



GENDER



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TMA projecting 'largely below normal' rains in most areas

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) has urged farmers to plant early and adopt best practices for managing soil moisture, as its climate outlook for the end year and long rains (November to April) predicts below-normal rainfall and normal in some regions.

Dr Ladislaus Chang'a, the TMA acting director general, said at a press briefing yesterday that largely below-normal rains are expected in Kigoma, Tabora, Katavi, Rukwa, Songwe, Singida and Dodoma regions, northern and eastern parts of Lindi, and northern areas of Mbeya and Iringa regions.

He urged agro-extension officers to focus on irrigation and water conservation as well as strengthening agricultural infrastructure, implementing timely pest control strategies to mitigate potential damage for insufficient rains.

Conversely, basically normal and even above-normal rains are anticipated in Njombe, Ruvuma, Mtwara, southern and western parts of Lindi, plus southern areas of Mbeya, Iringa and Morogoro regions, he said.



TMA recommended that agricultural infrastructure be strengthened, plant diseases and pests be promptly managed to mitigate potential damages

Rains have partially started in certain areas during the fourth week of October, where Kigoma region is especially likely to have early rains, "gradually spreading to other unimodal areas in November and reaching Ruvuma in December," he explained.

The second half of the season (February-April 2025) is expected to be wetter than the first half (November 2024-January 2025), he said, noting that the outlook suggests that regular agricultural activities would not be under much pressure in the coming rainy season.

Rainfall is projected to commence in the first and second weeks of November 2024 in Lindi and Mtwara, with Ruvuma experiencing rainfall in the second and third weeks of December, he said, elaborating that rains are expected to cease in the first week of next May in Ruvuma and Mtwara, and late May in Lindi.

He cautioned that excessive soil moisture and flooding may occur, negatively impacting crops and farm management, particularly in areas predicted to receive largely above-normal rains.

"Increased water levels in dams and river flows are expected, which may lead to flooding," he asserted, urging that communities in flood-prone regions be enabled to take appropriate precautionary measures.

The seasonal rains are particularly no-

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TRA taking proactive tax claims approach

The meeting would provide investors with insights into new opportunities available in the country

By Henry Mwangonde



President Samia Suluhu Hassan participates in an international dialogue on agriculture in Africa. The event was held in Des Moines, Iowa, in the US on Wednesday. It brought together various leaders from across Africa as well as US government officials and representatives of the private sector, particularly agriculture. Photo: State House

A MULTI stop procedure is being introduced in tax recovery exercises that prioritizes discussions with investors before resorting to drastic measures, the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has declared.

Yusuf Mwenda, the TRA commissioner general, issued this affirmation at a dialogue forum for foreign investors, in Dar es Salaam yesterday, noting that issuing demand notices would only be taken up later.

Explaining that the changes are meant to enhance the business climate, he said that TRA was determined to improve the tax recovery regulatory framework to ensure that it is more business-friendly.

The initiative aims to foster investor confidence and address grievances effectively, he said, assuring investors that from now it will take care on procedures followed when following up on tax claims or recovery.

TRA was paying attention to investors to gather feedback and design vital improvements that support business expectations, a proactive approach seeking to encourage reinvestment and long-term partnerships, he said, underlining that this prospect is vital for the country's economic growth.

TRA will approach tax liabilities using fair and transparent procedures, citing the use of an un-evidenced notice as a last resort measure," he explained, reiterating intentions to engage in discussions before taking any drastic recovery actions.

Under the redesigned framework, investors will be provided with a hearing to contest assessments they might deem unfair, while TRA officials are expected to be receptive to such concerns and "willing to adjust assessments based on valid justifications."

He reiterated TRA's commitment to uphold the law, stating that while the agency is not above the law it will comply with the law and adhere to due procedures. TRA is also taking steps to improve operational efficiency with an integrated domestic revenue administration system, abbreviated as IDRS.

It is designed to minimize direct interactions between taxpayers and TRA officials, streamline tax operations and reduce bureaucratic delays, when it starts to oper-

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JKCI, NMB Bank tie up 1bn/- MoU

By Guardian Reporter

THE Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) and NMB Bank yesterday signed a four-year memorandum of understanding (MoU) tying up 1bn/- for the provision of free cardiac treatment for underprivileged children.

JKCI executive director Dr Peter Kisenge said at the signing ceremony in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the pact is extended for four years, where the bank



...In the past, 95 percent of heart patients had to travel abroad for treatment

provides 250m/- annually in financial support for children with heart conditions needing care at JKCI.

The partnership aligns with the bank's corporate social investment (CSI) strategy, intended to ease the burden on parents of children born with heart complications.

More than 13,800 children are born with heart conditions, many of whom face life-threatening risks due to the

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Niobium production set to begin soon, MPs told

"So, once these discussions are finalised and the agreement is signed, they will proceed with relocating the prison, compensating residents and establishing the EPZ area"

By Augusta Njoji, Dodoma

TANZANIA will soon start niobium production, one among rare minerals used in electron industries, substantially needed in manufacturing aircraft and rocket engines.

Dr Steven Kiruswa, the Minerals deputy minister, made this affirma-

tion in the National Assembly yesterday, responding to a question by Oran Njeza (Mbeya Rural) who raised an issue over the time frame when Niobium mining and Ferroniobium production would begin in Mbeya District.

Niobium is also used in building drilling equipment for oil and gas,

plus an assortment of motor vehicles, all of which will be in view as the niobium mining project at Panda Hill, run by Panda Hill (T) Ltd (PHTL) begins work, he said.

It is expected to produce niobium-based products, including Ferroniobium as it is derived from niobium processing, he said, noting that the government has already started discussions with Panda Hill to sign a share distribution pact.

The government will acquire shares in the project, alongside other economic benefits, he said, highlighting that in line with the Mining Act (Chapter 123 of the laws), holders of medium

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Niobium production set to begin soon, MPs told

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and large-scale mining licenses are required to provide the government with non-dilutable shares of not less than 16 per cent.

Compensation payments for those affected by the project are being made, and once completed, building the niobium processing plant will start.

In a follow-up question, the MP affirmed that the investor is ready to meet all the requirements, including investing \$250m, demanding how quickly the government will enable the firm to receive their export processing zone (EPZ) license to start building the plant.

There is an area where residents need to be compensated, he said, demanding the time frame for signing the contract with the investor so

as to start work, to which the deputy minister acknowledged.

Niobium production is vital in boosting the economy, he said, noting ongoing discussions to finalize the agreement, where a meeting in Arusha is slated for today (Friday) to finalize elements of the contract structure.

The presumptive contract includes three key aspects, namely the government's participation in niobium production, participation in the processing plant, and the establishment of a subsidiary company as legally required.

"So, once these discussions are finalized and the agreement is signed, they will proceed with relocating the prison, compensating residents and establishing the EPZ area," he added.

TMA makes 'largely below normal' rainfall predictions

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ticeable in the western, central, south-western highlands, southern region, southern coast and the southern part of Morogoro, where a largely unabated rainfall regime begins in November up to April or May of the following year, he said.

The relevant agencies need to ensure that farmers are in a position to prepare their fields, plant, weed and utilize appropriate inputs taking note of potential soil moisture

conditions, he stated.

"They should apply best practices and technologies to prevent waterlogging, conserve water and minimize erosion and nutrient loss caused by prolonged water stagnation or flooding," the director underlined.

TMA recommended that agricultural infrastructure be strengthened, plant diseases and pests be promptly managed to mitigate potential damages, he added.

TRA taking proactive tax claims approach

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ate in January, he said.

Efforts to recognize and facilitate tax incentives for investors were being pursued, he said, citing a joint technical team established to address incentives, that investors face no hurdles in taking up such benefits.

TRA is committed to overseeing an attractive investment climate, thus it keeps its doors open to serve investors so that they prosper in their business, he stated, while Dr Binlith Mahenge, the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) board chairman, underlined that the government views the private sector as the driver of economic growth.

"The private sector will deliver jobs, transform labour markets, bring new technologies, open more opportunities and boost our socio-

economic development," he stated, stressing the government's role in facilitating private sector growth.

This is done through effective legislation, transparent taxation systems and a conducive business environment, he stated, while Gilead Teri, the TIC executive director, described the forum as an opportunity for investors to discuss issues affecting businesses.

The dialogue is expected to be constructive, with businessmen and women sharing experiences and ideas, which will be addressed to the government to pursue a course of reform aimed at making Tanzania a more investor-friendly country, he said.

The meeting would provide investors with insights into new opportunities available in the country, he added.

Partnerships key in achieving gender equality – UN official

By Guardian Reporter

THE head of the United Nations Resident Coordinator's office, Shabnam Mallick, has emphasised the vital role of partnerships, policy initiatives and collective action in advancing gender equality as a cornerstone of economic empowerment and sustainability.

She made the remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch of Serengeti Breweries Limited's (SBL) 2024 Sustainability Report.

Themed 'Championing Inclusion and Diversity' the report underscores SBL's commitment to creating an inclusive environment where individuals from diverse backgrounds can thrive. It focuses on breaking barriers and driving positive impacts within communities, suppliers and partners.

According to her, through transformative solutions developed through partnerships and coordinated efforts, women's engagement and participation in economic activities will increase, hence improving their lives.

Mallick expressed her appreciation for the strides SBL has made in promoting gender equality and supporting women in leadership roles.

"It's encouraging to see the company set targets for spending on diverse suppliers and actively track the expenditure. These intentional efforts are crucial for achieving our long-term sustainability goals and

ensuring that our progress benefits everyone," she said.

SBL has earmarked significant resources for community investment through its Spirit of Progress, the action plan aimed at fostering sustainable communities in the regions it serves. The event gathered hundreds of stakeholders to discuss strategies for enhancing collaboration to promote gender equality and economic empowerment in Tanzania, addressing key challenges, opportunities and necessary policy interventions.

Obinna Anyalebechi, SBL Managing Director, highlighted the company's ongoing impact on inclusive growth and economic empowerment for underrepresented communities in Tanzania.

"Our inclusion and diversity efforts reflect our commitment to empowering marginalized groups, including women, children and persons with disabilities, enabling them to fully seize socioeconomic opportunities," he said.

"I am proud to report that nearly 40 per cent of our farmer-partners this year were women and persons with disabilities who grow sorghum, a key ingredient in our beer production. Through our partnership with Sightsavers, we have supported over 200 women and persons with disabilities in Singida Region, helping them cultivate sorghum for supply to SBL."



President Samia Suluhu Hassan exchanges greetings with Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) CEO Alice Patterson Albright in Des Moines, Iowa, US, on Wednesday shortly before talks aimed at enhancing and strengthening bilateral links. MCC is a foreign aid agency established by the US Congress in 2004. It is separate from the US State Department and USAID – and partners with developing countries committed to just and democratic governance, economic freedom and investing in their populations. Photo: State House

JKCI, NMB Bank sign up 1bn/- MoU

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high costs of cardiac treatment, he said, expressing gratitude for the support.

The MoU signifies another milestone in the often renewed partnership, he stated, acknowledging considerable government efforts in the past few years which has helped JKCI to excel at the regional level.

"This new MoU marks a new dawn in our partnership with NMB Bank. It will help enhance service delivery and bring our services

closer to grassroots communities," the top medic declared, underlining that the mutual outreach program has reached 17 regions this year, providing care to 17,000 heart patients.

Abdulmarik Molle, a JKCI trustee, affirmed that over 1,500 children diagnosed with heart conditions and listed for treatment had the bank organize a fundraising gala on November 2, 2023, to obtain the needed support.

"In the past, 95 percent of heart patients had to travel abroad for

treatment. This trend has shifted, with 95 percent now receiving treatment locally," he said, while Ruth Zaipuna, the NMB Bank chief executive officer, said the MoU is a milestone, providing new hope for children with heart conditions.

"Cardiac treatment costs are exceptionally high, and while the government covers 70 percent of the expenses, we feel privileged as a bank to complement the government's efforts by addressing the remaining 30 percent, about 4m/- per child," she stated.

The bank will empower JKCI cardiac specialists to run awareness programmes for the bank's key stakeholders, including employees and customers, she said, hailing JKCI and Heart Team Africa Foundation (HTAF) for their collaboration.

Their work in advancing cardiac treatment was exceptional, while the bank's commitment to support the institute was unwavering. Other institutions need to contribute to exceptional healthcare sector efforts, she added.



Works ministry permanent secretary Aisha Amour (in head-cloth) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday viewing some of the products displayed at one of the pavilions at an exhibition held on the sidelines of the just-ended 5th edition of the Annual Meeting of the Architects and Quantity Surveyors Registration Board. Photo courtesy of Works ministry

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Malawi First Lady in town, impressed by IVF facility

MALAWIAN First Lady Monica Chakwera has expressed her admiration of fertility services provided by the Kairuki Green IVF Centre in Dar es Salaam and expressed hopes that similar services would be introduced in Malawi.

She shared her thoughts yesterday after visiting the centre and learned about various services offered.

"The centre has been a lifeline for many women unable to conceive naturally, restoring hope and joy to those facing infertility

issues," she said.

"I learned that since its establishment in 2022, a total of 85 children have been born through the service. This is wonderful news as many previously had to seek the services abroad. Having them available here is a good achievement," she added.

She expressed her desire to establish a similar centre in Malawi to reduce the financial strain on families who currently

travel abroad for such services. She also plans to organize a fundraising campaign to help women with fertility challenges to access treatment.

Dr Clementina Kairuki, Director of Kairuki Green IVF Centre, noted that since the centre's inception, they have successfully helped many women, resulting in 85 births, with expectations to reach 100 births by the end of the year.

She highlighted that the

centre has gained international recognition, receiving quality certification from the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and has attracted clients from countries such as DRC, Comoros, United States, the UK and Sweden.

"Although the global success rate for such treatments is around 45 to 50 percent, we have achieved a success rate of 63 percent," she said.



Business under way yesterday at one of the booths at an indigenous seed exhibition organised by Envirocare with support from the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation in progress at Italagwe village in Gairo District, Morogoro Region. The focus was on enhancing food security, improving nutrition and building resilience to climate change. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt seeking WWF's collaboration to back communities economically

By Guardian Correspondent, Cali

TANZANIA has urged World Wildlife Fund (WWF) to empower communities in the country economically to help address environmental degradation.

Dr Ashatu Kijaji, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), made the appeal on Wednesday during a meeting with Dr Lin Li, WWF Director of Policy and Advocacy, on the sidelines of the 16th Heads of State Conference on

Environmental Conservation in Cali, Colombia.

Dr Kijaji, accompanied by a Tanzanian delegation, emphasized the importance of empowering communities to tackle root causes of environmental degradation.

"As we know, communities face challenge of low income. So, it is the right time for WWF to invest in ways for our people to counter the impacts of environmental degradation," she said.

Dr Kijaji also took the opportunity to commend WWF for

its significant efforts in conserving Tanzania's environment across various regions.

In response, Dr Li praised Tanzania for establishing National Biodiversity Targets which he said would make a substantial contribution to reducing biodiversity loss. He also commended the Tanzanian government through the Vice President's Office for implementing regulations in 2019 to control plastic bag usage, addressing the challenges posed by now-banned

plastic bags in the country. However, Dr Li encouraged Tanzania to increase its international influence and momentum in ongoing global discussions on establishing International Agreement on Plastic Management (Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee on Plastic, ICNP).

Dr Kijaji is attending the 16th Heads of State Conference on Environmental Conservation, which began on October 21, 2024 and is set to conclude today.

Government assures women contractors of greater assistance and swift payments

By Getrude Mbago

THE government has reaffirmed its commitment to creating an enabling environment for women including those in the construction sector to ensure that no one is left behind in the journey towards national development.

Aisha Amour, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works, made the pledge in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening the annual general conference of Tanzania Women Contractors Association (TWCA).

She said the government is committed to promoting and ensuring gender equality in the sector and will continue to enhance opportunities for women contractors in major projects.

She pledged that the ministry will work closely with TWCA and Contractors Registration Board (CRB) to ensure women benefit from 30 percent special opportunities in public procurement.

"We will streamline payment processes in order to reduce project disruptions and support local contractors," she said.

She emphasized the importance of TWCA as a vital platform for building local capacity and addressing challenges faced by women contractors.

"TWCA has distinguished itself in uniting and empowering women in the construction industry," she stated. "The collaboration with banks to facilitate loans is a monumental step in boosting our economy and creating job opportunities."

Judith Odunga, TWCA President,

asked the government to grant big construction tenders to women contractors, including major bridges and tarmac roads as they have capacity to implement them effectively.

She said that despite the increase of women contractors in the construction industry who produce quality works, the majority of them still face various challenges, including capital and equipment.

She also addressed pressing issues such as delayed payments which have plagued the construction sector, calling on the government to ensure that it pays contractors on time to facilitate smooth operations.

She said the association will work to ensure there is an equitable and enabling construction industry where women effectively participate and are supported to grow.

"The association will continue to facilitate the success of women in Tanzania's construction industry by uniting our voices, knowledge and resources through the passion of our members and the women we inspire," she said.

“We will streamline payment processes in order to reduce project disruptions and support local contractors”



Participants of Mama Lisha 2024 competition organised by East Africa Television and East Africa Radio and held in Dar es Salaam yesterday pose for a photo. The event was jointly sponsored by Airtel Tanzania, Mwendaopole Real Estate Company Ltd, Kilimanjaro Drinking Water, CRDB Bank, Kilimanjaro Institute of Technology and Management, Jaden Home Store, National College of Tourism, Eco Africa and Poa Supermarket. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendaopole

ATCL entices customers with 20pc rebate on two key routes

AIR Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) has unveiled its latest campaign dubbed 'Fly More, Pay Less' aimed at enhancing travel options for customers flying between Zanzibar and Dubai as well as Dar es Salaam and Johannesburg.

The initiative coincides with the airline's upcoming resumption of flights to Johannesburg, scheduled to begin on November 30 this year, as part of its commitment to offering competitive pricing and superior service.

In a statement released yesterday by the company's Public Relations and Communication Unit, Air Tanzania announced a 20 fare reduction for passengers traveling

between Dubai and Zanzibar and between Dar es Salaam and Dubai.

The offer is effective from October 30, 2024, and is designed to attract more travellers to the popular destinations.

Flights to Dubai will be available three times a week: on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, reflecting strong demand for travel to this idyllic location.

To accommodate the growing interest, Air Tanzania plans to enhance its Dubai route, transitioning it to a daily service. The change aims to provide greater

flexibility and convenience for passengers.

"To ensure a premium travel experience, Air Tanzania will allow economy class passengers to check in three pieces of baggage, each weighing up to 23kg while business class passengers will enjoy an allowance of four pieces, also each weighing up to 23-kg. This policy highlights the airline's dedication to prioritizing passenger comfort and addressing their needs during travel," the statement reads.

The airline expressed pride in meeting demand for the

Johannesburg route, stating that passengers flying to and from Johannesburg can expect the same high level of comfort on its state-of-the-art B737-9 MAX aircraft as on other international routes.

Direct flights to Johannesburg will initially operate five times a week: on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

The service will complement Air Tanzania's extensive network, providing seamless connections to a variety of destinations, including Mumbai, Dubai, Nairobi, Zanzibar, Kilimanjaro and Mwanza.

Majaliwa directs councils to avail resources to local govt authorities

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed district councils and regional administrative secretaries to ensure councils allocate and channel funds to local governments for implementation of development projects in line with government financial guidelines and local government laws.

He added that councils failing to follow the directives by not allocating development funds to local governments will face legal action.

Majaliwa made the directive yesterday in the National Assembly in response to a question by Asia Halamga (Special Seats) who asked about the government's stance on councils that do not allocate part of their internal revenue collections to local governments, contrary to financial guidelines and local government finance laws.

In his response, Majaliwa stated that council assemblies have the authority to plan, allocate and build development infrastructure, ensuring that councils dedicate funds to implement projects according to the guidelines.

He said that the government would take action against officials in councils that disregard directives from council assemblies when implementing development project plans.

"When we conduct our field visits, we will follow up. If a council is found to be non-compliant, we will demand an explanation. If the reasons are unsatisfactory, strict action will be taken against the council and officials who did not adhere to the council assembly directives," he said.

The guidelines require district councils to allocate 20 percent of internal revenue, municipal councils 40 percent and cities 60 percent for implementation of development projects at the local government level.

Majaliwa added that the government received reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Local Governments indicating that some councils do not follow the guidelines. Consequently, various measures have been taken, including empowering council assemblies with the authority to collect, allocate and budget funds for local development works.

"The council assembly has this authority and is responsible for taking initial steps while the regional administrative secretary oversees the steps once they are implemented based on reports within their regions," he said.

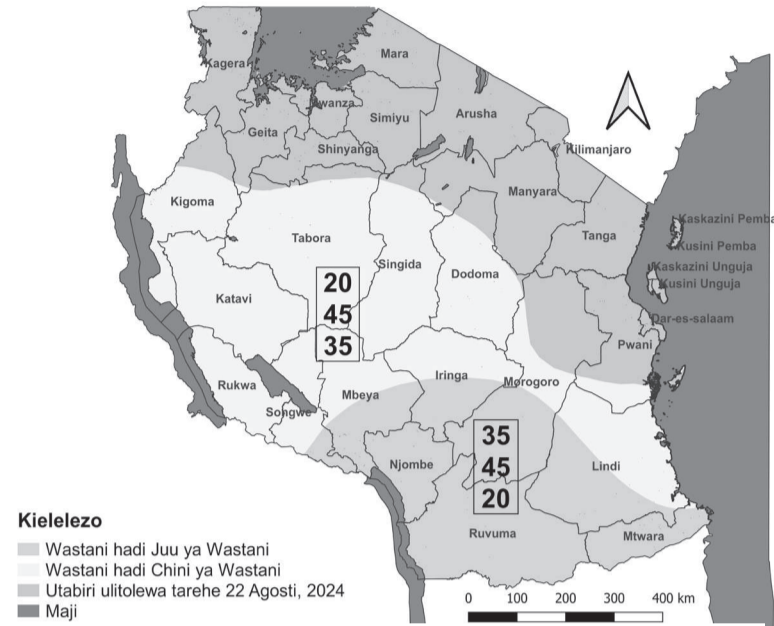
He also instructed ministries to take action against council officials found to be non-compliant when verifying project implementation.

“...If the reasons are unsatisfactory, strict action will be taken against the council and officials who did not adhere to the council assembly directives”



JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA WIRAZA YA UCHUKUZI MAMLAKA YA HALI YA HEWA

UTABIRI WA MVUA ZA MSIMU (NOVEMBA, 2024 – APRILI, 2025)



Kielelezo 1. Mwelekeo wa Mvua za Msimu (Novemba, 2024 hadi Aprili, 2025)

Dondoo muhimu za mvua za Msimu (Novemba, 2024 – Aprili, 2025)

Taarifa hii inatoa uchambuzi wa mwenendo wa mifumo ya hali ya hewa na mwelekeo wa mvua za Msimu kwa maeneo yanayopata msimu mmoja wa mvua kwa mwaka (kanda ya magharibi, kati, nyanda za juu kusini magharibi, kusini mwa nchi, ukanda wa pwani ya kusini pamoja na maeneo yaliyopo kusini mwa mkoa wa Morogoro) katika kipindi cha miezi ya Novemba, 2024 hadi Aprili, 2025. Ushauri na tahadhari umetolewa kwa wadau wa sekta mbalimbali wanaotumia taarifa za hali ya hewa katika utekelezaji wa majukumu yao kama vile kilimo na usalama wa chakula, mifugo na uvuvi, maliasili, wanyamapori na utalii, nishati na maji, usafirishaji (nchi kavu, kwenye maji na angani), mamlaka za miji, afya, sekta binafsi pamoja na mmenjimenti za maafa. Muhtasari wa mwelekeo wa mvua hizo na athari zake ni kama ifuatavyo:

a) Mwelekeo wa mvua za Msimu kwa maeneo yanayopata msimu mmoja wa mvua kwa mwaka:

(i) Mvua za Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani zinatarajiwa katika maeneo ya mikoa ya Kigoma, Tabora, Katavi, Rukwa, Songwe, Singida na Dodoma; kaskazini na mashariki mwa mkoa wa Lindi, na kaskazini mwa mikoa ya Mbeya na Iringa. Aidha, mvua za Wastani hadi Juu ya wastani zinatarajiwa katika mikoa ya Njombe, Ruvuma, Mtwara, maeneo ya kusini na magharibi mwa mkoa wa Lindi, kusini mwa mikoa ya Mbeya, Iringa na Morogoro.

(ii) Mvua zinatarajiwa kuanza wiki ya nne ya mwezi Oktoba, 2024 katika mkoa wa Kigoma na kusambaa katika maeneo mengine yanayopata mvua za Msimu mwezi Novemba, 2024 na mwisho katika mkoa wa Ruvuma Disemba, 2024.

(iii) Kipindi cha nusu ya pili ya msimu (Februari – Aprili, 2025) kinatarajiwa kuwa na mvua nyingi ikilinganishwa na nusu ya kwanza (Novemba, 2024 – Januari, 2025).

b) Athari na ushauri

(i) Shughuli za kilimo zinatarajiwa kuendelea kama ilivyo kawaida katika maeneo mengi katika mvua za Msimu 2024/2025. Hata hivyo, vipindi vya unyevu wa kuzidi kiasi pamoja na mafuriko vinaweza kujitokeza na kuathiri ukujaji wa mazao na miundombinu ya kilimo, hususan katika maeneo yanayotarajiwa kupata mvua za Wastani hadi Juu ya Wastani.

(ii) Kina cha maji katika mito na mabwaa kinatarajiwa kuongezeka, hali inayoweza kusababisha mafuriko, hasa katika maeneo yanayothiriwa na mafuriko.

(iii) Jamii zinazokaa katika maeneo yenye hatari ya mafuriko zinashauriwa kuchukua hatua stahiki.

1. MWENENDO WA MVUA ZA VULI, 2024 NA MWELEKEO WA MVUA ZA MSIMU (NOVEMBA, 2024 HADI APRILI, 2025)

1.1 Mwenendo wa Mvua za Vuli (Oktoba-Disemba), 2024

Msimu wa Vuli kwa miezi ya Oktoba hadi Disemba, 2024 katika maeneo yanayopata msimu miwili ya mvua kwa mwaka (Mikoa ya Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Mara, Manyara, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Dar es Salaam, kaskazini mwa mkoa wa Morogoro, Pwani (ikijumuisha visiwa vya Mafia) pamoja na Zanzibar (visiwa vya Unguja na Pemba)) utabiri wake ulitolewa tarehe 22 Agosti, 2024. Mvua za Chini ya Wastani hadi Wastani zilitarajiwa katika maeneo mengi ya pwani ya kaskazini na nyanda za juu kaskazini mashariki. Aidha, kwa maeneo ya kanda ya Ziwa Victoria mvua zilitarajiwa kuwa za Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani. Msimu wa Vuli, 2024 ulitarajiwa kutawaliwa na vipindi virefu vya ukavu na mtawanyiko wa mvua usioridhisha. Aidha, mvua hizo zilitarajiwa kuanza kwa kusuasua wiki ya nne ya mwezi Septemba, 2024 katika ukanda wa Ziwa Victoria na kusambaa katika maeneo mengine yanayopata mvua za Vuli kati ya wiki ya pili na ya tatu ya mwezi Oktoba, 2024.

Mvua hizo zimeanza katika baadhi ya maeneo ya ukanda wa Ziwa Victoria na pwani ya kaskazini kama ilivyotabiriwa. Hata hivyo, maeneo ya nyanda za juu kaskazini mashariki yameendelea kutawaliwa na vipindi virefu vya ukavu. Aidha, utabiri wa mvua za Vuli unatarajiwa kuendelea kama ilivyotabiriwa.

1.2 Mwelekeo wa mvua za Msimu (Novemba, 2024 hadi Aprili, 2025)

Mvua za Msimu ni mahususi katika maeneo ya magharibi mwa nchi, kanda ya kati, nyanda za juu kusini magharibi, kusini mwa nchi, ukanda wa pwani ya kusini pamoja na maeneo ya kusini mwa mkoa wa Morogoro. Maeneo haya yanapata msimu mmoja wa mvua kwa mwaka, unaoanza mwezi Novemba na kuisha kati ya mwezi Aprili na Mei ya mwaka unaofuata.

Kutokana na mifumo ya hali ya hewa inayotarajiwa (kama ilivyoielezwa katika kipengele cha 2 cha taarifa hii), mvua za Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani zinatarajiwa katika maeneo ya mikoa ya Kigoma, Tabora, Katavi, Rukwa, Songwe, Singida na Dodoma; kaskazini na mashariki mwa mkoa wa Lindi, na kaskazini mwa mikoa ya Mbeya na Iringa. Aidha, mvua za Wastani hadi Juu ya Wastani zinatarajiwa katika mikoa ya Njombe, Ruvuma, Mtwara, maeneo ya kusini na magharibi mwa mkoa wa Lindi, kusini mwa mikoa ya Mbeya, Iringa na Morogoro. Mvua nyingi zinatarajiwa katika kipindi cha nusu ya pili ya msimu (Februari – Aprili, 2025) ikilinganishwa na nusu ya kwanza (Novemba, 2024 – Januari, 2025). Maelezo ya kina juu ya mwelekeo wa mvua hizo za msimu ni kama ifuatavyo:

i. Kanda ya Magharibi: (Mikoa ya Tabora, Katavi na Kigoma):

Mvua za Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani zinatarajiwa katika maeneo mengi ya kanda ya Magharibi. Mvua zimeshaanza wiki ya nne ya mwezi Oktoba, 2024 katika mkoa wa Kigoma na zinatarajiwa kusambaa katika mikoa mingine katika wiki ya kwanza ya mwezi Novemba, 2024. Mvua zinatarajiwa kuisha wiki ya kwanza ya mwezi Mei, 2025.

ii. Kanda ya Kati: (Mikoa ya Singida na Dodoma):

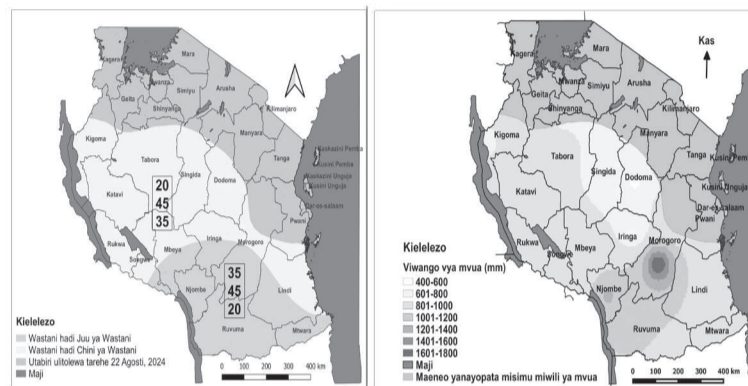
Mvua katika maeneo haya zinatarajiwa kuwa za Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani na zinatarajiwa kuanza wiki ya pili na ya tatu ya mwezi Novemba, 2024 na kuisha wiki ya nne mwezi Aprili na wiki ya kwanza ya mwezi Mei, 2025.

iii. Nyanda za juu kusini magharibi (Mikoa ya Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Iringa, Njombe, pamoja na maeneo ya kusini mwa mkoa wa Morogoro):

Mvua za Wastani hadi Juu ya Wastani zinatarajiwa katika mkoa wa Njombe, kusini mwa mikoa ya Mbeya, Iringa na Morogoro; na Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani katika mikoa ya Rukwa na Songwe pamoja na kaskazini mwa mikoa ya Mbeya na Iringa. Mvua zinatarajiwa kuanza wiki ya kwanza na ya pili ya mwezi Novemba, 2024 na kuisha wiki ya kwanza ya mwezi Mei, 2025.

iv. Pwani ya kusini na maeneo ya kusini mwa nchi: (Mikoa ya Lindi, Mtwara na Ruvuma):

Mvua zinatarajiwa kuwa za Wastani hadi Juu ya Wastani katika mikoa ya Ruvuma, Mtwara pamoja na maeneo ya kusini na magharibi mwa mkoa wa Lindi. Katika maeneo ya kaskazini na mashariki mwa mkoa wa Lindi, mvua zinatarajiwa kuwa za Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani. Mvua zinatarajiwa kuanza wiki ya kwanza na ya pili ya mwezi Novemba, 2024 kwa mikoa ya Lindi na Mtwara na wiki ya tatu ya mwezi Disemba, 2024 kwa mikoa wa Ruvuma. Mvua zinatarajiwa kuisha wiki ya kwanza ya mwezi Mei, 2025 kwa mikoa ya Ruvuma na Mtwara; na wiki ya nne ya mwezi Mei, 2025 kwa mikoa wa Lindi.



Kielelezo 2: Kushoto: Mwelekeo wa mvua za Msimu (Novemba, 2024 – Aprili, 2025) na Kulia: Wastani wa muda mrefu (miaka 30) wa mvua za Msimu (1991-2020).

Angalizo 1: Izingatiwe kuwa matukio ya vipindi vya mvua kubwa yanaweza kujitokeza hata katika maeneo yanayotarajiwa kupata mvua za chini ya wastani.

Angalizo 2: Mwelekeo wa mvua ulitolewa hapa umezingatia zaidi kipindi cha mvua za Msimu (miezi sita) na hali ya mvua katika maeneo makubwa. Hivyo, viashirika vinavyochangia mwenendo wa mifumo ya mvua na mabadiliko ya muda mfuvi vitazingatia katika utabiri wa kila siku na utabiri wa kila mwezi. Watumiaji wa taarifa hii wanashauriwa kufuatilia taarifa za utabiri wa saa 24, siku 10, mwezi na tahadhari kama zinavyotolewa na Mamlaka ya Hali ya Hewa Tanzania (TMA).

2. MIFUMO YA HALI YA HEWA

Katika msimu wa mvua wa NDJFMA 2024/2025, joto la bahari la chini ya wastani linatarajiwa kuendelea katika eneo la tropiki kati ya Bahari ya Pasifiki, hali inayoshirika uwepo wa hali La Niña hafifu. Vilevile, katika msimu wa mvua wa NDJFMA, joto la bahari la juu kidogo ya wastani linatarajiwa kuendelea katika eneo la mashariki mwa Bahari ya Hindi wakati katika eneo la magharibi mwa bahari ya Hindi, joto la bahari la wastani linatarajiwa hususan katika kipindi cha nusu ya kwanza ya msimu (Novemba, 2024 - Januari, 2025). Hali hii inatarajiwa kupunguza kasi ya msukumo wa unyevunyevu kutoka Bahari ya Hindi kuelekea nchini katika kipindi cha nusu ya kwanza ya msimu. Kwa upande mwingine, joto la bahari la wastani hadi juu kidogo ya wastani linatarajiwa katika eneo la mashariki mwa Bahari ya Atlantiki (pwani ya Angola). Kwa ujumla, hali hii ya joto la bahari inatarajiwa kudhoofisha mifumo isababishayo mvua katika maeneo mengi yapatayo msimu mmoja wa mvua kwa mwaka, hasa katika nusu ya kwanza ya msimu.

Aidha, uwepo wa migandamizo midogo ya hewa katika maeneo ya Rasi ya Msombini na mashariki mwa kisiwa cha Madagascar unatarajiwa kuimarika hususan katika kipindi cha nusu ya pili ya msimu. Uwepo wa migandamizo hiyo midogo ya hewa katika maeneo hayo unatarajiwa kuvuta uwepo wenye unyevunyevu kutoka misitu ya Congo kupitia katika baadhi ya maeneo nchini. Hali hii inatarajiwa kuimarisha mifumo isababishayo mvua katika maeneo mengi yapatayo msimu mmoja wa mvua kwa mwaka, kusini na maeneo jirani.

3. ATHARI NA USHAURI

Athari na ushauri umeandaliwa na Mamlaka ya Hali ya Hewa kwa kushirikiana na wataalam wa sekta husika katika mkutano wa wadau wa hali ya hewa uliofanyika Dodoma tarehe 24 Oktoba, 2024.

a) Kilimo na Usalama wa Chakula

Upatikanaji wa maji na hali ya unyevunyevu wa kutosha kwa shughuli za kilimo vinatarajiwa katika baadhi ya maeneo ya nchi yanayopata msimu mmoja wa mvua kwa mwaka. Hata hivyo hali ya upungufu wa unyevunyevu inaweza kujitokeza hasa katika nusu ya kwanza ya msimu.

Vipindi vya unyevu wa kuzidi kiasi pamoja na mafuriko vinaweza kujitokeza na kuathiri ukujaji wa mazao kwa maeneo yanayotarajiwa kupata mvua za Wastani hadi Juu ya Wastani. Aidha, wadudu waharibu na magonjwa ya mimea yanayoendana na hali ya ongezeko la unyevu kama vile ukungu yanatarajiwa kuongezeka na kuathiri mazao kama viazi mvingi, mahindi, mpunga, nyanya, ufuta na maharage. Vile vile, hali ya upungufu wa unyevunyevu unaweza pia kujitokeza katika maeneo yanayotarajiwa kupata mvua za wastani hadi chini ya wastani. Hali hii inaweza kupelekea athari katika ukujaji wa mazao ya kilimo.

Wakulima wanashauriwa kuandaa mashamba, kupanda, kupalilia na kutumia pembejeo husika kwa kuzingatia hali ya unyevu katika udongo, kutumia mbinu bora na teknolojia za kuzuia maji kutama shambani, kuhifadhi maji shambani, kuzuia mmomonyoko na upotevu wa rutuba kutokana na kutuwamisha maji kwa muda mrefu au mafuriko. Aidha, inashauriwa kuimarisha miundombinu ya kilimo na kudhibiti kwa wakati magonjwa ya mimea na wadudu waharibu ili kupunguza madhara yanayoweza kujitokeza.

Wakulima wanashauriwa kutumia taarifa sahihi kutoka kwa maafisa ugani kwa kuzingatia utabiri wa wilaya husika katika kuchagua mbugu na zao sahihi kulingana na utabiri wa msimu. Aidha, wakulima na maafisa ugani wanashauriwa kuendelea kutumia utabiri wa siku na siku kumi ili kufuatilia kwa ukaribu mwenendo wa utabiri wa msimu.

b) Mifugo na Uvuvi

Katika maeneo yanayotarajiwa kupata mvua za Wastani hadi Juu ya Wastani, wafugaji na wavuvi wanatarajiwa kunufaika na upatikanaji wa malisho, maji na chakula cha samaki. Hata hivyo, milipuko ya magonjwa ya mifugo kama vile homa ya bonde la uta, ugonjwa wa miguu na midomo, na kuzaliana kwa wadudu wadhurifu kunaweza kujitokeza. Upungufu wa mvua hasa katika nusu ya kwanza ya msimu (Novemba, 2024 hadi Januari, 2025) unatarajiwa kuathiri upatikanaji wa maji na malisho ya mifugo na kusababisha migogoro kati ya wafugaji na watumiaji wengine wa ardhi.

Wafugaji wanashauriwa kuweka mipango mizuri ya matumizi na uhifadhi wa maji na vyakula vya mifugo. Aidha, wafugaji na wavuvi wanashauriwa kutumia taarifa za utabiri wa hali ya hewa na kuzingatia ushauri unaoitolewa na maafisa ugani ili kupunguza athari zinazoweza kutokea na kunufaika na hali ya hewa inayotarajiwa.

c) Utalii na Wanyamapori

Mvua za Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani zinatarajiwa zinaweza kusababisha uhaba wa malisho na maji kwa wanyamapori katika mbugu na mapori ya akiba na wanyamapori kusababisha migogoro kati ya wanyamapori na jamii jirani. Hata hivyo, mvua nyingi zinaweza kusababisha kutama na kusambaa kwa maji na kusababisha kuhama kwa

wanyamapori, hasa katika maeneo yanayotarajiwa kupata mvua za wastani hadi juu ya wastani. Hali hii inaweza kusababisha maambukizi ya magonjwa kutoka kwa wanyamapori kwenda kwa wanyama wanaofugwa kutokana na wanyamapori kuingia katika maeneo ya jamii yanayozunguka hifadhi na mapori ya akiba. Pia, hali hii inaweza kusababisha hatari kwa binadamu na wanyama wanaofugwa kutokana na kushambuliwa na wanyama pori.

Mamlaka husika zinashauriwa kuboresha miundombinu mbalimbali katika mbugu na mapori ya akiba na kujenga uelewa kwa jamii ili kuchukua hatua stahiki kutokana na athari zinazoweza kujitokeza. Hivyo basi, jamii inashauriwa kutoa taarifa kwa mamlaka husika pindi wanyamapori wanapoinjia katika maeneo yao ya makazi.

d) Usafiri, Usafirishaji na Ujenzi

Vipindi vifupi vya mvua kubwa katika msimu huu vinaweza kusababisha uharibifu wa miundombinu ya barabara na reli, kuathiri shughuli za ujenzi na kusababisha kuongezeka kwa ajali katika sekta ya usafiri wa nchi kavu, kuchelewa na kuairishwa kwa safari za ndege, kwenye maji na reli, kukatika kwa mawasiliano katika shughuli za usafiri wa anga na kwenye maji, na kuongezeka kwa gharama za uendeshaji katika shughuli za usafiri, usafirishaji, ujenzi na ukarabati wa miundombinu kwa ujumla.

Wadau wa sekta hii wanashauriwa kuchukua hatua stahiki katika kupata na kutumia taarifa za hali ya hewa katika utekelezaji wa ujenzi na ukarabati wa miundombinu stamilivu pamoja na ukaguzi wa mara kwa mara wa miundombinu ya usafiri na usafirishaji ili kupunguza madhara yanayoweza kujitokeza.

e) Nishati, Maji na Madini

Ongezeko la vina vya maji katika mabwaa na mito linatarajiwa kujitokeza hasa katika maeneo yanayotarajiwa kupata mvua za Wastani hadi Juu ya Wastani na hivyo kuongeza hatari ya mafuriko hususan katika maeneo yanayothiriwa na mafuriko.

Kwa upande mwingine, kupungua kwa vina vya maji katika mabwaa na mitiririko ya mito kunatarajiwa kujitokeza katika maeneo ambayo mvua za Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani zinatarajiwa. Upungufu wa maji unaweza kupelekea ongezeko la gharama za kutibu maji kwa ajili ya majumbani. Matumizi endelevu ya rasilimali maji yanasisitizwa hasa katika umwagiliaji, uzalishaji wa umeme wa maji, shughuli za madini, matumizi ya viwandani na majumbani. Jamii na Mamlaka za Nishati na Maji zinashauriwa kuchukua hatua stahiki ili kuepuka athari zinazoweza kuathiri miundombinu ya maji na nishati.

f) Mamlaka za Miji na Wilaya

Vipindi vifupi vya mvua kubwa vinaweza kusababisha kutuama kwa maji, kuongeza mitiririko na kusababisha mafuriko ambayo yanaweza kupelekea uharibifu wa miundombinu na tishio la usalama wa maisha ya watu na mali. Mamlaka za miji zinashauriwa kuboresha na kuimarisha mifumo ya maji taka na safi mijini ili kupunguza athari za mafuriko. Jamii zinazoishi katika maeneo hatarishi zinashauriwa kuchukua hatua stahiki.

g) Sekta ya Afya

Hali ya maji kutuama inaweza kujitokeza na kutengeneza mazalia ya wadudu wadhurifu na uchafuluzi wa vyanzo vya maji kama vile mabwaa na visima vifupi. Pia, hali hii inaweza kusababisha milipuko ya magonjwa yanayohusiana na maji na wadudu wadhurifu. Hivyo, sekta husika zinashauriwa kuchukua hatua stahiki ikiwa ni pamoja na kuhakikisha uwepo wa dawa na vifaa tiba vya ziada katika vituo vya kutolea huduma za afya endapo itoake miundombinu kuharibika. Pia, jamii inashauriwa kutibu maji ya kunywa, kuzuia na kuharibu mazalia ya mbu, kuzingatia matumizi sahihi ya vyoov, kuendeleza tabia ya kunawa mikono kwa sabuni na maji tiririka na kudumisha usafi wa mazingira. Aidha, kwa maeneo yanayotarajiwa kupata mvua za wastani hadi chini ya wastani, jamii inaweza kulazimika kutumia maji yasiyo safi, ushauri unatolewa kwa wananchi kutibu maji kabla ya kuyatumia. Msisitizo unatolewa kwa mamlaka husika na jamii kwa ujumla kuchukua hatua stahiki ili kupunguza athari hasi zinazoweza kujitokeza.

h) Sekta Binafsi

Shughuli za kilimobashara na uzalishaji viwandani zinaweza kuathirika kutokana na upungufu wa malighafi za kilimo unaoitokana na upungufu wa mvua hususan kwenye maeneo yanayotarajiwa kupata mvua za Wastani hadi Chini ya Wastani. Hali hii, inaweza kusababisha ongezeko la gharama za upatikanaji wa malighafi na uendeshaji. Aidha, upungufu wa mvua unaweza kuathiri ubora wa bidhaa mifano miti ya nguzo, mbao, nyama na asali.

Wadau wa Sekta Binafsi wanashauriwa kushirikiana na wataalamu mbalimbali ikiwemo wataalam wa hali ya hewa ili kukabiliana na athari zinazoweza kujitokeza. Taasisi za Banki na Bima zinashauriwa kuandaa na kutoa huduma mahususi kwa wadau ili kujenga ustahimilivu katika biashara.

i) Menejimenti za Maafa

Katika msimu huu wa mvua, vipindi vya mvua kubwa vinaweza kutokea na kusababisha mafuriko na maporomoko ya ardhi ambayo yanaweza kusababisha uharibifu wa miundombinu, mazingira, kupoteza mali na madhara kwa binadamu. Hivyo, Idara ya Usimamizi wa Maafa inashauriwa kuendelea kuratibu utekelezaji wa mipango, ambao utasaidia kupunguza athari zinazoweza kujitokeza. Hivyo, Idara ya Menejimenti ya Maafa nchini inashauriwa kuendelea kuratibu utekelezaji wa mipango itakayosaidia kupunguza madhara yanayoweza kujitokeza. Wasimamizi wa shughuli za mazingira wanashauriwa kuzingatia taarifa hii ipasavyo. Aidha, sekta, mamlaka husika na Kamati za Usimamizi wa Maafa katika ngazi ya Mkoa, Wilaya, Kata na Vijiji/Mitaa zinashauriwa kuchukua hatua stahiki ikiwemo kutoa elimu na miongozo itakayohamasisha kuzuia au kupunguza madhara na kuhamasisha uhifadhi wa chakula.

j) Vyombo vya Habari

Waandishi wa Habari wanashauriwa kufuatilia na kupata taarifa sahihi za utabiri na tahadhari ya Hali ya hewa kutoka Mamlaka ya Hali ya Hewa Tanzania (TMA) na kuzisambaza kwa wakati ili kuelimisha umma na kuepuka madhara yanayoweza kujitokeza. Wanahabari wanashauriwa kutafuta na kutumia ushauri wa kisekta kutoka kwa wataalamu ili kuandaa na kusambaza makala na ripoti za kisekta kwa lugha rahisi kwa lengo la kuhabarisha na kuelimisha umma kuhusu matumizi ya utabiri katika kukabiliana na athari za hali ya hewa.

Mamlaka ya Hali ya Hewa Tanzania inawashauri watumiaji wa taarifa za hali ya hewa ikiwa ni pamoja na wakulima, wafugaji, Mamlaka za Wanyamapori, Mamlaka za Maji na Afya waendeleo kutafuta, kupata na kuzingatia ushauri wa wataalamu katika sekta husika.

Mamlaka ya Hali ya Hewa Tanzania itaendelea kufuatilia mwenendo wa mifumo ya hali ya hewa na kutoa mirejesho ya mwelekeo wa mvua nchini kadri inavyohitajika. Aidha, wadau wanashauriwa kuwasiliana na Mamlaka ili kupata taarifa mahususi za utabiri wa msimu ili kukidhi mahitaji maalum katika sekta zao.

Imetolewa: 31 Oktoba, 2024

Na: Mamlaka ya Hali ya Hewa Tanzania

Mawasiliano yote yaelekezwe kwa:

Mkurugenzi Mkuu, Mamlaka ya Hali ya Hewa Tanzania,

Chuo Kikuu cha Dodoma,

Jengo la Utawala, Ndaki ya Sayansi za Kompjuta na Elimu Angavu,

1 Mtaa wa CIVE,

S.L.P 27, 41218 Dodoma; Simu: +255 26 2962610; Nukushi: +255 26 2962610

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(IMETHIBITISHWA – ISO 9001:2015, Huduma za Hali ya Hewa kwa Usafiri wa Anga)



A flood-prone stretch of Dar es Salaam's Bibi Titi Road is rendered temporarily impassable yesterday following a downpour, with access to the nearby Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology all but blocked. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

Uganda applauds EACOP's good progress in Tanzania

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

THE Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), a shareholder in the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project, has expressed satisfaction with the project's implementation in Tanzania following a recent site visit to assess its progress.

UNOC, through the Ugandan government, owns 15 percent of the project, which is jointly held by the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), also with a 15 percent stake.

Other shareholders are TotalEnergies at 62 percent and China's National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) with 8 percent.

During the visit to the marine and export storage terminal at Chongoleani in Tanga, UNOC Board Chairman Mathias Katamba noted that the purpose of the visit was to monitor the project's progress in Tanzania.

"We visited various locations, including the marine area where oil tanker berths are under construction for shipping crude oil to international markets. We also inspected the site for four large storage tanks, each with a capacity of 500,000 barrels, for crude oil coming from Uganda," he said.

"As stakeholders, we are pleased

with the significant progress observed in the ongoing civil works conducted by both local and international experts," he added. Katamba highlighted that infrastructure development is advancing in Uganda as well, with pipeline laying for transporting crude oil to Tanzania already underway.

"We (Uganda and Tanzania) collaborate closely through our respective agencies to ensure the project's smooth progress, with various leaders from both countries visiting construction sites regularly," he stated.

Katamba emphasized the project's economic benefits, including job creation and technology transfer for both nations.

"While some people express concerns about potential environmental impacts, we have conducted thorough assessments, including environmental evaluations and fair compensation for affected individuals in accordance with international standards," he remarked.

Peter Mulisa, UNOC chief legal officer, noted that discussions about the project began nearly 13 years ago and faced significant criticism. However, it is now on track for completion in the near future.

"We expect the project to be

completed by the end of next year, given the current pace of development in both Uganda and Tanzania," he stated.

Zulaika Kassajja, a UNOC board member, expressed immense joy at the site visit, saying, "It's like a dream. We started with assessments and compensated those affected, and now we are witnessing ongoing civil works in our countries as we prepare for its operation and benefits."

She added: "The implementation of this project in Uganda and Tanzania is a clear testament to the cooperation that has existed for decades between our two countries in various development sectors."

Bertrand Hertzog, EACOP Commercial Director, expressed pleasure in hosting the UNOC delegation to showcase the project's progress.

"We expect to complete the construction of the tanks and terminal facilities by the end of next year and finalize everything by 2026," he said.

EACOP pipeline construction spans a total length of 1,443 kilometres, with 1,143 kilometres in Tanzania and 296 in Uganda. In Tanzania, the project traverses eight regions: Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Manyara, and Tanga.

ICB seeks to challenge High Court's decision over 2.1bn/- defaulted loan

By Guardian Reporter

THE International Commercial Bank (ICB) Tanzania seeks to file an appeal at the Court of Appeal of Tanzania against a decision by the High Court over defaulted overdraft amounting to 2.1bn/- given to Dar es Salaam-based Jaluma General Supplies Limited.

According to the Notice of Appeal which was received by the Court of Appeal Dar es Salaam sub-registry on 31st May, accessed by this paper, the bank indicates that it is dissatisfied with the decision pronounced by Justice W.P Dyansobera on 17th May 2024 in favour of the borrower.

The judgment, with the right to appeal to the Court of Appeal, discharged Jaluma from obligation under the overdraft as the performance of the overdraft agreement between Jaluma and ICB Bank had been made impossible by the government act through Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) thus frustrated the company's ability to repay back the facility.

The court therefore ordered ICB Bank to release and hand over the original title deed of the landed property with certificate of title No. 4, LO No 92026, Block 34, Kariakoo area in Ilala Municipality, Dar es Salaam, which was presented as security for the overdraft, as well as bear all the costs of the suit filed by the borrower.

This came after Jaluma filed a suit at the High Court on 25th April, 2022 against ICB Bank, seeking the court's declaration that the overdraft was rendered impossible due to the actions of TRA, thus the contract was frustrated and the borrower be discharged of repayment obligation.

However, in its defence, ICB through its lawyers JBK advocates had stated that the borrower not paying taxes to the government was the company's internal affairs and not related to the overdraft and the TRA action against Jaluma was because of evasion of their tax liability. Further JBK advocate raised preliminary objection that TRA should be joined as a party to the suit but the court declined.

The bank also said at the time it issued the final 60-day notice on 12th May, 2022, the amount outstanding for default in repayment of the overdraft was 3.40bn/-.

According to the notice of the appeal, the bank believes that the trial judge erred in law and in fact by not recognizing the TRA as a necessary party to the suit and by declaring that performance of the overdraft was made impossible by government act through TRA and thus frustrated the repayment ability.

"Given the fact that TRA was not party in the suit, the bank also believes that discharging Jaluma from performing its obligations under the overdraft was

an error in judgment," reads the notice in part.

"The bank also appeals against the court order to release and hand over the original title deed to the borrower and as well as bear the cost of the suit, by pointing out the High Court failure to analyse the evidence tendered, thereby reaching to an erroneous decision against ICB Bank."

The overdraft dates back to 18th November 2018, when Jaluma General Supplies Limited owned by Lucas Pius Mallya secured an overdraft facility amounting to 2.10 bn/- from International Commercial Bank Tanzania (ICB) to meet the working capital requirement of its business.

The overdraft was secured by among other, mortgaging landed property held under certificate of title deed number 177932, plot number 3, block 34, situated at Kariakoo Area, registered under the name of Fereji Said Fereji.

The overdraft facility advanced to Jaluma was used to purchase consignment of goods for its line of business.

Sometime in December 2019, the government taskforce led by Regional Commissioner of Dar es Salaam started a manhunt of Lucas Pius Mallya, who was 3rd plaintiff, on allegation that he owed TRA a tax debt to the tune of 15.20bn/- and on 29th December, 2019 TRA seized the consignment.

Jaluma's hope of resuming business was completely frustrated as the goods (business stock) which could have been used to continue business operations were stolen under the custody of TRA.


TSCHUDI TANZANIA LIMITED
Registration number 155877022
The Companies Act, 2002
(Section 334 (1))

MEMBERS VOLUNTARY WINDING UP

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the General Public that at a duly convened meeting of Tschudi Tanzania Limited (the Company) company number 155877022 which took place on 2 October 2024 the following special resolutions were passed:

- That in accordance with section 333 (1) (b) of the Companies Act, 2002, the company should be wound up voluntarily; and
- That the members have approved the appointment of NEEMA RICHARD of Mikumi House, 368 Msasani Road, Oysterbay, P.O. Box 6673, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania as the Liquidator of the Company.

NOTICE is hereby given to the General Public and the parties concerned to submit their claims for admission within 30 days. Claims lodged after 30 days will not be considered for admission.


NEEMA RICHARD
Liquidator
TSCHUDI TANZANIA LIMITED



**Epyate
& Fortune**
International Consulting

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Applications are invited from experienced insurance professionals for following position on behalf of our client which is a strong, professionally run General Insurance Company established in Tanzania providing all classes of short term insurance covers. The company is part of a leading regional financial group in East Africa

Job Title : Chief Executive Officer

Job Summary:

The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Board of Directors of the Company and is responsible for overall leadership and management of the company to achieve the strategic and operations efficiency of the company. He is the Principal Officer and advises the Board on all operational matters.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Development of strategic business objectives and plans to enhance operational efficiency, growth and profitability.
- Providing support and advice on strategic directions to the Board and inspirational leadership to the staff.
- Cultivating sound relationships with the regulator, local and international business partners and stakeholders; Ensuring all statutory compliances.
- Efficiently managing all assets in order to enhance the shareholder's value;
- Presentation of operations and statutory reports to the Board;
- Manage organizational change to generate efficiencies through innovative capacity planning and utilization
- Reinsurance treaty negotiations
- Efficient organising abilities with an eye for detail and ability to handle multiple priorities with deadlines.

Job Holder Specifications:

Essential Education/Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree preferably in a business related field
- MBA- preferable.
- ACII, AIII, FCII, FIII or equivalent

Work Experience: Over 20 years' experience essential, of which 10 years should be at top/senior management level in the insurance industry

- Hands on experience in dealing in Reinsurance placement, treaty negotiations and all operations of an insurance company.
- Fully conversant and proficient in all classes of non life insurance business
- Good interpersonal skills with ability to manage relationship in cross cultural environment
- Training and development of staff

If you meet the above minimum requirements, send your **c.v to career@epvate-fortune.com** indicate the position applied for on the email subject line so as to be received on or before **10th November, 2024**. **Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**

PUBLIC NOTICE



This announcement has been approved by the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) pursuant to the Capital Markets and Securities (Advertisements) Regulations, G.N. No. 15 of 1997

iTrust Finance Limited wishes to inform the general public that the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) in discharging its responsibilities conferred upon it under the Capital Markets and Securities Act, Cap 79 of the Laws of Tanzania, has approved the Offer Documents and Trust Deeds of five Unit Trust Schemes, namely: iCash Fund (Money market Fund), iGrowth Fund (Balanced Fund), iIncome Fund (Income Distributing Fund), iSave Fund (Fixed Income Fund), and Imaan Fund (Shariah Compliant Fund). The Funds are operated by iTrust Finance Limited as Fund Manager and NBC Bank Limited as Custodian Bank. iTrust Finance Limited is a company incorporated in Tanzania under the Companies Act, Cap 212 and licensed by the CMSA to provide fund management, investment advisory and brokerage services.

DETAILS OF THE INITIAL PUBLIC OFFER FOR THE FUNDS:

Fund	Offer Amount (TZS)	Price per Unit (TZS)	Minimum Investment (TZS)	Subsequent Amount (TZS)	Disbursement after Repurchase	Investment Options
iCash	10,000,000,000	100	100,000	10,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry or exit load
iGrowth	10,000,000,000	100	100,000	10,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry load and exit load of 1%
iIncome	10,000,000,000	100	10,000,000	100,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry load and exit load of 1%
iSave	2,000,000,000	100	100,000	10,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry load and exit load of 1%
Imaan	5,000,000,000	100	100,000	10,000	3 working days	Growth with no entry load and exit load of 1%

OFFER TIMETABLE:

Event	Date
Opening of the Offer	04th November 2024
Closing of the Initial Sale	29th November 2024
Approval of Unit Holders Register by CMSA	13th December 2024
Notification of Results	17th December 2024
Scheme Opens for Subsequent Sale	17th December 2024
Opening of Repurchase Operations	17th December 2024

Investment can be done electronically by filling the application form that can be found on the website www.itrust.co.tz, at the office of iTrust Finance Limited, branches of NBC Bank Ltd and offices of Licensed Dealing Members of the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange.

Investors are advised to consult licensed stockbrokers, bank managers, lawyers, accountants or other financial advisors for guidance so as to make informed investment decisions.

Issued by:
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ZANZIBAR FAIR COMPETITION COMMISSION



IN THE MATTER OF THE MERGER NOTIFICATION REGARDING THE INTENTION TO ACQUIRE THE PROPERTY OF PALUMBO REEF LIMITED (THE TARGET FIRM) BY RELIANCE RESORTS AND TOURISM LIMITED (THE APPLICANT)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE ZANZIBAR FAIR COMPETITION COMMISSION

(Made under Section 5(1), 49 and 50 of the Fair Competition and Consumer Protection Act No. 5 of 2018 and Regulation 48 of the Fair Competition Regulation 2019)

The Zanzibar Fair Competition Commission (ZFCC) is an Independent Government Institution established under the Fair Competition and Consumer Protection Act, No.5 of 2018 to promote and protect fair and effective Competition in trade and to protect consumers from misleading market conduct.

The Act empowers the Zanzibar Fair Competition Commission (ZFCC) to review, investigate and prohibit any proposed mergers and acquisitions that contravene the stipulations of sections 49 of the Zanzibar Fair Competition and Consumer Protection Act No. 5 of 2018 and Regulation 32 of the Fair Competition Regulation, 2019.

Conferring to Section 50 of the Fair Competition and Consumer Protection Act No.5 of 2018 read together with Regulation 32 of the Fair Competition Regulation 2018, ZFCC has received merger notifications to the effect that Reliance Resorts and Tourism Limited (Acquiring firms) intends to Acquire the Property of Palumbo Reef Limited (The Target Firm)

Reliance Resorts and Tourism Limited a private company limited by shares and incorporated under the laws of Zanzibar, its registered office located at Michamvi, South Unguja, Zanzibar.

Palumbo Reef Limited is a private company limited by shares and incorporated under the laws of Zanzibar, its registered office located at its office is located at Uroa, Central District, South Region Zanzibar.

The Acquiring Firm and Target Firm are collectively referred to as the "Merging Parties"

The Parties have agreed to take control subject to the terms and conditions of the agreement, whereby the applicants intend to acquire the Assets (Property) of Palumbo Reef Limited.

ZFCC is currently investigating the Intended acquisitions in line with the provisions of the Fair Competition and Consumer Protection Act No. 5 of 2018 and the Fair Competition Regulations, 2019. Pursuant to Regulation 48 of the Fair Competition Regulation 2019, parties (both legal and natural) who deem themselves as having sufficient interest in this merger, or, if the merger is not objected to, they will have or are likely to have material effect on their interests, are hereby, **NOTIFIED to Director General** their interests and or objections (if any) or file any information that will assist the ZFCC in reaching just and reasonable decisions with regard to **Acquiring Firm's** notification of the intended merger.

All such parties shall file and register such interest(s) or information by way of written submissions to the ZFCC within **Fourteen (14) days**, starting from the first day of publication of this public notice. Submissions filed after the said deadline shall not be accepted.

Registration of the said interests/objections or information should be accompanied by a duly filled Form ZFCC No. 10 of the Fair Competition Commission Regulations, 2019. Failure to fill in Form ZFCC. No 10 will deny a party the right to make any oral submissions before the Commission and the presence of that party in the proceedings will be as an observer only.

Parties should take note that pursuant to Regulation 10 (4) of the Fair Competition Regulation, 2019 as applied to this Public Notice, ZFCC shall not entertain a subject of the petition where: (a) it does not fall under Act or Regulation (b) it has no material effect on competition; and (c) the same in whole or in part is before any court, tribunal, arbitration, judicial or quasi-judicial body or was previously determined by any court, tribunal, arbitration, judicial or quasi-judicial body.

Form (ZFCC NO 10) can be collected at ZFCC office.

Submissions must be submitted to the ZFCC at the address below.

DIRECTOR GENERAL,
The Zanzibar Fair Competition Commission,
Darajani,
P.O. Box 1066,
Telephone No: 0242232013,
E-mail: info@zfcc.go.tz,
Zanzibar.


MOHAMMED SIJAMINI MOHAMMED
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US support helps Tanzania secure \$25m for pandemic preparedness

By Guardian Reporter

THE United States is proud to partner with Tanzania to secure a \$25 million grant from the World Bank's Pandemic Fund. A statement released yesterday by US Embassy in Dar es Salaam said the grant is part of a global effort to bolster pandemic prevention, preparedness and response capacities in 40 countries across six geographical regions.

In addition to this, the United States through the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is to contribute \$3.2 million of the accumulated \$13.7 million in matching funds for Tanzania.

Mobilizing matching funds from participating countries and donor partners is a key aim of the Pandemic Fund. The United States also provides technical assistance to the Ministry of Health as part of support of Tanzania's strengthening public health preparedness.

"This partnership reflects a core part of President Biden's Global Health Security Strategy to strengthen public health capacities that prevent and protect against future global pandemics," said US Ambassador Michael Battle.

"By including complementary US investments, we are providing more effective support to the government of Tanzania in its aim to protect all Tanzanians from

disease outbreaks."

Through the investments and as the largest government donor to pandemic preparedness, the United States reaffirmed its ongoing commitment to work alongside the government of Tanzania and the international donor community to strengthen Tanzania's resilience against disease outbreaks.

Launched in 2022, the Pandemic Fund is the first global, multilateral financing initiative aimed at empowering low- and middle-income countries to strengthen their preparedness for future pandemics. In July this year, the United States pledged up to \$667 million to the Pandemic Fund, demonstrating its leadership as one of the top contributors.



Dr Ladislaus Chang'a, acting Director General of the Tanzania Meteorological Authority, briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on seasonal rains forecast for various parts of the country between this November and April 2025. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

REA connects 2,400 to electricity following local generation efforts

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

THE Rural Energy Agency (REA) has connected 2,400 residents to electricity across eight villages in Njombe District, Njombe Region, following its support to Matembwe Village Company (MVC) in generating 550 kilowatts of power.

Advera Mwijage, REA Director of Alternative and Renewable Energy, disclosed this on Wednesday during a visit to MVC, a company owned by Njombe District Council and the residents of Matembwe Iyembela, and Ikondo villages in Njombe.

She noted that MVC has extended services to eight villages, connecting a total of 2,400

customers, with approximately 750 of them connected through government support via REA.

"The cost incurred to connect these customers is around 1bn/-, and REA continues to facilitate further connections to ensure reliable power access," she said.

She added that REA has now extended electricity to all villages nationwide, although some households and neighbourhoods still require service.

"The project has been in operation for over 30 years and continues to deliver quality service by expanding the number of connected customers," she said.

Additionally, REA continues to support the project by providing

funds so that surrounding communities can access electricity, thereby fostering economic activities.

She also mentioned that over 80bn/- has been allocated to implement various REA projects in the region, ensuring rural areas have access to electricity.

Johannes Kamonga, MVC Managing Director, stated that the company is responsible for generating, transmitting and distributing electricity.

He added that they currently generate 550 kilowatts of electricity with three machines: one producing 80 kilowatts, another 120 kilowatts and the third 350 kilowatts.

Agriculture stakeholders appeal for promotion of farmer-owned seeds

By Guardian Reporter

AGRICULTURE stakeholders have emphasized the need for Tanzania to embrace and promote indigenous seeds as a pathway to sustainable development.

The call to action came during Green Action Week 2024 held at Italgwe Village in Morogoro Region recently where ENVIROCARE hosted Indigenous Local Seed Exhibition.

The event highlighted the essential role of diverse seed varieties, especially indigenous seeds in enhancing food security, improving nutrition and fostering resilience to climate change.

The exhibition served as a platform to showcase benefits of farmer-managed seed systems, which promote biodiversity and develop sustainable, community-driven solutions for agricultural

ecosystems. Attendees included local farmers, community leaders, environmental advocates and representatives of various agricultural organizations, all eager to learn about the importance of preserving indigenous seeds.

Euphrasia Shayo, ENVIROCARE Project Officer, pointed out that promoting farmer-managed seed systems enables smallholder farmers to access a variety of seeds, particularly in regions with limited access to formal seed systems.

"The farmer-led systems empower communities, allowing them to meet their food and income needs while preserving our rich agricultural heritage and enhancing sustainability," Shayo said.

She further highlighted the importance of traditional knowledge in supporting agrobiodiversity, explaining that farmer-managed seed systems

facilitate exchange of diverse crops, enriching agricultural biodiversity and contributing to vital ecosystem services.

She urged local communities and stakeholders to protect and elevate the value of indigenous seeds which are crucial for achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2—ending hunger and achieving food security by 2030.

Yusuph Ndama, facilitator and agriculture stakeholder, emphasized the potential for expanding such initiatives to engage more farmers and stakeholders nationwide in preservation of indigenous seeds.

"The exhibition has opened new avenues for farmers and those in the food industry to appreciate and protect these invaluable seeds which are essential for ensuring a secure and sustainable food system," he said.



Dr Mwinyi's 4th Anniversary: ZURA outlines its admirable achievements

By Paulina Ngwembe

IT is a week of celebration in Zanzibar as Dr Husein Ali Hassan Mwinyi marks four years of his leadership since taking oath to serve Zanzibar on 2nd November 2020 after winning the general elections held in the same year.

The Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) political party of which Dr Mwinyi is the National vice chairman, has organized celebrations in different ways, but public institutions are celebrating the fours by explaining successes in serving people and future plans.

The Zanzibar Utilities Regulatory Authority (ZURA) is among the Islands' government institutions which has listed its commendable achievements under Dr Mwinyi's regime with innovative reforms.

Dr Mwinyi was sworn-in as Zanzibar President on 2nd November, 2020, carrying out several transformations in public offices, including ZURA, recording rapid progress during its journey in services.

The Director General MR Omar Ali Yussuf informed the guardian that Dr Mwinyi's four years in leadership has been splendid and ZURA "Boasts the successes made so far under the hard-working President."

He informed that under the primary functions of ZURA include among others, licensing, tariff review, monitoring performance and standards with regards to quality, safety, health and environment, it has made progress and made its objectives.

ZURA, an autonomous multi-sectoral regulator established under Act No. 7/2013 of the Laws of Zanzibar, is also responsible for technical and economic regulation of Zanzibar's electricity, petroleum and water sectors. It also promotes private sector participation, effective competition and economic efficiency in public utilities.

Contribution to the government: last financial year (2023/2024), ZURA contrib-

uted a total of 8.4bn/- up from 6bn/- in the previous year (2022/2023), and regulated the importation of 232,162,687 liters of oil/fuel last financial year, while in this year (June 2024) the reached 244,484,807 liters.

"As regard to gas, we regulated the importation of 10,583,026 kilograms of Gas for various use in Zanzibar in 2023/2024 fiscal year which is about 34.93 percent up the 7,843,542 kilograms Gas imported in 2022/2023 fiscal year," she explained.

MS Shara Omar Chande (Public Relation department) said the importation of Gas is expected to double following the ongoing nationwide campaign to promote use of clean cooking energy.

The clean cooking energy campaign was initiated by Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the united republic of Tanzania, and by 2032, the Tanzanian government wants at least 80 percent of cooking in the country to be powered by clean energy sources. Currently, 90 percent of the primary energy supply to Tanzanian homes is firewood and charcoal, with serious impacts on health and forests.

According to the director general, ZURA's successes are backed by use of five (5) Systems including: the ZURA Integrated Regulatory System (ZIRS); Enterprise Regulatory Management System (ERMS); Complaints Management System (CMS); eProcurement; and e-office management system.

Its regulatory operational tools include Water Quality Standards; production regulations; distribution regulations; electricity connection regulations; electricity and renewable energy purchase agreements, and management regulations; power/electricity quality regulations; gas regulations; fuel station regulations; fuel depot regulations; and fuel import regulations

During the past four years of Dr Mwinyi, she said, ZURA is also celebrating being an



ZURA executives inspecting the Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) gas depot located at Mangapwani coastal area, Unguja North Region, Zanzibar



active member of the Energy Regulators Association of East Africa (EREA), which is a multilateral association of National Energy regulators of the East Africa Community (EAC) countries.

EREA was established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of

28th May 2008, requiring these National regulatory institutions to work together to promote Energy Union (Harmonisation of energy regulatory frameworks, information sharing, and sustainable capacity building).

These entities include Energy and Water Utilities

Regulatory Authority (EWURA) of Tanzania, Energy Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) of Kenya, Zanzibar Utility Regulatory Authority (ZURA) of Zanzibar, and Petroleum Authority of Uganda (PAU) of Uganda.

Others include Electricity Regulatory Authori-

ty (ERA) of Uganda, Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (RURA) of Rwanda and Autorité de Régulation des secteurs de l'Eau potable et de l'Energie (AREEN) of Burundi.



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Donors will do only so much for our universal healthcare strategy

A SORT of preparatory phase is visible in seeking to implement the universal health insurance (UHI) scheme, with the government stridently talking about strengthening the healthcare financing system to ensure sustainability.

It remains unclear as to how far this already been figured out and how far it may depend on recently issued or current appeals.

Both development partners and the private sector are yet to warm up reassuringly enough to the issue. They support the effort in a wholehearted manner, but they already have specific spheres of financing.

This is well worth taking note of, as Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa was at hand at a recent conference devoted to the issue to ask the development partners to collaborate with the government in implementing the scheme.

The conference had a technical aspect to it as a UHI forum, and then another sphere of concern as a national healthcare financing platform.

There was no doubt of vast support for the scheme inwardly and outwardly, though the financing is a different matter. The issue is what prospects there could be for this situation to be shifted.

Efforts by the government appeared to figure out UHI as a specific project in ways that resemble the financing of development projects, which isn't the way the development partners see the project - as a recurrent budget issue for the health sector.

There were hints of that acknowledgement in the PM's remarks, affirming that the government has increased the health sector budget to strengthen the healthcare financing system. Setting up a fund to support those

unable to afford healthcare was also highlighted.

Of course, it was noted that 173.5bn/- was allocated for those unable to contribute though the defining criteria, listing and observance of exemptions, were seen as still problematic.

With the government having explained its other contributions in terms of extensive infrastructure development and enhanced diagnostic services to detect various diseases, showing this as part of UHI success likelihood was insufficient.

The point is that the total figure for the scheme to succeed is yet to be stated, and voluntary contributions could be paltry.

Nor was it evident that official figures for availability of medical supplies were all that promising - this amid that the situation could worsen with an insurance scheme, what with the usually higher pricing of medicine in public hospitals unless basic medicare is made free.

If insurance starts to apply at a referral level with specialised technical inputs which the government has extensively funded, it will work, and indeed even a reduced fund could take care of genuinely poor people paying a fraction of the costs.

What is visible seems to be clear reluctance to add universal healthcare into the budget as a tax dimension.

There is the thought - or proposition - of taking a leaf from across the border to the north, where the wish for genuine universal healthcare is more visible, although this is far from saying that it is already on the way to success.

What is important is the need to make intense efforts to ensure that those with non-communicable diseases that are expensive to pay for get free treatment thanks to carefully thought-out alternative poor-friendly modalities.

EAC peace activism needs a reform aspect to really take hold as attitude

ACTIVISTS are making an effort to spruce up the image of a cattle-raiding triangle on the border reaches of Kenya, Uganda and South Sudan, where 'warlike pastoralists' are re-emerging as converging communities for long marked by rich cultural diversity and shared histories.

The issue comes up later when we hear that there are boundary disputes that have strained communal ties, thus disrupting peace, security and economic growth.

There is a problem with the whole notion of boundary as it applies to countries, while hunting communities or pastoralist groups scarcely recognise such boundaries.

Officials in the East African Community (EAC) secretariat with colleagues in the three countries have organised a week-long meeting of Ateker border communities.

The meeting, at the borderline town of Moroto in northern Uganda, was set to bring together Turkana and Karamojong as well as Toposa and Didinga elders alongside various local government experts.

The idea for the event apparently came up from resolutions of the first EAC Peace Caravan held in July 2023, and preparations have taken roundabout a year.

While the effort is a regional peace caravan, the more active sphere is internal, where tribes are restive in South Sudan and destabilise the government.

In Kenya it is a limited communal issue or itinerant cattle raiders, while much less of that is heard about Uganda's level of pastoralist strife.

Here the trouble isn't among pastoralists themselves but

when they meet settled farmers, and similarly meet equally pugnacious adversaries among the conservation authorities, intolerant of trespass with large numbers of livestock.

It would be more than happy if the schedule of work the peace caravan resolutions are expected to facilitate sees the respective community leaders jointly launch a sensitisation programme focusing on peaceful coexistence, good neighbourliness and prosperity for border communities.

Similar 'home-grown' peace initiatives should be welcome across the sub-region. Success may not be too assured as there is no substantial respect for national agenda like conservation. Still, liaisons could play a meaningful role towards ensuring enhanced peace and harmony.

As officials working on the EAC peace caravan would say, the drive has promoted dialogue and confidence-building and is working to arrive at sustainable conflict resolution mechanisms.

They report that no major incidents of violence have occurred among the communities since the peace caravan was initiated.

They further affirm that the current mission builds on that momentum, focusing on dialogue in addressing presumed root issues such as land ownership, resource sharing and historical claims.

Hopefully, the organisers will see the need for individualised land titles and dam construction for cattle watering, even ability to buy land and employ people. This will boost the chances of seeing the communities live in peace - a landmark plus for all those behind the efforts.



Capitalising Tanzania's state-owned firms for growth

By Kettie Chipeta

A three-day workshop involving the Treasury Registrar's Office as well as directors and board members of companies in which the government has minority stakes was held earlier this year.

The conclusion of the event included remarks by Dr Tausi Kida, the Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Planning and Investment), who put forward several innovative strategies for enhancing Tanzania's state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

One of the strategies she highlighted was capitalisation, which she described as a potentially transformative approach.

This proposal, backed by other senior officials such as Treasury Registrar Nehemiah Mchechu, has triggered important conversations about the true meaning of capitalisation and how Tanzania can skilfully guide its SOEs through this multifaceted transformation.

As the nation's economy evolves, this strategy could be pivotal towards ensuring sustained growth and stability, though its success hinges on precise execution and thoughtful planning.

Capitalisation represents far more than just a financial boost; it requires a fundamental restructuring of how enterprises operate - from governance to financial management.

For Tanzania, it promises not only to stabilize SOEs financially but also to attract greater investment, creating competitive advantages in key industries.

However, this journey is intricate, and not every SOE is primed or suitable for capitalisation. A focused approach that prioritises certain sectors is crucial. Industries like energy, housing, telecommunications, and transportation form the backbone of Tanzania's infrastructure and are vital to the nation's economic future.

Take the energy sector, for instance. Modernising this sector could transform daily life. Problems with access to affordable and reliable energy remain a significant challenge for many communities, both urban and rural.

Addressing this gap could improve living standards for millions while simultaneously driving broader economic activity and development.

As Tanzania weighs the benefits of capitalisation, the role of public-private partnerships (PPPs) must be seriously considered. This is because PPPs can serve as a complementary strategy, introducing market discipline and encouraging accountability within SOEs.

These partnerships allow private companies to bring their expertise, efficiency and innovation to the table, aligning with public goals. The National Housing Corporation (NHC) offers an excellent example of the potential for such partnerships to drive growth.

Through joint ventures, NHC has attracted private capital to tackle the nation's housing shortage. Notable projects like the Kariakoo Market development in Dar es Salaam city are geared at transforming urban

landscapes while speeding up timelines.

By using land as equity, NHC partners with various private investors to elevate construction quality, create jobs and reshape cities.

This approach is mirrored in various other sectors, notably in Tanzania's maritime industry, where successful public-private collaboration has also taken root.

A prime example here is the recent 30-year concession agreement between the Tanzania Ports Authority and Dubai-based DP World, a global leader in port and logistics operations.

It is understood that, under this agreement, DP World will operate and modernise key facilities at the Dar es Salaam Port including by investing in infrastructure upgrades to ease congestion, improve cargo handling, and boost the port's overall efficiency.

This concession is a long-term partnership that entrusts DP World with the responsibility of enhancing one of Tanzania's most vital trade gateways.

By leveraging private investment and expertise through this concession, Tanzania is positioning itself as a more competitive player in international trade.

Beyond relieving financial pressure on the government, PPPs introduce a much-needed level of accountability and market discipline to SOEs.

Private companies involved in these ventures are typically held to performance metrics that promote transparency and adherence to best practices. This accountability is critical for long-term success.

However, for these partnerships to thrive, a solid regulatory framework must be established. The Tanzanian government must ensure that the contracts are transparent, performance is closely monitored, and risks are fairly shared. Public interests should be safeguarded while allowing the private sector the flexibility it needs to innovate and deliver results.

Looking beyond PPPs, another compelling path to capitalisation is the public listing of SOEs on bourses like the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE).

By going public, SOEs could tap into private investment while simultaneously subjecting themselves to market demands for greater transparency and efficiency.

Listed companies are required to regularly publish their financial reports and follow strict corporate governance standards, which could help combat corruption and operational inefficiencies.

Additionally, public listings offer a unique opportunity for ordinary Tanzanians to become shareholders in these enterprises, fostering a deeper sense of economic patriotism and investment in the nation's future.

There are international precedents that highlight the potential success of this approach. For instance, China Mobile, a leading telecommunications company, achieved successful listings on global stock exchanges, allowing it to raise significant capital for modernisation and propelling

it to a leading position in the global telecommunications industry.

Tanzania could explore similar dual listings, both locally and internationally, to attract foreign investment and expertise.

However, these moves require careful preparation. Before embarking on an initial public offering (IPO), SOEs must be in sound financial health and have strong governance structures in place.

Proper share pricing and efforts to build investor confidence will be crucial to the success of such initiatives.

To ensure that the gains from capitalisation are sustained, Tanzania might consider creating a sovereign wealth fund to manage the proceeds from public listings or privatisation efforts.

A notable example is Singapore's Temasek Holdings, founded in 1974, which manages a diverse portfolio of SOEs and investments in financial services, telecommunications, technology and real estate.

By leveraging profits from these investments, Temasek not only maximises long-term financial returns but also supports Singapore's economic and social development goals, with a strong emphasis on sustainability in areas like renewable energy, healthcare and education.

A similar fund in Tanzania could reinvest revenues into critical sectors, ensuring that the benefits of capitalisation contribute to broader national development goals. Nonetheless, the road to successful capitalisation is fraught with challenges, particularly corruption.

Brazil's Petrobras scandal serves as a notable example of how corruption can impact state-owned enterprises. Petrobras, primarily engaged in the exploration, production, refining and distribution of oil and natural gas, became embroiled in a significant corruption scandal that began in 2014.

Investigations revealed a scheme involving inflated contracts awarded to construction firms, with excess funds redirected to company executives and public officials in the form of kickbacks.

This corruption led to substantial financial losses for Petrobras, impacting its stock value and overall financial stability. As the investigations progressed, they uncovered widespread irregularities that raised concerns about governance and oversight within the organisation.

To prevent similar challenges, Tanzania must implement strong anti-corruption measures, including independent audits to ensure financial transparency, protection for whistleblowers to encourage reporting of misconduct, and strict accountability across government and enterprises.

Without these safeguards, even promising reforms could falter, highlighting the importance of integrity in fostering public trust and economic growth.

Another key challenge is ensuring that SOEs are ready for capitalisation. Not every enterprise is sufficiently equipped to attract private investment or thrive in a competitive market environment.

Before moving forward, a thorough assessment of each SOE's financial viability and management capacity is essential. Capitalising a poorly managed or underperforming SOE could result in waste of valuable resources and erode investor confidence.

For this reason, the government must adopt a selective approach, focusing on those SOEs with strong foundations and clear growth potential.

Governance reforms are also paramount. The appointment of SOE boards should be based on merit, expertise and independence rather than political affiliations. Effective leadership will be crucial to navigating the complexities of a competitive market environment, ensuring that enterprises remain profitable and attractive to investors.

Additionally, robust governance frameworks must be reinforced by a legal structure that emphasizes transparency and accountability. Without these elements in place, efforts at capitalisation could be undermined by inefficiencies or mismanagement, stifling the potential for growth.

Despite these complexities, the rewards of successful capitalisation are immense. Tanzania stands at a critical juncture, with the opportunity to transform its SOEs into modern, efficient enterprises capable of driving sustained economic growth.

Capitalisation offers the resources necessary for modernisation, introduces a culture of accountability and aligns SOEs with market realities.

By learning from international examples like Singapore and China, Tanzania can strike a balance between state control and market-driven efficiency, ensuring that national interests are safeguarded while driving competitiveness.

For this vision to be realised, a strategic and carefully managed approach is essential. Transparent governance, a strong regulatory framework, and meticulous planning will be key to maintaining momentum.

Not all SOEs will be suitable candidates for capitalisation, though, and a one-size-fits-all strategy could lead to failures. However, with thoughtful selection and targeted implementation, Tanzania can unlock the full potential of its SOEs, setting the stage for long-term economic progress and improved living standards for its citizens.

Engaging Tanzanian citizens in this transformative process is equally important. By demonstrating the tangible benefits of capitalisation such as job creation, better public services and improved living conditions, the government can foster a sense of collective ownership and national pride in this journey towards a more prosperous future.

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Defending biodiversity in armed conflict: Can really COP16 meet the expectations?

CALI, Colombia

José Aruna, a forest defender from Sud Kivu province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), remembers the night in September 2019 when a group of heavily armed men barged into his house in the middle of the night. Aruna and his wife—6 months pregnant at the time—were in bed when he heard sounds of boots on the front yard and quickly knew something was about to happen.

He silently slipped out of the bed and hid behind a tree at the back of the house.

My wife was woken up by the armed men who asked her where I was and when she said she didn't know, they demanded money from her. When she said she had no money on her, they hit her in the face. Then they took turns to rape her. The next day I took them to Rwanda," Aruna recalls the horror.

Since then, Aruna's family has lived in Rwanda, but he has continued to work in the DRC, often in hiding and on the run but never giving up the cause. He leads an environmental group called Congo Basin Conservation Society in the vicinity of Kahuzi Bieza National Park, which is, besides gorillas and chimpanzees, also famous for redwood and vast deposits of charcoal. The redwood is felled by loggers primarily to smuggle to China, while the charcoal is sold both in domestic and international markets. As CBCS tries to stop the smugglers, their members are regularly attacked, kidnapped for ransom and killed.

Surviving in the Dangerous Forests

According to Global Witness 2023 report Missing Voices, 74 environmental defenders have been killed in the DRC in the past decade—mostly in the Congo Basin—a hotspot of illegal mining and illegal logging.

DRC also features in the World Peace Index as the 6th most dangerous country in the world. "In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, rebels and warred forces wander certain areas at will. Crimes, including murder, rape, kidnapping, carjackings, burglaries, muggings, and highway robberies, are fairly common," says the report.

Jose says that the local men and women who are trying to preserve biodiversity in their neighborhoods face the greatest risk.



Antonio Guterres, the UN Secretary General at COP16, sent a message that peace with nature was only possible if there was a political solution to conflicts. Credit: Stella Paul/IPS

"We are crushed by dual evils. On one side, there are illegal, armed militias that target us. On the other hand, we face threats from the corrupt army and government officials who are directly linked to those running illegal businesses. We have nowhere to go."

The total area of the Congo River Basin is 3.7 million square kilometers—double the size of its neighboring country, Uganda. It is also known as the lungs of Africa. There are dozens of armed insurgents that operate in the area, but it is the Owazalendo militia partnering with Congo military and Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR), a Hutu rebel group linked to the 1994 Rwandan genocide, that are the most powerful. Both Owazalendo and FDLR are also giving direct support to illegal miners and loggers both inside the protected forests and outside of it, Aruna informs.

"We are mostly in hiding. If we are caught by the rebels, we will be asked to pay anything between five hundred and fifty thousand American dollars to be free. Can you imagine that kind of money?" he asks.

Aruna is at COP16, where country representatives are currently finalizing the best ways to implement the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The GBF's Target 22 specifically mentions that countries must "ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders," and Aruna thinks that it is time for the parties to accept that environmental defenders are greatly vul-

nerable and lack both government support and resources required to protect themselves.

Arms for Arms: Case of Myanmar

Sunita Kwangta Moomoo is a Karen—an indigenous community from the Kayin state of Myanmar—a country under military rule and also in the middle of a civil war.

But the Karen community, which has been demanding a separate homeland for Karen people, has been in an armed conflict that precedes the military coup and fall of democracy in February 2021. The fights have, however, intensified manifold since various pro-democracy groups started an armed resistance against the army all across the country, including Loikaw, the heartland of Kayin State, where the Karen National Liberation Army is leading the fight.

Moomoo, who now lives in neighboring country Thailand, has family members who are still in Myanmar.

"The situation is tough. Every now and then, we have air strikes by the military directed at the villages. The only way to escape these airstrikes is to hide in a mountain cave. Sometimes the military also conducts raids in villages, and they always follow a "scorched earth" policy, so they burn down everything—homes, animals, vegetation—along their way."

This has not just destroyed human lives but also the culture of the Karens since their belief system, including social and religious rituals, is integrally tied to land and forests. "When we sow crops, when we harvest, when we celebrate a birth, we perform rituals on the land that we own or live on. Now, those are gone."

The concept of environmental defense, obviously, doesn't exist anymore either since survival has become the only goal of the Karens. And in the desperate struggle for survival, even civilians have armed themselves. "Everyone is a soldier now," says Moomoo.

"Environmental defenders arming themselves is bound to happen if the state is not able to protect themselves and Myanmar is a classic example of that," says Joan Carling, Executive Director of Indigenous Peoples Rights International, a Philippines-based global organization that works to safeguard the rights of indigenous peoples.

Philippines is yet another country that has gained notoriety for killing environmental defenders, especially in the indigenous territories.

The statistics from the Missing Voices report show that of the 196 defenders reportedly killed or forcibly disappeared globally in 2023, 17 were in the Philippines, the highest toll in Asia. More environmental defenders have been killed in the country than anywhere else in the region over the past 11 years.

Carling, who has been attending COP16, reveals that the indigenous people's body has been demanding the formation of a new, official forum within the UNCBD to ensure safety and inclusion of indigenous peoples as the implementation of GBF begins worldwide. The new platform—a permanent sub-

sidary body—will specifically focus on Article 8J of the KMGBF that commits to, among others, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities... for the conservation of biological diversity.

"We need to recognize indigenous environmental defenders as the key actors in biodiversity conservation in this COP," Carling says.

Targeted by the Drug Cartels

Colombia, the host of COP16, holds a dubious record of witnessing the greatest number of murders of environmental defenders. The country was in an armed conflict with ultra-communist rebels led by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) for five decades until it signed a peace agreement with the government in 2016. During the period, nearly half a million Colombians were killed and forcibly disappeared, of which 200,000 were civilians.

Today Colombia is no longer in an armed conflict yet it continues to witness murders of environmental defenders.

On October 28, in a plenary session focused on Target 22 of the GBF, it was revealed that 240 people had been killed between 2016 and 2024 in Colombia for opposing destruction of forests and nature. Drug cartel runners were responsible for the majority of murders.

On 29 October, at a side event, speakers from different UN agencies and the government of Colombia drew attention to the dire need for international collaboration to curb drug trafficking. This, they said, could only be done if the peace treaty is implemented well and in time and concrete steps were taken in collaboration with international communities to destroy the supply chain of drugs originating from Colombia.

According to Jose Manuel Peria, head of green business at the Ministry of the Environment, Colombia, the government has been proposing new strategies to ensure the rights of farmers and those on the frontline of environmental conservation. These include restructuring the government system and building new channels for generating resources for the communities, especially with an environmental focus.

"There is no longer just talk of agricultural production, but sustainable agriculture. We are now building this narrative in the ministries and portfolios involved in all these (implementation of the peace accord) processes. And indeed, biodiversity and the sustainable management of life are at the very center of this process," Peria asserts.

But Mary Creagh Raine, the Nature Minister for the United Kingdom, who also spoke at the event, said that while the action at the local and national level was crucial, it was also equally important to crack down on the international markets of Colombian drugs. The UK, said Creagh Raine, was one such market for the drug cartel and if the cartel and the violence they unleash on local environmental defenders were to stop, Colombia and the UK would have to work closely to ensure that the smuggling route and the markets are also closed.

"There is still so much to do to ensure that crimes against the environment and people are prosecuted and punished with the severity they deserve," said Creagh Raine. "The transnational nature of drug trafficking is modern, agile and highly sophisticated. If we really want to be effective, we must do more together to demonstrate the same multinational consistency and coordination, Creagh Raine said.

No End of Conflict, No Peace with Nature

The Biodiversity COP started with the overarching goal of "Making Peace with Nature," but can this be ever achieved given the current scale of war and armed conflict across global regions and their high impact on biodiversity?

Answering this question, Antonio Guterres, the UN Secretary General, told IPS that achieving peace with nature is only possible if there is a political solution to the ongoing wars and conflicts.

"To make peace with nature, we must first make peace with ourselves. That is why we have been asking for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, release of the hostages and the massive humanitarian aid to Gaza. That is why we are asking for peace in Lebanon—a peace that respects Lebanese sovereignty, Lebanese territorial integrity and paves the way for a political solution. That is why we are asking for peace in Sudan—the enormous stress that exists. To make peace with nature, we must first make peace with ourselves because wars are won at the most devastating impacts of biodiversity, climate and pollution," said Guterres.

IPS UN Bureau Report



José Aruna, a forest defender from Sud Kivu province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), speaks about the perils of environmental activism and its profound impact on him and his family. Credit: Stella Paul/IPS



Sunita Kwangta Moomoo, an environmental activist from Kayin State in Myanmar. Credit: Stella Paul/IPS

CALI, Columbia & BULAWAYO, Zimba-

bwe,

“How we prepare and eat food should not be at the expense of our biodiversity,” says 3-Michelin-starred chef Mauro Colagreco, who is on a mission to change our relationship with food and what we choose to eat.

Colagreco, the owner of Mirazur, an award-winning restaurant in Menton, France, is a tribute to gastronomy. Among other world rankings, Mirazur's fine food and service have earned it first place in the World's 50 Best Restaurants. In the 2020 edition of the “100 Chefs” world ranking, Colagreco's peers named him the Best Chef in the World and Chef of the Year in 2019.

A passion for cooking and the love of nature shaped Colagreco's philosophy on gastronomy.

“Feeding others, for me, is the first act of love,” Colagreco told IPS in an interview. “You know, when I was looking at my son being born, the first thing my wife did after giving birth was to feed the baby. For me, it was super strong to see that, and I always think about that, and that, for me, is the first act of love.”

Eating Without Eating the Planet

For over two decades, Colagreco has been the flag bearer of circular gastronomy, a culinary movement he initiated when he opened Mirazur in 2006.

Circular gastronomy aims to reconnect with nature while reconciling the perfect mastery of the techniques of cuisine with a genuine commitment to society's wellbeing.

The principles of Colagreco's circular gastronomy are captured in a manifesto that brings together food, nature and sustainability. It proposes a profound change in our relationship with food by making food choices that respect nature. Some of the principles call for the consumption of fresh, local, seasonal, organically or biodynamically grown produce. There is also a particular focus on the restoration of the soil and cooking that preserves plant and animal biodiversity.

In 2022, Colagreco was named the first ever Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity by the United Nations Educational and Scientific Organization (UNESCO) in recognition of his promotion and protection of biodiversity. At the onset of COP16 in Cali, Colombia, which is discussing global biodiversity, IPS spoke with Colagreco about sustainable food and nature-positive eating.

Here are excerpts from the interview:

IPS: You were appointed the first ever Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity? Why would a 3-Michelin-starred chef accept a role like this and what do you see yourself bringing to the role of a global ambassador for biodiversity?

Mauro Colagreco: Well, first of all, it is with deep gratitude and pride. I was su-

By choosing what we eat, we choose the world we would want to live in



Three-Michelin-starred chef Mauro Colagreco, the flag bearer of circular gastronomy, which aims to align food and nature. Credit: Mirazur

per happy to accept this because I am very involved in the implementation of sustainability practices in my restaurant, Mirazur. I am involved with regenerative agriculture, the fight against plastic use, waste management, and all kinds of things we can do to make our footprint more sustainable. This role gives a lot of power to our message and our practices. It is an opportunity for bigger action to democratize a necessary vision for gastronomy—a more circular gastronomy. I believe that, as chefs, if we can act together, we will have a real impact.

This new role of ambassador recognizes that our responsibility as chefs is bigger than our kitchens. It shows that from the soil to the plate, everything is connected, and that we can lead a paradigm shift.

I am a day-to-day peaceful activist, and I'm a campaigner; we can't be silent anymore. We must take action!

So, that's why I accepted this role of goodwill ambassador, and what can I bring? I think first of all, I can bring my knowledge of the food industry. I know how it works now, and I know how it can be reshaped to work better. I can bring my experience because we have spent years testing and learning about several topics where we can have a real influence in our industry, in our region, and on our planet. My mission is to save biodiversity, save our food traditions, and make our food more sustainable. For me, the plan to follow is to educate everyone. The key is education.

With my fellow chefs through the Relais & Châteaux Association, of which I am the vice president, we regularly educate chefs about the challenge of biodiversity. For example, we are now continuing a major campaign to stop serving endangered species like eel in all the 800 restaurants of the network. Also, I have initiated a big program that will turn the chefs of Relais & Châteaux into local biodiversity ambassadors on a daily basis. This is a huge program with UNESCO, which we will announce

in the coming weeks.

IPS: What motivated your commitment to sustainable food in the first place? What are your personal convictions? Can you explain more about this?

Colagreco: Yes, my personal conviction is that by choosing what we eat and what we cook, we choose the world we want to live in and that is really my motto.

To me, everything is interdependent and interconnected. We cannot isolate one aspect of life from another. If we change the way we grow food, we change our actual food; we change the way our society works; we change our values. That is my life vision and mission.

What motivates me even more is to propose a real alternative to resolve the alarming situation we are facing. I understood that when I opened Mirazur in 2006. I had a bit of land at the restaurant, and I started gardening on a very small plot.

At that moment, I started to read a lot about agriculture, many books, and one especially, *The One-Straw Revolution* by Masanobu Fukuoka, really influenced me. This book changed my mind.

That is when I began to understand the profound link between gastronomy and the environment. I understood the importance of biodiversity for our cuisine, for cuisine in general, and, of course, for our planet. And then the small land where I started turned into five hectares of permaculture and biodynamic gardens, where I grew more than 1,500 species and varieties of vegetables. We produce nearly 70 percent of what we serve at the restaurant. So, what we propose, in the end, is a seed-to-plate gastronomy, because we take care of the whole process

IPS: What does it mean to reconcile the environmental impact of the world's most exclusive fine dining with concerns about sustainability and bet-

ter stewardship of nature?

Colagreco: That means that making food can no longer be at the expense of the planet. We need to reconnect with nature and rediscover the joy of feeding people in harmony with the planet.

Again, we can no longer eat while eating the planet; that is sure, but the problem is not haute gastronomy. In high gastronomy, you touch a very small segment of the population. The problem is mass consumption. You know, it is how we will feed the 8 billion people on the planet.

That is a huge thing, but that is not a problem because we have great news: we can take the same respectful methods we use in haute gastronomy, apply them to more accessible cuisine, and scale them up. Circular gastronomy, as I say, is not just for the rich elite but for everyone. We've tested it, and it works.

IPS: You are attending the big Conference of the Parties (COP16) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Cali, Colombia, this week. What are some of the things that you hope will be achieved by governments around the world at this meeting, and what do you personally hope to do at the COP?

Colagreco: I'm more than honored to be part of this important meeting. All the countries will be there, all the major organizations will be there, and we will all be looking at what we can do to save our biodiversity.

So, for me, in this situation of crisis, we need more ambitious policies to save where we live and our food, fundamentally change the way we live and consume, and fundamentally reorganize the way our society works.

As IPBES says, we need a common strategy because we are all in this together. My role as ambassador is to encourage change and show by example that there are solutions.

What I really want to do is make a solemn appeal to all governments, international organizations, chefs, educators, and citizens around the world to join forces and create and implement a global programme of good nutrition education for our children. I believe that this is the most important action to change the food system. Education is the key.

We need to create a generation that is aware of the importance of biodiversity and committed to making the right food choices. That's why I really believe this appeal is important, and it is what I want to personally do at the COP.

IPS: You are clearly more than just a chef—your restaurants are exceptionally successful businesses as well. Why does sustainable food make good business sense?

Colagreco: Well, first, because I really believe it is the business of the future. To continue with our current paradigm is like a crime against humanity.

The choice of circular gastronomy is a choice of awareness—it's a choice of values. It means something to everyone. I'm delighted to see the younger generation becoming more aware of that. When I see my children, my sons, I tell myself that we are doing this for them to pass on the right message.

It is a real choice to work for sustainable food—it is usually more demanding—let's face it. But what I find interesting is that it is like a sport. At first, it is hard to run a mile because you have not built up the muscles, but once you are trained, you can easily run for an hour or even more. So, it is the same for sustainable food and sustainable business; we need to start and be more physically ready.

To change habits is a choice. We must change habits. Of course, it is an effort; it is not easy to go out of your comfort zone. But we must. It is an obligation. Sustainable food is good business.

IPS: You are from Argentina—a country of the Global South—but you have restaurants in France, China, Thailand, and Japan. What role should the developing countries and the hospitality industries in the Global South play in sustainable food and biodiversity conservation?

Colagreco: We have to be careful because my role as ambassador is to lead by example and amplify the voice of biodiversity. We have about 30 restaurants worldwide, and it's very interesting because the more I travel, the more I realize that the challenges are different everywhere. Situations vary so much that, of course, there is no one way.

It is not the same situation in Asia, South America, the United States, Europe, or Africa. Even in every area, you have very different situations

My first priority when settling in a new country is to identify the local committed producer, with whom I can work to implement our circular gastronomy. My aim is always the same: to cook as much local, fresh and well-grown produce as possible. It is a question of respect for our clients and for the communities that work hard to offer a better food alternative. It's a question of respecting our planet.

Everyone needs to contribute, and my role is not to point fingers. The role of governments is to support their sustainable agriculture, their sustainable fishing industry, to protect their waste management, to regulate it and to fight against all unsustainable practices.

And the role of hospitality leaders is to have the courage to let circular gastronomy define their food and beverage offers.

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CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Musoma students drive climate action through tree planting

By Special Correspondent, Musoma

AT Gabimori primary school, located at Nyamagaro ward in Rorya District, 15-year-old Florence Sadiki kneels among polyethylene bags, carefully examining the seedlings she and her classmates have nurtured from tiny sprouts.

"We've planted many trees to make our school look better and to help fight climate change," she says.

Sadiki is part of an inspiring grassroots movement in the east African country where students, teachers, and community members team up to fight environmental degradation through reforestation.

In Rorya district, nestled on the shores of Lake Victoria, rampant deforestation driven by charcoal production has left the land barren. But the efforts of school environmental clubs, supported by the Lake Community Program (LACOP), are working to repair the damage.

The reality in Rorya is grim. Erratic rainfall and prolonged droughts have changed swathes of once-fertile land into dry savannas, a trend that has only accelerated since the initiative began in 2022. Spearheaded by the global charity World Neighbors and the Lake Community Development Foundation (LACODEFO), this initiative empowers students to plant trees and learn the entire process of growing them.

"We're teaching students to set up their own nurseries," says Idrisa Lema, the project officer. "It's not enough to hand out seedlings. They need to learn the whole process—choosing drought-resistant species, improving soil with organic manure, and using techniques like mulching." This holistic approach promotes sustainability and equips students with transferable skills that can help them for the rest of their lives.

In the past two years, the students have successfully planted 2,800 trees across five villages, a remarkable achievement that has already begun to



Mtoni Primary School pupils plant trees; this project has become central to the region's contribution to climate change mitigation.

bear fruit. Some once-dry water springs are starting to flow again. Yet challenges remain, particularly in Nyamagaro and neighboring Kyangasaga villages, where erratic rainfall and drought continue to hinder progress.

"Watering the trees is tough," admits Alex Lwitiko, an environmental teacher at Rorya Girls' School. "We've had to be strict with the students—otherwise, the trees wouldn't survive."

To adapt, students have switched to innovative solutions like bottle irrigation and even drilled water wells to support their young trees. "We focus on drought-resistant species and organic farming methods to give the trees the best chance," Lwitiko says, emphasizing the program's commitment to teaching sustainability.

Sadiki herself has learned to adapt. "I know how to graft trees and grow them in tough conditions now," she says. "These trees are our future. They fight climate change, provide shade, and even improve soil fertility."

In Tanzania, the impact of climate change is becoming increasingly severe. The country aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30 to 35 percent by 2030, a goal outlined in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Despite its low carbon footprint—just 0.22 tons per capita compared to the global average of 7.58—Tanzania is reeling from climate-related disasters. Droughts, floods, and erratic weather patterns disrupt agriculture, drying up water sources and threatening economic stability.

For the rural poor, especially those who rely on farming—the backbone of the economy, making up 28 percent of GDP—the stakes are higher. But in places like Nyagisya and Rorya Girls Secondary Schools, students have taken up the fight. Through tree planting, they have become unlikely climate crusaders, tackling environmental degradation while improving food security and boosting local livelihoods.

The act of planting trees offers more

than shade and fruit. It symbolizes a deeper mission—restoring soil, preserving water, and, for these students, delivering a form of climate justice. The reforestation efforts are in step with Tanzania's broader plans to fortify its agriculture and water systems against the advancing climate crisis.

As these student-led initiatives flourish, they mirror Tanzania's urgent call for global support. With limited resources, the country is striving to fulfill its commitments yet it recognizes that the battle against climate change is a collective endeavor that requires unity on a global scale.

Despite the promising efforts in Tanzania, significant challenges remain. One of the main hurdles is the unpredictability of funding. Tree-planting initiatives and climate adaptation programs require sustained financial support, but resources are often limited, local analysts say.

Without consistent funding, scaling up projects and maintaining long-term impact becomes difficult.

While students have embraced environmental stewardship, not all local households are on board. In some areas, livestock continues to graze on young saplings, undoing the hard work of reforestation. Additionally, cultural and economic pressures, such as the reliance on charcoal for income and firewood for cooking, contribute to ongoing deforestation, making conservation efforts harder.

Erratic rainfall and worsening drought conditions present another barrier. Water scarcity makes it harder to nurture newly planted trees, despite innovative solutions. These conditions also strain local agriculture, which many families depend on, increasing the urgency of balancing conservation with survival needs.

While Tanzania has ambitious climate goals, the gap between policy and practical implementation remains wide, particularly in rural areas where the effects of climate change are felt most acutely.

Without Accelerated Action, We Will Miss the Chance to Limit Warming to 1.5°C, says UNEP Chief Climate Advisor

At Gabimori Primary School, students have embraced their role as environmental stewards.

"They've seen how conservation affects their daily lives," says teacher Witinga Mattambo. "They now understand the link between the trees and the food they eat."

The impact is vivid for students like Sadiki. "I never realized trees were this important," she says. "They bring rain and improve our environment."

For Lema, this is only the beginning. By fostering leadership skills and engaging the broader community, the program is building a new generation of Tanzanians dedicated to environmental protection. "We've even seen parents get involved," Lwitiko says. "They're starting to plant trees in their own yards."

Still, the program faces hurdles. Some households allow their livestock to graze on young saplings, undoing the hard work of the students. "It's frustrating," admits Lwitiko, "but we're making progress, step by step."

Lema has ambitious plans to expand the initiative.

"We're training students to pass on their knowledge," he says. "As they move on, they'll teach younger students, and we'll spread this effort to other schools." But scaling the program will require more funding.

"We're working on securing more resources and partnering with local governments to enforce tree-planting bylaws," Lema explains. There are also plans to set up household tree nurseries, allowing families to earn extra income while contributing to conservation.

For Sadiki, the program's impact is lasting.

"We have the duty to plant trees and protect our environment. It's something we'll carry with us for the rest of our lives."



INVITATION FOR BID

BID No. 91184191

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 in achieving its development-policy objectives.

The Improvement of Health Care Programme II (IHCP II) is implemented by GIZ, commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. GIZ implements this programme with close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the President Office Local Government and Regional Authority.

Requirement

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

Item No.	Item Description	Quantity
1	Laptops	35
2	All in One Desktop Computers	2
3	Desktop Computers	4
4	Black and White Printers	8
5	Monitor 24"	4
6	LCD Projector	3
7	Ms Office	41

Interested candidates should request for detailed tender documents from tz_procurement@giz.de no later than date **12.11.2024**

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.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR SUPPLIERS AND CONTRACTORS FOR GOODS, WORKS AND SERVICES FOR THE YEAR 2024/2025

INTRODUCTION

Tanzania Red Cross Society (TRCS) is a humanitarian organization enacted by the Act of Parliament No. 72 of 1962 and its miscellaneous amendment No. 4 of 2019, mandated to implement disaster relief program activities and other related community-based projects for the purpose of helping the needy, wounded, sick, disabled and the vulnerable in times of peace or war and manmade or natural disasters. It is guided by the Fundamental Principles of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement in assisting communities in their efforts to prevent, prepare and respond to disasters.

The Tanzania Red Cross Society invites applicants from interested firms (including current suppliers) for prequalification for the supply of goods, works and services to the organization for the year 2025 as follows:

CODE	CATEGORY A - GOODS
TRCS/PQ/001/G/25	Supply of Agricultural and Livestock Products.
TRCS/PQ/002/G/25	Supply of Oil and Lubricants.
TRCS/PQ/003/G/25	Supply of General Office and Stationery.
TRCS/PQ/004/G/25	Supply of ICT Equipment, Devices/Computers & IT services including printers, laptops, cameras, desktops, computer hardware, software; teleconference facilities, routers, toners and accessories.
TRCS/PQ/005/G/25	Supply of vehicle tyres for 4 x4 vehicles and accessories.
TRCS/PQ/006/G/25	Supply and maintenance of office equipments (air-conditioners and refrigerator repairs)
TRCS/PQ/007/G/25	Supply of fuel – gas, petrol and diesel.
TRCS/PQ/008/G/25	Supply of medical equipment and devices
TRCS/PQ/009/G/25	Supply of various construction and building materials/hardware materials.
TRCS/PQ/010/G/25	Supply of sanitary items (rooms, liquid soaps, brushes, dust bins)
TRCS/PQ/011/G/25	Supply of medicine.
TRCS/PQ/012/G/25	Supply of office furniture.
TRCS/PQ/013/G/25	Supply of water treatment chemical and laboratory equipment's.
TRCS/PQ/014/G/25	Supply of non-food items (blankets, jerry cans, mosquito nets, mattresses, etc.)
CATEGORY B - SERVICES	
TRCS/PQ/015/NC/25	Provision of office cleaning and fumigation services.
TRCS/PQ/016/NC/25	Provision of repair and maintenance services of photocopiers, laptops, printers, UPS, servers and other electronic items.
TRCS/PQ/017/NC/25	Provision of catering services and refreshments
TRCS/PQ/018/NC/25	Provision of conference facilities and its related services (Venue and Accommodation services) in all regions.
TRCS/PQ/019/NC/25	Provision of Vehicle servicing, maintenance and repair.
TRCS/PQ/020/C/25	Provision of Professional Capacity Building, Team building, Training and Development Services.
TRCS/PQ/021/NC/25	Provision of Clearing and forwarding service
TRCS/PQ/022/NC/25	Provision of Security Services
TRCS/PQ/023/NC/25	Provision of Travel Agency Services
TRCS/PQ/024/NC/25	Provision of Software application/Website Development and Maintenance Services
TRCS/PQ/025/NC/25	Provision of Courier Services (Local & International)
TRCS/PQ/026/NC/25	Provision of Printing promotional Materials (T-shirts, Brochures, Booklets, Posters, banners and related products.
TRCS/PQ/027/NC/25	Provision of Services for computers, printers, local area network (LAN) and other office machines.
TRCS/PQ/028/NC/25	Provision of General Insurance services for Buildings, Vehicles & Motorcycles.
TRCS/PQ/029/NC/25	Provision of photography, filming and production of documentaries/ Recording Studios/Audio Production Services
TRCS/PQ/030/C/25	Provision of Assurance and non-assurance services/Audit Services
TRCS/PQ/031/C/25	Provision of consultant services for baseline, midterm and end term project evaluation, proposal writing facilitation, research services and Translation Services.
TRCS/PQ/032/C/25	Provision of consultant service for survey and designing in construction.
TRCS/PQ/033/NC/25	Provision of remittance service (cash transfer)
TRCS/PQ/034/NC/25	Provision of renting/leasing services (office, houses, vehicles, machines, etc.) in all regions.
TRCS/PQ/035/NC/25	Provision of office maintenance and repair (doors, electrical wiring, water pipes, painting, welding, aluminum partitions, etc.)
TRCS/PQ/036/NC/25	Provision of Telecommunication and internet service
TRCS/PQ/037/NC/25	Provision of Service and Maintenance of Fire Fighting Equipment.
TRCS/PQ/038/NC/25	Provision of asset evaluation and disposal services
TRCS/PQ/039/NC/25	Repair/ Maintenance and Servicing of medical equipment (Anesthesia machine, Autoclave, and Laboratory equipment)
CATEGORY C - WORKS	
TRCS/PQ/040/W/25	Provision of building and civil engineering and construction Services.

NOTE:

1. Pre-qualification is open to all eligible National Suppliers/Contractors/Service Providers with

At: the deadline for submission will be before 16:00hrs on 21st November 2024. Bids Prequalification documents are available and interested and eligible candidates/bidders may obtain further information and the tender documents at Tanzania Red Cross Society – Dar es Salaam HQ.

For any enquiries/questions please call +255 685 715 225, +255675929412 or Email: kelvin.mbunda@trcs.or.tz, seki.kasuga@trcs.or.tz

proven experience and capacity. Prices are not required at this stage.

2. Existing suppliers who wish to be retained MUST apply afresh and submit up-to-date information.

3. Clearly indicate Tender Number and names; failure to comply will disqualify your application.

4. Tanzania Red Cross Society reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on failure to follow-solicitation instructions.

5. The bid evaluation processes will be conducted as per Tanzania Red Cross Society Internal Procurement Guidelines.

6. Interested and eligible firms can obtain a complete set of the Pre-Qualification documents from the office of the Secretary of TRCS Tender Committee office during working hours from 1st November, 2024 to 15th November, 2024(excluding Saturday and Sunday) between 09:30hrs–16:00hrs local time except during lunch time from 13:00 to 14:00 hrs. at a non-refundable fee of Tanzania Shillings 100,000 per tender (TZS 100,000=).

Mode of Payment
Pay by using Bank Account number 011103002443, Name of Account: TANZANIA RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Visit any of National Bank of Commerce NBC Bank to pay. You will be required to present the deposit slip to the TRCS in order to get receipt which will-enable to buy Tender document at PLU office

7. Late expressions of interest shall not be accepted for evaluation, irrespective of the circumstances.

8. Attach price list of all services offered, materials or items to be supplied and you wish to be considered at each category.

A. QUALIFICATION PROCESS:
Interested suppliers should send the below listed qualification documents and information to the address as indicated in section B:

1. Company details with company profile like name, position, telephone contacts, email address, full details of the physical location, the company website and official email address.

2. Pre-qualification registration documents including Copy of business License, TIN certificate, VAT registration certificate, certificate of incorporation, power of attorney.

3. Financial positions/ investments indicating your company turnover for the period 2021,2022 & 2023 (financial statements). Please attach copies of audited books of accounts for the indicated period.

4. Past Performance and Experience, please provide at least three letters of recommendation from organizations where you company has supplied similar services in the last three years. The letter should state on the recommending organization's letterhead, type of goods and services you supplied, comment on performance of your company, number of years they have done business with your company and attach documentary evidence of existence of contract e.g. Local Purchase Order, Contract, Frame work agreement etc.

5. Confirmed statement to declare that to the best of your knowledge the information submitted in this pre-qualification process (and any supporting documentation) are correct.

6. Late Tenders, Portion of Tenders, Electronic Tenders, Tenders not received, Tenders not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

C. SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI):
Completed Documents, in plain envelopes marked with the Tender Category Number and Description, should be deposited in the Tender Box provided at the Tanzania Red Cross Society at the below address on or before 16:00hrs 21st November, 2024 and addressed to:

Secretary General
Attn: Procurement and Logistics department,
Tanzania Red Cross Society
Mwai Kibaki Road, Mikocheni
P. O. Box 1133 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Kahama unveils measures to curb mineral smuggling

By Correspondent Marco Maduhu, Shinyanga

AUTHORITIES in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region, have unveiled measures to curb mineral smuggling in collaboration with the Mineral Commission.

Among the outlined measures include meetings with mining stakeholders to identify the causes of rampant smuggling, particularly in mining sites and mineral markets. District Commissioner Mboni Mhita revealed these strategies recently, following reports that the area leads the country in mineral smuggling, which primarily perpetrated by small-scale miners, depriving the government of revenue and facilitating significant illegal financial activities.

DC Mboni stated that discussions with stakeholders raised several concerns, including excessive levies imposed by local councils and a shortage of operational mineral markets, as some, like Segese, have closed, leaving only the Kahama Municipal market active.

"We've received these concerns and are in the process of addressing them. In our efforts to control smuggling, we've also strengthened security at Kahama airport, gold mining sites, and mineral markets, placing our personnel in key areas," said Mboni.

Ongoing operations aim to apprehend individuals involved in mineral smuggling, with those caught facing severe legal repercussions, including license revocation. As a result, three miners at Mwime Mine and three traders in the Kahama mineral market have had their licenses suspended due to their involvement in smuggling.

Mboni reported a significant increase in revenue collection, with July alone



Shinyanga Regional Police Commander Janeth Magomi displays 97m/- and 930.88 grams of gold worth 93m/- which were being smuggled by six individuals on the logi road in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu.

yielding 1bn/-, up from 9bn/-.

Winfrida Mrema, Mining Officer for the Kahama Mining Region, noted that mineral smuggling has caused the

government to lose revenue and allowed individuals to earn illicit money.

She stated that operations to apprehend those involved

in smuggling are ongoing, resulting in multiple arrests, including a Mining Officer implicated in these activities, who has since been dismissed.

"Mineral smuggling is a major issue that prevents the government from collecting necessary revenue. In 2023, we were tasked with collecting 29.75bn/-, but only managed 24.9bn/-," Winfrida explained. For 2024, they are expected to collect 34.6bn/-, having already gathered 32.12bn/- by September, equivalent to 92.63%. This trend reflects the success of their anti-smuggling efforts.

Dotto Maligisa, the Shinyanga Region investment coordinator, pointed out that the small size of the mineral market contributes to the smuggling issue, leaving traders feeling insecure.

Zabroni Ngeraja, chairman of the Kahama Mining Market, stated they have reduced smuggling by 99%. He emphasized that any trader found involved in smuggling, whether within the market or in mining areas, will be removed from busi-

ness to protect the market's reputation.

"Currently, smuggling is concentrated in small mining areas such as Nyangarata, Nyikoboko, Nyamishiga, and Masabi. The government needs to invest significantly in these areas," Ngeraja added.

Joseph Masunga, a small-scale miner from Mwime Mines, noted that smuggling is driven by market scarcity and high levies. Trader Mpanzu Nswila remarked that smuggling results in lost national revenue and prevents the country from benefiting from its resources.

Shinyanga Regional Police Commander Janeth Magomi reported numerous arrests related to mineral smuggling. Recently, six individuals were apprehended for attempting to smuggle gold weighing 930.88 grams, valued at 93m/-.

Preliminary investigations revealed they intended to smuggle the minerals out of the country to evade taxes and government levies.

"This problem of min-

eral smuggling is prevalent in Kahama District. As the police force, we are conducting various operations to apprehend those involved and bring them to justice," Magomi stated.

Shinyanga Regional Commissioner, Anamringi Macha emphasized the commitment to controlling mineral smuggling, stating: "We have identified several areas where this illegal trade occurs, including rice milling factories."

Macha highlighted the embarrassment of mineral smuggling occurring within rice mills, where middlemen exploit ongoing milling operations for illegal trade. He warned that those facilitating this illegal activity in rice mills will face severe legal consequences.

While the Kahama Mining Region excels in mineral production, RC Macha noted the overwhelming market challenge and urged for strategies to expand the market size, helping to control smuggling and ensuring proper sales in legitimate markets.

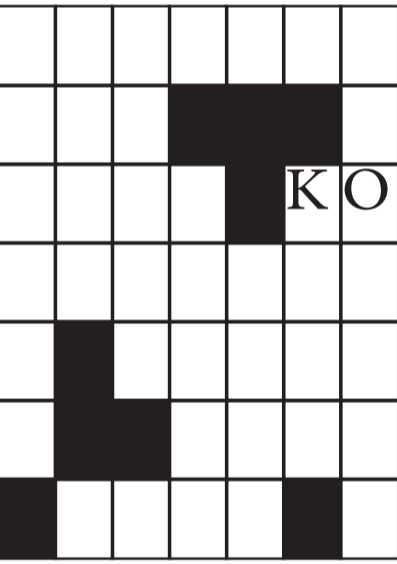
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Yesterday's Solutions

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- Across:**
- 1 play about roughly and energetically the system of teaching deaf people
 - 8 Khartoum is her mother city
 - 9 moreover
 - 11 unwell
 - 13 a person earning money
 - 18 Middle East Easting Disorder Association
 - 19 Stone town
 - 20 a label
- Down:**
- 1 largest country in the World
 - 2 a thing used as an example to follow
 - 3 worship
 - 4 quote
 - 5 a mischievous child
 - 7 small insects with breeding queen
 - 10 mountain of the dried-up ground
 - 12 a long and distinct period of history
 - 14 in the middle of
 - 15 tidily
 - 16 manufacturing company in Italy
 - 17 utter words



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

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| ESOL | REMIT |
| KINU | ENACT |
| TLINGIT | GULU |
| CLUE | TAUNT |
| SITU | SERVANT |
| TROTTER | SULTAN |
- Felix: 0789437309 / feliximagezi@gmail.

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

PLANS FOR MULTI-BILLION RAILWAY PROJECTS THROUGH PPP UNDERWAY

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) is seeking to engage private players to implement three projects which will involve the construction of two Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) lines and development of railway network for Dar es Salaam commuter train.

The first project will include the 1,000 kilometer SGR Railway line running from Mtwara port on the Indian Ocean to Mbambabay on Lake Nyasa, with spur connecting the minerals fields of Mchuchuma coal and Liganga iron ore in south-western Tanzania.

The executive director of Public Private Partnership Centre (PPPC) David Kafulila confirmed this week that the project which is still on pre-feasibility stage will connect and promote trade between Tanzania and at least three other countries of Malawi, Zambia and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

In November last year, the Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) director general Masanja Kadogosa said that the agency made a pitch to investors and financiers at the Africa Investment Forum in Marrakech, Morocco, earlier this month and secured at least \$2.2 billion of interest in the project.

The Mtwara-Mbamba Bay railway with spurs to Mozambique, Zambia

and Malawi was first proposed two decades ago, Kadogosa was quoted as saying. It will cater for proposed coal and iron ore mines in Mchuchuma and Liganga, and also serve Dangote Cement Plc and Tancoal Energy Ltd.

"The project is not beneficial for Tanzania alone, it is a regional railway that connects four countries," he said. "Large financial institutions are more interested in regional projects that integrate Africa and facilitate trade."

Tanzania is expanding its railway network with a view to hasten the pace of industrialization and to boost trade by capturing cargo for neighboring nations.

According to Kafulila, the second PPP project which is under the concept note, will involve the construction of Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) line to connect the northern corridor from Tanga and Arusha to Musoma.

The project with an estimated cost of US\$3.3 billion aims to address transport challenge along the northern corridor, connecting Mwambani Port in Tanga with Uganda, through Lake Victoria to Uganda.

The project will pass through agriculturally rich areas and is expected to connect with mining areas.

The third project according to the PPP chief will involve devel-



David Kafulila, Executive Director, Public Private Partnership Centre (PPPC)

opment of Railway network for Dar es Salaam Commuter train services which is now under the pre-feasibility study stage.

The US\$ 2.2 billion project includes modern rolling stock, dedicated railway infrastructure, telecommunication and signaling systems, trading services, parking lots, passenger terminals, pedestrian flyovers, rail crossing and fencing.

Economists suggest that Dar es Salaam city would greatly benefit from a commuter train service.

With its rapidly growing population and increasing urbanization,

the infrastructure could support long-term growth, contributing to a more sustainable and connected urban environment.

Kafulila said the three railway projects are part of 60 PPP-led projects which are under the pipeline, through different stages of implementation in different sectors of the economy including education, water, energy, electricity, gas and transportation.

Established under the Ministry of Finance and Planning, the PPP Centre is responsible for coordinating, promoting, and overseeing PPP projects. It provides technical assistance to government institutions and facilitates PPP project development.

Tanzania has been increasingly leveraging Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) to fund and execute large-scale infrastructure and development projects, particularly as the government focuses on industrialization and economic growth.

The government is forecasting a significant boost in Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) worth 22.8trn/- (about USD9.1 billion) in projects aimed at accelerating infrastructure, energy, transportation, and social services development.

The PPP plan is expected to create thousands of jobs, enhance the country's economic resilience, improve public services, and attract

further foreign direct investment. PPPs in Tanzania are designed to attract foreign direct investment and stimulate domestic private sector growth.

Given the need for efficient infrastructure and services to sustain growth, Tanzania's PPP approach remains integral to its national development agenda and aligns with its Vision 2025 goals for middle-income status.

Through these initiatives, PPPs are expected to improve public service delivery, stimulate economic growth, and make Tanzanian infrastructure projects more attractive to both domestic and foreign investors.

Tanzania's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) framework is governed by the Public-Private Partnership Act, 2010, as amended in 2014 and supplemented by various regulations and guidelines.

The law establishes the legal foundation, procedures, and institutional framework for planning, developing, and implementing PPP projects across the country.

The Tanzanian government has also issued several PPP regulations and guidelines, covering project appraisal, procurement, risk management, and contract management. These regulations aim to standardize the PPP process, improve transparency, and enhance private sector confidence in Tanzania's PPP environment.

Overall, Tanzania's PPP law seeks to encourage long-term collaboration between the public and private sectors while ensuring transparency, accountability, and value for the public in all partnership projects.

Fund spends 450bn/- on financing water projects



The accomplished projects have benefited 5.3 million people countrywide

By Francis Kajubi

THE National Water Fund (NWF) has since President Samia Suluhu Hassan assumed power initiated 998 water projects of which 354 have been accomplished fetching an estimated 450bn/-.

Haji Nandule, NWF chief executive officer told journalists yesterday in Dar es Salaam that the projects were implemented between July 2021 and June 2024 whereas the remaining 644 water projects are ongoing. The accomplished projects have benefited 5.3 million people so far.

"Until July 2024, a total of 5.3bn/- have been disbursed as loans to water authorities across the country," he said.

According to Nandule, about 104 projects for the conservation and development of water sources have been implemented including the conservation of more than 92 wa-

ter sources which include aquifers, reservoirs, lakes, ponds, rivers and wells. Others are the construction of one dam and the rehabilitation of seven dams, the drilling of more than 50 deep wells and the restoration of five rivers that lost their channel of drainage.

"Currently, the core source of revenues for NWF is the fuel levy of 50/- per liter of Petrol and Diesel. This levy is charged in accordance with Finance Act No. 16 of 2015," said Nandule.

He explained that this levy generates revenue for the NWF estimated at 170bn/- per year.

In plans to increase more income, NWF is considering the mobilization of seed capital worth 50bn/- from capital markets and other financiers which will be for the revolving fund.

Speaking about funds expenditure by the Fund, he said that expenditures are decided in accordance

with Regulation 4(2) of the National Water Fund Regulations, 2019.

According to those regulations, spending is done in three main parts: the implementation of projects, not less than 88 percent; management, design and monitoring and evaluation of projects not exceeding 10 percent; and the costs of operating the water bag is no more than two percent.

The National Water Fund (NWF) in Tanzania is a government initiative established to ensure sustainable financing for water sector projects, with a primary focus on expanding and improving water supply and sanitation services across the country.

The fund plays a crucial role in addressing Tanzania's water needs, particularly in rural and underserved urban areas, by mobilizing resources and supporting infrastructure development.

He said the Fund has also been

executing projects for the maintenance of water resources which include the installation of beacons and warning signs in water sources to prevent human activities in the sources.

Others are the construction of dams and cattle troughs. NWF was established under the Water Supply and Sanitation Act no. 05 of the year 2019.

It is a financial institution with the goal of providing funds for the implementation of clean water distribution projects in areas with shortages and maintenance of water sources in the country.

The establishment of the Fund aims to have a reliable source of funds to implement water projects. NWF commenced operations in 2015/2016 where it currently has 24 employees across the country.

It works in collaboration with TIB bank in receiving and processing loan applications of water authorities for water projects. About 60 percent of NWF loans are directed to Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) at a rate of six percent per year.

Despite its progress, the NWF faces challenges, including funding gaps, climate change impacts on water availability, and maintenance needs for aging infrastructure.

To address these, the NWF is increasingly looking to public-private partnerships (PPPs) and innovative financing models to close funding gaps and support long-term sustainability.

The National Water Fund remains essential for Tanzania's efforts to improve water access and sanitation, helping to meet the growing demands of a developing population while supporting the country's broader social and economic development goals.

Global construction companies converge in Nairobi next week

By Martin Olage

The prestigious Big 5 Construct Kenya exhibition will return to Nairobi's Sarit Expo Centre from November 6 to 8, 2024, showcasing the latest developments in Kenya's burgeoning construction industry.

The event is expected to draw more than 150 exhibitors and 8,500 industry professionals from across the globe, establishing itself as a premier platform for innovation and collaboration in the construction sector. The exhibition comes at an opportune time, following Kenya's impressive economic performance marked by a 14 per cent GDP growth in 2023.

The construction sector has emerged as a contributor to this growth, accounting for 6.6 per cent of the national economy.

This economic vigour is reflected in the surge of residential, commercial, and infrastructural developments across the country, particularly in ambitious initiatives such as the Konza Technology City and the LAPSET Corridor Programme. Professional development takes centre stage at the event through the Big 5 Talks program, featuring over 20 CPD-certified sessions.

These specialized presentations will explore four fundamental themes: architecture, technology, project management, and sustainability.

Attendees will have the opportunity to earn professional development points while engaging in substantive discussions about industry challenges and innovations. The exhibition floor will showcase a comprehensive range of construction solutions, spanning from traditional building materials and concrete to cutting-edge digital construction technologies and sustainable practices.

Notable industry leaders including Elite Tools, Framacad, and Bauer will present alongside first-time exhibitors such as Decotech Metal and Suprimo.

Sustainability emerges as a cen-

tral focus of this year's exhibition and reflects the industry's growing commitment to environmental responsibility.

The event will serve as a forum for discussing eco-friendly construction methodologies and innovations that address environmental concerns while meeting the needs of Kenya's expanding population.

This emphasis on sustainable practices aligns with global trends toward greener construction methods and materials.

The exhibition's scope extends beyond mere product displays to foster meaningful connections among diverse industry stakeholders. By bringing together contractors, architects, engineers, and interior designers, the event creates opportunities for knowledge exchange and partnership formation.

This collaborative environment is particularly valuable for international exhibitors seeking to establish a presence in the Kenyan market while forming strategic alliances with local enterprises. Kenya's construction sector continues to benefit from substantial government initiatives and private sector investments, driving demand for advanced technologies and efficient construction methods.

The Big 5 Construct Kenya exhibition addresses this need by showcasing state-of-the-art solutions that can enhance project efficiency and sustainability. The event's timing coincides with Kenya's rapid urbanization, positioning it as an essential platform for addressing the challenges and opportunities presented by this transformation.

The exhibition provides a platform for local and international companies to network, form partnerships, and explore investment opportunities in Kenya's construction industry.

With Kenya's infrastructure and real estate markets booming, the event serves as an entry point for investors seeking to tap into East Africa's expanding construction sector.

GLOBAL BUILDING INFORMATION MODELLING MARKET SET TO EXPAND

Dublin

The global market for Building Information Modeling (BIM) was estimated at US\$8.6 Billion in 2023 and is projected to reach US\$24.8 Billion by 2030, growing at a CAGR of 16.3 percent from 2023 to 2030, the recent report published by Globe newswire has said.

Building Information Modeling (BIM) is a transformative technology that is revolutionizing the construction industry by offering a comprehensive digital representation of a building's physical and functional characteristics throughout its entire lifecycle.

According to the report, the growth in the Building Information Modeling (BIM) market is driven by several factors, reshaping how construction projects are conceived, managed, and delivered.

One of the primary drivers is the increasing complexity of modern building projects, which necessitates sophisticated tools that can handle intricate designs and multifaceted systems.

BIM's ability to integrate multiple disciplines - structural, mechanical, and electrical - into a unified platform makes it essential for managing these complex projects. Another critical factor is government mandates and regulatory requirements.

In many countries, particularly in Europe, the US, and parts of Asia, governments are requiring the use of BIM for large-scale infrastructure and public sector projects, recognizing its potential to improve project transparency and accountability.

These mandates have acceler-

ated BIM adoption, making it a critical tool in both the public and private sectors. The demand for sustainable construction practices is also driving growth in the BIM market, as the technology enables better energy modeling and lifecycle analysis, aligning with global sustainability goals.

Additionally, the growing investment in smart cities is propelling BIM adoption. As cities become more connected and integrated, BIM's ability to handle the planning, design, and maintenance of infrastructure in a cohesive, data-driven manner is becoming increasingly valuable.

Furthermore, the global construction industry is grappling with labor shortages and a declining workforce, especially skilled labor.

BIM helps address this challenge by automating many aspects of design and construction management, reducing the need for extensive manual labor and allowing companies to do more with fewer resources.

Lastly, the rising trend of prefabrication and modular construction - both of which require precise coordination and planning - relies heavily on BIM to optimize workflows and ensure that every component fits together perfectly.

These factors, coupled with technological advancements and a shifting regulatory landscape, are fueling the rapid growth of the BIM market across the globe.

Unlike traditional construction methods that rely on 2D drawings and fragmented data, BIM integrates information into a cohesive 3D model, allowing for the precise planning, design, and



The global construction industry is grappling with labor shortages and a declining workforce, especially skilled labour

management of projects. This 3D model contains rich data about every component of the project, from structural elements like beams and walls to systems like HVAC and electrical installations.

Through BIM, stakeholders such as architects, engineers, contractors, and facility managers can collaborate on a centralized platform, ensuring all parties are working with the most up-to-date information.

One of BIM's key benefits is its ability to identify potential design clashes or system conflicts early in the project, minimizing costly rework and delays during the construction phase.

It also supports enhanced visualization, enabling stakeholders to simulate the building's performance and behavior before physical construction begins.

Moreover, BIM is not only a design tool but also plays a crucial role in operations and maintenance, providing building owners and managers with a detailed,

costly changes during the construction phase.

In residential and commercial projects, BIM enables better coordination between architectural design and structural or mechanical systems, ensuring that every element, from plumbing to lighting, fits seamlessly into the overall plan.

During the construction phase, BIM allows contractors to manage scheduling, procurement, and logistics more efficiently by linking the digital model to real-time project data.

With access to the BIM model, workers can see exactly how different elements should fit together, reducing the likelihood of mistakes.

Moreover, BIM can be tied to cost data, helping project managers maintain control over budgets and timelines.

After construction is complete, the BIM model is valuable for facility management, as it provides a digital twin of the building that can be used for ongoing maintenance, renovations, or future expansions. Whether it's a hospital, skyscraper, or transportation hub, BIM is crucial in ensuring that projects are completed efficiently and with long-term operational success.

The continuous evolution of technology is amplifying the capabilities of BIM, making it a more powerful tool in the construction and design industries.

Cloud computing is one of the most significant advancements, allowing BIM data to be shared and accessed in real-time by stakeholders across the globe.

This facilitates greater collaboration between teams, regardless

of geographic location, and helps resolve issues faster as updates can be made instantaneously.

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) is further enhancing BIM by providing predictive analytics that can foresee potential project risks or challenges.

AI-driven insights allow construction teams to optimize schedules, anticipate material shortages, and identify potential design flaws before they escalate into costly problems.

Another technological advancement impacting BIM is the growing use of virtual and augmented reality (VR/AR), which allows stakeholders to immerse themselves in a fully realized digital environment. With VR, architects, engineers, and even clients can walk through a 3D model of the building, identifying design elements or features that may need adjustments long before construction starts.

This level of interactivity enhances decision-making and minimizes miscommunication. The Internet of Things (IoT) is also playing a significant role by enabling real-time data collection from sensors embedded in buildings, which can then be integrated back into the BIM model for ongoing analysis of a building's performance.

This allows for more efficient building management, reducing operational costs and improving energy efficiency. As these technologies continue to advance, BIM's ability to streamline project management, improve accuracy, and reduce waste is becoming increasingly indispensable to the construction industry.



Coldwell Banker real estate eyes burgeoning Znz property market

By Guardian Reporter

WITH a projected value of US\$1.5 billion as of 2019 compared to US\$1.2 billion in 2015 and contributing 3.1 percent to the country's real GDP, Tanzania's real estate sector is on a roll.

According to data from Statista, the real estate market in the country is expected to reach a value of 696.60 billion US dollars by the end of the year (2024). The market is also experiencing a surge in demand for luxury beachfront properties due to its stunning coastline and growing tourism industry.

It is also safe to note that there is an influx of foreign direct investment (FDI) into Tanzania's real estate sector which has helped inject additional capital and expertise, further fueling growth and innovation within the industry.

Not to be left out and riding on that background, Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, has launched a new master franchise, Coldwell Banker Tanzania and Zanzibar, to expand its international brand's network.

The company's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Gina Washington, said during the launch that they intend to bring the brand's global real estate expertise to one of East Africa's most dynamic property markets.

"With rapid urbanization and eco-

nom growth fueling demand for high-quality real estate services, this master franchise is positioned to provide both local and international clients with unparalleled guidance and support in navigating Tanzania and Zanzibar's flourishing property landscape," she said.

Operating from Mizizini in Zanzibar, the company has introduced its first residential and commercial divisions—Coldwell Banker Islemark Realty for residential brokerage and Coldwell Banker Commercial Blueridge for commercial real estate—to provide dedicated support to homeowners, investors, and businesses throughout the island.

"We have plans to expand into additional locations across the country, bringing century-long legacy of integrity and excellence to East Africa, fostering trusted relationships and delivering high-quality real estate services tailored to meet the diverse needs of a dynamic market," she added.

She noted that the company is dedicated to sustainable development and green building practices, ensuring long-term value for clients and communities.

"Our presence here reflects Tanzania and Zanzibar's dynamic potential. With an unwavering commitment to integrity and innovation, we're here to build strong local relationships

and foster positive growth in the real estate sector," she noted.

As government initiatives in Zanzibar continue to attract foreign direct investment and the tourism sector flourishes, there is a growing demand for retail, hospitality and residential projects.

The brand offers comprehensive services designed to help support these needs, including investment strategies, project development and tenant representation.

Additionally, the brand's residential services through the Coldwell Banker Global Luxury program will help cater to the increased desire for high-end housing, luxury rentals and residential investment opportunities.

"The real estate industry in Tanzania and Zanzibar is experiencing extraordinary growth, and I am confident that this is the perfect moment for us to bring the brand's renowned expertise to the region. With both residential and commercial services, our trusted network and unparalleled expertise will redefine how real estate is approached here," she said.

Jason Waugh, President of Coldwell Banker Affiliates, said in a statement that they are thrilled to join the market which offers incredible opportunities and vowed to deliver the exceptional service and expertise for which the brand is known

worldwide.

Data indicates that among the various segments, residential real estate in Tanzania dominates the market with a projected market volume of US\$637.40 billion in 2024.

This segment, the data shows, is expected to grow at an annual growth rate of 6.75 percent (CAGR 2024-2029), resulting in a market volume of 965.80 billion US dollars by 2029.

When compared globally, it is worth noting that United States is expected to generate the highest value in the real estate market, with a projected value of 132.0 trillion US dollars in 2024.

While the figures may seem comparatively modest, the trajectory reflects promising growth and investment opportunities within the country's real estate landscape owing to the nation's economic expansion fueled by robust macroeconomic policies and strategic investments in infrastructure and development projects.

Experts hint that the economic growth has led to an increase in disposable income levels, thereby driving demand for housing and real estate investment opportunities. Experts have also attributed the growth of the real estate market to rapid urbanization which is redefining the country's demographic landscape.

Economic growth has seen a significant number of the rural population migrating from rural to urban areas in search of employment, education, and improved living standards, which in turn causes the burgeoning of urban centers and the need for high-quality residential accommodations.

Other factors for the growth are improved policies such as tax incentives for real estate developers, streamlined regulatory processes, and public-private partnerships which have facilitated the construction of housing and commercial units and catalyzed investment in the market.

Annabelle Maimu, a real estate agent, said that with evolving market dynamics, developers are diversifying their offerings to cater to varying consumer needs and preferences, from affordable housing projects targeting middle and low-income segments to luxury developments catering to high-net-worth individuals.

"The market is witnessing a proliferation of residential and commercial options tailored to diverse demographics," she added.

Numbers never lie, the sector has great potential to contribute to the nation's economic development and well-being, and perhaps there could never be a more opportune time for the new kid on the block.

China solar firms post huge losses due to oversupply

BEIJING

China's top solar manufacturers posted big losses in the third quarter as severe overcapacity and price wars continue to hurt the companies producing equipment critical to global energy transition.

Leading panel-maker Longi Green Energy Technology Co. chalked up its fourth straight quarterly net loss of 1.26 billion yuan (\$177 million), after recording a profit of 2.5 billion yuan in the same period last year. Rivals Tongwei Co. and Trina Solar Co. also swung to losses, while JA Solar Technology Co. saw net income plunge and Jinko Solar Co. barely turned a profit.

Longi blamed a persistent mismatch between supply and demand, which has led to a significant drop in product prices, according to its statement. The company has cut output to ease losses.

China's world-dominating solar firms have been forced to sell below cost after a breakneck buildup in capacity to feed China's renewables boom. Companies are undercutting each other to maintain market share, and most are expected to report losses this year, BloombergNEF said in a report earlier this month. Consolidation has already seen some smaller players going bankrupt or being bought by larger outfits.

The sharpened focus on the health of a sector deemed increasingly central to China's economy could hasten measures to improve profitability. Solar-making shares surged last week on hopes that the government will step in with restrictions on production, although some analysts remained unconvinced.

China's main solar industry association earlier this month called for rational pricing and urged companies to be more disciplined in bidding for projects. Over the summer, it said struggling manufacturers should exit the market as soon as possible. The increased scrutiny could help eliminate capacity and accelerate consolidation, Jinko's chairman, Li Xiande, said on an earnings call on Wednesday.

"We believe that, with enhanced supervision by related departments, domestic prices will eventually return to reasonable levels," Li said.

China's factory activity unexpectedly expanded after five months of contraction, suggesting recent stimulus efforts may have begun to boost growth momentum.

As the US presidential election nears, investors in Chinese stocks are zeroing in on the prospects of key sectors that look set to remain in the crosshairs of the White House, whoever wins it.

China's two biggest lithium producers remain in the red nine months into the year as the battery-metal downturn continues squeezing the industry.

China Three Gorges Renewables Group Co. is planning a massive power base mixing wind, solar, coal and batteries in the Taklamakan Desert.

CONSTRUCTION

ZANZIBAR SEEKS TO BECOME REGIONAL LEADER IN BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY, DIGITAL GOVERNANCE

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR is set to emerge as regional leader in blockchain technology and digital governance across Africa.

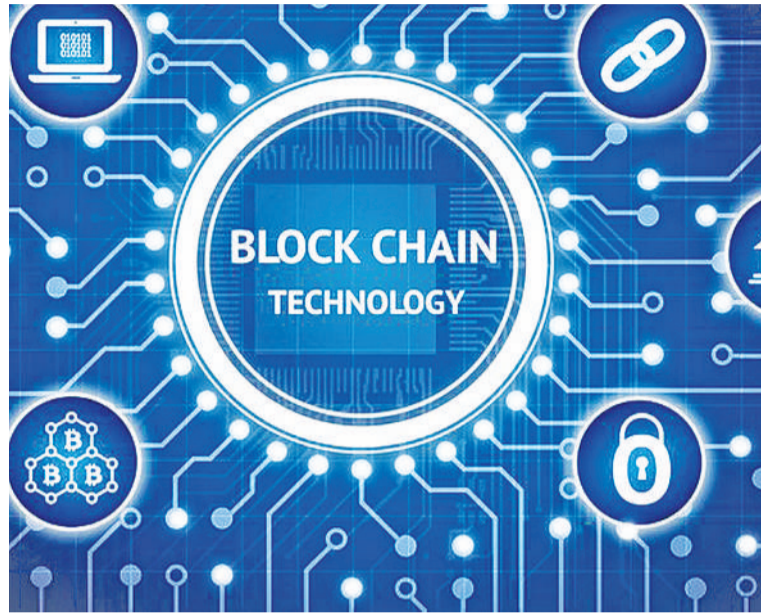
This follows establishment of Zanzibar's National Blockchain Sandbox in which XDC Network, a leading enterprise-grade, EVM-compatible blockchain platform, in collaboration with LedgerFi played a pivotal role.

A statement released here recently by XDC Network said the initiative is designed to drive blockchain innovation and provide startups with a secure platform to test their solutions, positioning Zanzibar as a regional leader in blockchain technology and digital governance across the continent.

The National Blockchain Sand-

box, developed by LedgerFi and powered by the XDC Network, offers startups a robust environment to experiment with blockchain applications in real-world scenarios. The sandbox provides opportunities for startups to innovate across areas like financial inclusion, identity verification, decentralized infrastructure, and other emerging sectors, helping them refine their solutions before scaling to broader markets.

During a recent Fireside Chat, Vinay Krishna, CEO of LedgerFi, asked Said Seif Said, Director General of the e-Government Authority of Zanzibar, how this initiative aligns with Zanzibar's vision of becoming a regional leader in blockchain and digital governance. Said responded, "The blockchain network sandbox is designed to be a secure ex-



perimental environment where innovators can develop, test, and deploy blockchain-based solu-

tions for real-world applications. LedgerFi, in collaboration with the Zanzibar e-government au-

thority, plays a pivotal role in designing, developing, and setting up this network. By providing this platform, Zanzibar is positioning itself as a regional leader in blockchain innovation and digital governance, offering a competitive edge in Africa's growing tech ecosystem."

This initiative is set to propel Zanzibar's tech landscape by providing startups with access to advanced encryption, multi-layered security protocols, and expert mentorship. The National Blockchain Sandbox is also aligned with Zanzibar's broader vision of fostering digital transformation, especially in critical areas such as financial technology and digital governance.

By offering a safe, controlled environment for startups to test their ideas, the sandbox is expected to attract venture capital

investments and increase the likelihood of startups succeeding in both local and international markets. With the support of XDC Network's secure and scalable infrastructure, this collaboration is helping Zanzibar emerge as a significant player in Africa's tech ecosystem, encouraging the development of solutions that address key challenges in the digital economy.

As Said Seif Said highlighted, "This collaboration underscores the immense potential of bringing together technology leaders and blockchain networks to foster innovative solutions for the Web3 ecosystem in Africa. By integrating advanced blockchain technology with forward-thinking infrastructure, we are set to revolutionize the delivery and experience of financial services in Africa and beyond."

Dubai real estate sector strategy set to turbocharge international investments



DUBAI

The Dubai Real Estate Sector Strategy 2033 outlines a focused roadmap to elevate the sector's economic impact on the emirate by significantly increasing transaction volumes and reinforcing its appeal as a premier destination for international investors.

Demonstrating its robust strength and resilience, Dubai's real estate market recorded over 163,000 transactions, amounting to more than AED544 billion in the first nine months of 2024.

Real estate investments also saw substantial growth, crossing AED376 billion during this period, driven by advanced infrastructure and a strong regulatory framework. While the sector continues to achieve record growth, property speculation remains within desirable limits, not exceeding 20 percent, reflecting stability and sustainability in investment trends.

Announcing the launch of the strategy, Marwan Ahmed bin Ghalita, Director-General of Dubai Land Department, emphasised that it aligns with the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of

Dubai.

The strategy aims to inspire a transformative shift in Dubai's real estate sector by fostering sustainability and solidifying Dubai's role as a regional and global leader in real estate. Investing in Dubai extends beyond property acquisition; it offers a high-quality lifestyle, further enhancing market appeal and attracting long-term investment.

Marwan bin Ghalita addressed a media gathering at the Government of Dubai Media Office attended by department CEOs and representatives from various local media outlets. This interaction was part of the 'Meet the CEO' series, organised by the Government of Dubai Media Office and moderated by Maryam Al Mulla, Director of the Dubai Press Club. The session reflects a collaborative effort to promote positive engagement and constructive dialogue between the media and senior officials from government and semi-government entities across Dubai's key sectors.

The Dubai Real Estate Sector Strategy 2033 aims to fulfil its ambitious objectives through a set of key performance indicators, which include doubling the real estate sector's contribution to Dubai's

GDP to approximately AED73 billion, increasing home ownership rates to 33 percent, growing real estate transactions by 70 percent, raising the market value to AED1 trillion, and expanding the value of Dubai's real estate portfolios 20 times to AED20 billion.

The strategy is underpinned by enhanced transparency through data insights, a resilient market structure, and a sectoral ecosystem focused on continuous innovation. Aligned with the Dubai Economic Agenda D33, Dubai Social Agenda 33, and the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan, it strengthens Dubai's position as a global innovation and sustainable growth leader.

The strategic roadmap emphasises the creation of sustainable communities built to the highest quality standards. Increasing transparency and showcasing high-value real estate assets to attract significant international investment, particularly from emerging markets, remains a focal point.

Reinforcing the support infrastructure for the sector is also a key priority, alongside leveraging technology. This includes deploying Artificial Intelligence, enhancing data centralisation, and offering a

seamless, integrated experience for both investors and end-users.

The strategy is bolstered by a series of ten-year programmes, including the Transparency and Global Marketing Program, Data and Governance Program, Flexible Urban Planning Program, Real Estate Investment Funds Program, Affordable Housing and Real Estate Sustainability Program, and the Program to Enhance Emirati Competitiveness in the Real Estate Sector.

Emiratization within the real estate sector is positioned as a strategic milestone, emphasising the empowerment of national talent and their active involvement in this crucial field.

By integrating Emiratis into the real estate sector, Dubai nurtures local market growth and strengthens its global competitiveness.

This commitment aligns with the nation's broader Emiratization objectives, underscoring the expanding role of Emiratis across all economic sectors, thereby ensuring a sustainable real estate market.

A standout initiative within this framework is the Dubai Real Estate Brokers Programme, specifically designed to empower Emiratis in real estate brokerage.

This programme achieves its goals through advanced training initiatives that foster innovation and skill development in real estate, strengthening Emirati identity within the industry. It also positions Emirati-led real estate brokerage as a regional and global leader, enhancing the competitiveness of both local and international markets.

Modern technology is at the heart of the Dubai Real Estate Sector Strategy 2033, aiming to enhance operational efficiency, elevate customer experiences, and support sector growth.

The strategy enables smarter decision-making and insights into market needs by utilising AI-driven data analysis.

Digital solutions enhance the customer journey throughout the property lifecycle—from search and purchase to management. Technology also brings greater efficiency and cost savings in construction, with digital platforms providing investors real-time access to their property portfolios. Additionally, technology strengthens marketing by allowing for direct, targeted outreach to potential clients.

Firms explore CO2 removal in concrete manufacturing

By Andy Brown

A consortium of companies has joined forces to investigate the feasibility of removing CO2 in concrete manufacturing, from carbon capture and liquefaction to transport and its end use.

The concrete industry is responsible for 8 percent of global CO2 emissions.

The concrete industry is responsible for 8 percent of global CO2 emissions. Image: Adobe Stock

Carbonaide, a startup that enables the manufacturing of carbon-negative concrete will mineralise captured CO2 and store it permanently in concrete. The CO2 is supplied by ARC, a Danish waste-to-energy plant capable of capturing up to four tonnes of CO2 daily directly from flue gas.

As part of this initiative, Carbonaide will mineralise a total of 90 tonnes of CO by the end of 2024.

The concrete industry is responsible for 8 percent of global CO2 emissions and legislation around construction material emissions is tightening.

With Carbonaide's technology, approximately 100g of CO can be min-

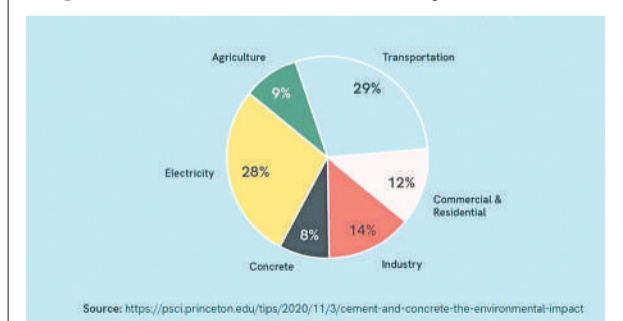
eralised and permanently stored per m³ of concrete. The company says this results in a 20-50 percent reduction in cement volumes and associated emissions.

"This proof-of-concept demonstration fosters much needed collaboration in the nascent field of technological carbon removals and showcases the complexities most projects in this field face," says Tapio Vehmas, CEO of Carbonaide.

"Permanent carbon removal on an industrial scale requires joint efforts from several industries. By working together, we can demonstrate the potential for industry decarbonisation via permanent carbon removal in concrete on an industrial scale."

The process to be carried out by the consortium is that, once the CO2 has been removed, it is sold to outdoor clothing and climbing gear brand Mammüt via a carbon removal marketplace operated by the Danish tech startup Klimate.

The Logistics company Bofort is responsible for safely transporting the liquefied CO before it is mineralised by Carbonaide.



Tanzania's SMEs attend Jua Kali' Exhibition in Sudan

By Guardian Correspondent, Juba, South Sudan

THE small and medium entrepreneurs from different areas across the country have applauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan for supporting them to attend in the 24 edition of the East Africa Community (EAC)'s entrepreneurs exhibition.

They said, a decision by the government to cover the cost for their transport and products to South Sudan has demonstrated the patriotic way to which President Samia is keen to support the local small-scale trad-

ers. The fortune traders raised their voices of appreciation in Juba, South Sudan where they went to participate in this year's edition of the EAC's small-scale entrepreneurs.

The annually-staged exhibition, popularly known as 'Jua Kali' has been designed to boost performance of the small and medium entrepreneurs within the EAC's member states.

"We entrepreneurs are very delightful and we have all reason to thank President Samia to enable us to reach South Sudan so that we can advertise our business in the

member countries of the East African Community," said Janeth Makundi on behalf of others.

For his side, the Acting Director of Employment and Skills Development from the Prime Minister's Office, Amos Nyandwi said that the government will continue to coordinate the participation of small and medium entrepreneurs in the key exhibition.

"The government will continue supporting the local small and medium entrepreneurs to take part in different exhibition so that they can stand a better opportunity to

advertise their business, within and outside the country," he said.

Speaking for his part, the Chairman of the Federation of Associations of Small and Medium Entrepreneurs of the East African Community (CISO Tanzania), Josephat Rweyemamu expressed that the Jua Kali exhibitions aim to provide opportunities for entrepreneurs to show the services and products they produce.

"This exhibition is providing a crucial podium for the small and medium entrepreneurs from EAC member countries to ex-

change their experience and knowledge as well as useful information for heighten performance of their innovations and trades," he insisted.

The 24th exhibition of small and medium entrepreneurs of the East African Community, known as Jua Kali, was officially opened by the Second Vice President of South Sudan, Dr. James Wani Igga where the exhibition has attracted more than 1,700 entrepreneurs from all eight (8) member countries of the East African Community (EAC).

WORLD

UNRWA ban would have severe humanitarian consequences, says UNSC

UNITED NATIONS

The UN Security Council said on Wednesday that the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) "remains the backbone of all humanitarian response in Gaza" and no organization can replace its role, warning that any interruption or suspension of its work would have severe humanitarian consequences for Palestinian refugees and implications for the region.

The Israeli parliament passed on Monday two legislations to prohibit UNRWA from operating in the country, and ban Israeli authorities from any contact with the agency.

In a press statement, the members of the Security Council emphasized the vital role of UNRWA in providing life-saving humanitarian assistance to Palestinian refugees through essential education, health, relief and social services programs and emergency assistance in the occupied Palestinian territory, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

They underscored that UNRWA "remains the backbone of all humanitarian response in Gaza", and affirmed that no organization can replace or substitute its capacity and mandate to serve Palestinian refugees and civilians in urgent need of life-saving humanitarian assistance.

The council members strongly warned against any attempts to dismantle or di-



Palestinians enter the UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency) health center, which provides free treatment, in the occupied West Bank city of Hebron on Oct 29, 2024. AFP

minish UNRWA's operations and mandate, recognizing that any interruption or suspension of its work would have severe humanitarian consequences for millions of Palestinian refugees and also implications for the region.

The council members expressed their grave concern over the legislations adopted by the Israeli parliament, and urged the Israeli government to abide by its international obligations, respect the privileges and immunities of UNRWA and live up to its responsibility to allow and facilitate full, rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian assistance in all its forms into and throughout

the entire Gaza Strip.

They demanded all parties enable UNRWA to carry out its mandate in all areas of operation, with full respect for the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, and to respect international humanitarian law including the protection of UN and humanitarian facilities.

The council members called upon all parties to take necessary steps to allow and facilitate humanitarian aid to civilians in Gaza, in accordance with international humanitarian law.

Agencies

Russian diplomat slams US for violating obligations on media pluralism

MOSCOW

THE United States' recent actions against Russian journalists violated Washington's obligations to ensure freedom of access to information and media pluralism, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said.



According to the diplomat, the Izvestia multimedia information center's TV crew, which arrived in the US to cover the upcoming presidential election, was detained at a Washington airport in the early hours of October 29.

"Although the group had permissions issued in accordance with the purpose of the visit, local law enforcement officials seized all equipment and communication devices from the Russian journalists and made them undergo hours-long questioning.

As a result of the conversation, the crew's cameraman V. Borovikov was denied entry and his visa was canceled for some 'administrative reasons.' In addition, a decision was made to expel him from the country," Zakharova pointed out.

"We view the incident as another blatant violation by Washington of its obligations to ensure freedom of access to information and media pluralism.

The fact that Russian journalists notified the US authorities in advance of their intentions and were granted official permission to perform their assigned mission makes it clear that the illustrative action was aimed at unambiguously demonstrating the country's readiness to use its repressive machinery at any moment in order to shut down access to the information that it finds inconvenient," the Russian diplomat emphasized.

Xi-Putin meeting seen as key moment of BRICS Summit – top diplomat

BEIJING

THE meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin during the BRICS Summit in Kazan has become a key moment of the event, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said.

"Just recently, the BRICS Summit chaired by Mr. President Putin was successfully held in Kazan," he said at a meeting with Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrey Rudenko. "The most important thing is that during this summit the third meeting between the leaders of our countries since the beginning of this year took place," he emphasized.

Wang Yi pointed to the importance of the new cooperation agreements reached by the two heads of state in Kazan. "And it is very important to implement them. This is our joint task," he added.

According to the Chinese foreign minister, the Kazan summit allowed "to maintain the group's upward momentum, promote unity and strengthen the power of the Global South." "It is very important that this solidarity plays a constructive role in further stabilizing the current international situation," Wang Yi said.

According to Rudenko, Russia-China interaction is at the highest stage of development. "This is the best period in the history of relations between Russia and China," the senior diplomat emphasized. "The basis of these relations is contacts between our leaders," the deputy foreign minister underscored. Rudenko also pointed to the important nature of the agreements reached between Putin and Xi Jinping in Kazan.



Chinese President Xi Jinping (L) and Russian President Vladimir Putin

Judge orders Elon Musk to court over \$1 million giveaway in US election

A judge ordered all parties, including Elon Musk, to attend a court hearing in Philadelphia on Thursday in a lawsuit seeking to stop a political action committee controlled by the billionaire from awarding \$1 million to registered US voters in battleground states ahead of the Nov 5 US election.

The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office filed the lawsuit on Monday. It called the giveaway by Musk's America PAC, which backs Republican former President Donald Trump, an "il-

legal lottery" that enticed Pennsylvania residents to share personal data.

"It is further ordered that all parties must be present at the time of the hearing," a judge wrote on Wednesday in an order with the Philadelphia County Court of Common Pleas. The hearing in the case was moved up to Thursday morning from Friday.

Trump faces Democratic Vice-President Kamala Harris in what polls show to be a tight race for the White House.



A representative for America PAC did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Musk's representatives have not responded to requests for comment.

Musk promised to give \$1 million each day to someone who signed his online free-speech and gun-rights petition. Legal experts consulted by Reuters last week were divided on whether the giveaway violates federal laws that make it a crime to pay or offer to pay a person to register to vote.

agency in speech at Jan 6 site

The Justice Department sent a letter to America PAC warning that the billionaire's giveaways for registered voters who sign his petition may violate federal law, CNN reported last week.

The Trump campaign is broadly reliant on outside groups for canvassing voters, meaning the super PAC founded by Musk - the world's richest man - plays an outsized role in what is expected to be a razor-thin election.

Xinhua

UK budget brings 50-year record tax hike in pursuit of stability

LONDON

THE British government unveiled its much-anticipated budget on Wednesday, aiming to bring more certainty to the country's economy through increased borrowing and one of the largest tax hikes in five decades.

Market reactions were mixed: Britain's domestically-focused FTSE 250 index rose by 1 percent initially after Chancellor Rachel Reeves' address before leveling out.

Meanwhile, the 10-year gilt yield hit a high of 4.362 percent, indicating concerns about government debt and spending, though some economists suggested the global interest rates might be influencing the rise more than domestic policy.

Giles Wilkes, a senior fellow at the Institute for Government, noted the reaction was relatively mild compared to the 2022 market chaos triggered by then-Prime Minister Liz Truss's mini-budget, which ultimately forced her resignation.

"This time, there's nothing that would



prompt markets to veto the government's plans," he said.

In her address, Reeves (pictured) emphasized the government's commitment to increasing tax revenue by 40 billion pounds (51.8 billion U.S. dollars), primarily targeting wealthier households.

Starting in April 2025, Employer National Insurance contributions will rise by 1.2 percentage points to 15 percent, while the salary threshold for contributions will drop from 9,100 pounds (11,785 dollars) to 5,000 pounds (7,475 dollars), generating an additional 25 billion pounds (32.4 billion dollars) by

2029-2030.

"While this may affect businesses initially, economists agree it could ultimately impact employee wages as employers absorb the higher tax burden," Steve Nolan, an academic economist from Liverpool John Moores University, told Xinhua.

Additionally, the budget abolishes the non-dom tax regime in favor of a residence-based system. Capital gains tax rates will increase from 10 percent to 18 percent for the lower rate and from 20 percent to 24 percent for the higher rate, while rates for residential property remain unchanged. The freeze on inheritance tax thresholds was extended to 2030, with anticipated additional revenue of over 2 billion pounds (2.6 billion dollars).

Reeves highlighted Labour's goal for sustainable growth, adhering to a "stability rule" that aims to balance the budget by 2029-2030.

The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) indicated that the fiscal plan is likely to meet these objectives, projecting budget surpluses beginning in 2027-

2028.

In its Economic and fiscal outlook for October 2024, the OBR estimated that approximately half of this spending will be funded through tax increases, bringing tax revenue to a record 38 percent of GDP, while the rest will require 32 billion pounds (41.4 billion dollars) in additional annual borrowing.

Although this fiscal approach is expected to boost GDP growth, with projections of 2 percent for 2025, it may limit private-sector growth in the medium term. "The government faces a delicate balancing act," said Nolan. "Growth projections show a temporary boost in GDP but settle at a tepid 1.5 percent average growth rate from 2028 onward, which is far below the 2.5 percent rate needed to improve living standards."

As Reeves stated in a post-budget interview, "This is not the summit of my ambition." With a long-term fiscal strategy now set, the government's ability to navigate economic challenges and maintain public confidence and certainty will remain under close watch for the next five years or even longer.

High inflation testing economic promises as US election nears

BEIJING

THE U.S. government has often touted its success in controlling inflation in recent years, even though many Americans still feel the pinch of rising prices and high living costs.

An American family of four now has to spend roughly 2,500 U.S. dollars a year more on groceries than in 2022, with house prices up by nearly a quarter and real wages in decline, according to U.S. media.

As the 2024 U.S. presidential election approaches, inflation has emerged as a central concern for voters. A recent poll jointly conducted by The Economist and YouGov revealed that nearly 40 percent of American voters rank prices, inflation, jobs and the economy as the most critical issues in this election.

To gain more votes, Democratic and Republican presidential candidates have made sweeping promises to tackle inflation. However, many ex-

perts remain skeptical about their efficacy and sustainability, citing vague funding plans and the potential strain on a debt-reliant federal government.

EFFICACY IN QUESTION

To address soaring prices, one of the major policies proposed by Democratic candidate Kamala Harris is to impose a federal ban on "corporate price-gouging" on food and groceries.

Economists, however, argue that the fundamental reason for soaring prices is limited supply rather than corporate price hikes.

Harvard economics professor Kenneth Rogoff told CNN he did not think corporate price gouging had "all that much to do" with inflation.

Similarly, Bloomberg research indicated that U.S. manufacturers have raised prices primarily to maintain profits in the face of rising costs and supply chain disruptions rather than inflate prices. Imposing restrictions on corporate pricing would disrupt the

supply-demand balance and harm the economy.

As for Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, he proposed expanding fossil fuel extraction to reduce energy costs to tame overall inflation. Yet experts cautioned that this plan may fall short of its promises.

"It's mostly just bluster because the president actually doesn't have any direct control," said Michael Webber, a professor of energy resources at the University of Texas at Austin.

Many of the largest shale drillers hesitate to ramp up production due to the uncertain global economic outlook. "There is nothing that you could wave your magic wand at from a political perspective and get that kind of an increase in production," said Adam Rozenzweig, managing partner at the natural-resource investment firm Goehring & Rozenzweig.

On trade policies, Trump proposed imposing tariffs of 10-20 percent on all goods imported from foreign coun-

tries and a staggering 60 percent tariff on goods from China, which triggered concerns about further inflation.

"A 10 percent tariff on all imports would make everyday items like clothing and toys up to 10 percent more expensive. Domestic manufacturers, facing higher costs for imported parts and components, would also raise their prices," said former Assistant U.S. Trade Representative William Krist.

Experts predicted that the tariffs could cost American families an extra 1,500-1,700 dollars annually.

Additionally, Trump has promised "the largest deportation" operation in American history. But mass deportations would lead to a shortfall in labor and impact production, driving prices even higher, said Mark Nance, associate professor at the School of Public and International Affairs of North Carolina State University.

UNSUSTAINABLE PLANS

Harris and Trump have made many

other proposals to address rising prices. For example, Harris has suggested measures such as increasing housing supply to curb prices, offering subsidies for first-time homebuyers, reducing taxes for small businesses and low-to-moderate-income families, and expanding support for low-income households.

On the other hand, Trump has announced a sweeping tax reform plan that would reduce or even eliminate personal income taxes for many Americans. U.S. media estimated that Trump's tax proposal could benefit around 93 million American voters, roughly a third of the electorate.

However, both candidates failed to explain how they could cover the substantial costs of their plans, raising questions about their feasibility given the high federal debt.

These empty pledges are unlikely to solve the soaring inflation and could further exacerbate the U.S. debt burden, deepening the country's struggle

with unsustainable fiscal spending.

The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, a fiscal think tank, estimated earlier this month that Harris's plan would increase the debt by 3.95 trillion dollars through 2035, while Trump's plans would create 7.5 trillion dollars in new debt.

As politicians of both parties continue making empty promises, America has witnessed a massive increase in wealth inequality over the past 60 years. In 1963, the wealthiest families had 36 times the wealth of families in the middle of the wealth distribution. By 2022, they had 71 times the wealth.

The combined wealth of the U.S. billionaires on the Forbes Real Time Billionaire list reached 5.529 trillion dollars in 2024, increasing by 87.6 percent compared with 2020.

The economic gap is further exacerbated by stagnant federal minimum wages, unchanged since 2009, which has left many working Americans struggling to make ends meet. ■

Seventh CIIE to keep sharing China's development opportunities

By Luo Shanshan

THE 7th China International Import Expo (CIIE) will be held in east China's Shanghai from Nov. 5 to 10. As a major platform for high-level opening up, the 7th CIIE continues to demonstrate China's continuous efforts to share its market opportunities with the world.

First held in 2018, the annual expo has fulfilled its platform function for international procurement, investment promotion, people-to-people exchanges and open cooperation, becoming a public good for the whole world.

According to Tang Wenhong, China's assistant minister of commerce, the total exhibition area of the 7th CIIE will exceed 420,000 square meters. It has attracted participants from 152 countries, regions, and international organizations in both Country Exhibition and Business Exhibition. As an important part of the CIIE, the Hongqiao International Economic Forum will include a main forum and 19 sub-forums.

The Business Exhibition will maintain its massive scale of over 360,000 square meters, attracting 3,496 exhibitors from 129 countries and regions. Both the numbers have surpassed those of the previous edition.

A record-breaking 297 Fortune Global 500 companies and industry leaders will be present, with 186 companies and organizations participating for seven consecutive years.



A visitor experiences a robotic surgery microscope at the booth of German technology enterprise ZEISS at the Intelligent Industry and Information Technology exhibition area during the sixth China International Import Expo (CIIE), November 6, 2023. (Photo by Zhai Huiyong/People's Daily)



This year's first "Jinbo" China-Europe freight train arrives at the Minhang Station in east China's Shanghai, October 20, 2024. The train from Germany is mainly loaded with cosmetics and mechanical equipment. (Photo by Shen Chunchen/People's Daily Online)

The 7th CIIE will continue to establish itself as a global platform for product debuts, cutting-edge technology launches, and innovative service introductions. It has attracted 39 government procurement delegations and 4 industry procurement delegations, totaling 780 trade sub-groups, achieving a new record.

The innovation incubation zone in the Business Exhibition has achieved improvements in both scale and quality this year. For the first time, it features four major tracks: digital economy, green and low-carbon technology, life sciences, and manufacturing technology, with both exhibition area and number of projects reaching historic highs.

The technology and equipment exhibition area will focus

on three main themes: technology, industry, and environmental protection. The technology section will feature a dedicated area for new materials for the first time. The industrial chain in the integrated circuit industry section has been further improved and the artificial intelligence (AI) experience zone further upgraded. The industrial section is expected to highlight three exhibition areas: upstream industrial systems and basic equipment, midstream industrial control system automation and integration solutions, and downstream end-user applications.

The environmental protection section covers new energy, water treatment, and environmental technologies, and will be joined by four of the world's major wa-

ter treatment companies.

The Country Exhibition continues to serve as an important platform for countries to showcase their images and trade and investment opportunities, featuring the participation of 77 countries and international organizations. France, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Saudi Arabia, Tanzania, and Uzbekistan will be the guest countries of honor. The expo will provide free exhibition booths to companies from 37 least-developed countries, facilitating their participation in the Country and Business Exhibitions. It will also expand the African products zone. This demonstrates China's commitment to expanding unilateral opening up to the least-developed countries and making its development inclusive and

universally beneficial.

The sub-forums of the Hongqiao International Economic Forum will address topics such as AI, new energy storage, new energy vehicles, and sustainable urban development, providing insights for emerging industries.

For the first time, it will host events themed around "sustainable development driven by new quality productive forces," to explore pathways for businesses to achieve green and sustainable development.

The CIIE, which aims to expand imports of high-quality products and services into the Chinese market, serves to showcase China's major opening-up measures. By constantly unleashing the dividends of openness, it strives to build a platform that

allows the world to share China's new development opportunities.

The previous six editions saw nearly 2,500 new products, technologies, and services make their debuts, with combined intended turnover reaching over \$420 billion. The expo has facilitated precise matchmaking for more than 1,130 foreign enterprises and investment promotion agencies across different regions. Many exhibitors have gone on to open new stores, factories, and R&D centers in China.

Leveraging the vastly huge China market, the CIIE has enabled exhibits to become traded goods and exhibitors to spot more investment opportunities.

As China's frontier of opening up, Shanghai is seizing the opportunities presented by the CIIE to

advance high-level international engagement. According to Hua Yuan, vice mayor of Shanghai, the city has undertaken a series of explorations and practices benchmarked against the highest international standards and best practices.

The China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone and its Lin-gang Special Area have shown remarkable progress. In the past five years since its establishment, the Lin-gang Special Area has seen the annual output value of industries above the designated size increase by 34.6 percent on average, and the actual use of foreign direct investment has reached an average annual growth rate of 45.3 percent. The special area has become a new engine for Shanghai's economic growth.

Expressway service station in Shandong achieves carbon neutrality

By Li Rui

A man surnamed Lin, driving a new energy vehicle, was on his way from Jinan to his hometown Weifang, both in east China's Shandong province. As the battery of his vehicle ran low, he pulled up in a service station along the Qingdao-Yinchuan Expressway.

Experience told him that a service station was a place where drivers and passengers could refuel vehicles, use the bathroom, grab a drink of water and have a meal. However, he found this service station a little bit different.

The Jinan East service station was a key carbon-zero station built by Shandong Hi-Speed Company Limited. It was put into operation on July 26, 2019. During China's just-concluded National Day holiday, the service station received an average of 13,000 vehicles and 44,000 people on a daily basis.

"How long does it take for a vehicle to get 200 kilometers of range with this ultra-fast charging pole?" Lin asked a staff member of the service station.

"One second for one kilometer of range," the staff member replied, pointing to an advertising board above that said "Get Fully Charged over a Cup of Coffee."

Being skeptical about it, Lin scanned a QR code on the charging pole with his phone. Then, he unwound outside his car and went to get a cup of hot water. When he came back, he found his car fully charged.

The power level of the charging pole Lin used was 600 kW, and there were also charging poles of different models and power levels available for users to choose from at the service



Photo shows the wastewater treatment facility of the Jinan East carbon-zero service station. (Photo provided by Shandong Hi-Speed Company Limited)

station.

The Jinan East service station covers an area of 300 mu, or 20 hectares. With so many charging poles in service, it consumes about 6,000 kWh of electricity each day. Where does such a huge load of electricity come from?

On the canopy, rows of solar panels were neatly paved. They were a part of a renewable energy utilization system - a 3.2 MW solar farm built on side slopes of the expressway, parking lot canopies and rooftops. The system also comes with a 3.2 MWh power storage facility.

At present, the service station generates an average of over 10,000 kWh of electric-

ity on a daily basis, far exceeding its daily power consumption volume. This saves 1,200 tons of standard coal per year. The service station also transmits extra electricity to the power grid through safe and efficient means.

At noon, the fragrance of food was floating in the corridors of the crowded comprehensive building of the service station. As one of the busiest service stations in Shandong province, the Jinan East service station welcomes over 10 million passengers each year. How does it manage the wastewater generated by such a huge crowd?

In the "backyard" of the service station,

there were two white bungalows at the corner of a tree lawn. Inside them, sewage treatment facilities were running, processing wastewater and pumping it back to the water tanks, which would be used for irrigation and floor washing.

The treatment system for waste and pollutant resources successfully addresses the challenges of the huge variation between water usage peaks and lows, as well as significant greenhouse gas emissions from sewage, effectively recycling and reusing treated water.

"In the past, diesel vehicles were used for service area operations and cleaning, but now they have been replaced with electric vehicles. The catering businesses have also undergone electrification upgrades for their gas stoves, replacing them with clean energy sources wherever possible," a staff member said.

Carbon emissions are invisible and intangible. How are they measured?

Shandong Hi-Speed Company Limited has independently developed a smart energy management system, which builds a digital twin of the station and displays all relevant data on a screen, including daily electricity generation, charging station power, peak electricity generation periods, air conditioning usage and more.

It is learned that this zero-carbon smart energy management system collects data of all indirect carbon emission sources such as photovoltaics, energy storage, micro grids, lighting, HVAC (heating, ven-

tilation, and air conditioning), and wastewater treatment. It can automatically calculate, make decisions, and intelligently control equipment.

For example, if the air conditioning is set at 26 degrees Celsius indoors, the system can automatically shut down some air conditioners when the temperature falls below this threshold, refining energy management and enabling intelligent equipment control.

According to real-time monitoring by the system, the service station emits an average of 2,060.97 tons of carbon dioxide per year. By planting over 19,000 square meters of greenery, the service station offsets greenhouse gas emissions.

Currently, the forestry area of the service station covers 67,000 square meters, or about 33 percent of the station's total area. Through forestry carbon sequestration, the system helps reduce an annual average of 3,410.1 tons of carbon dioxide, with a forestry carbon sequestration volume of 53.4 tons of carbon dioxide, realizing "zero-carbon" operations. The service station now has the capability for sustainable carbon neutrality.

"So far, China has built nearly 4,000 pairs of expressway service stations. If we can promote zero-carbon experiences in more service stations, it would be of great significance," said Zhou Pengfei, deputy director of the energy and environment department of Shandong Hi-Speed Company Limited.

China's PV industry continues to rise, thanks to technological innovation

By Liao Ruiling

CHINA'S photovoltaic (PV) industry maintains robust growth momentum during the first six months of this year. Data showed that during this period, the country's output of polysilicon, silicon wafers, solar cells, and modules all rose by over 30 percent year-on-year, and exports of PV modules have increased by nearly 20 percent from the same period last year.

This growth is evident at a granular silicon production facility of Chinese major polysilicon supplier GCL Technology Holdings Limited in Xuzhou, east China's Jiangsu province, where a huge number of small granular silicon particles are flowing into storage tanks, ready for quality checks and packaging.

"Granular silicon, a type of polycrystalline silicon and an essential material component in the PV manufacturing industry, has advantages such as smaller volume and simpler production processes," said Lan Tianshi, co-chief executive officer of the company.

He said that the company's four facilities for producing granular silicon in China are all running smoothly, with a steady increase in their market share.

The demand for PV systems continues to rise globally as the world



A woman works in a workshop of new energy company Ronma Solar in Jinhua, east China's Zhejiang province. (Photo by Shi Bufa/People's Daily Online)

increasingly shifts toward renewable energy, said Liu Yiyang, deputy secretary-general and spokesperson of the China Photovoltaic Industry Association. In the first half of this year, the newly installed capacity of China's PV industry reached 102.48GW, including 49.6 GW of centralized PV installations, 37.03 GW of commercial and industrial solar installations, and 15.85 GW of residential solar installations.

"China has made significant achievements in multiple segments of the PV industry, including solar cells, modules, and silicon wafers," said Liu.

"Thanks to Chinese PV companies' continuous technological innovation, enhanced independent R&D, and improved production efficiency, China leads the world in PV output and capacity, and multiple segments of the industrial chain," he added.

Looking back, China's PV industry went through a tough time when it relied heavily on foreign sources for raw materials, equipment, and markets. From the early 2000s to late 2010, there was a remarkable increase in China's solar cell production. Yet the industry, which was primarily

export-oriented at the time, faced serious challenges due to the global financial crisis.

In the 2010s, the global PV industry encountered additional difficulties caused by the so-called anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures enforced by some countries. In response to these challenges, the Chinese PV industry shifted its focus toward expanding the Chinese domestic market and developing core technologies.

Throughout the years, driven by China's dual carbon goals of peaking carbon emissions by 2030 and achieving carbon neutrality by 2060, Chinese PV companies have intensified their R&D efforts. They have successfully developed and applied emerging technologies like perovskite PV cell technology, while also promoting the large-scale commercialization of multiple high-efficiency cell technologies, Liu said.

Liu noted that in 2023, all of the world's top 10 companies in PV cells production were from China, with a combined capacity of 681.2 GW, accounting for 66 percent of the global total.

According to the white paper "China's Energy Transition" recently released by China's State Council Information Office, China has built complete industrial chains for the R&D, design, and integrated manufacturing of wind and solar PV equipment, and the high conversion efficiency of crystalline silicon/perovskite PV cell technology has established multiple world bests.

Over the past decade, China has provided premium clean energy products and services to the international market. The country has also doubled its efforts in technological innovation to upgrade new energy technology at a faster pace, contributing enormously to a sharp reduction in the costs of wind power and PV power worldwide.

Data from the International Energy Agency show that in 2023, China's newly installed renewable energy capacity ex-

ceeded the total of other regions worldwide, making it the largest contributor to the development of the global renewable energy industry.

To address the challenges the industry faces such as intense competition, export obstacles in some regions, and a slight supply-demand imbalance, some leading Chinese companies are increasing investment in technological upgrades to reduce costs, maintain profits, and improve efficiency, while some others are seeking new growth opportunities and expanding their global presence.

Since the beginning of this year, companies like GCL Technology Holdings Limited, Trina Solar, and JinkoSolar have announced to launch PV projects in Middle East. Some firms are accelerating their global expansion by assisting their overseas counterparts in localizing industrial chains.

"No matter how the market changes, innovation remains our top priority as technological strength and independent innovation capabilities are always crucial for maintaining our resilience and competitiveness," said Lan.

The Guardian

SPORT



Daniella Muleketsi, 20, fight in her first professional boxing match against Kenyan Charity Mukami in Goma, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Oct. 26 2024 on the 50th anniversary of the "Rumble in the Jungle" fight between Muhammad Ali and George Foreman in Kinshasa. (AP Photo)

Boxing dreams live on in Congo's grassroots clubs 50 years after the 'Rumble in the Jungle'

GOMA, Congo

A PUNCH crunches into the side of Daniella Muleketsi's face. She grimaces at the sting of it and the crowd holds its breath in fear for their homegrown boxing hope.

It is the 20-year-old Muleketsi's first professional fight and it's in her hometown of Goma in eastern Congo. It's a mark that will be on her record forever – a triumphant debut or a bitter loss.

This tournament was held over the weekend by the Nyama Boxing Club to remember perhaps the greatest fight ever. Muhammad Ali came to the central African country and beat then-undefeated George Foreman in the "Rumble in the Jungle" on Oct. 30, 1974, to become the undisputed world heavyweight champion again.

That fight a half-century ago made Ali a legend. It also offered a glimpse of Congo, then called Zaire and in the grip of the dictator Mobutu Sese Seko.

As Congo marks the 50th anniversary of the Rumble on Wednesday, boxing dreams live on not only in the capital, Kinshasa – where the Ali-Foreman fight happened – but also in the

grassroots promotions like Nyama's out in Goma, a city in the heart of a region that has seen decades of conflict, displacement and crisis.

While that shadow of suffering and hardship hangs over nearly everything that happens in Goma now, the boxing tournament drew a surprisingly large and enthusiastic crowd to the open-air arena in the Volcans neighborhood.

"My goal is to one day be a world champion. I won't stop working until I get there," said Muleketsi, who stands 5-foot-3, weighs 74 kilograms (163 pounds) and began boxing at age 16 under the tutelage of her uncle, a regional boxing official.

She wasn't born when Ali beat Foreman but she has, like so many Congolese, heard tales of the Rumble in the Jungle.

"The fight of the century between Mohammed Ali and George Foreman inspires every professional boxer," she said. "I want my name to be registered in boxing in my country and throughout the world."

AP

Yanga's dominant start ominous sign for title rivals

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

AFTER securing their third consecutive domestic double last season, early indications in the NBC Premier League suggest that Young Africans SC are once again setting the pace and will be tough to beat this season.

The Green and Yellow secured the Premier League and Federation Cup (FA Cup) titles last season and rival clubs are desperately searching for ways to bridge the gap to Miguel Gamondi's side.

Last season in the Premier League, Young Africans won the title having lost only two times. The defeats came away to Azam and Ifeju.

Azam were good last season but the defeat against Ifeju was a shock. All the two defeats were by just a margin of a single goal, so in terms of the result, Young Africans, under Gamondi (pictured) were not far away from getting a draw in those two games.

After such a successful season there were some who questioned whether the hunger in the squad would be there to do it again this term. The early signs suggest Young Africans are just as motivated to go again and dominate locally as well do well in the CAF Champions League.

Gamondi's team started the defence of their Premier League title in style by beating Kagera Sugar 2-0 at Kaitaba Stadium. They also qualified



for the CAF Champions League group stage.

Having played eight games in the 2024/25 Premier League season, Young Africans have a 100% record and sit top of the table on 24 points so far, exhibiting a consistency that the rest of the division has not.

Three teams are within six points of Young Africans in the title race. Yet, all three of those teams have struggled to show the same consistency of Young Africans, dropping points sporadically.

The reigning champions have already opened a five-point gap ahead of Simba in third place. The gap between

them and second placed Singida Black Stars is two.

It is worth noting that Young Africans have a game in hand but even if they win, the gap will still be five points at this early stage of the campaign.

They are six points ahead of last season's closest challengers Azam who have played one more game at this stage.

While the team has scored just 13 league goals, the defence has done enough to win matches and distract from some of the offensive weaknesses.

Young Africans have been comfortably the best defensive team in the league this season. They have kept a clean sheet

in all eight of their Premier League fixtures this season and trends show they are the only club yet to concede a league goal.

Eight straight clean-sheet victories. It will be interesting to see how long they can keep their clean sheet run going in the league this season.

Maxi Nzegeli has led the way in attack, bagging three goals and one assist, while Ibrahim Bacca and Pacome Zouzoua have each scored twice.

At the opposite end of the pitch, goalkeeper Djigui Diarra, Dickson Job and Bacca have featured in all but one league game, with fellow defenders Chadrack Boka and Kouassi Attohola Yao also starring.

Winning all of their first eight games of the 2024/25 Premier League campaign, it's an ominous start for Young Africans' rivals, who might have been hoping for a sluggish version of the reigning champions after three years of success.

Wednesday's win over Singida Black Stars means Young Africans are undefeated in their last 26 competitive fixtures in all competitions. Overall, it's now 18 games without a defeat in the league stretching back to last season.

That it is being achieved with many believing they are yet to hit top gear is all the more ominous for the rest of the league.

Last season's goal machine Stephane Azizi Ki has had a slow start while new signing Prince Dube is yet to find his feet.



Soccer youth players pictured recently during a training session at the Jakaya Kikwete Sports Park in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Gymkhana cricketers maintain winning ways in TCA Dar 20 Overs Cup Div B

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

Gymkhana Cricket Club's cricketers have tightened their grip on the top place in Division B of the 2024 Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Dar 20 Overs Cup's Group A, walloping Karibu Tanzanite DCC by 82 runs early this week.

The national cricket governing body has organized the showpiece, bringing together 12 teams, aiming at improving cricket's standard domestically.

The duel, which took place at Leaders Club ground in Dar es Salaam, saw Gymkhana conclude their turn with the bat with five balls to spare, scoring 145 runs all out, once they went in to bat first.

The Viraj Shukla-led Gymkhana faced a wobble early on in the form of an early exit of opening batsman Shadab Choughule, who returned with six runs to his name.

The opening batsman had time to clear the boundary once and was bowled by Karibu Tanzanite DCC's Moez Imtiaz, leaving the batting squad with 10 runs after 15 balls.

The fellow opener, Nikila Nishanga, thereafter put a resolute game and steadied the ship after notching 41 runs whilst nailing three boundaries and two sixes.

There were, moreover, notable batting exploits put to show by top-order batsmen Harsheel Shah and Arman Khan.

Harsheel, one of Gym-

khana's long-serving, well-drilled players, ended with 22 runs - pushing the team's figure to 92 runs upon his dismissal in the 11th over.

Khan was also in good form with the bat as the cricketer recorded 23 runs for the batting team.

His stint came to an end after 29 balls when Karibu Tanzanite DCC's Assad Aziz went for a catch to send the Gymkhana batsman out off Imtiaz's ball.

Gymkhana's quest for an imposing figure was still on, much as the side dropped three wickets in the latter stages, thanks to solid knocks showcased by middle-order performer Hamisi Lyimo.

Lyimo had a great batting outing, making his way back to the pavilion with bat

in hand following the batsman's 29 runs not out.

There was not much to write home about for the rest of the club's batsmen as the cricketers made their way back in quick succession.

Aziz boasted the best bowling figures for Karibu Tanzanite DCC, given the cricketer had a four-wicket haul for 25 runs in four overs.

He had an economy rate of 6.25 in his four-over stint and was the bowler who took a crucial wicket of Gymkhana's Nishanga.

Skipper Meet Jetha (2-28 in four overs) and Imtiaz (2-22 in four overs) moreover made their presence felt when Karibu Tanzanite DCC fielded, even though the bowling trio failed to frustrate Gymkhana's efforts.

Needing 146 runs from 20 overs to come out victorious, Karibu Tanzanite DCC lost steam, given they were skittled for 63 runs in 18.3 overs.

A meaningful batting display for the outfit was showcased by Bhavesh Govind and captain Jetha.

Govind turned out to be the batsman with the most runs for Karibu Tanzanite DCC - posting 16 runs.

Jetha was the other batsman with two digits having ended with 14 runs.

The remainder of Karibu Tanzanite DCC's batting unit could hardly live up to expectations, making their way back in quick succession.

Low-order player Deepak Joshi sought to showcase resoluteness with several good knocks only to end up two runs short of two digits.

Kamran Kazi (3-16 in four overs) and experienced spinner Tambwe Rashid (3-15 in four overs) orchestrated Gymkhana's bowling onslaught and thwarted Karibu Tanzanite DCC's chase.

Gymkhana's Nishanga was rightly adjudged the Man of the Match for his stellar batting showing.

Gymkhana cricketers are, for that matter, leading the tournament's Group A table with a 2.6375 Net Run Rate, emerging victorious in all four outings the squad has featured in.

Specialized K&P A is occupying second place - boasting a 0.7161 Net Run Rate from a win in three ties and one loss.

Estim A cricketers are positioned third on the table

after notching a 0.3258 Net Run Rate - securing victory in three fixtures and loss in two ties.

Fourth-placed Aces B, now with a -0.9532 Net Run Rate, is still battling to become one of the title contenders. Such an outcome has come about following a victory in one game and a loss in three ties.

Karibu Tanzanite DCC is placed second from bottom, having secured a -1.1504 Net Run Rate after notching a win in one game and a loss in two encounters.

Bottom-placed Union Sports Club has notched an inferior Net Run Rate of -2.1383 from four ties.

It is, in this case, the only squad without a victory so far in the tournament's Group A.

Ruud van Nistelrooy's debut outing proves Man United were right to dismiss Erik ten Hag

By Richard Jolly

RUUD van Nistelrooy always promised goals for Manchester United. There were 36 in his first season as a player, 44 in his second. There were seven in his first game as their interim manager, five of them for United. The third-lowest scorers in the Premier League, United discovered a prolific streak under him. If it is to prove his lone evening in charge of United, what a night for him.

It was a nostalgia trip when Van Nistelrooy headed down the tunnel at half-time to be serenaded by the Stretford End. The choruses of his name, the guttural growls of "Ruud", may have transported them back to 2003, to a happier time, and if United can forever seek solace in their past, when actually needing to escape it, this was an enjoyable interlude before Ruben Amorim's tenure begins, assuming it does and depending on when it actually starts.

United have been here before, with Ryan Giggs and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Michael Carrick, who all won as caretakers, who all - sometimes briefly - restored a feelgood factor. There was another comeback: Sir Alex Ferguson was present for the first time since it was announced he is to lose his lucrative ambassadorship, his presence conferring a seal of approval to another of his former players, albeit one he first signed and then ruthlessly sold. The old-fashioned, end-to-end entertainment offered a throwback to Ferguson's days.

Sadly, for a more recent United manager, it was the sort of occasion to suggest a sacking was entirely justified. Erik ten Hag argued all his side needed were goals, and his feeling he was luckless may have been exacerbated as they arrived in a flurry for Van Nistelrooy, but the reaction he generated was damning of the dismissed Dutchman. A liberated team looked happier and attacked. Their new-found confidence was apparent when the substitute Amad Diallo almost scored with a spectacular overhead kick.

Braces for Casemiro and Bruno Fernandes evicted Leicester from the Carabao Cup. Ten Hag, in a final moment of delusion and ignoring the reality United are 14th in the Premier League, had declared their season would be a success if they won it. They are a step closer to doing so, presumably with three managers in the competition in as many rounds.

Van Nistelrooy is only a temporary appointment but he made an impression. He looks like a manager, his smart dark coat a contrast to Ten Hag's trademark gilet. He was a towering, statuesque figure on the edge of the technical area, hands planted in pockets.

He was, though, punching the air in disbelief at the opener. Casemiro scored the last goal of the Ten Hag reign and the first of the Van Nistelrooy interregnum, curled in gloriously from 25 yards. Goalkeeper Danny Ward barely moved. Van Nistelrooy reacted more joyously; he scored 150 goals for United, but perhaps none this good. As only one came from outside the box, this was not his range. "An absolute beauty from Casemiro," Van Nistelrooy said.

It was, though, an early clue that this was the antithesis to the dog days of the Ten Hag years. Diogo Dalot missed an open goal in the former manager's final game; here, Casemiro scored in outlandish fashion. Fernandes had not found the net in his last 17 appearances under the manager who made him captain. He promptly got two goals in the first game after his departure. Ten Hag complained about VAR's intervention at West Ham, for Jarrod Bowen's decisive penalty. This time, technology was not used and the grievances belonged to Leicester when Alejandro Garnacho swept in the second goal after a cross from the seemingly offside Dalot. "A terrible linesman's decision," moaned Steve Cooper.

"All of a sudden we had some luck," said Van Nistelrooy. If fortune may not have favoured Ten Hag at the end, it benefited Fernandes when his drought was ended as his free kick took a huge deflection off James Justin's head. His second goal was both gift-wrapped and classy, the Portuguese latching on to Caleb Okoli's back pass, strolling around Ward and taking his time before walloping the ball into the net. Before then, Casemiro, the talismanic figure in Ten Hag's 2023 Carabao Cup final win and a more troubled one for much of the subsequent 18 months, had his second, burying the rebound after he had headed Marcus Rashford's cross against the post.

Such notes for concern for Amorim, when he surveys the footage, may come from how open United were. Van Nistelrooy kept his predecessors' 4-2-3-1 formation but Altay Bayindir, only given one United appearance by Ten Hag, doubled his tally and conceded for the first time in their goal. Bilal El Khannouss drilled in a lovely strike with the outside of his right foot. Conor Coady scored from close range after Dalot contrived to chest a free kick straight to him. Leicester were spirited, with Boubakary Soumare rattling the bar. But United were vibrant, victorious and Van Nistelrooy's boys.

THE INDEPENDENT

The speech that changed the course of women's football

By Katie Wright and Sophia Hartley

"I GOT very angry and I said we have to do something about it."

It was 1986 and the focus of Ellen Wille's ire was football's world governing body, Fifa. She was part of the Norwegian Football Federation (NFF) executive committee at the time and had just read a Fifa report that did not make a single reference to women's football.

The science teacher from Oslo would take matters into her own hands and deliver a speech which would force those at the top of Fifa to take notice.

BBC World Service's World Football programme has been looking back at what impact that speech had for the future of women's football.

Female footballers around the world were fighting many battles for recognition and facing significant resistance from those inside and outside the game, epitomised by the lack of support from the sport's own world governing body.

At the start of the 1970s, the Football Association in England had ended a five-decade ban on women's football.

The first unofficial Women's World Cup was held in 1970 in Italy and a year later another unofficial global tournament was held in Mexico, attracting crowds of more than 100,000, but neither of those competitions was supported by Fifa.

Wille, who was herself an amateur footballer, had joined the NFF in 1976 - the same year it had given its approval to women's football in the country - and she was not prepared to accept the status quo.

"I said 'we must have a World Championship for women and we have to be a participant in the Olympic Games'," she explained.

Her colleagues at the NFF decided she should go to



Fifa's congress in 1986 was held in Mexico, also the host country for the men's World Cup that year [Getty Images]

Fifa's congress which was being held that year in Mexico City - incidentally the same city that hosted the unofficial 1971 global tournament - and make a speech about women's football.

"They thought it would mean more if a woman did it and not a man," Wille said. She did not hesitate.

But come the morning of the speech, the nerves had set in.

"When I came to the place where it would happen, there were only men, apart from female translators," she said.

To make a speech, you had to raise a card and wait to be selected. No woman had ever spoken at a Fifa congress before.

Wille, standing at 4ft 10in tall, was called to the stage, but it got off to an inauspicious start when she was too short to be able to reach the microphone.

"So someone had to come and help me with it, and then I started to talk."

The exact contents of her speech have been lost to time, with no transcript or recording of the speech still in existence, but among those who witnessed it in person were two of football's most influential figures - the then Fifa president Joao Havelange and general secre-

tary Sepp Blatter.

While Fifa does not have a copy of the speech, it did manage to obtain minutes which confirmed Wille had asked the general secretary to "draw more attention to women's football, particularly in terms of refereeing and the form of international tournaments".

Official Fifa reports of the 1986 congress state that Havelange responded to Wille, directly thanking her and telling the congress that Fifa was dealing with the topic and working towards the first world tournament for women, to take place in 1988.

According to Wille, after he spoke all eyes turned to his right-hand man - Blatter, who would later succeed Havelange as president and hold the role from 1998 to 2015.

"It became quiet and then Sepp Blatter took the stand and said I should have a world championship," Wille recalls. "That was very nice to hear I hoped for it, but I didn't think it would [happen]."

*What happened next?

Perhaps the biggest indicator of the impact of the speech was the impression it made on Blatter. "I talked to him after [the speech] and I saw him years later," said

Wille.

"He invited me to Germany when the World Cup was in Germany. I got there and then he made a speech during a dinner for me.

"He said I had frightened him."

Another Norwegian who had been working on the development of women's football for more than a decade was Per Ravn Omdal.

The former footballer, who became president of the NFF in 1987, believes Wille's speech - and Blatter's response at the congress - was key to what happened next.

"They [Fifa] reacted extremely quickly and came back with a test World Cup in China [in 1988] which was very successful. I was there," Omdal said.

"Then it started rolling until '91 and we had the first [official tournament]."

The 1988 invitational tournament was a turning point for women's football. After years of lobbying, Fifa was backing a World Cup. And the 1986 congress was considered the catalyst for change.

The first tournament in 1991 was given the lengthy title of the "1st Fifa World Championship for Women's Football for the M&Ms Cup" - although it was retrospec-

tively rebranded as the World Cup. It also involved matches that lasted only 80 minutes.

The women were given the full 90 by the time the 1995 edition came around in Sweden. Norway, the trailblazers, lifted the trophy that year.

"But still a long way to go..."

Some 36 years after Wille's appearance, a Norwegian woman was once again making waves with a speech at a Fifa congress.

This time it was the NFF's first female president - and former Norway international - Lise Klaveness.

With echoes of 1986, Klaveness addressed an almost entirely male audience of football heavyweights who had gathered for the 2022 congress in Doha, in the months leading up to the Qatar World Cup.

She told them they needed to do more, particularly around equality.

It was not well received by some in the room.

Speaking to the BBC's World Service, Klaveness said: "We have come a long, long way since Ellen took the stage in 1986, but we also have to be very realistic that nothing has come by itself for women's football.

"It has always been someone that has to fight for you, but we're still in it.

"It's still the case that most countries have never had female presidents, most countries have very few female representatives on their board, most countries struggle to get women in as coaches, and most countries struggle for their top league to have professional athletes so they can live from it.

"It's still a long way until we have a professional environment that reflects the power women's football has."

But with the 2023 Women's World Cup attracting nearly two million spectators, and millions more on television, it is hard not to look at the progress that has been made.

Wille plays down the impact of her speech all those years ago, saying it was "just a little step along the way" to progressing women's football.

Klaveness has a different view. "It's not a women's fight, it's a humanity fight and it has been driven by Ellen, but also by guys like Per who has changed the lives of all of us."

BBC

Postecoglou's bold trophy boast takes significant step forward

By Phil McNulty

ANGE Postecoglou boldly invited pressure on himself and Tottenham with his recent boast that he "always" wins a trophy in his second season in charge.

The pronouncement raised eyebrows as it came from the manager of a club without a trophy since the League Cup win under the long-forgotten Juande Ramos in 2008. But Postecoglou was simply stating a fact.

And the Australian's quest to fulfil that promise took a significant step forward with a fully deserved 2-1 win over Manchester City that booked Spurs a Carabao Cup quarter-final meeting at home to Manchester United.

For the record, Postecoglou won the Australian title with South Melbourne and Brisbane Roar, as well as the Japanese League with Yokohama F Marinos, in his second season or second full season.

He also led Australia to an Asian Cup triumph in 2015, two years after becoming their manager, and won the Scottish Premiership in both his seasons at Celtic.

There were occasions when he did not win trophies, but did not see out two seasons in charge of Greek side Panachaiki,

Whittlesea Zebras and Melbourne Victory.

His Spurs predecessors Andre Villas-Boas, Tim Sherwood and Antonio Conte were not allowed the luxury of a second season in charge, while Jose Mourinho did not get his chance of ending their trophy wait as he was sacked days before the 2021 Carabao Cup final against Manchester City. Nuno Espirito Santo was dismissed inside four months.

This explained some of the quizzical looks aimed in Postecoglou's direction after his ambitious words, but he was merely outlining his track record. It was still, however, a real expression of self-confidence, even if he could also produce the concrete evidence to back it up.

Stating achievements and then backing them up, especially at Spurs, are two completely different things. But the Carabao Cup now presents a very attractive prospect of that long-overdue and long-awaited success, even though Manchester United will hold similar aspirations, presumably under prospective new head coach Ruben Amorim.

Postecoglou was in desperate need of Spurs showing their acceptable face after one of those displays that demonstrated the maddening inconsistency of his team, even from one half to the next when they lost a 2-0 interval lead to go down 3-2 at Brighton, and were then tamely beaten by Crystal Palace last weekend.

A loss to City would have increased scrutiny on Postecoglou, not in the context of his future at the club, but whether his methods and unflinching belief in his all-out attacking strategy could fashion the success he insists it will bring.

Instead, this was the Spurs that has provided such entertaining fare throughout Postecoglou's time in charge.

Manchester City may not have been at full-strength, with Erling Haaland kept on the bench even when they were chasing an equaliser, but they still had plenty of talent on show and this was a fully-merited win for the hosts.

It was the enigmatic Timo Werner who set them on their way after five minutes with a thumping finish he did not have time to think about - a key factor when it comes to this striker - from a Dejan Kulusevski pass.

Werner's goal was his first of the season, only his third in 26 appearances for the club, but the manner in which he was swamped by elated team-mates and the reaction of the home fans

illustrated that he remains a popular figure. It was the same at Chelsea, amid similar finishing travails, for his sheer boundless endeavour alone.

The "Timo Werner - he scores when he wants" chant that followed was heavily ironic, even if it was good-natured.

Pape Matar Sarr's crisp finish increased Spurs' dominance and, even when nerves jangled after Matheus Nunes gave City hope seconds before half-time, Postecoglou's side maintained their progressive approach.

They created better chances, only surviving one real moment of worry when substitute Yves Bissouma cleared off the

line from Nico O'Reilly with two minutes left.

It was no more than Spurs deserved. A late City leveller would have been an injustice as the hosts had their number once more in this magnificent stadium, this being their sixth win in eight games here.

Postecoglou, who has understandably cut a discontented and tetchy figure as Spurs dropped from the brilliance of their 3-0 win at Manchester United to lose so disappointingly at Brighton and Palace, willingly made a rod for his own back, and those of his players, with his own particular "second season syndrome".

BBC



SPORT

The speech that changed the course of women's football

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Aussems confident in Singida Black Stars' title ambitions despite first league loss



Young Africans midfielder Pacome Zouzoua (2nd L) pictured on Wednesday negotiating his way past two Singida Black Stars defenders during their Premier League match at the New Amaan Complex in Zanzibar. Photo: Courtesy of YASC

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

IN a much-anticipated encounter at Zanzibar's New Amaan Stadium on Wednesday, Young Africans SC handed Singida Black Stars their first loss of the NBC Premier League season, narrowly edging out their rivals 1-0.

The match saw Ivory Coast's Pacome Zouzoua netting the decisive goal in the 67th minute, a strike that sent defending champions Young Africans to the top of the league standings while knocking Singida Black Stars down to second place.

The game itself was a tactical battle. Singida Black Stars' defense held strong for the majority of the match, maintaining a structured formation that successfully blocked Young Africans' penetrating moves.

However, it was Zouzoua's smart positioning and clinical finish that broke the deadlock, finding a rare gap in Singida's otherwise solid backline.

Despite the result, Singida Black Stars' head coach, Patrick Aussems, took a positive outlook on his team's performance.

Reflecting on the narrow defeat, Aussems commented: "Everything is going to be fine. We conceded a beautiful goal, you

know. Otherwise, we were well-organized."

He praised his squad's resilience and organization, emphasizing their commitment to staying focused against the reigning champions.

In the post-match analysis, Aussems noted that his team felt increasing pressure as the game progressed, especially when in possession.

"In the second half, we felt a bit too much pressure when we had the ball. We should have kept possession a bit longer," he explained.

Nevertheless, he reiterated the team's ambitions: "From the start, we aimed for the top three or top four, and holding our own against Young Africans shows we're on the right path. Even with this loss, I still believe we're contenders."

As the match wore on, Young Africans pressed Singida more aggressively, particularly in the second half. In response, Singida Black Stars struggled to hold onto the ball, and Aussems was quick to recognize this tactical challenge.

"Initially, we had different plans, but adjustments were necessary. By the second half, we had to try everything—even switching to four forwards to press for an equalizer, but it just wasn't our day," he reflected.

Knowing the offensive prowess of Young Africans' midfielders, particularly Clatous Chama and Aziz Ki, Singida Black Stars' defensive setup focused on neutralizing threats in central areas, forcing their opponents to operate from wider positions.

This defensive discipline paid off for most of

the game but ultimately couldn't prevent Zouzoua's breakthrough.

In their own attacking efforts, Singida Black Stars found it difficult to break through Young Africans' high-pressure system.

Despite lacking in clear scoring opportunities, Singida players showcased strong work ethic, tracking back and defending as a unit to keep the contest tight until the final whistle.

Following this defeat, Singida Black Stars sit second in the league with 22 points from nine matches, having scored 13 goals and conceded only four, maintaining a +9 goal difference.

This strong start to the season places them within reach of the league's top position, though Young Africans currently hold a two-point advantage.

Looking ahead, Singida Black Stars will return

home for their next fixture against Coastal Union on Saturday. Following this, they face a challenging series of matches: an away trip to Tabora United, a clash with Azam FC, and a home game against Simba SC.

This difficult stretch will test Singida's depth and resilience as they aim to stay in the title race.

Coach Aussems and his team will likely focus on improving ball retention under pressure and developing strategies to create more scoring chances.

Despite the loss, the confidence and cohesion displayed by Singida Black Stars show they remain strong contenders for a high league finish.

With Coach Aussems at the helm, the team is ready to regroup and continue pursuing their goal of a top-three finish this season.



Simba wary of more dropped points as they travel to Mashujaa FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

WITH eight matches in the books, Simba find themselves five points behind the early front-runners and reigning champions Young Africans.

Simba have already dropped points in the league two times this season, drawing once and losing once, whereas their title rivals Young Africans have maintained their perfect record by winning all their eight games so far.

Coach Fadlu Davids (pictured) will have the chance to move close to the summit when they take on hosts Mashujaa at the Lake Tanganyika Stadium in Kigoma this afternoon while also wary of dropping more points as the league takes shape.

They make the trip to the Lake Tanganyika Stadium on the back of a 3-0 home win against Namungo last weekend.

There were two goals in the first half courtesy of Shomari Kapombe and Jean Ahoua.

Debra Fernandes completed the job with a third goal five minutes to stoppage time.

The win over Namungo means Simba have won three of their last five league games.

On the flip side, Mashujaa come into the game having picked up a point thanks to a thrilling 2-2 draw at Fountain Gate on Monday.

It was Mashujaa who led at halftime thanks to goals from Seif Abdallah and Hassan Haji before Nicholas Haji replied for Fountain Gate to make it 2-1 at the interval.

However, they could not hold on to their lead in the second half and Fountain Gate equalised in the third minute of added time.

The draw at Fountain Gate means Mashujaa have only lost once in their last five fixtures. There was a 0-0 draw at home with Azam, a 3-0 victory over Ken Gold, a 1-0 loss at home to Singida Black Stars plus a 2-2 thrilling draw on the road to Pamba Jiji.

As a result, Mashujaa are sixth in the standings. They took 13 points from 24 points on offer and are five points off the top four.

Centre back Ame Ibrahim remains absent for the hosts due to national team duty.

Coach Abdallah Mohamed could field defenders Baraka Mtuwi, Ibrahim Abbas, Mpoki Mwakinyuke and Abderrahma Mussa to play in front of goalkeeper Patrick Munthali.

Ismail Munda is certain to lead the forward line, supported by attackers Chrispin Ngushi and Seif Abdallah.

In head-to-head stats, Simba and Mashujaa have met in four competitive matches.

Mashujaa famously claimed a 1-0 victory to edge out Simba in the 2018/19 Federation Cup. Five years later, they repeated their heroics to dump Simba on penalty shootout.

However, when the two teams met in their first ever top flight league encounters, Simba did a league double by claiming victories in Dar and Kigoma early this year.

Gamondi proud as Yanga edge Singida to lead Premier League

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

YOUNG Africans SC, the defending champions of the NBC Premier League, have ascended to the top of the league standings after securing a challenging 1-0 victory over Singida Black Stars on Wednesday at Zanzibar's New Amaan Complex.

This critical win, achieved through a decisive goal by Ivory Coast midfielder Pacôme Zouzoua in the 67th minute, lifts Young Africans, commonly known as Yanga, to 24 points from eight matches. This new position places them two points ahead of Singida Black Stars, who had held the top spot since the season began.

Head coach Miguel Gamondi, visibly proud of his players' resilience, commended the team's tactical execution.

"We played a fantastic game," Gamondi said. "Our performance was very good; we dominated the game and created five or six clear chances, while Singida Black Stars only had one attempt, mainly relying on long-ball tactics. The game

demanded a lot from us, and my players showed their dedication to securing the win."

Gamondi noted Singida's aggression on the field but insisted that Young Africans had expected a physical contest.

"They were aggressive, as expected, but we maintained our focus. Honestly, our performance was on another level. People need to respect Yanga more; we are not just any team. The victory on the field should speak for itself," he added, addressing recent scrutiny of Young Africans' league performance.

As defending champions, Young Africans often face high expectations, and Gamondi's remarks reflect a desire for the club's efforts to be acknowledged for their skill and cohesion, not solely their reputation.

Despite criticism, Young Africans demonstrated impressive defensive discipline, making it difficult for Singida Black Stars to break through and create substantial scoring opportunities.

Observers noted that Singida's ap-

proach could have benefited from quicker ball movement to exploit spaces behind Young Africans' full-backs, but the Jangwani Street-based side's organized defense proved too challenging. However, the win came with challenges, as Young Africans lost key players to injury during the game. Left-back Chadrack Issaka Boka was forced off in the first half due to injury, and his replacement, Nickson Clement Kibabage, later sustained an injury in the second half.

The absence of these two defenders could impact Young Africans' squad depth as the season progresses, especially with their upcoming schedule.

Looking ahead, Young Africans are bracing for a packed fixture list. Their next league match is against Azam FC on Saturday, which will be followed by fixtures against Tabora United and Fountain Gate.

Beyond the league, Young Africans will also turn their attention to their continental campaign, as they are set to open their CAF Champions League group stage run with a high-

stakes clash against Sudanese giants Al Hilal.

Gamondi emphasized that maintaining top form in both domestic and international arenas is crucial, adding: "These games are important for us to build momentum. We are focused on staying competitive on all fronts and representing Tanzania with pride."

This ascent to the top of the Premier League standings is more than a temporary achievement; it is a statement of Young Africans' intent to retain their title and consolidate their position as one of Tanzania's most formidable football clubs.

Leading the league for the first time this season, Young Africans' victory not only strengthens their title defense but also sends a message to other clubs vying for the championship.

As they juggle both domestic and international competitions, the team's dedication to excellence and drive for victory continue to resonate with their supporters and football fans nationwide.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

