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Logistics centre to start operation next June



National Pg 3

Surveying project to benefit 24 villages



National Pg 4

Invest more in horticulture for better returns



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi pictured yesterday signing on a white board in a computer classroom shortly after launching the Zanzibar Campus of India's Madras Institute of Technology at Unguja Island's Fumba village. Witnessing the event (from-L) are the project's steering committee chairman, Abdirahman Ali Hassan; India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan; and IIT Zanzibar Campus trustee and director Prof Preeti Aghalayam. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Govt projects 47.4trn/- for expenditure next Budget

This is more than the country's target to have foreign currency reserves enough to import goods for 4.0 months and 4.5 months as required by the East African Common Market partner states

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government is expected to spend 47.4trn/- in the 2024/25 financial year with 34.4trn/- (72.6percent) being domestic revenue and 4.2trn/- (9percent) expected from

development partners. Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba made this observation when tabling the Budget outlook for fiscal 2024/25 in the National Assembly yesterday, noting that the government

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C\$30m project set to regenerate shorelines

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Tanga

NEARLY 100,000 people living along the seashore stand to benefit from the newly launched marine-oriented 'regenerative seascapes for people, planet and nature' project.

Charles Oluchina, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) country representative said at a ceremony to launch the project here yesterday that the global agency is coordinating the project in conjunction with Mission Inclusion, with support from Global Affairs Canada, the development assistance wing of the Canadian government.

Titled for short as 'ReSea,' the new initiative is an over two years project ending early 2026m meant to enhance the physical and socio-economic resilience of families grouping over 350,000 individuals in coastal communities across Kenya, Tanzania, Comoros, Mozambique and Madagascar.

The flagship project under the Blue Wall initiative will be implemented within the Tanga-Pemba seascape, encompassing parts of Tanga Region and Pemba Island, he said, noting that ReSea runs on a budget of C\$30m (Canadian dollars) starting now and running to early 2026.

Dorothy Asuzu, the project coordinator at Mission Inclusion, said that areas marked for the project include Pangani and Mkinga Districts in Tanga Region along with four districts on Pemba Island. "It should be noted that two-thirds of

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Govt tables 2024/2025 development outlook

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government has tabled the 2024/25 proposed National Development Plan, which prioritises developing an inclusive economy reducing poverty, creating employment and stimulating exports of value-added produce.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, Planning and Investment state minister in the President's Office, tabled the plan in the National Assembly yesterday, saying that to achieve the target the government will focus on value addition in agriculture, fisheries, forestry and minerals.

It will also seek to improve the provision of education at all levels by using technology, intensifying industrial pro-

duction and strengthening the provision of social services, he said.

"This plan is geared to build on the successes recorded in the past five-year national development plan and take up strategies to achieve food security, quality seeds and irrigation agriculture," he elaborated.

The plan also targets increasing production for exports and services through agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry and minerals, he stated, also pointing at strengthening the provision of social services like education, health, water and electricity.

It envisages further reinforcing of road transport improvement and railways infrastructure, alongside opening up of

opportunities in critical minerals, deep sea fishing, green economy and digital economy, he affirmed.

short evaluation of the implementation of previous national development plans He highlighted achievements reached in implementing the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHPP), as well as in spreading the use of quality seeds, fertiliser and irrigation agriculture. This has facilitated increased production of various food crops and higher exports, he stated.

An evaluation of implementation of the previous plan shows the country's economy has grown at an average of six

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PURA's audit skims off 189bn/- overstated cost

So far, natural gas has been discovered in 44 out of 96 drilled wells, with 16 wells drilled offshore and 28 in deep sea

By Francis Kajubi

THE Petroleum Upstream Regulatory Authority (PURA) has managed to save 189bn/- in overestimated cost incurred on investment by investors in the gas subsector.

Charles Sangweni, the PURA director general, made this observation in a press conference yesterday in Dar es Salaam covering PURA successes in managing

production sharing agreements (PSA), relating to audits conducted in the past two years.

The audit featured investments by eight companies operating in the gas sub-sector with eleven contracts, while the recovered money arose from audit by the authority on overestimated value of costs on investment incurred by investors, he said.

Natural gas production has grown to

53.19bn cubic feet from July 2022 to February 2023, compared to 46.96bn cubic feet during the corresponding periods in 2021/22, implying 14 percent growth.

Known natural gas offshore and deep sea reserves have increased to 57.54trn cubic feet, where 10.4trn is offshore and 47.13 is in deep sea zone.

"As of today, 70 percent of electricity consumed in factories, vehicles and households is generated from natural gas. Production of natural gas commenced in 2004 at Songo Songo plant and in 2006 at Mnazi Bay," he said.

So far an area covering 534,000 square kilometers has been surveyed for gas reserves of which 394,000 square kilometers is off shore and 140,000 square kilometers onshore.

So far, natural gas has been discovered in 44 out of 96 drilled wells, with 16 wells drilled offshore and 28 in deep sea, he stated.

PURA has in the past three years man-

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expects to borrow 6.1trn/- from domestic lenders and 2.5trn/- from international financial institutions.

The budget outlook has considered the rate of revenue collection, economic growth estimates, global economic trends and strategies for higher revenue collection the government was working upon, he said.

He said national debt servicing standing at 12.1percent of the total sums, while 11.7trn/- is to be spent on salaries, and government operations expenditure projected at 8.2trn/-.

Expenditures for various development programmes are projected at 15.3percent where this includes subsidies, educational loans for higher learning students and financing the free education policy.

Strategies put in place to increase revenue collection include widening the tax base by introducing new revenue sources with viable expectation for achieving the target, he said.

All institutions offering public services need to strengthen their revenue collecting systems to facilitate proper collection of government fees and levies, he stated.

The government has also put in place policies to stimulate economic growth by encouraging usage of electronic money rather than cash, alongside formalizing businesses by loaning to SMEs to expand their businesses, so that they also pay taxes.

The proposed development plan has put in place directives for accounting officers on budget preparations, implementation and evaluation, the minister stated, affirming that the national debt has reached 82.1trn/- as of June this year, and it is sustainable.

The money has been used to finance development projects including roads, railways, airports, electricity, education and health, he stated, hinting that an evaluation of the debt conducted in December 2022 showed that the national debt was sustainable in the short and long term.

Inflation was at 4.6 percent average during fiscal 2022-23, within the regional economic target, he said, noting that with inflation for July to September 2023 down at 3.3percent compared to 4.7percent for the

same period in 2022.

Loans to the private sector increased by 22.2percent for the year 2022/23, while the earlier target was a 10.7percent increase, he said.

Private sector lending stood at 9.9 percent growth in 2021/22 so this growth complements the increase in economic activities arising from steps being taken by the government in improving the business and investment environment, he further noted.

Bank non-performing loans (NPLs) decreased by 5.3 percent on average across banks, from 7.8-percent in June 2022/-, he said, noting that foreign currency reserves remained enough for nearly half year importation of various goods.

By June 2023 foreign currency reserves stood at \$5.45bn compared to \$5.1bn in June 2022, capable of covering imports of goods for 4.9 months, he said.

"This is more than the country's target to have foreign currency reserves enough to import goods for 4.0 months and 4.5 months as required by the East African Common Market partner states," he said.

In the year 2022/23 foreign evaluators like Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Rating Services conducted an evaluation on the country's capacity for loan servicing and issued a B2+ and B- respectively, he told MPs.

The results indicate that the economy, national debt administration and the decision to open up the country economically are paying off, as this evaluation will enhance the country's posture in international financial markets hence attracting investments. This will also facilitate increased lending to the private sector and the government, he added.



This is more than the country's target to have foreign currency reserves enough to import goods for 4.0 months and 4.5 months as required by the East African Common Market partner states

C\$30m project set to regenerate shorelines

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the earth is blue, which means 75 percent of it is made up of oceans," she stated, underlining the importance of preserving the marine environment.

"In Tanzania the sea harbours important resources including fisheries, mangroves, coral reefs and spectacular beach marine sites that hold ample economic potential," she affirmed.

Ambassador Kyle Nunas, Canadian high commissioner to Tanzania, Zambia, Seychelles and the Comoros, said his country is fully committed to supporting global climate action and has so far pledged C\$2.6bn for this initiative.

"Oceans play a vital role in mitigating climate change by absorbing carbon gases but the seas are also highly susceptible to negative effects of climate change," he said.

The project is structured around the 'Blue Planet' concept, for effective, equitable and gender-responsive conservation of marine protected areas (MPA) and locally managed marine areas (LMMA).

The second pillar is 'Blue Nature,' which seeks to create an enabling environment for the adoption of nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation, he said.

The third pillar, 'Blue People,' targets inclusive economic empowerment in nature-based value chains across the targeted areas, he asserted.

Agnes Meena, the Livestock and Fisheries deputy permanent secretary expressed commitment to ensure that women benefit from

sea resources, thus government has established a fisheries gender desk, to address problems women face in seeking to exploit coastal resources.

Waziri Kindamba, the regional commissioner, said whoever plays with the ocean, threatens the lives of millions of people in Tanga, Pemba and across the border in Mombasa.

"I will use every means to protect the sea shore as it is our hope in life and future of the children," he stressed.

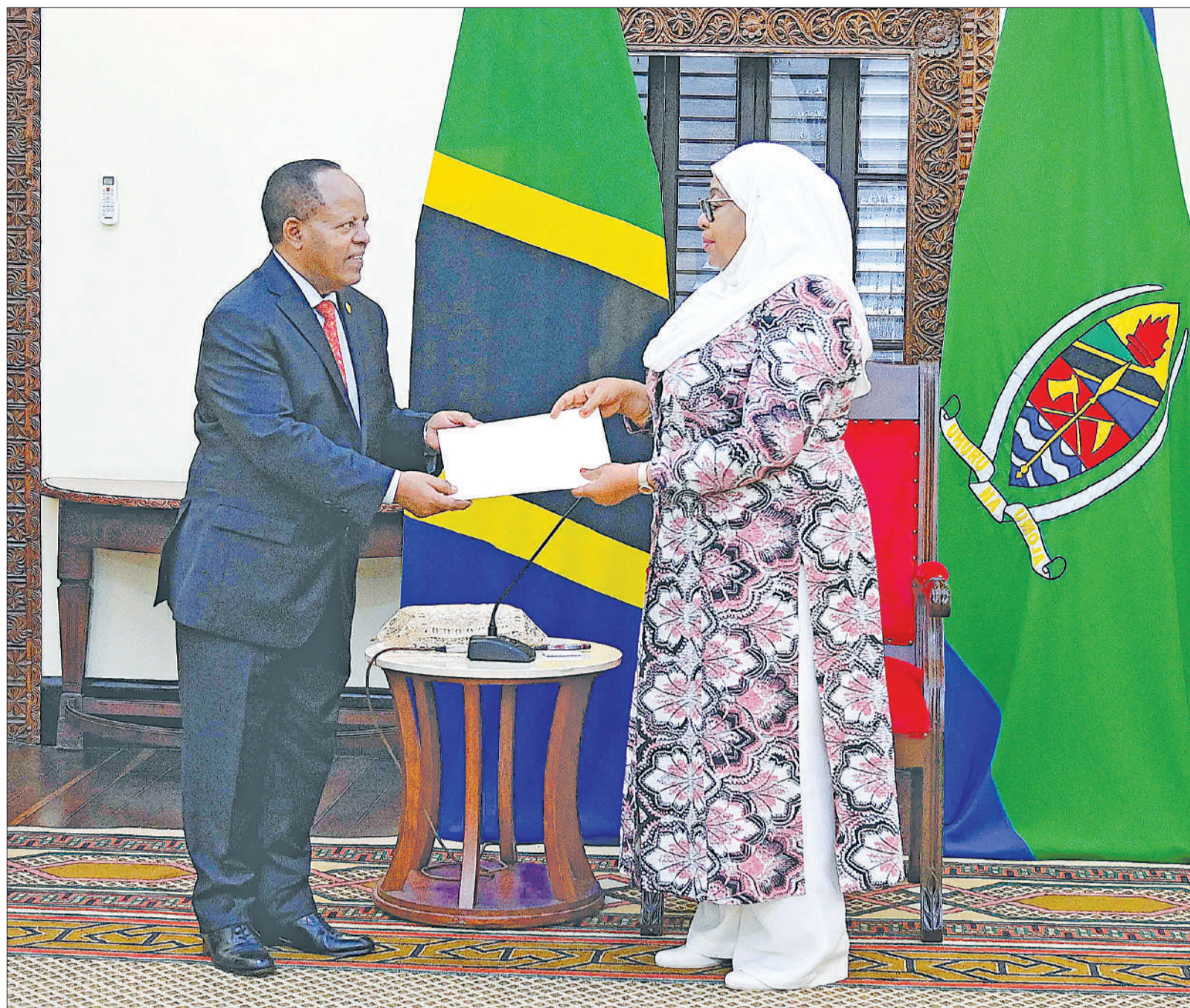
Over 400 kilometers of seashore stretching across four districts and over 80 villages straddles Tanga Region, with the sea being extremely important to the economy and livelihoods of local communities.

The first flagship project in the western rim of the Indian Ocean funded under the Great Blue Wall initiative, the project is designed to reduce the physical and socio-economic vulnerability of 350,000 women, men and young people living in coastal communities facing adverse impacts of climate change.

The targeted beneficiaries are chiefly 225,000 women and 12,500 people in vulnerable and marginalized situations, project officials say.

Biodiversity degradation and fish stock depletion caused in large part by sea warming and loss of direction for migratory species are some of the major challenges for coastal communities.

Richard Veenstra, the 'Mission Inclusion' director general, said Re-Sea is designed to solve the widening problem of biodiversity decline, leading to conflicts rising from pressure on resources.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan receives a special message from Ethiopian Prime Minister Dr Abiy Ahmed as delivered at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday by Taye Atske-Selassie, Foreign Policy Advisor in the Office of the Ethiopian Prime Minister. Photo: State House

Govt tables 2024/2025 development outlook PURA's audit skims off 189bn/- overstated cost

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percent for most of the past two decades with inflation remaining at single digit level, he said.

Exports increased from \$975m in 2000 to \$5.91bn in 2020, with exports dominated by selling of raw products, with economic growth not matching the rate of population growth especially in the rural areas, he further asserted.

In ensuring rural social-economic development, the government will

focus on empowering small-scale farmers with quality seeds, subsidized fertiliser and uplifting irrigation agriculture, he said.

Prof Mkumbo lauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan as a justice-loving leader with her 4Rs philosophy— reconciliation, resilience, reform and rebuilding, building a broad social consensus.

In political life this has helped to create a balanced environment for conduct of political activities for all parties in the country, he added.

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aged to finalise preparations for the Interactive Digital Petroleum Reference Map on the Geographical Information System (GIS) where is collected about surveys on oil and natural gas availability.

The Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) project negotiations on the final investment decision are likely to be completed late 2025, he said, noting also that the government is pursuing negotiations with several foreign companies on exploration

of natural gas on offshore block 1, 2 and 4, namely Shell, Equinor, Exxon Mobil, Medical and Pavilion, while the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) also wants to conduct explorations.

The government is anticipating that explorations and drilling will attract \$42bn investments (105.09trn/-) with the country now securing 1.2trn cubic feet of ready-to-use LNG with annual consumption standing at 60bn cubic feet, he added.



Cathy Wang (R), Director of East Africa Commercial & Logistics Centre, briefs Tanzania Investment Centre board chairperson Dr Binilith Mahenge (next to her) on progress in the ongoing construction of the complex at Ubungu in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The multipurpose facility is being developed by Chinese investors in the spirit of promoting Tanzania's industrialisation drive. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Commercial, logistics centre in Dar to start operation in June

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

CONSTRUCTION of the East African commercial and logistics centre in Dar es Salaam is to be completed and start operation in June next year.

Cathy Wang, centre director made the revelation yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking to the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) board chairman, Dr Binilith Mahenge visited the construction site to see the project progress.

She said the construction of the building will be completed next month, but the decoration requirements will be completed June next year giving green light

for businesses to begin.

Wang said this is a good opportunity for various businessmen in the country to use the facility adding that those who want to know more about the investment can attend at their offices to get various information.

"This construction until the end will cost \$110million, but so far we have spent \$70million for the purchase of various construction materials and equipment for this building which will have more than 2,500 shops," Wang said.

The centre director said that during the construction period, they have provided jobs for 1,500 Tanzanians and that until its com-

pletion the total number of direct jobs will be 15,000 and temporary jobs will be 50,000.

Dr Mahenge praised the progress of the construction of the center which she said will help increase employment for Tanzanians and stimulate the economy, noting that these are the fruits of the 6th phase government which has created a good environment for investment by amending investment laws and regulations to continue attracting foreign and domestic investment in various fields.

"This project could have gone to other countries but these investors have decided to come to

Tanzania because of the good investment environment, peace and stability that exists, so we at TIC will continue to create an environment to attract investors," he said.

He said TIC has been doing various campaigns to attract investment which include allocating enough land for investors to build factories so that when they come to the country, they don't have to worry about finding places to build their factories.

He said the government has set many investment incentives for local and foreign investors and has also invited local investors to take advantage of the various opportunities available in the country.



Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (R) and Minister of State in the President's Office (Planning and Investment), Prof Kitila Mkumbo, consult in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday shortly before the former tabled recommendations meant to serve as a guide in the preparation of the Government Budget for financial year 2024/2025. Photo: Finance ministry

ACT protests 'anomalies' in Mtambwe by-election

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE opposition ACT-Wazalendo has accused some government officials and leaders of the ruling CCM over failure to honour the consensus reached by the late Seif Sharif Hamad and Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi.

Addressing journalists in Vuga, Zanzibar yesterday, the party's national leader, Zitto Kabwe, complained about sabotage during the by-election in Mtambwe constituency in North Pemba Region where the party's candidate Muhammed Ali Suleiman was announced the winner.

He said they witnessed a number of actions that were against the reached consensus and principles of human rights, democracy and good governance, noting that such acts were carried out by the Isle's police officers.

Zitto said the party's candidate was alleged to have forged a Zanzibar Residence Identity Card, the work that was done by officials of the Zanzibar Civil Status Registration Agency (ZCSRA) in Wete District.

He said investigations by ACT Wazalendo revealed that number of voters registered in the voter's registration book exceeded the real number of voters in Mtambwe Constituency.

"Some of the votes for our candidate were illegally given to CCM candidates during the counting exercise at Bwagamoyo and Uondwe polling stations. Our agents were forcefully removed at polling stations and beaten by police, which is against the principles of human rights and good governance," he said.

Zitto also claimed that there was misuse of government assets such as vehicles that were used to transport CCM officials and voters.

"With all these actions, we can say that the government in Zanzibar is

not willing to implement what was reached in the consensus as well as determinations to make reforms that will ensure free and fair elections," remarked Zitto.

He noted that the decisions to make all the matters public were reached so that institutions dealing with issues related to human rights and good governance can understand what is going on.

He warned that if appropriate measures are not taken to rectify the mistakes, there would be no fair and free elections in 2025.

He said that the party has organized a workshop on December 8th 2023 to evaluate and plan for the coming general elections.

Commenting on the voter's registration exercise scheduled for December this year, Zitto called upon the party members to register so that they are able to vote for leaders of their choice.



Some of the votes for our candidate were illegally given to CCM candidates during the counting exercise at Bwagamoyo and Uondwe polling stations. Our agents were forcefully removed at polling stations and beaten by police, which is against the principles of human rights and good governance

Land surveying project to benefit 24 villages in southern highlands regions

By Guardian Correspondent,

Wanging'ombe

A total of 24 villages in Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions are set to benefit from a grand land surveying project which will include allocation of conservation areas for purposes of protecting water sources and reducing land disputes.

In Mbeya Region, the project will be implemented in Mbeya District Council and Mbarali while in Njombe it will cover Wanging'ombe District and Iringa District Council in Iringa Region.

Manager, National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC) in Southern Highlands regions, Pili Msati made the revelation when speaking to journalists in Wanging'ombe District, Njombe Region.

Msati said the government has decided to survey the land in the specific villages to ensure good land use plans as well as allocation of areas for conservation, grazing and agriculture.

"We are implementing the exercise in collaboration with the Vice President's Office (Environment) through its project to restore natural vegetation and environment

and forest conservation," she said.

Heroni Chaka, NLUPC expert said villagers are anciently waiting for the exercise especially those in Mapogolo village in Wanging'ombe District, Njombe Region. He said surveying the land would also end the long-lasting dispute between villagers in Mapogolo and Ukumola villages.


Albart Mwakipesile, Wanging'ombe District land surveyor said the project would benefit villagers as they are going to have special areas for agriculture and cattle grazing.

"The project helps to solve land and boundary disputes between

villages. Once the processes are completed, villagers will be provided with customary land ownership documents to help them to secure loans from financial institutions," said Mwakipesile.

Some villagers in Mapogolo village in Wanging'ombe District, Sarah Kifikiro congratulated the government for coming up with the project that would enhance conservation activities.

"We are grateful for this project as it is going to protect our water sources. Providing us with customary land ownership documents would help us in getting loans from banks," she added.



Invitation for BID

BID No. GIZ/HWC/83452710/2023

RENTAL OF TWO CARS (4X4) FOR UP TO TWELVE MONTHS

As an international cooperation enterprise for sustainable development with worldwide operations, the federally owned Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supports the Tanzania Government on behalf of the Germany in achieving its development-policy objectives.

The HWC (Mitigation of Human-Wildlife Conflicts) programme is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

In the current phase of the programme (2022 - 2025), will focus on four main areas: Improving and regulating the capacity of MNRT and Wildlife division for implementing the National Human-Wildlife Management Strategy, strengthen interinstitutional response to HWC, empower communities to reduce negative impact of HWC and mitigation on their livelihood and security, and enhance the capacity of education Institutions and medias to integrate content relevant to HWC into their work.

Requirement:

GIZ Invites bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply of two cars as shown below:

SN	ITEMS	QUANTITY	TERM
01	4x4 car	2	Up to 12 months

Interested candidates should request for detailed tender documents from giz-tanzania@giz.de no later than **18.11.2023**


We will answer your request during office hours from 8:00 to 15:00 hours local time, Monday to Friday, except public holidays.

Late Bids, Partial Bids, Bids not received, shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

GIZ is not obliged to follow any condition in nominating the supplier and has the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

This tender is intended solely for Tanzanian based companies.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR LICENCE UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received applications for Licence under the Converged Licensing Framework from the following applicants: -

S/N	NAME OF APPLICANT	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS / NATIONALITY	SHARES %
1.	Geeznet Technologies Limited	District Network Facilities	1. Christopher Ebiat Komba - Tanzanian	75
			2. Monica Justine Mchomvu - Tanzanian	25
2.	Kasi Networks Limited	District Network Facilities	1. Leonard Humphrey Munisi - Tanzanian	50
			2. Wenceslaus Claude Nkalandula - Tanzanian	35
			3. Unallotted shares	15

Pursuant to Section 8 Of Electronic and Postal Communications Act, Cap 306 of the Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of licence to the applicants to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration when the Authority considers these applications.

Comments should be addressed to:

Director General
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
P. O Bo 474
14414 DAR ES SALAAM
Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2
Fax: +255 22 2412009
E-mail: dg@tcra.go.tz

TBS awareness training benefits 6,000+ people in Mtwara Region

By Guardian Correspondent, Mtwara

OVER 6,000 people of Masasi, Nanyumbu, Newala, Tandahimba district councils and Mtwara Mkindani municipality have benefited from training on quality and standards offered by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

The awareness training conducted between October 16 and November 3, this year in the Tanzania's southern region as part of the bureau's campaign aimed at increasing the understanding of quality and standards issues.

Mussa Luhombero, TBS marketing officer said here over the weekend when wrapping up one of the training that the bureau is geared towards to provide education to the public so that they cultivate interest of reading labels of the product before buying them.

"We want to ensure that all people buy products whose quality has been proven, along with encouraging small entrepreneurs to prove the quality of their products, including traders to register food and cosmetics stores," he said.

Luhombero said that the public education campaign has been held in various places with gatherings of people including markets, stands, auctions and other open areas.

According to Luhombero, people came out in large numbers to get education and understanding of various issues related to the quality of products.

Barnabas Paul, TBS senior food safety emphasized entrepreneurs

and businessmen to ensure that they sell products certified by TBS and the owners of food and cosmetic products to register them to avoid any inconvenience that may arise.

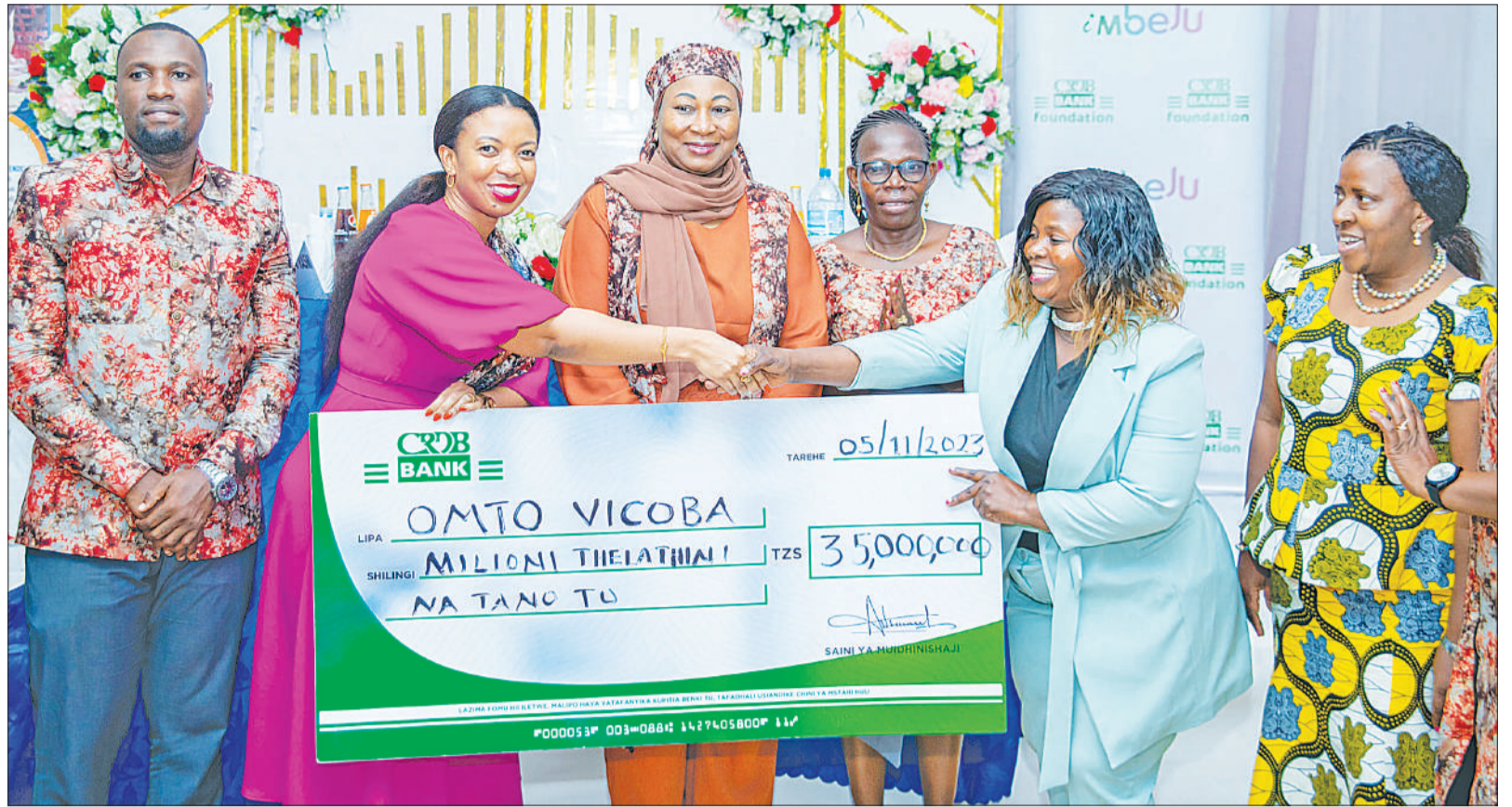
Paul stated that the registration of the buildings is in accordance with the requirements of the law and not otherwise, and explained about the importance of standards in their daily lives including protecting the safety and health of the users of the relevant products and for producers, the standards guarantee reliable markets and to make the respective products withstand the competition in the market.

He asked producers and citizens in general to ensure that they become ambassadors to promote quality in the communities they live in and provide information at the TBS office located near me or call the service center during the day through the communication provided if they encounter challenges related to product quality issues during purchases.

Some of the training beneficiaries praised TBS as the education will help them make the right decisions when buying products.

One of the beneficiaries, Halima Abdallah, said that before the education, when she was going to buy products, the criterion she was using was to check the price relief instead of checking if its quality was confirmed.

Among the 6,220 citizens who received the education, 158 are entrepreneurs who produce various products.



Joycelean Makule (2nd-L), CRDB Bank Foundation's head of operations, presents a dummy cheque for 35m/- to OMTO Institute director Anna Haulle as capital extended by the foundation's Imbeju Programme to OMTO Vicoba members at a meeting held yesterday in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Looking on are National Council for Economic Empowerment executive secretary Beng'i Issa (3rd-L), Village Community Banking (Vicoba) president Mohamed Basanga (L), BUTA Vicoba director Semeni Gama (3rd-R) and CRDB Bank Ubungu branch (Dar es Salaam) sales officer Francisca Kalanje. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Invest heavily in horticulture for the sector to bring more cash, govt urged

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

HORTICULTURE is one of the agricultural sub-sectors that if heavily invested can play a vital role in scaling up the country's economy and handsomely contribute to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), economist has suggested.

Dr Donald Mmari, Research and Poverty Alleviation (REPOA) executive director unveiled the sentiments yesterday when speaking to journalists ahead of the two-day 27th annual research workshop starting tomorrow in the country's metropolitan city.

Organized by REPOA, Gatsby Tanzania, Bank of Tanzania and

President's Office-Investment and Planning where by during the workshop, partners will launch five-year research programme on structural transformation and development trajectory in Tanzania.

The workshop is themed: 'Galvanizing Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Through Structural Transformation.'

"Agriculture can contribute a lot to the GDP, if heavily invested as it

Employ more than 65 percent of the country's population, but its productivity and contribution GDP is low hence sub-sector like horticulture can do better and with the rapid impacts," said the economist.

He stated that women and youth

are the ones undertaking the agriculture sector mostly therefore if the sector can be transformed by investing well in expanding productivity on horticultural and dairy products, technology, up-grade the sector add global value-chain to export and hence bring economic growth.

Citing examples, Dr Mmari said Holland is a very small country, but exports most of its horticultural products to other countries, "that's why I'm saying Tanzania can do better and create more job opportunities."

Samweli Kilua, Gatsby Tanzania Country Director, said that they have partner with REPOA and other

key stakeholders to hold the annual research workshop in order to get opportunity and discuss by focusing on transforming sectors with real opportunity for widespread impacts and focus on high potential and labour-intensive sectors such as tourism, manufacturing by providing targeted assistance a helping to drive rapid growth that is competitive, inclusive and resilient.

"We are working in partnership with others to catalyse and demonstrate transformation in Tanzania and Africa at large. We believe that working in such sectors is critical to long term poverty reduction and wider economic transformation," said Kilua.

TAWCA to motivate school children into loving mathematics

By Correspondent Pilly Kigome

TANZANIA Association of Women Certified Accountants (TAWCA) is well prepared to expand scope in promoting the accounting profession by encouraging school children to love mathematics and join the field.

To achieve the goal, the association is collecting funds to purchase braille books for blind students in public secondary schools and colleges in the country.

Speaking at a charity walk organised to collect books for the students in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, CPA Evance Asenga, head of treasury-Dar es Salaam office said that the Ministry of Finance in collaboration with TAWCA is well prepared to attract girls in science and mathematics encouraging them to join accounting profession.

He said that the country is facing a shortage of accountants, something which needs more joint efforts to promote enrolment of students in colleges in order to reduce the gap.

"Challenges are still there as the number of professional accountants is still very low especially in public institutions, so, we are striving to increase the number of professionals," he said.

Prof Sylvia Temu, chairperson of the National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA) said ahead of the commemoration of the International Accounting Day on November 10, TAWCA in collaboration with the board has organised the walk to purchase the accounting and related books and will be distributed in various public schools.

According to her, they believe that by doing so, will greatly contribute to the efforts meant to improve education, including encouraging female students to specialize in science and mathematics and then ac-

counting subjects.

Dr Neema Kiure, chairman of the association said that the walk and distribution of the books also aimed to address a spread misconception among female students which make them believe that the profession is difficult and was only meant for men.

The driving theme for this year's Charity Walk event is "Changia Kitabu, Kuza Maarifa" (Donate Books, Promote Knowledge).

She said that the association was established in 2015 with 15 members with the aim of certifying women accountants and during that time they were about 20 percent in the country.

Dr Neema said that currently, there are more than 12,000 professional accountants in the country, but women are only 30 percent.

"This is why we are making efforts to lure more women into the profession, last year we donated books to Tuliani and Makurumla secondary schools in Dar es Salaam and Iyela in Mbeya Region," she said.

She said that apart from the awareness programme, the association focuses on supporting women by initiating small projects such as the "Bado Naweza" project implemented in Kigamboni District, Dar es Salaam.

The project focuses on supporting girls who dropped out of school due to pregnancy where they are being registered to receive entrepreneurship training where a total of 260 young mothers have benefited.

"Challenges are still there as the number of professional accountants is still very low especially in public institutions, so, we are striving to increase the number of professionals"



A gaping pothole at Dar es Salaam's Mbezi Mwisho commuter bus stand makes life especially hard for motorists, would-be passengers, disembarking passengers and passers-by, what with the incessant pounding rains in the city. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

TFA plans to set up new branches in four regions

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE Tanganyika Farmers Association (TFA) is working to expand its network coverage and include four more regions in the fold. So far, the association has 17 branches countrywide.

Headquartered in Arusha, the Tanganyika Farmers Association (TFA) will soon establish new branch offices and farm inputs' distribution centers in Rukwa, Mwanza, Kigoma and Singida Regions in its mission to reach out to practically all farmers throughout the country.

Justin Shirima, TFA executive director said the association is also finding ways of enabling its members, most of whom being older persons, to be in a position to qualify

for loans from financial institutions despite their ages.

That follows concerns that most banks in Tanzania usually don't want to extend credit to people aged above 70 years and most farmers fall in this bracket.

"Most farmers in the country happen to be aged persons, who still need capital to expand and improve their production as well as adopting new technology, refusing them credits is sabotaging the country's most valuable sector," said Shirima.

With nearly 80 years in operation, the Tanganyika Farmers Association which was founded in 1935 now has over 5,000 shareholders, mostly Tanzanian farmers.

"And in addressing the long existing problem of inadequate inputs,

the association in conjunction with overseas partners has started to produce specially formulated fertilizers which correspond with the country's soil texture," stated Shirima.

The Executive Director made the revelation as he was addressing members during the TFA's Annual General Meeting held at the association premises in Arusha.

"In addition to being more affordable and readily available, our new TFA Fahari fertiliser has taken into consideration all types of soil in Tanzania, the seeds that farmers use and the users at the further end of the value chain," Shirima maintained.

One of the TFA members, Waziri Barnabas advised the management

to ensure that they adopt new technology to cover everything, from communication to distribution.

"In this modern age we are no longer supposed to be trekking long distances searching for fertilizers and other farm inputs or services, when everything should be available in the palm of our hands," pointed out Barnabas.

Elishilia Kimuto advised the government to ensure that subsidised fertiliser get distributed to farmers through officially registered institutions such as the TFA to ensure that the consignments reach the right people.

"This is because some of the agents being used to supply subsidised fertilisers are not exactly reliable," said Kimuto.



CONTRACTORS REGISTRATION BOARD

DELETION OF CONTRACTORS

The Contractors Registration Board (herein after "CRB") is a Government Autonomous Regulatory body established in accordance with the Contractors Registration Act, Cap 235 of the Laws. CRB is responsible for registration of all types of contractors and regulating their conduct for the purpose of protecting consumers of construction services in Tanzania.

CRB would like to inform all clients / developers, Consultants and the general public that contractors listed hereunder have been deleted from our Register of Contractors with effect from the 27th day of October, 2023 based on Sections 13 (c) respectively of the Contractors Registration Act Cap 235 of the Laws.

CRB is empowered, inter alia, to delete from the Register of Contractors any Contractors that do not adhere to the key registration requirements.

NOTICE is also hereby given that, all deleted contractors are statutorily required to return respective Registration Certificates to CRB within 14 days from the date of this notice, without fail.

LIST OF DELETED CONTRACTORS FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REGISTRATION CRITERIA

LOCAL CONTRACTORS

S/N	BUILDING WORKS	CATEGORY	REG.NO
1	RURAL & URBAN CONTRACTOR LIMITED	BUILDING	B1/0002/10/1974
2	GREY INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B1/0087/03/2008
3	HERKIN BUILDERS LTD.	BUILDING	B1/0133/07/2013
4	KAXUGA ASSOCIATES LTD.	BUILDING	B2/0039/08/2008
5	A.W.B.INVESTMENT CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B3/0082/10/2010
6	NCL INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/0221/5/2001
7	FORTRESS BUILDERS LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/0334/10/2009
8	SAFARI ENTERPRISES & CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD	BUILDING	B4/0341/10/2002
9	RAMADA INVESTMENT LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/0350/05/2010
10	MAVEK LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/0359/08/2010
11	TANSINO LOGISTICS LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/0392/01/2012
12	PRADA ENTERPRISES LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/0401/7/2012
13	VIKU BUILDING & CIVIL WORK CONTRACTORS CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/0431/02/2013
14	SAMADU (TANZANIA) LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/552/09/2016
15	ELIMACO TANZANIA LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/567/02/2017
16	DAINAMIC CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD	BUILDING	B4/571/04/2017
17	KIWALANI WAREHOUSING PROJECT LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/583/07/2017
18	PISON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B4/595/02/2018
19	CAPITAL SHELTERWORKS LTD	BUILDING	B5/0214/11/2003
20	NICE STANDARD INVESTMENT LTD	BUILDING	B5/0262/04/2005
21	SNM ENGINEERING SERVICES LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0312/11/2006
22	GENERAL INTERTECH CONSTRUCTION SERVICES & SUPPLIES LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0314/11/2006
23	B.P. CIVIL WORKS COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0356/11/2007
24	DAVIS CONS AND SUPPLIES LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0364/12/2007
25	SAMC TECHNICAL SERVICES LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0372/01/2008
26	BESHU GENERAL ENTERPRISES COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0378/03/2008
27	JAMAA INVESTMENT AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0520/05/2010
28	JOHNSON, JACKSON AND PIUS CO. LTD	BUILDING	B5/0529/06/2010
29	SALOME CONSTRUCTION LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0536/07/2010
30	MAMJI CIVIL & BUILDING CONTRACTORS COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0544/08/2010
31	JACKS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0568/12/2010
32	SAMMA CIVIL & BUILDING CONTRACTORS LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0583/01/2011
33	AGROPRODUCTS & CONSTRUCTION LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0591/05/2011
34	COAST BELT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0654/11/2011
35	KIM YUNG ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0670/02/2012
36	QUICK AND RELIABLE ENGINEERING CO	BUILDING	B5/0691/5/2012
37	VETA SINGIDA SELF RELIANCE	BUILDING	B5/0745/01/2013
38	VIVAHA SYSTEMS CONSTRUCTION LTD	BUILDING	B5/0752/01/2013
39	EDO & AP CONS LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0772/06/2013
40	NACOD ENTERPRISES LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0777/06/2013
41	FAIR CLASSY CONSTRUCTION LTD.	BUILDING	B5/0813/10/2013
42	KAI CONSTRUCTION LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/0854/04/2014
43	COXFEST INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1028/05/2016
44	WIMA ENTERPRISES (E.A) LTD	BUILDING	B5/1034/06/2016
45	EM & J INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1049/08/2016
46	KIMBERLITE INVESTMENTS CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1068/11/2016
47	MACARIOUS HOTEL AND COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1073/12/2016
48	NGOME HOLDING GROUP LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1139/08/2017
49	SANTIEL INDUSTRIES (TANZANIA) LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1148/10/2017
50	MIRAGE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1160/12/2017
51	MOHAGASHI INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1167/01/2018
52	MINGA BUILDING COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1178/03/2018
53	GOOD IMAGE PLUS COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/1201/07/2018
54	LOGIC CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/928/12/2014
55	GEMTECH INVESTMENT CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/949/03/2015
56	MEX COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/955/04/2015
57	HESIMAX CONTRACTORS COMPANY (T) LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/980/07/2015
58	DENJO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B5/989/10/2015
59	GOLDSTAR BUILDERS & CONSTRUCTION LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0097/7/2000
60	RAYAH ENTERPRISES COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0198/10/2003
61	AHMED MOHAMMED YASSIN	BUILDING	B6/0212/04/2004
62	ALLEN LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0257/07/2005
63	GUNATS COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0268/10/2005
64	PASTE ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0324/04/2007
65	MTEI AND COMPANY LTD	BUILDING	B6/0356/11/2007
66	TESA CONTRACTORS	BUILDING	B6/0358/11/2007
67	BJR CONSTRUCTION LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0409/12/2008
68	JSEM BUILDING & CIVIL ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0435/08/2009
69	BISEGE COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0441/08/2009
70	OSWARD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	BUILDING	B6/0522/12/2010
71	KISINGO INVESTMENT CO.	BUILDING	B6/0530/12/2010
72	ABRA TRADING COMPANY LTD	BUILDING	B6/0536/12/2010
73	SUVRE CONTRACTORS LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0566/07/2011
74	AUGO COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0579/09/2011
75	POWER GROUP (T) LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0630/02/2012
76	SAWEL LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0654/6/2012
77	KABALE CONSTRUCTION CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0667/6/2012
78	HOSIN ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0717/02/2013
79	ACCURATE CONSTRUCTIONS LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0728/05/2013
80	YAZA INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0739/06/2013
81	KNOWLEDGE NGUVU CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0747/06/2013

82	BLACK DOT GENERAL COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0754/06/2013
83	NELA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	BUILDING	B6/0757/07/2013
84	LAJOGES FIX CIVIL & BUILDING COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0772/08/2013
85	GREEN TOP ENTERPRISES	BUILDING	B6/0780/10/2013
86	HOTWIND ASSOCIATES COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0787/10/2013
87	NELLA TECHNICAL & GENERAL TRADERS (T) CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0803/01/2014
88	BLUE NET CONSTRUCTION CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0815/02/2014
89	JOMI INVESTMENT LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0823/04/2014
90	J. B. CONTRACTS	BUILDING	B6/0838/05/2014
91	STAMPER'S BUILDING CONTRACTORS CO LTD	BUILDING	B6/0844/06/2014
92	ZONE CONTRACTORS LTD	BUILDING	B6/0855/06/2014
93	JAHASA BUILDING COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/0861/07/2014
94	TANZANIA DELTA CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD.	BUILDING	B6/1000/02/2016
95	B & 3 INITIATIVES COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1001/02/2016
96	MBANA COMPANY	BUILDING	B6/1011/03/2016
97	EQUATOR CIVIL WORKS COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1036/05/2016
98	JANSI AFRICAN CONSTRUCTION LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1049/08/2016
99	SUPER ROAD (T) LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1068/10/2016
100	N.D.A. COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1085/12/2016
101	CONQUEST INVESTMENT LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1088/01/2017
102	WASTAAFU TAZARA MBEYA LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1128/07/2017
103	JY AND EA COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1138/08/2017
104	BETATECH BUILDING AND CIVIL CONTRACTORS	BUILDING	B6/1163/11/2017
105	TRANSNEW COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1200/04/2018
106	A & H CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/1207/05/2018
107	NACEL TECHNICAL LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/864/08/2014
108	KWISE GROUP COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/931/03/2015
109	TRANS CONTINENTAL GENERAL SUPPLIES LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/934/04/2015
110	MJCONS COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/941/04/2015
111	CEILINGS AND PARTITIONING SYSTEMS LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/943/04/2015
112	PACLAD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/964/06/2015
113	ZENYOTA CORPORATE LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/976/08/2015
114	MAGUNGA CHECKE LIMITED	BUILDING	B6/991/10/2015
115	APE ENGINEERS SERVICES LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/0033/11/1995
116	JOACO COMPANY LTD.	BUILDING	B7/0249/12/1998
117	JODEN BUILDERS	BUILDING	B7/0251/3/1996
118	KISESA BUILDING CONTRACTORS LTD.	BUILDING	B7/0320/12/1994
119	NITU (TANZANIA) LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/0506/8/1991
120	POPULAR DECORATORS	BUILDING	B7/0558/7/1994
121	TEXAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/0693/11/1995
122	MANGURI BUILDING CONTRACTOR	BUILDING	B7/0783/6/1999
123	VENT ENTERPRISES	BUILDING	B7/0837/8/1999
124	BAMUNUA ENTERPRISES	BUILDING	B7/0853/12/1999
125	WILLY CONTRACTORS & GENERAL SUPPLIES CO. LTD.	BUILDING	B7/0902/6/2000
126	BOSTON BUILDING CONTRACTORS CO. LTD.	BUILDING	B7/0942/9/2000
127	HI - JOB CONTRACTORS	BUILDING	B7/1016/5/2001
128	ELIGIBLE (T) LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1044/8/2001
129	NIM (T) LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1093/1/2002
130	RWEBE ENTERPRISES LTD	BUILDING	B7/1273/11/2002
131	MTEMI ENTERPRISES CO. LTD	BUILDING	B7/1362/5/2003
132	LEMUNGO CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD	BUILDING	B7/1398/7/2003
133	MANYA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	BUILDING	B7/1469/12/2003
134	MIKOCHEMI CONSTRUCTION CO.	BUILDING	B7/1500/02/2004
135	NSAJE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1560/06/2004
136	ROCKS CONTRACTORS	BUILDING	B7/1571/07/2004
137	CAMSA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	BUILDING	B7/1630/10/2004
138	GAL & GIL INVESTMENT LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1646/11/2004
139	BUTMAN INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1668/12/2004
140	BANUNU INVESTMENT CO. LTD.	BUILDING	B7/1711/03/2005
141	HAI BUILDERS CARE AND SERVICES LTD	BUILDING	B7/1731/05/2005
142	INTERCON TANZANIA	BUILDING	B7/1744/06/2005
143	NORTH CAPE CONTRACTORS	BUILDING	B7/1787/09/2005
144	ROSSA CONSTRUCTION CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1834/11/2005
145	JEBS INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1840/11/2005
146	NDESANJO AND COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1897/05/2006
147	Z & A HOLDINGS LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1927/07/2006
148	MRONI GARDEN CONSTRUCTION	BUILDING	B7/1928/07/2006
149	MEDIATRISSA LTD	BUILDING	B7/1934/08/2006
150	NAMBINZO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1935/08/2006
151	GWILLAH INVESTMENT TRADERS LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1936/08/2006
152	PALLIATION (EA) COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1952/09/2006
153	AFRITEK & COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1954/09/2006
154	MUSTARD SEED BUILDING AND CIVIL WORKS CO. LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/1963/09/2006
155	NEW BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CO.	BUILDING	B7/2001/11/2006
156	EARTH MOULDERS ENGINEERING WORKS	BUILDING	B7/2026/03/2007
157	SALJOS CONTRACTORS LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2077/07/2007
158	PROSPERITY INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2144/11/2007
159	ESAA (TANZANIA) LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2147/11/2007
160	BUILD CON ENTERPRISES LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2165/12/2007
161	KILULYA BUILDING CONTRACTORS	BUILDING	B7/2167/12/2007
162	EVACO GENERAL ENTERPRISES	BUILDING	B7/2205/03/2008
163	PABTEK LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2250/06/2008
164	MWAKAHENYE CONTRACTORS LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2312/12/2008
165	DULAU INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2318/12/2008
166	CEY ENGINEERING AND CONTRACTORS CO.	BUILDING	B7/2384/05/2009
167	LISTOL GENERAL BUSINESS	BUILDING	B7/2403/05/2009
168	ILAGOBE CONSTRUCTION & GENERAL SUPPLIES LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2405/05/2009
169	INTER-TECH SYSTEM (E.A) LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2406/06/2009
170	JOMKA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2408/06/2009
171	WANJERU CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	BUILDING	B7/2419/07/2009
172	SAMA BUILDING AND CIVIL WORKS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	BUILDING	B7/2426/07/2009

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Reports on extortion in hospitals don't augur well for UHC rollout

WITH the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) getting to be increasingly vigilant and active, a few hidden things are brought to the fore.

One is a report unveiled by the PCCB regional command in Tabora Region in connection with the conducting of investigations into complaints that unscrupulous health sector employees were extorting cash from expectant mothers seeking - and meriting - professional assistance.

According to the reports, upwards of 20 employees are suspected to have engaged in a range of malpractices, including using unacceptable language, to force payment.

The matter came up at a news conference primarily called to review the PCCB's work in the past three months, where the agency is investigating two districts and their main hospitals but stopped short of naming the districts.

The said habit is, of course, contrary to work regulations and ethics as well as government policy, as PCCB says that at times expectant mothers are actually denied services when they don't provide the cash demanded.

What the agency is doing first hand is to intensify its educational and sensitisation crusades, as well as to whip up greater vigilance on the part of the police on such occurrences - an admittedly hard task.

These reports are doubly disturbing with the latest adoption of proposals for the formation of the Universal Health Care bill, whose functioning depends precisely on people being treated without having money to pay for healthcare.

There are up to now just a few areas where expectant mothers, young children and often the elderly are allowed free access to either medical attention generally or drugs in particular without paying cash.

However, as this picture shows,

medical orderlies just like other people in society, respect cash above everything else; the rest is just superficial.

That is why it is important to evaluate the psychological readiness of providing healthcare services without regard for a person's ability to pay, whether its desirability in principle is matched by any observable readiness psychologically or otherwise.

There are two spheres for this readiness, one at the civic level, as to whether each one of us will be proud to line up like everyone else to seek medical care with just our cards, and expect that this is where people will place their hopes.

Or that the government will boost revenue and other collections for that image of running public hospitals, but a large number of people, though not quite the majority, place their hopes on private hospitals if they have affordable charges for doctor consultation, and drugs.

In that case, the current attitude among the nurses is a clear indication not so much of their being corrupt but as a barometric expression of where our hearts and minds lie - that we respect cash and ability far more than we care about the suffering of others.

Speech making that this isn't the plight of children, personal concerns for the sick and needy will similarly evaporate, understanding that the world is cruel.

With that kind of foresight, we may not need to rush to embrace medical socialism. But we need to be clear on the need to focus on some form of empathy, even altruism - selfless care for our fellow humans, particularly the needy or disadvantaged.

New Works sector employees may need brush-up for a start

THE start of the current (2023/2024) financial year was in part characterised by government efforts to alleviate to a considerable extent the severe shortage of employees in a number of sectors, among them education and health, where the gaps are most visible.

It is thus refreshing to hear about the same problem being tackled in other sectors, notably the Works sector. A top official of the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) was seeking to instil a new perspective of work into 49 new employees, set for the regions as engineers at various spots and reducing employee gaps there.

It was said that the purpose of the training was to enable the engineers to have the skills they need to properly supervise works in construction of infrastructure like roads and bridges.

If it were in some other cadre where there is a difference between what is taught and what is on the field that would have demanded intense acculturation or acclimatisation to the tasks awaiting them in their work stations.

But engineering is fairly different as it is practical from start to finish: any course in engineering, similar to chemistry or physics, is chiefly based on laboratory work.

At the same time, proper supervision capacity has some other trappings, one being it has to do with routine expectations of what is done - for instance, from the workers' viewpoint to that of an employer.

There are issues relating to reclamation of land for works of one sort or another and the way in which one is supposed to work with local authorities or other agencies.

Indeed, this applies even in relation to road users when the work is

proceeding, as all these areas pose challenges or this or that sort.

Come to think of it, what so many leaders perceive as employability skills are often little more than communication skills, which can be mastered with a stint of training to start with and then obtaining the rest by job acculturation.

What really is at issue isn't to find people with the relevant skills but adept at communication, with ability to make certain distinctions which those trained under a more liberal exposure are easily imbued with.

By contrast, many of our students are put through a fairly familiar track of national experience monologues, totally unfamiliar not just with other countries but even for private sector habits, methods and intuitions.

On the other hand, there are those wishing to make this communication debacle somewhat worse with the constant pressure to use the national language at all levels of education.

This way, some of the materials students may still read by the compulsory use of English in classrooms may start evaporating, because some educationists make an effort to distinguish between education and knowledge. It is as if one can access as much 'education' in the national language as in English.

This stands to worsen or aggravate the supposed problem of skills, by removing the learners from the sources of scientific and business activity, to learn first-hand from the right sources.

There would thus be little need to make comparisons between reading numerous texts of engineering literature from the sources and studying by focusing on a single vital translated textbook without journals or other publications, life histories of scientists, etc.



Solidarity fund needed for Africa's sustainability transitions

By Ojijo Odhiambo and Odera Outa

IT is time for Africa to turn a new development page and for the global community to support it. This year's United Nations General Assembly was a moment to, hopefully, put the continent back on track to achieving the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Heads of State and Government in attendance spelt out their national commitments to SDGs transformation.

This includes strategies for reducing poverty and inequality, as well as options necessary in decarbonising their energy systems and transforming their food systems among other urgent imperatives.

The leaders were also expected to knock into shape a new global development financing deal, dubbed the SDGs stimulus, worth some US\$500 billion annually.

This year's assembly, coming at the mid-way point of the implementation of the sustainable development agenda, was also meant to take stock of the progress made in implementing the SDGs amidst some of the most complex and pressing development challenges to face humankind.

The Covid-19 pandemic, the debilitating effects of climate change and the Russia-Ukraine war, have all negatively affected economic growth, increased vulnerability and pushed millions of people in Africa into even more perilous poverty.

The inescapable reality of these times is that unless there is a change of course, Africa will miss most of the SDG targets.

Africa's debt crisis

The region continues to experience sluggish economic growth and rising debt. According to the World Bank, growth in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) slowed steadily from 4.1 per cent in 2021 to 3.6 per cent in 2022 and is expected to slow down even further to 3.1 per cent this year.

This level of growth is insufficient to reduce extreme poverty or even boost shared prosperity as envisaged in the SDGs clarion call.

At the same time, over the past few decades, Africa's debt has increased four times the rate of economic growth in dollar terms, reaching a staggering US\$1.8 trillion in 2022.

Sluggish growth, together with rising debt and development financing deficit are perhaps the biggest impediments to the achievement of the SDGs in Africa.

According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), to achieve



the SDGs by 2030, Africa needs an additional US\$194 billion or 40 per cent of the proposed financial stimulus, per annum. This is the equivalent of 7 per cent of the region's gross domestic product, or 34 per cent of the region's 2021 total investments.

In as far as climate change is concerned, it is to be noted that Africa which contributes less than 8 per cent of greenhouse gases emissions continues to bear a disproportionate share of the debilitating effects of climate change.

These are experienced in the form of extreme weather conditions such as cyclones, droughts and floods; desertification and natural resources degradation; destruction of basic national infrastructure and other impacts.

The result is the growing poverty and inequality; social tensions; insecurity and, in extreme cases, political instability.

To date, the Paris Agreement remains largely unfunded. More worryingly, the limited climate financing available is concentrated in the developed world on reduction and, or prevention of emissions, otherwise known as mitigation in climate change parlance.

This is opposed to the stark need to help African countries change their agricultural production systems, conserve forests and natural habitats and adopt climate smart technologies, otherwise known as adaptation.

Between 2019 and 2020, donors made an annual climate finance commitment, (not to be mistaken

for disbursement), of US\$11.4 billion for adaptation measures in Africa against the annual financing needs of US\$52.7 billion, leading to a financing gap of some US\$41.3 billion per year.

Africa needs a Solidarity Fund

Africa is, evidently, at a sustainable developmental crossroads. For the region to change its development trajectory and make meaningful progress towards the SDGs targets by 2030, an important consideration should be the establishment of a simplified, flexible and quick-disbursing Solidarity Fund for sustainability transitions.

Through such a fund, the global community of nations, individuals, private sector institutions and philanthropies could stand in solidarity with the region by pooling resources for the singular aim of helping Africa to transition, expeditiously, to a sustainable development pathway.

Sustainability transitions in this context refers to an African context-specific, nationally led and resilient non-linear shift from one dynamic development equilibrium to another dynamic, and yet a more sustainable, one fuelled primarily by adequate financing.

In the lead-up to this year's General Assembly, with support from the United Nations Development Programme, many African countries were able to refine their national SDGs priorities and commitments using machine learning technology.

This was done through the

application of the Integrated SDGs Insights tool. In the process, they have evolved context-specific, ambitious and transformative agenda with parsimonious set of priority targets bearing the most linkages and highest potential for impact across sectors and hence accelerating progress towards the SDGs.

These national priority targets or those derived from other national consultative processes for that matter are, naturally, strong candidates for the African Solidarity Fund for sustainability transitions.

The results of the re-prioritisation and refinement of national SDGs priorities using the Integrated SDGs Insights tool are as diverse as the African countries. They cover the entire width and breadth of the goals spread across the economic, social and environmental sectors.

In accessing the fund, each African country would have the leeway to apply its share of the fund to address the development priorities which have the greatest synergies and least trade-offs across sectors.

Indeed, there can be no simplistic prescriptions, but rather, a wide menu of nationally defined policy options for the application of the fund.

However, there must be strong governance structures and accountability mechanisms as well as a focus on results in the application of the fund.

It is conceivable that the necessary governance and accountability mechanisms, founded on and given priority by national technical and financial audit institutions could also be embedded in the quadrennial SDGs summit or even the annual High Level Political Forum.

The Solidarity Fund should, however, not be viewed as a replacement for the global financial stimulus discussed at the gathering of world leaders, but rather, as a complementary fast-track mechanism through which African countries can be supported to revert to the SDG trajectory by implementing their SDGs priorities.

Yet, another important aspect of the fund would be the opportunity to bridge the ever-present gap between policy promises, country-specific priorities and their implementation.

It is time for Africa to turn a new development page and walk a different development path. It is time for the global community to pull together, in solidarity with Africa.

* Ojijo Odhiambo is the UNDP Economic Advisor for Zimbabwe, while Odera Outa is Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Technical University of Kenya.



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No. 1



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JUMEME's COVID-19 program offering free electricity to Special Healthcare Centers to be phased out

This emergency support scheme, set up by rural electricity provider JUMEME, has made a significant contribution to help healthcare centers in Tanzania fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

By Corresponded

JUMEME Rural Power Supply, the company that developed one of the country's largest Mini-Grid networks, has been supporting healthcare centers in Rukuba, Nyamanga, Bwisya, Irugwa, Kasenyi, Goziba and Buhingu with free electricity for the past three years. Set up by JUMEME as an urgent and exceptional measure to support healthcare authorities during the COVID-19 pandemic, this clean and free electricity support program has played an important role in ensuring patients' access to functional healthcare facilities from the start of the pandemic to this day.

As the free electricity program is coming to an end, JUMEME announced that it will however continue to financially support the health centers concerned until 31st December 2023, in order to ease the transition back to normal regulated tariffs. During the

transition period, the health centers will benefit from a significant discount on applicable rates.

"JUMEME has been very proud to contribute to the national efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. We want to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank the staff of all Tanzanian healthcare centers for their incredibly hard work. Today, as the pandemic comes to an end, we are enthusiastic about the future and remain firmly committed to our partnership with local communities, businesses, and healthcare institutions in Tanzania. said Joseph Zikhali - Country Coordinator of JUMEME"

Access to electricity is critical to improving rural standards of living

The free electricity initiative was a tangible result of JUMEME's vision to partner with the government and private stakeholders to electrify rural

communities, and empower them to improve social services such as health care and education throughout the country.

JUMEME's main objective is to build mini-grids to provide reliable, clean, and affordable electricity to areas which cannot be reached by the National Grid. JUMEME's mini-grids enable rural families, as well as private or public organizations like Special Healthcare Centers to power a wide range of compatible electrical appliances, from televisions, to workshop equipment or X-Ray machines.

Built in partnership with local communities, these independent electricity networks contribute to lowering the cost of electricity thanks to economies of scale, and bring the access to cheap electricity that the local economy crucially needs to develop and thrive.

JUMEME has provided electricity for more than 10,000 families in Tanzania to date and contributes to a reduction of more than 800 tons of CO2 emissions annually. In constant collaboration with the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority, the Rural Energy Agency, and the Ministry of Energy, JUMEME



contributes to building a fair legal framework in Tanzania, enabling cost-reflective tariffs that translate into affordable and sustainable electricity supply to its customers. The Ministry of Energy regulates JUMEME's electricity tariffs, and the last approved prices were published in the Government Gazette on August 26, 2022.

JUMEME was founded in 2014 to develop, build and operate mini-grids in rural Tanzania. The company is a partnership between St. Augustine University of Tanzania, an independent higher learning institution based in Mwanza,

Tanzania, INENSUS, a leading German company specializing in the development, technology and consultancy services of rural mini-grids, TerraProjects, an Austrian specialist in renewable energy project development and RP Global, an Austrian developer, investor, and operator of renewable energy projects.

Under the current business climate, JUMEME maintains the mini-grid systems to serve well over 60,000 Tanzanians across rural Tanzania, in line with the Government of Tanzania's agenda of electrifying rural Tanzania.



Energy Plus provider's energy solutions to the community

By Guardian Correspondent

Energy Plus Limited (EPL) is a Tanzanian owned company which was incorporated in the year 2014 as a limited liability company by share, and officially started operation in January 2015 as a major distributor of all related solar energy equipment and accessories in Tanzania. EPL is a Corporate member of Tanzania Renewable Energy Association (TAREA), an umbrella for renewable energy practitioners in Tanzania.

The company has continuously been keen to ensure availability of the best quality solar energy equipment in the market at a competitive prices, to ensure an efficient and effective delivery process that eliminates delays thus ensuring clients receive their products on time, which then allows them to complete their projects on time and also enhance their customers shopping experience by availing an always on e-shop where they can shop at their convenience.

Working closely with leading international solar products manufacturers and vendors, has been an advantage that allows the company to stock only good quality products which have been rigorously tested in internationally recognized laboratories, passed international quality standards and have a proven track record of good performance, the company also has been committed to solar modules that are covered by a 25-year limited power warranty, solar batteries, inverters and other system components, EPL products are covered by a warranty of between 1-5 years. Some of brands includes JINKO PV MODULES, SUNTECH PV MODULES, LEOCH BATTERY, SUNLIGHT BATTERY, VICTRON, OUTBACK, EPSOLAR, PHOCOS, SPARK, ZONNETECH, LORENTZ SOLAR PUMP, GRUNDFOS PUMP, SMA and KACO to name but a few.

Besides stocking products, the company also consult and offer pre-sales support to empower customers to make intelligent decisions on sizing and selection of appropriate products for their projects. EPL also provides guidance during integration and installation of its products as well as post-installation support such as additional consultation in other areas, warranty management, and training in products, sales and technical knowhow.

EPL is managed and operated by individuals with expertise and broad experience in solar industry in East Africa



General Manager Eng. Said Mbemba, Energy Plus Limited

such that customers receive professional support before, during and after completion of their projects. With international partners, manufacturers and suppliers, EPL not only offers specialized training to customers to equip them with appropriate knowledge and skills in solar energy, but also update them with the latest information on technological advancement.

Concentrating on transforming the renewable energy market by enabling contractors and project developers to have easy access to solar energy equipment, by consistently availing a variety of good quality products at competitive prices and with prompt delivery, thus ensuring timely completion of their projects, EPL has been doing this so that to become the most referred one stop center for premium solar energy products in country.

Solar energy market in Tanzania is expansive and it has been increasingly overwhelmed by the evolving demands of the solar energy with now becoming everyone's business. Solar resources are more present in the central region, and they are being exploited for both off-grid and grid-connected solutions. To date, a number of MW of Photovoltaic (PV) solar energy have been installed in Tanzania and the Government is supporting solar

development within the country by promoting the industry hopping that with the time, traditional solar energy applications will be coming to quick end, by being replaced by modernized applications that contribute much to sectors such as telecom, industrial and agricultural operations.

According to Scientific American, solar is the most abundant energy resource on our planet and the amount of sunlight that hits the earth's surface in just 90 minutes is enough to power energy consumption around the world for an entire year.

Moreover, solar energy dominates all other renewable resources combined such as wind, hydropower, geothermal and uses relatively little space or resources to produce power. Countries investing the most in solar energy as of summer 2022 are China, the European Union, the U.S., Vietnam and Japan were the biggest producers of solar energy in the world.

China currently leads the list as the top producer of solar energy, which is promising considering it boasts the largest population and carbon footprint globally. Within the European Union, Germany, the Netherlands, and Spain stand out as key markets with a significant investment in solar energy.



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SOLAR BATTERIES



SOLAR CHARGE CONTROLLERS



SOLAR INVERTERS



Visiting lecturers from India's Madras Institute of Technology attend the inauguration of its Zanzibar Campus held at Fumba village yesterday. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Zanzibar's blue economy policy creates many jobs

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

TANZANIA Deep Sea Fishing Authority (DSFA) has said that implementation of the blue economy policy which is championed by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has created a number of jobs for Isle residents.

Dr Emmanuel Andrew Sweke, Deputy Director General of the Tanzania Deep Sea Fishing Authority made the statement yesterday when briefing journalists on implementation of the blue economy policy for the past three months.

He said that registration of fishing vessels in the Indian Ocean has increased tremendously whereas the authority has so far provided 100 licences to fishing companies.

"There direct and indirect employment opportunities that have been created under the blue economy policy, reflecting achievement of goals stipulated in the CCM election manifesto which requires creation of 300,000 jobs within five years," he added.

Dr Sweke said that a total of 14 seamen from Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar have been employed with companies practicing deep-sea fishing.

He said a number of potential investors have also shown interest to invest in the sector, stressing that the government is finalizing processes to set up a fish fillet processing plant, aiming at providing employment to more than 100 people.

In the 2019/2020 financial year, we could not issue a single licence for deep sea fishing due to circumstances including the outbreak of COVID-19. We managed to provide 100 licences from 2020 to 2023 compared to 30 licences offered in previous years," said Dr Sweke.

He said that since the establishment of the authority in 2010, the fishing sector's contribution to the national economy has increased, linking the success with implementation of the blue economy agenda.

Dr Sweke noted that DSFA continues to monitor operations of licenced fishing vessels to ensure their activities prioritises marine environment conservation for the safety of its resources.

Aboud Suleiman Jumbe, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries Dr said the plan has opened a new door for creation of jobs and economic growth in Zanzibar.

"The fishing industry has shown a good trend in contributing to the national income by 6.32 percent from 4.5 percent from 2020 to 2022,"

Tanroads urged to empower local contractors, execute large projects

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

WORKS minister Innocent Bashungwa has instructed the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) to prepare a special strategy that will enable and help local contractors to grow and implement large projects.

Minister Bashungwa made the directives in Dodoma over the weekend when launching the TanRoads Advisory Board.

He said: despite that 54 percent of the projects are implemented by local contractors and 46 percent by foreign contractors, there is a big challenge for the locals to access large projects.

"On November 21, this year we are expecting to meet local contractors, so I invite members of this board to come and sit with them, discuss and listen to them after that the resolutions of the meeting will help us in our work and plans, I believe this board will help us to manage this well," Minister Bashungwa said.

He also wanted the board to supervise well all the construction projects ensuring that they meet the required standards as currently, a number of roads are damaged shortly after the contractor hands over the project (pre-mature failure).

"A road which should last for 20 years, is found damaged in the third or fourth, I ask this board to accept this and work on it very seriously, if you manage this well we will save billions of money, the funds that we spend on repairs will be able to be used on other things including continue to expanding the road network in the country and build more bridges," he explained.

He wanted the board to seriously work on the challenge of corruption in construction projects as this is one of the major causes of many roads being constructed below standards.

Dr Jumbe asserted.

He said when the 8th phase government entered into power, fish production was 38,107 tonnes with a value of 205.4bn/-, but currently, fish production has increased to 61,794 tonnes worth 391.37bn/- per year.

'Young social innovators to be empowered with seed funding'

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

SAHARA Group Foundation has expressed commitment to continue supporting young African social innovators and entrepreneurs with seed funding for improving access to clean energy and sustainable environments across the continent.

Director, Sahara Group Foundation, Ejiro Gray reiterated the commitment during an event in which they provided seed funding to 10 outstanding fellows from its Sahara Impact Fund (SIF) Fellowship programme.

The Sahara Impact Fund Fellowship programme, a social initiative in partnership with LEAP Africa and Impact Amplifier, was established to empower young African social innovators whose enterprises are dedicated to seed innovation which addresses climate change and clean energy.

"We want to improve access to clean energy and sustainable environments across the continent. The Sahara Impact Fund Fellowship welcomed a total of 20 from various African countries who participated in a six-month fellowship," she said.

She said the top ten innovators have each been awarded 5,000 US dollars (almost 12m/-) in seed funding to support the expansion of their socially impactful businesses. Gray commended the programme participants for their remarkable dedication and resilience throughout the programme.

She emphasised that the Sahara Impact Fund Fellowship Programme was established to bolster Africa development by identifying and empowering young, creative social innovators working to create sustainable environments and bridge the energy gap.

She called upon all the 20 programme participants to

apply the knowledge and experiences gained to deliver lasting impact across Africa through their businesses.

The top 10 recipients of this year's seed funding are Philipo Kitungano, Founder, Kigoma Eco-cultural Tourism Enterprise (Tanzania); Joyce Rugano, Founder, EcoRich Solutions (Kenya); Ainomugisha Shifra, Founding Director, SOLAFAM Uganda (Uganda); Jolis Nduwimana, Executive Director, WEGE Company (Burundi).

Others are Andrew Mpashi, Co-Founder, Twalima Agro Solutions Limited (Zambia); Timothy Munthali, Founder, Tawonga Cooking Oil Processing Enterprise (Malawi); Kehinde Fashola, Founder, Fizzle Power Tech Limited (Nigeria); Muofhe Ratschikombo, CEO, Oumie Grandè (South Africa); Paul Nnaluo, Founder, Gas Monkey (Nigeria) and Muideen Adegoke, Founder, DigitAgric Integrated Limited (Nigeria).

Kehinde Ayeni, the executive director, LEAP Africa, congratulated the fellows for their successful programme completion and encouraged them to persevere in their commitment to innovation and social progress.

She emphasised that the investment in their growth by Sahara Group Foundation and LEAP Africa reflects confidence in their potential and the power of their ideas to advance Africa development.

Speaking on behalf of the graduating fellows, Philipo Kitungano from Tanzania thanked Sahara Group Foundation and LEAP Africa for the inspiring learning experience.

She expressed gratitude for the invaluable knowledge and skills acquired during the fellowship and pledged to utilise them for meaningful change.

The Sahara Impact Fund Fellowship programme has since its launch in 2020, directly invested in over 50 African social innovators.



TANZANIA PORTLAND CEMENT PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

(TPCPLC) continues to deliver strong operating results. The Company has experienced a stable growth in revenue compared to the same period in 2022. Revenue and operating profit grew by 5% year on year.

This good performance is attributed to process improvement and cost control in our production. Plant availability and efficiency also played a vital role to the improved performance in 2023.

The Company continues to focus on customer service and selling new products within our high quality portfolio. We maintain strong customer relationships which enables TPCPLC to demonstrate its strength as the leading payer in the industry.

Prospects

In spite of the cement demand growing slowly this year, we are optimistic about the months to come. TPCPLC will continue to work on improving efficiency and operating performance.

Appreciation

The Board would like to thank all its stakeholders for their support. We have every confidence that TPCPLC will continue to deliver value for the shareholders and community in the future.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Hakan Gurdal
Chairman of the Board

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023		
TZS '000	2023	2022
Revenue from contracts with customers	375,403,916	358,338,268
Cost of sales	(251,952,856)	(241,743,405)
Gross profit	123,451,060	116,594,863
Other operating income	3,037,218	1,584,600
Selling and marketing expenses	(2,222,695)	(2,205,913)
Administrative expenses	(18,667,508)	(15,564,513)
Other operating expenses	(2,323,607)	(2,088,469)
Operating profit	103,274,468	98,320,568
Finance income	1,905,838	1,922,847
Finance costs	(463,960)	(788,188)
Net gain on foreign currency translation	6,574,990	1,077,009
Profit before tax	111,291,336	100,532,236
Income tax expense	(34,046,752)	(30,564,898)
Profit for the period	77,244,584	69,967,338

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023		
TZS '000	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		142,224,344
Property, plant and equipment	134,368,874	861,623
Intangible assets	866,726	987,893
Leasehold land	960,047	5,166,423
Right of Use assets	1,836,897	754,000
Other financial assets	592,000	
	138,624,344	149,994,283
Current assets		74,386,616
Inventories	99,717,618	53,445,499
Trade receivables	60,672,251	16,659,144
Other short-term operating receivables	11,266,190	450,000
Other financial assets	300,000	89,219,635
Cash and cash equivalent	113,897,818	
	285,853,877	236,160,894
TOTAL ASSETS	424,478,221	386,155,177
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Authorised, issued and fully paid-up share capital	3,598,462	3,598,462
Retained earnings	303,215,188	268,434,562
TOTAL EQUITY	306,813,650	272,033,024
Non-current liabilities		5,378,124
Lease liabilities	2,063,777	5,754,887
Employment benefit liabilities	5,910,228	4,012,078
Provision for quarry site restoration	5,008,340	9,808,603
Deferred income tax liability	8,637,432	
	21,619,777	24,953,692
Current liabilities		982,398
Lease liabilities		982,398
Current income tax payable	(513,511)	85,212,720
Trade and other payables	93,428,265	2,973,343
Dividend payable	3,130,040	
	96,044,794	89,168,461
TOTAL LIABILITIES	117,664,571	114,125,872
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	424,478,221	386,155,177

Kenyan avocados find ready market in China after CIIIE debut

By Che Bin, Huang Weixin, Huang Peizhao

In a lush avocado orchard on the shores of Lake Naivasha in Nakuru County, Kenya, more than 2,500 avocado trees stretched as far as the eye could see. Richard Wafula, owner of the farm, was busy harvesting avocados with his workers.

"Soon, approximately 10 containers of fresh avocados will be delivered to Chinese consumers from here," he said.

China and Kenya signed a protocol to foster bilateral trade in avocados in January 2022. Seven months later, the first batch of fresh avocados grown in Kenya entered the Chinese market, making Kenya the first African country to export fresh avocados to China.

In November 2022, Kenyan fresh avocados made their debut at the fifth China International Import Expo (CIIE), immediately favored by Chinese consumers. It marked another remarkable chapter in China-Africa win-win cooperation.

Richard Tuwei is an avocado farmer from the western Kenyan city of Eldoret whose orchard was originally planted with 1,200 avocado trees. In August 2022, Tuwei's products were among the first to pass an access review and export fresh avocados to China.

"In the past, when the avocado season arrived, we had to wait for some time before picking because local traders needed time to find buyers. But now, we pick the fruit as soon as it is ripe. The demand in the Chinese market is enormous, and our products have quickly found a ready market. This new opportunity encouraged us to plant an additional 500 trees last year," Tuwei told People's Daily.

Kenya is the largest exporter of avocados in Africa. Currently, 30 percent of the country's avocados are exported to China, and this trend is expected to continue growing in the future. According to estimates from the local agricultural department, avocado exports to China will increase the annual income of local farmers by 30 percent to 50 percent.

The business with the Chinese market has brought tangible changes to the lives of Kenyan farmers. Tuwei told People's Daily that in the past, he had to borrow money from friends to pay for his children's tuition. But now, with a stable income from avocado farming, he can comfortably cover



his daily expenses, and his life quality has been significantly improved.

Wafula and Tuwei's Chinese partner is Shanghai-based Greenchain Information Science and Technology (Greenchain). Greenchain has built partnerships with over 500 avocado growers and manages seven farms in Kenya.

To ensure that the fresh avocados meet the standards of the Chinese market, the company has signed cooperation agreements with local growers, which cover the entire process starting from the planting of avocado seeds all the way to the final sale of the fruit. This helps realize order-based cultivation management.

According to Du Gongming, general manager of

Greenchain's African business division, avocado features high economic value and low cultivation costs, and its cultivation boasts mature pest control techniques. After the successful export of fresh avocado to China last year, many Kenyan farmers started switching to avocado planting, hoping for more cooperation with China, he said.

"China has a huge population, which is a crucial asset for any market. We believe that in the future, more farmers will export avocados to China," said Kello Harasama, principal secretary in the State Department for Crop Development in Kenya's Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development.

After the fifth CIIE, Greenchain established a new avocado processing plant, in order to meet the grow-

ing demand in the Chinese market. The plant officially started operation in March this year.

"We purchased new equipment, introduced new packaging technology, and built a fumigation laboratory. Everyone is confident about the business development," said Du. It takes about 25 days for an avocado to hit the Chinese market from being picked in Kenya. Last August, the first batch of avocados from the African country arrived in China in 4 containers. This year, Greenchain has already shipped over 100 containers of avocados to China, and the number is expected to reach 300 by the end of the year.

"The CIIE has brought obvious driving effects, promoting win-win situations for multiple parties," Du said.

In the past, China mainly imported avocados from South American countries. Nowadays, African avocados have entered the Chinese market, providing more choices for consumers.

"We are continuously expanding our marketing channels and increasing the sales of Kenyan avocados in the Chinese market," said Du.

The CIIE debut of Kenyan avocados marked the deepening agricultural cooperation, as well as economic and trade exchanges between China and Africa.

In recent years, under mechanisms such as the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, 16 agricultural products from 11 African countries have gained access to the Chinese market, and China has granted zero-tariff treatment to 98 percent of products originating from 21 African countries. Today, China stands as the second-largest destination for African agricultural exports.

Greenchain has participated in the CIIE for five consecutive years, and will continue to join the sixth CIIE this year. At that time, African specialties such as pineapples from Benin, chili peppers from Tanzania, and seafood from Kenya will be showcased for the first time at the event.

China-Africa practical cooperation enjoys broad prospects, and the stories of mutual benefit and win-win outcomes between the two sides are to be continued at the CIIE.

People's Daily

BULAWAYO

ZIMBABWE'S recent election has exposed weak gender policies both at the political party and governmental levels as women were sidelined despite the fact that they make up more than half of the 6.5 million electorate.

Zimbabwe held its presidential, parliamentary and local municipal elections on August 23 and 24.

Only 22 women were elected for the 210 National Assembly seats out of the 70 women contested against 637 male candidates, according to the Election Resource Centre.

The number of women who contested the National Assembly seats shows a decline compared to the previous election in 2018, where the number of women who competed against men was 14 percent.

In the 2023 election, the total number of women was 11 percent.

The 22 women who were successfully duly elected as Members of Parliament represent a meagre 10 percent of women in the National Assembly, meaning only 30 percent of the women who contested won, according to the Women's Academy for Leadership and Political Excellence (WALPE).

This figure has fallen from the 25 women, 11.9 percent, who won seats in the 2018 elections.

"There is a lack of political will on the part of our political leaders to promote gender equality," says WALPE executive director Sitabile Dewa.

"The political environment in Zimbabwe is characterised by violence, patriarchy, fear, harassment and marginalisation of women in electoral processes. These challenges

are some of the major impediments to women's ascendancy to leadership positions at all levels of government within the country."

Dewa tells IPS that for Zimbabwe to close the gender gap, political party leaders must walk the talk on equality through genuinely and sincerely levelled the electoral field to allow women, young women and women with disabilities to freely, actively and fully participate as both candidates and voters.

A video went viral recently after a Zanu PF campaigner used derogatory names to refer to Judith Tsbaiwa, a female candidate for Kwekwe Central, a constituency located 215 kilometres from Harare, Zimbabwe's capital.

Expensive nomination fees were also a barrier to many aspiring female candidates.

In the 2023 general polls, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission raised the nomination fees beyond the reach of many women who are already disadvantaged economically as compared to their male counterparts in the country.

Presidential candidates paid USD 20,000 while parliamentary candidates parted away with \$1000 and \$100 for council candidates.

In contrast, in 2018, presidential candidates paid USD 1,000, while legislators paid USD 50.

Linda Masarira of the opposition party Labour, Economists and African Democrats (LEAD) is one of the aspiring presidential candidates who struggled to raise the USD 20,000 nomination fees needed by ZEC this year.

While seats for the National Assembly were shared between CCC and Zanu PF, those from the smaller

Zimbabwe's election widens gender gap in politics



Women were reduced to cheerleaders in Zimbabwe's recent 2023 general elections.

parties and female candidates who ran as independents failed to win any seats from the plebiscite, showing difficulties outside the main political parties.

All these figures fall short of the 30 percent minimum threshold set out in the 1997 Southern African Development Community (SADC) Declaration on Gender and Development, Zimbabwe's Constitution, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 5, which seeks to promote gender equality and empower all women and girls, according to WALPE.

In June, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) announced 11 presidential candidates, and there were no women.

Two female presidential candidates, Elisabeth Valerio of United Zimbabwe Alliance (UZA) and Masarira, were blocked by ZEC on petty issues of late payment of nomination

fees. Both female presidential candidates took their matters to court.

Valerio won her case, and ZEC was forced to accept her nomination papers.

But Masarira lost the case.

Incumbent Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu PF) was controversially declared the winner of the hotly disputed contested election with 52.6 percent against his biggest rival Nelson Chamisa of Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC) with 44 percent of the vote.

The opposition has since rejected the election as the polls were marred by voter intimidation, ballot paper delays in opposition strongholds like Harare, Bulawayo and some parts of Manicaland Province and rigging by the electoral body in favour of the ruling Zanu PF.

Multiple observer reports, including SADC, declared the elections not credible, not free, and not fair.

The recently reelected leader has appointed just six women out of 26 cabinet positions.

The gender gap is manifesting in Mnangagwa's appointment of cabinet ministers.

When Mnangagwa announced his cabinet ministers in September, only six were women out of 26 positions, representing 23 percent.

"It is going to be a mammoth task for Zimbabwe to achieve 50/50 gender balance as enshrined in the Constitution," says Masarira.

She says this is because the country does not have a "Gender Equality Act to operationalise" some sections of the Constitution.

"Secondly, there is selective application of the Constitution by political parties and the government itself, especially when it comes to issues to do with gender balance, gender equality and non-discrimination," Masarira says. Kembo Mohadi, the vice president who was forced to resign in 2021 amid a sex scandal, bounced back as Mnangagwa's deputy.

Alleged recorded calls of Mohadi soliciting sex from married women who are his subordinates were leaked to the local media. Mohadi has not been charged with any sexual offence and has refuted the audio saying he was a victim of a political plot and voice cloning.

"Mr Mnangagwa is obviously not bothered by Mohadi's sex scandals or anyone for that matter," says Gladys Hlatywayo, a CCC senior official.

"In fact, we have always known that the sex scandals were never the reason why he was forced to resign and were a mere cover-up to a political motive. The message that Mr Mnangagwa is sending by reappointing Mohadi is that he does not care at all about women's rights issues," she tells IPS.

Dewa says Mahadi's reappointment as Zimbabwe's Vice President shows that President Mnangagwa is not willing to consider the welfare and well-being of women.

"Mr Mohadi's re-appointment stinks in the face of justice for all survivors of sexual abuse by men. It is an indictment on the highest office of the land that women's rights are of no importance," she says. **IPS**

RADIO One 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
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Radio One



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Battery metals lose luster as surge in supply outpaces global demand

NEW YORK

IN the fast-moving world of battery metals, 2022 already feels like a bygone era.

Back then, prices were soaring, automakers were fretting about long-term shortages and Elon Musk was describing lithium costs as “insane.”

A year-and-a-half on from the Tesla CEO's comments, the market dynamics for metals crucial to the energy transition have flipped. Lithium has tumbled almost 70 percent so far this year, while nickel has plummeted around 40 percent. Cobalt too has dropped.

This trio of electric vehicle battery ingredients is now among the worst-performing in the commodity universe – laid low by slowing sales growth for electric vehicles as well as supply increases coming out of China, Indonesia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The turnaround in fortunes is a reminder that the path to cleaner fuels is unlikely to be a smooth one.

“There's certainly enough supply of all at present,” said Colin Hamilton, managing director for commodities research at BMO Capital

Markets Prices for the battery metals “were too high to be sustainable” once output expanded more quickly than expected, he said.

EV sales are still rising, but higher interest rates and uncertain economic conditions in major economies are damping consumer demand. In China, the biggest market, there's been a slowdown in year-on-year growth.

A “huge build-out” in Chinese battery capacity, aided by government policies, means supply outweighs demand by two to one, ANZ Group Holdings analysts Daniel Hynes and Soni Kumari said in a note last week. This has seen battery makers cut output and reduce their inventories, they said, adding that lithium, nickel and cobalt prices are likely to remain depressed in the short term.

The lower metal prices are providing some cost relief to automakers and battery producers and could lead to cheaper EVs for consumers. BYD, China's biggest EV manufacturer, and Contemporary Amperex Technology, the country's top battery producer, have both benefited from lower lithium costs this year.



On the metal supply and processing front, several developments have weighed on prices. There's been a sudden expansion of low-grade lithium mining in China, while the nickel market has been transformed by a tsunami of low-cost production from Chinese-funded plants in Indonesia. There's also more cobalt being produced, mainly from copper mines in the Democratic Republic of Congo and nickel projects in Indonesia,

where it's churned out as a by-product.

There will be an oversupply of the three battery metals for the next few years, according to forecasts from industry consultancy Benchmark Mineral Intelligence. The nickel and lithium markets won't be in deficit until 2027 and 2028, respectively, while demand will outrun supply for cobalt from 2026, it said.

“Lithium prices will continue to

face downward pressure in 2024 and 2025 as the release of new supply sources outpaces demand,” Li Jiahui, an analyst at trading company Xiamen Xiangyu New Energy Co, said at a conference late last month.

THREAT TO MINING

There are still upside risks for battery metals, however. The probability is rising that Indonesia, which produces more than half the world's

nickel, could take policy steps to boost prices. Citigroup Inc. said in a note last month. China, meanwhile, is planning to boost its strategic stockpiles of cobalt, which is also important in the defense and aerospace industries.

In the longer term, the question is whether the current cycle of lower prices sees companies canceling or delaying plans for new mines or refineries for the coming decade – absent policy support from governments aiming to build out their own supply chains.

Albemarle Corp, the world's largest lithium producer, says this is already starting to happen. Prices are now at levels that are threatening a great number of higher-cost projects, executives said on a conference call on Thursday.

Speaking in London last month, Sue Shaw, head of energy transition and battery raw materials at Wood Mackenzie, said the turbulence was not yet over – even if markets are coming of age.

“Prices for battery raw materials will remain volatile, but future cycles are becoming more sustained as markets are showing signs of maturing,” she said. “The pressure to deliver is huge, even with recycling.”

African tax policies overlook women, informal economy, study

By Correspondent Rachel Mkundai, Cape Town

A recent study by the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF) reveals that many tax policies neglect the informal economy and the significant role women play in it, while unpaid work remains largely disregarded.

The study says that, as a result, governments often struggle to fund women's programs aimed at promoting gender equality in relation to tax issues.

The ATAF study on tax policies identified efforts to address explicit bias in the tax systems of the 16 countries examined in 2022 but noted the existence of implicit bias.

“Our research showed that a number of countries are already leading the way by integrating gender considerations into tax policy and evaluation and tax administrations to ensure greater equity and inclusively focusing on tax policies presents a significant opportunity to advance gender equity by addressing systematic biases and discrimination faced,” said Susan Nakato, ATAF's Manager of Strategy Planning, Information Management, and Reporting.

To ensure tax policies meaningfully consider evolving gender roles, tax administrations must address gender-specific barriers to tax compliance and administration, Nakato said.

Simplifying the tax process, offering gender-responsive guidance and assistance, and providing compliance flexibility to alleviate burdens on women, especially those with caregiving responsibilities or limited resources, are crucial



A section of members of ATAF Annual Meeting 2023 listen to the study findings. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

steps in this regard, she added.

Nakato presented the findings at the ATAF Annual Meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2, which carried the theme “Africa Rising: Sustainable Growth Through Revenue Mobilization.”

The study, titled “Are Tax Policies Developed to Reduce Gender Inequality in ATAF Member Countries?”, involved 16 countries: Angola, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Egypt, Ghana, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zambia.

In March 2021, ATAF launched the African Women in Tax Network (AWITN) to represent and connect African women working in taxation.

The network aims to further discuss the effect of tax policy on gender equality and empower women in tax, according to Nana Mensah, AWITN's technical lead.

The network “aims to look at tax and gender from different perspectives, including, but not exclusively, implicit biases in tax structures, differing experiences of women in relation to tax officials, whether men and women react to compliance measures differently, the role of women in the tax administration, and the informal economy,” Mensah said.

AWITN welcomes the participation of African women engaged in taxation across various sectors, including government, the private sector, civil society, and academia.

Youth project transforms lives of disabled, women

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

HUNDREDS of uneducated young women and people living with disabilities have benefited from youth cash project, implemented in three years in Nyamagana district, Mwanza region.

Through the project, with funding from Foundation for Civil Society (FCS), young women and people with disabilities were trained on entrepreneurship skills, food processing value chain, digital marketing and how to access local governments' loans.

Other equipped skills were marketing, customer care, savings, financial literacy and record keeping.

The training was offered by trainers from MYCN, Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO), Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and community development officers.

Beneficiaries say they are now engaging in spice processing, soap making, fruit selling, bricks manufacturing, leather products and wine making.

Others have purchased chicken egg incubator machine, while they have developed marketing platform to promote their products online and establishing business premises.

Richard Kashinje, a father of two, resident of Bukaga village in Nyamagana District, Mwanza Region, one of beneficiaries, described the project as an eye-opener, because has changed his living standard.

Kashinje said is now a self-employed person and has been able to train 20 youth on how to make leather shoes products.

The beneficiary said he has also established his own company namely Kishili Supply, which is compliant to tax authority, and managed to employ 15 people.

Kashinje's firm now provides a wide range of leather products including leather shoes, wallets, belts, sandals and other accessories for general customers.

He said his income has also gone up from 1mn/- to 3mn/- per year, through getting different tenders to supply lather products to different customers within and outside Mwanza Region.

The economic activity has also helped Kashinje to build a modern house, pay school fees for his siblings.

“Right now I have a confidence, my business is well-recognized, I can supervise my own business and the income I generate, is used for purchase raw materials, pay wages to my staff, support my family and parents,” he said.

Looking forward, Kashinje is approaching different donors who can help him to purchase skiving, post bed stitching, cylinder bed, Flat bed stitching machines to manufacture leather products and build a business premise.

Kashinje say he has also meet with different businessperson engaged in leather sub-sector to learn new experiences.

A 24-year-old, Veronica Nyamwoko from Buswelu Ward in Ilemela District, another beneficiary of the project, said it has helped to transform business from the traditional to modern way.

Through the knowledge gained, she has been able to process different spices include Tea masala, pilau masala, ginger powder, peanut butter, ginger paste, garlic paste and sell to restaurants, hotels and communities in Mwanza Region.

“The income I get from my business is used to pay school fees for my three siblings, wages to my two employees, purchase raw materials for spice processing,” she said.

Also has been able to secure special area to conduct her business, build modern house, formalize her business by registering with the Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA) and her capital has increased from 40,000/- to 400,000/-.

Nyamwoko's has also been able to develop marketing platform to promote her products online, use business card, when selling products in various exhibitions.

Before the project interventions, she said she used to vend products, but how she has secured a business premise.

The Youth Cash Project was implemented from 2020 to 2022.

Brightius Titus, Mwanza Youth and Children Network (MYCN)'s executive director said the Foundation for Civil Society injected US\$55,000 to implement the project which has changed youth's knowledge and mindset.



AHI Company's Regional Manager - Africa, Ajay Kumar Garge (3rd L) explains on the stability and capability of new energy server air conditions to reporters during a function to introduce it held in Dar es Salaam over weekend. Looking on right is Toshiba Business Development Manager Evangelos Kalentzis, AHI Company's Sales Manager - East Africa Subrat Biswas (L). (Photo: Guardian Correspondent)



The Super Sisters group, one of the beneficiaries of the project, showcases their products at a business exhibition in Mwanza. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

DIGITAL MARKETING

Aligning business strategy to change in customer needs

By Alley Mtatya

WHEN it comes to business strategy and shift in demand. This topic always reminds me of a coffee business that made a business turn around during difficult times. Businesses have their strategy all worked out and planned but how many businesses shift their strategy to survive in the market?

Some few years back marked a turbulent period for businesses worldwide, but for one Coffee retailer - let's call this coffee company "Coffee S", an aspirant and growing coffee retailer outlet that demonstrated a remarkable, resilient and adaptable turn around during turbulent times. This article explores how Coffee S harnessed the power of social media to align its operations to meet customer needs, which also lead to a remarkable victory.

Coffee S's rise to dominance was synonymous with quality, bureaucracy and ignorance. During a thriving economy anyone could afford to purchase a cup of coffee at their premium prices. Coffee S had grown to become a coffee powerhouse with outlets across more than 43 countries. It earned accolades such as "Best Business," "Most Admired Company" to mention a few. However, success reached its peak and their clients began perceive their coffee as too expensive. This was when the recession kicked in and therefore it came down to an "Opportunity Cost" decision for customers.

The recession posed a significant setback for the coffee brand. Consumers sought for a much cheaper alternative for their daily caffeine intake. Coffee S saw a massive drop in their sales. How did the brand respond to this abrupt crisis? They simply closed all unprofitable stores, a decision that any sensible brand would do in the height of a recession. They shut



from the traditional strategies and took a more novel approach. He embraced technology and encouraged an environment where employees could contribute to the business strategy and address customer needs. This led to the development of an employee-customer involvement concept. The brand launched "My Coffee Idea," an online platform that allowed customers to exchange ideas with each other and directly with the business. After its introduction, customers shared their thoughts on the products, services, layout, advertising, corporate social responsibility, in-store music, and more. Approximately over 93,000 ideas from about 1.3 million users on their social media platforms engaged, with the page views per month rising to 5.5 million.

Coffee S rebuilt its customer relationship to show its clients that it cared about quality and consistency. They projected that "Cool" element through social media-based marketing. They focused on community engagement over pushing too many products, services or offers. Their social media platforms helped them manage and mitigate damaging information that could harm their identity in the long run. The "Coffee S Signature," gave customers an opportunity to create personalized drinks and share them in the "My Coffee Idea" social media platforms. It educated customers about the range of products offered and showed them how to order custom drinks, thereby fostering an interactive and fun activity while at the same time building its brand trust.

Coffee S successfully used social media to demonstrate its ability to align its operations with changing customer demands. The business managed to rebuild its customer trust and improve customer engagement to address what it is that their customers wanted during the recession. The business also maintained an adequate balance between, it being spontaneous and its interaction with customers that projected a 'cool' image with the community.

In the ever-changing world of business, in Coffee S's case, it is a testament to the power of social media in transforming and resuscitating a brand. Social media platforms serve as a bridge to listen to customer responses, implement their ideas, commit to quality, foster trust and communicate changes in business strategy.

Alley Mtatya is the Founder - Eyeland Advertising and Analytics based in Dar es Salaam

down 600 of their coffee shops with profits falling by about 28 percent compared to the previous year. This was definitely a pivotal moment for the brand.

With immediate effect they replaced their Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with a new one. When the new CEO stepped in, he recognized for a need to shift the brands focus back to its customers. He also saw a need to reignite the emotional attachment the brand had with its customers, it had disappeared. With this in line, he also redirected the company away from its bureaucracy that was caused by the growth or business expansion. His approach was contrary to his predecessor who blamed the decline in business to the bad economy.

Once in power, he shied away



Higher interest rates threaten to delay the energy transitions

By Eugene Ellmen

HIGH interest rates are trashing share prices for clean energy companies, a situation that is threatening to delay the transition to the low-carbon economy.

Rising rates are making it harder for this debt-heavy industry to meet its costs, causing many companies to trim profit forecasts, reduce dividends and pull back expansion plans, triggering a stock market selloff.

How long these climate-critical industries will remain in a slump is an open question, as central banks seem to be in no hurry to reduce interest rates. But one hopeful sign is that investors have shown strong interest in climate-related funds in 2023, a signal they are optimistic about the industry despite the recent carnage in share prices.

Central banks around the world launched a round of aggressive interest-rate increases in early 2022 after inflation started to rise sharply. At first, the hikes were not considered a major threat to the climate transition. But now, in its most recent energy outlook, the International Energy Agency (IEA) says rate hikes pose a significant challenge to the sector, even though it believes that use of oil, natural

gas and coal will inevitably peak this decade, to be replaced by widespread electrification powered largely by renewable energy.

"Financing costs for clean energy projects have recently been driven up significantly by rising interest rates in markets around the world, in particular in emerging market and developing economies," the IEA states in its most recent energy outlook, published October 24. It points out that high interest rates are pushing up costs for clean energy companies as well as consumers.

"Increases in financing costs have the biggest impact on large-scale projects involving capital intensive technologies such as offshore wind, grids or new nuclear power plants, but rising interest rates also affect consumers that rely on credit to finance an EV or the installation of a heat pump," says the IEA. "The progress of electrification will depend on reducing the cost and improving the availability of capital."

These costs now threaten the climate transition, according to economists Thomas Ferguson and Servaas Storm. "High interest rates de-incentivize investments in renewables, lock our economies more deeply into fossil-fuel dependence, slow down decarbonization and put us more strongly on the road to hothouse Earth," they wrote in a commentary in The Guardian in May.

Bloomberg estimates that green stocks globally have lost US\$280 billion in value since they hit their peak of more than US\$600 billion in August 2022.

The value of the MSCI Global Alternative Energy Index, a measure of the value of major solar, wind and other clean energy companies, has dropped by 41 percent (as of October 27) from the beginning of the year. Top listings in the index include wind turbine giant Vestas, large European renewable power company Ørsted, major Canadian renewable producer Northland Power and several global solar companies.

On October 20, solar stocks dropped dramatically after being under pressure for weeks. Solar equipment distributor SolarEdge dropped 26% after announcing "substantial unexpected cancellations and pushouts of existing backlog." The announcement hit other solar stocks as well as Enphase Energy fell 12 percent, SunPower nearly 9 percent and Sunrun more than 3 percent.

Clean energy stocks are sensitive to high interest rates because they need heavy amounts of debt to finance expansion of their infrastructure, such as solar and wind farms. When rates go up, overall costs rise sharply just as energy utilities and other purchasers pressure these companies to keep electricity prices low.

Compared with the major oil and gas sector, which can increase fuel production by drilling existing reserves, clean energy companies must borrow heavily to grow. The indebtedness ratio for the clean energy sector is 3.8 times debt to 12-month earnings, almost four times higher than the 1.1 ratio for large oil and gas companies, according to a recent research post by Charles Schwab Corp. This is jeopardizing the ability of the sector to survive at a time when it should be continuing its recent rapid expansion, spurred on by higher oil and gas prices driven by the wars in Ukraine and Gaza, as well as government programs like the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act and the European Green Deal.

"Given all those trends, it would seem that alternative energy stocks should be thriving," Charles Schwab says. "Instead, they are among the world's worst performers this year."

Climate and sustainability funds show strength, but not in the U.S.

Despite the slump in clean energy share prices, sustainable and climate funds are showing resilience with investors, according to recent reports from investment information provider Morningstar. Global assets of mutual funds and exchange traded funds (ETFs) with a climate-related mandate surged by 30% to US\$534 billion between January 2022 and June 2023, Morningstar says.

The company notes that climate fund assets have grown at "a faster clip" than the larger sustainable fund market (although the numbers don't include the impact of recent share-price declines). Sustainable funds are funds managed with an explicit environmental, social and governance (ESG) focus and include climate funds.

Assets of conventional mutual funds (without an explicit ESG focus) dropped 5 percent in the same period, and conventional ETFs were down 8 percent.

The number of climate funds globally has grown from fewer than 200 in 2018 to more than 1,400 currently, which has been a key driver of rising investor interest. Most are equity funds, but they also include 125 green bond funds, which are expected to attract growing interest. Recently, BlackRock Inc. announced a major new private debt fund to help meet the fast-rising debt needs of climate-transition companies.

Sustainable funds have also grown, according to Morningstar. In the third quarter of 2023, these funds attracted US\$13.7 billion in net new investment, compared with the non-ESG mutual fund and ETF market, which had net redemptions of almost US\$3 billion.

Growth hasn't occurred everywhere, however. Europe, by far the largest sustainable fund market with 84 percent of total global assets, saw net inflows of US\$15.3 billion in the third quarter, compared with net redemptions in the United States of US\$2.7 billion. Interest in Europe is being driven by a flurry of new regulations to encourage the sustainable investment industry, while proposed new rules are stalled in the US, and many Republican lawmakers are publicly attacking ESG investing.

In Canada, sustainable funds experienced net withdrawals of US\$52 million in the third quarter, but total assets declined by only 0.3 percent, half the rate of decline of conventional funds at 0.6 percent.

The share of the total investment market in Canada held by responsible investment grew last year, rising to 49 percent at the end of 2022 from 47 percent in 2021, according to a report released last week. (Responsible investment includes assets of sustainable funds plus conventional assets managed under informal ESG guidelines.)

The report by Canada's Responsible Investment Association also showed that 93 percent of asset owners and managers surveyed track greenhouse gas emissions, the top-cited ESG investment factor.

"Sustainable funds should continue to gain ground as investor demand for strategies that align with their sustainability preferences continues to grow," Morningstar says.

The climate transition is at the top of the list for these sustainability preferences, and investors appear to be ready and willing to commit capital when conditions improve for the industry.

Eugene Ellmen is a former executive director of the Canadian Social Investment Organization (now Responsible Investment Association). He writes on sustainable business and finance.

CRDB Foundation releases 35m/- capital to women entrepreneurs

By Guardian Reporter

CRDB Bank Foundation, through its iMbeju programme, has released 35m/- seed capital and 15 motorcycles valued 10/- to members of Open Mind and Thoughts Organization (OMTO).

Beneficiaries of the seed capital are among of 110,000 women who have benefited from entrepreneurship training, which was aimed at building their capacities in managing their businesses in accordance with international standards.

The seed capital was handed over by Joycelean Makule, head of operations, CRDB Bank Foundation, on behalf of the foundation's managing director, during the OMTO Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. She advised the beneficiaries of the funding to use for intended purposes, in order to ensure smooth and timely repayments.

"Until now, CRDB Bank Foundation has released a total of 1.2bn/- as part of 5bn/- allocated for implementing the iMbeju programme. I advise those who have benefited for this funding, to use them better in order to repay them timely, which will give chances to other people to benefit," Joycelean said.

She said the donated three wheelers have already been covered with comprehensive insurance, to ensure that owners are covered with risks and

uncertainty including road accidents wherever they will be.

OMTO comprises of 200 small groups spread across the countrywide, of which their members are women who are involved in different economic opportunities to liberate their personal economies.

Anna Haule, managing director, OMTO said they are among of the early beneficiaries of iMbeju programme, since it was launched in March this year.

"Improving women economies is our top priority. When we heard that iMbeju is targeting women, we did not wait, and today, everyone is witnessing. Our fellows who have fulfilled requirements have benefited from seed capital they requested and other are completing final procedures in order to get seed capitals," Haule said.

CRDB Foundation and OMTO entered into agreement in June this year, just three months since iMbeju programme was launched and hundreds of its members have benefited from entrepreneurship training and seed capital.

Through iMbeju programme, CRDB Foundation has trained women on business development and entrepreneurship, while giving seed capital to young innovators, in partnership with Commission for Science and Technology (Costech) and ICT Commission.

Buffett's cash hits record \$157bn amid scarce deals

By Max Reyes

BERKSHIRE Hathaway Inc.'s cash pile scaled a fresh record at \$157.2 billion, bolstered both by elevated interest rates and a dearth of meaningful deals where billionaire investor Warren Buffett could put his money to work.

The hoard – which Berkshire has largely parked in short-term Treasuries – surpassed the previous high set two years ago, the Omaha, Nebraska-based firm said on Saturday. The conglomerate also reported operating earnings of \$10.76 billion, a jump on the prior year, as it benefited from the impact of elevated interest rates on the cash pile and gains at its insurance businesses.

Despite ramping up Berkshire's acquisition machine in recent years, the company has still struggled to find many of the big-ticket deals that galvanized Buffett's renown, leaving him with more cash than he and his investing deputies could quickly deploy.

After hanging back during the pandemic, he's since snapped up shares in Occidental Petroleum Corp. and struck a \$11.6 billion deal to buy Alleghany Corp. Buffett has also leaned heavily on share repurchases amid the dearth of appealing alternatives, saying the measures benefit shareholders.

"Cash deployment is definitely slowing," said Jim Shanahan, an analyst with Edward Jones. "Ultimately Berkshire's going to start feeling some pressure to put cash to work."

The deal drought hasn't damped investor enthusiasm for the company. Its Class B shares crested a record high in September as investors sought out its diversified range of



businesses as a hedge against deteriorating economic conditions. And while the shares pared some of those gains, the stock is still up almost 14% for the full year.

The firm also spent \$1.1 billion on buybacks in the period, bringing the total for the first nine months of the year to about \$7 billion. The conglomerate trimmed its overall equities portfolio in the quarter, making almost \$15.7 billion on sales net of purchases.

Including investment and derivatives losses, Berkshire posted a loss for the quarter of almost \$12.8 billion – wider than the year prior – primarily due to losses on its equities portfolio. Berkshire often recommends that investors look past investment gains or losses, which are tied to accounting rules, saying that can be misleading to investors.

Operating Units

The company operates and invests in all corners of the US economy, owning businesses including Geico, BNSF, Dairy Queen and See's Candies, meaning investors view the company as a window into broader economic health.

Strength in the insurance unit – plus the inclusion of Pilot Flying J earnings which Berkshire did not include in results last year – helped drive profitability. Berkshire said its insurance businesses posted a profit of \$2.42 billion versus a loss in the prior-year period, when the insurance industry was being pummeled by catastro-

phes.

The company's Geico unit, which had struggled with unprofitability throughout 2022, also posted a profit compared to the same period a year ago, as it curtailed advertising expenses by 54 percent year-to-date. The improvement follows efforts by the division to overhaul underwriting after struggling with higher costs for replacing or repairing damaged vehicles. The effort cost it market share – raising the question if it will seek to reclaim that ground.

Bloomberg Intelligence says: "Berkshire Hathaway's results again demonstrated diversity of earnings power, boding well in uncertain macroeconomic conditions. Operating-company earnings of almost \$10 billion were better than our core scenario as a rebound in Insurance, including favorable reserve trends and higher investment income, offset declining railroad earnings and energy litigation costs."

Berkshire posted stronger operating earnings despite Buffett cautioning at its annual meeting in Omaha in May that earnings at the majority of its operating units could fall this year as an "incredible period" for the US economy draws to the end. Still, the Federal Reserve's aggressive pace of rate hikes has helped the firm reap greater yield on the cash it stockpiles primarily in short-dated US Treasuries.

At the same time, those higher rates created headaches for some of Berkshire's industrial businesses. The conglomerate's building products businesses saw revenue slip 11% due to the run-up in mortgage rates.

"The effects of significant increases in home mortgage interest rates in the US over the past year has slowed demand for our home building businesses and our other building products businesses," Berkshire said in a report detailing results. "We continue to anticipate certain of our businesses will experience weakening demand and declines in revenues and earnings into 2024."

Inflation weighed on other segments of the conglomerate. Profit at BNSF, its railroad operations, fell 15 percent amid lower freight volumes and higher non-fuel operating costs.

Digital banking is a crucial financial literacy skill for kids

By Navneet Gupta

THE financial sector is witnessing rapid evolution, and the growing internet penetration is initiating digital inclusion on a large scale. India has witnessed significant growth in digital infrastructure, with over 692 million internet users as of January 2023. This digital revolution has paved the way for a cashless society, where digital banking plays a vital role. As the financial landscape undergoes a digital transformation, it becomes essential for children to develop financial literacy skills, particularly in the realm of digital banking.

Importance of digital banking knowledge in kids

Digital banking instills a sense of financial independence and responsibility in children. By introducing them to digital banking early on, they can learn about the importance of online security, fraud prevention, and protecting personal and financial information. For instance, teaching children to create strong passwords and avoid sharing sensitive information online helps them understand the significance of safeguarding their digital identities.

To facilitate this learning process, various organizations are offering engaging and interactive resources. Through gamified activities, children can learn to manage money, set savings goals, and make financial decisions in a safe and controlled environment.

Understanding the role of digital tools in financial planning

Digital banking provides children with tools for setting savings goals and automating savings, instilling responsible financial planning habits from a young age. For instance, there are several apps which allow children to create budgets, set spending limits, and track their expenses. It allows them to open and manage their savings accounts, set financial goals, and track their progress. Such initiatives encourage children to take an active role in their financial well-being and prepare them for a digital-centric financial landscape. These apps also enable parents to supervise and guide their children's financial activities.

Building an early skill to manage finance

By starting early and providing guidance, parents and educators play a crucial role in helping children develop strong financial literacy skills. Digital banking not only enables children to understand the mechanics of money but also fosters a healthy relationship with finances. For instance, some innovative neobanks in India are currently providing prepaid cards that are ex-

ceptionally user-friendly and intuitive. These cards offer a unique opportunity for children to develop crucial financial literacy skills, such as prudent money management, efficient budgeting, and smart savings habits. They also offer parental control features that allow parents to allocate funds, monitor spending, and teach children about responsible purchasing decisions.

The Benefits of Early Digital Banking Exposure

Introducing children to digital banking at an early age offers numerous benefits:

Financial Independence: Digital banking empowers children to take control of their finances, understand the value of money, and make informed decisions about spending and saving.

Technological Competence: In a rapidly digitizing world, technological literacy is crucial. Learning digital banking skills equips children with the necessary tools to navigate technology effectively and prepares them for future digital advancements.

Financial Responsibility: Digital banking instills a sense of responsibility in children to manage their money wisely, set financial goals, and make informed financial decisions.

Online Security Awareness: By engaging in digital banking, children learn about online security measures, including the importance of strong passwords, recognizing phishing attempts, and safeguarding personal and financial information.

The way forward

The positive impact of early financial education, including digital banking literacy, on long-term financial well-being cannot be overstated. Introducing children to digital banking at a young age provides them with the knowledge and skills needed to make informed financial decisions throughout their lives. It not only equips them with the tools to navigate the cashless economy effectively but also fosters financial independence, responsibility, and resilience in the face of evolving financial challenges.

As India embraces the digital revolution and transitions towards a cashless economy, it becomes crucial to prioritize financial literacy skills for children, with digital banking as a vital aspect. They gain a deep understanding of how to leverage digital banking for convenience, efficiency, and monitoring of their financial health, regardless of location or time. This fosters their ability to take control of their financial futures, promoting both financial independence and resilience.

The author is founder, CEO, Ypay



Zanzibar Minister of State President's Office Ministry of Labour, Economy and Investment, Mudrick Ramadhan Soraga (C) witnessing NMB Chief of Finance Juma Kimori and Zanzibar Commissioner for Public and Private Partnership Dr. Bill Kiwia exchanging signed MoU to accelerate public-private partnerships (PPPs) project financing in Zanzibar. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NMB Bank partners Zanzibar agency to boost PPP project financing

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

NMB Bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Zanzibar Private Partnership under the President's Office Labour, Economic Affairs and to accelerate public-private partnerships (PPPs) in project financing.

Speaking during the signing ceremony held in Zanzibar yesterday, the NMB Chief Finance Officer Juma Kimori said the MOU aligns with the bank's strategy of creating a shared value for all its stakeholders including the Government and will be a catalyst to sustainable economic development in Zanzibar.

"As a bank, we believe that increased private sector participation in public services sectors is a cornerstone for economic development and job creation. We are pleased to work with Zanzibar Private Partnership, to find the best PPP solutions for Zanzibar today re-affirming our unwavering commitment to support sustainable development in Zanzibar," Kimori said.

He noted that NMB Bank will use its strong balance sheet to provide tender guarantee services to players seeking to take part in various strategic development projects in Zanzibar adding that the bank offers vari-

ous tailor-made products to its customers.

"We are the biggest bank in terms of profitability and we have a strong balance sheet. Currently, we offer a single borrower limit of up to 420mn/- to any potential borrower who meets our terms," he stressed.

Kimori added that the bank has so far partnered with a number of agencies in Zanzibar including Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA) and the Zanzibar eGovernment Agency (eGaz) and will continue working with various agencies to support attainment of Zanzibar's blue economy drive.

He noted that the bank will continue to provide an intermediary role of providing financial literacy services noting that over 10,000 people in Zanzibar engaged in seaweed farming, salt and have already benefited from its financial literacy drive.

Dr. Bill Kiwia, Zanzibar Commissioner for Public and Private Partnership (PPP) said that the event is not only historic but one of its kind since it will ensure provision of services right at grassroots level.

"This is a new era in the history of Zanzibar and we believe this partnership will bring meaningful development right at the grassroots level," he stressed.

Mudrick Ramadhan Soraga, Minister of

State President's Office Ministry of Labour, Economy and Investment, Zanzibar during the event commended the bank for its continued support to sustainable development in Zanzibar.

"As government, we believe PPP, is the best model to accelerate economic development in Zanzibar and the Zanzibar President Dr. Hassan Ali Mwinyi has been tooting for this kind of model for long. We are glad that NMB Bank has finally come on board and we are glad to walk this new journey together today," he added.

He noted that the Isles government will continue to work closely with the private sector to support sustainable development projects right at grassroots level noting that the government is in the process of identifying mid-sized projects where it can partner with the private sector.

"Such projects should however seek to find lasting solutions to challenges facing people right at grassroots level," he stressed.

PPPs have become an important tool that can help governments worldwide facing fiscal challenges to draw on the strengths of the private sector to drive economic growth.

VIEW FROM THE TOP



WORLD

No statements yet from Putin about running in 2024 election - Kremlin

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has not announced a decision to seek another term in office yet, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told TASS.

When asked to comment on a Reuters report that Putin had allegedly decided to run in the March 2024 presidential election, Peskov said: "Putin has not made any statements



on the matter yet." "An election campaign has not yet been announced," he added.

Russia is expected to hold its presidential election on March 17, 2024. The Federation Council (the upper house of parliament) will make a decision on the date of the election in December 2023.

After that, political parties will need to hold pre-election congresses and nominate their candidates. Putin has the right to seek another term in office but he has not clarified his decision yet.

Iran Foreign minister writes to BRICS nations, calls for halt to attacks on Gaza

TEHRAN

AT a time when the Israel-Gaza conflict has claimed numerous lives of innocent civilians on both sides, Iran Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian has written a letter to the BRICS countries, including India, urging them to call for a halt in the attacks on the Gaza strip.

The countries that are part of the bloc are Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. Moreover, Iran was admitted to the group during the BRICS summit in South Africa in August this year, along with five new members from 2024 onwards: Argentina, Ethiopia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran stated in a news release, "Iran's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hossein Amirabdollahian, sent separate letters to the foreign ministers of the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa), expressing deep concern over the atrocities committed by the Zionist regime in Palestine."

"He urged for proactive and constructive intervention by the BRICS member countries to halt the attacks in the Gaza Strip, prevent crimes against humanity, and hold the aggressors accountable," the release added.

In the letters sent by Amirabdollahian to the BRICS countries, which also includes India, he has called the Israeli retaliatory actions "part of the crimes committed against the oppressed Palestinian people."

"The letters highlighted the illegal usurpation of Palestinian lands, mass killings, destruction of homes and farms, assaults on medical facilities, as well as the arrest, torture, and humiliation and attacking the dignity of men, women, and even children by the occupying regime. Amirabdollahian stressed that these actions are part of the crimes committed against the oppressed Palestinian people," Iran Foreign Ministry release read.

Calling for prioritisation of situation in Gaza, the Foreign Minister of Iran emphasised the role of BRICS and other significant post-western alliances like the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Eurasian Union, SICA, ASEAN, and others.

"...Amirabdollahian urged these organizations to prioritize the dire situation in Gaza.

He called for urgent measures to address the most critical issues within the current global order, aiming to establish justice for the oppressed, hold accountable those responsible for international crimes, and create a just and equitable world order," according to the release by the Iranian foreign ministry.

Recently on Sunday, the External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar spoke with his Iranian counterpart Amirabdollahian to discuss the raging Israel-Hamas war. The two leaders underscored the importance of preventing further escalation in the region and providing crucial humanitarian support.

They also agreed to maintain communication to address the evolving situation in West Asia.

"Spoke today with Iranian Foreign Minister @Amirabdollahian. Discussed the grave situation in West Asia and the concern of the international community. Conveyed the importance of preventing escalation and providing humanitarian support. Agreed to stay in touch," posted EAM S Jaishankar on X.

Notably, Israel has continuously alleged that there is an "Iranian hand" in the attack; however, Iran has time and again said that Tehran was not involved in the October 7 attack by Hamas on Israel. **ANI**

Biden trails Trump in states likely to decide US election

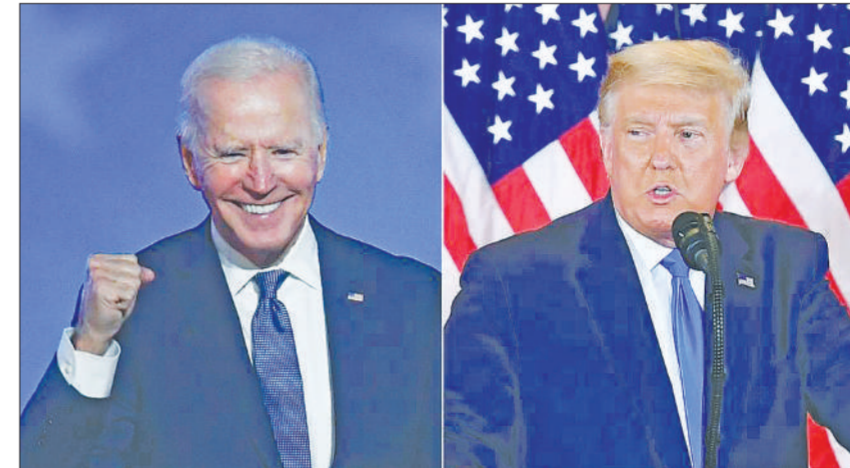
DEMOCRATIC President Joe Biden trails Republican frontrunner Donald Trump in five of the six most important battleground states exactly a year before the US election as Americans express doubts about Biden's age and dissatisfaction toward his handling of the economy, polls released on Sunday showed.

The polls were conducted by the New York Times and Siena College. Trump, leading the field for his party's 2024 nomination as he seeks to regain the presidency, leads in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada and Pennsylvania, with Biden ahead in Wisconsin, the polls showed. Biden defeated Trump in all six states in the 2020 election. Trump now leads by an average of 48 percent to 44 percent in the six states, the polls showed.

While polls assessing the national popular vote have consistently showed Biden and Trump in a close race, presidential elections typically are decided by the outcomes in a handful of so-called swing states.

Biden's victories in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin - all swing states that Trump carried in 2016 - were instrumental in his 2020 victory. Biden likely would need to carry many of those state again to win reelection.

"Predictions more than a year out tend to look a little different a year later. Don't take our word for it: Gallup predicted an 8 point loss



This combo photo created on Nov 4, 2020 shows then US Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden (left) and then US President Donald Trump. (PHOTOS / AFP)

for President Obama only for him to win handily a year later," Biden campaign spokesperson Kevin Munoz said in a statement, referring to Democrat Barack Obama's 2012 victory over Republican Mitt Romney.

Munoz added that Biden's campaign "is hard at work reaching and mobilizing our diverse, winning coalition of voters one year out on the choice between our winning, popular agenda and MAGA (Trump's "Make America Great Again" slogan) Republicans' unpopular extremism. We'll win in 2024 by putting our heads down and doing the work, not by fretting about a poll."

By the numbers

Biden's multiracial and multigenerational coalition appears to be fraying, the polls showed.

Voters under age 30 favor Biden, who is 80, by only a single percentage point, his lead among Hispanic voters is down to single dig-

its and his advantage in urban areas is half of Trump's edge in rural regions, the polls showed.

Black voters - a core Biden demographic - are now registering 22 percent support in these states for Trump, a level the New York Times reported was unseen in presidential politics for a Republican in modern times.

"I was concerned before these polls and I'm concerned now," Richard Blumenthal, a Democratic US senator from Connecticut, told CNN.

"No one is going to have a runaway election here. ... We have our work cut out for us," Blumenthal added.

Palestine: Blinken rejected Abbas' request for ceasefire

RAMALLAH/BAGHDAD/NICOSIA

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has rejected Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' request for a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, according to a Palestinian official.

The official told Xinhua that Blinken reaffirmed during his meeting with Abbas in the West Bank city of Ramallah "Israel's right to defend itself and continue its military campaign" in Gaza.

Blinken's visit to Ramallah lasted for about an hour, during which he met with Abbas and his senior aides to discuss the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict, said the official who wished to remain anonymous.

He said Blinken had promised to pressure Israel to avoid harming civilians and provide safe corridors for humanitarian relief, but refused to discuss ceasefire mechanisms at this stage.

The official added that



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken meets with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas at the Muqata in Ramallah in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, on Sunday. AP

Abbas and Blinken agreed to adhere to the two-state solution and work on it after the end of the conflict in Gaza.

Talks with Iraqi PM

The senior US official also held talks with Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' al-Sudani in Baghdad on Sunday evening.

Al-Sudani reiterated Iraq's call for an immediate ceasefire and the opening of safe corridors to prevent deterioration of the humanitarian crisis, which has tragically affected civilians, including women

efforts to ensure that the conflict does not expand beyond Gaza."

He said that "a very clear message is sent to those who threaten US military personnel that they should not do so."

Maritime aid corridor

On Sunday, Blinken also visited Nicosia to meet with Cypriot President Nikos Christodoulides.

They discussed a Cypriot proposal to establish a maritime aid corridor to the Gaza Strip, Cypriot government Spokesman Konstantinos Letymbiotis said.

In a written statement, Letymbiotis said that during the meeting they discussed the unfolding situation in the Middle East and stressed the need for a scaling down of the crisis.

"They also discussed in detail Cyprus' initiative for the establishment of a dedicated maritime corridor to deliver humanitarian aid to the population in Gaza."

Xinhua



A child lives in a relief camp set up following the 6.4-magnitude earthquake that hit Nepal on Nov 3, at Jajarkot, in Rukum West yesterday. ANI

Hamas do not want people to evacuate from Northern Gaza - IDF

TEL AVIV

AMID the ongoing Israel-Hamas war that has now completed a month, Israel Defence Forces spokesperson Jonathan Conricus has said that the Hamas terrorists have made specific efforts to stop Palestinians from moving South.

The IDF spokesperson said that most of the combat operations are going on in Gaza because that is where most of the Hamas has its strong hold.

In a video posted on social media platform X, Conricus (pictured) said, "Most of the combat operations are going on in northern Gaza, there are still other strikes going on, in other areas as well, but we are focussing on Northern Gaza, because that is where most of the Hamas has its strong hold."

He said that Hamas wants to keep civilians in densely populated areas in order to meet their purposes.

"Now, what we have seen are road-blocks, Hamas has made specific efforts to stop Palestinians from moving south. ...they do not want people to evacuate from the north...they want them to stay in a densely populated areas where there is the most serious and difficult fighting...because they want the civilians on top of their tunnels," Conricus said.

In a quick update, focussing on humanitarian efforts taken up from IDF side, Conricus mentioned that the forces are trying to get the Palestinian civilians out of Northern Gaza.

"As we have been saying since last two weeks, we are trying to get Palestinian civilians out of this area and down into the south...more than a million and a half pamphlets and flyers have been airdropped, different colors for different days...so that people can understand that these are different pamphlets... we have done almost 20,000 live phonecalls by Israeli intel officers calling people in various neighbourhoods like Jabalya, in Gaza city and many other locations, telling them relocate to south, not to stay or remain in northern Gaza," the IDF spokesperson said.

"The sum total of this is serious, relevant timely effort to get the message to the Palestinian population that they should go from the northern part of Gaza to go to south of Gaza...because it is not safe where they are standing," he added.

The Israeli Army said on Sunday that "significant strikes" are being carried out and the Gaza Strip has been "cut into two", Al Jazeera reported.

Army spokesperson Daniel Hagari



said that the Israeli forces "have encircled Gaza City" and "now there exists a south Gaza and a north Gaza".

"Troops reached the coastline and are holding it", he added. "There are now widespread strikes on terror infrastructure - below ground and above it," Al Jazeera quoted Hagari as saying.

In another statement, Chief of the General Staff, LTG Herzi Halevi, during a meeting in the Northern Command, said that the IDF is ready to strike in the northern Gaza at "any moment".

"We have a clear goal of restoring a significantly better security situation at the borders, not only in the Gaza Strip...We are ready to strike in the north at any moment," IDF posted on X (formerly Twitter).

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had declared that Israel will not agree to a ceasefire until the Hamas terror group releases the hostages it is holding, The Times of Israel reported.

"Take this (word 'ceasefire') out of the lexicon. We will continue until we defeat them; we do not have an alternative," Netanyahu is quoted saying in a statement from his office.

Meanwhile, Israeli envoy to the US, Michael Herzog called Gaza as the world's "biggest terror complex", Times of Israel reported.

He said that Gaza is "the biggest terror complex in the world," with tens of thousands of fighters and rockets, among other weaponry - and 310 miles (500 kilometres) of underground tunnels.

"This is what we're up against. And we have to uproot it, because if we do not, they will strike again and again," Times of Israel quoted Herzog as saying on CBS's "Face the Nation" interview. **ANI**

JAPAN

ENVIRONMENT ministers of China, Japan and South Korea have reaffirmed their commitments to strengthening measures to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental pollution.

At the 24th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting, also known as TEMM24, held in Nagoya, Japan, from Friday to Saturday, the ministers discussed recent progress in environmental policies in each country and how they could work more closely together.

In a joint communique the

China, Japan and South Korea reaffirm climate action pledges

ministers said they were willing to continue to explore possible "Trilateral-X" collaboration in areas such as climate change and marine environmental protection to support accelerated implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The countries said they remain committed to multilateralism and are willing to encourage close collaboration at upcoming major regional and global environmental conferences.

Huang Runqiu, China's minister of ecology and environment, said that for more than 20 years China has supported TEMM, one of the trilateral ministerial-level consultative mechanisms.

"We would like to enhance the effectiveness of cooperation between China, Japan, and South Korea, as well as collaboration under the ASEAN Plus Three mechanism and other regional mechanisms, engage in environmental information

exchange and experience-sharing with more countries, and share the achievements of trilateral environmental cooperation with more partners, making greater contributions to sustainable development in East Asia and even a larger region."

Extreme weather such as high temperatures, heavy rainfall and super typhoons has become the norm, and the three countries need to pool their collective wisdom to tackle the various challenges,

said South Korea's Minister of Environment Han Wha-jin. ALSO READ: China sees positive progress in climate change response

They must all recognize their responsibility regarding climate and the environment and continue to maintain collaborative relationships, taking a leading role in mitigating climate and environmental crises in Northeast Asia and globally, Han said.

Since TEMM was first held in Seoul in 1999 the mechanism

has promoted environmental collaboration among the three countries, said Japan's Minister of the Environment Shintaro Ito.

The world faces crises such as climate change, biodiversity loss and plastic pollution, and it is crucial for the three countries to strengthen their environmental collaboration, he said.

It is said he hopes that through TEMM the three countries can effectively share carbon reduction policies and

technologies so that global greenhouse gas emissions reach their peak by 2025.

In the field of biodiversity, China, Japan and South Korea continue to exchange information and share the latest updates on invasive alien species through expert meetings. Collaboration among the three countries is advancing in various areas, including the development of invasive species prevention and control technologies and joint research on on-site control methods, Ito said.

Agencies

Migrants reaching Spain's Canary Islands near 32,000

MADRID

NEARLY 32,000 migrants have reached Spain's Canary Islands on fragile boats from west Africa this year, passing a previous record posted in 2006, regional authorities said on Sunday.

So far this year, 31,933 people have reached the islands, compared with the 2006 small boats crisis when 31,678 people made it to the Canaries, regional authorities told Reuters.

Since Friday, 739 people have been rescued in the Atlantic Ocean off El Hierro, the smallest and most westerly island in the archipelago, the Spanish coastguard said.

Two people were found dead in four boats and two other people died later in hospital, said the Spanish Civil Guard on Saturday, which also took part in the rescue in which women and children were among those saved.

Fernando Clavijo, the Canary Is-



Migrants wait to disembark from a boat at La Restinga dock, in the municipality of El Pinar on the Canary Island of El Hierro, on Oct 31, 2023. AFP

lands regional chief, said the figures showed the scale of the humanitarian crisis faced by the islands and called for more help from the Spanish government and the European Union.

"The 2006 data have been surpassed but the response of the State and EU is not the same. Migration management on the southern border must be a priority on the Spanish and European agenda," he posted on the X social media site on Saturday.

The number of arrivals has recently jumped as milder weather and calmer seas since September have made it more feasible to attempt the still perilous crossing from Africa.

The archipelago lies around 100 km (60 miles) off Africa's west coast. Its seven islands have become the main destination for migrants from Senegal and other African countries trying to reach Spain, fleeing conflict or seeking a better life.

The Spanish government said it would create additional emergency accommodation for some 3,000 migrants in military barracks, hotels and hostels.

Europe urged not to repeat tech underdog role before space talks

EUROPE is being warned not to "miss the train" on the emerging space economy as more than 20 countries gather in Spain, expected to focus on funding for the delayed Ariane 6 rocket as well as climate change and a possible new role in exploration.

The 22-nation European Space Agency (ESA) is holding ministerial talks in Seville on Monday followed by a joint session with the European Union on competitiveness in space on Tuesday, dominated by the rapid growth of Elon Musk's US-based rival SpaceX.

The two-day "Space Summit" comes as Europe faces a gap in autonomous access to space after delays to the new Ariane 6 rocket, combined with a grounding of the smaller Vega-C and severed access to Russia's Soyuz due to the conflict in Ukraine.

Ministers will try to resolve tensions among leading space nations France, Germany and Italy over launcher policy including medium-term funding for Ariane 6, which is now due to stage its first test launch in 2024, four years behind the original plan.

France, where manufacturer ArianeGroup is based, wants extra funding to help absorb cost overruns, industry sources said. French business newspaper La Tribune last week pegged the shortfall at 350 million euros.

Germany, which is often seen as reluctant to be paymaster for French industry, wants to stimulate its own emerging independent launch sector while Italy wants to protect its Vega-C project and make progress on exploration programs.

Sources said last week there had been some progress in unblocking a three-way standoff between Europe's leading launch nations but that ministers still faced sensitive budget talks.

Speaking ahead of the Seville meeting, ESA Director General Josef Aschbacher declined to comment on the talks but urged Europe not to repeat past mistakes in the technology sector. "The space economy is growing ... Not participating in this would be, in my opinion, strategically very difficult to justify," Aschbacher told the AJPAE French media association.

Two decades ago, Europe had been not far from the United States or Japan measured by patents and intellectual capability.

"Today, the biggest IT companies are not in Europe. Some are in the US, some of them in China. We have missed the train. Quantum technology is a similar example where we're now trying to catch up," he said.

Europe has carved out a leading role in climate observation, navigation and space science but has not targeted a prime role in human exploration, opting instead for a junior role in projects led by US space agency NASA or until recently Russia.

Ministers are expected to discuss an ESA proposal to invite private funding for a possible new spaceplane designed to carry cargo to and from the space stations of the future. The project could eventually be adapted to include human flight.

Agencies

AI summit a start but global agreement a distant hope

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Rishi Sunak championed a series of landmark agreements after hosting the first artificial intelligence (AI) safety summit but a global plan for overseeing the technology remains a long way off.

Over two days of talks between world leaders, business executives and researchers, tech CEOs such as Elon Musk and OpenAI's Sam Altman rubbed shoulders with the likes of US Vice-President Kamala Harris and European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen to discuss the future regulation of AI.

Leaders from 28 nations signed the Bletchley Declaration, a joint statement acknowledging the technology's risks; the US and Britain both announced plans to launch their own AI safety institutes; and two more summits were announced to take place in South Korea and France next year.

But while some consensus was reached on the need to regulate AI, disagreements remain over exactly how that should happen - and who will lead such efforts.

Risks around rapidly developing AI have been an increasingly high priority for policymakers since Microsoft-backed Open AI released ChatGPT to the public last year.

The chatbot's unprecedented ability to respond to prompts with human-like fluency has led some experts to call for a pause in the development of such systems, warn-

ing they could gain autonomy and threaten humanity.

Sunak talked of being "privileged and excited" to host Tesla founder Musk, but European lawmakers warned of too much technology and data being held by a small number of companies in one country, the United States.

"Having just one single country with all of the technologies, all of the private companies, all the devices, all the skills, will be a failure for all of us," French Minister of the Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire told reporters.

The UK has also diverged from the EU by proposing light-touch approach to AI regulation, in contrast to Europe's AI Act, which is close to being finalized and will bind developers of what are deemed "high-risk" applications to stricter controls.

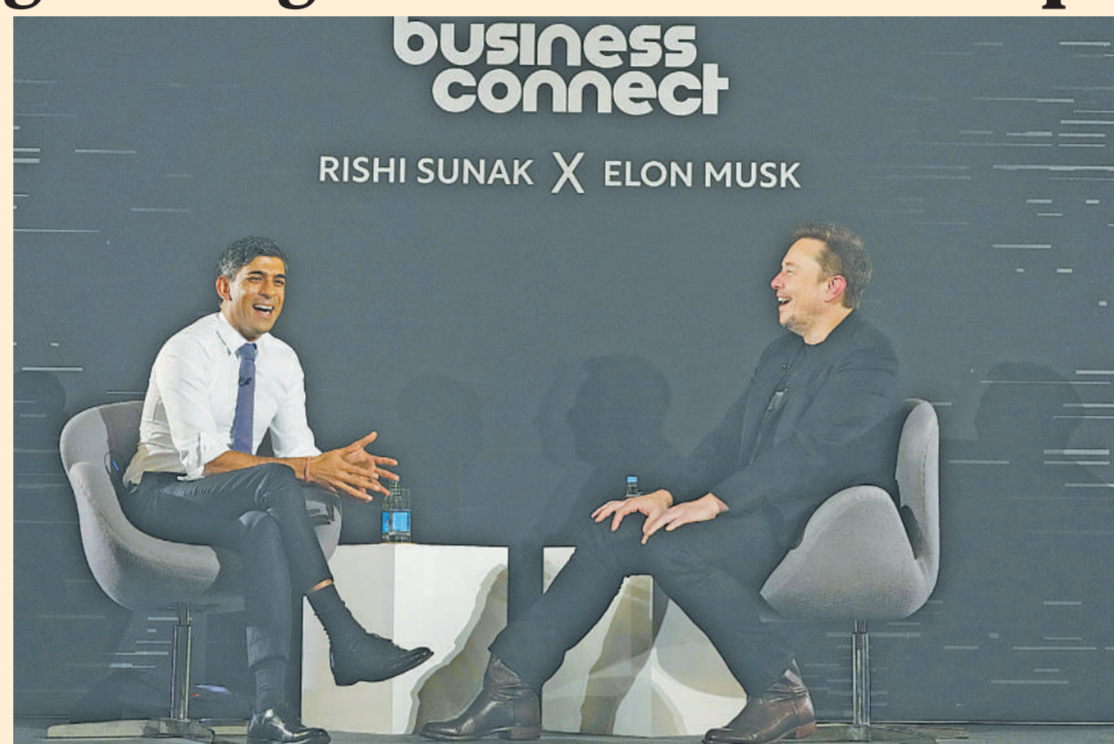
"I came here to sell our AI Act," Vera Jourova, Vice-President of the European Commission.

Jourova said, while she did not expect other countries to copy the bloc's laws wholesale, some agreement on global rules was required.

"If the democratic world will not be rule-makers, and we become rule-takers, the battle will be lost," she said.

While projecting an image of unity, attendees said some power blocs in attendance tried to assert their dominance.

Some suggested Harris had upstaged Sunak when the US government announced its own AI safety



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak (left) attends an in-conversation event with Tesla and SpaceX's CEO Elon Musk in London, Nov 2, 2023. AP

institute - just as Britain had a week earlier - and she delivered a speech in London highlighting the technology's short-term risks, in contrast to the summit's focus on existential threats.

"It was fascinating that just as we announced our AI safety institute, the Americans announced theirs," said attendee Nigel Toon, CEO of British AI firm Graphcore.

A recurring theme of the behind-closed-door discussions, highlighted by a number of attendees, was the potential risks of open-source

AI, which gives members of the public free access to experiment with the code behind the technology.

Some experts have warned that open-source models could be used by terrorists to create chemical weapons, or even create a super-intelligence beyond human control.

Speaking with Sunak at a live event in London on Thursday, Musk said: "It will get to the point where you've got open-source AI that will start to approach human-level intelligence, or perhaps exceed it. I don't

know quite what to do about it."

Yoshua Bengio, an AI pioneer appointed to lead a "state of the science" report commissioned as part of the Bletchley Declaration, told Reuters the risks of open-source AI were a high priority.

He said: "It could be put in the hands of bad actors, and it could be modified for malicious purposes. You can't have the open-source release of these powerful systems, and still protect the public with the right guardrails."

Agencies

MOGADISHU

THE African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) has announced that 13 police officers have completed an intensive five-day training program focused on detecting and neutralizing improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

The training, facilitated by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), aimed to enhance

UN training boosts Somali police skills in IED detection

the officers' skills in using modern technology, bolstering intelligence capabilities, fostering efficient information exchange, and implementing strategic counter-IED operations, the ATMIS said in a statement issued in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, on Sunday evening.

"These efforts have been crucial in mitigating the impact of IEDs laid by al-Shabab militants, which have historically led to significant civilian casualties and severe disruptions to the movement of people and goods," it said.

According to the AU mission, the training, which took place in Jow-

har, southwest Somalia, primarily addressed the challenges posed by IEDs during vehicle inspection operations along the main supply routes.

The use of deadly devices on main supply routes has been identified as a key reason for restricting responses to humanitarian crises.

ATMIS said that the al-Shabab terrorist group often plants explosive devices on the main supply routes, targeting ATMIS and government troops, but civilians often fall victim to these attacks.

James Maada, an ATMIS individual police officer based in Jowhar, emphasized the importance of the training, saying that it would help them in their stabilization efforts.

Xinhua

Zhejiang pilot FTZ an important hub for opening up in east China

THE China (Zhejiang) Pilot Free Trade Zone, unveiled on April 1, 2017, is among the third batch of China's pilot free trade zones (FTZs). Since its founding, the Zhejiang pilot FTZ has embraced rapid development and continuously contributed to the high-quality development of the open economy.

Last year, the Zhejiang pilot FTZ, occupying less than 1/400 of Zhejiang province's total area, accounted for 6.5 percent of the newly registered enterprises, 9.2 percent of the tax revenue, 20.6 percent of the foreign trade volume, and 18.1 percent of the actual utilization of foreign capital in the province.

At present, the Zhejiang pilot FTZ has adopted a "four-area" development model, with each area having a strategic focus based on its strengths. The Zhoushan area is developing as an oil and gas free trade hub; the Ningbo area focuses on logistics and transportation; the Hangzhou area is emerging as a digital free trade zone; the Jinyi area is dedicated to commerce and trade.

The Yiwu International Trade Mar-

ket, which is located in the Jinyi area, is the world's largest wholesale market for small commodities. Selling 2.1 million categories of small commodities to over 230 countries and regions, it fuels the development of 2.1 million small and medium-sized enterprises and supports jobs for 32 million people.

The Jinyi area cooperates with some 40 cross-border e-commerce platforms around the world, and is working to continuously improve the support system for digital trade sectors such as cross-border e-commerce. Besides, it is also optimizing its trade models, and has built an official website market "chinagoods.com."

According to an official, the Yiwu International Trade Market boasts 75,000 business stalls. In the past, purchasers had to go from stall to stall searching for the items they wanted, which was both tiring and time-consuming.

Today, thanks to the efforts to streamline procurement processes, purchases can be made swiftly and thus the trade volume has been significantly improved.



South African merchants buy footballs at the 29th China Yiwu International Commodities (Standards) Fair, Oct. 21. (Photo by Gong Xianming/People's Daily Online)

The Yiwu-Xinjiang-Europe freight train route, which starts from the Jinyi area, has developed into one of the China-Europe freight train routes with the most operating lines and highest loading efficiency since it was launched nine years ago. Today, with the train service heading west by land, and the Yiwu-Ningbo-Zhoushan corridor going east by sea, goods and commodities are flowing steadily from the Jinyi area to the world.

Over the past three years, the Ningbo area of the Zhejiang pilot FTZ has been continuously promoting trade liberalization and facilitation, further consolidating and enhancing its status as a global cross-border trade hub.

In 2022, the cargo throughput at Ningbo Zhoushan port

reached 1.26 billion tons, ranking first globally for 14 consecutive years. The container throughput reached 33.35 million twenty-foot equivalent units, maintaining its position as the third largest globally. From January to August this year, Beilun district, where the Ningbo area is located, achieved a total import and export volume of 295.4 billion yuan (\$40.37 billion).

The Hangzhou area of the Zhejiang pilot FTZ is leading the way in integrating high-standard digital trade rules, exploring the establishment of a comprehensive institutional framework for the development of digital trade, and nurturing digital industry clusters with international competitiveness.

Currently, Hangzhou's cross-border e-commerce retail export platforms account for two-thirds of China's total, and its cross-border payment and settlement volume represents 40 percent of the country's cross-border e-commerce exports.

In the first half of this year, Hangzhou's digital service trade volume increased by 19.6 percent compared to the same period last year. Knowledge-intensive service trade accounted for over 80 percent of service trade, surpassing the national average.

In the hall of the Zhejiang Mercantile Exchange, a giant electronic screen is eye-catching. The screen displays not only the trading prices

of various oil products, but also China's Zhoushan LSF0 (low sulphur fuel oil) bonded bunker price, known as the "Zhoushan price."

"The market share of enterprises currently participating in Zhoushan's bonded bunker price reporting has increased to 84 percent in the local bonded bunkering market," said Lai Xin, chairman of the Zhejiang Mercantile Exchange. He noted that the "Zhoushan price" was officially introduced on June 21, 2021, marking an important institutional innovation achievement of the Zhoushan area.

"This mechanism breaks the monopoly of overseas markets on LSF0 pricing," Lai stated. In the past, China's domestic oil and gas trading market lacked pricing power, but now with the "Zhoushan price," it can effectively promote the use of RMB pricing in the bonded LSF0 bunkering sector, and gradually increase the international influence of China's spot price for bonded bunker fuel.

The Zhoushan area continues to build an international oil and gas industry cooperation platform with global influence. This has led to a spillover effect of expanded industrial chains and outward development in refining, storage, shipping and more. Consequently, the Zhoushan area is seeing the rapid emergence of a trillion-yuan oil and gas industry cluster.

People's Daily

SPORT



Tigo Tanzania's Business Manager Fabian Felician (C) is pictured with Parimatch's Marketing Manager Levis Paul (L) and Tigo Tanzania's Justine Lawena during the launch of the promotion, termed 'Vibunda Spesho', in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Tigo Tanzania is partnering with Parimatch for the promotion. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Online betting company launches new campaign

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA'S online betting company, Parimatch, in collaboration with Tigo Tanzania's mobile money platform, Tigo Pesa, yesterday officially launched its new promotion termed 'Vibunda Spesho'.

The campaign specifically seeks to reward Parimatch's customers, handing them money every day and week during the preparations for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

According to Parimatch, the campaign is specific to all Tigo Pesa and Parimatch customers with accounts, as well as new customers set to join from yesterday to December 6, 2023.

Parimatch's Marketing Manager, Levis Paul, confirmed the campaign's launch, saying after making major improvements to his firm's website by offering customers the Parimatch Jackpot, Parimatch has now decided to reward the customers so they can have more fun once they place their bets.

The official revealed: "A Parimatch customer who predicts any game through www.parimatch.co.tz will have the opportunity to win a prize amounting to 50,000/- every day."

"There will, every Friday, be a big draw to

find the 1,000,000/- winner, with the draw being shown live through TBC TV", Paul disclosed.

Tigo Pesa's Business Manager, Fabian Felician, encouraged the network's customers to take advantage of the opportunity through the promotion that the firm is taking charge of in partnership with Parimatch.

"Tigo Pesa's online customers can get the rewards through Parimatch by placing their bets on the website, as well as the Parimatch App. As soon as you register, if you are a new customer, as is the case for those with accounts, will have to log in to start placing the bets and wait for the winnings," Fabian noted.

Parimatch is the leading online betting firm in the country and has been offering a huge welcome bonus of 125% up to 1,000,000/- to new customers who join the firm.

The online betting company has been operating in Tanzania since 2019, offering great services including fast payouts, great odds, and exciting promotions on football, casino, and virtual games.

Parimatch also offers hundreds of events every day in tennis, UFC, basketball, cricket, baseball, and many other live and pre-match sports.

Mohammed Hussein: Simba SC was outclassed by Yanga in midfield

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SIMBA SC assistant skipper Mohammed Hussein has admitted that his side was outclassed by age-old rival, Young Africans SC, in the midfield when the two squads met in a 2023/24 NBC Premier League tie in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

Hussein, who is popularly known as Zimbwe, on Sunday wore the skipper's armband in the encounter which saw the host Simba SC go down to Young Africans SC, popularly known as Yanga, with a humiliating 5-1 loss.

During the post-match interview, the experienced left fullback said Simba SC knows Yanga builds its attacks from the wings but the former was surprised to see the latter build its attacks from the central midfield.

The defender revealed the approach caught his outfit unaware and the team tried to change its tactics to contain the opponents but it did not work.

Yanga used a 3-5-2 formation in the tie, while Simba SC opted for the 4-4-2 formation, but the latter was overwhelmed as the former was using central midfielders while the latter was using the wings- an approach which proved difficult for the squad to penetrate the opponent.

Simba SC midfield was made up of Fabrice Ngoma, Sadio Kanoute, Saidi Ntibazonkiza, and Clatous Chama while Yanga fielded Khalid Aucho, Maxi Nzengele, Mudhathir Yahya, Stephane Aziz Ki, and Pacôme Zouzoua.

"Our coach and his backroom staff analyzed the tactics used by Yanga and they told us that Yanga builds its attacks from the wings, we had a game plan for that formation but our opponents changed their approach and this caught us unaware, we tried to change our game plan but it did not work," Hussein said.

The assistant captain assured his outfit's members and fans that it will bounce back, saying



it is too early to lose hope of winning the 2023/24 NBC Premier League top honour.

Simba SC's head coach Roberto Oliveira, who is better known as Robertinho, conceded defeat, saying it was his bad day in the office and congratulated Yanga for the win.

Robertinho, however, said he had some reservations with Yanga's second goal which was scored by Nzengele, saying it was an offside and that is why his players did not mark the midfielder.

A mammoth crowd turned up for the most anticipated domestic derby to witness the battle of supremacy between the country's football powerhouses.

One thing for sure is that they walked out of the stadium talking about Aziz Ki's goal and the annoying mistakes that Simba SC players were making.

Yanga, NBC Premier League defending champion, is now sitting at the top of the top-flight table with 21 points from eight games while Simba SC is positioned third with 18 points from seven games.

Kennedy Musonda (third minute), Nzengele (64th and 77th minutes), Aziz Ki (73rd minute), and Pacôme, who scored through a spot kick in the 87th minute, scored for Yanga while Simba SC's only goal was scored by Kibu Denis in the ninth minute.

SPORTS

Yanga comfortably sees off Simba SC in a surprising 5-1 rout

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

LAST Sunday saw the latest installment of the age-old rivalry between Simba SC and Yanga as the two behemoths met in a blockbuster NBC Premier League clash.

Ahead of the long-awaited football duel, Yanga was placed in second place on the league table while Simba SC was a place down below them in third place although the Msimbazi Street giants had a game in hand on their dangerous foes.

Astonishingly, the encounter turned out to be a lopsided affair as Yanga fabulously made light work of Simba SC in an emphatic 5-1 win for the Jangwani Street outfit.

Indeed, the fact that Yanga won the match at a canter was a jaw-dropping development that will doubtlessly set tongues wagging in this city which is wholly gaga about the 'beautiful game'. Consequently, it will be highly fascinating to see if Simba SC can bounce back swiftly from this unforeseen setback, which could adversely affect the club's confidence.

Speaking of confidence, the senior national women's football team, Twiga Stars, must be feeling pretty self-assured at the moment following their recent impressive win against Botswana in the second round of the Paris 2024 Olympic Qualifiers.

After getting the better of Botswana 2-0 in the first leg here in Dar es Salaam, Twiga Stars went head-to-head with their hosts in a potentially tricky second leg at the National Stadium in Gaborone early last week.

Thankfully, despite doing their



Yanga's midfielder, Stephane Aziz Ki (R), dribbles past Simba SC's center-back, Henock Inonga, when the two teams took on each other in a 2023/24 NBC Premier League tie at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Yanga walloped Simba SC 5-1. PHOTO: COURTESY OF

utmost, Botswana proved ultimately incapable of nullifying the deficit and what is more, they even lost the second leg 1-0 thanks to a classy strike by the remarkably gifted Tanzanian attacker, Aisha Masaka.

Significantly, while Twiga Stars are trying their damndest to qualify for the Paris Olympics next year, they are also earnestly attempting to seal a spot at the Women's African Cup of Nations (WAFCON) next year.

Indeed, while juggling both balls in the air presents a unique set of challenges, Twiga Stars seem to be multi-tasking adeptly as their results indicate.

For example, after earning a berth in the third round of the Paris 2024 Olympic Qualifiers, Twiga Stars have also wonderfully advanced to the second round of the WAFCON qualifiers where they will meet West African opponents Togo.

As underscored recently by Twiga Stars'

head coach Bakari Shime, preparation, preparation, and yet even more preparation will have to be the watchwords as our female football personages try to achieve their targets.

Moving on, the news that the Judo Association of Tanzania (JATA) is planning to set up a program for judo instruction in schools must sound like music to the ears of all ardent fans of the martial arts on home soil.

Indeed, the news also represents the giant strides that judo has taken as it is a sport that has been growing at breakneck speed in recent years.

It is hoped then that setting up a program for judo instruction in schools will heighten the chances of future judokas doing well at massive international events.

Whichever way the chips may fall, though, no question that equipping students with judo skills is a heartening development that should be happily welcomed by all quarters.

NBC Bank celebrates Dar derby with customers, introduces special campaign



NBC Bank's Managing Director, Theobald Sabi (L), shares a light moment with the bank's customers and various stakeholders during a luncheon organized by the bank at a hotel in Dar es Salaam on Sunday to honour its top customers and stakeholders. The luncheon preceded their attendance at the highly anticipated Dar es Salaam derby between Simba SC and Young Africans SC. Young Africans SC ultimately secured a decisive victory in the NBC Premier League duel, walloping Simba SC 5-1. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC), the main sponsor of Mainland Tanzania's Premier League, currently termed NBC Premier League, added excitement to the league tie between Simba SC and Young Africans SC, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

The reputed institution invited its customers and various stakeholders to the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium to witness the match, also nicknamed the Dar es Salaam derby.

Young Africans SC, popularly known as Yanga, emerged victorious with a resounding 5-1 win over Simba SC.

The bank also organized various football-related events for its customers and fans across various areas in Dar es Salaam and Mwanza to further ramp up the excitement.

The high-profile league match also served as a perfect opportunity for the institution to officially launch its campaign, dubbed 'Soka Limeitika', to promote and celebrate success and excellence in football through the bank's sponsorship for the league.

The campaign aims to further enhance and support the development of football in Tanzania.

At a significant event held at a hotel in Dar es Salaam on Sunday, NBC Bank Managing Director Theobald Sabi led a short luncheon for some of the bank's

major customers and other stakeholders, followed by a special convoy to Benjamin Mkapa Stadium to watch the match.

During the event, Sabi emphasized the importance of coming together to celebrate the beloved game with important stakeholders.

He added: "We will travel to the stadium together in a special convoy and, after the match, we will return together to the hotel before parting ways, each person going home safely."

Regarding the 'Soka Limeitika' campaign, NBC Bank's Marketing Manager Alina Kimaryo provided further details, highlighting its purpose and the accomplishments it seeks to celebrate.

She emphasized that aside from promoting the love for the sport, the campaign aims to recognize the achievements made through NBC Bank's sponsorship for the league, which is gaining recognition both in Africa and globally.

The official noted: "Since our investment in this league, NBC Bank and football stakeholders have witnessed numerous accomplishments that we can be proud of. One notable achievement is the overall improvement in the quality of our national league."

"Currently, our league ranks fifth in terms of African standards, a significant ascent from the 12th position when we first began our sponsorship," Alina said.

"As a result of our support, clubs participating in the league now have financial stability, allowing matches to be scheduled without the burden of financial constraints," she elaborated.

Alina also highlighted other accomplishments brought about by NBC Bank's sponsorship, such as providing health insurance coverage for players, their families, and coaching staff.

The bank also offered ongoing bus loans to various

clubs battling it out in the league, updated stadium infrastructures, sponsored the NBC Championship League and NBC Youth League, and improved the ticket sales process through the bank's agents located throughout the country.

Alina noted: "It is evident that our sponsorship has directly contributed to increased revenues for clubs. This has enabled clubs to attract talented players, both domestically and internationally, and perform exceptionally in domestic and African inter-club competitions."

"The current excitement surrounding the sport can be attributed to NBC's sponsorship and that is the true essence of 'Soka Limeitika,'" Alina concluded.

Overall, NBC Bank's celebration of the Dar es Salaam derby with the institution's customers and stakeholders demonstrated its unwavering commitment and support for the development of football in Tanzania.

Wydad earn slim advantage over Sundowns in AFL final

CASABLANCA

SUBSTITUTE Anas Serrhat came off the bench to score a thunderous 78th minute winner as Wydad Athletic Club took a slim 2-1 advantage over South Africa's Mamelodi Sundowns in the first leg of the African Football League final played in Casablanca Sunday night.

Abdelmounaim Boutouil had scored from the penalty spot for Sundowns in the 74th minute, cancelling out Rivaldo Coetzee's first half own goal, but it was the home side who had the last laugh with a brilliant winner at a fully packed Mohamed V Complex.

The home side had a good first half and they went into the lead four minutes to the break when Coetzee turned the ball into his own net as he attempted to cut out a cross from Montasser Lahtimi. The winger had gone on a mazy run on the right, taking on his markers before breaking into the box and releasing the low cross.

Lahtimi had been bright all through the opening exchanges, and should have scored early on when he broke into the box, but a heavy touch saw Boutouil cut out his eventual shot.

Yahia Attiat Allah had another chance for Wydad when he took on a long range effort, but Sundowns keeper Ronwen Williams had it well covered.

On the other end, Sundowns' best

chance of the half was off Lesiba Nku who went on a good run after the ball was looped behind the defense, but his eventual shot came off the side netting.

In the second half, Sundowns had a better start as they pinned Wydad in their own half, searching for the equalizer. Khuliso Mudau had a long range effort from a freekick turned behind for a corner as Sundowns searched for the goal.

They were eventually rewarded in the 74th minute off a VAR-intervened penalty. Skipper Yahya Jabrane handled the ball inside the box as he tried to block a Teboho Mokoena shot. In his home country, defender Boutouil stepped up and scored, to level matters.

But that joy lasted only four minutes as Serrhat scored what would be the winner for Wydad, a brilliant shot on the half volley from distance after Marcello Allende's headed clearance fell kindly into his path.

Off a counter, Wydad almost sealed the win in the 86th minute when substitutes Junior Sambou and Hamdou Elhouni combined off a counter attack, but the latter's curling effort came cracking under the bar.

Sundowns put in their everything in the final minutes to try and force out at least a draw, but they couldn't and are now left with a massive task at home next weekend to overturn the deficit.

AGENCIES

Diaz implores group to release father after scoring on Liverpool return

LONDON

COLOMBIAN international Luis Diaz begged the guerrilla group which kidnapped his parents on October 28 to release his father after scoring on his return to action for Liverpool on Friday.

Diaz's mother was rescued within hours of her capture last week, but the search goes on for his father Luis Manuel Diaz.

After heading in a stoppage-time equaliser to prevent Liverpool suffering a shock defeat at Luton in a 1-1 draw on Sunday, Diaz displayed a t-shirt saying "freedom for Dad".

"I ask the ELN for the prompt release of my father, and I ask international organisations to intercede for his freedom," Diaz said in a statement posted on X, formerly Twitter.

On Saturday, the head of Colombia's ELN guerrilla group acknowledged the organisation had made a "mistake" in taking Diaz's parents.

They were abducted in their hometown of Barrancas, near the Venezuelan border.

"Every second, every minute our anguish grows," Diaz added.

"My mother, my brothers and I are desperate, distressed and without words to describe what we are feeling. This suffering will only end when we have him back home.

"I beg you to release him immediately, respecting his integrity and ending this painful wait as soon as possible."

An 83rd-minute substitute, Diaz's big impact came in his first appearance for Liverpool since the kidnapping.

Meanwhile, Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson Becker said playing can bring a "slice of joy" to Luis Diaz after the Colombian scored on his first appearance since his parents were kidnapped.

Diaz's mother was rescued within hours of her capture by a Colombian guerrilla group on October 28, but the search goes on for his father Luis Manuel Diaz.

After heading in a stoppage-time equaliser to prevent Liverpool suffering a shock defeat at Luton in a 1-1 draw on Sunday, Diaz displayed a t-shirt saying "freedom for Dad".

"It says a lot about his character, his strength, not many people imagine what he is going through," Alisson told Sky Sports.

"We are supporting him, we feel his pain but for him it is a different level. Football sometimes in dark moments can bring joy. Football is bringing a slice of joy to Lucho in this moment.

"He came, trained, came to the game and scored a fantastic goal for us. We are with him."

Brazilian international Alisson suffered his own tragedy in February 2021 when his father died in a swimming accident.

And he said he knew from personal experience the release that playing can offer.

"Football always surprises us in a good way. It happened with me when I was going through a difficult moment. When you are on the pitch you are focused on doing the job."

AFP



Inconsistent Barca target early Champions League progress

PARIS

HAMBURG

AFTER two years of misery in the Champions League group stage, Barcelona have the chance to book their place in the knock-out rounds against Shakhtar Donetsk today in Hamburg.

The Spanish champions can guarantee progress with a fourth consecutive victory in Group H, something they have not managed since 2021, when they were knocked out by Kylian Mbappe's Paris Saint-Germain in the last 16.

Undoubtedly Barcelona have improved since Xavi arrived in November that year, winning La Liga last season, but they have still struggled in Europe and lacked the sparkle many, including the coach, wishes to see in their game.

Consecutive 5-0 wins over Real Betis in La Liga and Royal Antwerp in the Champions League in September were the high point of the club's season so far, but they have not produced that football on a consistent basis.

Despite strolling around Shakhtar in the first half of their 2-1 win at home in October, the Catalans did not put the game to bed and suffered in the final stages as the Ukrainians sought a leveller.

It was the same story in the Clasic in La Liga three days after that, except this time Jude Bellingham hit a stunning double to win Real Madrid the game after Ilkay Gundogan's opener.

By contrast, Barcelona beat Real Sociedad 1-0 on Saturday despite being on the back foot through-



Barcelona midfielder Pedri (R) made his return from injury against Real Sociedad and Xavi is hoping he will help the team improve. Agencies

out, creating next to nothing before Ronald Araujo's stoppage time winner. "Football sometimes is inexplicable," said Xavi, admitting the team had to be "self-critical".

Xavi's football has been a far cry from the team's peak under Pep Guardiola, when he was a key player, or even from the dynamic, swashbuckling performances that saw them win the Champions League in 2015 with Luis Enrique at the helm.

The coach has previously said that in the modern era it is no longer possible to be as dominant as in his playing days, but that the team would not stop trying to emulate

their predecessors.

- 'Unacceptable' -

What cannot be allowed, said Xavi, is a performance as flat as against Real Sociedad in San Sebastian. "Today is an example of what we must not do, above all in terms of intensity -- that's something unacceptable," the coach told reporters.

"It cannot be. (But) to win, and win not playing well, is something a champion team does."

In the second half against Real Sociedad, midfielder Pedri made his comeback from injury, having last played in August.

Xavi said he was confident the

Canary Islander's return will help the team play with more fluency.

"Pedri will change the face of the team," said Xavi.

"It's very good news for him and for the group."

Robert Lewandowski returned from an ankle injury in the Clasic as a substitute and started against Real Sociedad but did not contribute much on either occasion.

A return to Germany, where he starred with Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund, might be ideal for him to get back on track -- Barcelona missed his lethal finishing in the first match against Shakhtar.

Xavi may also shift away from the three centre-back formation he has used in the last two games, seemingly designed to ease defensive responsibilities on Joao Cancelo.

The attacking Portuguese right-back has contributed a lot going forward but been a weak link at the back in his first months at the club.

Xavi has not yet found a system he can rely on regularly, perhaps contributing to the team's inconsistency.

It is also unclear what Barca's best line-up is when everybody is fit -- an abundance of central midfielders and breakthrough talents Lamine Yamal and Fermin Lopez are giving Xavi a selection headache, albeit of the positive variety.

By wrapping up qualification today with two matches to spare, the coach will buy himself more time to get his ducks in a row ahead of far more testing fixtures in the Champions League's later rounds.

Donnarumma to enter lion's den on return to crisis-club Milan

MILAN

GIANLUIGI Donnarumma will be given a fierce reception today when he faces crisis-club AC Milan at the San Siro for the first time since jumping ship for Paris Saint-Germain and becoming public enemy number one.

Donnarumma enraged Milan supporters when he left as a free agent just over two years ago, costing the seven-time European champions a hefty transfer fee for a goalkeeper considered at the time one of the best, if not the best, in the world.

Milan have lost other players in that manner over the past few seasons, including Serie A title-winning midfielder Franck Kessie, but Donnarumma hurt the most.

The Italy keeper signed for Milan as a 14-year-old, became a first-team player at 16 and had repeatedly professed his love for the club, making supporters believe that he would remain a fixture in the way Gianluigi Buffon had at Juventus.

Instead he refused to bend on wage demands over months of talks and walked away, replaced by PSG academy product Mike Maignan who was crucial to Milan claiming their first title in 11 years in 2022.

However, Maignan's superb performances between the sticks did not do anything to dull the anger of the betrayal, while Donnarumma has failed to convince fans in Paris where he moved after starring in Italy's European Championship triumph.

"It's tough but you need to distance yourself from it," said Donnarumma to Mediaset last month, talking about criticism.

"We're all human, obviously you read things on social media, but you need to distance yourself from it.

"Mistakes happen, we're not robots but the important thing is to work hard and push forward with the team."

- Milan under pressure -

Donnarumma was inundated with boos and whistles on all three occasions he has played at the San Siro with Italy in the last two years, Milan fans in the crowd making their feelings very clear and leaving no doubt of the reception he would receive should PSG ever come to town.

Last week Milan's hardcore supporters hinted at the welcome they would give Donnarumma when he



Gianluigi Donnarumma will be targeted by AC Milan fans tonight. Agencies

takes the field at the San Siro, publishing on their Instagram page a picture of boxes containing material for a pre-match display which will almost certainly be aimed at the 24-year-old.

An emotional night for Milan fans comes with the team at low ebb, with coach Stefano Pioli and the team booed off the field after Saturday's 1-0 defeat to Udinese which left them six points behind Serie A leaders Inter Milan.

"I have everything I need to do a good job and if the results don't come then it's my fault," said Pioli after Saturday's loss.

"I'll work on how we play, but we can't perform how we did against Udinese."

Pioli's team are yet to score a single goal in their Champions League campaign and have won just one of their last six matches in all competitions since the start of October, with three defeats in that period including last month's 3-0 hammering at the Parc des Princes.

However, despite being bottom of Group F Milan can still qualify for

the last 16 as two points separate them from second-placed Dortmund who host Newcastle in one of Tuesday's two early matches.

Pioli is sweating on the condition of France full-back Theo Hernandez and starting right winger Christian Pulisic, although both should be fit to play unlike Rade Krunic who is out with a thigh injury.

But the paucity of Milan's play in recent weeks and the prospect of a wobbling defence facing Kylian Mbappe has AC fans fearing the last laugh will be for Donnarumma.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**Inconsistent Barca target early
Champions League progress**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Deputy Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Hamis Mohamed Mwinjuma (3 R) and Kilombero District Commissioner Dunstan Kyobya (3rd L) watch as Kilombero Sugar Company Golf Club's Chairman, Fakihi Fadhili, presents a prize to one of the winners of this year's Kilombero Golf Open tournament which took place in Kilombero, Morogoro from October 28-29. Others are Kilombero Sugar Company's Commercial Director, Finbo Butallah (R), and NMB Bank's Kilombero Branch Manager, Nelly Masisi (L). PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

JKT Queens' coach blames defeat to Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies on inexperience

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA'S JKT Queens lost 2-0 to South Africa's Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies in their opening tie of the 2023 CAF Women's Champions League at the Stade Amadou Gon Coulibaly in Côte d'Ivoire on Sunday night.

Second-half goals netted by Lebogang Ramalepe and Refilwe Tholakele condemned the Tanzanian ladies to a 2-0 loss in their opening Group A match.

JKT Queens showed no fear against their illustrious opponents, taking the game to Sundowns Ladies from the start of the match.

In an entertaining first half, JKT Queens appeared to match their illustrious opponents but were let down by a lack of composure in the final third which led to squandering several goal-scoring chances.

They were made to pay when Lebogang fired Sundowns Ladies ahead four minutes to the half-time break.

Refilwe then put the game beyond JKT Queens' reach by clinically beating goalkeeper Najath Abbas Id-rissa in the 75th minute to make it 2-0.

JKT Queens, Mainland Tanzania Women's Premier League champions, are making their continental bow.

The club's head coach Esther Fredy Chaburuma believes her players' inexperience cost them against the 2021 CAF Women's Champions League winners.

Esther, the former senior national women's side 'Twiga Stars' midfielder, believes nerves affected JKT Queens' performance.

She felt pivotal moments went against her youthful Tanzanian team while Sundowns Ladies made the most of the army-owned club's mistakes.

The tactician noted: "Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies capitalized on the opportunities that came their way, which was not the case for us. Experience also played a role... we made rookie mistakes but we will learn from our performance and return on Wednesday with better intentions."

Esther's opposite number, Jerry Tshabalala, echoed similar sentiments, saying JKT Queens gave a good account of themselves in the first half before collapsing after the break.

The South African coach noted: "I am more satisfied with our second half. In the first half, our opponents gave their best and, in the second half, they seemed to run out of steam, allowing us to impose our rhythm."

"For the next match against SC Casablanca, we will give our best as we aim for the top spot in this group," Tshabalala said after the game.

With two more CAF Women's Champions League Group Stage games still to play, Esther believes JKT Queens will learn from testing themselves against the continent's elite in Cote d'Ivoire.

JKT Queens face another stern test tomorrow against hosts, Atletico Abidjan, as the former gears towards quickly bouncing back from the opening round defeat.

Athlético d'Abidjan drew 1-1 with Sporting Club Casablanca in the opening match, making Wednesday's tie a must-win affair for JKT Queens.

Gamondi revels in Yanga's dominant win over Simba SC



Simba SC forward Kibu Denis (4th L) scores to level matters for the outfit during the 2023/24 NBC Premier League game against Yanga which took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. The tie ended with Yanga hammering Simba SC 5-1. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC head coach Miguel Gamondi poured praise on his 'superior' side as the club thrashed rival, Simba SC, 5-1 in Dar es Salaam on Sunday to reclaim the top spot in the 2023/24 NBC Premier League.

The game went into halftime with the two clubs tied at 1-1 thanks to a Dennis Kibu equalizer for Simba SC to cancel Kennedy Musonda's opener for Young Africans, alias Yanga.

However, Gamondi's men blew their opponents away with a remarkable second half that began with a goal scored by Maxi Nzengele, who scored a brace in between a strike from Stephane Aziz Ki, with midfielder Pacome Zouzoua adding a late fifth as Yanga registered an emphatic derby win.

Reacting to the game, Gamondi who was appointed in June to replace Belgo-Tunisian Nasreddine

Nabi- hailed his team's performance and showered praises on his players, fans, and the club's president Hersi Said for the collective effort in the victory.

The Argentinian coach stated: "It is one of the happiest moments in my career because to play like we did and score five goals against a good team like Simba SC is fantastic."

"It is a joy for all these people. It is unbelievable. I have a fantastic group of players, they were unbelievable and played with personality and character. I can't say more," Gamondi noted.

Gamondi stated: "A lot of thanks to the president who believed in this project, believes in us, and helps us a lot. With this kind of football, I think we'll go far."

"We conceded a goal from a corner. I told the player we must be clever and play the football we worked on."

"In the first half we lost easy balls, I told them we needed to be confident and play our kind of football and they did perfectly. We are very fit as well," the gaffer pointed out.

The tactician said: "You see, in the sec-

ond half the fitness was unbelievable and I think we were superior to Simba SC in all aspects, I am more than happy about that."

The victory sees Yanga move back to the first spot in the NBC Premier League, although third-placed Simba SC has a game in hand on the defending champions.

Yanga's next league game comes away at Coastal Union in Tanga tomorrow while Simba SC will return to the pitch on Thursday with another home game against Namungo FC at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam as the former looks to bounce back from the weekend's loss.

Despite ending Simba SC's six-match winning run, Gamondi was quick to play down talk of the Premier League title race, claiming there is still a long way to go before the end of the season.

Gamondi revealed: "There are still too many games to play but this is a really good motivation. We need to keep our feet grounded, continue to work hard, and stay humble. Now we need to travel to Tanga, we are hungry to continue playing and winning."

Robertinho bemoans Kibu injury in Dar derby loss

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC head coach Roberto 'Robertinho' Oliveira admits injury to forward Kibu Denis early in the second half in the club's NBC Premier League defeat to age-old rival, Young Africans SC, affected its performance.

The 24-year-old Kibu has been one of the best performers for the Msimbazi Street-based club this season, filling in with solid performances.

The match, also termed Dar derby, was tied at 1-1 towards the hour mark when Simba SC lost Kibu after the attacker sustained a shoulder injury having fallen in a tangle with Young Africans' goalkeeper Djigui Diarra.

After the incident, Kibu, who has started all seven of Simba SC's league games this season, signaled to the bench and was replaced by Luis Miquissone.

Simba SC's players struggled to adjust and Young Africans, alias Yanga, took advantage, eventually running out 5-1 winners partly thanks to a brace by Maxi Nzengele as well as strikes from Stephane Aziz Ki and Pacome Zouzoua.

Zambian international Kennedy Musonda had given Yanga an early lead just four minutes into the game before Kibu equalized five minutes later in a tight but open first half.

Robertinho said losing Kibu was a big one for his side and suggested match referee Ahmed Arajiga's decisions were not good, especially in the build-up to the second goal in which his players waited in vain for a goal.

The tactician pointed out: "I prefer talking about the first half. Two teams played well in the first half and ended 1-1. In the second half, I was forced to take out Kibu because the goalkeeper attacked him."

"I lost this guy, I am not responsible for the referee's decisions. I respect that but I think it was not good," the Brazilian revealed.

The gaffer stated: "In the second half our players waited for the foul but nothing was given then our opponent scored. I have experienced football so let me just congratulate my opponents."

He said: "In the second half, they had opportunities and scored goals. I lost an important player and needed to change. Once more, congratulations to my opponents because they scored goals to win the derby."

Playing later, Simba SC did have the chance to leapfrog Yanga, which was sitting second, and the then leader, Azam FC, which had won 3-0 away to Ihefu SC in Mbeya on Saturday.

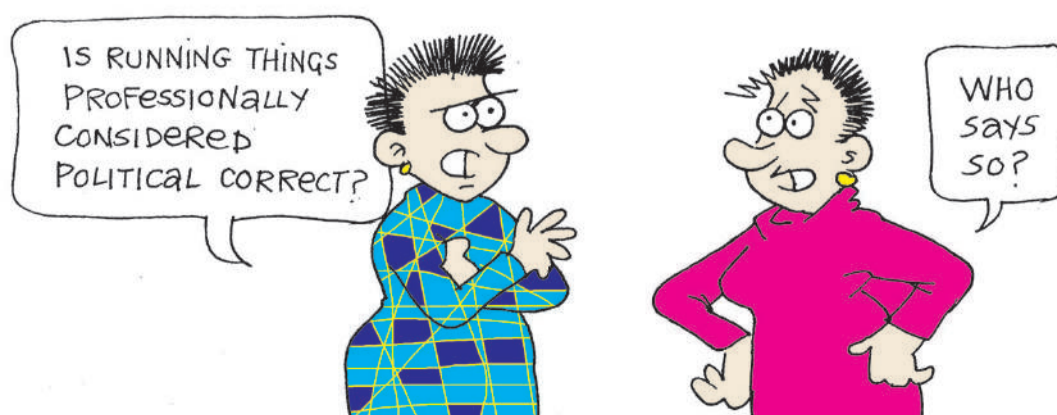
However, this defeat sees Simba SC stay third, although the squad has a game in hand following the African Football League last month.

The results ended Simba SC's 29-game unbeaten run in the league. It was also the side's first loss of the 2023/24 season having played 13 games in all competitions so far.



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Flexibles by David Chikoko



TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kati Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 SPORTS (I)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zite Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kati Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (I)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zite Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shopping process.

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM