Sunday's crash.

“We have a range of options,” Begashaw said, adding: “What we can say is we don't have the capability to probe it here in Ethiopia.”

The two recorders will need to be taken to a specialized center to read their data, said Lynnette Dray, an aviation expert and senior research associate at University College London.

“If the boxes are intact, then they will be able to take the data off them and look at it immediately,” Dr Dray said.

Pilots on U.S. routes had reported concerns about the Max 8

At least two pilots who flew Boeing 737 Max 8 planes on routes in the United States

had raised concerns in November about the noses of their planes suddenly dipping after engaging autopilot, according to a federal government database of incident reports.

The problems the pilots experienced appeared similar to those preceding the October crash of Lion Air Flight 610 in Indonesia, in which 189 people were killed. The cause of that crash remains under investigation, but it is believed that inaccurate readings fed into the Max 8's

computerized system may have made the plane enter a sudden, automatic descent.

In both of the American cases, the pilots safely resumed their climbs after turning off autopilot. One of the pilots said the descent began two to three seconds after turning on the automated system.

“I reviewed in my mind our automation setup and flight profile but can't think of any reason the aircraft would pitch nose down so aggressively,” the pilot wrote.



Tanzania and Russia to form bilateral body

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and Russia have agreed to form a Joint Permanent Commission (JPC) to spearhead bilateral ties between the two countries, chiefly in trade, investment and natural resources.

The commitment to form the commission was aired at a meeting between President John Magufuli and the Russian deputy foreign minister Mikhail Bogdanov.

A statement released yesterday by the Directorate of Presidential Communications said President Magufuli reiterated Tanzania's commitment to maintaining cordial relations between the two countries.

Going forward, the relations will focus on enhancing trade, investment, tourism and social services such as education, health as well as infrastructure development, the president had remarked.

“Please take my message to President Putin: It is that Tanzanians love Russia and welcome him to visit our country together

“The aim of the commission is to ensure that citizens of both countries benefit from bilateral relations by harnessing...”

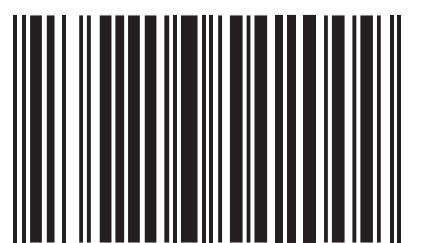
with other Russians. We also welcome Russian investors to come and invest in numerous opportunities available in Tanzania for mutual benefit of both of us,” the president was quoted as affirming.

The aim of the commission is to ensure that citizens of both countries benefit from bilateral relations by harnessing the endowments of each country.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Prof Palamagamba Kabudi who attended the meeting said that through the commission Russia will contribute tremendously in Tanzania's economic growth especially through investment and cooperation in minerals, natural gas and tourism sectors, it said.

For his part, Bogdanov who last visited Tanzania eight years ago, said Russia was committed to strengthening cordial and friendly relations with Tanzania. The commission is part of the country's renewed engagement with

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Tanzania and Russia to form bilateral body

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African countries, he stated. The meeting was also attended by the Tanzanian Ambassador to Russia, Maj Gen (rtd) Simon Mumi and the Russian Ambassador to Tanzania, Yuri Popov. Russia is world's largest country, bordering European and Asian countries as well as the Pacific and Arctic oceans.

UNHCR calls for international support to Uganda in refugee response

KAMPALA

THE deputy chief of the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has called for more international support to Uganda, which is grappling with an influx of 1.2 million refugees from neighboring countries.

Kelly Clements, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees in a statement issued late on Tuesday said although Uganda has made much effort in its refugee response, it still needs support.

"Uganda represents the Global Compact in action, but the country can't do it alone. More global support is needed, particularly in the areas of education, economic opportunities and the environment," she said after conclusion of her five-day visit to the east African country.

According to UNHCR figures, more than half of refugee children, and over one third of Ugandan children in refugee hosting areas, are out of school.

Uganda represents the Global Compact in action, but the country can't do it alone. More global support is needed, particularly in the areas of education, economic opportunities and the environment

"We all want to prevent a generation of young people from being lost because they feel the future holds so little for them," Clements said.

She announced that UNHCR would re-allocate 100,000 U.S. dollars to ensure young students can continue studying in secondary school in the Palorinya refugee settlement, in northwestern Uganda.

The funds will cover school fees for more than 500 refugee and Ugandan youth who cannot afford to stay in school. The support, according to the refugee agency, will also help improve conditions in secondary schools and provide small, but critical supplies that can affect school attendance, like sanitary pads for female students.

Uganda hosts refugees from South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, Somalia and Rwanda, who are living across 30 settlements and in the capital Kampala.



President John Magufuli welcomes Russia's Deputy Foreign Affairs minister, Mikhail Bogdanov, to State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House

WFP grants TRC 1.3bn/- for wagons repair

FROM PAGE 1

es salaam to neighbouring countries. TRC at present has 559 wagons where 469 are cargo wagons and 90 are tankers, with the demand standing at more than 800 wagons.

Kadogosa said WFP was a serious partner as it has criteria, standards and image at an international level.

The MoU is aimed at increasing the corporation's carriage capacity and efficiency from the port of Dar

At least 300 wagons remaining need to be renovated for efficiency in railway transportation to be enhanced, he said.

On January 5 WFP signed a contract to purchase 36,000 tonnes of maize from Tanzania at a ceremony that was also witnessed by President John Magufuli.

This followed a government announcement three days earlier that it had a surplus of three million

tonnes of crops to last for the next six months.

National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) Acting Executive Director Vumilia Zikankuba signed for the government, along with WFP Country Representative Danford.

Under the agreement, WFP said it will buy 36,000 tonnes of maize worth over Sh21bn from the food reserve agency.

Ethiopia torn over crash black boxes

FROM PAGE 1

A pilot on a separate flight reported in November a similar descent and hearing the same warnings in the cockpit, and said neither of the pilots on board was able to find an inappropriate setup.

"With the concerns with the MAX 8 nose down stuff, we both thought it appropriate to bring it to your attention," the pilot said.

The complaints were listed in a public database maintained by NASA and filled with thousands of reports, which pilots file when they encounter errors or issues. The database does not include identifying information on the flights, including airline, the

I am left to wonder: what else don't I know? The Flight Manual is inadequate and almost criminally insufficient

pilot's name or the location.

Another pilot wrote of having been given insufficient training to fly the Max 8, a new, more fuel-efficient version of Boeing's best-selling 737.

"I think it is unconscionable that a manufacturer, the FAA, and the airlines would have pilots flying an airplane without adequately training, or even providing available resources and sufficient documentation to understand the highly complex systems that differentiate this aircraft from prior models," the pilot wrote.

The pilot continued: "I am left to wonder: what else don't I know? The Flight Manual is inadequate and almost criminally insufficient."

Boeing has said the planes are safe to fly, but has pledged to upgrade their software and improve pilot training. News of the incident reports was first reported by The Dallas Morning News and confirmed by The New York Times.



Livestock and Fisheries minister Luhaga Mpina (L, in specs) joins efforts to direct cattle into a Nunge dip in Mpwapwa District, Dodoma Region, at the weekend. This is in implementation of a routine nationwide operation expected to cover a total of 32 million head of cattle. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Kabudi to attend SADC Council of Ministers' meeting in Windhoek

By Guardian Reporter

THE newly appointed minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Prof Palamaganda Kabudi is today expected to travel to Windhoek, Namibia to attend the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Council of Ministers conference scheduled from March 15 to 17, this year.

According to a statement issued by Foreign Affairs Ministry, the SADC Council of Ministers meeting will bring on board ministers of foreign affairs, industries, trade and investments, finance and permanent secretaries (Pss).

It further said that the meeting will be preceded by the meeting of Permanent Secretaries from March 11 to 14, 2019.

"The Council of Ministers oversees the

functioning and development of SADC and ensures that policies and decisions are implemented," the statement read in part.

The Council consists of ministers from each of the 16 member states; usually from the ministries responsible for foreign affairs and international relations, economic planning or finance, and

meets twice a year in March, and August.

During the three days, the ministers will discuss issues of regional importance; consider a number of strategic documents and receive reports on the implementation of the priority areas of the revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan 2015-2020 (RISDP).

The Council will also review implementation of the 38th SADC Summit whose focus is on "Promoting Infrastruc-

ture Development and Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development", the decisions from the last council, and approve the SADC Secretariat's budget for the year 2019/2020.

It will also discuss plans to establish the SADC University of Transformation, report on the Comoros Islands request to join the community. It will also discuss the SADC's regional communication

strategy.

During the meeting, minister Kabudi will use the opportunity to emphasize on the importance for the member states to continue strengthening unity and cooperation to alleviate poverty and bring development in the countries and its people.

Mkapa calls for quality education

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL SIKAPUNDA, MOROGORO

FORMER President Benjamin William Mkapa has called on higher learning institutions to ensure that education they have been providing is not compromised and meet the country's demands.

Mkapa made a call here yesterday when speaking at the function to mark

the 25 year's anniversary of the Silva Jubilee Monument since Salvatorian Major Seminary was established in 1993.

The seminary was latter transformed into being Jordan University College—constituent college of St. Augustine University of Tanzania.

The event involved Minister for Education, Science and Technology Prof Joyce Ndalichako and Morogoro Re-

gional Commissioner (RC), Kebwe Stephen Kebwe, Polycarp Cardinal Pengo, Archbishop of the Dar es Salaam Diocese of the Catholic Church, Bishop Telesphore Mkude of Morogoro Diocese, and other delegates from Vatican.

Mkapa said that it's paramount for higher learning institutions to provide quality education so as to improve people's livelihoods taking into account that education is fundamental

factor for development in any country.

The former president however suggested the need for university management to charge reasonable fees so that more people get education, noting that most students come from poor families. Apart from lauding Jordan University College for meeting requirements as per Tanzania Commission of Universities (TCU), Prof Ndalichako said that in this fiscal year the government

has increased budget allocation to the Higher Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB) from 500bn/- to more than 3bn/- The idea, she said is to ensure that more students benefit from the loans and get quality education.

For his part, Bishop Mkude said that Jordan University College was established to provide higher education geared towards preparing African scholars and leaders.

It was transformed from Salvatorian Institute seminary oriented into Jordan University College as an open higher learning institution purposely to contribute more effectively to the local church by preparing candidates to the priesthood and, in view of the Tanzania Development Vision 2025, to offer academic programmes designed to solve problems of society and contribute to the development of the country.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development deputy minister Dr Angeline Mabula goes through files at the offices of the Muleba District Council in Kagera Region earlier this week. She was on a land revenue payment and collection sensitisation tour. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

Zanzibar ventures into the promotion of as yet unexplored tourist destinations

BY CORRESPONDENT SHAURI HAJI, ZANZIBAR

ZANZIBAR has embarked into hefty promotion of tourist attractions in efforts to lure more foreign tourists in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Tourism contributes 27 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 83 per cent of the foreign exchange (FOREX).

Advisor of tourism development activities in the Department of Forestry and Non-renewable Natural Resources (DFNRR), Mwinjuma Muharam Saleh said that Zanzibar has a wide range of tourist destinations which are yet to be explored.

"And this is caused by limited information as many people are unaware of what we have in Zanzibar.

So, we're currently placing leaflets in these tourism potential areas to attract tourists, as ways of disseminating information and showing destination of the said attractions,"

the official said.

According to him, the campaign involves a number of stakeholders such as tour operators, Zanzibar Commission for Tourism (ZCT) and Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB) in mainland Tanzania.

He cited areas which are key for tourism purposes as Kiwengwa-Pongwe in Unguja North Region and Ngezi forest in Pemba.

Saleh explained Kiwengwa-Pongwe forest reserve has 47 species of attracting birds which includes Fischer's turaco, Zanzibar sombre, crowned hornbill and white browed.

"The area is also rich in medicinal plants and Mwanamkasi Mchekani caves are also considered as important for luring tourists," he said.

He also described Ngezi Forest Reserve in Pemba Island as key because it's a home to Pemba flying fox and unique Pemba Scop owls, nocturnal birds.

Apart from being an important water source of Zanzibar, Masingini Nature Forest Reserve also has space for tourism, "that's our campaign is to make those tourist products are explored and the forest sector contribute to the tourism sector."

Zanzibar archipelago has recorded a 15 per cent increase in the number of international tourists to 433,474 in 2017 from 376,242 in 2016.

Stakeholders urged to develop ICT skills for Tanzanian youth

BY POLYCARP MACHIRA, DODOMA

MINISTER for Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training, Prof Joyce Ndalichako has appealed to stakeholders in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector to help identify and develop skills for young Tanzanians.

She said it is the government plan to see ICT help increase productivity in different fields as the nation moves towards the industrial economy and middle income country.

The ICT sector, according to the minister presents opportunities for young people, especially women and is currently the biggest chunk of the job market with an estimated over 90 per cent of jobs soon requiring ICT skills.

"We need to tackle gender stereotypes and biases that prevent girls and women from pursuing ICT for them to seize equal opportunity as their male counterparts" said the minister, adding that the government under leadership of President of John Magufuli has opened more opportunities for women in the country.

Prof Ndalichako made the remarks here when she presided over a function to honour some 31 secondary school girls from some public schools from Tanzania mainland and Isles who participated in a four days ICT lab organised by the Universal Communications Science Access Fund (UCSAF).

At least 248 girls students from different regions were brought together during the four days ICT lab held at three different higher learning institutions in preparation to get national representatives to the international competition, dubbed 'Girls in ICT Day' later on 25th April, 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethio-

pia. UCSAF's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Peter Ulanga in his remarks said some 92 students attended the training at the Dar es Salaam based Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), other 57 at the Mbeya University Science and Technology (MUST) and 92 others at the University of Dodoma.

He said after the four days training that started on 5th March, 2019, some 31 students were selected where the best six will represent the country in the international competition next month.

Ulanga thanked other organizations that partnered with UCSAF in organising and funding the programme, saying the aim is to help inspire girls to like science subjects and consequently develop interest in ICT.

Vodacom Tanzania Limited's Director for Corporate Affairs, Rosalynn Mworia expressed her company's commitment to uplift girls and women technologically.

She said the students visited the company's regional offices where they learnt the application of ICT at the offices and saw that women have many positions in the department.

According to the director, at least 42 per cent of the 550 workers in the company are women and 40 percent of them are in management positions, a clear indication that women have almost equal positions with men in work places.

"As you have shown ability in matters of ICT, go back and empower technologically fellow male students" she said, reminding them that there is big demand for ICT experts in different sectors in the country.

The Commercial Bank of Africa (CBA) Marketing Manager, Solomon Frank told

the meeting that his organization will continue supporting the programme, adding that the bank will provide air tickets to the six students going to Addis Ababa.

International Girls in ICT Day, an initiative backed by all ITU member states aims to encourage and empower girls and young women to consid-

er studies and careers in the growing field of ICTs, enabling both girls and technology companies to reap the benefits of greater female participation in the ICT sector.

International Girls in ICT Day is celebrated every year on the fourth Thursday of April and will next be observed on 25th April 2019.

KUMBUKUMBU



ELISA GEORGE MALLYA

Leo ni miaka kumi tangu alipoungana na Bwana (14 Machi 2009). Tunamkumbuka sana kwa hekima, busara na upendo wake. Alikuwa zaidi ya baba na rafiki wa karibu. Alikuwa, amekuwa na atendelea kuwa wa thamani kwetu. Ingawa ametuacha wakiwa; LAKINI kumbukumbu yake na sala tulizoshiriki pamoja zinatupa nguvu, faraja na ujasisi wa kuondokana na machungu ya kutokuwepo kwake. Tuna imani siku tutakapokutana pamoja itakuwa ni kicheko, amani na furaha milele.

Unakumbuka na Mke wako Ester, watoto wako Fred, Lillian, Kleist, Stella, Corona, Justin, Clara, Albert, Dorris, Simbo na Selina. Aidha na wajukuu, ndugu na marafiki zako.

Tunakumbuka faraja uliyotuchia kutoka 1 Wathesalonike 5:16 - 22 "...Furahini siku zote; Ombeni bila kukoma; shukuruni kwa kila jambo; maana hayo ni mapenzi ya Mungu kwenu katika Kristo Yesu. Msimzimisho Roho; msitweze unabii; jaribuni mambo yote; lishikeni hilo jema; jitengeni na ubaya wa kila namna..."

World Vision*

Job Opportunities

World Vision is a Christian Development, Relief and Advocacy Non-Government Organization dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. World Vision is committed to the protection of children and does not employ people whose background is not suitable for working with children. All employment is conditioned upon successful completion of all applicable background checks, including criminal record.

“Our vision for every child, Life in all its fullness; Our prayer for every Heart, the will to make it so”.

World Vision Tanzania (WVT) is seeking to recruit suitably qualified candidates to fill the following vacant positions:

1. Senior Grant Finance Officer- Sustain Kasulu (Kigoma) – 1 Post
2. Sponsorship and Program Facilitator- Water Engineer - (Kilimatinde)- 1 Post

To learn more about the job, minimum requirements, application deadline and how to apply kindly visit our Career Page: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-tanzania>

World Vision Tanzania candidates for employment should be ready to read, understand, sign and adhere to the World Vision Tanzania Child protection policy which helps safeguard children from any forms of exploitation, sexual and physical abuse. The discovery of any previous child abuse offenses (before or after an offer of employment) will disqualify a candidate. However, World Vision Tanzania does not discriminate against any prohibited criteria in its employment.

Qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply.

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Dar to host GBV conference next week

By Guardian Correspondent

DAR ES SALAAM is next week expected to organise national conference aimed at reflecting violence against women and children in the country. Scheduled between March 21 and 22, the conference has been organised by Children's Dignity Forum (CDF) in partnership with Dar es Salaam University College of Education (DUCE) and C-Sema

organisation.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday CDF's executive director, Koshuma Mtengeti said that the conference targeting to create a platform where academics, policy makers, laws enforcers and other practitioners such as non government organisations (NGOs) to share their experiences, challenges and best practices on subject matter. Mtengeti described the conference as very significant measure which would help to

alleviate multiple and discriminatory social and economic barriers affecting children and women by exchanging ideas among the children and women rights defenders during the conference.

Mtengeti said Tanzania has ratified and committed to implement Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 and African Union Commission Agenda 2063 which all focuses on ending all forms of violence and torture against children and women.

"In response to this global and regional commitment, the government has developed a National Action Plan on Violence against Women and Children to eradicate violence against women and children in the country;

"This plan emphasises the actions needed for both preventing and responding to violence and recognizes by investing in violence prevention initiatives which has a positive impact on inclusive growth," he said.

He added that this organized conference is a part of strengthening the impact of the diverse investments being made by government, development partners and stakeholders to create protective environment for children and women in the community where gender based violence practices seem to be culture oriented problem.

For his part, DUCE's lecturer in the department of educational psychology and curriculum studies, Dr. Mabula Nkuba said that this

conference will represents a strategic shift in thinking on how Tanzania will address the problem of violence against women and children.

"Instead of focusing on interventions that are issue based, Tanzania will now focus on building systems that both prevent violence against women and children in all its forms, and respond to the needs of victims/survivors and reshaping perceptions of violence as well as gender roles between men and women," said Dr. Nkuba.

Poland out to invest in agriculture sector through irrigation farming

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

POLAND is looking to invest in Tanzania's sector through irrigation farming.

The investments will thus capitalize on irrigation farming with a view to steering the economic outlook of the East African nation. According to the World Food Programme (WFP), 25% of Tanzania's GDP emanates from agriculture.

As such, the sector plays a huge factor in the country's economy. It not only feeds the country's citizens, but is also a source of livelihood to a higher percentage of the nation's population. Furthermore, the sector has the potential to be a crucial food hub in the East African region.

However, setbacks such as food insecurity act as a hindrance to the achievement of the same.

Poland has highly benefitted from irrigation farming, a scheme that has transformed the face of agriculture in the country. The government has since invested in large-scale irrigation farming to elevate the sector's competitiveness and harvest more from the industry. The European country has also offered support to Tanzania's agriculture and water sectors in funds and expertise.

Polish Ambassador to Tanzania, Krzysztof Buzalski highlighted that cooperation and investments in such areas as irrigation must involve several actors representing the private sector, research and

government. This, he said, is in addition to there being careful consideration in implementation.

Poland and Tanzania have enjoyed long and healthy bilateral relations that cut across agriculture to trade, investment, water supply and education. Last year, Poland's foreign investment in Tanzania had reached US \$110m. This is according to the Deputy Director at the Department of Economic Cooperation in the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Konrad Pawlik.

According to NIC National Irrigation Master Plan (NIMP, 2002), Tanzania has at least 29.4m ha suitable for irrigation. Out of the potential area only 475, 052 ha under irrigation has been developed.

Indian companies set to invest in processing of pulses in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

THE Export and Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) has lured Indian investors to invest in pulses processing factories due to the varieties of the legumes grown in the country, while assuring them a list of benefits when they choose to invest in the crop.

The EPZA's director of Investment Promotion and Facilitation, James Maziku made the remarks in Dar es Salaam on 7th March as he hosted a delegation of local businessmen and Indian investors. The director said, "Investors in the processing of pulses are guaranteed opportunities provided through the authority's facilities including the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) where 80 per cent of the processed products are

for exports market."

Pulses take up 12 per cent of the perennial crops production in Tanzania and are an important subsistence cash crop for the small scale farmers. Among the numerous types of pulses grown in the country are dry beans, cowpeas, chickpeas, mung beans and pigeon peas, all grown in the four main zones including lake, central, southern and northern, which are the leading pulse producing regions in the country.

The director further told the delegation that investing under SEZ allows owners to exploit huge domestic and foreign markets, better tax incentives and affordable labor costs. He said India is still the largest market for pulses from Tanzania and the advent of more investors gives a positive picture that there is a huge

and wanting demand for the product. He also went on to say that since the pulses can grow on over 75 per cent of the arable land in the country thus the initiative gives farmers an opportunity to increase production and improve their earnings.

The increased investment in the agricultural sector is of importance in assuring farmers reliable and high prices on one side and improving the sector's contribution to the economy on the other. The coming of the Indian investors follows a meeting between EPZA and investors at a forum held in India in December last year.

The EPZA reported that since last year, there has been a large number of foreign investors showing interests in the areas of agriculture, manufacturing and others.



Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute nursing officer Tabu Nihuka attends to some of 70-plus children at a diagnostic and treatment camp the hospital held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Anna Nkinda

Albinism awareness campaigns paying off

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

A period of silence and peace for people with albinism has been attributed with collaborative efforts between the government and other stakeholders who are actively involved sensitisation and awareness creation campaigns.

The campaigns are aimed at educating the general public on the need to observe and respect human rights.

Citing an example of CARITAS project in the region, Tabora Regional Social Welfare Officer Baraka Makona said recently that the meetings and radio programmes that were organised and conducted by the project helped much to educate the general public.

The campaigns and advocacy against killing of people with albinism played a very big role and contributed much to stop the killings and reduced stigma, he said.

"At first the project implementers conducted a study to determine the real situation on the ground especially to understand the root cause, how people feel, and how they

could tackle the problem. This was done successfully," he said.

The sensitisation meetings with heads of the rescue centers in Tabora municipal and parents with albinism children influenced community reintegration (inclusive education and complete vacation of the camps)

There were also similar sensitisation campaigns and meetings at village and ward level, and the district and actually one of the meetings was chaired by the Tabora Regional Commissioner Agrey Mwanri, he said.

Also in the list there were radio programmes and airing several jingles especially every Saturday that aimed at educating the general public and condemning the killings of people with albinism. During the radio programmes, the presenter allowed the listeners to make calls, they asked questions and received feedback," he added.

"I remember some four radio programmes (live presentations) were conducted in two local radio stations. Additionally, there were several jingles to condemn killings of PWA played on daily basis," he said.

Tabora District Community Development Officer Faidha Hassan explained that through CARITAS project, many persons with albinism have been empowered. Citing an example, she said the district provides loans for different well mobilized groups. The people with disabilities are among the beneficiaries and so far they have formed strong self help economic groups.

"Even the acts of stigma have gone down in many areas; people with albinism are now intermingling freely with other people in the streets and even at work place adding that Tabora people in churches, mosques and other places united to condemn all acts of albinism.

Earlier on, CARITAS Tabora Executive Director, Fr. Alex Nduwayo explained that there has been big impact on the project. He named establishment of PWD committees at village and street levels in ten wards as some of the achievements.

He mentioned other achievements as positive response to parents and teachers with regards to community reintegration and inclusive education saying currently children are allowed to go home during holidays at least twice a year.

"Currently there are no more killings and attacks of people with disabilities such as people with albinism since 2016. The churches have increased preaching against these inhuman acts.



Kahama district commissioner Annamlingi Macha points to a sack of hashish and a motorbike impounded at the weekend by residents of Ilamba village in Shinyanga Region. The person associated with the incident is reported to have vanished before being arrested. Photo: Correspondent Neema Sawaka

French president in Kenya for 2-day visit

NAIROBI

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron has arrived in Kenya for a two-day state visit on Wednesday as part of efforts to shore up bilateral ties between the two countries.

Macron arrived in Nairobi on Wednesday afternoon and later proceeded to State House for bilateral talks with his host, Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta.

The two leaders are expected to conduct a station tour of the Nairobi Central Railway Station before addressing a joint press conference.

"The joint press briefing will focus on the proposed development of commuter rail service to JKIA," State House said in a statement.

French Ambassador Aline Kuster-Manager said in February that the two countries are expected to sign several agreements and

memorandum of understanding covering various subjects of mutual interest between the two countries.

Kuster-Manager confirmed that the proposed rapid transit train service between Nairobi Central Business District and the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport is among projects expected to feature prominently when the two leaders hold bilateral talks in Nairobi.

Illegal loggers now transformed into being forest security guards

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

“There have been significant improvement in the forest condition, smallholder livelihoods improved and the environmental sustained. TTCS has proved to be one of the easiest ways to change peoples’ mindsets

ILLEGAL charcoal and timber harvesters have turned to be forest security guards in villages of Morogoro District, thanks to the idea of Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM).

Under CBFM, the community is given the right to own and use the forest under their own laws and regulations as recognised by the government.

Morogoro leaders and the villagers said that CBFM benefits are observed from a number of youth who were previously illegal charcoal and timber harvesters but now they have turned into being forest custodian where (TTCS) is being practiced, transforming tanzania charcoal sector project

Speaking on behalf of Morogoro District Executive Director, Florence Mwambene said that unlike in the past where the villagers and the youth in particular were harvesting

forests products illegally, today, the intervention made by the TTCS project had made a big difference in terms of forest management.

She was speaking at the sustainable charcoal exhibitions day which was attended by Milingwa villagers, neighbouring villages, regional and district authorities and the forest conservationists held at Milingwa village in Morogoro recently. Mwambene who is also

Morogoro District Welfare Officer said that collaborative management and collective responsibility have turned the village land forest reserve into thick forests with no regular acts of illegal activities on the forest products.

“There have been significance improvement in the forest condition, smallholder livelihoods improved and the environmental sustained. TTCS has proved to be one of the easiest ways to change peoples’ mindsets,” she said.

She urged small income generating groups to apply for the money saying the district has set aside 25m/-. For the purpose.

Principal forest officer from Presidents’ Office-Regional Administration and Local Government Stanford Kway hailed the project saying it was high time the minister visited the villages and see for himself how the villagers are benefiting from the project.

The representative of Morogoro District Commissioner, Hilary Sangawa urged the small

income generating groups to apply the entrepreneurship Identity cards so that they can be recognised and conduct their businesses freely.

Briefing on the achievements registered by the project, Milingwa village Executive Officer, Rahel Abdul explained that the village has raised more than 135 m/- from licences of charcoal and timber harvesting in sustainable manner.

“These money had been used to pay for NHIF, and construction of other social services like school classrooms,” he said

The project manager Charles Leonard said that since the project started in the first phase that involved 20 villages followed by additional of 10 villages in recent years, more than 800m/- had already been collected whereby deforestation in the villages had been reduced by 50 per cent.

Different income generating groups like poultry, sustainable charcoal producers and others showcased their products.



Civic United Front members supporting Prof Ibrahim Lipumbo, whom the Registrar of Political Parties recognises as the opposition party’s national Chairman, gathered at the venue of a general meeting held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi.

School director at Uhuru Peak to raise funds for five children with disability

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

ISSABELA Mwampamba, director of the Arusha-based Upendo Friends School has successfully climbed Mount Kilimanjaro to raise funds for five children with disabilities of the same family in Chome ward, Same District, Kilimanjaro Region.

Speaking after the six days of expedition, Mwampamba said that despite the challenges she faced, she has been able to collect 90 per cent of the required funds she pledged to Nighenjijwe Mnjokava—a mother of the five children with disabilities.

“When I met Mnjokava at her home in Chome ward, I promised to support

her family with 8m/-. The monies are to help her in paying bills and the two housekeepers”, said Mwampamba noting she expected to collect the money from friends.

She said the money will also be used to construct a kitchen and a fence to ensure safety of the children.

Mwampamba said that during recent celebrations of the Women’s International Day, she organised a special trip with her friends to visit Mnjokava at her home.

She said that Same District Commissioner, Rosemary Senyamule agreed to support them and provided 8m/- for the family’s development.

“I am happy to collect 7.5m/- out of

the required 8m/-”she noted.

Giving her Mt. Kilimanjaro’s climbing experience, Mwampamba said although she didn’t manage to reach Uhuru Peak (5,895m), she has been able to stand and advocate for the people with disabilities while at Kibo volcanic peak.

She commended tour guides from ZARA Tours who assisted her to climb to the ‘Roof of Africa’ but she couldn’t make it because of high altitude sickness.

She recalled the six days climb through the Marangu route as a dream insisting that climbing Mount Kilimanjaro was a dream comes true and a life episode that one needs to grow old to forget.

CRDB BANK PLC

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AWARENESS SEMINAR ON EXPLOITING OPPORTUNITIES BROUGHT BY THE NATIONAL DRIVE OF INDUSTRIALIZATION AND LOAN PRODUCTS PROVIDED BY CRDB BANK PLC TO FACILITATE NATIONAL DRIVE OF INDUSTRIALIZATION

Notice is hereby given that a Public Awareness Seminar on “Exploiting Opportunities brought by the National Drive of Industrialization” and “Loan Products provided by CRDB Bank Plc to Facilitate National Drive of Industrialization” will be held on Saturday, 06th April, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at various locations indicated herein below:

NO.	BRANCH	VENUE
1.	Arusha	Golden Rose Hotel, Jumbo Hall, near Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium.
2.	Babati	Manyara Whitrose Hotel along Singida Highway, near Babati Bus Stand.
3.	Bariadi	K. K. K.T. Bariadi Conference Hall along Mji wa Zamani, Bariadi.
4.	Bukoba	Bukoba Coop Hotel (Yaasira Hotel) near Custom Port.
5.	Dar es Salaam City Centre	PSSSF Convention Center at PPF Tower 5th floor along Ohio Street, Dar es Salaam.
6.	Dodoma	New Dodoma Hotel Conference Hall, near Railway Station.
7.	Geita	Luns Hotel Limited.
8.	Iringa	High Land Hall, near CRDB Bank Iringa Branch.
9.	Kahama	Caritas Hall, Nyahanga Area, Kahama.
10.	Karagwe	Bishop Mkuta Memorial Hall at ELCT, Karagwe Diocese.
11.	Kigoma	St. Martha Nzimano Hall along Kibirizi Road near NORAD Estate, Kigoma.
12.	Lindi	Kagwa Parish Hall located at Mtanda, Lindi.
13.	Dar es Salaam	Best Western CBD Hotel Conference Hall (former Colosseum), along Bibi titi road, Dar es Salaam.
14.	Mpanda	Mpanda Urban Water Authority Hall, Mpanda.
15.	Mbeya	Royal Tughimbe Conference Hall located at Mafiat, Mbeya.
16.	Mbozi	Southern Garden Hotel (Popularly Known as Mkolla), Vwawa.
17.	Morogoro	Great Vision Adventure - Cherry Hotel, Morogoro
18.	Moshi	Kilimanjaro Cranes Hotel along Railway Street, Moshi.
19.	Mtwara	VETA Conference Hall located at Shangani Area, Mtwara.
20.	Musoma	Afrilux Hotel located at Mwigobelo Street, Musoma.
21.	Mwanza	JB Bel Monte located at City Centre, along Kenyata road, Mwanza.
22.	Njombe	Njombe District Council Function Hall.
23.	Shinyanga	Karena Hotel Conference Hall, along Hali ya Hewa Street, Shinyanga.
24.	Singida	RC Social Training Centre, Roman Catholic Mission, Singida.
25.	Songea	Heritage Cortage Hotel Conference Hall located at Msamala, Songea .
26.	Sumbawanga	Sumbawanga Municipal Conference Hall located at Bomani Area.
27.	Tabora	VETA Hall along School Street near Police Dispensary, Tabora.
28.	Tanga	Mkonge Hotel Conference Hall located at Raskazone Area, Tanga.
29.	Zanzibar	Mansons Hotel Conference Hall located at Shangani Street,

NB: You may attend the Public Awareness Seminar at any venue of your choice.

For further information contact us at this address:

The Secretary
CRDB Bank Plc
Office Accommodation Scheme - Azikiwe Street, 4th Floor
P. O. Box 268
Dar-es-Salaam
Tel. no. 022 -2114237, 2117442-7, - Fax No. 022 - 2131005
E-mail - jbrugambo@crdbbank.com au shareholders@crdbbank.com

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Jbrugambo

J. B. Rugambo
Company Secretary
20th February, 2019

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Shein swears in three new leaders in different posts

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein yesterday swore in leaders who were appointed to serve in various leadership positions in the Isles government.

Leaders who took oaths of office included Hamida Mussa Khamis who becomes Unguja-Kati District Commissioner, Khalid Abdalla Omar, Permanent Secretary responsible for Regional Authority and Local Governments, and Omar Said Ameir, the Executive Secretary of Zanzibar Broadcasting Commission.

The swearing-in ceremony held at State House and was attended by Speaker of the House of Representatives, Zubeir Ali Maulid, Zanzibar Attorney General, Said Hassan Said, Chief Mufti Sheikh Saleh Omar Kabih, ministers and deputy ministers.

Others are Mjini Mgharibi Regional Commissioner, Ayoub Mohamed Mahmoud, Zanzibar town Mayor, Khatib Abraham Khatib and President Advisors.

On March 4, this year, Dr Shein also swore in ambassador Mohamed Ramia Abdiwawa who was appointed to be the Minister of Finance and Planning and Haroun Ali Suleiman who will serve as minister of State, President's Office, Public Service and Good Governance.

Others are Mmanga Mjengo (Minister for Agriculture, Natural Resources, Livestock and Fisheries); Khamis Juma Mwalimu (Minister for Constitution and Legal Affairs) and Simai Mohamed Said who is going to serve as Deputy Minister for Education and Vocational Training.

Dr Shein also sworn in a number of leaders including Yakout Hassan Yakout, Permanent Secretary in the President's Office, Public Service and Good Governance; Omar Ali Ameir (Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Livestock and Fisheries) and George Joseph Kazi to be Permanent Secretary in the ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs)

Other leaders include Seif Shaaban Mwynyi deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office, Public Service and Good Governance; Saliha Ameir Mwita (Deputy PS in the ministry of Land, Housing, Water and Energy) and Mansura Mosi Kasim Deputy PS in the ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Livestock and Fisheries, supervising agriculture and natural resources.

Earlier, workers in the President's office organised a brief ceremony to congratulate Dr Shein on his birthday. He was born on March 13, 1948.



Vodacom Tanzania engineer Adeline Kishimbo briefs visitors at the weekend on the digital operations of the company's Network Performance department in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Lake group company donates to MNH Children's cancer ward

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

WOMEN from Lake Group Company celebrated the International Women's Day with children at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) Cancer Ward by donating an assortment of items to reduce the challenges facing the facility.

The items which included food and medicines were given

to the hospital also as part of the company's corporate social responsibility (CSR).

The International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8 every year. It is a focal point in the movement for women's rights.

Speaking during the hand over event, Lake Group human resource manager Mariam Msuya said "As a brand which is passionate about the well being of Tanzanians, we thought it bet-

ter to mark the celebrations with children, parents and guardians at MNH cancer ward."

Msuya said the donation at the ward was a continuation of the company's noble cause to support the government's efforts in improving health service provision in the country.

"As a company we know that there are many challenges facing our women, even here at this ward many guardians are women, we promise to con-

tinue helping them and we really thank our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ally Edha Awadh for supporting women at the company level and beyond," she said.

Obadia Ngoka, one of the physicians at the hospital expressed gratitude to the Lake Group family for the donation, saying it would give a great relief to the problems that children and their guardians were facing at the ward.

"We do face a lot of challenges here, but we really thank Lake Group for coming with this donation, they would have stayed at their homes or donated in some other places, but they thought it wise to come and celebrate with us," he said

Meanwhile, Msuya revealed the company's vision to become a fully-fledged employer by 2025.

According to her, currently the company has 210 women

New technology likely to reduce post-harvest losses

By Correspondent Michel Nkurunziza

RWANDAN Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources is calling on the private sector to invest in cereals storage and related technology as part of the efforts to tackle post-harvest losses.

This, if followed through public and private investment in crop storage technologies, the government said, could curb post-harvest losses from the current 16 per cent to 5 per cent by 2024.

One of the grains storage

technologies is the production of the Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS) bags that are a simple and cost-effective way of storing grains and seeds without using chemicals preservatives to control insect pests.

The technology improves food security as it can help preserve grains and seeds for long durations without damage.

According to Gilbert Rwanjije who is in charge of Harvest Handling at the Ministry of Agriculture, the bags have no negative impact on human health since it does not require chemicals to control pests inside.

"We urge the factories and businesses distributing those PICS bags to provide instructions to farmers on how to suitably use them while storing the cereals grains. We urge the farmers to use those bags since they have capacity to preserve grains over long periods of time," he said.

He, however, said that there are still few farmers using that kind of storage technology because the price of PICS bag is very high as one piece is sold at Rwf1,700 due to high cost of production.

"We are conducting a study that could guide us on

to subsidizing those bags so that they become affordable to farmers and help tackle post-harvest losses," he said.

He urged the manufacturers to work with agro-dealers across the country so as to scale up the use and training on appropriate and safe ways to store grains.

According to Wenceslas Habamungu, the Director General of Ecoplastics Ltd that recycles plastics into other products, the factory has so far produced over 148,000 PICS bags since 2015 but the high cost has hindered many farmers from using them.

"This production is little compared to the number of farmers in the country. We need collaboration with other stakeholders to ensure affordability and uptake. So many farmers expect subsidies for the bags become affordable just like they benefit from other subsidized inputs," he said.

He said that the best way to handle post-harvest losses will be to ensure the sustainability of farmers' market.

"Some farmers lose market because the produce's quality is eroded by poor post-harvest handling. Agro-processing factories reject the produce that is dam-

aged," he said.

For instance, Africa Improved Foods rejected 90 per cent of supplied maize produce in 2017 Agricultural Season B because of the poor quality while MIN-IMEX, a firm that processes maize flour says that only 45 per cent of needed maize grains come from Rwanda because of poor quality caused by aflatoxin.

According to Bernadette Majabelle, an agricultural expert from Tanzania, over two million PICS bags were distributed in her country between 2014 and 2018 saying subsidizing their cost is the best solution.

500 patients with hearing impairment to get treatment at Mbeya referral hospital this year

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MORE than 500 patients with hearing problems are expected to receive treatment at the Mbeya Referral Hospital this year.

This comes after the hospital established pure tone audiometry services for screening patients.

Specialist for ear, nose and throat (ENT), Dr Benedict Ngunyale said patients were forced to follow the treatment in Dar es Salaam.

"By using this machine we will be able to know the hearing level and then be able to advise a patient on what treatment to receive on the challenges facing him/her, we thank the government for this development," said Dr Ngunyale.

However, the hospital also received a fibre-optic machine from an orthopaedic surgeon in German Dr Erhard Kirschbaum.

Speaking when handing over the machine on behalf of Dr Kirschbaum, Dr Lunemo Sakafu from the same hospital said the gift came because of the good relations from experts in German and those at the hospital.

The executive director for Mbeya referral hospital Dr Godlove Mwanjani said the hospital has made tremendous developments

in improving specialised services.

"The support has come at the right time because we are now working on improving people's lives through services in our surgical rooms among others.

It is estimated that 97 per cent of people with hearing impairment are not watching television in Tanzania because they can't follow up the programmes and there is no one to interpret for them.

Tanzania Association of the Deaf reports that people with hearing impairment in the country are still neglected since they lack access to information through television programmes due to lack of sign language interpreters in media houses.

Association chairman Nidrosy Malawa was recently quoted as saying that people with hearing impairment also need to be informed.

According to Tanzania Association Sign Language Interpreters (TASLI), there are only 15 competent people who can serve in broadcasting perspective in the country.

TASLI chairperson Protas Mwalongo said that only five regions have broadcasting sign language interpreters including Dar es Salaam (10), Mwanza (1), Pwani (1), Moshi (1) and Dodoma (1).

CAREER OPPORTUNITY LOSS CONTROL OFFICER

**(RE - ADVERTISED)
(1 POST)**

Coca-Cola Kwanza Limited (CCK Ltd) is part of the only anchor bottler in Africa, (Coca-Cola Beverages Africa) in the Coca-Cola Company's global franchise system. As a multinational company dealing in fast moving consumer products, we strive to maintain world class standards in every aspect of our business. In addition, we are also committed to train and develop Tanzanian citizens, and to this end we require the services of high caliber Tanzanians to provide a leading edge to our business.

LOSS CONTROL OFFICER
CCK Tanzania requires the services of a Loss Control Officer, to be based in Dar es Salaam. The incumbent will directly report to the Logistics Director.

The successful incumbent's responsibilities will include:
Loss Control and Risk assessment, Analyze and Investigate system data from SAP for potential risks, Implementation of site security procedures, Internal and external incidents (such as frauds, thefts etc) investigation and evidence gathering, Prepare weekly/monthly security briefing reports for management review, Ensure that all staffs, contractors and visitors adhere to the company standard operating procedures, Monitor all goods movements, Monitoring CCTV remotely and internally, Responsible for repairs and maintenance of all security equipment, Training security staff on evacuation procedure, Health and safety, Firefighting and first aid, risk and how to combat in their daily work routine, People management & development, Supervising external security companies at various company locations, Weekly meeting with security management on their performance of the contract and their staffs, Managing the company weight bridge according to Tanzania road laws.

Key requirements:
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All interested applicants please submit your applications to :
Coca-Cola Kwanza Ltd, HR Department, P.O. BOX 7813, Dar es Salaam.
or email Saugustine@ccbgroup.co.tz
Only successfully candidates shall be contacted.

Closing date for all applications: 30th March, 2019

A subsidiary of

EACJ court hears case challenging election of current EALA Speaker

By Guardian Reporter

THE First Instance Division of the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) on Monday heard the case filed by the government of Burundi (Applicant) challenging the process of electing the current Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) which was held on 19th December, 2017.

The Applicant argues that the elections that were held in the absence of the honourable members of the Republic of Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania are in violation of the fundamental Principles of the Community under Articles 6 (d), 7 and 57 (1) and Rule 12 (1) of EALA Rules of Procedure.

The matter came before honourable judges Lady Justice Monica Mugenyi (Principal Judge), Justice Dr Faustin Ntezilyayao (Deputy Principal Judge), Justice Fakihi A. Jundu, Justice Dr. Charles Nyawello and Justice Charles Nyachae.

Nestor Kayobera, the Counsel representing Burundi, submitted to court that the election of the Speaker of EALA is governed by the EAC Treaty and the Assembly's rules of procedure and that Article 9 (4) of the Treaty obligates organs and institutions of the Community to perform the functions and act within the limits of the powers conferred upon them by the Treaty.

Kayobera also contended that the issue of quorum is a Treaty obligation under Article 57 and rule 12 (1) of EALA Rules of Procedure which provides that: the quorum of the House or of

the Committee of the Whole House shall be half of the elected members and such quorum shall be composed of at least one third of the elected members from each partner state".

He argued that, violation of the rule on quorum entails violation of the Treaty.

Counsel further submitted that on 19th December, 2017, the Speaker of EALA was elected without the members from Burundi and Tanzania hence a violation of the principles of good governance and Rule of Law.

Kayobera also argued that Article 23 of the Treaty provides powers to the Court as the judicial organ to ensure adherence to law in the interpretation and application of and compliance of the Treaty.

Summing up his submissions, Kayobera said that the Speaker of EALA was not elected in accordance with the Treaty and the Rules of the Assembly and therefore asked the Court to order re election in accordance to the Treaty and rules of the Assembly. Kayobera appeared with Vyzigiro Diomede, State Attorney in the Attorney General's Office Burundi.

Dr Anthony Kafumbe, representing the Secretary General (Respondent), on his part, submitted that the election of the Speaker was done under Part III of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

He further submitted that under Part III of EALA Rules of procedure, Rule 6 (9) (c) on the election of the Speaker, it is not mandatory for every member to vote, hence the Members of

Burundi and Tanzania had liberty not to vote. Rule 6 (9) (c) states that: "After all Members who wish to vote have voted, the Clerk shall in full view of the members present, empty the ballot box and immediately count the ballot paper contained in it".

He also argued that the issue of quorum does not apply, that it only applies when the house is duly constituted. He therefore submitted that there was no illegal election process, that the Speaker was elected under relevant provisions of the Rules of procedure of the Assembly and that the election process did not violate the Treaty.

Dr Kafumbe further submitted that as Article 9 of the Treaty obligates the organs and institutions of the Community, the Assembly acted within its mandate and in accordance with its rules of procedure.

He also contended that members of the Assembly have accepted the Speaker and a lot of business is going on and therefore, it would not be helpful to nullify the election and order fresh election.

Dr. Kafumbe also took issue with the Affidavits sworn by the Applicant's Counsel on the basis of information relayed to him by EALA's members from the Republic of Burundi and submitted that the Court should reject the said affidavits as evidence since Counsel was not a witness and could not even have been a witness and a Counsel at the same time; the impugned affidavits ought to have been sworn by the Burundi's members of EALA, he argued.



Unusually difficult moments for these sellers of ripe bananas at Dar es Salaam's Buguruni popular foodstuff market owing to scarcity of customers, as found yesterday afternoon. Photo: Halima Kambi

Tanzanian, Nigerian students take first prize in Huawei's sub-Saharan Africa ICT contest

JOHANNESBURG

STUDENTS from Tanzania and Nigeria were the overall joint winners of this year's Sub Saharan regional finals of Huawei's global ICT Competition.

Together with second prize winners, Angola and Kenya, the four teams will travel to China for the finals which will see 40 teams from around the world compete for the championship title.

The competition covered latest ICT technologies such as cloud computing, artificial intel-

ligence, mobile networks and big data. Almost 30 thousand students from over 100 universities in Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Angola, South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia, Botswana and Mauritius participated.

At the finals, held this weekend in Johannesburg, it came down to 42 students in 14 teams. They sat for theory and practical examinations at the finals at Huawei's regional headquarters in Woodmead, Johannesburg.

Speaking at the final award giving

presentation, Mr. Xue Man, Vice President of Huawei, said: "Huawei understands the value of a good talent ecosystem which is the foundation for a smart future. This ICT Competition is part of our innovative initiatives to support that and promote ICT skills. We believe that this event will inspire more students' interest in ICT learning in Africa; it provides them with a world-class stage to showcase themselves and consolidate the vital ICT needed for Africa's development."

Alfred Cheruiyot, Prin-

cipal Secretary, State Department for Post Training and Skills Development from Kenya Ministry of Education praised Huawei's actions to raise skills and partner with national governments and local tertiary institutions to strengthen the skills pool in ICT.

"We are fully aware how important this is for our students to get good jobs and to become successful entrepreneurs. We are fully aware that this will drive our economy forward for many years to come if we can get it right," Cheruiyot

told the gathering.

Tanzania ICT student Emanuel Chaula was overjoyed that his team emerged as one of the two winning countries.

He said, "We worked hard as a team because we wanted to seize the opportunity to get to travel to China to compete in the global finals. We really want to show Africa and the world that Tanzania is an up and coming ICT player and we want to be a part of that growth in our country. We will study and practice for the finals in China as we are going there to win."



Have you got a good idea for how to improve the accountability and responsiveness of the Government of Tanzania to citizens?

The Accountability in Tanzania Programme (Act2) seeks to partner with qualified Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to improve the accountability and responsiveness of the Government of Tanzania to citizens.

Act2 is inviting qualified Civil Society Organisations to apply for funding of their governance work. Act2 is particularly interested in applications that involve governance in relation to climate change, to social inclusion (gender equality, women and girls, disability, and/or other marginalised groups), to anti-corruption and work around civic space, particularly in the effective use of the Media. These can be treated as cross cutting issues in other sectors or issue-based work if that makes the most effective use of a grant.

Grants range from £200,000 - £400,000 per annum.

So as not to undermine the sustainability of the successful CSO, Act2 grant funding will be limited to the lower of:

- 40% of the strategic plan; or
- The highest income levels in any of the last three years

If your organization is compliant with the relevant Government of Tanzania's laws and regulations, we would like to hear from you; please send a two page outline of your idea to tz-fmact@kpmg.co.tz, with the subject heading 'Concept Note' before April 30, 2019.

There will be an information session on 29th March 2019 from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. Please email to tz-fmact@kpmg.co.tz, with the subject heading 'Information Session' before 25th March 2019 to confirm your attendance.

NB: All proposals will be treated on their merits; there are no preconceived ideas about whether a single organisation is preferable to a consortium, or Tanzanian or locally registered international organisations.

For more details on the call, please visit our website <http://www.accountability.or.tz/>



Investing in rural people



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Terminal Evaluation of Up-scaling of Interactive Information and Communication Technologies to Increase Uptake of Agricultural Innovations in Tanzania (UPTAKE) Project

1.0 Background

Farm Radio International (FRI) is a Canadian non-profit organization that is at the forefront of using radio combined with other ICTs to serve smallholder farmers. The *Up-scaling of interactive information and communication technologies to increase uptake of agricultural innovations in Tanzania* (UPTAKE) project is funded by IFAD and contributes to the overall New Alliance Programme for Food Security and Nutrition under its Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Extension Challenge Fund. The project is implemented in collaboration with CABI.

The specific goal of the project is to contribute to increased agricultural production and productivity by scaling up the use of productivity-enhancing agricultural innovations and marketing mechanisms by small-scale farmers, using a combination of ICT-enabled agriculture extension approaches (participatory radio, mobile services), integrated and engaging with traditional extension services and linking to IFAD's existing programmes.

2.0 Evaluation objectives and questions

The primary objective of the terminal evaluation is to assess the achievement of objectives of the UPTAKE project. It will also identify and document lessons learned, and provide concrete recommendations for improving the performances of UPTAKE consortium members in future interventions.

3.0 Scope of the Assignment

The terminal evaluation will be conducted in the Pwani, Tanga, Njombe, Mbeya, Songwe, Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Iringa regions of the United Republic of Tanzania. These are the areas in which the UPTAKE project was implemented. The evaluation will focus on synthesizing evidence of the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability of the project, and on lessons learned, based on information collected from farmers, broadcasters, project staff, knowledge partners, and input supply partners.

4.0 The Consultancy Team and Required Qualifications

The competing firms for this assignment should be "NATIONAL CONSULTANTS" and possess the following competencies and qualifications.

- The evaluation team should be composed of a communication for development (C4D) and/or ICT for development (ICT4D) expert, agricultural extension expert, a social scientist, and a statistician.
- Extensive and dependable experience, skill and knowledge of conducting surveys, interviews, participatory methodologies, and data analysis (qualitative and quantitative).
- Experience evaluating communication for development projects (preferably rural and agricultural development) is mandatory.

5.0 Proposal Submission

- Bidders should submit renewed trade licenses, tax certificates, professional licenses, and other required documentation as indicated in the instruction to bidders.
- Bidders should submit their technical and financial proposals electronically at the following address: tanzania@farmradio.org
- The deadline for submission of proposal is **March 20, 2019**.
- No bid documents submitted after the specified deadline will be accepted.
- Incomplete applications will be disqualified.

Any inquiries about the comprehensive ToR should be addressed to rchapota@farmradio.org

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Taking A New Look
At The News
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Is humankind losing war on FGM?

Female genital mutilation, which is commonly referred to as 'female circumcision' is practised among many African tribes as one of the traditional rituals that prepare girls for womanhood, though the age at which it is practised varies. It is usually carried out at birth, infancy, puberty, marriageable age and even during pregnancy; and the practice remains a social norm that is being fuelled by myths, preconceptions and diverse ignorance about social expectations; discounting that it is violation of women's reproductive rights, and also puts their lives at risk and harmful to their unborn children.

The practice is usually carried out by traditional practitioners using cutting tools ranging from pieces of glass to scalpels or special knives, which are often re-used without sterilisation or sterilised with local sterilisers that have not been scientifically tested for potency. Furthermore, anaesthetics and antiseptics are generally not used and various substances are rubbed on the wounds to stop bleeding. Hence, unintended damage is often caused because the girls/women struggle during the operation and complications arise from septic conditions that result from it. This poses danger to the health of women.

Anyway, the cultural meaning of the practice varies across the belt of Africa from Senegal, Kenya to Nigeria and among Muslims and Christians, where FGM is practised. It is considered variously a cleansing ritual, a female rite of passage, a guarantor of chastity, a boost to fertility, or to male sexual pleasure, and a cure for 'sexual deviance.'

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is indeed one of the most controversial and not-so-widely discussed harmful traditional practice, cannot be hidden anymore, thanks to the forces of citizen journalism. The debate about FGM like polygamy and witchcraft is volatile whenever it comes into focus. Some Africans, indignant at the western critics denounce the tradition as barbaric and primitive; and defend it in the name of cultural tradition.

According to World Health Organisation (WHO), FGM comprises all procedures that involve altering or injuring the female genitalia for non-medical

reasons. This is recognised internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women, hence the United Nations (UN), introduced the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation in 2003 to turn the searchlight of the world to the issue - to eradicate it.

The UN notes that globally, it is estimated that at least 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone some form of FGM; but the practice is declining in many countries. The global body, however, argues that if the practice persists at current levels, with rapid population growth in countries where it is concentrated, it will significantly increase the number of girls subjected to it. As such, 68 million girls are at risk of female genital mutilation between 2015 and 2030.

Although primarily concentrated in 30 countries in Africa and the Middle East, FGM is a universal problem and is also practised in some countries in Asia and Latin America. The ancient practice also continues to persist amongst immigrant populations living in Western Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand.

On the prevalence, countries with the highest prevalence among girls and women aged 15 to 49 are Somalia at 98 per cent, Guinea at 97 per cent, Djibouti 93 per cent and Egypt at 87 per cent.

Since the practice cuts across religions, cultural and educational boundaries, the best way to bring about change, argue many campaigners, is to avoid cultural, religious and educational judgments and concentrate on health. This is against the backdrop that science has recognised FGM, as a major reproductive health problem that continues to affect women and girls. Females who undergo FGM face long-term physical, psychological, emotional, mental and social consequences as FGM leads to complications like severe pain, urine retention/painful urination, menstrual problems, keloids, shock, genital tissue swelling; due to inflammatory response or local infection, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), obstetric fistula, perinatal risks, and psychological consequences such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety disorders and depression.

World ought to eliminate gender inequalities in agricultural sector

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is an international financial institution and a specialised agency of the United Nations dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries. It was established as an international financial institution in 1977 through United Nations General Assembly Resolution as one of the major outcomes of the 1974 World Food Conference. Seventy-five per cent of the world's poor live in rural areas in developing countries, yet only 4 per cent of official development assistance goes to agriculture.

IFAD seeks to ensure that poor rural people have better access to, and the skills and organisation they need to take advantage of: Natural resources, especially secure access to land and water, and improved natural resource management and conservation practices; Improved agricultural technologies and effective production services; A broad range of financial services; Transparent and competitive markets for agricultural inputs and produce; Opportunities for rural off-farm employment and enterprise development and local and national policy and programming

All of IFAD's decisions - on regional, country and thematic strategies, poverty reduction strategies, policy dialogue and development partners - are made with these principles and objectives in mind. As reflected in the strategic framework, IFAD is committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular the target to

halve the proportion of hungry and extremely poor people.

Underlying these objectives is IFAD's belief that rural poor people must be empowered to lead their own development if poverty is to be eradicated. Poor people must be able to develop and strengthen their own organisations, so they can advance their own interests and dismantle the obstacles that prevent many of them from creating better lives for themselves. They must be able to have a say in the decisions and policies that affect their lives, and they need to strengthen their bargaining power in the marketplace.

IFAD works with governments to develop and finance programmes and projects that enable rural poor people to overcome poverty themselves.

Since starting operations in 1978, IFAD has invested \$12 billion, in 860 projects and programmes that have reached some 370 million poor rural people.

It is in the same spirit that IFAD will kick off a campaign aimed at closing the gender gap in agriculture by drawing attention to the often overlooked contributions that rural women in developing countries make to rural economies, local communities and to improving the lives of rural families - men, women and children.

The campaign - "Real Groundbreakers" - is aimed at building awareness as well as raising government support for much needed investment.

Through the campaign digital platform, women and men around the world can stand in solidarity with 1.7 billion rural women and girls.

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Why social entrepreneurs are so susceptible to burnout

By Gabriella Cacciotti

Doing good while making money is no easy task and can take its toll on entrepreneurs' psychological wellbeing

Gabriella Cacciotti is Assistant Professor in entrepreneurship at the University of Warwick's business school

Social entrepreneurs are often celebrated as contemporary heroes who create business to help people and the planet - an activity considered important for fostering societal wellbeing. But can these entrepreneurs do this without compromising their own wellbeing?

With too much focus on their broader mission of changing the world, we lose sight of the daily struggles these entrepreneurs go through.

Social entrepreneur and Nobel Prize winner, Muhammad Yunus said there are two kinds of businesses in the world. "One is a business which makes money, and the other solves the problems of the world." Entrepreneurs need to decide "what kind of life they would like to choose," he said.

But can social entrepreneurs really create businesses that solve the problems of the world without making money? Herein lies the tension.

Creating a business that contributes to a more sustainable world while simultaneously ensuring that the business itself is sustainable is not an easy task. Social entrepreneurs' desire to help others can be misaligned with the goal of doing this through a business that is also required to generate profit or value for the shareholders.

Such goals as "doing good" and "mak-



ing money" may be incompatible, as making progress towards one of these goals requires actions and decisions that can undermine progress toward the other. This is known as goal conflict.

When trying to solve this tension, entrepreneurs can engage in actions that diverge from the stated mission and core objectives of their business. This risk is called mission drift.

The simultaneous pursuit of social mission and commercial viability can also involve resource conflict, when social entrepreneurs are spread thinly, having to engage in too many activities, which makes it difficult to regulate personal resources such as time and money.

Research shows the pursuit of personal goals can lead to a

psychologically fulfilling life by providing meaning and structure to one's identity. However, juggling multiple goals at the same time can lead to lower psychological wellbeing and increased psychological distress because of a lack of progress made towards them.

So what can social entrepreneurs do to protect themselves from burnout?

The first step is to acknowledge any signal of psychological distress they feel and change their goals accordingly.

A recent study involving 186 entrepreneurs, conducted by Ewald Kibler, Joakim Wincent, Teemu Kautonen, Martin Obschonka and myself, published in the Journal of Business Venturing last year, demonstrates that perception of

autonomy can reduce the stress associated with managing conflicting goals and increase the level of life satisfaction.

By having more control on their daily work tasks, social entrepreneurs can better identify what to focus their time and energy on.

They may also need to rethink their business strategy. Notwithstanding the importance of creating a business that does good while making money, they should come up with a more coherent plan of actions that aims to create and distribute economic as well as social value.

In so doing, social entrepreneurs will be able to carry out businesses that can potentially improve societal wellbeing without compromising their own.

Is high finance growing a social conscience?

By Sarah Shearman

Growing cohort of financiers embrace ethical investment strategy, known as responsible investing or environmental, social and governance investing

Financiers who turnaround companies by injecting them with capital are increasingly considering the environmental and social impact of their investments, according to a survey published today by consulting firm PwC.

The survey found a growing cohort of these financiers, called private equity firms, have embraced this ethical investment strategy, known as responsible investing or envi-

ronmental, social and governance (ESG) investing.

For a long time, responsible investing was a niche strategy within finance. But increasingly investors are waking up to the fact that they can do good as well as achieving financial returns.

PwC polled 162 finance companies from 35 countries, including 145 private equity companies, for its fourth Private Equity Responsible Investment Survey.

It found 91 per cent of respondents have adopted or are developing responsible investment policies, up from 80 per cent in 2013.

Meanwhile, 35 per cent of the firms polled have formed in-house teams to ensure their



investments are responsible.

"This is really showing they are taking responsible investment seriously and it is becoming more mainstream," Phil Case, a director at PwC and co-author of the report, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

The survey also showed a growing awareness among financiers of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a series of targets to combat global problems, such as poverty, hunger,

gender inequality and climate change.

According to the survey, 67 per cent of respondents selected development goals to tackle that are relevant for the businesses they invest in. In 2016 - the year after the SDGs launched - just 38 per cent did this.

"What we are seeing in the market, including private equity, is more and more firms hang their sustainability strategies - or ESG strategies - around

the SDGs, so they are being seen as a very useful framework," said Case.

However, he warned that there is scope for financiers to exaggerate their allegiance to the development goals. "Not all firms are taking the SDGs as seriously as others," he said.

The survey showed that human rights and climate change were also high on the agenda for the private equity community.

It found 76 per cent of respondents said they were concerned about human rights issues, such as poor labour practices within supply chains. Meanwhile, 83 per cent are concerned about the impact climate change could have on the businesses they invest in.

Is South Africa facing a Watergate moment?

The damning report into the abuse and plunder of the State Security Agency (SSA) is the latest indictment of the turbulent Jacob Zuma presidency.

Legal brief notes that the high-level panel review report headed by Sydney Mufamadi, a redacted version of which was published by the Presidency on Saturday, found Zuma oversaw the creation of parallel structures within the intelligence service to serve his personal and factional ANC party political interests.

The report indicates that Zuma effectively had his own rogue unit in the country's intelligence agency that spied on activists and NGOs critical of him; created bogus 'social cohesion' media campaigns and attempted to derail President Cyril Ramaphosa's election campaign.

Analyst Adriaan Basson says if there ever was a case to draw compelling comparisons, this is SA's own Watergate scandal. In a News24 column, he points out that just like the Richard Nixon administration used dirty tricks to infiltrate and spy on his opponents.

Zuma, supported by successive Intelligence Ministers in Siyabonga Cwele and David Mahlobo, had his own squad in the SSA to spy, bribe and influence his detractors and opponents.

"In very nice, reportable language, Mufamadi and his colleagues basically find that Zuma could not distinguish between his role as President of SA and former ANC intelligence chief. The criminalisation of the state under Zuma is starkly illustrated by this report. It is not only undemocratic for a President to run a parallel intelligence structure that looks after his interests; it's illegal. And someone must go to jail for this. The purpose of the intelligence services is to safeguard the people of SA against criminal syn-



In very nice, reportable language, Mufamadi and his colleagues basically find that Zuma could not distinguish between his role as President of SA and former ANC intelligence chief

dicates and potential foreign threats." Full analysis on the News24 site

Basson also notes that Zuma responded by threatening the authors of the report that he will expose them as apartheid spies. "This is the same Zuma who has been threatening to 'spill the beans' for the past 15 years. How pathetic," he added.

Zuma tweeted that he had never been asked questions by this committee and that the committee has two well-known apartheid spies. "I've never sold out nor written letters to the SB. I feel nothing when apartheid spies call me corrupt. I hope people are not opening a can of worms which they might regret," Zuma said in the tweet, notes a News24 report. Full report on the News24 site

he Sunday Times says the report confirms in stark detail an illegal and comprehensive intelligence-run attempt to prop up Zuma. Agency spies tried to prevent Ramaphosa's supporters from distributing campaign regalia at the ANC birthday celebrations in Rustenburg in 2016. During the 2016 ANC 8 January statement in Rustenburg, the unit initiated three countering operations to impede the distribution of CR17 regalia, (and) impede transportation of dissident groups from GP (Gauteng), according

to the report. CR17 was Ramaphosa's campaign title in the election against ANC stalwart Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Zuma's favoured candidate.

During the ANC's 2017 manifesto launch in Port Elizabeth, when there were calls for Zuma to step down, the spy unit began a media campaign 'to promote social cohesion'. The Sunday Times says it has learnt that on the eve of the ANC elective conference in 2017, R20m was taken out of the agency. It is suspected the money was used to influence the ANC presidential race.

Letsatsi-Duba said there was 'complete lawlessness and looting' at the agency. The agency became 'extensively embroiled in the politics and factionalism of the ruling party' and that there had been 'naked politicisation of intelligence in recent years'. It said agents often undertook intelligence operations that were unconstitutional and illegal. Full Sunday Times report (subscription needed)

The DA is pushing for SSA head Arthur Fraser's suspension and action against former Cabinet Ministers implicated in the report by the high-level review panel set up by Ramaphosa last year.

A report on The Citizen site notes that political scientist Wayne Duvenage said Ramaphosa's decision to release these findings to the public two months before an election was more of a pushback against Zuma's powerful faction in the party than an attempt to score anti-corruption points with voters.

"I have no doubt the operational centre of state capture and Zuma's power was the intelligence agencies. There is evidence that even now these agencies still support this faction. I think Ramaphosa made the report public not to benefit himself in the election, but to get back at



Former president Jacob Zuma. File photo

the Zuma onslaught within his party and put the Zuma faction on the backfoot, including Fraser, who is at the inner core of that.'

Police Union president Mpho Kwinika said political influence in state intelligence agencies was as ubiquitous as it was impossible to root out, without completely starting over. 'You cannot kill the rot just by firing Fraser. Unless you change the system's framework, there will always be political influence in the intelligence community,' he said. Full report on The Citizen site

In other developments, the SA Federation of Trade Unions (Safu) and Right2Know (R2K) have called for the arrests of those implicated in the report.

Safu said Zuma, Cwele, Mahlobo and Fraser should be arrested for defeating the ends

of justice and 'possibly for treason against the people of this country', notes a TimesLIVE report. Safu said it was not surprised by the panel's findings as some of its leaders had indeed been spied on.

'We call for the immediate arrest of Jacob Zuma, Arthur Fraser, Siyabonga Cwele and David Mahlobo, together with all those who helped them, and (for them to be) charged for defeating the ends of justice, including possibly for treason against the people of this country,' Safu's leader Zwelinzima Vavi said.

R2K said Ramaphosa should implement the recommendations of the panel as soon as possible - including that the controversial Protection of State Information Bill (widely referred to as the Secrecy Bill) should be scrapped.

Agencies

SDGs will end poverty, bring dramatic improvements in quality of life

By Muharram Macatta

Is this goal ambitious? Yes. But it can be achieved. By dedicating ourselves to a human-centric, rights-based approach across all the other 16 sustainable development goals will not only end poverty but also bring dramatic improvements in quality of life, the environment and governance for everyone.

Tanzania is a long way from eradicating poverty and leaving no one behind. What's more, the ruling CCM has been busy making the task harder: Nationally we face the growing challenges presented by extreme economic inequality and climate change - both of which seriously undermine the fight against poverty.

We still firmly believe that the government can eradicate poverty by 2030, but that will require to do things very differently from the MDG period: The first goal in the soon-to-be minted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is quite a curtain-raiser: it calls on the nation to work together to end poverty in all its forms, everywhere.

This intention to eradicate, not just reduce poverty, represents a major leap forward in terms of ambition compared with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and is echoed in the commitment to "leave no one behind".

Governments must make the fight against extreme economic inequality central to their national SDGs strategies - it is a structural cause of so many issues the other goals aim to tackle.

A commitment to progressive policies that redistribute resources to close the extreme inequality gap as well as eradicate poverty would also signal a clear and permanent goodbye to the kinds of policies that have allowed such a growing gap between rich and poor to develop countrywide.

Quality education for all citizens becomes a catalytic force contributing to the turn of the tide of eliminating extreme poverty - in a sustainable way. It is therefore important to invest in education that provides children and youth with relevant theoretical and practical skills.

We would like to focus on how provision of quality education for all



This is an unprecedented percentage and a major achievement resulting from joint efforts since 2005. But the progress has stalled and the remaining out-of-school children are harder to...

citizens can contribute to the overall set of international goals of sustainable development.

As most of us are very aware, the government has in earlier years announced its reinforced focus and investment in education in development. This commitment to education in development is also reflected in the proposed state budget.

"A renewed national effort to achieve good quality, relevant education for all (...) to address education's role in fighting poverty, creating jobs, foster business development, improve health and nutrition, and promote gender equality, peace and democracy".

Let us start by looking at the situation that motivates the renewed focus on education: Nine out of ten children in the country now go to school.

This is an unprecedented percentage and a major achievement resulting from joint efforts since 2005. But the progress has stalled and the remaining out-of-school children are harder to reach.

Many of them live in poverty stricken areas as brutally demonstrated by yesterday's occurrence on a school in Kagera region where a child was killed by an emotional teacher who was consequently found guilty and sentenced to death.

Marginalized families are in the lowest income bracket, they have lower rates of life expectancy, a higher incidence of health problems, including high maternal mortality rates, and they are more poorly nourished than the rest of the population.

But despite all their struggles, parents in the poorest societies of Tanzania wish to invest in their children's education. That is their first priority when they are



asked what it's most important to them. We therefore owe them a school that responds to their expectations - and to the opportunities that comes after completed education.

Education that targets marginalized and poor populations will bring change to many of the systemic factors that have contributed to the delay in poor communities' development.

Education can prevent the transmission of poverty between generations. Education also has documented effect on health, nutrition, economic development and on environmental protection: Sustainable development begins with education.

Let us pay tribute to Norway, as we are informed that it's among the four largest donors to the global partnership for education and has contributed more than 1,4 billion NOK to the partnership since 2002.

Their goal is to reach marginalized groups, and 28 out of 59 countries receiving support through the partnership are fragile states. But now the real work

started. Production is more than manufacturing; it encompasses everything from research and development (R&D) and design, to consumer behaviour and end-of-use cycles. It includes sectors as diverse as automotive, electronics, textiles, healthcare and chemicals, among others.

The world of production is undergoing unprecedented transformation driven by the convergence of technologies such as 3D printing, artificial intelligence, virtual and augmented reality, the internet of things and next-generation robotics providing opportunities for intelligent, flexible, customer-oriented production systems and new business models.

The system initiative on shaping the future of production provides a global, diverse and dynamic platform for leaders to

understand the transformation of production systems, develop new and unique value for their organizations and drive the application of technologies to build more innovative, sustainable and inclusive production systems that benefit all. Fourth Industrial Revolution trends are disrupting long-established business models; growing demand for customized products. Shifts and skill mismatches in production value chains; digitization across every dimension of manufacturing.

A volatile socioeconomic climate marked by protectionism and populism. These trends are transforming the production landscape, and leadership is no exception.

The scale, complexity and urgency of today's challenges are significant. How do leaders balance

Gender quotas helping women parliamentarians rise in numbers

UNITED NATIONS

When the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU), based in Switzerland, released its annual report on the representation of women legislators worldwide, four of the top five countries were from the developing world.

Rwanda led the way with 61.3 percent of the seats held by women in its lower or single house of parliament followed by Cuba (53.2 percent), Bolivia (53.1 percent) and Mexico (48.2 percent).

The fifth place was held by Sweden (47.3 percent), the only Western industrialized country among the top five.

The next five countries in descending order were Grenada, Namibia, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and South Africa, completing the top 10, with the world's largest number of women parliamentarians.

The survey was released to coincide with a two-week long meeting of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), described as one of the largest gatherings of women at the United Nations.

The CSW, which is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women, is scheduled to conclude its current 63rd sessions March 22.

According to the IPU's yearly analysis, the share of women in national parliaments increased by nearly one percentage point last year, from 23.4 per cent in 2017 to 24.3 per cent in 2018.

This 0.9 percentage point increase confirms the continuing rise of women in parliament, at a slightly faster rate of change compared to previous years.

Countries with well-designed gender quotas elected significantly more women to parliament than those without, respectively, 7 points more in single or lower chambers, and 17 points more in upper chambers.

Asked whether the strong performance of developing nations was due to gender quotas, Thomas Fitzsimons, IPU's Director of Communications, told IPS that in the majority of cases, some sort of quota mechanism exists (and in most cases, it is a legal requirement - either in the constitution or in



electoral law).

"But it is also a question of level/target of the quota (30% or 50%) and the enforcement mechanisms in place, plus the political culture in the country that is, open or not, to more women in decision making", he added.

Fitzsimons said six of the 10 countries - Rwanda, Bolivia, Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and South Africa - had "legislated quotas ensuring the election of women in their respective parliaments".

Spain and France have legislated quotas, and this has actually enabled them to increase the number of women in parliament over time.

Norway and New Zealand have no legislated quota but some of the political parties have voluntary quotas.

Despite advances in gender representation in legislative bodies, the track record of women in the executive branches of government - as heads of state or heads of government - remains low.

Speaking to reporters March 8, the President of the UN General Assembly Maria Fernanda Espinosa said cur-

rently only 5% of all Prime Ministers worldwide are female and not more than 5% of Presidents in the world are women.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, said last week that Ethiopians can be proud of the achievement of gender parity in government, as well as their first woman President and first woman Chief Justice.

According to the IPU survey, women parliamentarians in Ethiopia constitute 38.8 percent (212 women out of 547 members) in the lower house of parliament, and 32 percent (49 women out of 153) in the upper house of parliament.

Elsewhere, too, Bachelet said "we continue to make some progress with respect to women's leadership and women's equality".

Last year, she said, a woman was elected Mayor of the capital of Tunisia - in a region where women have the lowest levels of political representation in the world.

IPU President and Mexican MP, Gabriela Cuevas Barron said "More

women in parliament mean better, stronger and more representative democracies that work for all the people."

"The one per cent increase we saw in 2018 represents a small improvement on women's parliamentary representation. This means we are still a long way to achieving global gender parity," she said.

For that reason, "we urge for greater political will in adopting well-designed quotas and electoral systems that eliminate any legal barrier that might be hindering the opportunities for women to enter parliament."

Faiza Mohamed, Regional Director of Equality Now's Africa Office, told IPS while it is good to know that Sub-Saharan Africa made some progress in increasing the number of women parliamentarians across the continent, an average of 23.7 percent in women representation is not good enough.

"It goes to show that we still have a long way to go in enhancing and ensuring that women participate in legislative processes. It is only when we actively and purposely involve women

in the decision making processes that we can advance and safeguard the rights of women and girls in Africa."

Since 2003, she said, Rwanda has held the distinction of being a global leader when it comes to women representation, with an average of 61.3 percent of women parliamentarians.

It is however worrying to note that the 2018 elections recorded a decrease in the proportion of women representatives in the country, she noted.

"African member states must therefore be deliberate in their efforts and put in place systemic measures that will ensure that no country in Africa falls back on the gains that it will have made in increasing women representation anywhere."

She also said that African nations mustn't relent or go slow in their pursuit for the increase of women representation across the board because when women are empowered, entire societies benefit.

"It is however worth noting that although several women lost their seats in Africa, Rwanda remains at the top in the number of women holding parliamentary seats in the world in 2018".

On the other hand, Djibouti doubled the number of women in its parliament following a deliberate action.

Other countries therefore need to emulate the gains Djibouti made and follow Rwanda's example in leading on women's political participation so that Africa's pathway to realizing its commitments under goal 5.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 would be feasible, Mohamed declared.

"Our societies will not enjoy human rights, peace, sustainable and inclusive development if women are excluded from playing an active role in leadership on an equal basis with men," said Hilary Gbedemah of Ghana, Chair of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, addressing a meeting in Geneva last week.

The antidote to strongman politics is women's political empowerment.

While some progress has been made in terms of women's political participation and leadership despite many difficulties and some setbacks, progress in this area needs to be accelerated through specific policy and legal interventions. It is now time to turn talk into action, said Gbedemah.

Agencies

Botswana-Zimbabwe meeting advances regional integration

By Phyllis Johnson

Botswana and Zimbabwe have taken a giant step in advancing regional cooperation and integration at a meeting in late February little noticed by other countries in southern Africa.

When the leaders of the two countries met in Harare, they discussed issues that will have far-reaching benefits for accelerating development in neighbouring countries and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) as a whole.

They agreed to strengthen trade and investment between the two neighbouring countries that share a common border and some common languages, and called for the lifting of sanctions imposed against Zimbabwe by the United States and the European Union.

The agreements signed at this first Bi-National Commission (BNC) between Botswana and Zimbabwe cover geology, mining and metallurgy; energy; science and technology; and diplomatic consultations.

Before this BNC, operational diplomatic relations between the two SADC Member States were rooted in agreements signed in 1982. They also signed a long-awaited extradition treaty. Other discussions included trade, transport routes, conservation and wildlife management.

Zimbabwe and Botswana have different strengths that combine well in these areas, but had cool relations un-

Both countries are members of the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) and they agreed to expand cooperation in the energy sector through various means, including electricity...

der previous administrations, headed by former Presidents Robert Mugabe and Ian Khama, respectively.

President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe and President Mokgweetsi Masisi of Botswana are both former vice-presidents who have been in the top office for about one year.

Both presidents inherited development challenges that can be addressed more easily in collaboration with the other and in the context of regional integration.

The two countries are at the hub of the SADC region of 16 member states, and both are landlocked, relying on other neighbours for access to transport routes and seaports.

This meeting that is critical to regional development will be noticed in South Africa where President Cyril Ramaphosa is preparing for a similar bilateral meeting in Harare on 12 March.

In a major breakthrough, Zimbabwe and Botswana have agreed that Zim-

babwe diamonds will go to Botswana for processing, cleaning, polishing and marketing, rather than sending raw diamonds to Europe, to Antwerp in Belgium and other places.

The Diamond Trading Company in Gaborone, Botswana has facilities that are second to none in the world, and it is regarded as a leading global hub for sorting and valuation. This cooperation will start immediately with exchange of experts and officials to assess and develop the process.

Both countries are members of the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) and they agreed to expand cooperation in the energy sector through various means, including electricity, coal, fuel and other aspects.

Both countries have massive deposits of coal and this extraction requires heavy transport and port facilities. Therefore, President Masisi spoke of the need to resuscitate Zimbabwe's southern railway line that goes through Chicalualua to Maputo in Mozambique, and there are plans for the link to extend to a new coal port to be built further south of Maputo.

A tripartite agreement signed by the three governments two years ago committed to share the cost of the US\$600 million Port Techobanine Heavy Haul Rail Project to develop a deepwater coal port south of Maputo for delivery of coal from northern Botswana and Zimbabwe, a distance of about 1800 kilometres. The railway goes to Bulawayo in Zimbabwe and can feed into the rail network from there to Francistown in Botswana, which can be further de-



Botswana's President Mokgweetsi Masisi and Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa. File photo

veloped later to the port of Walvis Bay, thus fulfilling the dream of a railway line that runs from coast to coast.

Transport routes were a key regional issues discussed by the two Presidents who, in addition to the southern route, talked about their collaboration with Zambia in building the new Kazungula bridge across the Zambezi river to carry traffic to northern ports via the North-South Corridor.

President Mnangagwa brought Zimbabwe into the joint Kazungula Bridge initiative that replaces a ferry across

the Zambezi River to Zambia, at the point where the three countries meet.

The two neighbours also signed agreements on Diplomatic Consultations, and on the Rules and Procedures that will guide their engagement at top level, and they agreed to meet annually.

Botswana extended a one billion pula line of credit to be taken up by the private sector, who cannot access capital from hostile western funders, due to sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe.

They agreed to convene a joint business forum on the sidelines of future

BNC meetings.

A Zimbabwe-Botswana Business Forum will first be held during the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair which takes place at the end of April in Bulawayo, which is located just 100 kilometres from the border with Botswana.

There was also agreement to strengthen the Zimbabwe economy which still suffers from sanctions imposed by the US and Europe, and the leaders called for the unconditional removal of sanctions against Zimbabwe.

AGENCIES

Women as self-advocates for financial policies and products

By Guardian Reporter

OVER the past decade, the financial sector landscape has radically changed not only in terms of the development of products and services offered, but also due to the evolution of technology.

New digital financial services have not only created access for millions of people, but also provided cost effective distribution channels and a wide range of new business opportunities for existing providers and encouraged new market players from industries such as mobile network operators and fintechs to contribute to market expansion.

In Tanzania, financial inclusion has risen dramatically from 44 per cent in 2009 to 65 per cent in 2017, according to the latest FinScope study. Despite such progress however, like in many developing countries, 10 per cent more men than women are using formal financial services.

From research and studies, the reasons for the gender gap have been identified on both the supply and demand sides. For financial service providers, the key challenges have been to provide appropriate and affordable solutions that meet the needs of women and can cost-effectively meet their business goals.

The rise of mobile phone ownership and the evolution of technology have had a great impact in overcoming distribution barriers, but many challenges on the demand side are not being overcome.

For many women, continuing social, cultural and economic norms, together with lack of formal education, literacy, numeracy, income, property and mobile phone ownership, restrict their ability to

make informed decisions about their financial activities, provide required collateral documentation required by registration regulations and take advantage of new products and services offered in the digital space.

How can women self-advocate for financial products and services? It is clear that women in Tanzania represent a significant untapped market for financial services and products.

The FinScope Tanzania 2017 study shows that women take responsibility for the livelihoods, household resilience and wealth of their families and communities and many would like to start or invest in business.

Due to the challenges they face in accessing formal services, the study shows too that many women are relying on the informal financial sector and in fact over half save at home, a quarter use community savings groups and over 60 per cent borrow from family and friends. In addition, even with low mobile phone ownership, over 5 per cent receive funds through mobile money.

For women to become self-advocates for financial products and services, they need appropriate mechanisms and space to voice to their needs and challenges so that financial service providers can understand and develop products that meet both these needs and commercial objectives.

The government of Tanzania has put women's financial inclusion at the heart of its National Financial Inclusion agenda and is working to create an enabling environment that reduces legal and regulatory restrictions and, through the National Financial Education Framework, provide financial

education and literacy programmes to increase women's knowledge and understanding of financial products and services to enable them to make informed decisions and to address concerns with providers.

On a community level, many women are deriving value from community based informal financial services, mainly through savings groups.

The value for women is that the structure is simple and transparent and, as many members are women, social and cultural norms have been broken down and knowledge is widely shared.

As more women see the benefits of financial services in their day-to-day lives, gain understanding and appreciation of the positive impact that they can make on their lives, they will, over time, have sufficient confidence and trust to take up formal services which offer more options and security.

Word of mouth is a strong advocate for taking new risks and, as women have encouraged others to join informal schemes in the past, women that have successfully taken up formal financial services need to share their experiences with others to encourage them to do the same.

Women's participation in the financial sector is crucial for the future of their families and communities.

With support of increased knowledge and understanding of the value of financial services in their lives, the voice of this significant untapped market has the potential to make positive change to the financial sector by providing new demand for customer-led, innovative and affordable solutions which can contribute to Tanzania's economic growth.

Dodoma City surveying: Nzuguni ward late in payments



Employees of Global Grid (T) Ltd survey and map land in Dodoma city's Nzuguni ward recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Quarter buildings in Dodoma City will be formalised by using a consensus procedure between residents and a company which is handling the surveying and mapping of city suburbs.

Speaking with residents, the manager of Global Grid (T) Ltd, Khalid Helbariki said the project has reached the formalisation stage, a stage of arranging the road infrastructure and expansion of social services. Professionally it is the preparation of drawings of town planning, after which it is surveying and erecting beacons, and lastly it is for the government to give title deeds.

The contractor has promised that if people increase the speed of paying the costs of surveying, up to June the company will complete the task.

The contractor has requested for cooperation with residents through

neighbourhood committees, so as to execute their duties according to the contract entered between residents and the company that residents will pay to the contractor step by step so as to complete the work.

Global Grid (T) Ltd, formalising the Nzuguni ward, is upbeat that the project will be executed professionally and be completed on time.

There is a challenge of payments delay, which makes the working environment difficult, the manager said.

Due to this situation, the residents' committee needs to speed up the payments to make sure that the project is completed on time and is done efficiently, he said.

The company, with a number of surveyors on the site, says the survey will take note of public assets and those of the private sector.

For their part, residents have commended the efficiency and efforts of

the contractor in the execution of the job, and displaying advanced equipment for the task.

Nzuguni ward councillor Aloyce Luhaga admitted that there is delay in payments, promising to mobilise residents to make timely payments as envisaged in agreement with the company. Dodoma City director Godwin Kunambi said that the city authorities are working with private companies to survey areas that are legally recognized, which is likely to prevent land conflicts.

Residents need to cooperate with the contractor through their committee, he emphasised.

Dodoma Regional Commissioner Dr. Binlith Mahenge has directed the city authorities to supervise the surveying exercise to make sure that the town planning and surveying exercise follows the country's laws and city by-laws.

Tanzanian farmers promised to expect turnaround in their seaweed business

JOHANNESBURG

TANZANIAN farmers have been promised to expect a bright future in the seaweed business.

This announcement was made by the Trade and Industries Deputy Minister, Hassan Hafidh, adding that plans were already underway between the government and experts from Indonesia to keep this promise.

"After a study which involved Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), and The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indonesia farm, a move to another step," said Hafidh.

The Deputy Minister was responding to questions from Members of Parliament led by Jaku Hashim Ayoub, who questioned the development of seaweed farming including value addition.

Factories that process seaweed are set to be established by the Zanzibar State Trade Corporation (ZSTC) in collaboration with Indonesia's Ocean Fresh and Kappa Carrageenan Nusantara (KNC).

According to Daily News, these

organisations were currently working on a business plan.

"The expected joint seaweed factory joint project will use sophisticated technology to produce different commodities from seaweed,

"Soon the Permanent Secretary (PS) in the Ministry of Trade and Marketing will lead a delegation to Indonesia on a mission to finalise an agreement with Indonesian companies," added Hafidh.

He further noted that more than 23 000 farmers who grow spinosum and Cottonii would be happy soon.



Holanda Chipeta (2nd-L), chairperson of Mema entrepreneurs group of Msalato in Dodoma Region, makes a briefing on their activities at an exhibition held yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

African Development Bank starts a month of celebrations relating to women's entrepreneurship awards

ABIDJAN

CONTINUING the spirit of International Women's Day, the African Development Bank (AfDB) is promoting women's entrepreneurship and innovation across the continent

"The aim is to increase the number of women coders and accelerate gender equality and empowerment for women and girls in the digital era. (Image source: JonoErasmus/Adobe Stock)

In Abidjan, more than 100 women entrepreneurs from Cote d'Ivoire assembled at the Bank's headquarters for a closing ceremony, following their participation in master classes in business model development and financial planning earlier this year. The classes were organized by the Bank's Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) programme and Entrepreneurium, a foundation specialising in providing business

support and access to finance for women and young entrepreneurs across Africa.

Speaking at the ceremony, Vanessa Mounzar, director for gender, women and civil society at AfDB, said,

"Women play a major role in Africa's communities and economies, yet they face multiple obstacles in accessing the same opportunities as men."

Throughout the month of March, the Bank will roll out various events to acknowledge the importance of strengthening women's skills and building their entrepreneurial capacity.

Strengthening women's digital skills is another of the key priorities of the programme. On 25 March 2019, the Bank will launch the first all-women training group of the Coding for Employment Program in Nigeria, set up to increase the number of women coders and accelerate gender equality

and empowerment for women and girls in the digital era.

Across Africa, many women and girls continue to face significant barriers to accessing and using technology. This often results in low digital literacy and loss of economic opportunities for women.

The Bank's Coding for Employment programme will equip 100 women and girls between the ages of 15 and 35 with the necessary Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills, as well as soft skills, to secure future employment opportunities.

Finally, the Bank will organise a workshop on 28-29 March 2019 in South Africa on affirmative procurement for women, to explore how to develop mechanisms to help women-led and women-run enterprises access Bank procurement contracts.

In South Sudan, a 'war on civilians' rages six months after a fragile peace agreement

YEI

A fragile peace deal signed in September brought a few months of relief as fighting largely subsided across the country. However, since the beginning of the year violence has escalated between government forces and parties who refuse to accept the agreement - some of them calling it, according to rebel leader Thomas Cirillo, a "betrayal" of the South Sudanese people.

Reports of abductions, ambush, rape, the burning and looting of property, and the killing of civilians have become rife in the last two months.

Thousands of people are now displaced in Central Equatoria in what a February report from the South Sudan Civil Society Forum referred to as a "war on civilians". Thousands more have fled across the border into the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo.

Increased violence is also hindering the ability of aid groups to access vulnerable people, with many hiding in approximately 44 different areas in the forest and an estimated 23,000 people around the Central Equatoria town of Yei unreachable, according to the UN.

"Until all parties stop armed conflict and adhere to the ceasefire, access is going to be compromised because it's going to be too dangerous for humanitarians and beneficiaries to deliver and receive humanitarian assistance," said Sarah Vuylsteke, up until recently the deputy head of access for the World Food Programme in South Sudan.

Danger and hunger

In the most dangerous country in the world for humanitarians, 20 percent of security incidents against aid workers have taken place in Central Equatoria. Humanitarians are concerned that if fight-

ing continues the situation will get worse, especially when it comes to food security.

Across South Sudan, more than six million people face extreme hunger, 45,000 of which are in catastrophe at risk of starvation, according to a report released in February by the UN and South Sudanese government.

For its part, South Sudan's government has downplayed the uptick in violence, insisting that the population influx in Yei is not a result of fighting but rather people's desire to return home.

"It's a sign of peace that people are coming back," said Yousto Baba Lukudu, deputy governor of Yei River state. In February, government officials in Yei hosted a peace rally in its central square, while in stark contrast across town thousands of desperate and hungry recently displaced people lined up to register for food aid.

Several locals in Yei told IRIN that the government is trying to cover up the violence in order to appear in control and not be accused of violating the ceasefire.

Almost six months into South Sudan's peace deal, which has been riddled with delays, missed deadlines and violations, the momentum has stalled and the international community's patience is fraying.

In a statement last month, the US, the UK, and Norway - the so-called troika, which helped usher South Sudan to independence in 2011 - said it was "alarmed" at the escalating fighting around Yei and concerned that if the situation continues any progress made in implementing the peace agreement could be "irrevocably set back".

The Catholic Bishops of South Sudan released a statement last month saying they were extremely concerned about the state of the peace deal, noting that all parties



“If someone goes from the village to town, the [rebels] say you're working for intelligence. If you go from town to the village...

were either still involved in active fighting or preparations for war. "There is a sense of hopelessness that this agreement, like so many before it, will not succeed," it said.

"I have nothing"

On a trip to Central Equatoria at the end of February, IRIN spoke with dozens of civilians who blamed both the government and the rebels for the deteriorating situation.

Joseph Yokuei, 65, had a wound

on the back of his head from when armed men he identified as government soldiers beat, robbed, and detained him near the town of Yei.

He was walking from his farm, 24 kilometres out of town, trying to bring food to his family when he was accosted along with 10 other people. "I have nothing now," he said.

A month earlier, the family fled to Yei after government tanks attacked their village of Mukaya in search of rebels. They were among the hundreds of displaced people who sought refuge in an overcrowded church in Yei, where they were left for weeks without any food.

Trapped between government forces and rebel fighters belonging to the National Salvation Front, or NAS - one of the non-signatory parties to South Sudan's latest peace deal - almost 10,000 people now take refuge in five makeshift dis-

Once known as the country's peaceful breadbasket, today the backdrop of rolling hills in South Sudan's Equatoria region is contrasted by a string of ghost towns, abandoned shops, dilapidated houses, and roads littered with bullets and burnt-out cars. File photo

placement sites on the outskirts of Yei.

Thousands more have escaped to the bush. While government forces try to weed out rebels from within communities, civilians are bearing the brunt of the fighting, caught between warring parties with little access to food, shelter, or medicine.

"It's becoming very hard to survive out here," said James Guer, also recently displaced.

"If someone goes from the village to town, the [rebels] say you're working for intelligence. If you go from town to the village, the government says you're a rebel. I don't trust anyone with a gun."

Seated in a plastic chair under a tree in Wuluturu, a neighbourhood on the edge of town where displaced people are living in abandoned houses, the community leader said he doesn't care who's in charge, he just wants to feel protected and free. Last month in the town of Morsak

he said he found five bodies thrown into a toilet, and a young woman with her throat slit lying dead on the ground beside them.

Scrambled response

The fighting is also preventing people in and around Yei from cultivating their lands. Terrified civilians can't access their land for fear of being killed or abducted by armed men. Since the Equatorias are known as South Sudan's green belt, producing food for the rest of the country, there hasn't been a robust emergency response in place when it comes to food aid.

"There are only small food stocks in Yei," explained Dara Elisha, programme manager for the United Methodist Committee on Relief, an international aid group operating in town. "Civilians and humanitarians are not equipped to deal with emergency here."

WFP conducted a registration last month for displaced people and started an emergency food distribution. So far 635 metric tonnes has been delivered, enough to last 9,000 people for one month, according to a spokesman for the UN's food agency.

Access constraints are also raising fears regarding the spread of Ebola from Congo. Central Equatoria borders both Congo and Uganda, and the International Organisation for Migration has only been able to set up eight out of 18 border screening sites due to instability. Two places along the Congolese border are completely inaccessible.

Congo's Ebola outbreak is the second deadliest in history and has been ongoing for more than six months in the country's conflict-prone east. Responders face constant security threats, making it hard to get the virus under control in a busy region with porous borders.

"We are concerned," said Stuart Vallis, IOM's Ebola preparedness coordinator in Yei. **IRIN**

In militarised Mali, humanitarian responders say funding gaps leaving the displaced dying

Two weeks before, an armed group burned down the 41-year-old farmer's village, destroying his granaries. The sack of rice and cooking oil he received, courtesy of the World Food Programme, will have to last and feed his entire family of nine.

The Guindos are among the latest to flee conflict in central and northern Mali, where inter-communal violence, attacks by extremist groups, and counter-terrorism operations are triggering a worsening humanitarian crisis in the West African nation.

As needs rise, aid groups say their ability to respond is being hamstrung by an increasingly militarised security landscape marked by confusion between military and humanitarian actors, shifting conflict dynamics, and funding gaps that are leaving displaced people like Guindo sick and starving.

The International NGO Safety Organisation, or INSO, recorded 216 security incidents affecting humanitarians in Mali last year. Since 2016, the organisation said 10 aid workers have been killed, 31 injured, and 19 kidnapped.

After seven years of conflict, some 3.2 million people will need humanitarian assistance in 2019, the UN's emergency aid coordination body OCHA said. More than 123,000 people are now internally displaced across the country - three times as many as January last year.

According to the Armed Conflict



Location and Event Data Project, or ACLED, 2018 saw the highest civilian death toll in Mali since the eruption of conflict in 2012.

"The needs are huge," said Hassane Hamadou, Mali country director at the Norwegian Refugee Council.

Militarised space

Since a 2013 French-led military intervention that dislodged Islamist groups from key towns in northern Mali, the country has seen a

flurry of security interventions including: a UN peacekeeping mission known as MINUSMA, a French counter-terrorism force called Operation Barkhane, an EU military training mission and troops from five Sahelian states known as the G5 Sahel joint force, or FC-G5S.

These international forces as well as the Malian army have been accused of stoking local conflicts, abuses against civilians, and failing to contain the violence.

Islamist groups have reassembled in Mali's desert north, expanded into the centre, and the violence has spilled over into neighbouring Niger and Burkina Faso.

Military forces have faced repeated attacks by Islamist groups, with more peacekeepers killed in Mali than any other active mission. Last month, three Guinean peacekeepers were killed during an attack on their vehicle in Siby, close to the capital, Bamako.

In this increasingly crowded security

landscape, humanitarians say attacks are creating risks for their staff in the field, who operate in close proximity to military forces. To mitigate the danger, aid programmes are frequently reduced or even suspended when military operations begin.

"If a military force moves to a community, the armed groups follow," said Tidiane Fall, Mali country director at Action Against Hunger.

"There is a conflict between the military forces and radical armed groups, who lay improvised explosive devices on the

road. Sometimes we have to take the same roads."

NGOs say the problem is compounded by poor coordination between humanitarian organisations, the UN peacekeepers, and other military actors. Dialogue between these groups is considered essential in emergency contexts to ensure military forces respect humanitarian activities and principles.

But aid groups in Mali say military operations often come as surprise, and that their demand for "humanitarian space" is regularly ignored by officials from both MINUSMA and Operation Barkhane amid an atmosphere one senior aid worker described as "confrontational" and "unproductive".

"We tell them not to do operations because we have displaced populations and need to respond to their needs," said the aid worker, who asked not to be named. "When we start to respond, they start doing military operations, forcing us to stop."

Jeopardising access

To avoid attacks by extremists and other rebel groups, NGOs say they must carefully explain humanitarian principles of independence and neutrality to local communities. But these efforts are being hindered by military actors "using humanitarian interventions to build military acceptance," said Jamal Mrrouch, head of mission at Médecins Sans Frontières.

MINUSMA's Quick Impact Projects, for example, include short-term interventions in healthcare, education, and food security among others area, while Operation Barkhane is also involved in a number humanitarian activities.

Aid groups say these efforts to win "hearts and minds" increase the likelihood of association between military forces - who are party to the Mali conflict - and humanitarian actors, leaving staff in the field vulnerable to attacks.

AGENCIES



Thursday 14 March 2019

Italy's Eni makes major oil discovery in Angola

LUANDA

Italian company Eni said on Wednesday it had made a major oil discovery in Angola that would boost its credentials as one of the most successful foreign oil producers in Africa in recent years.

The find is Angola's largest offshore discovery in years and may help Africa's second-biggest crude producer avoid a steep decline in output due to the ageing of its other fields.

Oil accounts for 95 per cent of exports and around 70 per cent of revenues, and the government has recently offered better fiscal terms and more collaboration to international energy firms in an effort to help its mostly impoverished population.

Eni said its new Agogo prospect in Angola's deep waters contained between 450 million and 650 million barrels of light oil with potential for further upside. Data from the exploration well pointed to a production capacity of more than 20,000 barrels of oil per day, it said.

"This is a valuable find of light, sweet oil which they will be able to fast-track to meet increasing demand in 2020-2021," Santander oil analyst Jason Kenney said. Eni, which has been in Angola since 1980, will be operator at the field with a stake of 36.8 per cent, the same as Angola's state-owned Sonangol. SSI Fifteen has 26.3 per cent.

Angola, a member of Opec, is a key location for the Italian state-controlled major. The company currently produces around 155,000 barrels of equity oil equivalent per day in the African nation.

Eni, which in 2018 produced 1.85 million barrels per day, was struggling to replace reserves a decade ago and lost credibility over its management of the huge Kashagan oilfield in Kazakhstan, according to Reuters.

But giant gas finds at Mamba in Mozambique and Zohr in Egypt have since given it the strongest discovery record in the industry. The major, which produces more than half its oil and gas in Africa, has made a move to diversify away from the continent by clinching a series of deals in the Arabian Gulf region. It is set to uncover its new strategy plan to 2022 on Friday.

The find comes as Angola is set to ship the least crude oil in at least 11 years in April, suggesting structural issues afflicting the nation's production are increasingly hurting its biggest source of export revenue.

Exports will drop to 1.31 million barrels a day in April, the smallest outflow since at least March 2008, according to copies of loading programmes seen by Bloomberg.

Angola, Africa's second-largest producer, is among Opec members participating in a global pact to trim production. Even if they're not perfectly correlated, exports often offer clues about how much a country might be pumping. The nation pledged a curb of 47,000 barrels a day from October, but its April loadings will drop by far more than that.

The decrease in outflows from the country isn't entirely unexpected. The International Energy Agency, an adviser to oil-producing nations, warned a year ago that a slump in output would only deepen due to ageing fields and a lack of interest from foreign investors.

"It does seem to reflect the issue of ageing fields for the Angolan oil industry," said Warren Patterson, head of commodities strategy at ING Bank in Amsterdam. "If we cast our minds back to the previous Opec deal, Angola over-complied with the deal, and that certainly was not out of choice, but more an issue of maturing fields."

Whether deliberate or involuntary, the decline from Angola would serve as a boost to the wider curbs by Opec and its allies as they attempt to avert a glut of crude. While Saudi Arabia has led the way with supply restrictions, conformity among some other participants in the pact has been less consistent.

Angola's exports are down by almost 200,000 barrels a day compared with October, its starting point for curbs under the Opec+ accord.

Dar red beans farmers excited with access to lucrative European market

Beatrice Philemon

SMALL and medium scale farmers producing red kidney beans will soon start earning millions of shillings after gaining access to European market with a quota of 500,000 metric tons per annum.

Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) Country Manager, Ikunda Terry said in Dar es Salaam this week that the European export market will earn local farmers between 2.5 and 5 Euros per kilogram. He said European consumers also want locally grown dry beans.

"As we all know the European market is quality sensitive as such local farmers need to use modern crop husbandry practices to meet consumer taste," said Terry who advised the farmers to use hybrid seeds developed by local research institutions but also listen to extension officers.

"We are very glad to secure a big market for red kidney beans in Europe but the main challenge is insects that destroy beans hence the need to safeguard the crop," Terry added.

The EAGC Country Manager further noted that European consumers want organic beans the need for farmers to ensure that the product is protected from contamination by other seeds in the market.

"As EAGC we have faith and confidence in Tanzanian high qualified and experienced researchers who have developed hybrid seeds but also train farmers how to control insects and diseases that attack beans," he noted.

He also advised that because of the nature of the European export market,



A farmer displays matured French beans earmarked for the European export market. File photo.

farmers should also work with agro dealers and engage business development consulting firms and university academics who will provide innovative technologies needed by high end markets.

"The use of information communication technology is crucial to know the markets and prices of commodities globally," he stressed.

Local farmers are already exploiting the pulses and cereals global market with exports to India, China and other Asian countries where demand has

been increasing. The farmers are also exporting rice and maize to neighbouring countries while a lucrative cassava market has been secured in China thanks to EAGC support.

European imports of peas have increased since 2013 from

24,000 to over 30,000 tons last year which is roughly 10 percent of the total import of leguminous vegetables. Nearly all beans and pea imports from non-European countries came from developing countries including Guatemala, Zimbabwe and Kenya.

Dar ICT eggheads conquer Huawei tech savvy world

By The Banker Reporter

TANZANIA tech savvy eggheads were paired at the peak with their peers to emerge winners of Huawei's global ICT competition. One of the students, Emanuel Chaula was overjoyed and promises nothing but more global glory when the team heads to China for this year competition involving 40 countries.

"We worked hard as a team because we wanted to seize the opportunity to get to travel to China to compete in the global finals," said Chaula after being named as winners at a ceremony in Johannesburg, South Africa held earlier this week.

"We really want to show Africa and

the world that Tanzania is an up-and-coming ICT player, and we want to be a part of that growth in our country. We will study and practise for the finals in China as we are going there to win," Chaula bragged.

The competition covered the latest ICT technologies, such as cloud computing, artificial intelligence, mobile networks and big data. Almost 30 000 students from over 100 universities in Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Angola, South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia, Botswana and Mauritius participated.

Students from another East Africa nation, Kenya rocked horns with Angola to emerge as runners up who will together travel to China for the finals, which will see 40 teams from around the world compete for the championship title.

At the finals, held this weekend in Johannesburg, it came down to 42 students in 14 teams. They sat for theory and practical examinations at the finals at Huawei's regional headquarters, in Woodmead, Johannesburg.

Speaking at the final award-giving presentation, Xue Man, Vice-President of Huawei, said: "Huawei understands the value of a good talent ecosystem, which is the foundation for a smart future. This ICT Competition is part of our innovative initiatives to support that and promote ICT skills. We believe that this event will inspire more students' interest in ICT learning in Africa; it provides them with a world-class stage to showcase themselves and consolidate the vital ICT needed for Africa's development"

Alfred Cheruiyot, a representative from Kenya Ministry of Education, praised Huawei's actions to raise



Dar's winning ICT team on arrival at Julius Nyerere International Airport earlier this week. File photo.

skills and partner with national governments and local tertiary institutions to strengthen the skills pool in ICT.

"We are fully aware how important this is for our students to get good jobs and to become successful entrepreneurs. We are fully aware that this will drive our economy forward for many years to come if we can get it right," Cheruiyot told the gathering.

The Huawei ICT Competition is a global ICT talent competition exchange event, which is aimed at the Huawei Authorized Information and Network Technology College (Huawei ICT Academy) and related universities. Since the first Huawei ICT Competition, held in 2015, the number of participants in the competition has grown exponentially and has become one of the



We are fully aware how important this is for our students to get good jobs and to become successful entrepreneurs. We are fully aware that this will drive our economy forward for many years to come if we can get it right

largest ICT events in the world.

The 2018/19 event has attracted more than 1,000 universities in more than 50 countries around the world, under the slogan: "Connection, Glory and Future". The total number of

students participating globally was 80,000 students, including 28,000 students from southern Africa.

During the competition, through the road show, training, lectures and other special activities, the latest technology, information and industry trends are passed on to students and practitioners. The focus is to bridge the gap between theoretical study and practical experience, to get students more ready to join the job market and increase their competitiveness.

The winners of the sub-Saharan Africa region will go to China in May to participate in the global finals in Shenzhen, China. There they will compete with the 22 winners from other parts of the world for the global finals.



TPB Bank PI Board Chairman, Dr Edmund Mndolwa (C) with the bank's CEO, Sabasaba Moshingi (2nd R) as a symbol to loans to be given to members of the group in Dar es Salaam this week. Right is the bank's Senior Legal Manager, Marydensia Katemana and the fishermen association Secretary, Lulu Shinde. Photo: Guardian Photographer.

After winning Zayed Sustainability Prize, Sanku named most innovative project

By The Banker Reporter

AN innovative food fortification project, Sanku has been named on US based Fast Company magazine's annual list of The World's 50 most innovative companies.

In a statement, US based Fast Company said its prestigious 2019 list includes the most notable global innovations of the year with impacts made on business, industry, and culture.

"Fast Company has distinguished Sanku for our use of game changing technology to combat malnutrition, improving the lives of over one million people," the statement stated. The statement said Sanku which is working in partnership with Vodafone, has already brought the Internet of Things to 200 remote flour mills (and soon 3000) across Tanzania, enabling them to sustainably add life saving nutrients to the food millions of people eat every day.

"We join an impressive group of 2019 selectees, including Alibaba, Apple, Rocket Lab, and African Leadership



Ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed (L) handing over the Zayed Sustainability Award to Sanku CEO, Felix Brooks

University," said Sanku.

Sanku which won the prestigious Zayed Sustainability Prize last January taking home US\$ 600,000 is targeting to feed four million people this year. Last February, the project produced its one millionth bag of fortified flour.

"It happened on February 5th at Mama Lina's mill in Tanzania, so we commemorated the occasion with a personalized golden bag to represent the milestone and amazing work of all our millers. Flour bags are a critical part of our sustainable model, enabling millers to cost-effectively fortify food with lifesaving nutrients for millions of people," the project said in a brief statement.

Speaking in Dubai after receiving the Zayed Award from Ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed, Sanku CEO Felix Brooks said their target this year is to feed four million people with the fortified

flour.

According to organizers, The Zayed Sustainability Prize received 2,100 applications from 130 countries this year which saw Sanku, which was the sole food category winner for improving the lives of over one million people in Africa, win it.

The prize, which is the UAE's pioneering global award in sustainability, honoured leaders whose work and spirit of enterprise has resulted in working solutions across communities around the world.

Their solutions addressed real-life social, environmental, health and economic challenges, as well as reflected the aspirations of a new generation of innovators within a continent that has one of the world's biggest youth populations, the organizers said.

Another winner was Bboxx whose headquarters is based in

London but bases its operation in Rwanda, won in the Energy Category with its plug-and-play solar device offering users an on-grid experience in an off-grid setting.

Finally, Mauritian based The African Leadership Academy won in the Global High Schools Category with its solution of a proposed creation of a water treatment machine called "The living machine," a device designed to treat greywater for use in greenhouses. The proposed solution also looks to implement solar power that will cut electricity costs and increase savings to fund additional renewable energy projects, across the continent.

Notably, to-date, the Zayed Sustainability Prize has awarded 66 winners who have directly and indirectly impacted the lives of over 318 million people, the Dubai based organizers added in their statement.

Business review pays off big time for MTN

JOHANNESBURG

Mobile network operator MTN increased its subscriber base by 16 million to 233 million, and its active data users increased by 10 million to 79 million and its active mobile money subscriber base is at 27 million, according to its financial results for the year ended December 2018.

The company has experienced several challenges to the market including the postponement of MTN's US\$2-billion tax-related court case with Nigeria's attorney general, Turkcell's ongoing US\$4.2-billion lawsuit, engagement with the Independent Communications Authority of SA's (ICASA's) Complaints and Compliance Committee (CCC) over a charge related to MTN's Social Bundle Amendment - WhatsApp monthly IGB, and MTN Uganda CEO Wim Vanhelleputte having been deported from the country.

The company said it overcame several regulatory headwinds in 2018, the most material of which was the Central Bank Central Bank of Nigeria dispute on historical dividend repatriations.

"This was resolved and MTN announced in December

2018 that they had agreed to implement a notional reversal of the 2008 private placement and consequently made a resolution payment of \$53 million. The group is committed to further enhancing its risk management and stakeholder management processes," the company stated.

Increased service revenue MTN said it had met its medium-term targets and accelerated service revenue growth, and recorded a 10.7% constant currency increase in service revenue to R125.4 billion.

According to MTN its Group Ebitda rose more than 15% and reported headline earnings per share (HEPS) increased to 337 cents from 182 cents in 2017. Adjusting for once-off items HEPS would have been 565 cents per share. The total full year dividend of 500 cents is well covered and a final dividend of 325 cents has been declared.

The company said it conducted an extensive review of its portfolio "to reduce risk, improve returns and simplify MTN" and this review covered subsidiary companies, associates and its investments in e-commerce investments and tower companies.

"The group has R40 billion tied

up in the value of the e-commerce and tower company investments and has announced that they are not viewed as long-term strategic assets of the group and will be monetised over time."

"The group has committed to the portfolio review realising more than R15 billion over the next 3 years excluding any proceeds from its R23 billion position in IHS." MTN also announced that it would be disposing of its associate in Botswana, Mascom, for US\$300-million where its lack of control position and MTN branding meant that the group is not able to execute on its BRIGHT strategy.

The group stabilised its gearing, bringing the holding company leverage down to 2.3 times at December 2018 from 2.9 times at June 2018 and within the target range of 2.0 to 2.5 times. The group's overall gearing moderated to 1.3x.

Group CFO Ralph Mupita added, "We have made good progress to improve the holding company leverage bringing it within the medium-term guidance range we set out. Proceeds we receive from the asset realisation program will support efforts to further reduce debt and de-lever

the holding company balance sheet. We believe the holding company leverage is appropriate, and we can well manage the debt and deliver on our 500 cents progressive dividend policy in the future."

Rob Shuter, MTN's group president and CEO said: "We see significant opportunity to grow subscribers and voice revenue as we also execute on the large mobile data opportunity. We are also extending our BRIGHT strategy to build MTN into a digital operator with a major focus on the FinTech, digital, enterprise and wholesale business areas."

"Key focus areas for 2019 are the launch of our own music streaming and instant messaging applications and extending MTN mobile money from 14 to 18 countries through launches in South Africa, Nigeria, Afghanistan and Sudan," Shuter continued.

Considering the improved performance in 2018 and its growth plans, the group revised its guidance to investors upwards, targeting double-digit growth in service revenue, improved profit margins and capex efficiency and a new target to drive return on equity from 11% to over 20% in the next three to five years.

NECA commends CBN over forex ban on textile imports

LAGOS

The Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association has commended the Central Bank of Nigeria for reportedly banning the sale of forex to importers of textile materials.

The Director-General, NECA, Mr Timothy Olawale, made this commendation in a statement he released in Lagos on Friday, a copy of which was made available to our correspondent.

He said the decision had the potential of breathing life into the textile industry in Nigeria, adding that the over \$4bn expended on the importation of textile materials only served to deprive other critical sectors the much needed foreign exchange.

He, however, urged the government to go a step further by effectively checking the activities of smugglers who might circumvent the government's effort aimed at reviving the nation's moribund textile industry.

He said, "The decision of the Central Bank of Nigeria to stop the sale of forex to importers of textile materials is a welcome development. This decision has the potential of breathing life to the textile industry in Nigeria. The over \$4bn expended on the importation of textile materials only serves to deprive other critical sectors the much needed foreign exchange."

Reflecting on the impact of the textile industry in the past years, Olawale noted that it provided employment to 25 per cent of workers

in the manufacturing sector, with the first textile mill established in 1956.

He said, "The first modern textile mill in Nigeria, Kaduna Textile Mill, was established in 1956 in Kaduna, northern Nigeria and between then and 1987, there were 37 textile firms in the country, operating about 716,000 spindles and 17,541 looms.

"This period was indeed, the glorious era of the textile industry. With an annual growth rate of 65 per cent between 1985 and 1991, while employing about 25 per cent of workers in the manufacturing sector, the textile industry, then, could be called the pride of Nigeria.

"Efforts should not be spared in policing our borders. The porous nature of the borders has made smuggling a lucrative enterprise and this could derail the laudable effort of the CBN in supporting the textile industry.

"A coordinated effort by Nigeria Customs Service, Nigeria Immigration Service and other related agencies involved in keeping the borders secure will go a long way in protecting not only the textile industry but the manufacturing industry as a whole."

Olawale added that the organised businesses urged the Federal Government not to relent in its efforts at creating a favourable environment for businesses to thrive, noting that "an Executive Order to reign in 'Regulatory gangsterism' would not be out of place."

Stanbic Bank hosts enterprise conference for SMEs

KAMPALA

Stanbic Bank Uganda on Tuesday hosted its enterprise conference at Hotel Africana in Kampala, under the theme, "Unlocking the Oil and Gas opportunities for local Enterprises" - focused on providing a platform for SMEs to exchange ideas on how they can tap into Uganda's nascent Oil and Gas.

Stephen Segujja, Stanbic Bank Uganda Head Enterprise Banking, speaking at the conference said, "As Uganda becomes an Oil and Gas producing nation, it's important to ensure businesses maximize the opportunities therein."

Uganda's oil and gas sector is expected to attract investments of about USD\$20 billion with about USD\$6 billion expected to be retained into Uganda's economy. Therefore, SMEs are eager to be in this space - which the bank is willing to help.

"It's therefore important to prepare SMEs to help them tap into these opportunities, win contracts and be part of the value chain that is going to deliver first oil," said Stephen. Stephen claimed that SMEs contribute 40%-50% of Uganda's Gross Domestic Product making them engines of growth that account for up to 99% of country's businesses.

According to Stanbic Bank Uganda, there are 250,000 registered SMEs in Uganda. Most of these are informal and lack the tools to keep



Stephen Segujja, Stanbic Bank Uganda Head Enterprise Banking speaking during the enterprise conference in Kampala.

them sustainable. To tackle some of the these problems, the bank, holds the annual conference to address some of the challenges.

The conference brings together entrepreneurs to share experiences on how to grow their businesses and retain sustainability. In addition, to the conference, the bank has a business incubator training for SMEs that equips entrepreneurs with skills needed

to be sustainable.

Tony Otoa, Head of the Stanbic Business Incubator while making his presentation said, "We've been running a training facility for SMEs for a year now that equips them with skills needed to be sustainable while preparing them to participate in the Oil and Gas sector." So far, the program has trained over 500 entrepreneurs from over 150 businesses

benefit from the incubator.

"Many of these have shown impressive growth in terms of finances and compliance while others have expanded operations. This is proof that our local businesses are capable of taking up opportunities in the Oil and Gas sector. Therefore they shouldn't be left out but rather should be empowered," said Tony.

Saudi Arabia says no plans to increase Islamic tax on private sector

RIYADH

Saudi Arabia clarified it has no plans to raise Zakat on the private sector after Bloomberg reported last week that the kingdom was considering to double the rate.

A report on March 6 said that Saudi Arabia was examining the regime to increase the Islamic tax paid by local lenders to as much as 20 per cent, from 10 per cent, as it seeks to boost alternative sources of revenues.

The General Authority of Zakat and Tax on Friday issued a statement on banks' religious levy saying: "The authority wished to clarify that there are no current plans to increase the Zakat levels in the private sector."

The government body said it began public consultation on a draft of Zakat regulations after making some amendments to the content of the regulations.

"All stakeholders have responded positively and stated their comments which the authority has received with interest," the authority said without providing details.

The tax regulator has also concluded settlements with a number of financial institutions to close their pending Zakat positions. Saudi Arabia's banking sector is changing as lenders explore mergers to gain scale by consolidating assets and competing more efficiently. The kingdom's largest lender, National Commercial Bank, in December announced merger talks with Riyad Bank.

The potential deal would follow the combination of HSBC Holdings' affiliate Saudi British Bank and Alawwal, which was backed by Royal Bank of Scotland. Saudi Arabia is the biggest banking market in the six-member economic bloc of GCC.

Monetary Policy influences economic growth and achieve macro

Globaly, Central Banks have various tactics designed to influence the availability and cost of money to achieve macroeconomic objectives like growth, liquidity, consumption and inflation.

A Monetary Policy is a mechanism that Central Banks use to influence the economy. The design to influence the financial system branches out into two categories in the world of economics, Accommodative monetary policy also referred to as expansionary monetary policy and Restrictive monetary policy also referred as, tight monetary policy.

Accommodative monetary policy is a mechanism that loosens credit conditions, lowers rate of interest, increases money supply, potentially increase inflation in a bid to promote economic growth.

Restrictive monetary policy on the other hand, restricts monetary growth by impeding availability of credit, increase rates of interest, reduces money supply, potentially reduces inflation and slows or eliminates economic growth.

Bank of Tanzania's mandate with regards to monetary policy as per section 7 (1) of the Bank of Tanzania Act 2006 states: "The prima-

ry objective of the Bank shall be to formulate, define and implement monetary policy directed to the economic objective of maintaining domestic price stability conducive to a balanced and sustainable growth of the national economy."

Section 7(2) of the Bank of Tanzania Act, 2006 further states that: "Without prejudice to subsection (1), the Bank shall ensure the integrity of the financial system and support the general economic policy of the Government and promote sound monetary, credit and banking conditions conducive to the development of the national economy".

Central Banks have various tools in their arsenal in managing monetary policy. However, the outcome and severity of an action taken varies from country to country given the multi variables at play. Open Market Operations, Reserve requirement and Discount Rate are the three primary tools that influence availability and cost of money.

Open market operations are when Central Banks buy or sell securities. These are bought from or sold to the country's private banks. When the Central Bank buys securities, it adds cash to the banks' reserves that gives them more money to lend.

EMPOWERING YOUR FINANCIAL SUCCESS

By Zainul Chandoo,
Stanbic Bank Tanzania
Head of Treasury



When the Central Bank sells the securities, it places them on the banks' balance sheets and reduces its cash holdings. The bank now has less to lend. A Central Bank buys securities when it wants expansionary monetary policy. It sells them when it executes contractionary monetary policy.

Reserve requirement is the money banks must keep, either in their vaults or at the Central Bank. This requirement is usually regulatory and expressed as percent of customer deposit required to be kept aside.

A low reserve requirement allows banks to

lend more of their deposits. It's expansionary because it creates credit. While a high reserve requirement gives banks less money to loan since a higher percentage of deposit needs to be kept at Central bank. Reserve requirement do not change often because of operational challenges involved.

In March 2017 the BoT lowered the statutory minimum reserve by 2 percent to reach 8 percent, this amendment was made so as to encourage economic growth by increasing the lending capabilities of the banks.

When Central Banks charge its members to

borrow at its discount window, it charges them a discount rate. Since the rate is high, banks only use this if they can't borrow funds from other banks. There is also a stigma attached to this third option, the financial community assumes that any bank that uses the discount window is in trouble. Only a desperate bank that's been rejected by others would use this window.

In August 2018, BoT implemented expansionary monetary policy by slashing their discount rate from 9 percent to 7 percent in an effort to promote credit growth and bolster economic activities within the country.

TOOLS

Support broader macroeconomic objectives by achieving low and stable inflation

- Maintaining appropriate levels of liquidity in the economy
- High level of economic growth

OBJECTIVES

In Tanzania, the monetary policy targets contained in the Monetary Policy Statement are revised during the mid-year review to reflect the updated mac-

roeconomic performance. In 2017/18 Bank of Tanzania aimed at achieving the following monetary policy targets: Annual growth of average reserve money of not more than 10.7 percent; annual growth of broad money supply (M3) of not more than 12 percent; annual growth of private sector credit not exceeding 11.5 percent and; maintaining gross official reserves at levels adequate to cover at least four months of projected imports of goods and services

Monetary policy is hard and is about fine balancing between economic growth and contraction. If loose monetary policy striving to end a recession goes too far, it pushes aggregate demand and triggers inflation. On the other hand if tight monetary policy striving to reduce inflation goes too far, it may push aggregate demand and trigger recession.

In the best of times, it requires a well-informed understanding of the economy and the ability to respond in a timely manner. In less favorable conditions, monetary policy requires near omniscience and the herculean power to stop economic disasters from unfolding.

Sub-Saharan Africa 2nd worst region in mobile gender gap

JOHANNESBURG

Sub-Saharan Africa is the second worst global region when it comes to the mobile gender gap. This is according to the Mobile Gender Gap Report 2019 from GSMA Connected Women, which shows that in Sub-Saharan Africa, women are 15% less likely than men to own a mobile device.

Women in the region are also 41% less likely to use mobile Internet. In fact, 86 million women in Sub-Saharan Africa still remain unconnected.

"Mobile access and use has grown dramatically in LMICs [low- and middle-income countries] in recent years, but not equally. A gender gap in both mobile ownership and mobile Internet use persists across these markets, and is significantly wider in certain regions, particularly South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa," the report says.

It found that women's ownership has increased since 2014 and the number of women who own a mobile phone has risen by over 250 million.

"Over 80% of women in LMICs have a phone, which is amazing, and most women access the Internet on their phone. So it's really changing lives and is the tool that is most accessible but while that's impressive, there's still a very big gender gap," Claire Sibthorpe, head of Connected Women at GSMA, told ITWeb in an interview.

The report's findings are based on the results of over 20 000 face-to-face surveys commissioned by GSMA Intelligence across 18 LMICs.

The mobile gender gap varies by region and country, but is widest in South Asia, where women are 28% less likely than men to own a mobile and 58% less likely to use mobile Internet. In LMICs, rates of mobile ownership and mobile Internet use are highest in Latin America and more developed Asian markets such as China.

Mobile remains the primary means of Internet access in LMICs, particularly for women, and 48% of women in these countries now use mobile Internet. However, the mobile gender gap persists and women in LMICs are 10% less likely than men to own a mobile, which translates into 197 million fewer women than men owning a mobile phone.

Sub-Saharan Africa 2nd worst region in mobile gender gap Across LMICs, 313 million fewer women than men use mobile Internet, representing a gender gap of 23%. With uptake of mobile Internet growing quickly, there is some evidence this wide gender gap has narrowed from 26% a year ago.

Rural areas also tend to have lower mobile penetration than urban areas

and, as previous GSMA research has found, the rural gender gap is also wider in almost every country surveyed. "Reaching the 433 million women in LMICs who are still unconnected will require concerted stakeholder effort and coordination," the report says.

"We are seeing countries with higher penetrations of mobile overall have a lower gender gap. But unfortunately, mobile access is slowing in terms of growth, which is not a positive sign for reducing the gender gap," Sibthorpe says.

"I think the research highlights that the gender gap is not going to close on its own. If you look at the data, that's not what's going to happen. We need to focus on it."

In Sub-Saharan Africa, only 29% of women use mobile Internet and the gender gap in mobile Internet use is the second worst at 41%. That equates to 200 million African women not using mobile Internet.

"In Africa, the mobile ownership gap was 15%, which is 5% higher than the average. In terms of Internet, it gets bigger in certain countries. We didn't survey every country, but the biggest gap of the countries we looked at in Africa was Mozambique. The women in Mozambique are 59% less likely use mobile Internet.

"Then you also see some interesting urban-rural splits in Africa. For example, in Tanzania, women in urban areas are 31% less likely to use the Internet but they're 65% less likely in rural areas," Sibthorpe told ITWeb.

When you look at the countries in Africa surveyed, South Africa has the smallest mobile gender gap in terms of ownership of just 4%. In SA, 87% of men own mobile phones and 83% of women. The worst mobile ownership gender gap is in Mozambique (24%), followed by Tanzania (11%), Cote d'Ivoire (9%), Kenya (6%), then Algeria (5%) and Nigeria (5%).

In Asia, the numbers are worse, with Pakistan having the highest mobile ownership gender gap of 37% followed by Bangladesh at 33% and India at 26%. In contrast, China has no mobile gender gap at all.

When we look at mobile Internet usage in SA, women are 15% less likely to use mobile Internet than men. Algeria has the lowest gap in mobile Internet usage of 7% followed by SA. From there the numbers jump up dramatically with high mobile Internet gender gaps in Nigeria (29%), Kenya (39%), Cote d'Ivoire (47%), Tanzania (52%) and finally Mozambique (59%).

The major barriers to mobile ownership and mobile Internet use for wom-

en are affordability, literacy and digital skills, a perceived lack of relevance, and safety and security concerns. The report found that affordability, particularly of handsets, is the top barrier to mobile ownership, while literacy and digital skills are the main factors limiting mobile Internet use among those who are aware of it.

Although awareness of mobile Internet is growing in most markets, it remains consistently lower for women than men. The mobile gender gap extends beyond ownership and access because even when women own a mobile phone, they use a smaller range of mobile services. This is the case across almost all LMICs, according to the report.

The usage gap is also reflected in mobile spending. Across LMICs, female mobile owners spend on average 17% less than men on mobile services. This spending gap is evident even in countries where there is not a gender gap in mobile ownership or mobile Internet use.

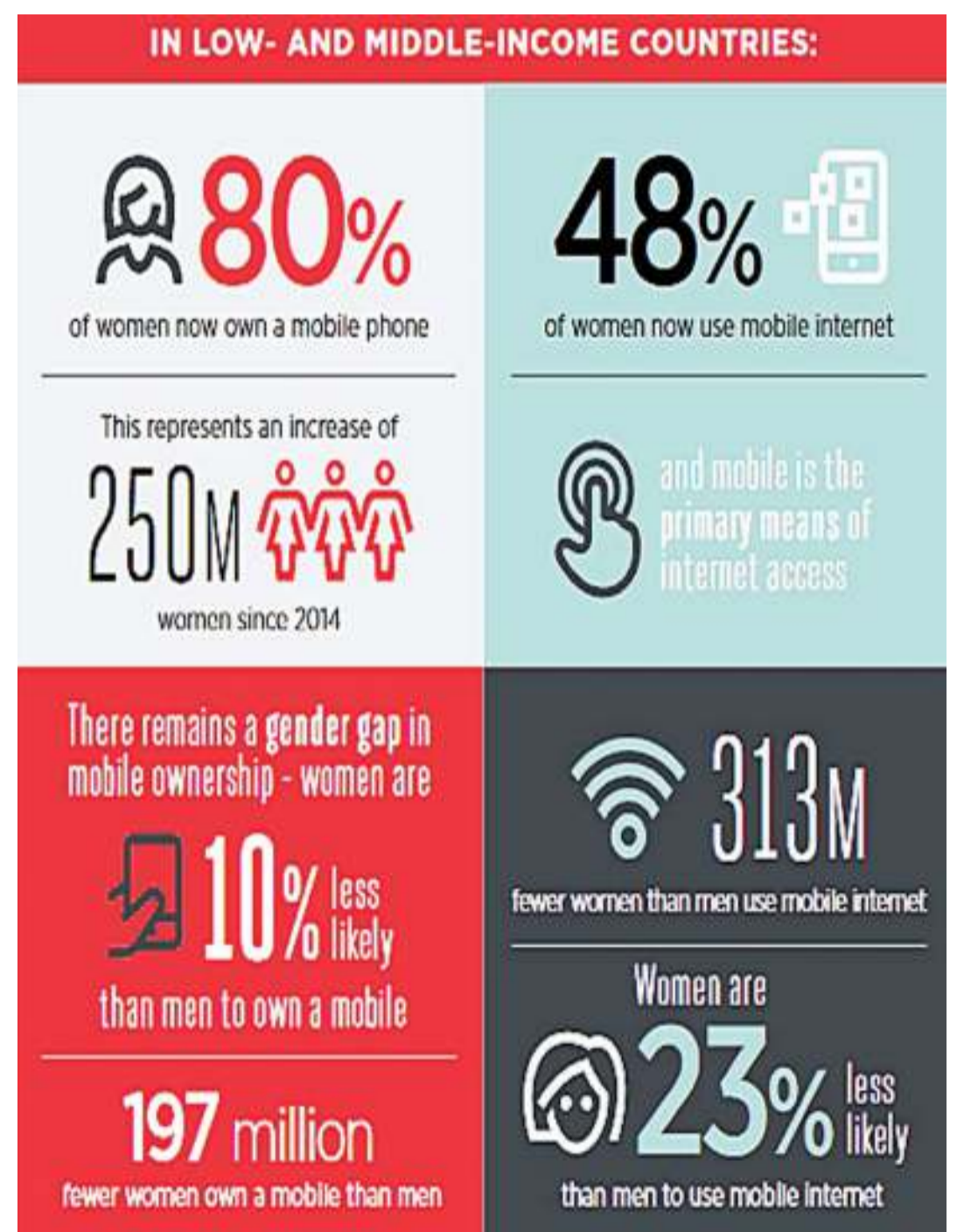
"I think the real issue is that there are still structural problems around women having lower education, lower income and a lot of social norms in some countries where it's perceived to be not acceptable for women to have a phone or go online."

Some of these social norms are particularly at play in South Asia, she notes, which is why there is a much bigger gap in that region. "So I think there are these structural issues with things like affordability and digital skills, because of these underlying structural inequalities between men and women," Sibthorpe explains.

When asked what can be done to change these structural inequalities, Sibthorpe acknowledged it is hard and the mobile industry needs to advocate for change, and governments and other stakeholders need to take steps to address these issues.

"What we can do is we can at least try and recognise that these issues exist, and also we advocate quite strongly that you need to have a specific focus on women and that's what our research is hoping to highlight.

"Because if you don't think about the wants and needs of the women in your market, how can you possibly design anything for them? And if you are just gender blind, then you're going to have this gender gap because you're not realising that actually maybe women don't want to go to the very male-oriented location to get their phone topped up, or maybe training is not relevant because they're not literate, etc. So you need to understand what



An illustration comparing women and men in mobile phone and internet access in SSA.

the issue is and you need to tailor it. So it's really important to have context-specific data so people can look at what's in their country and then address it accordingly.

"I also think both men and women need to take action, to ensure the females in their family have equal access."

Big issue, big opportunity Sibthorpe says the mobile gender gap is obviously a huge issue but also presents a huge opportunity.

"If we were able to close the mobile Internet gap in LMICs, you could add an extra \$700 billion (R10 trillion) in GDP to the economy of these countries [over five years]. That's huge, right? And it also makes huge commercial sense for our members, our operator partners; it's a huge revenue opportunity because women are half the po-

tential customer base."

The GSMA predicts that if mobile operators could close these gender gaps in LMICs by 2023, this would provide an estimated additional \$140 billion (R2 trillion) in revenue to the mobile industry. Despite the bleak numbers, Sibthorpe says progress is being made.

"In 2016, we launched what we called the Connected Women Commitment Initiative. We invited mobile operators to make commitments with targets for 2020 to close the gender gap in either mobile Internet or mobile money. And we have 52 commitments and they've now reached over 16 million women with new services."

She says some of what the industry is doing includes working on partnerships to make handsets more affordable, digital skills initiatives, having more

female sales agents and a lot of work around safety and security for women online. Mobile money is another area showing real change in digital inclusion for women.

"If you look across mobile money usage, across LMICs, women are 33% less likely than men to use mobile money and in Africa it is a bit better at around 26%. In countries like Kenya [where mobile money is very active] it goes down to about 10%.

"In a number of countries where mobile money is established, it is driving financial inclusion. So there are more women with mobile money accounts than bank accounts in a number of markets. So that's really positive. So while there's a gap, it is also really providing financial inclusion for women and there's evidence of that."



Naomi Osaka

Tennis: Osaka, Halep sent packing from Indian Wells

INDIANA WELLS, CALIFORNIA

NAOMI Osaka followed Simona Halep through the exit door at the BNP Paribas Open on Tuesday as the top two players in the world were sent packing in the fourth round at Indian Wells.

World number one Osaka never found her rhythm against Belinda Bencic as the Swiss used her precise groundstrokes and pinpoint serving to topple the defending champion 6-3 6-1 in just over an hour.

The 22-year-old Bencic, who has risen as high as world number seven before missing time with injuries, hit a forehand volley on match point to seal the win and send her into the quarter-finals.

"I was really happy with the performance," Bencic told Tennis Channel. "It wasn't as easy as the result is saying and I didn't expect it like that, so definitely happy."

Bencic, the world number 23, has made a habit of upending top 10 players of late, defeating four en route to winning the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships last month.

She will have another shot at a top-10 player when she takes on hard-hitting world number five Karolina Pliskova, who smashed 13 aces to dispatch Anett Kontaveit 7-6(0) 4-6 6-2 to reach the quarter-finals.

Osaka's loss ended a bad day for world number ones after the men's top player, Serb Novak Djokovic, fell 6-4 6-4 to Philipp Kohlschreiber.

Earlier in the day, Czech teenager Marketa Vondrousova ran Halep ragged before dumping the Romanian out of the tournament 6-2 3-6 6-2.

Halep, who received medical treatment for blisters on her foot during the match, won less than half of her first-service points and hit just six winners to go with 36 unforced errors.

"I was running too much and too defensive," the Romanian told reporters. "But it's everything I could do today."

Halep's loss ensured Osaka will retain her number one ranking after the tournament.

The win was 19-year-old Vondrousova's first over a top-10 player in six attempts.

"I think I'm playing well all week but this is something special because she's number two in the world," Vondrousova said. "I was just fighting for every point."

Another teenager, unseeded Canadian Bianca Andreescu, upset 18th seed Wang Qiang of China 7-5 6-2 to book her place in the quarters. The win was the 18-year-old Andreescu's 25th of the year, the most of any WTA player.

She will next face Garbine Muguruza after the Spaniard battled back to dispatch Kiki Bertens of the Netherlands 5-7 6-1 6-4.

Ukrainian Elina Svitolina came from a break down in the third set to defeat Australian Ashleigh Barty 7-6(8) 5-7 6-4 to reach the quarter-finals for the first time.

Meanwhile, Naomi Osaka downplayed her straight-sets loss to Belinda Bencic at the BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells on Tuesday, saying she was learning to stay positive as she wrestles with the perils of being the world's top player.

Osaka, who is the reigning U.S. and Australian Open champion, saw her first career title defence go down in flames at the hands of a razor-sharp Bencic, who won their fourth-round match 6-3 6-1.

"I didn't play that well," Osaka told reporters. "But honestly, I think at a time like this with that scoreline, I would usually feel very depressed and sad."

"But I feel pretty good right now because I think, given the circumstances, I tried my best and I don't really have any regrets."

Osaka, 21, said she lacked maturity when as a relative unknown player she won the tournament last year to kick off her meteoric rise through the rankings.

"One of the biggest things is I wanted to be more mature," she said when asked how she has changed in the past year.

"I feel like this is something I'm still working on, on and off the court. It's one of the biggest goals that I have had my entire life."

"Because I might have thrown a few tantrums last year and this year it's something I'm working on improving and I feel like it's going well."

The last year has been a whirlwind for the Japanese, who defeated her idol Serena Williams in the U.S. Open final in a match best remembered for the American's heated argument with the chair umpire as Osaka looked on.

After winning the Australian Open, Osaka shocked the tennis world by parting ways with her coach Sascha Bajin.

She lost in straight sets in her next match to Kristina Mladenovic at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships, which left Osaka in tears.

But there were no tears on Tuesday as Osaka said she was adjusting to being the world number one and always having a target on her back.

"I feel like there is no anonymity," she said.

"That was something that I used to my advantage maybe when I was like 18, 19. But I think now there is way too many videos and too many people have watched my matches."

Despite the loss, Osaka is guaranteed to lead the rankings after the tournament since world number two Simona Halep also lost on Tuesday.

'Style muse': Meghan's rise to a royal fashionista



Britain's Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex (R) and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex arrive to attend a Commonwealth Day Service at Westminster Abbey in central London, on March 11, 2019. (AFP)

LONDON

HER jackets and jeans, bangles and bags can instantly send tongues wagging and designers' sales soaring.

Since being catapulted into the global spotlight as Prince Harry's girlfriend in 2016, Meghan's outfits have been scrutinized and

copied, often crashing websites selling her apparel.

Fashion blogs and social media accounts dedicated to the American's style have mushroomed, just as they sprang up for her sister-in-law Kate, Prince William's wife, allowing followers to comment on her latest sleek looks usually in a monochrome palette.

"The Meghan effect is this economic phenomenon similar to the Kate effect...where if she wears it, it turns to gold," said Christine Ross, co-editorial director of Meghan's Mirror fashion blog, describing Meghan's style as "very on trend and modern".

Almost everything she wears up to and around the \$300 or 300 pound-mark, a pretty high

price point, sells out, she added.

Designer dresses, luxury handbags and stylish stilettos are the fashion dream of many women, but for a young royal they are the staple of an everyday wardrobe.

For her busy royal diary, the now Duchess of Sussex usually wears expensive labels, namely French couture house Givenchy whose British artistic director Clare Waight Keller designed Meghan's wedding dress.

Dior, Ralph Lauren, Carolina Herrera and Oscar de la Renta are among other formal and eveningwear go to brands.

"Meghan's wardrobe is really unique because there are so many bespoke pieces in it and we'll really never know how much those cost," Ross said.

She estimates her wardrobe at about 500,000 pounds (\$657,750) a year.

"STYLE MUSE"

While becoming a trendsetter, Meghan, named 2018's best dressed woman by People magazine, has stayed loyal to smaller brands she wore before her global fame.

The 37-year-old, who used to film drama "Suits" in Toronto, has worn Canadian labels Mackage, Aritzia and Line the Label.

For casualwear, she has worn J.Crew and brands known for their environmental and social credentials: a Reformation dress, Veja sneakers, Outland Denim jeans and jewelry made from recycled metal.

"Meghan carved this niche for supporting these sustainable fashion brands," Holly Rains, digital editor at magazine Marie Claire UK, said. "People are now going to Meghan as a style muse...She crashes sites."

It is particularly her more affordable accessories that are snapped up by consumers.

"The jewelry, the bags, the belts is where we can dip in and get that kind of Meghan touch to our outfits," Rains said.

Ross said Meghan's casual jean looks proved popular with readers. Her maternity wear as she awaits her first child is also eagerly followed.

"She's done a lot of bespoke pieces, a lot of customization pieces that aren't maternity at all and it's really been a difference," Ross said.

Royal fashion expert Michael Talboys said he hoped to see Meghan wear more British labels. She has worn items from UK brands Victoria Beckham, Strathberry, Marks & Spencer and her second wedding gown was a halterneck dress by Stella McCartney.

"She should, as an English duchess, really be patronizing English designers and promoting them in the eyes of the world," he said.

Kate frequently wears British high street dresses.

On the streets of London, student Savannah Edwards said Meghan's "classic" style was having an impact.

"I personally cannot afford anything that she wears but it does influence me to try new pieces," she said.

REUTERS

Cricket: Countdown clock, standard ball among MCC proposals for tests

MUMBAI

INTRODUCING countdown clocks, a standard ball across the globe, and free hits after no-balls are some of the changes being eyed for test cricket as the custodians of the game's laws look to shore up its popularity amid the rise of lucrative Twenty20 leagues.

The future of the longest format of the game has been a subject of debate amid dwindling crowds for

test matches outside Australia and England.

A recent survey by the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), the sole authority on the laws of cricket since it was founded in 1787, found an overwhelming 86 percent of fans still identified test cricket as their preferred format.

However, the survey also covered some of the key challenges in increasing attendances at ground

and viewership of test matches and said urgency needed to show more urgency to speed up play with slow over rates being a key concern.

International Cricket Council (ICC) statistics from last May showed that over rates in the last year were the lowest in the 11 years that they had been measured, the MCC said.

A countdown clock could be one way of addressing the issue.

"A timer, to be shown on the scoreboard, to count down from 45 seconds from the call of 'Over'," the MCC statement said.

"If either side is not ready to play when the clock reaches zero, they would receive a warning, with further infringements in that innings resulting in five penalty runs being awarded to the opposition."

The MCC's world cricket committee said that the World Test Championship, scheduled to kick off after the 50-over World Cup, was the right platform to introduce a standard ball across the countries.

"The MCC World Cricket committee felt that it would benefit the Championship for a standard

ball to be used in these matches, except for those played as day/night matches," it said.

"It would be for the ICC to choose which ball is most suitable, with the committee stressing that the balance between bat and ball is crucial."

"Trials of the use of different balls have been taking place in different countries at first class level. The committee felt that the World Test Championship provided the perfect opportunity to introduce this suggestion."

The last couple of months have been a great advertisement for tests with India registering their first test series victory in Australia, West Indies humbling England, and Sri Lanka becoming the first Asian country to win a series in South Africa.

The committee, made up of current and former international players and umpires, meets twice yearly to discuss issues in the game. Their suggestions are considered by the ICC cricket committee before recommendations are put to a general meeting of the world governing body. REUTERS



Cricket balls, a set of plastic stumps and a bat sit on the ground as members of the crowd wait for the start of play on day one of the third Ashes cricket test match involving Australia and England at WACA Ground in Perth, Australia in this December 14, 2017 file photo. (Agencies)

Ronaldo now does what Juventus hired him to do

TURIN

JUVENTUS have never before overturned a two-goal deficit at home in European competition - but then they never had Cristiano Ronaldo leading their attack.

If the aim of buying the five-times World Player of the Year really was to make a difference on big Champions League nights it certainly paid off on Tuesday.

The 34-year-old got his eighth Champions League hat-trick, two headers and a late penalty, as Juve overturned a 2-0 last-16 first leg deficit against Atletico Madrid by winning 3-0.

"It was meant to be a special night and it was, not just for my goals but for the attitude we showed," said Ronaldo. "That is the sort of mentality you need to win the Champions League."

"This was why Juventus brought me here," he added. "To help do things that they have never done before."

It was all very different to the first leg where former Real Madrid forward Ronaldo was jeered by Atletico fans and the home side's second goal took a deflection off him.

Angry at the barracking, the Portuguese replied by holding up five fingers to remind them of the five times he had won Europe's elite club competition.

Ronaldo, who one year ago scored a memorable bicycle kick goal for Real at Juve in a Champions League match and was applauded off the field by the home fans in Turin, had also begun to look stale in recent Serie A matches.

But he was rested against Udinese on Friday and was raring to go on

Tuesday.

Atletico, who had not conceded a goal in their previous four Champions League games, packed their defence believing they could shut Ronaldo out again.

They made no serious attempt to get an away goal which could have put a different complexion on the tie and paid the price

With Federico Bernardeschi pumping crosses into the area, Atletico were never able cope with Ronaldo's aerial threat.

"Atletico are a really tough team to face, but we are strong too and proved we deserved to go through," said Ronaldo.

Meanwhile, Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri praised his team's fluid performance after they beat Atletico Madrid 3-0 on Tuesday to reach the Champions League quarter-finals.

Allegri was worried his side could lose their cool as they trailed 2-0 from the first leg but his fears were unfounded.

"The boys read the game in the best possible way, playing at a high tempo and exploiting the width of the pitch," he said.

"I wanted to us play like that also in the first leg, but then I changed something and it didn't go the right way."

"It was a fluid, cool and calm performance. We had been waiting for this evening for a long time and we risked having a frenetic game, instead we had to pressure them whilst also keeping a balance, and we did it."

His opposite number Diego Simeone, who had set his team up to defend their lead, had no complaints about the result. **REUTERS**

Superb Ronaldo hat-trick leads Juve into quarter-finals

TURIN, ITALY

JUVENTUS forward Cristiano Ronaldo grabbed a hat-trick against his favourite opponents Atletico Madrid as the Italians overturned a two-goal first-leg deficit to win 3-0 and reach the Champions League quarter-finals on Tuesday.

Ronaldo blasted home the decisive goal from a penalty with four minutes left to seal a 3-2 overall triumph having made the breakthrough in the 27th minute and levelled the aggregate score three minutes after half-time with another towering header.

It was his eighth hat-trick in the Champions League, pulling him level with Barcelona's Lionel Messi, and took the Portugal international's tally in his favourite club competition, where he is the all-time leading scorer, to 124.

The former Real Madrid player, aiming to win the Champions League for the sixth time with his third different club, having also lifted the trophy with Manchester United, took his tally against Atletico to 25 goals in 33 matches in all competitions.

"This was why Juventus brought me here, to help do things that they have never done before," said Ronaldo, now 34. "This is the mentality you need to win in the Champions League."

Shell-shocked Atletico failed to muster a shot on target as they paid the price for an ultra-cautious approach by defensive-minded coach Diego Simeone in the last-16 second leg tie.

"Simply an epic match," said Juve's Giorgio Chiellini. "The best way to celebrate my 500th appearance for the club."

Defender Chiellini had the ball in



Juventus' Cristiano Ronaldo scores their second goal against Atletico Madrid during their Champions League - Round of 16 Second Leg match at Allianz Stadium in Turin, Italy on Tuesday. **REUTERS**

the visitors' net after just four minutes following a goalmouth scramble but it was disallowed for foul by Ronaldo on goalkeeper Jan Oblak.

The Serie A side bombarded the Atletico area with crosses but made little headway against a packed defence until Federico Bernardeschi switched to the left and floated a cross to the far post where Ronaldo outjumped Juanfran to head in.

With Atletico making little effort to look for the away goal that could have changed the complexion of the tie, Juventus continued to press forward.

Bernardeschi curled a free kick over the crossbar and also produced an ambitious bicycle kick which flew wide before Chiellini had a header tipped over by Oblak.

Atletico's first real chance fell to on-loan striker Alvaro Morata who got between two defenders to meet Koke's cross from the right only to head over.

Juve went straight back on the attack after the break and quickly levelled the aggregate score at 2-2.

Ronaldo met Joao Cancelo's cross

with another powerful header and although Oblak clawed the ball away, goal line technology showed that it had crossed the line by centimetres and the referee signalled a goal.

Atletico brought on Vitolo and Angel Correa in an attempt to add more bite to their attack but to no avail.

With extra-time looming, Bernardeschi powered into the area and was pushed in the back by Correa, leaving Ronaldo to blast home the penalty to the delight of the Juve supporters.

REUTERS

Man City's 'teenagers' looking like the main men

MANCHESTER CITY

PEP Guardiola described his Manchester City side as "teenagers" in the Champions League before the second leg of their last-16 clash with Schalke 04 but with their resounding 7-0 rout of the Germans they showed they are growing up fast.

Having left it late to earn a 3-2 win in the first leg, City took a while to hit their stride at the Etihad on Tuesday but when they did Guardiola's team produced a magnificent attacking display that will ring alarm bells around Europe.

Admittedly they were up against a side who had leaked 11 goals in their last three Bundesliga games and are in danger of relegation, but City's movement, energy and clinical edge would have left far better teams in tatters.

City, for all their investment and domestic silverware, have still reached only one semi-final in their seven previous Champions League campaigns.

But they have won 17 of their last 19 matches in all competitions and won nine and drawn one of their last 10 and have a momentum that

could carry them to the final in Madrid.

"We are delighted to be in the quarter-finals," Guardiola, who twice took Barcelona to Champions League glory, told reporters. "The last 15 minutes and the second half we were incredibly good, quick and dynamic."

"I know Schalke are in a tough period but even in that situation you have to do your job."

Such are the high levels Guardiola demands that he found fault with Leroy Sane before the German scored and provided assists for Raheem Sterling, Bernardo Silva and Phil Foden.

Indeed, former Schalke youngster Sane, now 23, became the first player to make three assists in a Champions League knockout game since Bayern Munich's Frank Ribery in March 2012.

"No, it wasn't his best display," Guardiola said. "After the first goal yes, but before no. He wasn't aggressive enough in the first 20 minutes. But he is young so don't forget that."

"After 20 minutes he was outstanding."

REUTERS

Seven up for Man City as they demolish Schalke

MANCHESTER CITY

RAMPANT Manchester City demolished a woeful Schalke 7-0 to complete a 10-2 aggregate win and become the third English side into the quarter-finals of the Champions League on Tuesday.

City's record home win in Europe did not look likely after a quiet opening 35 minutes but once Sergio Aguero began the rout from the penalty spot it became embarrassingly easy as City reached the last eight for the third time in four years.

Aguero doubled City's lead three minutes later and the impressive Leroy Sane made it 3-0 before halftime.

Raheem Sterling and Bernardo Silva finished off flowing moves after the break and youngster Phil Foden bagged his first European goal before Gabriel Jesus made it seven, rounding off the biggest ever Champions League defeat for a German side.

City, who trailed 2-1 in the away leg with 10 men before turning it around late on, join local rivals Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur in Friday's quarter-final draw, the first time since 2011 that at least three English clubs are in the last eight.

Liverpool can make it a full house when they play against Bayern Munich on Wednesday.

With Real Madrid and Paris St Germain having been knocked out, Guardiola's side will fancy their chances of going all the way for the first time in the competition.

"It was a clear result. We didn't start that well, we were a bit scared to play," Guardiola, whose side racked up the biggest aggregate win by an English club in the knockout rounds, said.

"But after it went 1-0, we relaxed and decided to play and be aggressive."

Schalke's players were barracked by their own fans at the end of a miserable night for Domenico Tedesco's side who face a fight to preserve their Bundesliga status.

"You can imagine how I'm feeling. Terrible," Tedesco said. "We played well for 30 minutes, but after we went 1-0 down, we had an extreme drop off in performance."

The sight of Sane causing so much discomfort for his former club hardly helped their mood.

The 23-year-old, who joined City in 2016, was a handful all night but it was the ever-reliable Aguero who got the ball rolling - coolly dinking his



Manchester City's Phil Foden scores their sixth goal against Schalke 04 during their Champions League - Round of 16 Second Leg match at Etihad Stadium in Manchester, Britain on Tuesday. **REUTERS**

penalty down the middle after Silva was bundled over by Jeffrey Bruma.

VAR FRUSTRATION
Aguero then took advantage of Sterling's backheel to make it 2-0 although a near three-minute VAR delay to check whether the England forward had been offside in the buildup frustrated the fans inside the Etihad Stadium.

Sane then swept in City's third as Guardiola's side began to cut through

a spirited Schalke at will, although again there was an annoying VAR delay before his goal was confirmed.

Sane had a goal wiped out for offside in the second half but then produced a great slide-rule cross to feed Sterling who powered home City's fourth goal in the 56th minute.

Boos rang out as VAR was yet again employed to ensure Sterling had been onside when the ball was played across.

Another Sane assist allowed Silva to make it 5-0 before City threaded their way through the Schalke defence and Foden skipped around exposed keeper Ralf Faehrmann to add a sixth.

Far from take their foot off the gas City were hungry for more goals and substitute Jesus got his name on the scoresheet when he curled in with six minutes remaining.

REUTERS

Deco warns defenders that VAR is watching them

GENEVA

DEFENDERS who try to impede an opponent with a sly tug of the shirt or push in the back must remember that VAR is watching them, former Porto, Barcelona and Portugal midfielder Deco told Reuters in an interview.

The new video technology has already sparked debate during its first month of use in the Champions League but Deco said it is something he would have welcomed during his playing days.

"I would like to have played with VAR. I think it would have helped me," he said, adding that he was not worried about how long it took to make decisions.

"Look at it the other way... I wouldn't want to lose a title to a goal that should not have been given, that is really frustrating."

"Everyone goes home and then sees on television that, because of a mistake, you missed the chance to play in a final, or to win a title."

As an example, Deco cited the late

extra-time penalty which gave his former team Porto a 4-3 aggregate win over AS Roma in their Champions League round of 16 tie last week.

Roma fullback Alessandro Florenzi tugged Porto forward Fernando's shirt as he tried to meet a ball across the face of the goal and, although the referee did not see it, it was caught by the video assistant.

"Players will adapt to that sort of situation with time," said Deco, during the Geneva car show at the start of the first-ever Europa League trophy tour.

"The forward (Fernando) would probably not have got to the ball but the defender pulled his shirt because it hadn't occurred to him that there was another pair of eyes watching in addition to the referee."

"It was a silly penalty to give away because he didn't need to do it and players behave like that because they think the referee can't see, but that has now changed," added the former player, who is an ambassador for the Europa League.

REUTERS

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Serengeti Boys' players close in on profession stint

SPORT

Superb Ronaldo hat-trick leads Juve into quarter-finals

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Serengeti Boys' players attend training session in Arusha to shape up for the 2019 AFCON U-17 finals, which will be played in Dar es Salaam from April 14-28.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

A section of players that turn out for Tanzania's national U-17 football team, Serengeti Boys, which took part at the just ended UEFA ASSIST tournament in Turkey, stand a chance of being recruited by top European clubs.

A prominent soccer scout, who is based in South Africa and watched Serengeti Boys play in the tournament, issued the statement yesterday.

The UEFA ASSIST tournament, held in Antalya from

March 4-9, attracted 12 countries from three confederations.

They are Angola, Cameroon, Guinea, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda from the Confederation of African Football (CAF); Australia, which belongs to the Asian Football Confederation (AFC); and Belarus, Montenegro and Turkey, representing UEFA.

The competition, as revealed by organizers UEFA, aimed at giving the eight CAF teams that have reached the final qualify-

ing round for this year's FIFA U-17 World Cup - plus Australia, who have already booked their finals place - the opportunity to play a preparatory tournament.

It was also a chance for the three UEFA countries to take on opponents of a kind they would otherwise rarely meet.

Serengeti Boys, who will be the hosts of the 2019 African Cup of Nations (AFCON) U-17 finals scheduled for April, played three games in the UEFA ASSIST competition, edging Australia 3-2 and suffering defeats

to Guinea and Turkey.

The scout, who opted for anonymity, said many clubs in Europe showed interest in the services of Serengeti Boys' stars due to their impressive performance during the tournament and said the outfits will monitor the players at home during the AFCON U-17 finals.

"For now it is too early to name the teams and players, but teams in Europe approached us, saying they will send either some scouts or members of their technical panels to our

subsequent games especially during the AFCON U-17 finals to monitor the performance of the players," he said.

He went on to say the outfits were impressed with the performance of more than five players and they want to monitor the performance of the latter over a couple of games.

"So, let us hope that our players can be consistent enough and perform well to be considered for trials," he said.

After the UEFA ASSIST competition, Serengeti Boys are preparing for a youth football competition, which will take place in Rwanda, before returning home for the AFCON U-17 finals.

Serengeti Boys' head coach, Oscar Mirambo, and Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Technical Director, Amy Ninje, could not be reached for their comments on the matter.

However, recently prolific Serengeti Boys' player Kelvin John had been linked to a move to South Africa's Ajax FC. The player has been impressive in many games for Serengeti Boys.

A top South African soccer agent, Paul Mitchell, in previous interviews with The Guardian, said Tanzania stands a chance to benefit from hosting the AFCON U-17 championship as many scouts from within and outside Africa will come to look for players.

5 EATV

TODAY @ 18:00

THURSDAY

11:00 DADAZ (live)
12:00 Mpya
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:00 Bongo Hits
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:55 SILEKT
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 #JADALA
21:00 Bongo Hits

eNews is your one stop show for everything entertainment. It covers celebrity interviews, gossip, what's hot, trending online and offline and what happened in history.

eastafrica 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

Destroyer Alex Carey embraces finisher's role

SYDNEY

YOU could have well been in the middle of an Australian Football League (AFL) press conference when Australia's limited-overs vice-captain Alex Carey and communications manager Jeremy Arnold walked out to address the media in ahead of the series decider in New Delhi. Carey was inaugural captain of the Greater Western Sydney Giants while Arnold has previously worked with the Essendon football club.

Carey was wary of a backlash from India, but backed his side to secure their first ODI series win in India in 10 years. "I guess we were put under pressure early in the series and some games were really close," he said. "Obviously [we're] taking the momentum from the last game and the boys are confident. We know India are going to bounce back quickly from that but I guess for us, we thought we were playing good cricket in the first two games, but just fell short. To have the series at 2-2 we're really excited."

That Australia are in a position to challenge India for the trophy despite the absence of several first-choice players augurs well for a side looking to peak at the right time. They are without the fast-bowling pair of Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood, who are both recovering from injuries. Their finisher Marcus Stoinis joined them on the injury list when he broke his thumb while fielding in the third ODI in Ranchi. Meanwhile, Nathan Coulter-Nile had returned home after the second ODI in Nagpur for the birth of his second child.

However, Pat Cummins has impressed in rare outings with the new ball and has been ably backed up by Jhye Richardson. And Australia have found a new finisher in Ashton Turner, who pulled off their biggest ODI chase ever in Mohali.

To add to the cheer, the bans on Steven Smith and David Warner is set to expire on March 29, and while they're not going to play immediately for Australia, they're very much in World Cup contention and will have an opportunity at getting back into the groove at the IPL. Amid this, Carey talked up Australia's bench strength and believed that they will be a potent force in the 2019 World Cup in England.

There might be some big names that might come back to the line-up; the [ones] in the side now are performing really well," he said. "So, it's totally healthy for Australian cricket that the guys that are in the side are playing well. The guys that have done well in the past will definitely put their hands up for selection when they're available."

"As a player in the Australian cricket side, we've been working hard in the past 12-18 months and there are some successes starting to come our way. We're really confident with the squad we take - whoever that is - to the World Cup. But, we have tomorrow to focus on, and we're really confident about it. It's pressure-cricket and I'm really looking forward to it."

AGENCIES

RBA League attracts 24 clubs

By Guardian Reporter



JKT Basketball Club's forward, Baraka Sadiki, dribbles past Army Basketball Club (ABC) players in the last year's RBA League's match that took place in Dar es Salaam.

Mapunda noted the tournament stands to be tough but remained optimistic that it would produce positive results for the title-holders.

He said JKT Stars, like DB Lionesses, have a number of highly skilled players, a situation he said might bring stiff opposition to his girls.

Other clubs, namely Vijana, JKT, ABC, Pazi, Chui and Kurasini Heat, which won promotion to the league this year, are as well training intensively to shape up for the event.

Vijana 'City Bulls' head coach, Kabiola Shomali, said yesterday that, unlike in the past, his players now train twice a day.

"We have a number of young players, who need adequate training to contain well-drilled outfits like Savio and JKT," he said.

"I have to work more on the physical aspect rather than technical aspect, which I have thoroughly worked on prior to the Pepsi RBA League," the coach said.

Shomali, who has changed the team's approach from individual showmanship to teamwork, said he was impressed with the way his team plays at the moment.

"After the RBA League, we will focus on the National Basketball League (NBL) to be held in Dar es Salaam, and later the Union Cup whose venue is yet to be disclosed," the coach disclosed.

Evarist Mapunda, DB Lionesses' head coach, said yesterday that his players are in high spirits, raring to begin their title defense campaign impressively.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

