



National Pg 3 Jafo to convene regular meeting with traders



National Pg 4 WVC receives 1.7bn/- to uplift seed bank



National Pg 5 TET in drive to reduce teacher shortage



Page 13



PM deplures shoddy Lugalo Girls building, calls in PCCB

“The technician who built the windows must be brought here at the school and repeat the job at the required standards”

By Guardian Reporter, Iringa

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa (pictured) has expressed dissatisfaction with the construction of the Lugalo Girls Secondary School, directing the suspension of the Kilolo District engineer Emmanuel Sigachuma.

He also directed issuing a warning on Nelson Milanzi, education officer (secondary), doubling up as Kilolo acting executive director for failing to supervise proper utilisation of funds for the construction of the school.

The school is located in Mbigiri area in the district, which the premier inspected, similarly asking investigation officials to summon former DED Lain Ephraim for interrogation along with his colleagues on suspected misuse of funds.

The former DED retired back in April, with construction of the school starting last August, thus the premier directed the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in the region to commence investigations on district and school officials noted in the outrage.

The project shows a lot of loopholes in using funds including inappropriate desks, poorly built classrooms, laboratory and dining hall even as the government issued 3bn/- for completion of the buildings. They show all indications of being below standard, he said.

“The government has dishied out a lot of funds to construct buildings at the school at required quality standards, but what has been done here is different,” he said.

Inspecting a dining hall, the PM was informed that 774m/- was allocated where 341m/- was spent building it, even as it only stands at 40 percent of total works.

When the district engineer and DEO were asked about the challenges, they all had no clear explanations, whereas the premier identified challenges in the con-

TURN TO PAGE 2

Minister accepts basic terms, demands of sugar producers



Living up to their proverbial description as untiring and hugely dependable beasts of burden, these donkeys move majestically while on a water-fetching errand at Mjele in Mbeya District council at the weekend. Fortunately for them, Mjele is one of the villages now benefiting from reliable supply of potable water made available under the Mshewe-Mjele Project. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

The MP was subsequently suspended from attending 15 sessions for contempt of the House, as the relevant committee dismissed the evidence presented against the minister

By Henry Mwangonde

INVESTMENT in the sugar sector has reached 3trn/- in the past few years, a clear indication that policies in the sector are predictable and friendly, the government has declared.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, the Planning and Investment state minister in the President's Office issued this affirmation at a press conference yesterday after a meeting with sugar producers, where a notable area of consensus was the need for reviewing the Sugar Act, 2001.

The meeting was also consensual that sugar imports should cease 30 June every year, at the time that local producers start offloading sugar into the market. The meeting agreed on the timely importation of sugar when industries have stopped producing, he stated.

The producers appealed for more engagement meetings to address challenges facing the sector, the minister said, while Hussein Sufiani, chairman of the Tanzania Sugar Producers Association, said producers want a review of the

TURN TO PAGE 2

By Guardian Reporter

TCRA scans digital uplift, tasks at DITF

THE government has made significant strides in fostering growth of the digital and blue economy, demonstrating commitment to transforming the delivery of information and communication technology services.

Dr Jabir Bakari, the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) director general, highlighted these achievements at the TCRA pavilion at the on-going Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF-2024).

He said that TCRA has been pivotal in government efforts to enhance the communications infrastructure, promoting digital skills and encouraging the adoption of digital technology in various sectors.

TCRA has been working to deliver high-speed 4G and 5G internet resources, crucial steps in accelerating digital economy uptake and communication transformation, he said.

The government is determined to ensure

“This effort is geared at accelerating modernisation in each sector, whereas internet users were on an upward rise, standing at 36m internet enabled phone lines

that Tanzania has a modern communication infrastructure supporting the burgeoning digital economy in various aspects of life, he explained.

Elaborating that TCRA is promoting digital literacy with initiatives like setting up digital clubs in schools, he encouraged students across all educational levels to take part in these clubs to enhance their understanding and practical application of digital technologies.

TCRA has linked up with the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) to provide innovators in digital technologies with essential items such

TURN TO PAGE 2

Encourage investors, Treasury urges outgoing Danish envoy

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA has asked Denmark to increase cooperation in the energy sector, the development of the financial sector and promote investments in a new international cooperation programme.

Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, the Finance minister, issued this appeal in Dar es Salaam yesterday when bidding farewell to Mette Dissing-Spandet, the Danish ambassador who has finished her tenure in Tanzania.

The talks held at Treasury sub-headquarters had the minister lauding Denmark's efforts to support government endeavours in various areas, while the outgoing envoy outlined the decision to close down its embassy in Tanzania while strengthening bilateral cooperation.

The minister said that Denmark's contribution to the country's development has been great in various fields including the construction of the standard gauge railway (SGR), along with sub-

stantial support in the health sector and elsewhere.

Denmark has also been involved in extending facilitation for good governance, employment generation, democracy, the rule of law and human rights, projects which he said contribute significantly to reducing poverty, he said.

He asked the outgoing envoy to be a good ambassador for Tanzania in encouraging Danish investors to set foot in the country in sectors like fertiliser or wind

TURN TO PAGE 2

SPORTS



SIMBA OFF TO EGYPT TO PREPARE FOR THE 2024/2025 SEASON

Page 20



EURO 2024: SPAIN MEET FRANCE, NETHERLANDS BATTLE ENGLAND IN SEMI-FINALS

Page 19



9 770856 542009 >

PM deplors shoddy Lugalo Girls building, calls in PCCB

FROM PAGE 1

struction of laboratories.

Some key infrastructure such as canalising gas and waste water were badly built such that they cannot allow gas and water to pass, whereupon the premier directed DC Joachim Nyingo to supervise returning of substandard desks lacking space to store exercise books, to

be improved.

"The technician who built the windows must be brought here at the school and repeat the job at the required standards," he specified.

In another development, the premier handed over a 50-acre title deed to the College of Business Education (CBE) to commence construction of the CBE branch in Iringa municipality.

Minister accepts basic terms, demands of sugar producers

FROM PAGE 1

Sugar Act to tackle challenges that have emerged over the years.

The meeting appears to have put to an end the controversy surrounding sugar imports and its auxiliary issue of pricing, with the public likely to be asking about the call for renewed collaboration that the meeting endorsed yesterday.

The minister said the government values investors in the sector as it propels economic growth, noting that achievements that have been made in the sector are noticeable, so the government seeks greater investments.

The sugar saga sparked a storm of controversy during Budget debate last month, after Kisesa MP Luhaga Mpina launched a blistering attack against Agriculture minister Hus-

sein Bashe, accusing him of repeatedly misleading the House on critical issues concerning sugar imports.

On June 4, Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson ordered the MP to submit evidence to the House on allegations of falsehood on the part of the minister, as to violating the sugar importation law.

Evidence demanded was to have reached the Speaker by June 14, but the MP, after submitting evidence to the Speaker's office, proceeded to hold a press conference and disclose the details of the evidence to the media.

The MP was subsequently suspended from attending 15 sessions for contempt of the House, as the relevant committee dismissed the evidence presented against the minister.

Encourage investors, Treasury urges outgoing Danish envoy

FROM PAGE 1

energy projects.

Ambassador Dissing-Spandet expressed satisfaction with achievements during her tenure in Tanzania, where she talked of witnessing the country making great social and economic strides.

She pledged that she would remain a good ambassador for Tanzania to attract investments, noting that a number of Danish companies were showing interest in various investments in the country.

The envoy said that the big mark she is leaving is to convince her Scandinavian nation to abandon

the plan of closing down the diplomatic activities in Tanzania.

"This will enable Denmark to reorganize and come up with a big plan to cooperate with the Tanzanian government and promote development endeavors," she said.

She said that over the past half century Tanzania has received more Danish development assistance than any other country, pegged at 14 billion Danish kroner (DKK).

"Today, Tanzania remains a major partner for Danish development assistance and is likely to be that way in the medium term," he added.

Heat wave exacerbates suffering of Sudanese

KHARTOUM

HIT by an unprecedented heat wave, Sudan saw a reduction in its agricultural production this year, further exacerbating the suffering of its people amid the ongoing civil conflict.

The production of maize has more than halved due to the extreme heat, with temperatures surpassing 50 degrees Celsius, according to farmers.

During the past years, the production of one feddan of maize (about 0.4 hectare) in northern Sudan was about 15 sacks of 100 kg-size, while the number this year dropped to about six sacks only.

"The heat wave coincided with maize's grain-fill and maturity phase, significantly impacting the harvest," said Abdul-Rahim Mohamed, a farmer in northern Sudan.

The farmer lamented that the harvest of his four-feddan maize farmland stood at 61 sacks last year, but dropped significantly to 25 sacks this year. Maize is a major crop in Sudan, which is widely used in making bread, a staple food in the country's northern areas.

Moreover, climate change, compounded by the ongoing war between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), has dealt a blow to the agricultural sector, causing a food shortage that would possibly lead to famine in the country, warned international organizations.

According to Nour Aldayem Merghani, a Sudanese environmental expert, high temperatures, low rainfall, repeated drought waves, loss of soil fertility, and decline in the efficiency of irrigation infrastructure together affect agricultural production

in Sudan.

Musab Brair, an environmental activist, told Xinhua that the current armed conflict contributed to the deterioration of the country's ecosystems, depleted its natural resources, and limited the state's ability to address poverty and inequality.

Sudan Meteorological Authority, which provides weather, climate, and early warning services, warned Friday of a heat wave and possible recording of the nation's highest temperatures in Northern and River Nile states.

To avoid the negative effects of high temperatures, the Northern State instructed schools at all levels to begin the school day early and end it by noon.

In Port Sudan, the capital of Red Sea State in eastern Sudan, public and private schools were also closed due to high temperatures.

The heat wave has coincided with repeated programmed power outages that may extend for more than 12 hours a day in some areas, mainly due to the stoppage of a number of thermal stations because of the war, exacerbating people's suffering.

Sudan has been embroiled in a deadly conflict between the SAF and the RSF since mid-April 2023, which had claimed at least 16,650 lives by early May 2024, according to a watchdog update cited by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in a report in late June.

The UN International Organization for Migration estimated that over 7.7 million people in Sudan have been internally displaced amid the conflict, while about 2.2 million others have crossed borders into neighboring countries to seek refuge.



Finance minister Mwigulu Nchemba (R) bids farewell to the outgoing Ambassador of Denmark to Tanzania, Mette Nørgaard Dissing-Spandet, shortly after talks in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo courtesy of Finance ministry

TCRA scans digital uplift, tasks at DITF

FROM PAGE 1

as numbering resources, frequency spectrum, and use of the dot tz domain, he said, noting that these initiatives are aimed at fostering digital solutions positively impacting health care provision, agriculture, entrepreneurship, education and various social services.

TCRA remains steadfast in empowering young innovators in digital technology by equipping them with the necessary resources, he emphasized.

Public education campaigns can-

vassing for the widespread adoption of digital applications in agriculture, tourism and education delivery, focused on the transformative potential of digital technologies in improving income expectations.

These technologies hold immense potential to bring about positive change in the lives of many people, he said, urging media practitioners to closely disseminate information about the benefits of digital and blue economy initiatives.

The crucial role of mass media in raising awareness and mobilizing public support for the adoption

of these technologies is crucial, he stated, citing notable achievements in TCRA efforts in facilitating the digital and blue economy communicational framework.

There was a significant increase in the number of mobile phone lines in the past year, rising from 64.01m in June 2023 to 72m last March.

These achievements manifest TCRA's effectiveness and active involvement in advancing the digital and blue economy, as various sectors have to prioritize dissemination of positive and constructive information.

This effort is geared at accelerating modernisation in each sector, whereas internet users were on an upward rise, standing at 36m internet enabled phone lines, he said.

The growth in mobile money accounts saw a rise from 47,275,660 by June 2023 to over 53m last March, he said, underlining the regulator's effectiveness in promoting Tanzania's digital and blue economy.

The various sectors need to prioritize the dissemination of positive and constructive information aimed at accelerating the country's development, he added.



Godlove Longole (L), Chief Instructor in Air Traffic Management at the Dar es Salaam-based Civil Aviation Training Centre, briefs a visitor (R) at the CATC pavilion at the 48th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday on the centre's operations. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Payout for widow of Pakistani journalist killed by Kenyan police

LONDON & NAIROBI

A COURT in Kenya has awarded 10m shillings (\$78,000; £61,000) in compensation to the widow of a prominent Pakistani journalist who was shot dead by police at a roadblock nearly two years ago.

Arshad Sharif was a TV anchor known for his outspoken criticism of Pakistan's powerful military leaders and corruption in politics.

The father-of-five received death threats that he flagged to Pakistan's top judge, before fleeing his home country to seek safety abroad.

Sharif's killing two months later at the hands of police in the Kenyan town of Kajiado caused outrage, and the slow response by officials prompted UN experts to criticise

both Kenya and Pakistan.

"A relief to me and my family" Kenya's police had argued it was a case of mistaken identity but Sharif's widow, Javeria Siddique, said it was a contract killing carried out on behalf of an unnamed individual in Pakistan.

On Monday, the Kajiado High Court ruled that the Kenyan authorities had acted unlawfully and violated Sharif's right to life. It duly awarded Ms Siddique compensation plus interest until payment in full.

"Loss of life cannot be compensated in monetary terms nor is the pain and suffering the family must have gone through. But there's consensus that compensation is appropriate remedy for redress in

violation of fundamental rights," said Justice Stella Mutuku as she delivered the verdict.

The judge also ruled that Kenya's director of public prosecutions and the independent policing oversight authority had violated Sharif's rights by failing to prosecute the two police officers involved. The court has ordered both bodies to conclude investigations and charge the officers.

The lawyer representing Sharif's widow, Ochiel Dudley, said "this is a win for the family and a win for Kenyans in their quest for police accountability".

Sharif's widow, Ms Siddique, expressed her gratitude to the Kenyan judiciary but added that her work was far from done.

"This ruling has come as a relief to me and my family, but I will not relent in getting maximum justice for my husband," she said.

Like her late husband, Ms Siddique is a journalist, and filed the lawsuit alongside the Kenya Union of Journalists and Kenya Correspondents Association last October.

She and her co-petitioners were seeking transparency, an apology, and accountability from the Kenyan authorities for what they called Sharif's "targeted assassination".

She told the BBC she was still unable to get justice for her husband in Pakistan, but would continue to campaign for the protection of journalists and would seek the help of the UN and the Committee to Protect Journalists.

Govt mulls creation of information centre for indigenous knowledge

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame,

Monduli

TANZANIA is working to establish a special information centre to collect and disseminate rare indigenous knowledge and expertise in environment conservation, skills that can be deployed to combat effects of global warming and climate change.

The indigenous environment conservation knowledge centre is an initiative hatched through the Media Aid for Indigenous and Pastoralist Community (MAIPAC), and is set to be established in Monduli District in Arusha Region.

Monduli District Executive Director, Isaack Joseph unveiled this here over the weekend when speaking at the occasion to launch a special programme in harnessing indigenous knowledge to combat negative effects of climate change.

The event was held at Kigongoni Ward of Mto-wa-Mbu division in Monduli District.

Joseph admitted that the local authorities have set aside a plot of land for the construction of the indigenous knowledge information facility.

MAIPAC teams have been going around all districts in the Northern Zone to collect information from members of local communities in Arusha and Manyara regions on how the natives use their naturally hatched knowledge to address negative climatic effects.

From their series of studies, MAIPAC was able to compile the results and publish a special booklet titled the 'Application of Indigenous Knowledge for Environment Conservation,' which was launched in the course of 2023.

Now the organization is planning to set up a full-fledged information centre where people from all over the world could be going to learn the time-tested and proven indigenous skills in conservation.

According to the MAIPAC official, the nomadic pastoralists in the Northern Zone regions of Tanzania, have been learning it the hard way since time in history and therefore have rich virtual libraries of skills and knowledge, including traditional methods of weather and calamities predictions.

"The pastoralists had to learn the hard way that they can always create their own pastures for future use, in case of drought by planting the elephant grass on selected patches of land," pointed out Mussa

Juma, MAIPAC) director.

Monduli is one of the districts that were badly affected by the 2022 drought spell which killed 129,786 animals including livestock and wildlife in the precinct.

In the neighbouring District of Longido nearly 60,000 animals, including wildlife and livestock perished due to famine and drought spell that affected most parts of Tanzania in 2022 all due to climate change.

To address that, the media organization conducted research on how to apply indigenous methods to offset such calamities and from the studies in three districts of Longido, Monduli and Ngorongoro, from which the booklet was published.

"It is high time we go back to our own time tested and proven indigenous knowledge conserving the environment because everything else seems to have failed and this is a global problem," stated some of the participants who attended the event in Monduli.

Karatu District Environment Officer Reginald Hallu said Karatu was experiencing a surge of environmental destructive activities, including mass deforestation for firewood used to fuel brick hatching kilns. He lauded the organization for introducing environment programmes at the Lake Eyasi basin.

Manyara Division's Forest Officer, Happy Masaki said they were working with MAIPAC to erect a fence to protect the Kabambe water source in Selela from invasion of human activities, threatening the natural spring.

The 'Forest, Water and Environment Conservation, Using Indigenous Knowledge,' project is supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the GEF Small Grants Programme and the Vice President's Office, Environment Division.



It is high time we go back to our own time tested and proven indigenous knowledge conserving the environment because everything else seems to have failed and this is a global problem

Insolvency agency to 'kill' two industrial service firms

By Guardian Reporter

THE Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA) has announced the liquidation of DOVE-TEL (T) Limited popularly known as 'Sasatel' and Hydrox Industrial Services Limited after confirming that the duo were unable to operate and settle debts.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the decision to liquidate the two companies, RITA Chief Executive Officer of RITA, Frank Kanyusi, said that the move was aimed to protect the rights of shareholders, partners, creditors and employees and ensure that all government taxes and dues were duly paid.

"I would like the general public to understand that apart from registering births, deaths, marriages, divorces, and adoptions, RITA also oversees Corporate Insolvency and Personal Insolvency, as well as the registration of Boards of Trustees, management of unclaimed property, drafting and safe keeping of wills, and the administration of estates," Kanyusi stressed.

He said RITA has been authorized by Court to liquidate or rather privatise the two companies in which the agency has already issued public notice to inform the public on sensitivity of the issue especially for those with interests in these companies, to come forward before the

process was completed.

"The work of insolvency in the country is guided by various laws depending on the type of business being conducted by the company being liquidated," the RITA boss explained.

Kanyusi further added that RITA was committed to fulfilling its responsibilities professionally, yet meeting the expectations of the sixth phase government led by President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan, through her philosophy of the 4Rs: Reconciliation, Reform, Resilience, and Rebuilding.

"These laws including the Insolvency Act Chapter 25, the Companies Act of 2012, the Banking and Financial Institutions Act Chapter 342, the Cooperative Societies Act Chapter 211, the Insurance Act 394, the Public Corporations Act, the Deeds of Arrangement Act, and the Trustees Incorporation Act Chapter 318," he said.

Kanyusi noted that liquidation of the two companies was a crucial step since if they were not liquidated, their assets could disappear and the mentioned groups would also lose their legal rights.

DEVETEL or Sasatel was established to deal in the communication business while Hydrox Industrial Services Limited was involved in the production and sale of water purification chemicals and drugs.



Opposition Alliance for Democratic Change referral committee member Said Miraji (R) makes remarks at the party's postmortem and referral meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the conduct of the chairmanship election held last month. He is with (from 2nd-R) committee deputy chairperson Lydia Bendera, committee secretary John Mbogo and the failed candidate, Doyo Hassan, who is contesting the results. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Jafo pledges to convene regular meeting with traders, investors

MINISTER for Industry and Trade, Dr Selemani Jafo has promised to convene a regular meeting with traders and investors to listen to their challenges and hence find durable solutions.

He made the remarks over the weekend when speaking to officials from some institutions under his Ministry and that of Zanzibar's Ministry of Trade and Industrial Development.

The meeting was meant to discuss how to implement various directives issued by President Samia Suluhu Hassan when swearing in newly appointed top government officials at the Tunguu State House in Zanzibar.

In addition, Dr Jafo called on the Ministry and the private sector both in mainland and Zanzibar to cooperate with the Ministry to promote the development of trade and industries.

He promised to continue addressing the various challenges faced by businessmen, industrialists, and the private sector in general to promote mass production of products and increase revenue collection.

He said the private sector has employed many people in the country and thus if given a conducive envi-

ronment, it will continue to flourish and increase the number of jobs for Tanzanians, improve national income, and build a strong and competitive industrial economy.

Dr Jafo also said that he and his experts will continue to meet with various businessmen through business councils in all regions of the country to listen to their challenges and plan how to solve them to ensure that the industrial and business sector grows rapidly.

He instructed employees in the Ministry to fulfil their duties profes-

sionally and efficiently to ensure that the Ministry reaches the government's expectations in promoting the industrial and commercial sectors.

Dr Hashil Abdallah, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Zanzibar's Permanent Secretary in the Zanzibar's Ministry of Trade and Industrial Development, Fatma Mabrouk Khamis promised to work in synergy providing close cooperation to the Minister to achieve the intended goals.



Tanzania Institute of Education director Dr Aneth Komba (L) and Educate Institute director Kamanda Kamiri pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday signing an agreement aimed at promoting and providing continuous training in the teaching of business subjects in implementing a new and improved curriculum. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

We need to make tough choices to make Zanzibar grow, says ACT

THE Opposition ACT-Wazalendo Chairman in Zanzibar Othman Masoud Othman has emphasised on the need to make major leadership reforms in the Isles in order to build a stronger economy.

Othman who is also the Zanzibar's First Vice President cited an example of Mauritius saying that the country got independence in 1968 and its economy has remained robust and continues to grow with its national budget reaching 13trn/- unlike Zanzibar which has 5trn/- budget.

He said that there is a need to make difficult decisions in order to make Zanzibar grow as it has all the opportunities for its economy to go higher while also improving people's livelihoods.

"People's lives here have contin-

ued to worsen due to the burden of multiple taxes and levies which they carry, access to basic needs is hard because prices of the services are also high, we need to make change and bring relief to Zanzibaris," he added.

Ismail Jussa Ladhu, ACT-Wazalendo Vice Chairman (Zanzibar) said the Island has been grabbed by incidents of rampant corruption which are high in number and never witnessed since revolution and the culprits are left to continue living freely.

According to him, the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) reports have every year been iden-

tifying areas with the corruption loopholes but no measures are taken.

"There are cases where some people have been stealing public funds and hiding them in foreign accounts, we are making follow up on this and once found we will ensure that stern legal measures are taken once we enter into power in 2025," he said.

Ladhu said that residents in Zanzibar Stone Town face a lot of challenges and that currently they are required to pay 30,000/- for vehicle parking apart from 1,000/- collected from those who park their vehicles when going for vari-

ous daily activities. Zitto Kabwe, the former ACT-Wazalendo national leader commended the party's leaders and members for various efforts they take to heighten unity despite various challenges.

He said that the party will continue to take various measures to promote change as it was during the late Maalim Seif Sharif Hamad.

ACT-Wazalendo is conducting public rallies as part of its strategy to visit various constituencies in Unguja, spending much of its time talking about the incidents of corruption and its impacts.

Villagers 'unaware' of eviction advice

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Mbarali

RESIDENTS of villages bordering the Ruaha National Park in Mbarali District, in Mbeya Region continue with their daily routines and activities, mostly farming contrary to recent reports that they are being evicted from their residential areas.

"People are living peacefully and Mbarali is currently busy with harvest season, and they are anticipating producing 620,000 tonnes of rice," Mbarali District Commissioner Col. Denis Mwila explains.

He said that the farms in the precinct yield the world's tastiest rice on record.

Col. Mwila told reporters in his office that authorities in the area also maintain the protection of water sources as well as environmental conservation because Mbarali acts as a reservoir for the flows feeding the Usungu wetlands that pump water into Mtera and Kidatu hydroelectricity projects downstream.

"Sometimes agricultural activities may interfere with environment conservation and this poses challenges to both sides but other than this, members of local communities in Mbarali continue with their productivity," the DC maintained. "But so far no villagers have been required to vacate their homes or farms to pave way for conservation," the DC said. Pointing out that park laws must be respected therefore grazers will not be allowed to take livestock into the nearby Ruaha National Park or the adjacent water sources.

Godwell Ole Meing'ataki, the Tanzania National Park (TANAPA)'s Assistant Conservation Commissioner who serves as the commanding officer for the Ruaha National Park, said members of the communities surrounding the conservancy co-exist peacefully with the park.

"In fact many villagers have been helpful in assisting with matters of conservation and anti-poaching initiatives and we are now working to ensure that local people here

benefit as much as they can from tourism activities," Meing'ataki pointed out.

Dismissing reports that people were being evicted from nearby villages, the Assistant Conservation Commissioner pointed out that on the contrary the government through 'Government Notice 175 of 2023' annexed a total of 405 square kilometers from Ruaha National Park, giving the land to local villages for farming, grazing and bee-keeping activities.

"Ruaha is the second biggest National Park in Tanzania after Nyerere," said Ole Meing'ataki, adding that through the Government Notice 28 of 2008, the park measured 20,226 square kilometers.

"However after the review of 2003, when land was given to local communities surrounding Ruaha, the National Park now measures 19,822 square kilometers," he revealed.

A visit to one of the villages bordering Ruaha National park revealed a hamlet bustling with activities, mostly ferrying consignment of newly harvested rice from farms to nearby towns.

Seni Leleshi Nimuka is the chairman of Madundas Village in Ruhanga Ward who says the only challenge the area faces at the moment is poor infrastructure.

"We appeal to the government to help rehabilitate the road connecting the village and the district headquarters at Mbarali, after suffering the effects of El-Nino rains that have destroyed the infrastructure," said Nimuka.

One of the villagers, Judith Tawete admitted that life continues in the area but they need support to rehabilitate their road as well as the local primary school.

District Land Officer, Faraja Nkwera affirmed that Madundas is one of the villages existing legally on the border with Ruaha National Park and that the government not only respects their rights but has also been ensuring community services such as education and health are well maintained.



Former Tanzania Revenue Authority commissioner general Alphayo Kidata (L) hands over office to his successor, Yusuph Mwenda, at TRA headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Daniel Sabuni,

Arusha

THE Arusha-based World Vegetable Centre expects to receive 600,000 Euros (1.7bn/-) from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to enable the GenBank to achieve its goals.

Dr Gabriel Rugalema, World Vegetable Centre regional director for East and Southern Africa unveiled this when briefing the Parliamentary Committee on Industries, Trade, Agriculture and Livestock who visited the centre here over the weekend.

Dr Rugalema said he believes that the various proposals they requested will be worked on because the committee is the main adviser on agricultural issues in the

Vegetable centre receives 1.7bn/- to uplift seed bank

government.

He said that in the case of GenBank, despite expecting funds to enable them to carry out storage operations, they continue to store genetics in the bank.

"We have reached 504 farmers, 120 students, and more than 600 foreigners have received education on vegetable farming issues, so this centre has great importance in bringing prosperity to agriculture in this country," said Dr Rugalema.

In another step, he said that the consumption of vegetables is still low in the community even though they are of great importance to the

human body, including improving health and fighting diseases.

"According to the World Health Organization, it is recommended that a person eat at least 50 grams of vegetables per day in order to reach 80 kg per year, so motivation should be given about the importance of vegetables in the diet," added Rugalema.

According to Dr Rugalema, since the center was established in Arusha 34 years ago, it has never been visited by any parliamentary committee.

Mariam Mzuzuri, committee vice chairperson said for the good

work done by the centre they will send their recommendations to the relevant ministry so they can be worked on. "The centre has had a small area and we've been told that they have sent an application to expand the area and do their work efficiently, we have taken care of that and we will make sure it is done quickly," said Mariam.

One of the committee members, Pauline Gekul, said that according to the studies conducted by the centre, it is good to perform a soil study in each region and identify which vegetables do well in that area and move it to the people.

South Africa: Nearly 1,000 homes in Cape Town destroyed by storms

CAPE TOWN

NEARLY 1,000 homes in informal settlements in Cape Town, South Africa, have been destroyed by gale-force winds, displacing around 4,000 people, authorities and an aid organization said as the city braces for a week of damaging storms.

South African weather authorities said Monday that Cape Town and surrounding areas are expected to be hit by multiple cold fronts until at least Friday, bringing

torrential rain, strong winds and flooding.

Cape Town's disaster coordination team has been on alert since the first front arrived last Thursday.

The worst-hit areas are expected to be the poor, informal settlements on the edge of South Africa's second-biggest city. Thousands have been displaced in Khayelitsha's township on Cape Town's outskirts after strong winds destroyed homes and other structures.

The Gift of the Givers local aid organization said it provided 10,000

meals and 3,000 blankets to displaced people in Khayelitsha over the weekend.

Other areas have been flooded and the weather has caused power outages in more than 30 suburbs, the City of Cape Town said. It said it is monitoring dam levels to ensure they don't overflow and would consider a controlled release of some water with more heavy rain expected this week.

Cape Town is often hit by cold fronts from the Atlantic Ocean during its winter months in the middle of the year. They are especially damaging for the impoverished informal settlements.

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SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES

CONDOLENCES

09th July 2024



MOHAMMED BHALOO

The board of Directors, management, staff members and the entire SOS Children's Villages family, with great sadness receives the news of the passing of Mr. Mohammed Bhaloo, on 29th June 2024. The late Mr. Bhaloo served as the chairman of the board of directors in Zanzibar, for more than 15 years.

He will always be remembered as an exceptional leader of our community, known for his kindness, wisdom, and unwavering support for those around him. His presence touched the lives of many, and his loss will be deeply felt by all who had the privilege of knowing him. His legacy of compassion and generosity in advocating for the best interest of children will continue to inspire us all.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family during this difficult time. Please join us in keeping them in your thoughts and prayers as they navigate through this period of grief.

Thank you.
Management.

BBC MEDIA ACTION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: Rural Radio Support Survey

BBC Media Action

BBC Media Action is the international development charity of the BBC. Established in 1999, the organisation seeks to reduce poverty and provide information to people around the world, through media programmes and campaigns that inspire and inform. Since its foundation, BBC Media Action has worked in developing and transitional countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe on projects that deal with issues of health, resilience, governance, education, environment, livelihoods, and emergency response.

The Rural Radio Support (RRS) project, funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) aims to support rural radio stations in Tanzania to improve their production capacity, increase their income and develop sustainable approaches to their work. This two-year project (started in July 2022) works with 12 rural radio stations across Tanzania. The project serves both direct and indirect beneficiaries. The direct beneficiaries are media practitioners, managers, owners, and staff at supported rural radio stations who received training, mentoring and other capacity-strengthening support. Indirect beneficiaries are the audiences of these partner stations. The impact on direct beneficiaries is evaluated through a capacity-strengthening study, while this quantitative survey will assess the impact on indirect beneficiaries. For this survey, there are three indicators to measure the impact of project intervention on indirect beneficiaries: -

- The partner radio stations combined reach.
- Percentage of male and female audiences who report improved relevance of media content produced by local/rural radio partners.
- Percentage of local male and female audiences who report improved quality of media content produced by local/rural radio partners.

As part of measuring project achievements, informing capacity-strengthening efforts and identifying areas for future intervention, BBC Media Action would like to conduct an audience survey across 15 regions in Tanzania where the partner radio stations operate. This survey will provide comprehensive endline information about media consumption patterns, listenership of radio stations and audience perceptions on radio and programming after mentorship training provided to partner radio stations as part of this project for ten (10) radio stations and baseline information for one (1) radio and understanding reach of one mature radio station.

The full proposal should be no more than 20 pages, including technical and financial components. The proposal should be written in a font no smaller than 11 points. Annexes may be included with the proposal and will not count against the 20-page maximum limit. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP should address the three project indicators set out in this brief and should be written in English.

The proposal should be sealed and submitted in hand at the BBC Media Action office in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.

The full Request for Proposals should be obtained through this email: catherine.maita@tz.bbcmmediaaction.org

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS SUBMISSION: 23rd July 2024
Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

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TET in new drive to reduce teachers' shortage in schools

By Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

THE Tanzania Institute of Education (TET) has embarked on a programme to recruit volunteer teachers for entrepreneurship subjects in schools to cut the current shortage of important staff.

Dr Aneth Komba, TET Director General unveiled this in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the signing ceremony of the cooperation agreement between TET and Educate - a non-governmental organization (NGO) that will seek help to hire teachers on contract in needy schools.

She said the agreement also aims to enable TET to become a research faculty that will help develop and share experience and knowledge in the implementation of business training, as well as prepare a Tanzanian who can compete internationally.

"This agreement also aims to collaborate on strengthening the provision of continuous training for teachers in schools, especially in the subject of business, entrepreneurship and enabling them to teach the subject using modern tools and having knowledge that is in line with the current technological changes," she said.

In addition, she noted that the new and improved curriculum has begun its official implementation this month for the form five and teachers taking certificate courses and that the TET is well organized to ensure the preparation of training for teachers as well as availability of teaching materials.

Dr Komba said the improved curriculum that is currently implemented is based on the Education Training Policy of 2024 which emphasizes the importance of cooperation between the government, the private sector, and various development stakeholders to provide quality education for all.

"Educate organisation has come at the right time when we continue with the implementation of improved curricula, the main thing of which is the introduction of a new entrepreneurship subject which is mandatory at all levels of education," Dr Komba added.

She said that in the previous

collaboration they got positive results including getting the opportunity to visit Rwanda to learn and share experiences, and that as a result of the training they have prepared an outline of the business education subject, a book and a teacher's guide.

Others are guidelines for conducting business and entrepreneurship clubs for students, as well as training for teachers, and conducting small surveys.

Kamanda Kamiri, Regional Director of Partnerships at Educate said that since 2022, in the first phase of cooperation, they have recorded great success in the implementation of the curriculum, and now they have signed an agreement to further improve the provision of quality education.

"Our goal is to ensure that we prepare children to face life after graduation, by providing them with essential skills that align with the current global needs, we prepare a competent workforce that can perform well when in employment or self-employed," Kamiri said.



This agreement also aims to collaborate on strengthening the provision of continuous training for teachers in schools, especially in the subject of business, entrepreneurship and enabling them to teach the subject using modern tools and having knowledge that is in line with the current technological changes

China plays important role in Global South, says BRICS envoy

CAPE TOWN

CHINA has played an important role in advancing BRICS, thus leading the Global South's efforts in providing leadership to the world, said Anil Sooklal, South Africa's BRICS Sherpa.

"I think today the Global South is a major force on the global stage," as it represents 85 percent of the global population and the fastest growing global economies today are from the Global South, Sooklal said in an interview.

China is now the second-largest global economy and a number of economies from the Global South are in the top 10 today, he added.

In a world that "has changed dramatically," he said, "BRICS is a champion of the Global South and China has played an important role in advancing BRICS."

Invited by China, South Africa in 2011 formally joined the bloc of leading emerging economies that also groups Russia, India and Brazil, the ambassador said.

He underlined that the Global South is now providing leadership and China is at the forefront of that, together with BRICS, and they are working with the African continent and other BRICS partners.

"They are shaping a new world, a world of hope, a world of inclusivity, and building a community with a shared future," said Sooklal.

The BRICS envoy also highlighted China's role in supporting Africa's industrialization.

"Even during China's presidency of the G20 in 2016, China had as one of its themes and focus areas the industrialization of Africa and LDCs (less developed countries)," said Sooklal.

He believed that the theme was

continued last year at the BRICS summit when China focused on the industrialization of Africa again, which he said is also a major focus of the African continent.

"Industrialization is critical and China, based on its own experience of industrialization, is readily sharing that with us and walking that route with us in terms of assisting Africa in its industrialization, especially in the field of new technologies, and advancing Africa's development," he said.

The South African diplomat went on to say that China has also been playing a major role in assisting the development of his country in such areas as economy, technology, urban development, industrialization, and energy.

A worker operates on the refrigerator production line at Hisense South Africa Industrial Park in Cape Town, South Africa, June 1, 2022. Hisense is a Chinese consumer electronics company. (Xinhua/Lyv Tianran)

"Given their own experience and given that agriculture is a major sector in terms of food security, China plays an important role in assisting us in modernizing the agriculture sector," said Sooklal.

As a global leader in green technology, China is playing "a major role" in helping South Africa transit from fossil fuels to green technology, Sooklal said, adding that a number of Chinese companies are involved in the green technology field in South Africa.

"In a number of fields, China has been deeply involved in strengthening relations and helping us grow our economy and advance our people, and lifting our people out of poverty, underdevelopment and unemployment," he said.



Simanjiro District development stakeholder Taiko ole Kulunju (2nd-R) has a word with Mary Moria (R), matron of Mirerani township's Light In Africa Orphanage, at the weekend moments after presenting a consignment of foodstuffs to the centre. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

By Marc Nkwame, Arusha

Use ICT gadgets into profitable output, Tanzanian youth urged

THERE are so many digital gadgets in the hands of local young people in Tanzania that are normally used for entertainment while they could be converted into profitable productivity.

"The government, through the Ministry of Education, needs to come up with a digital technology curriculum for primary and secondary schools to harness young people's interest in digital gadgets into productivity," pointed out the Chief Executive Officer of Arusha Meru International School Dr Zeeshan Ahmed Khan.

Dr Zeeshan was addressing the Arusha Meru International School graduates who have just completed studies at the institution in Arusha for the 2024 batch. He urged the

parents to also assist their children to learn the skills right from tender ages.

On his part, the Deputy School Principal Mustapha Omar Nassoro added that now that young people have already shown interest in acquiring digital skills it will be easy for the government and schools to introduce related training topics and subjects.

One of the graduating students, Gumawa Singh Sandho admitted that technological skills are what the future demands and that Tanzanian youth must be empowered in this area.

He said already many young people have digital gadgets at their disposal, including smartphones, digital tablets, portable computers, digitally connected wrist watches and even glasses, with most of them connected to the World Wide Web, through high speed internet.

Sandho said all that is left now is for them to start taking advantage of such development to beef up their skills and secure employment or create jobs digitally.

Another student, Derrick Alexander Oyungi said they were rather lucky that AMIS provides an international education curriculum

which also combines digital learning skills which prepares scholars to face the future with confidence.

Gisele Uwimana is one of the parents who attended the ceremony at the school premises in Arusha City Center and who reminded that at the moment employment vacancies are limited and those available are being threatened with emergence of artificial intelligence (AI).

"The only way out for the young people of this modern age is to equip them with as much knowledge in digital technology as possible," she pointed out.



Natural Resources and Tourism minister Angellah Kairuki admires honey and related products at the Beekeeping Value Chain (BEVAC) support project pavilion at the ongoing 48th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trader Fair at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Develop culture of writing wills, PS urges Tanzanians

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIANS have been urged to develop a culture of writing wills in order to reduce unnecessary conflicts in families and communities.

Mary Makondo, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs said that inheritance disputes continue to increase all over the country as many Tanzanians are afraid to write wills.

She made the call yesterday

when she visited Mama Samia Legal Aid pavilion at the ongoing Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF-2024).

According to her, writing a will makes it easier for the court to hear inheritance cases, as experience shows that cases where the parties left a will end quickly and smoothly.

She said that even if the supervisor of the inheritance is not doing well, the parties can still go back to court and ask for that person to be cancelled and find another one to lead them.

"Therefore, we are still begging and urging people to write a

will so that what we have sought and worked for, worthy that we struggled to get when the time we leave the world, those who have been left, children, elderly, spouses, will not have problems like what we witness now in many cases," she said.

She cited an example of the Temeke Integrated Justice Centre in Dar es Salaam which receives more than 600 inheritance cases per week, which is a lot of cases to handle at once.

She said that experience shows that inheritance where the parties left with a will, the cases go quickly,

but for those who do not write a will the case take time because long time.

Implemented by the Constitution and Legal Affairs Ministry, the Mama Samia Legal Aid Campaign which commenced in February 2023 will run until February 2026 focusing on massive public education on legal issues and systems, human rights and fight against gender-based violence (GBV).

The initiative has so far reached seven regions including Dodoma, Manyara, Singida, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Njombe and Ruvuma.

EAC urged to support the development of Kiswahili in fostering regional unity

By Guardian Reporter

EAST African Community (EAC) citizens have been called upon to proactively develop and embrace Kiswahili, in a move aimed at promoting and celebrating the language's rich cultural heritage and fostering its unifying impact across the region.

Aisha Jumwa, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary in charge of Gender, Culture, the Arts and Heritage made the call over the weekend when opening the two-day conference session of the 2nd East African Kiswahili Commission (EAKC) International Conference in Mombasa.

She urged East Africans to be proactive in developing Kiswahili and other African languages to enhance their global competitiveness.

"Kiswahili is spoken by over 200 million people worldwide. This demonstrates that our efforts to promote the language are yielding results and we should continue to advance these efforts," she stated.

The Cabinet Secretary disclosed that Kenya is considering establishing a National Kiswahili-Speaking Day as part of efforts to promote the language at national level.

"In Kenya, we are discussing the possibility of designating a special day, possibly the 7th of July, when every Kenyan, including the President, judges, civil servants, and teachers, will be expected to speak exclusively in Kiswahili," she said.

Jumwa further revealed that Kenya was in the final stages of establishing the National Swahili Council to develop specific strategies, methods and policies needed to promote and develop Kiswahili in the country, in addition to collaborating with national and private actors involved in the development of the Kiswahili language.

The two-day conference precedes the 3rd EAC World Kiswahili Language Day set for Sunday, 7th July. The three-day celebrations are aimed at exploring the role of Kiswahili and multilingual education in fostering a culture of peace.

Dr Caroline Asimwe, EAKC executive secretary said that the conference aims to provide a platform for Kiswahili stakeholders

to share knowledge, research evidence, best practices, experiences and perspectives on the role of Kiswahili education in enhancing a culture of peace.

"Kiswahili is not just a language of communication; it is fundamental to building our society, nations, and the EAC region. The issues discussed at the conference and the recommendations made will be crucial for the Commission to consider and implement in contributing to coordinated efforts to use Kiswahili for sustainable development in the EAC," said Dr Asimwe.

"Peace is the foundation of development, and Kiswahili is also a pillar of development. It is encouraging that Kiswahili has been adopted as an official or national language in most EAC Partner States and is being taught at various levels of the school system," added Dr Asimwe.

Justice Nestor Kayobera, Judge President of the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) emphasised the critical importance for officials of Partner States' governments and EAC Organs and Institutions to consistently uphold the provisions of the EAC Treaty in the execution of their duties.

Justice Kayobera reiterated that strict adherence to the Treaty is essential to preventing unnecessary legal disputes before the EACJ, noting the significant financial resources spent on compensating aggrieved parties due to violations of the Treaty.

Joseph Ntakirutimana, Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) expressed optimism about the future global prevalence of Kiswahili.

"To achieve regional cooperation, unity, socioeconomic development and prosperity, it is essential to strengthen our interactions through the use of a common language," said Ntakirutimana.

He called on Partner States Ministers of EAC Affairs and other stakeholders to advocate for the adoption of Kiswahili as an official language across the region.

"Kiswahili is poised to transcend borders, becoming a universal language spoken across continents. This would signify a significant milestone for East Africa," Ntakirutimana remarked.



Opposition Chadema Central Committee member John Heche addresses a rally at Sirari in Inchu ward, Tarime District, on Saturday. Photo: Correspondent Samson Chacha

European Investment Bank seals pact to support Tanzania's SMEs

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE European Investment Bank (EIB) has signed a statement of intent to blend 1.043trn/- to provide credit to Tanzanians banks.

The signing ceremony was held here over the weekend shortly after the EIB delegation wrapped up its visit in Tanzania.

In a statement issued, the bank said that the financing under the EU Global Gateway strategy will go towards supporting Small and Medium-Sized enterprises (SMEs) in Tanzania.

Thomas Östros, EIB Vice-President and the Deputy Ambassador of the European Union to Tanzania, Emilio Rossetti, signed a statement of intent to blend a grant of 15 million Euro (about 43bn/-) from the European Union with 350 million Euro (trn/-) loans from the European Investment Bank.

The grant will contribute to early stages of financing to prepare businesses for subsequent commercial investment, the statement reads in part, adding: "This will help de-risk local banks' lending to unlock or increase funding to SMEs."

According to the statement, out of the 350 million Euro, the EIB has signed 270 million Euro (775bn/-) with three banks such as CRDB which has received 150 million Euro (about 430bn/-), NMB with 100 million Euro (about 287bn/-) and KCB Tanzania which has received 20 million Euro (58bn/-).

The remaining 80 million Euro (229bn/-) will be provided to other financial institutions in the country.

The package will focus on women and the blue economy sector, for which SMEs access to finance is particularly strained.

"This package under the EU's Global Gateway investment strategy is aligned with the Tanzanian government's priority

sectors and Sustainable Development Goals," reads the statement.

Östros highlighted that small businesses are a key part of the African economy, saying they create jobs and drive economic development and innovation.

"At the European Investment Bank, we use a variety of tools that address financing gaps at the various stages of business creation, including the riskiest ones, so as to develop an efficient entrepreneurial ecosystem driven by entrepreneurs' skills and expertise," he noted.

Rossetti said: "We are working jointly with the European Investment Bank to enhance access to finance for SMEs and promote financial inclusion of underserved people such as startups or youths and women-led businesses in Tanzania. This is part of the EU's Global Gateway investments for Africa aiming to create new and sustainable jobs."

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AfDB to lift devt impact in Angola

By Special Correspondent

AFRICAN Development Bank Vice-President for Regional development, Integration and Business Delivery, Marie-Laure Akin-Olugbade has completed a mission to Angola in which she held several strategic, high-level dialogue sessions with authorities of the country.

The talks provided the foundation for the implementation of the Bank's new 2024-2029 Country Strategy Paper.

The country strategy paper, which will guide the cooperation between the Bank and Angola for the next five years, was one of the main objectives of the mission which took place from 25-28 June. Her key message to the authorities was the Bank's readiness to do bigger and transformative operations in Angola.

The vice-president met with senior government officials, including the Minister of Planning and governor of the Bank Victor Hugo Guilherme, the Minister of Finance and alternate governor, and representatives from sector ministries including the Energy and Water, Transport and Agriculture, as well as the Sovereign Wealth Fund. She was also received at the Presidency of the Republic by the Minister of State for Economic Coordination, José de Lima Massano.

Akin-Olugbade also met key development partners working in Angola to discuss common synergies and collaboration and engaged with private sector players to assess progress in reforms of Angola's business environment.

The parties discussed the cooperation between Angola and the Bank and its priorities, which focus on accelerating economic diversification and job creation, leveraging Angola's enormous youth dividend, investment in agriculture, and a significant pipeline of energy projects set to transform Angola from a fossil fuel exporter to a supplier of clean energy to Southern and Central Africa.

Akin-Olugbade noted the significant results delivered by Bank projects, which have successfully delivered access to water and sanitation to over

80,000 households in the country's coastal towns. During a field visit to the Bank-financed Science and Technology Park of Luanda, Akin-Olugbade appreciated the advances made to an investment expected to provide a significant boost to innovation and research for academia, the private sector and start-ups.

At a reception attended by key partners and stakeholders held on 28 June, the vice president launched the celebration of the African Development Bank's 60th anniversary.

She said: "I am delighted to see the significant progress made by Angola to diversify its economy and revive the agricultural sector that has been growing faster than the oil sector for the past five years. I could appreciate the significant success in weathering the COVID crisis and putting public debt on a sustainable trajectory. We now have the foundation for a fruitful collaboration between Angola and the Bank to provide skills to the labour force, and opportunities for decent jobs, thereby creating hope for the youth and women."

Almost 66 percent of the population of Angola is under the age of 25, Akin-Olugbade noted.

Minister Guilherme said: "We are delighted with the visit of VP Marie-Laure Akin-Olugbade which is a testament of the prolific partnership between our country and the Bank. We welcome the AfDB's strategic focus on supporting economic diversification beyond the oil sector by fostering sustainable agricultural value chains anchored on provision of clean energy infrastructure, reliable water supply, and transport corridors. Despite the difficult external and domestic environment compounded by multiple shocks, our government is steadfastly implementing structural reforms to boost competitiveness in the non-oil sector and foster a sustainable, green and inclusive growth consistent with the objectives of our third National Development Plan (NDP 2023-27)."

Since the beginning of the Bank's operations in Angola in 1980, it has approved a cumulative total of more than \$3 billion in projects to support the country's development agenda.

Women to benefit from AU agriculture program

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

WOMEN from 69 districts engaged in cassava and millet growing are set to benefit from an African Union (AU) programme targeting those from rural areas.

The Empower Women in Agriculture programme aims at promoting inclusive and sustainable agricultural trade and value chains.

Once rolled out, Uganda will become the 10th nation in Africa to benefit from the programme. Other beneficiary countries are Liberia, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Malawi, Nigeria, and Côte d'Ivoire, among others.

Ritah Kabanyoro, the country director of Action Against Hunger, said Africa is an agricultural continent and the sector employs more than 70 percent of the population, many of whom are women benefiting from farming.

"We want women to be known for growing cassava and millet. We are driving a value chain that ensures women participate in the money economy, not just staying in the garden and kitchen," she said during the launch of the programme in Kampala last Friday.

She added: "We have managed to get over 2,000 acres donated by landlords, which we are giving to farmers as part of the initiative. We have grouped and scaled out their production, trained them, and provided them with startups."

Maureen Wagubi, the chief executive officer of the Institute for Social Transformation, a human rights organisation, said the programme has been tested

in various countries and has been successful.

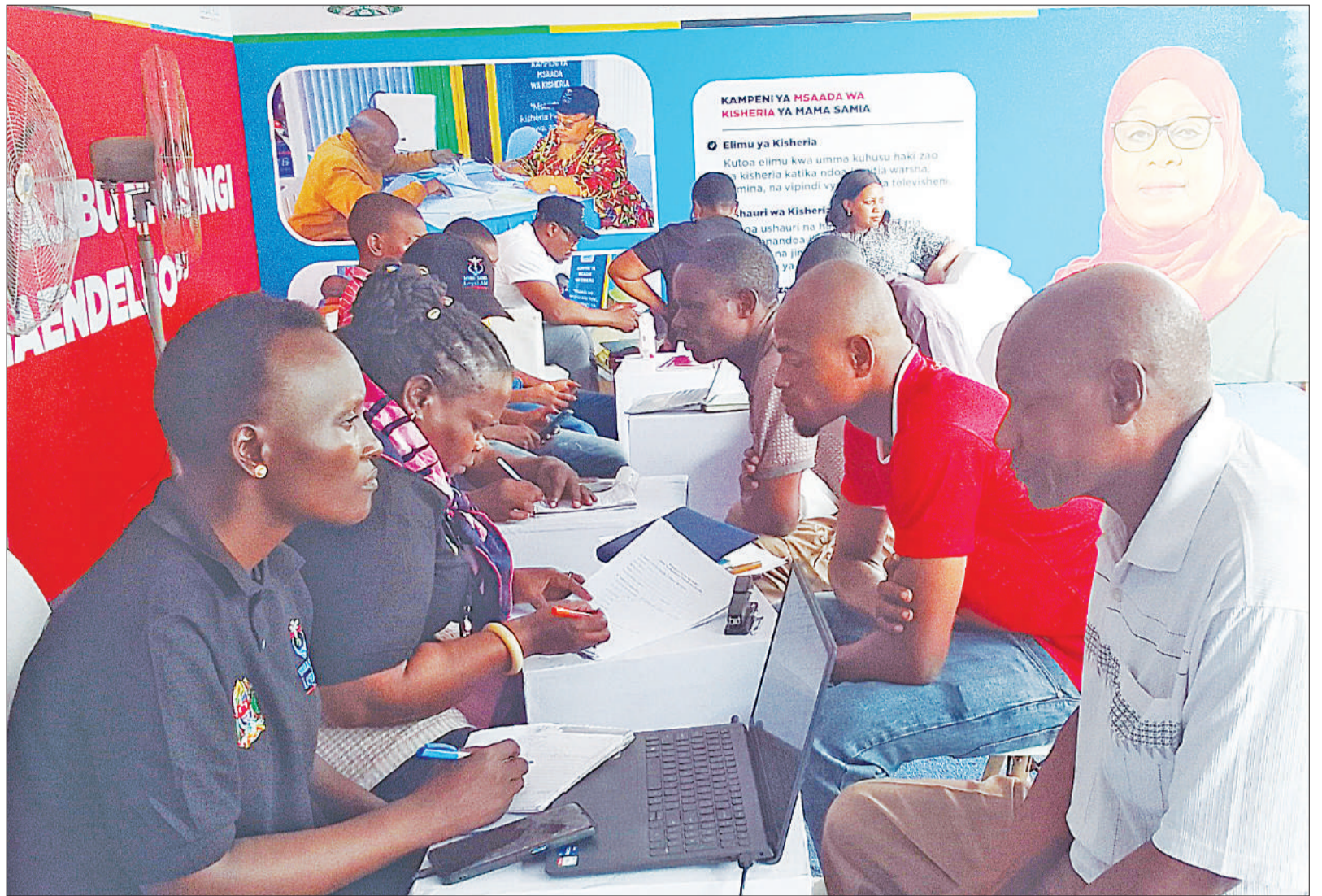
"We are focusing on organising women farmers on a value chain we have identified, which is cassava and millet, and we are going to focus on the last-mile woman," Wagubi said.

She added: "Building their capacities in line with modern technologies will facilitate their production and market. We are looking at the African level, where we have the African Continental Free Trade Area, and we want the women to use these spaces and add value to their products."

Wagubi said the programme will also focus on organising women through the formation of cooperatives, adding that it is going to be a countrywide programme based on regions.



We want women to be known for growing cassava and millet. We are driving a value chain that ensures women participate in the money economy, not just staying in the garden and kitchen



Leaders of NGOs attend a meeting in Dar es Salam's Kipunguni suburb yesterday on ways to contribute ideas meant to embellish, and help in the implementation of, Tanzania's Development Vision 2025-2050. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

EACOP attracts many at Dar Trade Fair

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) pavilion at the 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF-2024), has been a crowd puller as many visitors are interested to know the project implementation stage.

EACOP uses the DITF avenue to educate Tanzanians and visitors on the significance of the project and how communities living along the pipelines in eight regions in Tanzania have benefitted from the project.

"I am very much interested to know more existing opportunities available along the pipeline. I am originally from Chemba District in Singida Region living in Dar es Salam," said Ezekiel Lubuva, a

resident of Yombo Vituka in Temeke District.

Lubuva said he decided to visit the pavilion housed at TPDC Square to get first-hand information about the EACOP benefits and living along it can clearly exploit opportunities to transform their lives," he said.

The EACOP project spans a total length of 1,443 kilometers, with 296 kilometers in Uganda and 1,147 kilometres in Tanzania. In Tanzania, the project passes in Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Manyara, and Tanga Regions including 24 Districts, 134 wards, and more than 180 villages.

"I have also learned about the project's compensation where 13,161 Project Affected Persons (PAPs) have already received their compensation in various forms,

including replacement houses, cash, and other benefits," Lubuva said.

Similarly, Manyangu Madoshi from Shinyanga who visited the pavilion yesterday expressed joy after hearing that the project provides employment opportunities for people of different professions for residents along the project.

Catherine Mbatia, EACOP Head of Communication (Tanzania) admitted that the exhibition has been yet another platform of knowledge transfer for visitors wanting to know more about the project being jointly implemented by four partners.

"We are happy to see many visitors at our pavilion eager to learn and know many things about ECAOP.

We are welcoming them since this DITF is an opportune avenue to get clarifications on things people do not understand about the project," Ms Mbatia explained.

EACOP Ltd is a special purpose company governed by its shareholders' Agreement in which Total Energies (62 percent), Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) 15 percent, Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) 15 percent and China's CNOOC (8 Percent)

The DITF was recently officiated by Mozambican President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi alongside his counterpart President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan who called on exhibitors to make full use of the annual event to establish and register new business contacts.



Legal experts with Mama Samia Legal Aid Campaign conduct public sensitisation and education sessions at the 48th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Elizabeth Zaya

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

EXPERTS have renewed their calls for the East African Community (EAC) Council of Ministers to expedite amendments to the EAC Treaty to enable Kiswahili as the regional bloc's official language.

In a statement from the EAC headquarters in Arusha Monday, experts urged all member states to enact laws promoting the use of Kiswahili at an event held in Mombasa, a Kenyan coastal city.

Kenyan Cabinet Secretary of Gender, Culture, the Arts and Heritage Aisha Jumwa said "Kiswahili is our unifying language

Experts renew pleas for EAC to adopt Kiswahili as official regional language

in the region, with over 200 million people speaking it. I urge all EAC member states to push for laws and policies to be written and published in Kiswahili."

President of the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) Nestor Kayobera said adopting Kiswahili as an official language would enhance citizens' understanding of the EACJ's proceedings across the region, which are currently delivered primarily in English.

"The Treaty establishing the EAC recognizes the English language as the official language and Kiswahili as a lingua franca," he said.

EACJ could not thus deliver its rulings in Kiswahili, Kayobera said, describing it as unfortunate that citizens cannot follow proceedings and understand judgments in their language.

The 41st session of the General Conference of the United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization recognized July 7 as World Kiswahili Language Day, marking a milestone for the African language with over 230 million speakers globally.

The EAC is an intergovernmental organization composed of eight member states, namely the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania.

TUESDAY 9 JULY 2024

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EAC ministers Z'bar retreat vital in confidence building

A NOVEL initiative was in the air at the weekend and into the start of the week as Foreign and Regional Cooperation ministers from member states of the East African Community (EAC) gathered in a three-day retreat in Zanzibar upon a directive from the Heads of State.

The host minister, January Makamba, expressed Tanzania's hope that the ministers would engage in honest and transparent discussions aimed at fortifying the community for the benefit of its peoples.

All eligible participants were in attendance across eight states, which sets the pace for consensual parameters of regional policies.

As a matter of fact, this initiative that came about by instructions of the summit was enhancing other innovations already tried out to forge an image of institutional cohesion.

It was in holding EAC summit in open meetings followed by a large public on prime-time television, after knotty issues are hammered away at ministerial meetings and prior consensus having emerged.

What is taking place is an effort to find a workable basis for sustainable cohesion in solving regional issues, not left at bilateral level or to the summit as for a long while been the case, that each minister presents a nation state viewpoint, largely.

There was little divergence in how the ministers viewed that experience, as the theme that unity is a source of strength was clearly underlined.

They must have been worried that pulling in different directions could see EAC losing relevance, as it did in its earlier version - from 1967 through 1977.

The regional bloc was restored 22 years later after three years of preparations. It has greater flexibility

than the older version, absorbing contentions more easily in its 25 years of existence.

Some will remember that ten years ago in 2014 institutional cohesion was on the brink, but the Heads of State brought out the tensions to some close scrutiny and moved forward even better.

One reason why it is a little easier to start cultivating a cohesive EAC view of things is that regional integration is itself on the way to lose its cardinal importance either in the business or sociopolitical context.

The reason is the coming into force of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) which compels the region to start evaluating how to build synergies within the bloc, especially in attracting more foreign capital, generating greater local investments instead of capital exports and idle bank cash.

Yes, money in the bank is far from being idle, but investment lending is a far cry from individual risk taking.

In that context, the host minister was right, though maybe not fully, in stressing on having previously witnessed the consequences of EAC disintegration, since no such costs stand to occur if the EAC was dissipated right now.

At most there would AfCFTA and World Trade Organisation (WTO) tariffs instead of a customs union setting, at present. It would imply some hikes in import costs and some auxiliary checks at border points but AfCFTA membership would take care of the rest.

EAC cohesion makes us stronger as nation states as people see a higher rationality for a certain number of prerogatives, cutting out excesses.

In these days of nearly everything from constitutions to budgets being contested, having a more cohesive EAC entity in the direction of a confederation of sorts is a plausible goal.

UN deserves applause for standing in defence of intangible cultural heritage

AT times it is people from outside that take note and alert public officials and particular organisations where there is a matter of evident cultural or community interest but where local engagement cannot to sort out the matter to satisfaction.

That is what we learn with UNESCO's national field office setting out to conduct a week-long training workshop to equip stakeholders with skills to identify, document and safeguard intangible cultural heritage.

It is a sort of novel idea at least in that 'intangible' suggests that it is even hard to talk about it, as few people know of it.

Even without obtaining precisions from experts on what constitutes intangible assets, there are ready examples coming out of - yes, the cultural heritage locally and in some cases it is a cultural trait we share with many other countries.

At the time former President Ali Hassan Mwinyi died, President Samia Suluhu Hassan said in a funeral eulogy that the late national leader was a "reference library" for her to resort to whenever the need arose.

This might have meant that there was no other place to make those checks, with the same qualities or characteristics.

But if the net were to be cast farther socially, academically, in the arts or in business, a lot more would surface that is lost each year when those possessing them are no longer around, or questions are no longer asked.

In that sense as well, Bagamoyo District in Coast Region, where the session devoted to that issue was being readied, poses precisely the

sort of issues that come up with the whole idea of intangible heritage.

At least one word that is more familiar came up in relation to the need to establish an array of experts and trainers on inventorying intangible cultural heritage.

A UNESCO official appeared to be labouring over what precisely will be involved in drafting a national framework for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.

There was one tangible idea in the official's remarks where stakeholders were called upon to appreciate the need to cultivate and promote community awareness on intangible cultural heritage.

The matter is crucial for maintaining cultural diversity and ensuring the transmission of these traditions to future generations.

That is much clearer, but it perhaps ploughs in the opposite direction from modernisation, which creates a common technology-based heritage - tastes.

To be sincere, there are many things in each community's intangible heritage where members of the respective communities will lose nothing by forgetting.

However, there are also vital skills or intuitions that disappear with generations, and this is apparently what the UN agency and a range of other stakeholders are pursuing.

Community-based inventorying is being mooted as a participatory approach to involve local communities in identifying and documenting their own heritage.

This quest arises from Tanzania being a signatory to the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, with its Article II demanding that State Parties trace and record such heritage in their territories.

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What do we do with our Kiswahili?

Is journalism's trust problem about money, not politics?

By Jacob L. Nelson

JOURNALISM faces a credibility crisis. Only 32 per cent of Americans report having "a great deal" or "fair amount" of trust in news reporting - a historical low.

Journalists generally assume that their lack of credibility is a result of what people believe to be reporters' and editors' political bias. So, they believe that the key to improving public trust is to banish any traces of political bias from their reporting.

That explains why newsroom leaders routinely advocate maintaining "objectivity" as a journalistic value and admonish journalists for sharing their own opinions on social media.

The underlying assumption is straightforward: News organisations are struggling to maintain public trust because journalists keep giving people reasons to distrust the people who bring them the news.

Newsroom managers appear to believe that if the public perceives their journalists as politically neutral and objectively minded reporters, they will be more likely to trust - and perhaps even pay for - the journalism they produce.

Yet, a study I recently published with journalism scholars Seth Lewis and Brent Cowley in *Journalism*, a scholarly publication, suggests that this path of distrust stems from an entirely different problem.

Drawing on 34 Zoom-based interviews with adults representing a cross-section of age, political leanings, socioeconomic status and gender, we found that people's distrust of journalism does not stem from fears of ideological brainwashing.

Instead, it stems from assumptions that the news industry as a whole place more value on profits above truth or public service.

The Americans we interviewed believe that news organisations report the news inaccurately not because they want to persuade their audiences to support specific political ideologies, candidates or causes, but rather because they simply want to generate larger audiences - and therefore larger profits.

Commercial interests undermine trust

The business of journalism depends primarily on audience attention. News organisations make money from this attention indirectly, by profiting off the advertisements - historically print and broadcast but now increasingly digital - that accompany news stories.

The organisations also monetise this attention directly, by charging audiences for subscriptions to their offerings.

Many news organisations pursue



revenue models that combine both of these approaches, despite serious concerns about the likelihood of either leading to financial stability.

Although news organisations depend on revenue to survive, journalism as a profession has long maintained a "firewall" between its editorial decisions and business interests.

One of journalism's long-standing values is that journalists should cover whatever they want without worrying about the financial implications for their news organisation.

NPR's Ethics Handbook, for example, states that "the purpose of our firewall is to hold in check the influence our funders have over our journalism".

What does this look like in practice? It means that journalists at The Washington Post should, according to these principles, feel encouraged to pursue investigative reporting into Amazon despite the fact that the newspaper is owned by Amazon founder and executive chairman Jeff Bezos.

While the effectiveness of this firewall in the real world is far from assured, its existence as a principle within the profession suggests that many working journalists pride themselves on following the story wherever it leads, regardless of its financial ramifications for their organisation.

Yet, despite the importance of this principle to journalists, the people we interviewed seemed unaware of its importance - indeed, its very existence.

Bias towards profits

The people we spoke with tended to assume that news organisations made money primarily through advertising instead of also from subscribers. That led many to believe that news organisations are pressured to pursue large audiences so that they can generate more advertising revenue.

Consequently, many of the people interviewed described journalists as being enlisted in an ongoing, never-ending struggle to capture public attention in an incredibly crowded media environment.

"If you don't get a certain number

doing their work with integrity and free from any ideological bias.

Since 2020, for example, The New York Times has maintained a "Behind the Journalism" page that describes how the newspaper's reporters and editors approach everything - from when they use anonymous sources to how they confirm breaking crime news and how they are covering the Israel-Hamas War. The Washington Post similarly began maintaining a "Behind the Story" page in 2022.

Yet these displays do not address the chief cause for concern among the people we interviewed: the influence of profit-chasing on journalistic work.

Instead of worrying quite so much about perceptions of journalists' political biases, it might be more beneficial for newsroom managers to shift their energies to pushing back against perceptions of economic bias.

Perhaps a more effective demonstration of transparency would focus less on how journalists do their jobs and more on how news organisations' financial concerns are kept separate from evaluations of journalists' work.

The people we interviewed also often appeared to 'fuse' television news with other forms of news production, such as print, digital and radio. And there is ample evidence that television news managers do indeed appear to privilege or favour profits over journalistic integrity.

"It may not be good for America, but it's damn good for CBS... The money's rolling in," said CBS chairman Leslie Moonves of the massive coverage of then-presidential candidate Donald Trump in 2016.

With that in mind, perhaps discussions about improving trust in journalism could begin by acknowledging the extent to which the public's scepticism towards the media is well-founded - or, at the very least, by more explicitly distinguishing between different kinds of news production.

In short, people are sceptical of the news and distrustful of journalists not because they think journalists want to brainwash them into voting certain ways but because they think journalists want to make money off their attention above all else.

For journalists to seriously address the root causes of the public's distrust in their work, they will need to acknowledge the economic nature of that distrust and reckon with their role in its perpetuation.

• A Nieman Lab dispatch republished from The Conversation. Jacob L. Nelson is an associate professor of communication at the University of Utah, the US.

By Adonis Byemelwa

Public private partnerships: Illuminating the country's path to progress through education and collaboration

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has championed the cause of Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in advancing educational endeavors across the country. In the heart of Tanzania's Kagera Region, nestled within the vibrant tapestry of Katoke village in the Muleba District, one such partnership is a beacon of hope and progress that illuminates the landscape—Katoke-Lweru Secondary School (KLSS).

Established 16 years ago under the joint visionary leadership of the late Rev. Canon Samuel Habimana of Katoke and Prof. Alan Watson of Sydney, and championed by The Katoke Trust for Overseas Aid (Australia), KLSS stands as a testament to the transformative power of education.

With its roots firmly planted in the community, KLSS has blossomed into an exemplary institution, enriching the lives of students and uplifting the entire community.

Driven by a steadfast commitment to education, health promotion, and poverty alleviation, The Katoke Trust's recent accomplishments and bold initiatives underscore its unwavering dedication.

Founded in 1998 by Prof Watson, a previous missionary who worked at the Katoke Teachers College, this grassroots Christian organization operates on the principle of providing education regardless of race, color, or creed to enhance the quality of leadership in Tanzania.

After Prof Watson returned to Australia in the early 70s he kept in touch with Canon Habimana and other Katoke friends with the occasional letter.

But when he returned to Katoke in 1998 he saw the community facing serious challenges: communications were difficult, cash-crop coffee prices were down, health was suffering and education could use a hand.

He formed a link with his University of NSW School of Teacher Education and began the Katoke Trust, visiting Tanzania usually twice a year and offering professional and practical support.

Based in Sydney, Australia, the Katoke Trust boasts a passionate team of volunteers who administer its projects with unparalleled efficiency. With virtually 100 percent of proceeds directly funding development initiatives in Tanzania, the Trust's impact is tangible and transformative.

KLSS and The Katoke Trust continue with their remarkable journey, illuminating paths to brighter futures in Tanzania and beyond.

KLSS has consistently demonstrated excellence in education, a fact that Associate Professor Alan Watson, President of The Katoke Trust, proudly shares.

"The difference between an excellent school and an ordinary school is not immediately apparent to the casual visitor," says Watson.

"However, John Goodlad's classic study (1984) identifies key qualities: teacher concern for individual students, absence of favoritism, good peer esteem, and suitable task difficulty. KLSS embodies these principles."

KLSS stands as a paragon of educational excellence, embodying the ideals set forth by this renowned educator Goodlad.

With a harmonious tapestry of mutual teacher support, adherence to schedules and fervent student engagement in academia and extracurricular activities, the school has become a revered cornerstone of the community.

Remarkably, KLSS has experienced a remarkable 20 percent surge in enrollments since mid-2023, a testament to its sterling reputation and unwavering commitment to nurturing young minds.



In 2023, Katoke Lweru Secondary School achieved its best-ever results in national examinations, with over 90 percent of Form IV students scoring in the top two bands. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

In 2023, the school achieved its best-ever results in national examinations, with over 90 percent of Form IV students scoring in the top two Divisions.

As well, KLSS excelled in the recent Eastern Regional Conference, winning accolades in singing, bible knowledge, and poetry. Such achievements have bolstered the school's reputation, leading to this recent increase in enrollments, with the current student population at 465 across Forms 1 to 6.

The Trust's vision extends beyond the confines of KLSS. It aims to serve as a resource for other schools in the region. "Over the past 20 years, we have held regular professional workshops for the district teachers. When I visited this year, we organized professional workshops for staff from over 60 secondary schools," Watson recounts.

"These workshops, with leading Tanzanian academics addressing contemporary school challenges and with themes such as human memory and learning, received resounding praise from participants. KLSS is serving as a conduit for knowledge dissemination, excellence in education, and community uplift."

The Katoke Trust's efforts are not limited to education. It actively engages in poverty reduction projects, and vanilla cultivation, a long-term initiative, continues to gain traction despite fluctuating market prices.

"There is a strong demand for vine lengths to plant, and more local farmers are seeking help to grow the crop," notes Watson. Additionally, the Trust's malaria and HIV/AIDS prevention programs are saving lives, while women's chicken-raising programs are providing food security and empowerment for women.

One of the Trust's most exciting new ventures is the Engaruka School Project, aimed at providing education to the semi-nomadic Maasai tribe.

"We are working with Professor Jonathan and his wife Cath plus a dedicated sub-committee to establish a school north of Arusha on the other side of Tanzania to Katoke," Watson explains. "This initiative was born from a great longing for education in this remote area."

The project was initiated by the enthusiastic request of the local community, which included a warm welcome from the village Chief,

the community, and the church during a visit by Watson and his wife Elizabeth in August 2019.

For the Engaruka School Project, fundraising efforts in Australia have been instrumental, enabling the building of major structures such as classrooms, an administration block, and teacher accommodation. The first teacher appointments are being made, and the school is set to welcome its initial cohort of students in July 2024.

The Katoke Trust is committed to sustaining and expanding its impact in the local community through various initiatives. "Our vision is to collaborate with partners moving towards self-reliance," Watson states.

The Trust's plans include completing the high school infrastructure, starting an English medium primary school as part of KLSS, and continuing medical support for malaria and AIDS prevention.

The Trust aims to extend vanilla growing and women's chicken projects, maintain high educational standards at KLSS, and serve as a model for other schools. The establishment of the Engaruka school is a significant milestone in these efforts.

The Katoke Trust's success is built on the long-term dedication of its volunteers and supporters, who are pleased to see all their fund-raising efforts used for this important development work in distant Tanzania.

This year, Mr. Adrian Jackson, the Trust's treasurer, was honored with an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his exceptional service, following the Australia Medal previously awarded to Prof. Watson for his leadership and expertise. Both awards are recognition by the Commonwealth Government of Australia for this important development work.

"Since we started raising funds for KLSS and other projects in 2007-1998, more than \$A10m has been raised," Watson reveals. "We have a management committee of 16 people and seven sub-committees as well. All are volunteers so less than 2% of the funds we raise are spent in Australia on essential costs like insurance and auditing."

The Trust's Communications and Fundraising Committee has significantly increased visibility and support. "For the life-changing impact of this program, we thank God," Watson says. "I am also thankful for the loyal support and help of my wife, Elizabeth, for this calling which we share."

Collaborative farming inhibiting elephants from raiding Tunduru District

By Felister Peter

Collaborative farming is a formal arrangement where farmers cultivate their crops in a community farm to ensure enhanced security of the crops against destructive wild animals as well as improving their harvests.

In villages adjacent to national parks, Human-Wildlife-Conflict (HWC) challenges are more serious, posing threat to people's lives and properties including crops.

Such villages are those in Tunduru District, Ruvuma Region whereas to control and reduce invasions into farms, villagers have resolved for joint farming ventures to be able to jointly protect the farms.

Wildlife damage to agricultural crops is a serious concern affecting people in Tunduru District as the villages are located near the Selous-Niassa Wildlife Corridor that connects the Selous Game Reserve with Mozambique's Niassa Reserve.

In Ruvuma's Tunduru District most of the villagers are farmers cultivating both cash and food crops thus contributing to economic growth. Cultivated crops include rice, green peas, sesame, maize, cashewnuts, groundnuts, sweet potatoes and many others. Tunduru has 157 villages and 39 wards.

Mbati Ward Executive Officer, Baslom Mnkondya, said the biggest challenge facing villagers is wild animals as they have been frequently entering into farms and sometimes attacking people and causing deaths.

According to Mnkondya, in the 2022/2023 financial year, crop damage by wild animals wasn't that big compared to this year whereas between 150 and 300 people had their farms destroyed by elephants. In 2022/2023, between 87 and people had their farms destroyed.

"Elephants are attracted to the farms because of the availability of food. We are now encouraging villagers to start planting crops that elephants would not like to eat such as sesame," he said.

He however expressed gratitude to the German Development Agency (GIZ) through the German Government (BMZ) for coming up with the Mitigation of Human Wildlife Conflict in Tanzania project to help them combat elephant's invasions into their farms.

The three years project is implemented in the Ruvuma Landscape targeting rural populations in villages south of the Nyerere National Park and the Selous Game Reserve in the districts of Masasi in Mtwara Region, Namtumbo and Tunduru in Ruvuma Region.

"We are thankful to GIZ as they supporting government efforts; they have assisted us to establish joint farm-



ing ventures whereas farmers cultivate crops at one specific area, thus becoming easy to protect the farm against wildlife," said the Ward Executive Officer, adding through such kind of farming villagers have harvested more compared to previous years when GIZ had not started to implement the project.

Mnkondya said the community farm which is estimated to be 200 acres accommodates between 15 and 50 people. He asked the government to continue helping them as well as stakeholders so that farmers can reap more harvests.

"GIZ has helped us a lot; they have sup-

ported three Village Game Scouts (VGS) to undergo training at the Community Based Conservation Training Center (CBCTC)-Likuyu Sekamaganga in Namtumbo District so that they assist villagers in keeping elephants out of farms," he said, adding most of the affected areas are Ruvuma, Mwinyi, Mbati ya Leo, Muungano and Mandela wards and Jiungeni, Chapakazi, Nyerere, Kawawa villages

Asha Sadick is one of the Mbati villagers who is conducting her agricultural activities at the community farm, she acknowledged the support from GIZ saying their crops are no longer at risk of being de-

stroyed by elephants.

"We collaboratively patrol the farm throughout the day. Men conduct patrols at night and are also using various methods to scare the big animals. With GIZ support we were able to make a chilli fence which has reduced the problem by 80 percent," narrated Sadick.

She said that following bumper harvests; more villagers are now requesting to cultivate at the community farm.

Acting Tunduru District Executive Director, Bosco Mwingira said the district is located at the border between Tanzania and Mozambique, a situation that fuels HWC as

elephants are always migrating from Mozambique's Niassa Park to Selous national park. He said when animals move from one area to another, they pass through people's farms, thus destroying crops.

"We have a serious challenge of elephant invasion into farms; we are thankful to the support from stakeholders including GIZ as villagers are now cultivating on community farms and can easily guard the farms," said Mwingira. He added: "With the joint farming ventures farmers unite to patrol their farm and they are likely to harvest more crops this year as they had successfully managed to keep elephants out of their farms."

Mkandu Village Chairman, Anafi Ally, said that villagers have resolved to jointly conduct agricultural activities to control wildlife. He added that so far 45 people have joined the farming arrangement and have successfully controlled elephants from invading their farms.

Farming together means that everyone has a farming area but we cultivate close to each other to easily protect crops, said Ally.

Shafii Msuya, Technical Advisor, Mitigation of Human Wildlife Conflict in Tunduru District, Ruvuma Region, said they are working in 30 villages across the region.

"Our project supports government initiatives in combating HWC whereas we are also working closely with the relevant ministries to prepare the National Human Wildlife Conflict Management Strategy (NHWCMS 2020-2024) that aims to improve coexistence between people and wildlife as well as to protect the communities' right to development and well-being with conservation.

He added: "We empower communities to reduce the negative impacts of HWC on their livelihoods and security."

'I'm in hell': How rising heat is amplifying India's social divides

By Mohammad Sartaj Alam and Yashraj Sharma

SATENDRA Kumar had been feeling unwell during the recent prolonged heatwave, sweating in his family's one-room hut, but forced himself to go to work to repay the loan he had taken out for his daughter's marriage. May 30, a Thursday, was particularly searing as he rode his bicycle to the workshop where he was employed as a carpenter in Aspura, 59km (37 miles) from Patna, the capital of Bihar state.

Once there, his health deteriorated, and Kumar asked his manager for a rare half-day off. On the way home, he lost consciousness under the scorching sun, falling off his bike less than 1km away from his home. By evening, his family's frantic search for Kumar ended in a nearby government-run health centre, where he lay dead.

If you ask Suraj Kumar, 21, what killed his father, it was the "unbearable heat". The doctor noted the same in their postmortem report.

"I'm leaving my studies and looking for a job now," said Suraj, speaking at the family home. "The loan repayments are on me as well as the household expenses."

Schools were ordered to shut and hospitals rushed to create "heat units" after temperatures in several areas of India's north and south hovered around 50 degrees Celsius (122 degrees Fahrenheit) in May and June. The weeks-long heatwave killed more than 200 people and led to more than 40,000 suspected cases of heatstroke, according to data from India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Experts and climate activists say the deaths are likely to be higher as local authorities may not correctly attribute some to heat.

The effect of record-breaking heatwaves has been disproportionately unequal, reinforcing divides within Indian society along caste and class lines, activists and researchers told Al Jazeera.

"The exclusion from welfare on caste-basis discrimination, or its crisscross with class factors in India is so widespread that it touches you whether it is the state budgets, development programmes, or a disaster like a heatwave," said Paul Divakar, a renowned Dalit activist from the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights.

"It is not only the natural part of the heat but the deliberate situation that we build where people from marginalised backgrounds are not treated as equal citizens. And they are the most vulnerable to this deadly heat."

'How are we supposed to cope?'

The Kumar family of six had long dreamed of buying an air cooler for the 3.7-metre by 2-metre (12 feet by 7 feet) shanty, which Sanju Devi, Kumar's 45-year-old wife, had made a home. The room has a gas stove to the right of the bed, although the family mostly cook indoors using cow dung as cooking fuel. Kitchen utensils are stuffed under the bed frame and, with their few belongings, they can pack up their lives in one suitcase, according to Devi.

Their village of Aspura has nearly 500 homes predominantly belonging to Kumar's community which has been woodworkers for generations. They are listed among what the country calls "Other Backward Classes" (OBC), however, a survey studying their socioeconomic conditions has recommended their inclusion in the "Scheduled Castes" category, which could make them eligible for more opportunities in areas such as employment and education.

"Let alone food, we did not have money to buy wood for the cremation," Devi said quietly as she spoke with Al Jazeera from her home in Aspura. "How are we supposed to cope with this heat?"

Increasing temperatures and humidity have drastically affected the working hours for millions in India, said Avinash Chanchal, senior campaign manager at the environmental NGO Greenpeace India. Many now work fewer hours and their earnings have dropped significantly. "But at the same time, they have to spend more money on heat-related, may we say, adaptive measures," he explained.

A recent study by Greenpeace, in collaboration with the National Hawkers Federation, of the street vendors in the capital, New Delhi, found that 49.27 percent of respondents experienced a loss of income during heatwaves with 80.08 percent acknowledging a decline in customer numbers.

"This city is becoming unbearable to live in"



Boys cover their faces on a hot summer afternoon in Varanasi on May 29, 2024, amid a heatwave

The neighbourhood of Mustafabad is among New Delhi's poorest areas and comprises informal settlements where many households and garages are engaged in waste management. Dua Khatoon was 18 when she married a dismantler in the area more than 40 years ago. She soon learned the basics of the trade as well, plucking copper wires from transmitters and circuit boards.

The walls of her work area inside a garage have turned black from the smoke. When the heatwave struck this summer, the 59-year-old widow said she left her survival "up to the grace of Allah".

"This place feels like an oven; like I'm in hell," she said, speak-

ing inside her work area, the space littered with copper wire.

"This city is becoming unbearable to live in. We don't recognise this heat. It is very difficult to put into words this constant burn in your body. It feels like death."

Khatoon is paid 50 Indian rupees (\$0.6) for sorting through 10kg of waste. In contrast, the rent for the house she shares with her two sons and their families is 9,000 rupees (\$110) per month. With their earnings, the family was able to buy an air cooler, with air conditioners unaffordable for most Indians. According to a government survey, the top 5 percent of the wealthiest Indians own 53 percent of the country's air conditioners.

The family has seen how dangerous venturing out into the sweltering heat to go to work can be.

In June, Dua's 28-year-old daughter-in-law Fozia said she had heatstroke while walking to a nearby well-off neighbourhood where she is employed as a domestic worker. "I couldn't breathe and the vision was fading away fast," Fozia recalled.

"When I entered the owner's home, their AC [air-conditioner] saved my life. I sat down to apply ice packs and took leave." She was forced to take three days unpaid leave to recover.

Deepening segregation in cities During their research with several communities in central In-

dia, Chanchal of Greenpeace said they found a lack of awareness regarding heat-related health issues.

"Then there is literally zero intervention by the government ... for these communities to deal with heat," he said.

The study on the heatwave's effect on Delhi's street vendors revealed that 97.6 percent of street vendors needed access to medical facilities, 95.9 percent lacked proper washroom facilities, and 91.5 percent did not have access to adequate drinking water. "The government does not appear to be preparing for this crisis," Chanchal said. "They don't have any concrete plans in place."

In fast-deteriorating climate conditions, Divakar, the Dalit activist, said the survival of marginalised communities is also stacked against the basic architecture of Indian cities, which have increasingly become segregated in the last decades.

"If we look at the socioeconomic conditions of these communities or how the places have been built, and how much breathing space is between them," he said. "We can see a difference and the inequality."

Divakar, who has also worked with the victims of floods and droughts, said caste-based discrimination has again been reinforced by the recent heatwave.

"We need policy regulation and stricter implementation of the existing guidelines. And strengthening the agency of the communities themselves," he added. "With conscious investment in equity measures in every sphere of our life - from wages, access to civic development, to the financial inclusion."

Chanchal called for the government to create a legally binding heat-action plan, including "vulnerability mapping", and "come up with the policies".

India is among the largest emitters of gases heating the planet and is highly vulnerable to climate effects. A report by the New Delhi-based Centre for Science and Environment found that the country experienced extreme weather on nearly 90 percent of days in 2023.

Divakar noted the Indian government's progressive standings on the global stage, including its commitments to the Paris Agreement to reduce reliance on fossil fuels. "But the government is not taking equity measures in these. Unless we do that, we are only treating climate as a problem of the elite while the most affected ones continue to die."



Sanju Devi's husband Satendra Kumar collapsed and died on his way home from work during extreme heat conditions in late May

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Health centre in Arusha gets solar inverter to heighten electricity supply

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

ARUSHA-based Themi Health Centre has received a modern solar inverter to help improve service provision facilitating 24 hours operation.

The solar inverter system will be connected to a renewable energy plant in the area thus enhancing efficiency power supply.

Dr Charles Sululu, Themi Health Centre Acting Medical Officer thanked the stakeholders for the support because it will guarantee supply of power unlike previously when power cut was affecting operations at the centre.

"This support will help us improve the working environment, frequently power cuts have a great negative impact on patients, so this equipment is a saviour," he said.

Speaking after launching the office and handover of the solar inverter, Arusha City Mayor, Maximilian Iranghe commended the company for supporting the centre, something which will help improve provision of health services, especially to women and children.

He said supply of the solar energy systems, which is one of the prod-

ucts manufactured by the company, will help save and reduce the cost of energy for urban, rural and commercial households.

He explained that the awards underscored the company's dedication to serving the people of Tanzania and Africa, reaffirming Sun King's unwavering commitment to providing brighter lives for millions worldwide.

Isaya Doita, Chairperson Social Services Committee- Arusha City Council said apart from the office employing many young people, the contribution that the firm has made will help improve the health sector which is facing many challenges.

"In many of our meetings we come across a number of challenges of the health centres, this support has a great impact here," he said.

Victor Agandi, Sun King Vice-President of Sales for Eastern and Southern Africa said the equipment worth over 7m/- will power Themi Health Centre Laboratory.

The handover went along with the launch of the company's office, the second largest apart from that of Nairobi, Kenya.

Agandi said their company's policy also focuses on returning part of the profits to the community (cor-



Arusha City mayor Maximilian Iranghe switches on solar inverter installed at the Themi Health Centre in Arusha at the weekend.

porate social responsibility) they were supporting to improve the health sector and pave the way for local people to get reliable and better health services.

"One of our responsibilities as a

company is to help the community. So, we saw the importance of collaborating with this health centre because they have a problem with electricity, unreliable power also affects storage of medicines and vac-

cines," he said.

Sun King, formerly Greenlight Planet, for over a decade, continues to lead the way in the off-grid solar industry by providing solar powered energy solutions to under-

served communities in the developing world while driving positive social, economic, and environmental change since its founding in 2009.

Hidden beehives help combat illegal logging along Kenya's coastline

By Special Correspondent

DRESSED in protective clothing and armed with a smoker, Peter Nyongesa walks through mangroves to monitor his beehives along the Indian Ocean coastline.

The 69-year-old Nyongesa recalls how he would plead unsuccessfully with loggers to spare the mangroves or cut only the mature ones while leaving the younger ones intact.

"But they would retort that the trees do not belong to anyone but God," he says.

So, he's turned to deterring the loggers with bees, hidden in the mangroves and ready to sting.

Their hives now dot a section of coastline in Kenya's main port city of Mombasa in an effort to deter people who chop mangroves for firewood or home construction.

It's part of a local conservation initiative.

"When people realize that something is beneficial to them, they do not consider the harm that comes with it," says Nyongesa of the loggers.

Mangroves, which thrive in salty water, help prevent erosion and help absorb the impact of severe weather events such as cyclones.

But more than half of the world's mangrove ecosystems are at risk of collapse, according to the first global mangrove assessment for the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Ecosystems released in May.

Mangroves are threatened by illegal logging, climate change, pollution and urban development.

According to a 2018 Kenyan environment ministry report, about 40 percent of mangroves along the Indian Ocean coast are degraded.

In Mombasa County, it's estimated that almost 50 percent of the total mangrove area there – 1,850 hectares (4,571 acres) – is degraded.

But such overall degradation has slowed in Kenya, which in 2017 developed a ten-year plan to have community conservation efforts manage mangroves.

The efforts have been incomplete because of inadequate resources.

Communities, however, are doing what they can. Nyongesa now has 11 beehives and harvests about eight litres of honey per hive every three months.

Each litre earns him \$6, a valuable source of income.

When Nyongesa started beekeeping 25 years ago, he didn't know anything about the threat to mangroves or how his bees could help.

He became involved in 2019, when he joined a local conservation group called Tulinde Mikoko, Swahili for "Let's Protect Mangroves."

The group adopted his beekeeping as a community initiative along with mangrove planting.

Members also serve as custodians of the mangroves and try to stop loggers.

The group has concealed beehives to the top branches of mangroves as silent guardians. The bees are meant to attack unsuspecting loggers.

"We positioned them at the peak where they can't be spotted with ease," explains Tulinde Mikoko founder Bibiana Nanjilula.

"As such, when the loggers start cutting down whichever tree, the bees will attack due to the noise."

The group hopes the tactic is working but has found it hard to measure its effects in the relatively



Mangroves are reflected in the water at Al Nouf area southwest of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

difficult to access areas.

The bees also play a crucial role as pollinators.

As they forage among the mangrove flowers, they transfer pollen from one flower to another, facilitating plants' reproduction.

"The healthier the mangroves are, probably the more productive the honey production will be," says Jared Bosire, project manager for the

UNEP-Nairobi Convention.

The office is a project of the UN Environment Program (UNEP), based in Nairobi.

Kenya has 54,430 hectares of mangroves remaining, they contribute \$85 million per year to the na-

tional economy, according to a report by the Global Mangrove Alliance in 2022.

By Isabel Esterman

Africa's great ape sanctuaries feel the heat from climate change

IN April 2024, above-average rainfall caused Kenya's Ewaso Nyiro River to burst its banks, flooding the area and wreaking havoc for residents, including more than two dozen rescued chimpanzees at Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary.

Recent research predicts that in the next three decades Africa's apes will be increasingly affected by climate change, facing more extreme events like wildfires, floods and heat waves. However, it's not just wild apes that are at risk when it comes to a warming world: great ape sanctuaries across the continent are feeling the heat too.

"Climate change has had a huge impact on the sanctuaries," says Kaitlyn Bock, head of programs for the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA), a coalition of wildlife sanctuaries and centers across the continent. "All the markers of climate change have been affecting them and their operations. Everything from increased rainfall to exacerbated periods of drought."

Bock says these changes seem to be happening rapidly across PASA's 23 member organizations, which care for gorillas, chimpanzees, bonobos and other primates.

"I think climate change is something that happens over time, you know, we're seeing this happen gradually over many years ... but for the sanctuaries, it doesn't feel very gradual."

From extreme flooding to droughts

While climate change is affecting ape sanctuaries across the continent, it manifests in different ways. For example, flooding is the major concern in parts of East Africa.

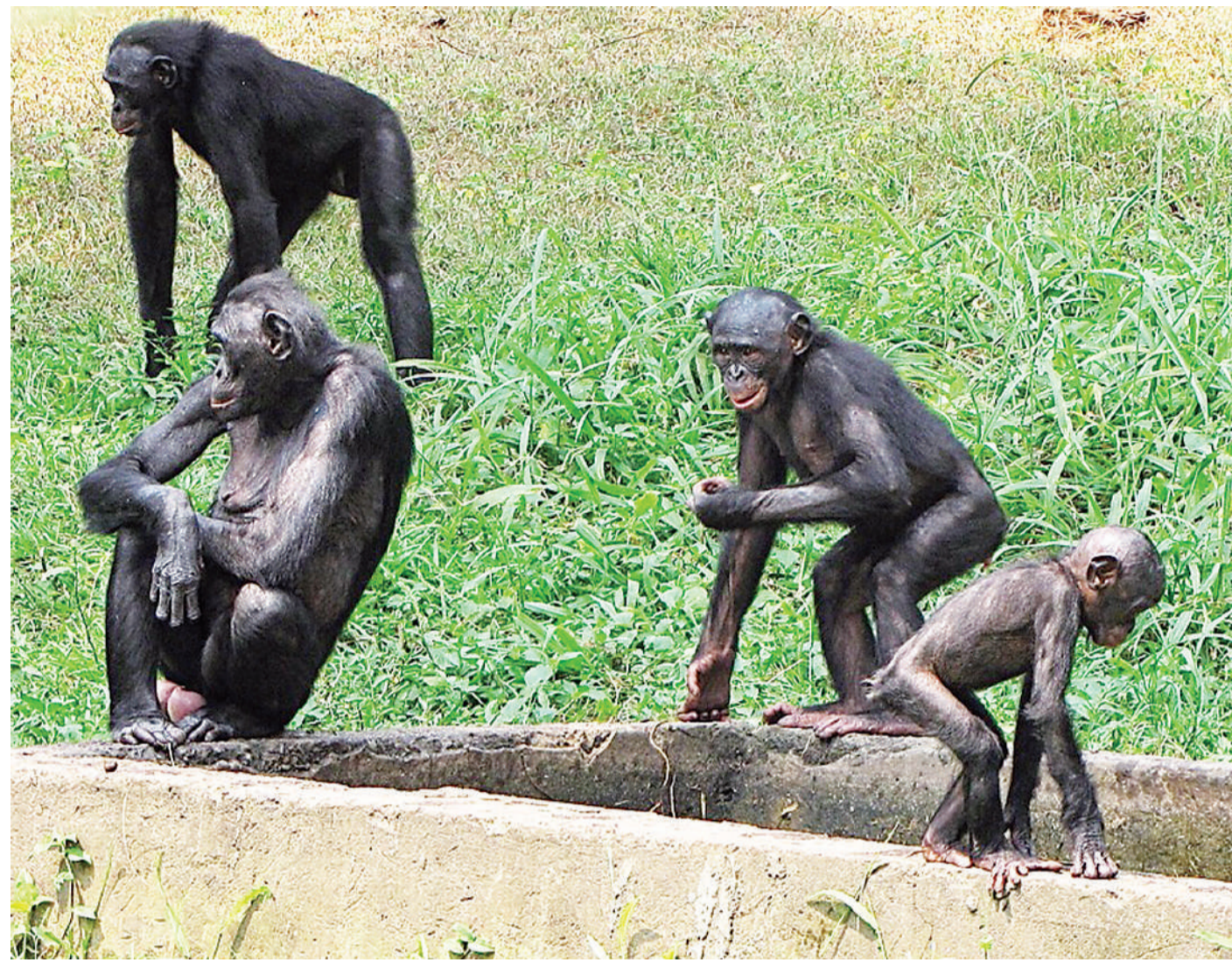
Dr. Stephen Ngulu, manager and veterinarian at Sweetwaters, which is part of Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya, says unprecedented rainfall and flooding are contributing to an array of problems for the facility. When the Ewaso Nyiro River overflowed earlier this year, the flooding damaged fences and other infrastructure at the sanctuary and restricted the chimpanzees from accessing their larger enclosures.

"This severely impacts the chimpanzees' welfare, and keeping them in confined areas heightens the risks of physical conflicts between chimpanzees," Ngulu says, adding that these circumstances also increase the risk of infectious disease outbreaks within the chimpanzee population.

Meanwhile, flooded roads hamper staff ability to access and assess areas for damage. Plus, difficult passage impacts the transport and cost of food and supplies.

"Such situations are deemed crises within a sanctuary," Ngulu says.

Flooding in neighboring Uganda is also causing significant challenges for Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary, as water levels in Lake Victoria, which surrounds the facility, have reached unprecedented levels.



Casual grouping of various male and female bonobos (*Pan paniscus*), adult and juvenile, at Lola Ya Bonobo sanctuary in Kinshasa.

"The El Niño rains have been exceptionally long and heavy this past year with rains persisting for over six months and the traditional seasonal rains in excess of what they should be," says Dr. Joshua Rukundo, a vet and executive director of the Chimpanzee Sanctuary & Wildlife Conservation Trust, the organization that manages the sanctuary. "This has happened in the region almost consistently over the last two to three years."

One of the biggest impacts of this flooding has been the forced closure of visitor facilities, which has hampered the organization's ability to generate money to support the sanctuary and wild chimpanzee conservation efforts.

Meanwhile, changing weather patterns have also affected the organization's alternative livelihood programs, which help plant high-value, conflict-resistant crops such as potatoes, beans and coffee. Unpredictable rains have caused root rot and crop losses, which Rukundo says also increases competi-

tion for the "meager available resources by communities and wildlife, exacerbating human-wildlife conflict."

Plus, the situation is taking up staff time. Rukundo says workers are constantly tasked with adjusting fencing electrification and repairing damaged areas of fences, among other things.

A bit further south, Zambia faces not flooding, but more frequent droughts, which have contributed to widespread hunger and increased poverty in the nation.

Peggy Motsch, executive director of the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage Trust, which cares for rescued chimpanzees, says the sanctuary is struggling to provide a consistent supply of food and water to the animals in its care.

The sanctuary partners with local communities to source food, but agricultural challenges linked to drought are making this more difficult, she says. To help, Chimfunshi has introduced conservation farming practices on its land, but water scarcity hinders farming efforts.

Plus, "all this shortage of water and food is leading to an increase in prices, which is causing great difficulties for the population and also for the sanctuary, as we depend on external donations to meet our needs," Motsch says.

She adds, "People's hunger drives them to commit crimes in order to make money, so they start stealing materials such as metal from the enclosures, which can compromise the security of the enclosures and endanger the chimpanzees and the population."

Of course, it's not just sanctuary animals that are impacted by worsening weather conditions. Motsch says Chimfunshi staff struggle to feed their own families and that the sanctuary is "constantly looking for ways to help alleviate their food security challenges."

Water shortages in places like Zambia also make it harder to keep up with the sanitary measures necessary to protect people from contagious diseases, Bock says. For example, access to clean water is necessary to maintain the level of hygiene required to prevent the transmission of cholera, an infectious disease. On-going drought in Zambia is making this difficult, and 21,000 cases of this potentially fatal disease were reported there

from January 2023 to January 2024, according to the United Nations.

"This is just an example of one of the emergencies that certainly affects the chimps and the animals that are there, but in maybe greater ways is affecting the people and the staff that work there," Bock says.

Building resilience
PASA has a special fund to help sanctuaries cope with emergency situations. For instance, the organization helped pay for infrastructure to help mitigate some of the flooding problems at Sweetwaters in Kenya. Money is limited, though, and Bock says these kinds of crises are popping up more and more as the planet warms.

However, Bock says, sanctuary staff are exceptionally hardy in the face of such challenges.

"When you're in this line of work, it requires a level of resourcefulness and resilience, which I think our sanctuaries have in spades," Bock says. "These are very tough, adaptive, strong-willed and passionate people who are very committed, and working against the odds is sort of our bread and butter."

Chimfunshi is adapting by taking action to conserve as much water as possible while still providing its chimpanzees with access to clean water, even in times of scarcity. One way it achieves this is by allowing the chimpanzees more time outside their enclosures to help minimize the need for frequent cage cleaning.

In addition, a number of sanctuaries or their partner organizations have enacted conservation programs that not only help to restore wild apes' habitats, but also aim to recover forests that can help fight climate change by serving as carbon sinks. For instance, Sweetwaters has a tree-planting program, though this has also been impacted by unpredictable weather patterns.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, Les Amis des Bonobos du Congo (ABC), the NGO that started Lola ya Bonobo Sanctuary, established Ekolo ya Bonobo Community Reserve, a protected area of more than 48,500 hectares (120,000 acres) in the Congo Basin rainforest. Not only does the reserve function as the world's only bonobo rewilding site, but its peat swamp terrain also serves as a climate-stabilizing carbon sink, says Candor Soraya Bourne, director of conservation partnerships for Friends of the Bonobos, ABC's U.S.-based partner organization.

In this way, the organization's conservation efforts can benefit both imperiled apes like bonobos, which Bourne notes are an umbrella species and humans alike, as we race together against the effects of rising global temperatures.

"Typically, we don't consider humans to be benefactors of the conservation of umbrella species," she says. "But considering its global climate relevance, why not count humans as one of the thousands of species that are dependent on the Congo Basin rainforest staying alive and intact?"

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS/WORD FIT - 129

Crossword grid with numbers 1-14 and black squares indicating non-letter positions.

Across:
1 a light greyish-brown moth unwanted sound
6 give an income to someone
7 leave out or exclude
10 refer to a thing related to a female
11 put, lay
13 stretch out an arm in order to touch or grasp something
14 a procedure in which fluid is injected into the rectum, typically to expel its contents
Down:
1 a person who tends sheep
2 a small autonomous principality in the southern Pyrenees
3 opportunities or scopes
4 flightless New Zealand bird
5 spherical green seeds
9 Fasten with a string
11 pretence
12 used to identify a specific person

Word fit puzzle grid with the word 'NIT' visible in the center.

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

MAIDEN OILER RICER
MONDAY NDEBELE NIT: POSE
AIDED DEUT LEICS
ILEUM ADMONISH ERSE
DEBTORS CASTS TERSE
TOO: SHRI

Yesterday's solution crossword grid with words filled in: CHILDREN, KENYA, HIDEALTO, AREAS, EVICTED, NASHET, DATER, SENSE, LEAGE, STONE, EIDER, TAMILV, RIT, OYOVI, PANDAL, MBEIN.

RADIO One RAJIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI. Includes a detailed program schedule for Monday through Sunday with times and program names.

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One. Includes social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter, along with the Radio One logo.



Pension funds 'overwhelmed' by inconsistent transition regulations
Page14



DIT project recycles plastic waste into spare parts
Page14



TAA starts construction of 10 airport runways, lights
Page15

Tanzanian economy expands by 18trn/- in 2023

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN'S economy expanded by 18trn/-, at current market prices, to 188.6trn/- last year, compared to 170.3trn/- recorded in 2022, the rebased Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by activity data published yesterday by Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has said.

The data show, the size of all economic activities reached 175.8trn/- last year from 157.5trn/- in 2022, while taxes on product slightly increased to 12.8trn/- compared to 12.7trn/- respectively.

The strong growth was recorded in services sector, which comprises of 13 economic activities, after hitting 69.8trn/- last year from 60.1trn/- in 2022, driven by strong growth of wholesale and retail trade, transport and storage, financial and insurance activities as well as administrative and support services.

The size of wholesale and retail trade: repair increased to 15.7trn/- last year from 13.5trn/- in 2022, while the size of storage and transport activity jumped to 13.5trn/- compared with 11.3trn/- respectively.

The size of financial and insurance services increased substantially to 8.4trn/- from 5.5trn/- while the size of administrative and support services reached 4.9trn/- last year from 4.2trn/- recorded during the previous year.

Other largest services activities according to the central bank data are public administration and defense, education and real estate.

The second largest industry

and construction sector also recorded expansionary trend as it increased to 55trn/- last year compared to 52.7trn/- recorded in 2022, driven by expansion of construction, manufacturing and mining activities.

The size of construction activity increased by nearly 1trn/-, after reaching 24.95trn/- at the end of last year, compared to 23.97trn/- recorded in 2022, manufacturing activity grew to 13.18trn/- from 12.15trn/- while mining and quarrying activities reached 16.9trn/- from 15.4trn/-.

However, the data shows the size of electricity supply activity declined to 34.4bn/- last year from 248bn/- in 2022.

The size of agriculture, forestry and fishing sector increased to 49.98trn/- last year from 44.67trn/- recorded in 2022, driven by expansion of crops, livestock, forestry as well as fishing activities.

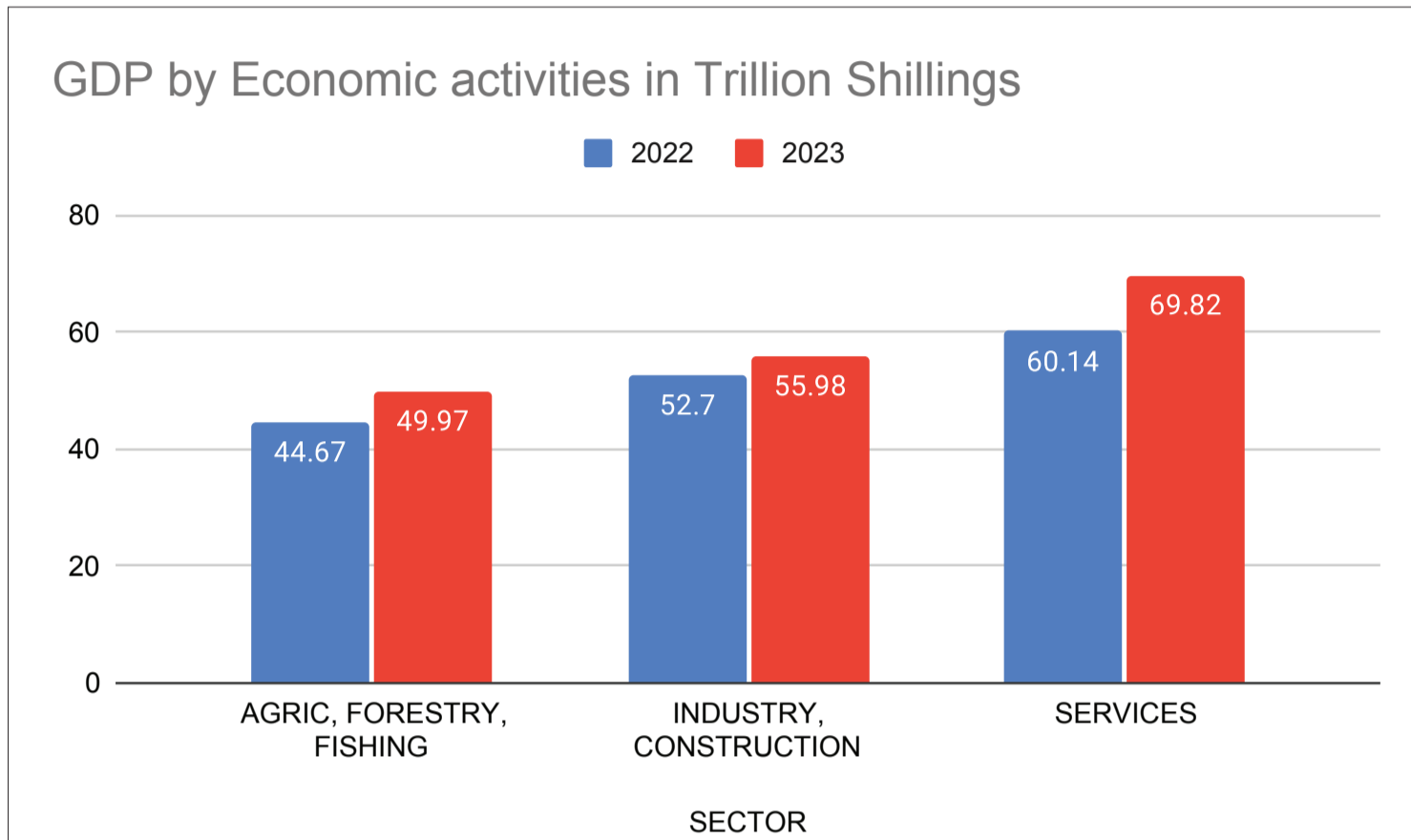
The central bank data show the size of crops activity recorded strong expansion of nearly 3trn/- to 30.3trn/- last year from 25.5trn/-, while those of livestock expanded to 11.67trn/- from 11.46trn/- respectively.

The May 2024 consensus report by the Barcelona based FocusEconomics shows that the size of Tanzanian economy, at current market price, is expected to reach 206trn/- at the end of this year, before reaching 227trn/- next year.

GDP growth is forecast to accelerate slightly this year from last thanks to stronger growth in both private and public spending, said Adria Solane, economist, FocusEconomics.

Solane said fixed investment will remain supportive, as IMF-backed reforms enhance investor sentiment.

"On the flip side, export growth is forecast to soften while extreme weather events disrupting agricultural production pose a downside risk," said econo-



mist.

FocusEconomics panelists see GDP expanding 5.6 percent in 2024, which is up by 0.1 percentage points from one month ago, and expanding 5.9 percent in 2025.

The third review under Extended Credit Facility arrangement by International Monetary Fund (IMF) published in June indicates that the country's economic growth is expected to continue strengthening, supported by improvements in the business environment and subsidizing global commodity prices.

IMF says growth is projected to pick up to 5.4 and 6.0 percent in 2024 and 2025, respectively, supported by improvements in the business

environment and subsidizing global commodity prices.

It is projected to rebound to about 6.5 percent over the medium-term assuming successful implementation of the authorities' reform agenda, according to IMF.

During the meeting on East Africa integration and economic outlook 2024 convened by East African Business Council in March this year, CEO Roundtable projected the Tanzania's economic growth of 6.3 percent in 2024.

"Tanzania's economic growth is fueled by the rebound in tourism and continued investment in public infrastructure," said John Bosco Kalisa, EABC Executive Director during the open-

ing of the meeting.

The World Bank's Tanzania Economic Update for 2024 is also projecting an annual GDP growth for 2024 at 5.6 percent and offers hope for Tanzania, although several threats cloud the economic outlook.

"Potential risks include slow or incomplete implementation of structural reforms, the impact of climate change on key sectors like agriculture and tourism, and the possibility of a global recession," the World bank said.

Boeing due to plead guilty to fraud in US probe of fatal B 737 MAX crashes

SEATTLE

BOEING (BA) has agreed to plead guilty to a criminal fraud conspiracy charge and pay a fine of \$243.6 million to resolve a US Justice Department investigation into two 737 MAX fatal crashes, the government said in a court filing on Sunday.

The plea deal, which requires a judge's approval, would brand the planemaker a convicted felon in connection with crashes in Indonesia and Ethiopia over a five-month period in 2018 and 2019 that killed 346 people.

The settlement drew swift criticism from victims' families who wanted Boeing to face a trial and suffer harsher financial consequences.

The Justice Department's (DOJ) push to charge Boeing has deepened an ongoing crisis engulfing Boeing since a separate January in-flight blowout exposed continuing safety and quality issues at the planemaker.

A guilty plea potentially threatens the company's ability to secure lucrative government contracts with the likes of the US Defense Department and NASA, although it could seek waivers.

Boeing became exposed to criminal prosecution after the Justice Department in May found the company violated a 2021 settlement involving the fatal crashes.

Still, the plea spares Boeing a contentious trial that could have exposed the company's decisions ahead of the fatal crashes to even greater public scrutiny. It would also make it easier for the planemaker, which will have a new CEO later this year, to try to move forward as it seeks approval for its planned acquisition of Spirit AeroSystems.

A Boeing spokesperson confirmed it had "reached an agreement in principle on terms of a resolution with the Justice Department."

As part of the deal, the planemaker agreed to spend at least \$455 million over the next three years to boost safety and



compliance programs. Boeing's board will have to meet with relatives of those killed in the MAX crashes, the filing said.

The deal also imposes an independent monitor, who will have to publicly file annual progress reports, to oversee the firm's compliance. Boeing will be on probation during the monitor's three-year term.

Lawyers for some of the victims' families said they planned to press Judge Reed O'Connor, who has been overseeing the case, to reject the deal.

In a separate document filed to the court, they cited O'Connor's statement in a February 2023 ruling: "Boeing's crime may properly be considered the deadliest corporate crime in US history."

The deal is a "slap on the wrist," said Erin Applebaum, a lawyer at Kreindler & Kreindler LLP representing some of the victims' relatives.

Deepening Crisis

The DOJ on June 30 offered a plea agreement to Boeing and gave the company until the end of the week to take the deal or face a trial on a charge of conspir-

ing to defraud the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), which the DOJ in its Sunday court filing said was "the most serious readily provable offense".

The fraud centered around knowingly false representations Boeing made to the FAA about new software that saved money by requiring less intensive training for pilots.

The Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System (MCAS) software feature was designed to automatically push the airplane's nose down in certain conditions. It was tied to the two crashes that led to the FAA grounding the MAX fleet for 20 months, an action that cost Boeing \$20 billion and was lifted by the government in November 2020.

A panel blew off a new Boeing 737 MAX 9 jet during a Jan. 5 Alaska Airlines flight, just two days before the 2021 deferred agreement that had shielded the company from prosecution over the previous fatal crashes expired. Boeing faces a separate ongoing criminal probe into the Alaska Airlines incident.

AGRA reaffirms commitment to helping Africa attain SDG's

By Guardian Correspondent

AGRA has renewed its commitment to implementing Sustainable Development Goals and catalyzing bold and collective actions for the continent's socio-economic transformation.

AGRA made its commitment during the Sustainable Development Goal Action Summit held in Accra, Ghana.

AGRA's focus on supporting input and output markets, extension services, policy reforms, directly or indirectly through partnerships with both public and private sector ensures farmers get better yields, food security and incomes.

Through its work, AGRA has supported the targets of African governments to double yields, thus aiding in achieving SDG 2 which seeks to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture alongside SDG 1 which calls for eradicating poverty.

Through its policy and state capability work, AGRA provides African governments with enhanced access to high quality and local technical expertise for identifying, analyzing and prioritizing policy and institutional reforms and regulations aimed at addressing fundamental challenges facing smallholder farmers and agribusinesses.

The 2024 SDG Action Summit, themed recommitting, scaling up, and accelerating SDG actions, facilitated idea exchange, shared practical insights, and galvanized quick-win actions.

It also unified African voices, reiterating a joint commitment to

expedite SDG progress ahead of the Summit of the Future.

The Summit, hosted by Ghana's president Nana Akufo Addo, drew attendance and speakers from Africa and across the globe, representing government, private sector, development partners, CSOs, academia and research institutions, traditional leaders, innovators and change-makers, and the media.

In his opening remarks, Akufo Addo, who is also Co-Chair of The UN Secretary General's Emeritus Group of SDGs Advocates remarked that with the current global and climate challenges causing immense suffering and displacement, if we fail to act decisively now, the future generation will inherit a world set by environmental degradation, economic instability and social fragmentation, hence the need for urgent and for decisive innovative actions.

Africa's development policy and management over the past decade has been greatly influenced by the SDGs and Agenda 2063, which are complementary frameworks aimed at engendering prosperity and advancing the well-being of both people and the planet.

Many African countries have embraced the SDGs and Agenda 2063 and have made significant strides in embedding them within national policy frameworks, while



AGRA President Dr Agnes Kalibata

re-organizing institutional structures to deliver on both Agendas.

Implementing SDGs in Africa faces challenges, notably economic constraints. Many African economies rely heavily on primary commodity exports, making them vulnerable to price fluctuations.

Nearly 60 percent of African countries still rely on primary commodity exports, limiting diversification and innovation crucial for SDG implementation

Other challenges include inadequate infrastructure and funding, growing populations (especially in informal settlements with sub-human conditions), and climate change affecting freshwater availability.

In her keynote speech AGRA President Dr Agnes Kalibata noted that "Africa has only achieved 4 percent of the Vision 2030 SDGs target. At AGRA, we believe that Africa's biggest opportunity lies in the agricultural sector. Transforming Africa's food systems is fundamental to achieving the SDGs and enhancing agricultural productivity is key to lifting millions out of poverty".

Dr Kalibata said this requires leadership that is ready to drive innovations that boost productivity, ensure food security, and create sustainable livelihoods for farmers.

"With 70 percent of our population being young and growing, investing in sectors like agriculture, which offer significant opportunities to the youth, is essential for substantial economic benefits. To do this, we need all of us to engage. AGRA is committed to continuing its role in transforming Africa's food systems and developing solutions for smallholder farmers."

Pension funds overwhelmed by inconstant transition regulations

By Emma McCarthy

ACCESS to capital, a long-term view of risk and return and the nature of their investments in infrastructure and energy projects mean that pension funds play an integral role in scaling up transition finance. With their ability to bring together the necessary actors, including investors, fund managers and governments, pension funds must leverage their influence and capital to drive sustainable capital markets.

That was the call to action from participants at OMFIF's roundtable on the role of pension funds in transition finance. The event brought together representatives from banks, pension funds, asset owners and managers as well as private financial institutions to analyse what needs to be done to scale up transition finance.

'How do we bring everyone to the table and also build trust? How do we view this as an opportunity for innovation but also doing a public good?' asked one participant. They urged that it is important not only to have the 'right' people at the table, but also that the needs and risk tolerances of everyone are understood and accounted for. 'We need to get comfortable with a new kind of risk.'

The roundtable participants agreed that 'Transition finance includes both the long-term horizon and the short-term sprint.' Pension funds must embrace a range of sustainable products and tools to raise the capital required for the transition.

Regional differences

There is wide divergence between European, Asian and North American approaches to transition finance. In the US and Canada, investors seek a clear promise of return or, at the very least, a subsidy such as the Inflation Reduction Act provides. In Europe and Asia, transition finance is led by



taxonomies and frameworks.

The number of frameworks and regulations currently operating in Europe were identified as a 'real pain point' in markets. Participants acknowledged that while these frameworks are essential to starting a discussion that will 'create big change later on', there are drawbacks to having to meet so many different requirements. One audience member pointed out that a lot of pension funds had already started to take major steps in their transitions, but the regulations had pulled them back. They said: 'We run the risk of meeting the targets but missing the point.'

On the other side, funds in North America face very few regulations or requirements, meaning they often do not know where to begin. Meanwhile, emerging markets are 'falling into a big black hole' because they do not have the same resources to meet disclosure requirements that developed countries do. 'Do we just not invest in them?' asked one participant. To close the gap, there needs to be clear, simple and consistent guidelines that are easy to understand and apply.

There is also a risk that overly prescriptive taxonomies in Europe risk making all sustainable portfolios the same. Latin America was held up as an example

for how to avoid this. Every major country in Latin America is working on a taxonomy of its own, tailored to its specific needs and priorities, rather than simply copying the European model. However, there was some scepticism among participants about whether this will actually increase the flow of capital to those countries.

Changing the focus

One participant from a pension fund said that funds most often look at investing in green assets to decarbonise their portfolios. But there is a need to change things 'from the inside'. One approach is to invest in raw materials, such as steel and plastics - highly polluting industries - to begin changing their processes and reducing emissions.

Participants at the roundtable said there was a reluctance to pursue this strategy due to the immediate increase in investors' carbon footprints. But they also pointed to a greater focus on 'intentionality', meaning investors are starting to care more about the impact of their investments doing good, rather than just making a profit.

While a lack of clarity and consistency in transition standards persists, it is clear that sovereign funds and pension funds are beginning to seriously engage with net-zero goals. Funds are taking 'active ownership' over brown assets, implementing transition plans, green strategies and requirements and divesting their portfolios. Clear and simple guidelines that are consistent between regions will be crucial to scaling up transition finance over the next few years.

Emma McCarthy (pictured) is Head of the Sustainable Policy Institute, OMFIF, an independent think tank for central banking, economic policy and public investment, providing a neutral platform for public and private sector engagement worldwide.

DIT project recycles plastic waste into spare parts



Abdul Lwangisa, DIT Spare Parts Factory manager, showcases a rubber boot made by the firm. This was at the on-going 48th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair.

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

DAR ES SALAAM Institute of Technology (DIT) has come up with new plastic waste recycling project to manufacture different spare parts, which is expected to create employment for youth, reduce cost of importing spare parts from abroad to Tanzania and environmental conservation.

Abdul Lwangisa, DIT Spare Parts Factory manager made the statement over the weekend at the on-going 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) when speaking to journalists about what has been done by DIT to control plastic waste that damage environment, affect marine resources and how the community can benefit from plastic waste.

He said the Institute has been able to manufacture a wide range of spare parts for vehicles, motorcycle, Bajaj including industrial spare parts for commercial use, improve the local environment and offering continuous employment to individuals, government from socially and economically.

They have been able to manufacture Rubber boot for Bajaj, Spring

bushes for Eicher bus, Toyota Hilux, Toyota Hiace, stabilizer for Toyota Harrier, Shock absorber bush for Toyota IST, corn rubber for bajaj, shock absorber for Toyota canter, Escalator/ Elevator Roller, Chicken Plucker and others for commercial use.

All spare parts have been approved by Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) for commercial use.

He said DIT has decided to introduce this project after a research and identified that there is a lot of plastic waste on the street, there is a huge demand for vehicle, motorcycle, Bajaj and industrial spare parts within the country.

'We are at DITF to promote and showcase our spare parts so that Tanzanians and businesspersons can witness what DIT has been done to recycle plastic waste into a useable products that can be sold to different customers, businesspersons and later on generate income and at the same time conserve environment in our country,' he said.

Also the institute has been able to set up DIT Spare Parts factory located at DIT grounds with the capacity to produce 4500 pieces of spring bushes per day, 3500 corn rubber per day and 4000 suspension bushes pieces for motorcycle per day. Other businesspersons and other people willing to purchase the spare parts, DIT has branches in six regions. 'Customers can access our products at Majengo area in Dodoma Region, Ngarenaro in Arusha, kwa Mpemba in Songwe, Uyole street in Mbeya, DIT Campus in Mwanza and Iringa Region,' he said.

So far, a total of 30 youth have been able to transform their lives through DIT Spare Parts Project.

DIT will continue to provide trainings to youth within

the country to enable them have required skills that in turn will help them to become entrepreneurs, create employment for others, combating plastic pollution within their localities and control plastic waste that damage environment and affect marine resources as well as contaminate water sources. Henry Kazula, Trainer and sustainability consultant and climate action strategist expert elaborating on the global perspective of plastic in Tanzania, he cited a 2021 WWF report titled "Plastic Pollution in Africa: Identifying Policy Gaps and Opportunities," revealing that globally, 8.3 billion tonnes of plastic have been produced.

Out of this, approximately 6.3 billion tonnes of plastic waste have been generated, with only 9 percent recycled, 12 percent incinerated, and a staggering 79 percent ending up in landfills.

Also around 4.9 billion tonnes of plastics amounting to 60 percent of all plastics ever produced were discarded and are now accumulating in landfills or in the natural environment.

Also a report from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Quantis estimates that 319,000 tonnes of plastic waste was generated in Tanzania in 2018. Close to 96 percent of the plastic waste in Tanzania is mismanaged and 29,000 tonnes of plastic waste that is equivalent to nine per cent of the total plastic waste generated has leaked into oceans, rivers and lakes in 2018.

Newly signed contract to support local beekeepers

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

THE Beekeeping Value Chain Support (BEVAC) project has entered into contract with the Tanzania Beekeeping Development Organization (TABEDO), focusing to assist the local beekeepers to heighten their performance.

The agreement signed between the Belgian Development Agency, Enabel and TABEDO focus to strengthen the capacity of TABEDO for regular upgrading and reviewing of the beekeeping policy and regulatory framework.

Speaking to this publication the 48th Edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF 2024), BEVAC Project's Expert in Result Monitoring, Deogratius Kimena said through the well-developed working sync, BEVAC is working to empower the beekeepers on better ways to produce high quality honey which reflects the set international standards, as well as developing diverse products from the honey they produce, among others.

He said, through the contract, BEVAC have been working to sponsor the local beekeepers to take part in numerous potential exhibitions, within and outside the country, the development which takes into account those involved in the honey additional value chain sector.

'For instance, BEVAC project has facilitated a honey exhibition booth at the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF 2024), the booth pavilion afforded different actors in the beekeeping,' he informed.

He unveiled the actors in the relevant value chain as various business service organisations (BSOs) in the apiculture sector, such as TABEDO, targeting to increase outreach and mobilization of actors for steering the sector better.

'This event plays meaningful role in allowing Beekeeping Training Institute (BTI) to increase awareness of its course with the aim to promote enrollment which aim to increase women participation in beekeeping activities,' he observed.

He insisted that BEVAC remains dedicated to the goal of ensuring more permanent 'dialogue platforms' and 'advocacy bodies' for 'critical' monitoring of the enabling environment.

'BEVAC appreciate the good promotion reported by the two institutions through their presence at the DITF,' he noted.

Speaking for her part, the Secretary of TABEDO, Catherine Peter expressed that the development has so far empowered a record number of beekeepers to transform their activities, as well as business.

'Through BEVAC, a number of beekeepers under TABEDO have successfully managed to register their business at the relevant authorities and thus formalize their trades to stand a chance to penetrate their products into potential international markets,' she said.

Before the contract, she observed that most of the local beekeepers used to perform their trades locally, hence denying themselves opportunity to grow and tapping vast markets available into both local and international markets.

'The smooth development has enabled TABEDO to attract and register more members, currently at least 130, the vital move which signalizes the bright future of the local bee farmers,' he observed.

Speaking for his part, Ayoub Kamwaga, the beekeeper from Kibondo Beekeepers Union (KBA) said the project has assisted him to realize and tap the various opportunities available in the local and international honey markets.

'The project has empowered me and many other bee farmers to start thinking and working out of the 'business-as-usual-box', whereby currently we're producing advanced quality honey, and other relevant products in the value addition chain,' he expressed.

And he added, the project has also imparted them with the vibrant business skills, including how to search, lobby and tapping the vast markets in the local and international platforms, added; 'The project has introduced and place us at the sector's full potential and we're looking forward to keep on benefiting from various ongoing initiatives.'

The project, BEVAC, is being implemented by Enabel, the Belgian Development Agency through funds from the European Union (EU), and it operates under the coordination of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism and it has already impacted more than 4,100 beekeepers and other stakeholders in Tanzania, including women beekeepers.

According to the BEVAC Project's Manager, Steve Paul, the project is currently implementing two major projects for the improvement of the country's apiculture sector; worth around 1.2 Euros.

He unveiled the project as construction of a modern dormitory for sheltering women students at the Tabora-based Beekeeping Training Institute (BTI), to gobble up to 1million Euros upon completion, as well as installation of modern facilities at the Njiro International Wildlife Laboratory in Arusha region, at a cost of 200,000 Euros.

With the project, he observed that the vision is to equip the lab with the cloud-connected facilities to enable it to deliver all necessary honey, and honey related sampling and testing within the country.

'We will go far, to the tune of sponsoring the workers at the facility to attend special training to acquire necessary skills and knowledge on how professional to use the modern apparatuses to be installed,' he expounded.

CURRENT NEWS



A customer admires honey at the BEVAC pavilion at the ongoing 48th edition of DITF. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo.

TAA begins work on lights and runways at ten airports



Sumbawanga Airport office building

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Airport Authority (TAA) has started the construction of runways and installation of lights to ten airports.

Speaking to the media shortly after visiting the 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF), TAA Acting Director General Shadrack Chilongani said the new construction projects will help aircraft to land and depart 24 hours a day.

"We have signed agreements with contractors, and they are now in sites," he said.

Chilongani further said that the move also will help to improving business across the regions.

"Currently, we have 14 airports that are already having runways and 8 airports are with runways and lights services. But we hope that very soon, the number of airports with runways and lights will increase," he said.

He named some airports implementing the projects as Musoma, Sumbawan-

ga, Iringa, Tanga and Moshi.

"14 airports with runways and lights including Julius Nyerere International Airport, Mwanza Airport, Kilimanjaro International Airport, Dodoma, Tabora and Arusha," he said.

"We want to invite all eligible Investors to come and invest in airports and those interested to construct storage facilities to bolster Tanzania's exports of fresh produces."

He added: "Investors can take advantage of our huge areas that we have in many of our airports to invest different businesses including, storage facilities, shopping malls as well as hangar facilities."

However, TAA was established as an Executive Agency by the Government Notice No. 404 of December 1999 made under the Executive Agencies Act No. 30 of 1997.

The Authority assumed the functions of the former Directorate of Aerodromes under the Ministry of Communications and Transport, now renamed Ministry of Works and Transport to operate, manage, maintain and develop Government owned airports in Tanzania mainland in a professional and cost-effective

manner.

In its ten years since its establishment, TAA succeed to improve comfortable, efficient, secure services and facilities for the movement of passengers and cargo in its airports through installations of Security equipment such as X-ray Machines, walk-through metal detectors, hand-held metal detectors, Installation of CCTV Camera and Installation of Explosives Vapour Tracer at JNIA, Mwanza, Mtwara, Arusha, Dodoma, Kigoma, Tabora, Mbeya, Iringa, Mafia, Lake Manyara, Lindi, Bukoba, Shinyanga, Musoma, Tanga, Songea, Nachingwea, Ngara, Sumbawanga, Moshi, Morogoro and Kilwa Masoko Airports.

TAA has succeeded to increase the number of aircraft movements, Passengers, and Cargo by constructing Runways, Taxiways, and Apron at JNIA and Arusha Airport which results to raise Aircraft Movement up to 124,356 per annual from 62,221.

It has also increased the number of passengers to 2,137,253 from 846,906 and of cargo tonnage to 23,453 from 16,463 tonnages since its establishment up to 2010.

BoT governor urges banks to enhance financial inclusion to rural populations

By Guardian Reporter

THE Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has called on the country's financial institutions to come up with programmes that will make people in peripheral areas enjoy financial inclusion more easily, and cost-effective.

Emmanuel Tutuba, BoT governor made the call at the ongoing 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) when speaking at the NMB Bank booth to see various services offered by the bank including the 'Rural Banking Services Programme'.

The programme is aimed at reaching 1,000 villages in Tanzania and open at least 1,500,000 accounts by the end of the year. 2024. The governor was informed that the initiative accelerates the use of digital technology in providing financial services to reach Tanzanians more easily, at low cost, and with services that meet customers' needs.

Tutuba tasked all financial institutions to establish more programmes that will make all people irrespective where they are benefit from the high-technology prevailing in the financial industry.

"It's high time now all Tanzanians enjoy changes happening in the country's financial sector," he said, noting that the central bank is making all efforts to make financial products and services accessible and affordable to all individuals and businesses, regardless of their net worth.

Kidawa Masoud, the bank's Temeke branch manager, said their strategic plan is to reach many Tanzanians through digital systems, which enabled 94 percent of all transactions last year.

She pointed out that their mission gave birth to the inspiration of Digital Accounts, which include those of members of various social groups, as well as the Rural Banking Program to reach 1,000



Bank of Tanzania governor, Emmanuel Tutuba makes a point to NMB Temeke Branch manager, Kidawa Masoud when he made a courtesy call at the bank's pavilion at the ongoing 48th edition of DITF. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

villages in Tanzania.

Kidawa explained that 'Rural Banking' is a strategy that aims to open 1.5 million accounts for residents of areas who have

no banking services, particularly in rural areas, something which is in line with the government's move to reach all people across the country.

Rise in supply reduces milk prices in Muheza

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Muheza

HIGH milk production among pastoral regions and decline of retail market price has affected the economies of Muheza dairy suppliers who are depending on the Dar es Salaam market.

Speaking with this paper over the weekend, Mohamed Chavua, the supplier of milk to Dar es Salaam market said the commodity's demand has sharply declined by at least 60 percent, noting that high milk production into pastoral regions.

He explained that, during past two months he used to transport at least 1,000 litres of milk per day to Dar es Salaam, but now he receives an order of at least 400 litres, of which he can also not managed to finish in a day.

"With just-ended rains has improved pastures in many regions including those located in semi-arid pastoral areas, such as the maasailand where grazing is con-

ducted in natural pastures. This has caused cattle to produce much milk, which they sell to dairy cooperative societies, but still a huge quantity of milk remains unsold," he said.

"Pastoralists in Chalinze and Morogoro, who are also depending on Dar es Salaam market, have suffered a lot as there is an increased supply, which resulted into the fall of prices".

He further explained that during the past two months they sold one litre of milk at 1,200/- to vendors in Dar es Salaam who were reselling at 1,500/- per litre.

"Even at dairy cooperative societies in Muheza include UWAMLI, UWAMA and CHAWAMU collection centres, the prices have fallen to 800/- from 1,000/- per litre," he said.

He said they expect the price to gain between October-December because it will be summer seasons as milk production also expected to decrease.

Tourism ambassador markets Tanzania's next solar eclipse

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

TANZANIA goodwill ambassador Macon Dunnagan has advised the country to start marketing Tanzania over the possible next solar eclipse, which is expected to happen seven years to come.

It has proved that, the Annular Solar Eclipse will occur in Tanzania on May 21, 2031 though Mbeya to Dar-es-salaam and Zanzibar, an event that will attract tourists across.

The total solar eclipse event can generate up to \$6 billion in economic activity, according to one estimate.

"In my country US, they prepared for the Annular Solar Eclipse that occurs in April this year for the past seven years ago by improving infrastructures including hotels and the earn more than \$ 6 billion within few hours through the event," Dunnagan, a Tanzania's Goodwill Ambassador for tourism based in the US explained.

He advised the government of Tanzania to start preparations for such a big event in the World.

On Monday, April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse was forecasted.

The occurrence commenced its trajectory from the North American continent, traversing through Mexico, the United States, and Canada, whereby the United States of America (USA) itself earned more than \$6 Billion from the tourism industry.

Additionally, the eclipse was projected to initiate from the southern regions of the Pacific Ocean, with Mexico being the first country to experience the total solar eclipse at approximately 5:07 am in American time.

The trajectory of the solar eclipse would then proceed from Mexico, penetrating Texas, USA around 7:40 am, passing through various regions.

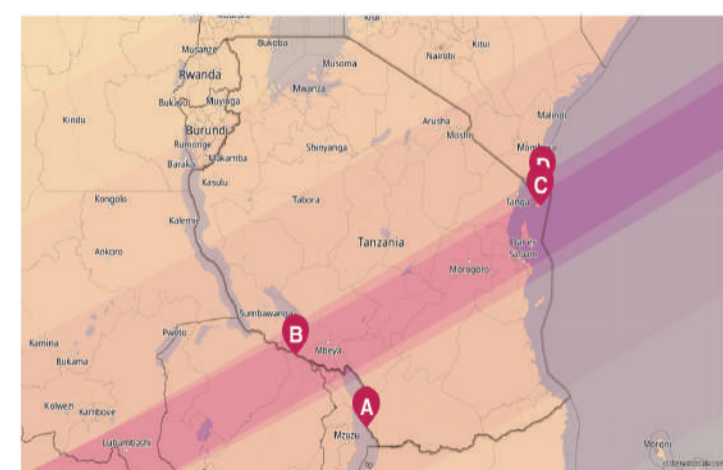
Subsequently, it journeyed into Southern Ontario, Canada, and exited North America via the Atlantic Ocean coast in the city of Newfoundland, Canada, at 11:16 p

Typically, the extent of the Sun's coverage by the Moon during the peak of the total solar eclipse varies from one area to another. Regions within the path of the total solar eclipse are expected to encounter a greater degree of coverage compared to those situated farther away from this trajectory.

In 2016 Tanzanians witnessed the annular solar eclipse in Rujewa and Wanging'ombe in the Mbeya and Njombe regions respectively where they saw the movement of the moon across the face of the sun.

An annular solar eclipse happens when the moon covers the Sun's centre, leaving the Sun's visible outer edges to form a "ring of fire" or annulus around the moon.

21 May 2031 – Annular Solar Eclipse – Tanzania



A Partial Starting: 07:14 EAT Near Liuli	B Annularity Starting: 07:25 CAT Near Kenan
C Annularity Ending: 08:38 EAT Near Kiwani	D Partial Ending: 10:14 EAT Near Kichangamwe

The colors on the map indicate how much of the Sun gets covered by the Moon. Annularity is visible within the dark red strip.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

WORLD

France shifts to the left, risks policy paralysis

PARIS

FRANCE faced a hung parliament and the prospect of taxing negotiations starting yesterday to form a government, after a surprise left-wing surge blocked Marine Le Pen's quest to bring the far right to power.

The leftist New Popular Front (NFP) emerged as the dominant force in the National Assembly after Sunday's election, but with no single group securing a working majority the possibilities include the NFP forming a minority government or the building of a broad, unwieldy coalition.

The result delivered a stinging blow to President Emmanuel Macron and leaves the euro zone's second largest economy in limbo, heralding a period of political instability just weeks before Paris hosts the Olympic Games.

Macron ended up with a hugely fragmented parliament, in what is set to weaken France's role in the European Union and further afield, and make it hard for anyone to push through a domestic agenda.

The left won 182 seats, Macron's centrist alliance 168 and Le Pen's National Rally (RN) and allies 143, interior ministry data cited by Le Monde newspaper

showed.

"According to the logic of our institutions, Emmanuel Macron should today officially invite the New Popular Front to nominate a prime minister," said Green leader Marine Tondelier, one of a number of NFP figures seen as potential candidates for the post.

"Will he or won't he? As this president is always full of surprises, we'll see," she said on RTL radio.

Prime Minister Gabriel Attal said he would tender his resignation, but it was not clear whether the president would accept it immediately, given the daunting task ahead to form a government. Attal said he would be willing to stay on in a caretaker role.

"I will of course do my duties as long as it's needed - it cannot be otherwise on the eve of a date (the Olympics) that is so important for our country," Attal said as it became clear Macron's alliance had endured a humbling setback.

Dissonant voices on the left

Leaders from the NFP met overnight for first talks on how to proceed, but in media interviews on Monday they gave little sense of direction.

Tondelier said on France Inter radio the prime minister could be someone



Far-right National Rally party leader Marine Le Pen answers reporters after the second round of the legislative election on Sunday at the party election night headquarters in Paris, France. AP

from the hard-left France Unbowed party, the Greens or the Socialists, the three largest parties in the alliance.

Olivier Faure, the Socialist leader, said on France Info radio that he expected the parties to agree on a plan this week, but sidestepped a question on whether the NFP would be prepared to negotiate a deal with Macron's centrist camp.

Raphael Glucksmann, a prominent moderate who led the leftist ticket in last month's European elections, said on Sunday that a hung parliament required openness for dialogue.

But France Unbowed's firebrand leader Jean-Luc Melenchon, one of the most divisive figures in French politics, explicitly ruled out any deal with centrists on Sunday, and on Monday his ally Eric Bompard was sounding uncompromising.

"The president must appoint as prime minister someone from the New Popular Front to implement the NFP's program, the whole program and nothing but the programme," he said on France 2 television.

Challenged on how that would be possible without an absolute majority, Bompard refused to engage with the question, insisting that as the NFP had come first, it should govern and shrugging off the idea of negotiating with anyone else.

However, there is little chance that any of the left-wing bloc's key proposals, which include raising the minimum wage, reversing Macron's pension reform and capping the prices of key goods, would pass a parliamentary vote without some kind of agreement with lawmakers from outside the bloc.

Centrists open to negotiation

Some prominent centrist figures, including Edouard Philippe, a former prime minister under Macron, said they were ready to work on a pact to ensure a stable government, but were not prepared to work with France Unbowed, a force seen by many French centrists as just as extremist as the RN.

Agencies

'US Democrats view Kamala Harris as only possible replacement for Biden'

NEW YORK

THE US Democratic Party elite views Kamala Harris as the only candidate to replace Joe Biden in the presidential race, The Wall Street Journal reported.

According to WSJ, the party elite has almost reached a consensus that Harris is the only replacement for Biden.

There will be some discontent, because Harris also lags behind Donald Trump in polls, and she will have to find excuses for the inflation and other problems, inherited from Biden; however, the party elite, due to the policies it adheres to, will be too afraid to deny the candidacy of a female representative of minorities, the newspaper says.

According to the authors, the Democrats should now undertake the official procedure of Biden's replacement with Harris during the Democratic National Convention, which will draw the global attention.

Agencies



US mass media pretended not knowing about Kiev's abuse in Donbass

MOSCOW

FACTS about the abuse committed by the Kiev regime in the Donbass were provided by the Russian side but the US mass media did everything not to see this truth, official spokeswoman of the Russian Foreign Ministry Maria Zakharova told the Izvestiya news outlet in response to the request for commenting on the article in The New York Times informing about the murder of a captured Russian soldier with the reference to a medical worker in the team of foreign mercenaries.

"It is ridiculous to watch how US reporters, news outlets, newspapers, television and Internet platforms pretend that they allegedly knew nothing about the abuse of Donbass civilians, new Russian regions now, from the Kiev regime for seven years.

They pretend they do not know about torturing people caught by the Ukrainian armed forces, nationalist battalions, and so on. And now, you see, a German doctor starts opening their eyes or they start pretending that this is something new for them," Zakharova said, cited in the Telegram channel of the news outlet.

"One should not fall for play and not seeing the main thing: all the facts were furnished by the Russian side, by Donbass residents and reporters that communicated this information to the global community at the expense of their lives. American reporters, American news outlets and The New York Times in no small degree did everything not to see this truth," she noted.

Agencies



Visit to Russia and Austria will deepen ties, says PM Modi as he leaves on 2 nation visit

NEW DELHI

AS Prime Minister Narendra Modi left for a two-nation visit to Russia and Austria he said that the visit to the two countries will present an opportunity for India to deepen ties with these nations.

In his departure statement, PM Modi said, "Over the next three days, I will be in Russia and Austria. These visits will be a wonderful opportunity to deepen ties with these nations, with whom India has time-tested friendship. I also look forward to interacting with the Indian community living in these countries."

PM Modi said that he wishes to discuss aspects of bilateral cooperation with his friend President Putin.

"I look forward to reviewing all aspects of bilateral cooperation with my friend President Vladimir Putin and sharing perspectives on various regional and global issues. We seek to play a supportive role for a peaceful and stable region. The visit will also provide me with an opportunity to meet the vibrant Indian community in Russia," the PM said.

PM Modi added that the special and privileged Strategic Partnership between India and Russia has advanced over the past ten years, including in the areas of energy,

security, trade, investment, health, education, culture, tourism and people-to-people exchanges.

After Russia PM Modi will leave for Austria in what is the first visit to the nation by an Indian Prime Minister in 40 years. Speaking about the visit the PM said "In Austria, I will have the opportunity to meet President Alexander Van der Bellen and Chancellor Karl Nehammer. Austria is our steadfast and reliable partner and we share the ideals of democracy and pluralism."

"This is the first visit of an Indian Prime Minister in over 40 years. I look forward to my discussions to take our partnership to even greater heights in new and emerging areas of innovation, technology and sustainable development among others. Together with the Austrian Chancellor, I look forward



to exchanging views with business leaders from both sides to explore mutually beneficial trade and investment opportunities. I will also be interacting with the Indian community in Austria which is well-regarded for its professionalism and conduct," he added.

Earlier speaking about the PM's visit to Russia, EAM S Jaishankar

said " ...There was a bit of a delay in our annual summits, it is a good tradition, we are 2 countries which have a strong history of working together. We did value the need for an annual summit. Last year when I went to Moscow, I carried a message from the PM that we are committed to the annual summit and we will do it sooner...it is a regular recurrence. It is a way of taking stock of any relationship...one of the biggest changes has been, that our economic relationship with Russia has grown tremendously...at the leadership level, it will be a great opportunity for PM Modi and (Russian) President Putin to sit down and directly talk to each other."

President Putin was expected to host PM Modi later yesterday, on Tuesday the PM will attend a community event in Moscow. ANI

Agencies

Israeli attacks cause heavy casualties in Gaza City - sources

GAZA

DOZENS of Palestinians were killed or wounded on Sunday in Israeli strikes on neighborhoods in east of Gaza City, northern Gaza Strip, Palestinian sources reported.

Dozens of injuries, including children, were admitted to the Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza due to the bombardment, medical sources told Xinhua. The shelling

occurred after the Israeli army instructed residents of Tuffah, Daraj, and other areas to evacuate immediately to shelters in the western part of Gaza City.

"To all residents and displaced persons in Tuffah, Old Town, Daraj, and other areas, for your safety, evacuate immediately to the established shelters in western Gaza City," Israeli military spokesperson Avichay Adraea said in a statement on Sunday.

Many people fled their homes at sunset and into the evening hours in search of a safe place in western Gaza City. Video footage shared by Palestinian activists on Facebook depicted families leaving in private vehicles or on foot, carrying some of their belongings.

Marwan Sultan, director of the Indonesian Hospital in northern Gaza, declared a state of extreme emergency in hospital departments following

the evacuation of the Baptist Hospital in Gaza City.

Earlier on June 28, the Israeli army announced the initiation of a ground operation in the Shejaiya neighborhood adjacent to Tuffah and Daraj.

The Israel Defense Forces said in a statement on Sunday that over the past week, soldiers from the Paratroopers Reconnaissance Unit have been operating in the Shejaiya area.

Xinhua

THE Shenzhen-Zhongshan Link, a mega cross-sea passage in south China, had handled 305,000 vehicles as of July 3, according to data from China's Guangdong Transportation Group.

The 24-kilometer passage was officially opened to traffic on June 30, representing the world's first cross-sea cluster project that features two bridges, two artificial islands and an underwater tunnel. Bridging Shenzhen in the east of the Pearl River Estuary with Zhongshan in the west, it has significantly reduced travel time between the two cities from about two hours to under 30 minutes.

The massive transportation project commenced construction in February 2017 and took over seven years to complete. It utilized a number of new

Innovative technologies contribute to China's latest mega cross-sea link

technologies, equipment, materials, and processes, managed to overcome multiple world-class technical challenges and set multiple world records.

The link features a two-way, eight-lane tunnel that spans 6.8 kilometers under the sea, consisting of 32 immersed tubes and one final closure joint. It is the world's longest and widest underwater steel-shell concrete tunnel, also one of the most challenging projects worldwide.

Viewed from above, the Shenzhen-Zhongshan Bridge, one of the key projects of the link, resembles the majestic backbone of a dragon.

Such magnificence meant unprecedented technological

challenges met by engineers during the construction, said Song Shenyong, head of the Shenzhen-Zhongshan Link administration center of Guangdong Provincial Communications Group Co., Ltd., also chief engineer of the project.

According to Song, one of the primary focuses during construction is to ensure that ships can navigate in and out of the Pearl River Estuary, as the link serves as a core transportation hub project in the bustling Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, a major center for foreign trade in China.

To facilitate smooth ship navigation, the Shenzhen-Zhongshan Bridge, with a main span of 1,666 meters, adopts

the offshore steel box girder suspension bridge design, also the world's largest of its kind. It boasts the highest bridge deck of 91 meters and the highest air traffic clearance altitude of 76.5 meters worldwide.

However, the bridge also faces substantial obstacles in wind resistance as it is located in the open waters of the Pearl River Estuary, which is prone to strong typhoons.

To tackle these challenges, the Shenzhen-Zhongshan Link administration center collaborated with multiple universities and research institutions, conducting research for over three years. Together, they have developed a new combined aerodynamic control technology that has greatly

enhanced the wind resistance capabilities of the large-span steel box girder suspension bridge. The highest flutter critical wind speed for the bridge has been lifted to 88 meters per second.

The Shenzhen-Zhongshan Link has achieved full 5G coverage, providing passengers with strong signals throughout their journey, whether on the open sea or in the extraordinarily long underwater tunnel.

The ceiling of the underwater tunnel features an artfully designed motif with blue skies and white clouds. This eye-catching display is created by an array of uniquely shaped, colorful lights arranged at different angles. Apart from being visually appealing, such

a unique design also serves practical functions such as safety guidance and color-coded alerts.

On the western artificial island of the project, there is a 55-meter-tall ventilation tower, the tallest single structure on the island. It functions as the "respiratory system" for the entire tunnel, said Zhu Dingtao, an engineer with the Shenzhen-Zhongshan Link administration center. Positioned near the tunnel entrance, the tower works with axial fans to expel exhaust gas from the tunnel; in case of a fire, it can quickly remove smoke from the immersed tube, added Zhu.

In addition to the ventilation tower, there is a central utility

tunnel that runs between the two-way traffic lanes of the underwater tunnel. It serves as the "nerve center" of the entire structure, home to various equipment including power supply, water supply and drainage, fire protection, communications, and intelligent control facilities. It also acts as a crucial emergency escape route, allowing people to access the opposite traffic lane for evacuation in case of emergencies.

In the command center of the Shenzhen-Zhongshan Link, there is a digital twin platform developed in tandem with the project. This platform uses precise 3D simulation modeling technology to recreate a 1:1 scale replica of the physical environment of the bridges, artificial islands, and tunnel of link. It provides a

Xi meets Hungarian PM, exchanging views on ties, Ukraine crisis

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping met with Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orbán in Beijing yesterday, and the two sides exchanged in-depth views on the Ukraine crisis.

Orbán briefed Xi on his recent visits to Ukraine and Russia. Xi expressed appreciation for Orbán's efforts in promoting the political settlement of the Ukraine crisis and elaborated on China's relevant views and propositions.

Xi stressed that an early ceasefire and a political settlement are in the interests of all sides, adding that the priority is to cool down the situation by observing the three principles of no expansion of the battlefield, no escalation of fighting, and no fanning by any party over the flames.

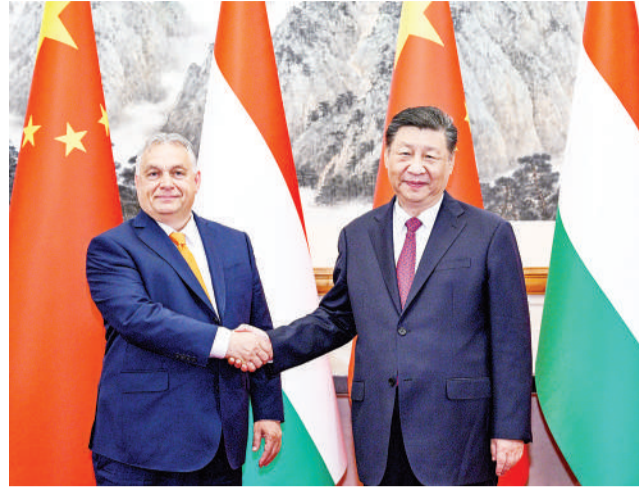
Xi called on the international community to create conditions and provide support for the resumption of direct dialogue and negotiation between the two sides, saying that only if all major

countries inject positive rather than negative energy, can a ceasefire in this conflict emerge as soon as possible.

"China has been actively promoting peace talks in its own way and encouraging and supporting all efforts conducive to a peaceful settlement of the crisis," he said, adding that the basic propositions of China and Hungary and the direction of their efforts are the same and that China is willing to stay in communication with Hungary and all relevant parties.

Xi noted that during his successful state visit to Hungary two months ago, the bilateral relations were elevated to an all-weather comprehensive strategic partnership for a new era, which gave new historical significance to the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties this year and injected strong impetus into the high-level development of China-Hungary relations.

Noting that the third plenary session of the 20th



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) shakes hands with Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán in Beijing yesterday. XINHUA

Communist Party of China Central Committee will be held next week, Xi said China will further deepen overall reform and promote high-quality development and high-level opening up, which will provide new opportunities and create new momentum for China-Hungary cooperation.

Xi said that the two countries should maintain high-level exchanges, deepen political mutual trust, strengthen strategic communication and coordination,

continue to firmly support each other, strengthen practical cooperation in various fields, advance high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and continue to enrich the bilateral all-weather comprehensive strategic partnership for a new era to better benefit the people.

He congratulated Hungary on assuming the rotating presidency of the European Union (EU) and said there is no geopolitical contradiction or fundamental conflict of interests between China

and the EU.

China-EU relations are of strategic significance and global influence and should maintain steady and sound development, Xi said, calling on the two sides to jointly respond to global challenges.

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and the EU, Xi said, adding that the two sides should stay committed to the correct path of bilateral partnership with cooperation as the defining trend, continue to promote two-way opening up, strengthen international coordination, and contribute to world peace, stability, development and prosperity.

It is hoped that Hungary, as the holder of the rotating EU presidency, will play a positive role in promoting the sound and stable development of China-EU relations and facilitating constructive interactions, Xi added.

Orbán said that over the past two months, the two sides have earnestly imple-

mented the important outcomes of President Xi's visit to Hungary, strengthened friendship and mutual trust, and laid a solid foundation for the future development of bilateral relations.

In the face of the current turbulent international situation, China not only loves peace but has also put forward a series of constructive and important initiatives, proving with its own concrete actions that China is an important stabilizing force for world peace, Orbán said.

He added that Hungary highly appreciates and values China's role and influence and is willing to maintain close strategic communication and coordination with China.

Hungary advocates strengthening cooperation with China and opposes forming exclusionary cliques and bloc confrontation, Orbán said.

Hungary is willing to take the rotating EU presidency as an opportunity to actively promote the sound development of EU-China relations, he said. Xinhua

Russia supports Turkey's idea to create platform to resolve Ukraine conflict - Kremlin

MOSCOW

MOSCOW agrees with Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan's statement that an international peace platform needs to be created to resolve the Ukraine conflict, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

"You know, [Russian] President [Vladimir] Putin is a strong supporter of diplomatic efforts aimed at finding a solution to the Ukrainian conflict. We have certainly never rejected talks. On the contrary, we have supported the idea of talks involving all the interested parties. Currently, there is no such platform, and we can agree with Mr. Fidan on that," the Kremlin spokesman noted.

Fidan took part in a meeting of BRICS+ foreign ministers in the city of Nizhny Novgorod as part of his visit to Russia in June. He also held talks with his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov and Russian Security Council Secretary Sergey Shoigu. According to sources, the parties discussed the Ukraine settlement, as well as the situation in the Gaza Strip and Syria. Agencies



New Labour government faces economic challenges

LONDON

THE ascension of the Labour government injected rare impetus into Britain's capital market, accompanied by many positive economic signs.

On Friday, the first day of the newly-elected Labour government, the domestically-focused FTSE 250 index rose by 0.86 percent and the country's 10-year bond yield dipped by 0.8 percentage points.

The GDP for the first quarter this year increased by 0.6 percent, and the annual Consumer Prices Index rose by 2 percent in May, aligning with the anticipated interest rate cut by the Bank of England.

The Labour government inherited a comparatively strong economy. However, it also faced an economy with significant inertia.

There remains a large gap between the current productivity rate and pre-pandemic levels, and investment rates are low compared to other developed countries. The Labour government faces substantial challenges in revitalizing the economy.

LOW INVESTMENT

Data from the Economics Observatory showed that the overall investment rate in Britain fell from a high of around 23 percent of the GDP in the late 1980s, to around 17 percent from 2000 onwards. In contrast, investment rates among its peers in G7 countries



Britain's Labour Party leader Keir Starmer and his wife Victoria celebrate during a victory rally at the Tate Modern in London early on Jul 5, 2024. AFP

remained largely between 20 and 25 percent. The primary focus for the new Labour government should be on investment, Tim Besley, school professor of economics and political science at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), told Xinhua.

"When you talk with economic heavyweights or entrepreneurs, they will tell you that it's very hard to see the strategic direction of the UK economy and the institutional framework that will deliver economic targets," said Besley. However, it may take time for Labour to form a coherent industrial strategy and plan.

Steve Nolan, senior lecturer in economics at Liverpool John Moores University, said that the Labour Party fought a cautious campaign and their future economic plans are fairly slim. Infrastructure could be a key area for attracting investments.

The Labour government is set to establish a National Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority, which will focus on infrastructure delivery and play a critical role in setting the path for development. "If it's structured right, there is potential for the UK to address the low level of investment," said Besley.

TAX RATE

Tax policy has been a contentious issue during Britain's general election campaign, with former Prime Minister Rishi Sunak repeatedly pressing then-Labour leader Keir Starmer to clarify his stance. In response, the Labour Party pledged not to increase income tax, national insurance, and

value-added taxes.

Iain Begg, a professorial research fellow at the LSE, told Xinhua that Labour has "tied their own hands by restraining from raising taxes."

"If you don't raise taxes, then the debt level will become a constraint," said Begg. Begg noted that the public debt level in Britain is nearly 100 percent of the GDP, in addition to a significant fiscal deficit.

The Labour government should be very careful with public finances to avoid the pitfalls of former Prime Minister Liz Truss, whose policies, including substantial borrowing while maintaining low tax rates, rattled the financial markets.

"The Labour solution is to try to raise growth. Higher growth means the same level of debt comes out as a lower ratio of debt to GDP, and the Labour Party is hoping that they can achieve this through regulatory interventions rather than public spending,"

said Begg.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The Financial Times reported last year that the Department for Business and Trade revealed a 27-percent decrease in foreign direct investment projects in Britain for the year ending in March 2023, compared to the period from 2016 to 2017. Besley believes it is important to provide a framework and conditions that carefully choreograph plans and strategic government support for investors.

John Bryson, chair in Enterprise and Economic Geography at the University of Birmingham, told Xinhua that "what the Labour government needs to do over the next five years is to ensure that relations with China, the United States, and the EU are appropriate, positive, and constructive. "These relationships must be constructive if the UK economy is to grow," Bryson said.

Xinhua

2024 could be world's hottest year as June breaks records

BRUSSELS

LAST month was the hottest June on record, the EU's climate change monitoring service said yesterday, continuing a streak of exceptional temperatures that some scientists said puts 2024 on track to be the world's hottest recorded year.

Every month since June 2023 - 13 months in a row - has ranked as the planet's hottest since records began, compared with the corresponding month in previous years, the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) said in a monthly bulletin.

The latest data suggest 2024 could outrank 2023 as the hottest year since records began after human-caused climate change and the El Nino natural weather phenomenon both pushed temperatures to record highs in the year so far, some scientists said.

"I now estimate that there is an approximately 95 percent chance that 2024 beats 2023 to be the warmest year since global surface temperature records began in the mid-1800s," said Zeke Hausfather, a research scientist at Berkeley Earth.

The changed climate has already unleashed disastrous consequences around the world in 2024.

More than 1,000 people died in fierce heat during the hajj pilgrimage last month. Heat deaths were recorded in New Delhi, which endured an unprecedentedly long heatwave, and amongst Greek tourists.

Friederike Otto, a climate scientist at Imperial College London's Grantham Institute, said there was a "high chance" 2024 would rank as the hottest year on re-



A man puts water on his daughter with the Lincoln Memorial behind, June 21, 2024, in Washington, the US. AP

cord.

"El Nino is a naturally occurring phenomenon that will always come and go. We can't stop El Nino, but we can stop burning oil, gas, and coal," she said.

The natural El Nino phenomenon, which warms the surface waters in the eastern Pacific Ocean, tends to raise global average temperatures.

That effect subsided in recent months, with the world now in neutral conditions before cooler La Nina conditions are expected to form later this year.

Greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil fuels are the main cause of climate change.

Despite promises to curb global warming, countries have so far failed collectively to reduce these emissions, pushing temperatures steadily higher for decades.

In the 12 months ending in June, the world's average temperature was the highest on record for any such period, at 1.64 degrees Celsius above the average in the 1850-1900 pre-industrial period, C3S said.

Agencies

Shanghai strives for high-quality development of AI industry

IN China's National and Local Co-built Humanoid Robotics Innovation Center in Zhangjiang High-tech Park, Shanghai, a remarkable full-sized general-purpose humanoid robot named "Healthy Loong" has attracted wide attention.

The 1.85-meter robot with 43 spherical joints can engage in fast walking, swiftly avoid obstacles, steadily mount up and down slopes, and resist impact interference.

So far, many prototypes of general-purpose humanoid robots have been launched in Shanghai.

In recent years, Shanghai has been exploring effective pathways with a reform-minded approach to accelerate the convergence of key artificial intelligence (AI) elements in order to build a high ground for AI development.

The city has been improving coordination mechanisms to address challenges in industrial development. "Innovation in AI requires us to stimulate reform vitality and provide more policy services," said Zhang Ying, head of the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Economy and Informatization.

In October 2022, Shanghai implemented a local regu-

lation on boosting the development of the AI industry, followed by policies and measures to advance the unified scheduling of computing resources, new infrastructure construction, and large model innovation.

The city is advancing multiple plans to support model innovation, accelerate the development of intelligent computing, and promote demonstration applications.

It is also working to establish a center for large model testing, verification, and collaborative innovation, an alliance for corpus data, platforms for intelligent computing scheduling, centers for hardware-software compatibility evaluation, and open-source communities for large models.

Shanghai's Pudong New Area is promoting the development of companies focused on intelligent computing chips and humanoid robots, while the Xuhui district is fostering cluster innovation of algorithm enterprises, especially in large models. The city has also built large-scale intelligent computing clusters, primarily deployed in Songjiang district and Lingang new area, to support large model training.

Shanghai has formed a "4+X" cluster pattern, centered on the Zhangjiang AI Island in Pudong, the Shanghai AI

Tower in Xuhui, the Dishui Lake AI Innovation Hub in Lingang, and the Maqiao AI Innovation Experimental Zone in Minhang district.

With an eye on both the present and future, Shanghai is rapidly building an open, secure, and vibrant innovation ecosystem. The city is creating a software-hardware compatibility and testing system, supporting the Shanghai AI Laboratory in establishing deeply linked software-hardware compatibility solutions, and promoting cooperation between the laboratory and companies like INESA (Group) Co., Ltd. to provide a basis for chip selection for the construction of the intelligent computing center.

Shanghai has also established an innovation center for humanoid robot manufacturing to accelerate industrial chain integration, create a humanoid robot industrial base, reduce algorithmic innovation costs for enterprises, and promote the standardization of components. The city is building a multi-level talent system and has established the Artificial Intelligence Industry Security Expert Advisory Committee to provide talent and intellectual support for the development of the AI industry.

AI technologies are being rapidly adopted across various sectors, demonstrating significant growth and potential.

SenseTime, a Chinese artificial intelligence pioneer, has launched an enterprise-level large model integrated machine that can simultaneously support enterprise-level trillion-parameter model acceleration and knowledge retrieval hardware acceleration, saving 80 percent of costs compared to similar products.

Shanghai-based AI company Intsig is contributing to the protection of traditional Chinese culture by using generative AI technology to restore pages and text of the Dunhuang manuscripts, a wide variety of documents in Chinese and other languages that were discovered at the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, northwest China's Gansu province.

Shanghai First People's Hospital is applying Alipay's "AI medical assistant" solution to provide patients with a voice-interactive "AI Doctor." The SMC Shanghai Foundation Model Innovation Center, one of China's first dedicated incubators and accelerators for large-scale AI models, has already attracted over 80 large model enterprises. People's Daily

SPORT

CECAFA Kagame Cup 2024 kicks off today

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AFTER four years of hiatus the CECAFA Kagame Cup will return today boasting four matches on the opening day of the tournament slated to take place in Dar es Salaam from July 9-21.

Apart from guest side Red Arrows FC, the Zambia Premier League champions, the remaining teams are from the CECAFA member countries.

Tanzania Mainland Premier League side Simba Sports Club and AFC Leopards from Kenya have won the regional title a record six times apiece while Young Africans and Kenya's Tusker FC have lifted the Cup five times each.

But in the absence of Young Africans, Simba and Azam FC in the Kagame Cup 2024, APR FC (Rwanda), Gor Mahia (Kenya) and Uganda's Sports Club Villa will be the three teams eager to win the regional Cup for a fourth time.

The first match will bring together Al Wadi FC who will open their campaign against JKU SC in a Group A encounter at the newly opened KMC Stadium in Kinondoni.

The second Group A match will also take place in the same venue and will see Tanzania's representatives in the 2024/2025 CAF Confederation Cup, Coastal Union FC face Somalia giants Dekadaha.

Ugandan side SC Villa will start their campaign against El Merriekh Bentiu FC of South Sudan in a Group C match to be played later in the evening on July 9th at the Azam Complex, Chamazi.

SC Villa, who recently lifted the Uganda Premier League title after 20 years of waiting since they last won it, are not strangers in this regional tournament having won the Cup three times.

El Merriekh Bentiu, the 2023/2024 South Sudan League champions, will be making their debut in the tournament.

The last match on Day 1 will see Rwanda Premier League champions APR FC facing Singida Big Stars FC (Tanzania) in a Group C match at the Azam Complex, Chamazi.

For APR FC, who have dominated Rwanda Football for several years, will be more than hungry to prove that they have what it takes under new coach Darko Novic.

After his team defeated Police 1-0 in the official opening match of the newly renovated Amahoro Stadium on July 1, Novic made it clear that his target is to reach far in the regional tournament. They also reached the semi-final stage of the Mapinduzi Cup in Zanzibar.

Singida under new head coach Patrick Aussems will aim to build a strong squad to put their last season woes aside. The Belgian gaffer said he aims to make Blacks Stars a title-contending team.

On Wednesday, Al Hilal (Sudan) will take on Djibouti league outfits AS Ali Sabieh at Azam Complex while FKF Premier League side Gor Mahia will take on Zambian envoys Red Arrows in Group B.

The top team in each of the three groups and the best runners-up from any of the groups will automatically qualify for the semi-final stage.

Groups A: Coast Union FC (Tanzania), Al Wadi FC (Sudan), JKU SC (Zanzibar), Dekedaha FC (Somalia)

Group B: Al Hilal (Sudan), Gor Mahia FC (Kenya), Red Arrows FC (Zambia), AS Ali Sabieh (Djibouti)

Group C: SC Villa (Uganda), APR FC (Rwanda), Singida Black Stars (Tanzania), El Merriekh Bentiu (South Sudan)

The top teams in each of the three groups, and the best runner-up will qualify for the semi-final stage. The play-off match to determine which team finishes third and the final will all be played on July 21st at the Azam Complex, Chamazi.

Coco Gauff can't get a new game plan at Wimbledon and loses to Emma Navarro

LONDON

THINGS were not going well for Coco Gauff against Emma Navarro at Centre Court, not well at all, and she kept looking at her guest box for help from her coaches. One, Brad Gilbert, would stand up and gesture, and they would talk back and forth, but a fix did not arrive.

Gauff (pictured) has yet to make it past the fourth round at Wimbledon, and she exited at that stage again Sunday, eliminated by Navarro 6-4, 6-3 in an all-American matchup.

"We had a game plan going in, and I felt that it wasn't working. I don't always ask for advice from the box, but today was one of those rare moments where I felt I didn't have solutions," said Gauff, the reigning U.S. Open champion and seeded No. 2 at the All England Club.

"I don't want to say I didn't have any, because I think I'm capable of coming up with some. Today, mentally, there was a lot going on. I felt like I wanted more direction."

Hers was the latest in a series of departures by top women from the Wimbledon bracket this year: No. 1 Iga Swiatek lost on Saturday, No. 3 Aryna Sabalenka withdrew with an injured shoulder before playing a match and No. 6 Marketa Vondrousova, last year's champion, was defeated in the first round.

Only two of the 10 highest-seeded women remain: 2022 champion Elena Rybakina, who is No. 4, and recent French Open runner-up Jasmine Paolini, who is No. 7 and meets Navarro next. Rybakina plays her fourth-round match Monday, while Paolini advanced Sunday when Madison Keys stopped playing because she was hurt.

The 19th-seeded Navarro, who writes herself notes in her phone to prepare for matches, reached a major quarterfinal for the first time. She showed exactly the type of tennis she's capable of playing in the second round, when she got past four-time major champion Naomi Osaka.

"I'm believing that this is possible as it's happening. I'm starting to think, 'Why not me? Why not? Why can't I make a quarterfinal run? Why can't I go deep in Grand Slams?'" said Navarro, 23, who grew up in South Carolina and won the 2021 NCAA championship in her first year at the University of Virginia.

On Sunday, she noticed the interactions between Gauff and Gilbert – and the player's growing displeasure with her performance.

"I don't normally give the other side of the court too much energy. I keep it on my side of the court. (But) I guess seeing her kind of frustrated and looking at her box, putting her arms up in the air – it's definitely a little bit of a confidence boost," Navarro said. "I guess it



maybe gave me a little bit of momentum and just some energy that I needed."

In addition to Gauff's trophy from New York last September, the 20-year-old from Florida has been the runner-up at the French Open and reached the semifinals at the Australian Open.

And while her first big breakthrough came at the All England Club at age 15, when she became the youngest qualifier in tournament history and beat Venus Williams in the first round en route to getting to the fourth, Gauff never has bettered that result.

She also exited in the fourth round in her next appearance, in 2021, then lost in the third round in 2022 and the first round a year ago.

On Sunday, Gauff kept making mistakes, finishing with more than twice as many unforced errors, 25, as winners, 12. Her biggest issue was the shot that opponents know is Gauff's weakness: the forehand.

Navarro kept hitting to that side, and it worked.

"I really wanted to attack her forehand," Navarro said afterward.

Gauff made 16 unforced errors with forehands, and another 16 forced errors, accounting for 32 of the 61 total points won by Navarro. "I have the ability to raise my level when players play well, and I feel I didn't do that today," Gauff said.

She explained that when she's sought a mid-match assist from her coaches in the past, "They usually gave me something," but added: "I don't think we were all in sync."

"No one's (to) blame except myself," Gauff said. "I mean, I'm the player out there."

AP

SPORTS

Taifa Stars must tread warily in their tricky 2025 AFCON qualifying group

By Lloyd Ellipokea

THE qualifying groups for the 2025 AFCON Finals were revealed lately and it is highly likely that there was a collective sigh of relief among all Tanzanians over the fact that the Taifa Stars evaded being drawn in a 'Group of Death'.

Having said that though, it is still nevertheless vital that the Taifa Stars must be wary of their opponents in Group H, which are to wit: the once-unbeatable DR Congo, the ever-tricky Guinea and the ambitious Ethiopia.

Indeed, our matchups against our fellow Group H opponents are near-certain to be enormous battles as all four teams have set their sights on qualifying for next year's AFCON Finals.

For our part, the Taifa Stars would like to qualify for next year's AFCON Finals for the second time in a row following our creditable overall performance at the 2023 AFCON Finals.

It should be noted here that after suffering a 3-0 drubbing by Morocco in their opening football contest at the 2023 AFCON Finals, the Taifa Stars bounced back strongly to earn draws against both Zambia and the DR Congo in their remaining group matches.

Granted, the Taifa Stars failed to advance to the knockout stage following the completion of group phase play at the 2023 AFCON Finals.

However, the Stars returned home with their heads held high as they were not overly humiliated at the 2023 AFCON Finals.

Actually, they might have even claimed a victory if lady-luck had not so cruelly deserted them.

In light of their overall encouraging performance at the 2023 AFCON



Finals, the Taifa Stars will head into the 2025 AFCON Qualifiers with a sea of unbridled Tanzanian football fans expecting them to deliver the goods.

Axiomatically then, it is hoped that the Taifa Stars can embark upon an ultimately successful quest to advance to next year's AFCON Finals once the qualifiers get underway later this year.

Let us now ponder on Simba SC's recent new signings, which are aimed at helping the local football colossus to rebuild before next season dawns.

Indeed, last season was a clearly unusual campaign for Simba SC as the Msimbazi Street-based outfit was forced to endure a trophy-less season, which was hugely uncharacteristic of the renowned football giants.

Late last week, Simba signed the promising center-back Abdulrazak

Hamza from South African titans Supersport United (pictured), which means that the erstwhile national champions have now acquired the services of a host of new players.

This quintet of new signings includes the ex-Coastal Union center-back Lameck Lawi, and the Ivorian attacking midfielder Jean Charles Ahoua among others.

Still smarting from their untypically unsuccessful campaign last season, it appears that Simba is champing at the bit to rapidly return to the summit of local football.

And, with Young Africans expected to be in the running again for the trophies that will be up for grabs next season, the stage seems set then for what should be an entertaining, fascinating campaign full of breathtaking football action.

Lake Zone Cultural Tourism Festival leaves mark in Bariadi

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Lake Zone Cultural and Tourism Festival, which ran from July 5-7, 2024 in Bariadi District, Simiyu Region has left a mark after it attracted over 10,000 people at the CCM grounds.

Organized by Kilimanjaro One Travel and Tours Limited, the event which involved, among other things, traditional dances and competition between Gika and Gulu groups, caused great excitement and has left a lasting impact.

Speaking during the closing of the festival, Bariadi District Commissioner Simon Simalenga commended the company for organizing such an impressive festival. "I really congratulate Kilimanjaro One Travel and Tours Limited for what they did to be able to gather such a large crowd and ensure the festival ends in remarkable success," he said, while also congratulating Bariadi residents for

maintaining peace throughout the three consecutive days of the festival.

He called on the organizers to ensure the festival was held every year because Simiyu residents had already understood it and had high expectations for next year.

Christina Jengo, the organizers' managing director, said the festival was a great success as they expected 7,000 people, but at the end of the day, it attracted more than 10,000 people from inside and outside Simiyu Region.

"We will continue improving year by year and we believe this is the very first company to organize such a large cultural and tourism festival," she said.

She thanked the sponsors of the festival, who included the Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB), Z&M General Traders, NMB Bank, Widescope Enterprises Limited, and Carehealth and Hospitality Services.

"I believe that after this first festival

this year, other organizations will see the importance of supporting next year's event because I have been informed that this will be an annual festival," she said.

Representative of the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports, who is also Cultural Officer Nyambeho Magesa praised the organizers for heeding and supporting President Samia Suluhu Hassan's call to start a cultural and tourism festival in every region as they had done.

The Cultural Officer said the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism would continue collaborating with the organizers of the event to promote cultural tourism, while calling on various traditional dance groups of Simiyu Region to register with the National Arts Council (BASATA) so that they might benefit from various things, including loans issued to groups.



Attendees of the just-ended Lake Zone Cultural and Tourism Festival following closely one of the performances at the CCM grounds in Bariadi, Simiyu. Photo: Correspondent

'Over and out.' Germany great Toni Kroos pens emotional farewell post to soccer

MUNICH

OVER and out. Germany great Toni Kroos officially bid farewell to soccer on Sunday, two days after his team's dramatic loss to Spain in the quarter-finals of the European Championship.

Substitute Mikel Merino's game-winning goal in the last minute of extra time handed Spain a 2-1 victory, knocked out the host nation and ended Kroos' playing career.

"So that's it," Kroos wrote in a post on Instagram on Sunday. "But before I take a break and at least try to realize what happened over the last 17 years I don't want to miss the opportunity to say thank you to everyone accepting me how and who I am."

The 2014 World Cup winner went on to thank his fans, clubs, coaches and teammates, as well as his friends and family, adding that there is "nothing better (than) to see your kids being proud of daddy."

Kroos won a host of titles, mostly with Real Madrid, but also with Bayern Munich – six Champions Leagues, four Spanish leagues, three Bundesliga, three German Cups and one Copa del Rey.

The 34-year-old Kroos announced in May that he would retire at the end of Euro 2024.

That meant that his 114th match for Germany turned out to be his last.

Kroos ended his post with the words: "last but not least: Thank you Football! You beautiful game. And... you're welcome! Over and out."

Meanwhile, Spain midfielder Pedri has forgiven Toni Kroos for

ending his European Championship.

Pedri was ruled out of the rest of Euro 2024 on Saturday with a left knee injury that he sustained in a hefty challenge from Kroos in the opening stages of Spain's quarterfinal victory over Germany the previous day.

Kroos publicly apologised to the youngster at the end of an Instagram post and Pedri thanked the 34-year-old, who was playing what turned out to be his final match.

"Thank you Toni Kroos for your message," the 21-year-old Pedri wrote in a post on social media. "This is soccer and these things happen. Your career and your record remain forever."

Pedri had to come off in the eighth minute of Friday's match and Spain went on to beat Germany 2-1 thanks to Mikel Merino's game-winning goal in the last minute of extra time – set up by Pedri's replacement Dani Olmo, who had netted the opener.

Pedri will stay with the Spain squad for the rest of the tournament: Tuesday's semifinal against France and the final five days later – against either England or the Netherlands – should Spain get there.

"I came to Germany for Euro 2024 and I will continue here, until the end. Because, do not doubt it, the dream continues," Pedri wrote.

"This week it's time to encourage and contribute in another way to this great family that is Spain. Their support and that of all of you is incredible. The hardest moment has passed and the road back has already started, to soon be at full strength with Barcelona."

AP

Sancho praises Saka for redemptive penalty at Euro 2024 and says 'you did it for me and Marcus'

DORTMUND, Germany

JADON Sancho has praised Bukayo Saka for his redemptive penalty for England at the European Championship that went some way to banishing the memories of their high-profile shootout misses at the previous tournament in 2021.

Sancho, Marcus Rashford and Saka either missed or had their spot kicks saved in the shootout won by Italy in the European Championship final at Wembley Stadium in 2021. They are all Black players and they received vicious racist abuse on social media afterward.

Saka (pictured) was one of the five England players to score in the shootout win over Switzerland in the Euro 2024 quarterfinals on Saturday and Sancho sent a heartwarming message to his friend.

"I'm so proud of this guy!" Sancho wrote about Saka on his Instagram story.

"You did it for me and Marcus brother!"

Sancho and Rashford, who play for Manchester United, were left out of England's squad for Euro 2024.

After the Switzerland game, Saka said penalties were "something I embrace" and added that he used the difficulties he experienced three years ago "to make me stronger."

"You can fail once but you have a choice if you put yourself in that position or not again," Saka said.

"I'm a guy who is going to put myself in that position. I believed in myself. And when I saw the ball hit the back of the net, I was a very happy man."

Meanwhile, penalty shootouts used to strike fear into the hearts of England's soccer players and their fans.

Maybe not anymore.

England coach Gareth Southgate, who has his own special chapter in the country's spot-kick heartache, has worked hard behind the scenes to change the psyche around the shootout in his eight years in charge of the national team.

Now it's something they embrace, not dread.

"I think we've got a good process," Southgate said after England's 5-3 shootout win over Switzerland in the European Championship quarterfinals.

That process involves a bit of common sense (picking specialist penalty-takers), some science (breathing techniques and not being rushed), plenty of data (on goalkeeper Jordan Pickford's water bottle were instructions for each of Switzerland's penalty-takers) and, of course, some luck.

It's clearly working.

England has won three of its four shootouts in Southgate's tenure. Before that, the team had lost five in a row – stretching back to 1996 when Southgate himself had a penalty saved in a loss to Germany in the Euro semifinals. He ended up in a pizza advert, where he got mocked for his miss.

AP



EURO 2024: Spain meet France, Netherlands battle England in semi-finals

LONDON

THREE weeks down and with one week to go, Euro 2024 has reached the semi-final stage and is getting ready for two heavyweight ties as France take on Spain and England meet the Netherlands.

France and Spain go head-to-head in Munich in the first last-four clash today, which brings together the best team at the competition so far and the best European nation at each of the last two World Cups.

Spain are through to a second consecutive European Championship semi-final after dramatically knocking out hosts Germany on Friday when Mikel Merino's late header gave them a 2-1 win in extra time in Stuttgart.

Luis de la Fuente's team, on an upward curve since winning the UEFA Nations League last year, have been the most impressive side at the Euros, but are now bracing themselves for a showdown with Kylian Mbappe and the French.

Spain's absences against France – Spain are also handicapped by the absences of two of their back four due to suspension, with right-back Dani Carvajal and central defender Robin Le Normand ruled out of the game. "I think football is a collective sport, and it's true that if it was one-on-one it would be tricky, but it's up to us in the end," defender Marc Cucurella said on Sunday when asked about stopping a new Real Madrid signing Mbappe.

Spain must also do without midfielder Pedri after he came off injured against Germany, although Dani Olmo deserves to start after emerging from the bench to score one goal and make another in the quarter-final.

France have the upper hand in competitive meetings with Spain, the



England, France, the Netherlands and Spain are vying to reach the final of Euro 2024. Agencies

team they beat in the 2021 Nations League final and in the 1984 Euros final.

Les Bleus also beat Spain in the Euro 2000 quarter-finals and in the last 16 of the 2006 World Cup, although Spain won the last meeting of the teams at this tournament, in 2012.

France have reached a fourth semi-final in five major tournaments despite Mbappe and Antoine Griezmann, their two most influential players, struggling for form.

Mbappe, hindered by a broken nose, is not fully fit but is the only French player to have scored a goal in five matches.

That was a penalty against Poland, with their other two goals being scored by opposition players.

Didier Deschamps' team, World Cup winners in 2018 and runners-up in 2022 beat Portugal on penalties after their quarter-final in Hamburg finished 0-0 at the end of extra time.

The nature of their performances has attracted criticism, but the French

players are not bothered.

"Personally I really don't care, because at the end of the day, we are in the semi-finals," said midfielder Youssouf Fofana on Sunday.

England struggle through -

England and the Netherlands meet in the second semi-final in Dortmund tomorrow after both teams emerged victorious from their respective last-eight matches on Saturday.

In Gareth Southgate's 100th game in charge, Euro 2020 runners-up England fell behind against Switzerland before coming back to draw 1-1 and then triumphing on penalties.

They have reached the semi-finals despite not winning any of their last four matches in 90 minutes – those games have been against Denmark, Slovenia, Slovakia and the Swiss, none of whom are ranked higher than 19th in the world.

"You have to show other qualities to win in tournaments and these players are showing unbelievable qualities of character, resilience – it is not

just about playing well," Southgate responded to criticism of his team's displays.

The Dutch finished third in their group but brushed aside Romania in the last 16 before fighting back from behind to defeat Turkey 2-1 in Berlin on Saturday.

Defender Stefan de Vrij got their equaliser before Mert Muldur's own goal decided the game.

The Netherlands, who won the last Euros held in Germany in 1988, are into a first semi-final at the tournament since 2004.

"I think for the whole nation it's something special, we're a small nation and we're in the semis with England, France, and Spain, and we're really proud," said coach Ronald Koeman.

The sides have one win apiece in past meetings at the Euros, while the Dutch won their last encounter, 3-1 in the 2019 Nations League semi-finals.

AFP

Ronald Koeman is already part of Dutch football history - now he's chasing unique twin legacy

By Richard Jolly

RONALD Koeman and the European Championship have history. Thirty-six years after he scored in a semi-final in Germany, he will manage in one. The Koeman double is on.

Koeman and England have history, too, and not merely the group-stage game in 1988 when Marco van Basten scored a hat-trick. A certain brand of infamy came five years later, in a World Cup qualifier that condemned Graham Taylor's reign to failure. Koeman's last-man foul on David Platt brought only a yellow card, his precise free kick gave Netherlands the lead. Did Taylor not like that.

Perhaps international football brings these stories that unfold over decades with the same themes: Gareth Southgate, penalties and England's long quest to win something; Koeman and Netherlands, a great player now two games from the first genuinely great managerial achievement of his lengthy coaching career.

As it is, his twin spells in charge of his country – separated by the bitter-sweet realisation of his ambition to manage Barcelona – have brought ends to wilderness years: first, after they missed out of Euro 2016 and the 2018 World Cup, steering his country back to a major tournament in Euro 2020 qualifying; now a first semi-final in a decade, a first in the European Championship for two decades.

"I think for the whole nation it is something special," said Koeman. "We are a small nation and to be part of the semi-finals with England, France and Spain, we are really proud." That great historic tradition should not obscure the reality that Netherlands have punched above their weight.

A manager faulted at times for his tactical sense and team selections has overseen a triumph of resourcefulness, of character. "The players showed a big heart tonight," said Koeman after a comeback to defeat Turkey. "Sometimes we get criticised



Ronald Koeman. Agencies

about that; that we don't have that compared to other nations." Southgate, too, can say that imbuing spirit is part of an international manager's job.

But another element is adaptability. Koeman has never been one of the Dutch game's inflexible ideologues. That may be just as well. He has had to change his plans: before the tournament, during games. He lost his first-choice midfield, with barely a week to go, with first Frenkie de Jong and then Teun Koopmeiners ruled out. It may be unsurprising this Dutch team can lack control. If there have been moments of trial and error – the selection of Joey Veerman against Austria, when he was replaced after 35 minutes by Xavi Simons, who

proved a distinct improvement – was a case in point.

But Koeman has made a series of telling changes during games; against Poland, Austria and now Turkey. "If things don't go well then you need to make changes," he added. "I don't think it is the case success is only due to myself. You need to give credit to the substitutes, how they can improve the game as a whole."

Micky van der Ven, who made a goal-saving block to deny Turkey an equaliser, is carving out a strange specialist role as a replacement left-back. Koeman's flagship replacement, however, has been Wout Weghorst, the target man who enables them to go more direct and sling in more crosses. Weghorst's first

four cameos of the tournament had amounted to 44 minutes. His fifth lasted 45. Koeman recognising at half-time that with Turkey defending deep and in numbers, he needed another dimension. Weghorst provided it.

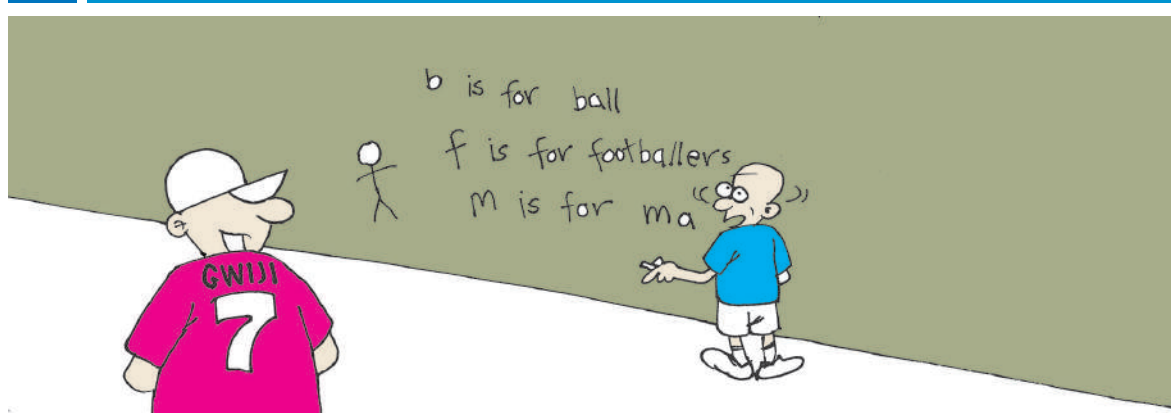
The oddity of a semi-final for Netherlands' impact substitute is that he is the English-style centre-forward who has scored goals everywhere except England: just two in 20 games for Burnley, two in 31 for Manchester United. Perhaps it shows the English should not try and export clogs to the Netherlands.

If Koeman, who took Southampton to their highest top-flight finish since 1985 but who is part of a long list of sacked Everton managers, may have less of a point to prove, his attackers have provided him with validation. His three main forwards – Memphis Depay, Cody Gakpo and Weghorst – look better players for country than club. The same may not always be said of some of his defenders.

Netherlands were hanging on at times against Turkey. A side who finished third in their group don't always look one of the best four sides in Europe; then again, neither have England in this tournament.

There is an awareness this is not one of the finest Dutch teams: certainly not comparable with the class of 1974 or 1988, but also a level below the sides of 1978, 1998, 2004, 2010 and 2014. **THE INDEPENDENT**

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**Spain meet France, Netherlands
battle England in semi-finals**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Yanga to face Kaizer Chiefs in inaugural Toyota Cup

By Correspondents Seth Mapoli & Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans will clash with South African giants Kaizer Chiefs in the inaugural of Toyota Cup, a friendly match set for Sunday, July 28, 2024.

This event marks the beginning of a new annual tradition, slated to continue for the next three years as part of Kaizer Chiefs' sponsorship deal with Toyota South Africa.

The Toyota Cup will feature Kaizer Chiefs as the main hosts, competing against some of Africa's top football clubs during the off-season. The first edition will be held in Bloemfontein, with fans eagerly anticipating the showdown at Toyota Stadium.

Last season, the two teams met in a pre-season encounter in Dar es Salaam during the Young Africans' 'Wiki Ya Wananchi' celebrations. This year, it's Young Africans' turn to travel to South Africa, where both clubs aim to strengthen their relations and assess their readiness for the upcoming season.

The Toyota Cup launch saw the presence of Young Africans president Engineer Hersi Said alongside Kaizer Chiefs' marketing director, Jessica Motaung. Speaking at the event, Motaung expressed excitement about the initiative and emphasized the significance of the partnership with Toyota.

"We are excited to be launching this groundbreaking initiative through our partnership with Toyota," said Motaung. She highlighted that Chiefs, currently in Turkey preparing for the 2024/25 PSL season under the leadership of Nasreddine Nabi, view this Cup as an opportunity to enhance the African football brand.

"The Kaizer Chiefs brand has been successfully built on the club's rich history and its contribution to South African football, as well as the growing brand of football on the continent. In Young Africans, our club has found brand synergies that align with our objective of enhancing the African football brand, and through the Toyota Cup, we look forward to collectively working together in achieving this," Motaung added.

Young Africans president Said expressed his enthusiasm for the invitation and thanked both Toyota and Kaizer Chiefs. He emphasized the importance of the tournament for Young Africans as they prepare for the new season.

"As the Young Africans Sports Club, we are very pleased to receive this invitation to participate in the Toyota Cup 2024," said the president.

He recalled last year's friendly match in Dar es Salaam and underscored the ongoing relationship between the two clubs.

"This match continues the relationship between our two big teams in Africa, which began last year when we invited Chiefs to participate in our exhibition-friendly match in 'Wiki Ya Wananchi'. We are delighted by this invitation and promise to deliver a competitive match that will help us prepare for the new season of 2024/25," he said.

Young Africans concluded last season with remarkable success, clinching the Premier League title for the third consecutive time and the 30th in the club's storied history. They also triumphed in the Federation Cup, securing victory in a nail-biting penalty shootout against Azam FC, which ended 6-5 after a goalless draw in regulation time.

The Jangwani Street-based side also showcased their prowess on the continental stage, reaching the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League. Despite a valiant effort, they were edged out by South Africa's Mamelodi Sundowns, falling 3-2 in a penalty shootout after two goalless legs.

This season, Young Africans' pre-season will be distinct, largely due to the invitation from Kaizer Chiefs to play a friendly match in July. The match is a key component of their preparation, set to take place during the off-season period.

The continued leadership of head coach Miguel Gamondi is seen as a stabilizing factor, ensuring continuity and sustained performance. The club is also actively involved in strengthening its squad.

Several players are expected to depart, making way for new signings during the transfer window. Among those likely to leave are Lomalisa Mutambala, Mahlatse Makudubela, Augustine Okrah, and Kennedy Musonda.



Generics Gymkhana's Arman Khan (R) receives the Ras Logistics Man of the Match award from the Country Manager of Aurobindo Pharmacy, Vipin Abraham, when the cricketer's side had locked horns with Econo Lodge Lions in 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Generics Gymkhana hammers Econo Lodge Lions in Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup tourney

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

GENERICS Gymkhana cricketers have boosted their quest for a successful run in the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup tournament after garnering a 54-run thrashing of Econo Lodge Lions last weekend.

The tie at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) venue had seen Generics Gymkhana, now defying expectations, bat first after losing the toss to Econo Lodge Lions.

Arman Khan shone once more for the clash's hosts, scoring 63 runs off 42 deliveries, and was efficiently supported by Mohammed Yunus who contributed 38 off 20.

The two cricketers' batting virtuosity ensured Generics Gymkhana set a challenging target of 169 runs, as they wound their innings up with an impressive 168/8 in 20 overs.

Atif Salim, Abdulsamad Ahmed, and Abdullah Imtiyaz took two wickets each for Econo Lodge Lions as the performers strived to prevent Generics Gymkhana from setting up a bigger target.

In reply, disciplined bowling showcased by Generics Gymkhana restricted the Atif Salim-led Econo Lodge Lions, who fell short by 54 runs and concluded their tournament run.

Experienced all-rounder Ahmed's unbeaten 59 runs off 49 deliveries was the standout performance for Econo Lodge Lions.

Khan was awarded the Ras Logistics Man of the Match for his impressive innings, while Ahmed's solid knocks earned him the Medinova Moment of the Match.

In the day's other clash, formidable Park Mobile Lions took on Azania Bank Pak Stars and unbeaten Park Mobile Lions won the toss and chose to field.

Openers Ejaz Aziz (20 off 13) and Kashif Ahmad (44 off 32) provided a solid start with a 36-run partnership for the batting squad.

However, Mohamad Jawad stole the show with an unbeaten 103 runs off just 52 balls, including 13 boundaries and four sixes, helping Park Mobile Lions register a formidable total of 195/5 in their 20 overs.

Despite playing for pride, Azania Bank Pak Stars struggled and fell short by 81 runs, having been bowled out for 114 runs in 19.5 overs.

Even though they put on a spirited showing during the chase, which witnessed Ali Ishaq (30 runs), Zahid Naveed (21 runs), skipper Muzamil Hussain (20 runs), Dharminder Singh (18 runs), and Maqsood Alam (13 runs) come up with two-digit figures, they could hardly live up to expectations.

Umar Shaikh starred with the ball for the resolute Park Mobile Lions, taking three wickets for just 19 runs in four overs. Fellow bowler Awais Abbas piled misery for Azania Bank Pak Stars having taken two wickets in three overs.

Mohamad Jawad's outstanding innings, on the one hand, earned him the Ras Logistics Man of the Match award.

Ishaq's impactful 20 runs in one over was, on the other hand, recognized as the Medinova Moment of the Match.

The tournament is an annual T20 cricket competition organized by Caravans Cricket Club.

Alliance Caravans, Aurobindo AKSC, Delaware Upanga SC, Balakrishna Foundation Aces, Flashnet Strikers, Park Mobile Lions, Harab Motors Pak Stars, Econo Lodge Lions, Azania Bank Pak Stars, and Generics Gymkhana are taking part in the showdown.

Petrofuel is the title sponsor of this tournament. Other sponsors of this tournament include Alliance Insurance, Ras Logistics, Medinova Healthcare, Automark, Pepsi, Ashton Media, MFI-Vertiv, Jiuzhou, SmartTV, Intek-Korea, ASAS, Colouflex, and Delaware.

Aurobindo, Balakrishna Foundation, Park Mobile, Harab Motors, Flashnet, Generics, Econo Lodge, Azania Bank, Horizon Teleports, TATA, The Works, MO Bajaj, and Seaciff Hotel are also the showpiece's sponsors.

Simba off to Egypt to prepare for the 2024/2025 season

By Correspondents Michael Mwebe & Seth Mapoli

THE Simba first-team squad set out on their pre-season tour, flying to Egypt for a training camp in Ismailia as preparations ramp up ahead of the new campaign.

The team left Dar yesterday afternoon and will stay in Egypt for three weeks before returning to the country for the final stage of preparations for the start of the 2024/2025 season which will kick off with the Community Shield top-four tournament.

'Wekundu wa Msimbazi' will be based in Ismailia, a city in north-eastern Egypt that is situated on the west bank of the Suez Canal.

Simba's information and communication manager Ahmed Ally confirmed the squad is almost at full strength now, with many of the club's internationals having arrived in the country last weekend. Goalkeeper Ayub Lakred will join the team directly in Egypt as he is now in Morocco for a holiday.

Twelve new players have been signed in a busy transfer window as the club reshape their squad. The new signings centre back Valentin Nouma, Zambian winger Joshua Mutale, Ugandan centre forward Steven Mukwala, Ivorian attacking midfielder Jean Charles Ahoua, Nigerian midfielder Augustine Okeje-epha and Congolese midfielder Debora Fernandez.

Local arrivals are Omary Omary from Mashujaa, striker Valentino Mashaka from Geita Gold, midfielder Yusuph Kagoma from Singida Fountain Gate and centre back Abdulrazack Hamza.

They have announced the departures of Shaban Chilunda, Saido Ntibazonkiza, Luis Miquissone, John Bocco and Kennedy Juma as part of their squad overhaul.

Sadio Kanoute, Babacar Sarr and Pa Omar Jobe are also reportedly not part of Simba plans for next season.

In Egypt, the team's technical staff, led by Fadlu Davids, will work to achieve the greatest benefit during the camp with technical and physical training that will prepare the players, in addition to friendly matches, during which he will be keen to try out some technical plans and tactical setups.

After the end of their one-month vacation following the conclusion of the 2023/24 campaign, coach



Simba SC players arriving at the Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam yesterday ready for their pre-season tour in Egypt. Photo: Courtesy of SSC

Davids will be keen at the beginning of the preparations to urge the players to do their utmost during the coming period to achieve the maximum possible benefit.

Despite winning the Community Shield and Union Cup, Simba disappointed in the Premier League, African Football League and Federation Cup.

They were expected to challenge Young Africans for the league title but ended up battling and being usurped by Azam for the CAF Champions League spot.

Meanwhile, Simba's Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mohamed 'Mo' Dewji, held a motivational meeting with the technical bench and players before the team's departure.

Dewji emphasized the importance of setting high goals for the season, urging the team to reclaim their former glory.

"I have high hopes for the team registered with the existing technical bench. My goal is to see Simba take the African championship. This should be at the forefront of the players' minds," Dewji asserted.

Dewji's message was clear: the team must focus on winning back all the titles they have lost in recent years.

"I, along with the entire Board of Directors, believe in all of you. Each one should understand Simba is a big team with big needs. For that reason, they must commit

themselves to achieve the team's goals," Dewji stated.

Reflecting on his vision for the club, Dewji reiterated his long-term ambition.

"From the first day I came to invest in this club, I made it very clear that my goal was to see Simba win the CAF Champions League. Fulfilling this will settle my soul, and it will be possible if the players give their all in every game," he declared.

As the team gears up for the new season, the training camp in Egypt will play a vital role in preparing the players both physically and mentally. With a blend of experienced professionals and promising new talent, Simba aim to make a significant impact in all competitions they participate in.

The commitment from the club's leadership, coupled with the strategic signings and the appointment of a new head coach, underscores Simba's determination to achieve excellence. The fans eagerly await the results of the pre-season efforts and hope to see their team dominate on the domestic and continental fronts.

Simba's journey to Egypt marks the beginning of what promises to be an exciting and challenging season. As the players and technical staff work hard to gel as a unit, the club's supporters remain optimistic about the future, inspired by the ambitious vision set forth by their leaders.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

