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ISSN 0856 - 5434 ISSUE No. 8652• PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100 TANZANIA MONDAY 3 OCTOBER, 2022

Guardian BUSINESS

Mining company wins govt accolades for full execution of CSR programme

Join accountancy profession as its demand is high, Mafuru calls on Tanzanian students

Brewer rolls out programme to promote agribusiness for people with disabilities

UBA unveils solution to micro, small and medium enterprises access to finance

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Observe environment laws, regulations'

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Crucial talks with Equinor on LNG project

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Stakeholders applaud Samia scholarships

Internet data pricing best in Tanzania for EAC zone

By Guardian Reporter

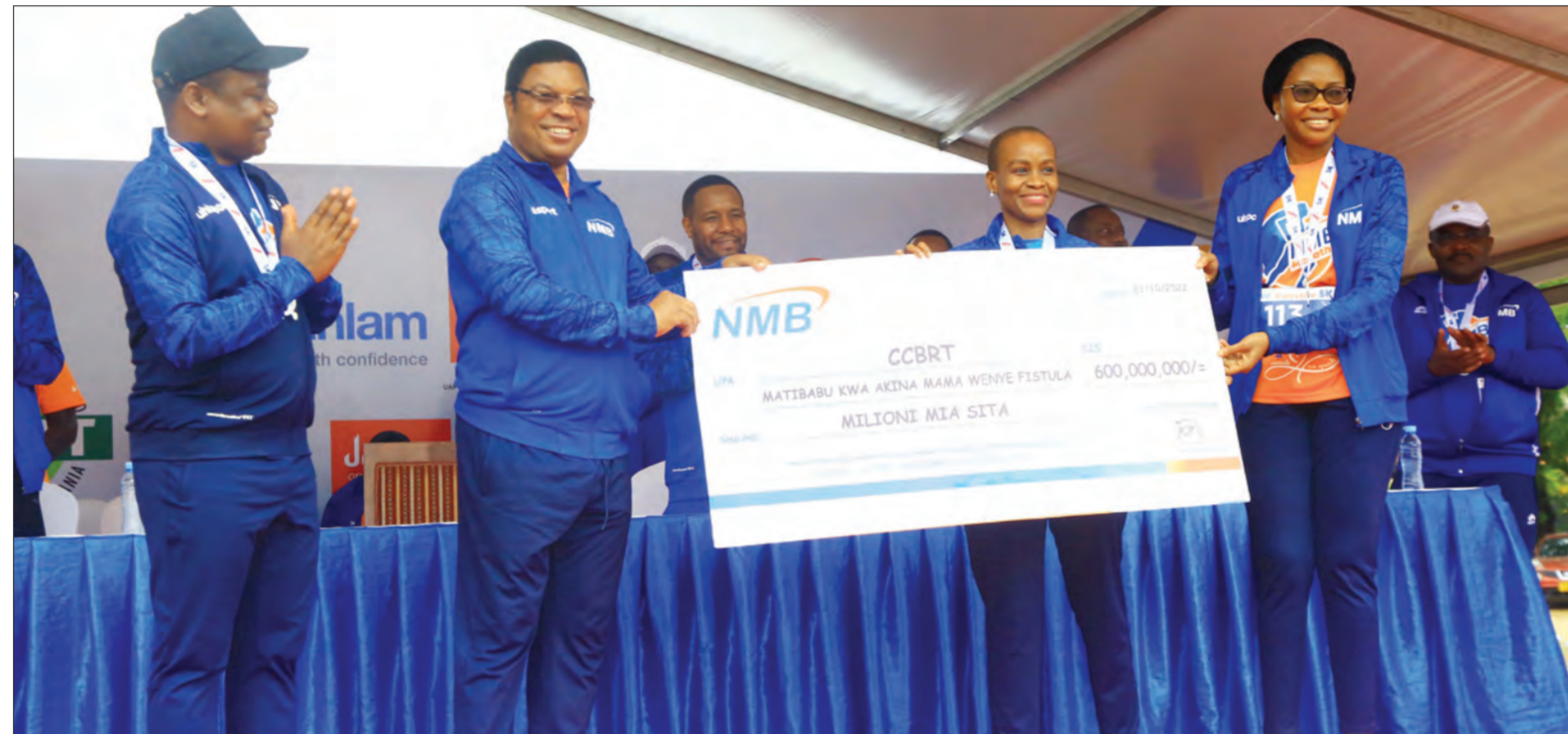
TANZANIA is cheapest in data costs in the Eastern Africa region, the 2021/2022 worldwide mobile data pricing report has indicated.

Dan Howdle, a consumer tel-econs analyst at HYPERLINK "http://www.cable.co.uk/" www.cable.co.uk, writing for www.visual.capitalist noted that Tanzania leads in comparable quality and lower internet costs.

The reports drawn up last month were quoted by networks like www.allafrica.com, underlining the reliability of the comparative data for internet pricing and quality.

The analyst said Tanzania has the cheapest internet price in East Africa, while Somalia is no longer offering the most affordable mobile internet in Africa, moving

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Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend assisted by NMB Bank Pic CEO Ruth Zaipuna (R, foreground) in presenting a dummy cheque for 600m/- to Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) hospitals CEO Brenda Msangi at the climax of NMB's 'Mwendo wa Upendo' Marathon. The event attracted over 6,000 participants, with the amount collected meant to go into the treatment of obstetric fistula cases. Left is the bank's board chairman, Dr Edwin Mhede. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Arusha hospital in MoU with JKCI

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) has partnered with the Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre (ALMC) to set up a facility for cardiovascular diseases to reduce transferring such cases to the top national facility in Dar es Salaam.

Prof Mohammed Janabi, the new Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) executive director, said here at the weekend in marking the World Heart Day that the memorandum of understanding (MoU) with ALMC is to establish a full-fledged cardiac institute

at the referral hospital.

This shall relieve patients of troubles of traveling to Dar es Salaam to seek services at JKCI, he said, noting that JKCI where he is outgoing CEO had agreed to mount a monthly cardiac clinic at ALMC to attend to patients in the northern zone.

ALMC CEO Elisha Twisa, a World Vision consultant, said that from this month, the hospital will deploy a team of 10 heart disease specialists to JKCI to sharpen their practical skills

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Selemani Biashagazi (R), director of an NGO based in suburban Dar es Salaam known as Kipunguni Community Voice Centre, conducts vegetable farming training in Mugumu town at the weekend for girls from Serengeti District who dropped out of school for various reasons, including pregnancy. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Fistula cases: Surgery bills now at 6.8bn/- per year - PM

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called for joint efforts from the government and the private sector in the treatment of obstetric fistula among young women, as total bills close in on 7bn/-

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By Guardian Reporter

ANALYSTS have hailed President Samia Suluhu Hassan's higher education sponsorship initiative as geared to give the country more women scientists.

These remarks follow the announcement last Tuesday, where the minister for Education, Science and Technology, Prof Adolph Mkenda launched the Samia Scholarships initiative.

This year's Form VI examination results show that 640 girls scored high marks in science subjects, and thus were encouraged to apply for higher education via the presidential scholarships.

In separate interviews, analysts described the Samia scholarships as timely, making it easier for bright high school learners to aspire to the initiative's identified science-based fields.

Prof Haji Semboja, a veteran analyst on economic issues said the sponsorship means a lot for the nation as it will add more scientists to the workforce.

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The Guardian Nipashe

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Internet data pricing best in Tanzania for EAC zone

FROM PAGE 1

to third. Sudan and Algeria take the first and second places respectively in the cheapest data placing for the continent, he said. "In Sudan, the cost of mobile internet is \$0.27, the cheapest in Africa and fifth in the world. Algeria is second at \$0.51 and Somalia is third at \$0.60. Tanzania has the cheapest data in East Africa at \$0.75 for every gigabyte of data," the study specified. The Cable.UK data stretching from December 8, 2020 to February 25, 2021 shows that Rwanda follows Tanzania at \$1.25 per gigabyte, Uganda (\$1.56) and Burundi (\$2.10) while Kenya, which was second in East Africa last year charging \$1.04, had reviewed its charges to \$2.25 per gigabyte, it elaborated. Many countries with cheap data have excellent mobile and fixed broadband infrastructure, enabling service providers to offer large amounts of data, and bring down price per gigabyte, it further noted. Local observers said that the report comes in a situation where some EAC media outlets see Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo as having low quality and high prices for data services, which is discounted by officials at the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA). Semu Mwakyanja, the TCRA principal communications officer, said the claims were false and misleading. "There is no country in the East African region with greater quality and lower cost than Tanzania in data services," he said, highlighting global data monitoring networks for the validity of his rebuttal. He said Tanzania has installed state-of-the-art, efficient mobile communication infrastructure enabling its leading position in data quality and pricing.



CCM Central Committee member Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, who is Zanzibar President, addresses the ruling party's district level electoral meeting for Amani in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Arusha hospital in MoU with JKCI

FROM PAGE 1

in preparing to offer full cardiac treatment services at ALMC. They will work under JKCI cardiac specialists for a while and upon return, hold treatment sessions with their JKCI supervising team to handle complex heart illnesses, in the new partnership,

he said.

Once established, the ALMC Cardiac Institute is expected to provide the full spectrum of cardiac care, including open-heart surgery, vascular surgery, interventional and electrophysiology, he stated.

All these are programs for congestive heart failure and heart health, the CEO said, elaborating

that the ALMC Referral Hospital is well equipped, having qualified healthcare staff including 21 medical specialists. This is higher than a number of referrals hospitals countrywide, the World Vision consultant affirmed.

The hospital operates an advanced emergency medicine unit, performing laparoscopic

surgeries, nephrology and dialysis, relating to kidney ailments.

It also offers neurosurgery, obstetrics and gynaecology and a well-equipped infant intensive care unit, along with orthopedics, radiology with CT-scanning and palliative radiotherapy.

Dr Frank Madinda, the ALMC director of clinical services, said

that with the professional and technology partnership with JKCI, most northern zone cases would be handled at the facility.

ALMC is readying to upgrade its capacities in non-communicable diseases like hypertension and cardiac ailments, diabetes, kidney and heart related conditions, he added.



Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Minister Liberata Mulamula (C) cuts the ribbon in Dar es Salaam on Saturday assisted by Nigerian High Commissioner Dr Hamisu Umar Takalmawa (L) and the Dean of Diplomatic Corps in Tanzania, Comoros' Ambassador Dr Ahamada El Badaoui Mohamed Fakih, to inaugurate the Nigerian High Commission's reference library in the city. It was on the occasion of celebrations to mark the 62nd anniversary of Nigeria's independence. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Stakeholders applaud Samia scholarships

FROM PAGE 1

"This is a very good effort," he said, noting that worldwide standards are changing, removing discriminatory practices and reviewing outdated roles and expectations.

The community has been viewing the girl child in a fixed gender

mood, but girls who were enabled to develop themselves are now top professionals in public and private sector fields, he said.

Girl students need to utilise their abilities to take up opportunities available to them, to work hard in the science subjects as they have the same abilities as boy students, he stated.

Dr Lilian Mnabwiru, the Medical Association of Tanzania (MAT) secretary general and gynecologist at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) said that the move builds confidence among girl students.

In the past it was believed that science subjects were mostly for boys, with girls instilling the fear of subjects like mathematics, in which

case President Samia's efforts helped to make girls lose such fears, being encouraged to make an effort.

"In this year's Form VI examinations, those who scored high marks in science subjects were mostly girls," she stated, pointing out that out of the 10 top scorers eight were girls.

At present many of those pursuing

doctor of medicine qualification are women, unlike the case ten years ago.

"We appeal to girls in high schools to utilise this opportunity to get sponsorship in science fields as the sponsorship aims to elevate girls to take a greater role in various professions," she added.

Fistula cases: Surgery bills now at 6.8bn/- per year - PM

FROM PAGE 1

annually. The premier addressed well-wishers at the closure of the second season of the NMB charity marathon which raised 600m/- for the purpose in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. The event was attended by upwards of 8,000 participants on the basis of organisers' reports, which indicated that annual fistula treatment costs stand at 6.8bn/- for the year. He praised NMB for having raised 1bn/- in two years for treating the reproductive disorder as its many victims cannot afford the medical charges involved. This has brought to the public vital lessons of how it can tackle some chronic health issues, he stated. The premier emphasized the relevance of corporate involvement in humanitarian aspirations, as health sector development needs the private sector to deliver adequately on social service obligations. The marathon initiative has attained its fistula treatment funding objective in two years instead of the four years scheduled earlier, he said, noting that this achievement shows that there is plenty that can be done with private sector involvement for fistula, cancer and other diseases. Health sector financing is a herculean task for the public authorities thus the need for charitable contributions from the private sector to help solve the difficulties. NMB chief executive officer Ruth Zaipuna had earlier remarked that proper treatment of fistula was beyond the reach of most affected women. What prompted the bank to venture into the marathon idea was data from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) which indicated that just 1,300 out of 3,000 new annual sufferers can access required treatment, given its high costs. At that rate, 1,700 fistula victims end up untreated every year, thus requiring support now put at 6.8bn/-, she stated. The UN agency for reproductive health estimates that there are over 10,000 women living with the disease in Tanzania, she added.

Jafo slams greedy business people

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

MINISTER of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Dr Selemani Jafo has vowed to strongly deal with greedy businesspersons who don't comply with environment laws and regulations.

He said this over the weekend after he visited sand extraction areas in Kigamboni District in Dar es Salaam, accompanied by National Environment Management Council Officials (NEMC).

While there, the minister witnessed massive environmental degradation saying that the government will deal with all who are busy destroying the environment thinking that they are above the law.

"There are some greedy people who normally don't like to implement government directives boasting themselves that they are untouchable saying that they are able to handle government officials," he said.

The minister directed NEMC to ensure that the ongoing sand extraction activities are stopped in the area until the government decides otherwise so as to protect the environment.

He said some people who deal with sand mining and quarrying have left huge trenches which are dangerous to human life especially during the rainy season when they become full of water.

"I have expressed my directives here and I want to see all of them are implemented immediately and I don't want to see some people who boasting to buy every government officials so that they can proceed with their illegal business," he said

Dr Jafo gave one month ultimatum for NEMC and Kigamboni municipal officials to make sure they supervise the area and ensure that the mining site is rehabilitated and people who want to proceed with their activities comply with the environment laws and regulations.

"I know that there are people who depend much on this area for their daily bread but we must work to raise our economy while at the same time we care about our environment, you can't not take these resources here and live in a place like this. NEMC and Kigamboni municipality take charge and ensure this place is rehabilitated to return to normal," said Jafo

Kigamboni District Commissioner, Fatma Nyangasa, said there are many areas in the district where people conduct illegal sand extraction which is dangerous for their lives.

"Recently we recorded three deaths due to these activities, and this is why we insist safety first because if this mining is not filled after the completion of the activities it become threat to people's lives especially during rain seasons," she said



EATV Ltd and Tanzania Education Authority members of staff share a light moment in Dar es Salaam at the weekend shortly after TEA director general Bahati Geuzye (3rd-L) presented 62 cartons of sanitary pads to IPP client relations manager Nancy Mwanyika (L) for use by 125 female students in need of the support. Photo: EATV

Clerics underscore need to strengthen human rights

By Guardian Reporter

RELIGIOUS leaders have underscored the need to strengthen human rights awareness at the grassroots with special focus on children and women for them to recognise their values and be able to fight against social vices.

The call was made in Dar es Salaam on Friday during a national faith leaders' symposium on human rights and rule of law which went in line with the launching of human rights training manual, organized by Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) in collaboration with interfaith Standing Committee on Economic Justice and Integrity of Creation (ISCEJIC).

ISCEJIC is the national interfaith platform which is jointly owned by the National Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA), Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) and the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT).

The symposium aimed to discuss and review the state of human rights in the country and reflecting and giving guidelines about the role of religious leaders in defending and protecting human rights in the country.

Since 2021, Religious leaders have been implementing the "Iman na Wajibu pro-

ject", where faith leaders were engaged in the development of the training manual related to human rights education for civic literacy in Tanzania. The manual aims to empower clerics to make a reflection on human rights issues in line with the Declaration of Human Rights.

Speaking during the symposium, general secretary of the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) Dr Charles Kitima said human rights education should be provided for all groups of people in the society so as to build understanding and a culture of protecting human rights.

Dr Kitima warned that, currently there is a lot of political hypocrisy in society ANF this is because many people do not know their rights, they think that flattering and telling lies is the right thing to do without knowing that they deny their rights.

He said, religious leaders have a great responsibility of ensuring that human rights are implemented and protected in their areas, saying that failure to protect human rights will cause harm to the innocent people.

"Our goal is to ensure that human rights education reaches every corner so as to increase knowledge about it and how to fight for their rights when they are

violated," he said

On the Imani and Wajibu project, Dr Kitima said through the support from NCA, the project aims to provide human rights education to 16,000 religious leaders from both the mainland and Zanzibar.

The faith actors have also called upon all stakeholders and the government to respect, recognize and protect human rights in order to maintain peace and stability for the community and the country.

Bishop at Mennonite Church of Tanzania, Nelson Kisare said justice is what brings peace, stability and security in the country, therefore if Tanzania wants to remain in peace and stability everyone should do justice in their position.

Bishop Kisare explained that justice has come from God and he wanted man to live by doing justice, but sadly we have seen behaviors that violate human rights taking place in our society at various levels, it is our duty to condemn such behaviors because they go against the will of God.

"Justice is the only factor that will make us to see that all things in the country are well, so it is the responsibility of everyone in their position to act justly", said Bishop Kisare who is also a Chairman of interfaith Standing Committee on Economic

Justice and Integrity of Creation (ISCEJIC).

Sheikh Khamis Mataka, Chairman of National Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA) advised authority to incorporate human rights education in school curriculum so that children can be built and grow on the basis of implementing and protecting human rights.

Sheikh Mataka has also pointed finger to some parents who have not raised their children on the basis of human rights, saying that this will later bring great challenges on the implementation of human rights in a society.

The National Chairperson of Muslim Women Shamim Khan said the violation of human rights are still going on in society and the main victims are women and children.

The Chairperson said more education on human rights is highly needed in order to rescue the society by building understanding and awareness on their basic human rights.

In his presentation on the overview of Human Rights Situation in Tanzania, Onesmo Olungurumwa, national coordinator of the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) said violation of human rights is still a major challenge in the country.



ANNUAL PROGRAM STATEMENT

USAID Feed the Future Private Sector Strengthening Activity (PSSA)
Opportunity Number: APS-001 Issuance Date: September 20, 2022

Dear Applicants,

Tetra Tech ARD, registered in Tanzania as ARD, INC, is the implementing partner for the USAID Feed the Future Private Sector Strengthening Activity (PSSA), pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and, in accordance with USAID Contract No. 72062320D00014/72062122F00002, is authorized to provide Grants under Contract (GUC) to meet its program objectives. PSSA is seeking concept papers from qualified organizations to implement programs within the framework of PSSA's objectives.

The website URL for the posting: https://tetrattech.force.com/ard/s/?language=en_US

This Annual Program Statement (APS) involves two-stages. During the first stage, applicants will submit concept papers, which PSSA will review on a rolling basis. Applicants who submit a concept paper that is responsive to the solicitation and demonstrates a clear link to USAID and PSSA objectives will be invited to proceed to the second stage. PSSA will notify all unsuccessful applicants.

During the second stage, applicants submit a full application that is the product of a co-creation process, during which the applicant, with support from PSSA team members, performs the requisite analyses and drafts the grant implementation plan. PSSA will provide all stage two applicants with additional details on the full application and co-creation process. In preparation for the full application, applicants will be required to conduct a series of assessments that determine the relevance and viability of the actions proposed in their full application. During co-creation workshops for second stage applicants, PSSA will provide information on the parameters of these assessments, as well as templates and instructions. Assessments will take no longer than a few weeks to complete. PSSA may make exceptions for applicants who have already conducted such assessments or who can otherwise demonstrate the relevance and viability of their proposed actions. The PSSA Review and Evaluation Committee (REC) will evaluate full applications prior to making final award selection. PSSA and USAID reserve the right to fund any or none of the submitted applications. Additionally, any award pursuant to this funding opportunity is contingent upon the availability of funds. For the purposes of this program, this APS is being issued and consists of this cover letter and the following sections. Please read the APS in its entirety before submitting your concept paper to ensure your organization is eligible and your submission complies with all requirements.

For any solicitation or submission questions, please email the PSSA Grants Manager at TanzaniaPSSA.grant@tetrattech.com, with the email subject "PSSA-APS-001 Question"

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INSTITUTE OF TAX ADMINISTRATION

AFRICAN JOURNAL OF CUSTOMS AND FISCAL STUDIES (AJCFS)
ISSN 2665 - 0517 (Print) ISSN: 2665-0509 (On-line)

CALL FOR PAPERS

AIM AND SCOPE

The Institute of Tax Administration (ITA) is pleased to announce the call for papers for publication in the November/December 2022 African Journal of Customs and Fiscal Studies (AJCFS), Second Issue. The AJCFS serves as a biannual peer-reviewed outlet for dissemination of both theoretical and empirical first-rate customs and taxation research output. The scope of AJCFS is centred on such areas as tax policy, tax law and tax administration. Broadly, the three areas are construed to include but not limited to aspects related to taxpayer registration, assessing, collection, accounting as well as taxpayer compliance.

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

The ITA wishes to invite submission of original research results from both academia and practitioners in the form of journal articles for consideration for publication in the AJCFS. Manuscript submitted must neither be published nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere, either in part or in its entirety. In supporting the Tanzania revenue Authority (TRA) achieve its operational excellence and attain optimal revenue mobilization, ITA seeks contributions to the prevailing fiscal policy challenges covering the following sub-themes:

1. Information Communication and Technology
2. Tax Compliance
3. Cross Border Trade and Trade Facilitation
4. Risk Management and Good Governance in Tax Administration
5. Enforcement of Tax Laws
6. Taxation of the Digital Economy
7. Data Analytics and tax administration
8. International Taxation
9. Tax Dispute Resolution

Authors must abide by the following general instructions:

1. The manuscript must be in English using Times New Roman with font size 12, double spaced with margins of two inches.
2. A manuscript should typically not exceed 20 pages and should, in no event, exceed 40 pages.
3. The title page should include the paper title, authors' names (starting with first name) and permanent affiliations. Also indicate author's e-mail address and telephone number.
4. Indicate paper title, an abstract (not exceeding 150 words) and a list of two to six key words on page 1.
5. The text of the paper should begin on a new page, section headings should be designated by Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3 etc.), and subsection headings should be numbered as 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 etc. Figures, tables and displayed equations should be numbered consecutively throughout the text (1, 2, 3 etc.). Equation numbers should appear flush left in parentheses and running variables for equations (e.g. $1 = 1 \dots n$) flush right in parentheses.
6. Acknowledgements and related information should appear in a footnote numbered consecutively and designated by superscripts in the text.
7. References in the text should follow the "author-date" format. The references should be typed beginning on a new page.
8. Submissions should be made electronically in MS word format and corrected page proofs must be returned within seven days of receipt.
9. Submission of the Manuscripts should be made not later than 20th October, 2022 to:

The Secretary of the Editorial Board,
African Journal of Customs and Fiscal Studies (AJCFS),
P.O Box 9321, Dar es Salaam - Tanzania.
Email: ajcfs@tra.go.tz



Dodoma regional administrative secretary, Dr Fatma Mganga, pictured in Dodoma city at the weekend addressing doctors from Kigoma, Tabora, Singida and Dodoma regions when closing training on the assessment of disability resulting from accidents and work-related diseases. It was organised by the Workers Compensation Fund. Right is WCF's director of assessment services, Dr Abdulsalaam Omar. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzanian innovative startups emerge winners in the 2022 digital programme

By Getrude Mbago

THIRTEEN Tanzanian innovative startups have emerged winners in the 2022 digital accelerator programme run collaboratively by Vodacom Tanzania Plc. and Smart Lab, which will see the innovators receiving close support to grow their ideas into big projects.

The programme received over 300 start-up applications in areas of agriculture, fintech, media, health, education, and e-commerce where after a vetting process, 13 of them have emerged the best.

Speaking during the event to announce the winners in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, Vodacom Tanzania's director for digital and value added services, Nguvu Kamando said the young innovators will go through training, mentorship and support in the next three months.

He said the startups will go through an initial program that includes mentoring from top Vodacom and Smart Lab staff, and other respected professional mentors.

"After three months of acceleration and building their products, three startups will enter a validation phase for another three months where they will receive further support on marketing strategies, technical, business connections, partnerships and funding. Start-ups will also receive technology and creative support to launch and grow their start-ups from Smart Lab," he said.

Kamando noted that innovation and an entrepreneurial spirit are key ingredients for achieving the goal of a strong digital economy in the country.

He named the best selected startups as Shule Yetu Innovations, Smart Darasa, Lango Academy, Vijana Tech, Hack it Consultancy, Seto, Twenzao, Get Value, Spidi Africa, Dawa Mkononi, Medpack,

Bizy Tech and Bizzy Pay.

Vivienne Penesis, Vodacom Tanzania human resources director said apart from The Digital Accelerator, the firm also runs another programme called "Code Like a Girl" which aims to empower girls and young women to go further in STEM subjects, think critically and gain valuable digital skills.

She said the Code Like a Girl has benefited a total of 1,444 girls and young women enabling them to initiate digital projects where most of them are now running websites to improve their incomes.

Edwin Bruno, chief executive officer of Smart Africa Group said the programme has continued to produce positive outcomes where startups are able to raise additional funding from investors, complete product development, and growing their teams so that they can execute faster and better.

"We are excited to be part of this programme, and together we hope to create a platform for the tech-savvy youth to build their brands and show that Tanzanians can compete continent-wide and globally when it comes to technology entrepreneurship," he said.

Daniel Kijo, head of marketing at Twenzao App which is one of the lucky winners thanked Vodacom Tanzania and Smart Lab for coming up with the programme which has helped transform ideas and lives of many young people.

"As winners, we are going to utilize this golden opportunity to learn and improve our project, the app which has developed to address transport challenges in the country by allowing private cars to carry passengers instead of going with empty seats while many people are stranded in bus stations waiting for public transport," he explained.

FAO commits to support citizen's milk consumption status from the grassroots

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has expressed commitment to support the government's efforts to deter from a low record of milk consumption to improve citizen's nutrition status from the grassroots.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that health-

ily, an individual is required to drink at least 200 litres of milk in a year, Tanzania is lagging far behind from reaching the set ratio as one Tanzanian is annually consuming only 62 litres only.

Speaking on the side-line of this year's World School Milk Day (WSMD), FAO's Food and Nutrition Officer, Stella Kimambo said the international organization will work effectively to ensure an increased and sustainable consumption of milk from across the country.

She added: "It's disconcerting that despite being among countries that has been endowed with abundant livestock species and with milk potential, Tanzania still underperforms when it comes to milk drinking. FAO is determined to work closely in partnership with various stockholders within the country to escalate the availability of milk as well as milk drinking culture in the country."

FAO will also see viable ways through which to help the country to run sustainable programs for the

provision of free milk in at least pupils in primary schools in the country, she said.

This year's World School Milk Day was organized by FAO in cooperation with other stakeholders in the milk sector, including the Tanzania Dairy Board (TDB), ASA Dairy Farm, and the Ministry of Livestock.

According to the Registrar of the Tanzania Dairy Board (TDB) Dr George Msalya, the country's milk sub-sector holds a vital component in helping to strengthen nutrition

status amongst both children and adults.



But he expressed that the vital socioeconomic sector is being crippled by several handicaps, including poor milk production among local dairy farmers, as well as unorganized system trough in gathering and selling of produced milk.

"Most of the milk produced is marketed through an informal system and thus, prompting most of the available milk processing plants not to process at their installed maxi-

mum capacities," he said.

Milk production in Tanzania has catapulted at a low pace of 3.1 billion litres in 2021 from 2.1 billion litres from 2016.

However, pertaining to milk processing capacity, the available local industries have capacity to process at least 871,700 litres in a day, but due to poor availability of milk from farmers, the factories are ending up processing only 207,050 litres, equivalent to 23.8 percent of their installed capabilities

REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified and qualified parties to provide the following:

Concrete Cased Piling for New crushing Circuit

Pre-qualification Criteria

Reference No.	Description	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1 NM56/2022	Concrete Cased Piling for New Crushing Circuit 300mm Diameter - Cased Reinforced Concrete Piles to a Depth of 15 Metres – Total Quantity 70 nos	i. Applicants to submit Company profile with proven experience and had successfully executed piling works in the past 3 years ii. Information required to include a list of relevant projects undertaken in last 3 years. For each project provide: description and relevance to the tendered project; project cost; duration of project. Completion certificates of previous projects with reference list of Clients, applicant agrees - without reservation-upon the submission of EOI, that the Company has the full right to contact any of the references provided iii. Applicant to submit List and specification of Equipment's to be mobilized for completion of works; mainly bored pile drilling machine, construction machine for pile driving all relevant equipment for completion of works iv. Applicant to submit organizational structure, list of experienced personnel, CVs of team members for completion of works v. Level II schedule & Method statement for works vi. To submit HSE policy document vii. Local content compliance with valid CRB registration with minimum Class 3 and above viii. Applicant should provide proof to its statements as necessary regarding its financial stability, engineering capabilities, documents complying with Tanzanian laws and Regulations

Expression of interest
If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to nm.proposal@barrick.com

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective package reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit an EOI through this advertisement.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of NMGM

Key Dates
• Last date to submit EOI 07th October 2022

North Mara Gold Mine Limited




Advertisement

BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below services at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.

No.	Reference no.	Description of work/goods to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-22-09-02	Provision of Development of Raise Bore Ventilation Raise Service – Four Raises.	i. Available to commence drilling in January 2023. ii. Able to provide a raise bore rig which can drill a 1,000m @ 8.0mD shaft. iii. Able to provide a raise bore rig which can fit in a 5.0mW x 5.5mH drives. iv. Able to provide a rig which can run on either 1,000v or 525v. v. Able to drill to target diameter and depth within hole deviation tolerances specified in the scope of works in a 150MPa rock strength. vi. Able to comply with Barrick's Safety standards and management systems. vii. Able to supply a raise bore rig together with all necessary associated equipment for the performance of works. viii. Able to install, operate, test and maintain all the equipment in good workable condition in accordance with good drilling practice. ix. Able to supply mechanised rod handling on the drill rig. x. Able to submit an acceptable localisation plan and obtain an approval from relevant government authorities.

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead **referencing the work package reference number** should your company qualify as per the **pre-qualification** criteria together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile;
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- BRELA - Register of Companies detailed information certificate
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration
- Years' service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to project
- Required equipment availability to perform the specific work
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest close of business on the **10th October 2022**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote reference number in the subject line of your email.

If you do not hear from us in 21days after the submission date, please consider your EOI unsuccessful.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of BGML.

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Rotary Club dispatches 100 desks to Dar's Mkoani Primary School

By Guardian Reporter

ROTARY Club of Dar es Salaam has donated 100 desks to Mkoani Primary School in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, making the number of donated desks to 1,500 sitting over 4,500 pupils at any one given time and worth in excess of Tsh 240 million.

Speaking during the hand-over ceremony, Nikki Aggarwal, President of Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam, said that the club's goal is to invest in the future of Tanzania by empowering children through education.

"Numerous studies have shown that a conducive learning environment is important for a child's academic progress and this donation is part of the efforts to support the need to end the shortage of desks in public schools," she said.

She also said the Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam targets a donation of desks in six months across numerous schools and mentioned that the desks are made with a steel frame and treated hardwood to ensure the durability of the desks for many years.

The Ilala District Commissioner, Ngwilabuzu Ludigija, commended Rotary for the huge support in education, saying that public schools still face a huge shortage of desks.

"The Government has intensified its investment in the education sector by constructing classrooms and waiving school fees. However, we still face a serious shortage of facilities, specifically desks.

"This support from Rotary is crucial and timely. We sincerely appreciate their contribution, and we believe we will continue working together to further enhance our studying facilities for our kids," he said.

He pledged that the desks will be properly used and maintained in order to last longer and serve more students.

The desk project goes hand in hand with tree plantation drive where two trees are planted for every desk donated to neutralize the environmental impact of the donated desk.

The desks were sponsored by various individuals such as Metha and Associates, Imatic Technologies Ltd and various friends of Rotary.



Ilala district commissioner Ngwilabuzu Ndatwa Ludigija (3rd-L), Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam president Nikki Aggarwal (2nd-L), Mkoani Primary School headteacher Madam Almasi (L) and members of the club in a joyous mood moments after the club presented 100 desks to the school at the weekend. The club has thus far presented to schools over 1,500 desks worth over 240m/- and able to accommodate more than 4,500 students at a go. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Government monitors NEST 360 activities

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

THE Ministry of Health has said it is closely monitoring the NEST 360 project that focuses on helping the nation to attain its goals to reduce infant mortality from 500 per 1,000 births.

Dr Felix Bundala, head of infants department in the Health Ministry made the remarks during the visit by the minis-

try's Deputy Permanent Secretary, Dr Seif Shekallaghe to inspect the implementation of NEST 360 project activities at KCMC zonal referral hospital here.

Dr Shekallaghe was represented by Moshi district Commissioner Abbas Kayanda.

Said he: "In order to attain the goals, there are various interventions that need to be implemented, the first one is

that essential services for all infants being born should be available.

"bBt also, our hospitals should have special wards for infants. At least 20 per cent of all babies being born need to be admitted and it is estimated that two million babies are born every year.

"Translated, that percentage means 450,000 babies need to be admitted to wards, but the

challenge is many of our hospitals lack special areas for that. More efforts are being made to make sure that by 2025 at least 80 per cent of our hospitals should have the wards.

Regarding the NEST 360 Project, a doctor for infants at Muhimbili University of Allied Sciences (MUHAS), DR Nahya Salim said their target is to reduce the present infant mortality to less than 50 per cent.

"NEST 360 concentrates in boosting infants' services in hospital wards as infant mortality contributes to 47 per cent of all deaths of children under five years of age."

"We imitated the project because our statistics show that 80 percent of women give birth in hospitals, hence there is a huge need in improving infants' services in our hospitals," Dr Salim added.

NEST 360 Project is implemented in various world countries including Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi and Nigeria.

After inspecting the improvements done by NEST 360 at the KCM Referral hospital Moshi DC, Abbas Kayanda said the government would like to see that the health stakeholders should expand the services to other regions in the country as the problem was huge.



Glory Kallagho, the best performer in Public Finance and Taxation in the latest National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA) exams, receives a certificate from Finance and Planning ministry deputy permanent secretary Lawrence Mafuru at the board's graduation ceremony held at Bunju in suburban Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Norway's Equinor LNG project will be completed by December this year'

By Guardian Reporter

ENERGY minister January Makamba has said crucial talks with Norway's Equinor on implementation of the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) project will be completed by December this year.

Makamba (pictured) made the statement over the weekend when he attended a leader's seminar at Equinor offices in Hammerfest town in northern Norway.

During the seminar, minister Makamba who led the Tanzanian delegation presented a report on preparations for the 70trn/- LNG project implementation in Lindi Region.

The project is expected to offer numerous economic benefits for Tanzania and will open up opportunities for residents of the southern regions in particular.

Other leaders who attended the seminar are Tanzania Ambassador to Norway, Grace Olotu, Norwegian Ambassador to Tanzania Elisabeth Jacobsen and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Energy, Kheri Mahimbali.

The leaders also met and held talks with the business community in Hammerfest town because they are the ones expected to benefit with the project through provision of services.

Machines constructed at Equinor have the capacity to process 4.6 billion cubic feet of natural gas per year as well as production of other products including Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) or cooking gas.



Zanzibar minister instructs ZECO to supply power to people who have invested in agriculture

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR's Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals Shaibu Hassan Kaduara has directed the Electricity Corporation (ZECO) to supply power services to the areas where people have invested in agriculture to facilitate smooth operations.

Kaduara made the directive yesterday when speaking to ZECO leadership and employees at Tibirizi area of Chake Chake District in Pemba Island.

The minister said that if the farmers

are provided with reliable power services, they will be able to produce crops at a low cost, improve their income and contribute to the country's development.

Kaduara said that Zanzibar President, Dr Hussein Mwinyi, has already issued an order for electricity poles to be provided free of charge to the people, so ZECO should ensure that this is implemented by sending power to all areas including farming areas.

He queried why ZECO were delaying delivering electricity poles to people

while they clearly know their responsibility.

"I want power services to reach the areas where people grow vegetables, fruits and other crops, and when they are finished, the government will buy other poles, why are you holding on to them," said Kaduara.

He tasked ZECO officials to be responsible in serving the people who need to have electricity meters locked in their homes when they have paid all the necessary financial expenses, unveiling that the current situation of ZECO is not

bad, but officials have not been responsible.

"I am not ready to be held accountable for this just because ZECO employees are not responsible, I will fire even one hundred employees, if someone is not fulfilling his/her responsibilities well, if someone destroys me, we will destroy each other. Take responsibility first and then claim your rights," he said.

He also asked ZECO officials to manage the income of the electricity service and refrain from activities that undermine the economy which include fighting illegal connection of power done by people in the

streets.

Permanent secretary in the ministry of Water, Energy and Minerals, Joseph Kilangi asked ZECO officials to make good use of government equipment, follow procurement procedures as well as increase cooperation between them to bring efficiency in their duties.

ZECO employees on their part, requested for more training as they lack up-to-date skills that will help improve efficiency while also complaining of lack of key work tools such as cars, shoes as well as allowances.

Tanzanian policy record had a mark in global Habitat agenda

GLOBAL activists on Monday October 3 are marking World Habitat Day, a commemoration that dates back to 1986 with the theme "Shelter is My Right," hosted globally by the Kenyan capital of Nairobi. In the aftermath the city also became host of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) head offices. Tanzania's veteran UDSM agronomist Prof Anna Tibajuka headed UN Habitat for years, an agency closely linked with UNEP. Such nominations usually take note of individual contributions on the one hand, plus key national parameters.

Tanzania has been having an active urban sector development policy (under different approaches) virtually all the time since independence, with a post-independence loaning facility 'Karadha' targeting individual housing loan schemes. Owing to the frail economy, issues of appropriate resource use came up, and it folded. In Zanzibar, building affordable low cost housing, apartment blocks, in the post-revolution years was a hallmark of President Abeid Karume's change policy.

After the individual loaning scheme collapsed, a wider approach was taken up with the formation of the Tanzania Housing Bank in 1967. Like other public agencies it has its ups and downs but made solid contributions until the reform years of the 1990s, when the financial sector as a whole was being restructured. One of its major contributions was the Sites and Services Programme of the late 1970s, meant to improve the face of urban areas by embodying water

and electricity services in areas that were originally unplanned. The plot prices rose and newcomers came in.

This background not only shows why a Tanzanian was given the job of guiding UN Habitat activities, with chroniclers noting that Prof Tibajuka was the first African woman elected by the UN General Assembly as under-secretary-general of a United Nations agency. This situation has really remained the same, and anyone listening to parliamentary discussion in each meeting will agree that Tanzania is in tandem with the UN goal, like the theme "Mind the Gap. Leave No One and Place Behind." The government first made efforts to link all regions with tarmac roads, then all districts and now seeks to link wards with tarmac roads as well, plus water and electricity. This way, no part of the country is left behind in investments, job creation and implicitly, habitats, as unacceptable huts give way to new housing.

Tanzania is one among countries around the world whose political psyche has been tailored in the themes of UN goals, for instance refusing to allow the growth of inequality in cities and human settlements. The focus hasn't always been easy as when national income improves, privileged groups want a bigger share of the cake, and corrective action is needed to bring it back to the right format, or balance. In the 2015/2017 Budget, 74 per cent of envisaged expenditure was on recurrent needs, leaving 26 per cent for development projects. Then a revolution occurred.

Samia's concerns on youth nutrition, fertility call for multi-pronged action

WORRIES come in two faces, one stem being that of poverty and other coming with success, a sort of opulent life, or at least a relaxed lifestyle. While President Samia Suluhu Hassan asks researchers to address nutritional challenges facing the youth, especially male youth, women researchers constantly assert that women do most household work. Men are supposed to provide for families but often male youth only have part time occupations like helping with work at a shop, garage, market or car, earning something by the day and at times by the hour. That is it.

Much of the time is hence spent waiting to get something else to assist with for a small pay, enabling such a person to meet regular needs, some of which the president pointed out, as including 'octopus soup' to build energies for conjugal needs. This is the sort of lack of exercise that leads to relative weakness, but privations hinder balanced diets, while the little they earn can be used excessively for alcohol. The cheaper bottled spirits are more effective, and if the stomach is poorly refilled, some negative impacts are predictable in body functions, worrying the president.

It will not be easy to find solutions to this situation as the reason isn't simply low income for lack of proper earnings, but skewed expenditure to obtain meals and drinks that often aren't healthy. But it would not be easy for an administrative gathering to dwell on the psychological part, the loss of self-esteem when a man visibly relies on a woman for upkeep. If that means he is only an errand boy that a well provided for

woman more or less employs, it is one thing, not if he tries to run a family and he has little or no money. That arrangement fails and eats into libido.

So the peril that the president talked about is real if indeed the future of the nation is pegged to young men earning enough and providing for families, so as to keep their libido in proper form. But to be sure, nature has ways of balancing out such challenges, as the rate of population growth could diminish somewhat, not really in excess, and some experts will say that is good. At any rate, most young men at a certain point succeed in bringing up a semblance of household, and thus make a real contribution to bringing about the next generation; the up-bringing is different.

The country has pains bracing up for modernization, which includes gender equality, as even this situation arises from so many roles in economic life being taken by women. Education and talent is the hallmark of social differentiation rather than gender, and at times gender is skewed in favour of women. Women are better placed in seeking credit to start economic activities.

A recent REPOA study showed that women migrating from rural areas succeed more than men migrants; it is easier for women to settle into neighbourhoods than men, or being trusted with credit, etc. Elders in the country, including the president, wish that young men play the usual family breadwinner role. When this role diminishes it will affect the libido. It is the 21st century and the government can only do what is in its power to help them, not more.

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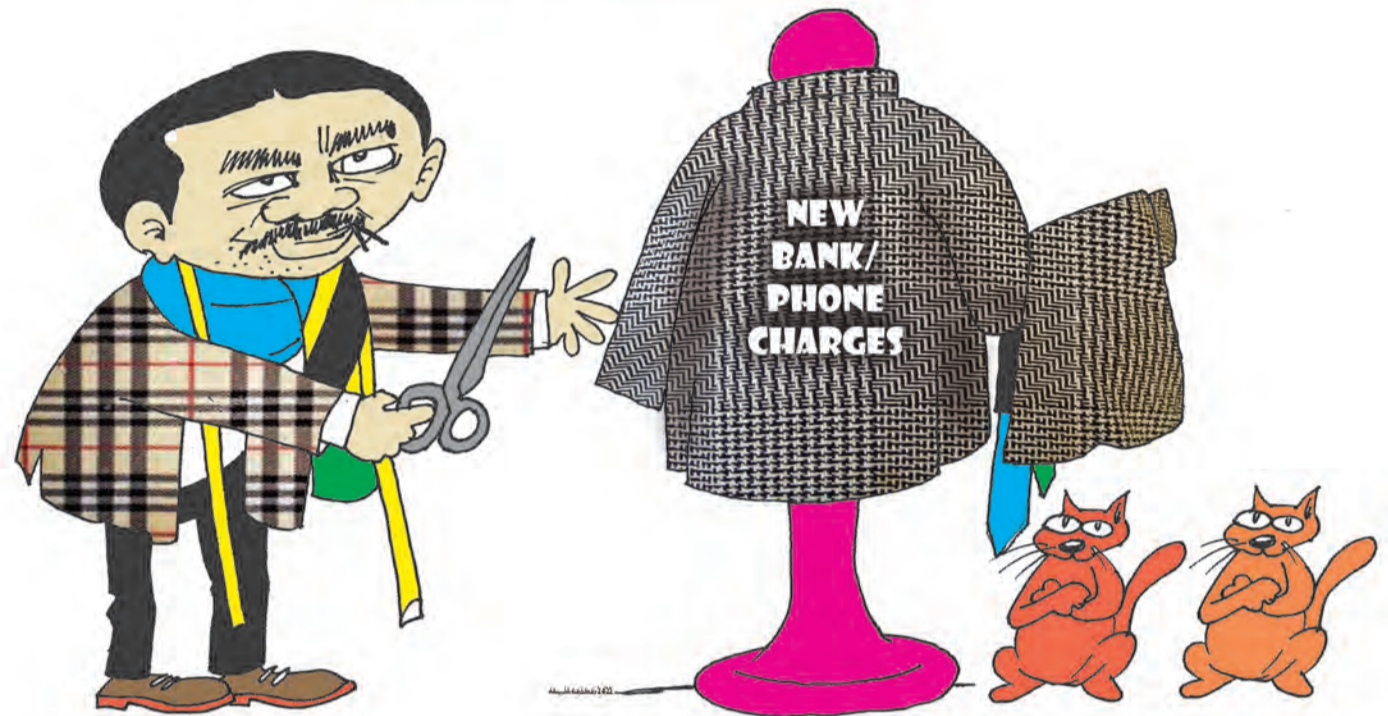
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BESPOKE



Africa must focus more on long-term effects of Covid-19

By Special Correspondent

SINCE late 2019, the COVID-19 pandemic has been spreading globally. The pandemic has affected all aspects of global society and has caused specific challenges for both the government and private sectors in most countries.

While we do not yet know the full impact of the pandemic on poor African countries, we already know that the impacts on economies, health conditions and politics are significant - and will continue to be substantial. In this brief, we discuss the long-term implications and effects of the pandemic on Domestic Resource Mobilisation in sub-Saharan Africa. The brief builds on the report Implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for revenue generation in poor African countries.

Since late 2019, the COVID-19 pandemic has been spreading globally. The pandemic has affected all aspects of global society and has caused specific challenges for both the government and private sectors in most countries.

While we do not yet know the full impact of the pandemic on poor African countries, we already know that the impacts on economies, health conditions and politics are significant - and will continue to be substantial. Some observers think that the impacts could be worse than the effects

of the 2008 financial crisis (Lustig and Mariscal, 2020). Globally, GDP in 2021 is expected to be 3.2% below pre-pandemic projections (World Bank, 2021a).

If this low growth is sustained, the average real GDP per capita in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) will be back to its 2008 level. Thus, the COVID-19 pandemic may wipe out the economic and development gains that SSA has achieved over the past fifteen years. Government revenues in SSA in 2020 are expected to fall below pre-COVID-19 projections by about 2.3 percentage points of GDP (IMF, 2020). Sub-Saharan Africa's recovery, while helped by spill-overs from the global recovery, is expected to remain fragile given the slow pace of vaccination and delays to major investments in infrastructure and the extractives sector.

Domestic Resource Mobilisation (DRM) has been recognised by the IMF as "one of the most pressing policy challenges facing" sub-Saharan African countries (IMF, 2018: 31). Similarly, DRM is reflected in the UN Sustainable Development Goals, under SDG 17: "Strengthen domestic resource mobilisation, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection." This highlights the importance of DRM in development efforts, and specifically in targeting

relevant policy-making.

According to a USAID definition, DRM is: "the process through which countries raise and spend their own funds to provide for their people" (IMF, 2018). As such, it is the long-term path to sustainable development finance. However, increasing revenues is not a silver bullet. Additional revenues will only lead to improved development outcomes if they are spent on improving peoples' lives and enhancing the state's institutional capacity to provide productive public services in an accountable and equitable manner.

As the economies of poor countries slow down due to the pandemic, poverty and inequality will increase, probably significantly. Consequently, the funds needed to counteract these trends through taxation, loans, aid and remittances will grow. In the short term, some 80-395 million people could fall into extreme poverty globally, depending on the extent of the economic shock from COVID-19. For SSA, the World Bank estimates that it could range from 33 to 37 million people. In Tanzania, the crisis could push an estimated additional 600 000 people below the poverty line (World Bank, 2021b).

The largest impact on growth so far has been in tourism-dependent economies, but oil-exporting countries and other commodity-intensive countries have also been hit hard. In

East Africa, disruption to the tourism industry and lockdowns have caused substantial slowdowns in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania. In West and Central Africa, the decline in growth is driven mainly by the reduction of oil exports. It is expected that fragile countries where the state has limited capacity to carry out vital governance functions, including security and provisions of basic services, will experience a strong decline in growth as the pandemic aggravates the drivers of fragility.

Many poorer countries were already struggling to meet the targets set by the SDGs before the outbreak of COVID-19 (Andersen and Therkildsen, 2019), and this situation has only gotten worse since the beginning of the pandemic. Therefore, improved domestic resource mobilisation is as important as ever. Although with often considerable country variations, DRM is driven by a combination of economic, political, institutional and social factors.

For instance, DRM is typically higher when the manufacturing and service sectors are larger, the country is more urbanized, the political situation is stable, there is political support for tax reforms, the tax administration is relatively effective, and citizens trust the government. The global economy and international conjunctures and donor influence also impact DRM.

We must ensure that climate funding reaches the guardians of the forests

By Solange Bandiaky-Badji and Torbjørn Gjesfenn

US \$270 million may sound like a lot of money, especially for just one year. But it is only a small fraction - less than one percent - of all global funding for climate change adaptation and mitigation. This small fraction, however, is the annual amount that was invested in the tenure and forest management of Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPs and LCs) over the past decade.

This month we learned that the actual amount of funding that reached IPs and LCs was a small fraction of the small fraction: only 17 percent went to activities that specifically named an indigenous organization.

This figure likely overestimates the actual share that reaches these communities as intermediary institutions also have project implementation costs that are part of this funding. The discrepancy

calls into question whether the \$1.7 billion pledged at the UN climate change meetings to Indigenous Peoples and local communities for their land tenure and conservation initiatives will actually reach them.

Securing and protecting the tenure rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities is one of the most cost-effective, equitable, and efficient means of protecting, restoring, and sustainably using tropical forestlands and the ecosystems services they provide.

The rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities are inextricably linked to the preservation of key ecosystems and the maintenance of carbon stored in tropical forests and peat lands. At least 36 percent of Key Biodiversity Areas globally are found on IP and LC lands, along with at least 25 percent of the above-ground carbon storage in tropical forests.

Efforts to reduce climate change and the loss of biodiversity depend on these landscapes remaining intact, and IP and LC forest management has proven more effective in this regard than any other. While 2020 saw the highest deforestation rate in Brazil's history, for example, deforestation rates were up to three times lower in Indigenous territories.

The most recent United Nations climate report, embraced this point, stating: "Supporting Indigenous self-determination, recognizing Indigenous Peoples' rights and supporting Indigenous knowledge-based adaptation are critical to reducing climate change risks and effective adaptation."

In a report our organizations released in September, we found that between 2011 and 2020, donors disbursed approximately \$2.7 billion (on average \$270 million annually) for projects supporting IP and LC tenure and forest

management in tropical countries. We compiled data on this funding stream and assessed the grants along different dimensions of "Fit for Purpose" criteria - meaning that funding is given in ways that are effective, relevant and appropriate for IP and LCs.

Applying the "Fit for Purpose" criteria for IP and LC funding over the past decade was educational. We found that:

- IP and LC-led: Only 17 percent of IP and LC tenure and forest management funding between 2011 and 2020 mentioned an indigenous organization, indicating that a low share of funding is under leadership of Indigenous and community organizations.
- Mutually Accountable: There is a lack of accountability and transparency from donors towards IPs and LCs, inhibiting IP and LC understanding and influence over donor priorities and decisions. Most private foundations, who represent the majority of the IPLC Forest Tenure Pledge donors, do not share data on their projects systematically.
- Flexible and Long-term: Donors have increasingly been providing funding through long-term funding agreements, which provides IP and LC organizations with much-needed predictability and security. Yet, a lack of flexibility to change or adapt priorities within projects restricts IP and LC organizations in addressing diverse community needs, imminent threats or seize on windows of opportunity.
- Gender Inclusive: Only 32 percent of IP and LC tenure and forest management funding included gender-related keywords, despite the essential role of women in IP and LC forest management and their notable exclusion from many governance structures and forest management decisions.

By Thomas Lyimo

Our failures and sufferings in life begin the moment we stop learning

There is this ongoing debate about a recent utterance by a prominent public figure that some adult children, including well educated ones, stay with their parents when they are supposed to be independent. This was received by mixed reaction as some took it as a scorn yet others thought it is an important observation worth discussing.

Also, there is another contest on whether there is a direct link between education and success. This emanates from the fact that there are many examples, globally, of very successful people with very average or no education on one side and some college graduates struggling to make ends meet on the other.

To succeed in life and lead a healthy life is something not easily attained. The reason is some skills are not taught or are taught only partly in school. Despite all that reality, we need to find our recourse in the statement that learning is endless. Learning should not be confined only to the school boundaries but even outside school.

For the avoidance of doubt, learning comes in many forms. Many go formal, some take apprenticeship. Some follow their icons and imitate their paths. There are folks who believe that practice makes perfect. It is not a one-suit-fits-all affair.

It is indisputable that the years of schooling are very few compared to the variety of knowledge that exists in the world. It is correct to state that the education we receive from the formal education system is only a catalyst to make us learn more when we are already outside the school domain.

It won't be worth blaming ourselves for not staying at school for many years. Instead, we have to accept the reality that learning should be a lifelong process.

To encourage learning outside the school context, I have tried to come up with five skills for someone to possess so that they can make life more meaningful and healthier. I have decided to call those skills the pentagon of life.

The first skill in the pentagon of life is explaining. It has always been a challenge for some people to explain precisely and profoundly a certain concept when they are demanded to do so. There are people with good ideas which if implemented, may mean a lot in socio-economic development but the challenge becomes inability of these people to explain thoroughly what they have or know concerning a certain phenomenon.

The result of this inability has been failure to get mass support which could enable the society to benefit from those ideas. When someone fails to explain a certain concept, they may be emotionally disturbed and hence fail to relate well with others. It can be agreed that it is worth teaching people how to explain



“EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.”

NELSON MANDELA

things. This task may be thrown to teachers but also to parents who are the immediate teachers to their children. Teachers should discourage cramming and promote understanding.

The second skill is expressing oneself. To many people, it is a challenge when you demand them to express themselves. The repercussion for this is being subjected to punishment while not guilty. There are the same pupils in school who are punished due to failure to express themselves. Also, in the courts of law, there are individuals who are convicted only because they fail to express themselves. In helping people who have problems in

expressing themselves, we may first start by building them confidence.

The third skill is positive criticism. We human beings are not perfect. We make mistakes on several occasions. To be corrected is not bad as we have accepted that we are likely to make mistakes. But the challenge becomes how we are corrected or correct others. Someone may have good intentions but may lack an approach to make that intention bear fruit. Lack of techniques in criticizing may cause unnecessary squabbles in the society.

The fourth skill is accepting criticism. Some people are allergic

to criticism. Accepting criticism starts with patience. This means the ability to tolerate others. Knowing that human beings are not perfect is a catalyst in helping someone accept criticism. Accepting criticism is a fuel in stimulating good social relations. If you accept criticism, you will be told your failures and faults and hence be in a position to change and improve.

Also, accepting criticism may stir love among individuals. If someone holds a grudge on you because you did something unpleasant to them, they may forgive you when you accept criticism. They will be convinced that if you have accepted criticism, there is a possibility that you won't repeat the same mistake.

The last skill in the pentagon of life is the ability to say sorry. Saying sorry is not easy but very important in human relations as we have made it clear that it is impossible for a human being not to be mistaken. Saying sorry encourages someone you have wronged to believe that it was not your intention to cause them pain but it happened unintended.

It is not right to say that we can make life perfect but there are some skills which can help us to reduce the imperfect nature of human beings. We need to struggle to discover the hidden skills that make us fail to enjoy the goodness of life.

The author is a teacher and writer. He can be reached at lyimo.thomas@yahoo.com

Black, Korean and searching for the American dream

By Laura Thomas

AN outcast from birth, Milton Washington is the child of a Korean woman and a black US soldier, who became a "slickboy", or child thief, and dreamed of making it to America. At the age of eight, he seized his chance.

When a beautiful car pulled up one day outside St Vincent's orphanage in South Korea, Milton Washington made a split-second decision that would change the course of his life.

A black American couple stepped out. The man was in military uniform, the woman had an Afro and wore a beautiful flowing dress, and when Milton realised that they were going to adopt his friend Joseph - who was black and Korean just like him - he ran to the couple's car, jumped inside and locked all the doors.

Crying and screaming for his life, he wasn't getting out unless the man and woman took him home with them too.

The couple - Captain and Mrs Washington - agreed to take both Joseph and Milton home, but only to see which of them fitted in best with their family. They would give it a few days, they said, and then make their choice.

That night, lying in bed in an unfamiliar bedroom, in an unfamiliar house at the Dongducheon American military base, little Milton made his second big decision of the day - and ran away.

"I didn't want to get taken back to the orphanage - maybe they wouldn't choose me," he says.

"I was just trying to get to America." Before his life in the orphanage, Milton was the only black child in a small village near the border with North Korea. Milton's father, an American soldier, was long gone, but his mother, who worked hard days in the rice fields, loved him and protected him fiercely against the prejudice they encountered.

Milton remembers the children in the village singling him out because of the colour of his skin, taunting him with a song about "a black monkey's butt". As the son of a black man, he says, he fell "outside of the limits" of what it meant to be Korean in the '60s and '70s. And because his father was not Korean, he had no right to a birth certificate.

Milton knew that his father was from the US - in his mind a land of flying cars, where the cities were made



Milton Washington says people are often surprised to hear he is Korean

of gold, with ice-cream mountains. "I dreamed of going to America because it was full of black people - these magical creatures," Milton says, "and of being accepted."

Milton's America was a fantasy land that couldn't have been more different from his reality. He and his mother lived in a mud and stone hut, slept on the floor, and washed their clothes in the river.

One morning, village elders arrived at the door and told Milton's mother they would no longer accept "the shame that you're bringing upon this village because of that boy". Although Milton's mother argued their case, she and Milton left their home and moved to a nearby town attached to an American military base. There were cars there, electricity, and money, all of which were new to Milton - salt had been the currency in their village.

Milton also saw black American soldiers for the first time, and felt a step closer to finding his father.

In the alleys of the red-light district below their tiny apartment, homeless boys begged, picked pockets, and fought

with other gangs. The American soldiers called them "slickboys" - slang for little thieves. And when six-year-old Milton shared a packet of Oreos with the boys - given to him by his mum's American boyfriend - he became a slickboy too. Milton finally felt like he belonged.

"All the black soldiers would give me money - dollar bills, not just change," he says. "It completely changed my life."

Milton's mother had become a sex worker in a club in town and went out at night to work. Milton was left alone in their apartment - under strict instruction not to leave, instructions he routinely ignored.

One night Milton's mum didn't return from work as expected - the club had been raided by the police and she and all the other women who worked there were sent to jail for two weeks.

Free of his mother's rules, Milton and his friends ran wild, stealing drinks from bars and having adventures all over town.

When his mum returned, she made sure Milton was never left alone again. Each time she got wind of a police raid,

she would drop Milton at an orphanage for a couple of weeks so that he was safe.

Milton remembers being racially abused by the other, mostly Korean, kids at these orphanages, as he had been in the village growing up. But this time, he didn't let it get to him.

"I would almost laugh it off," he says. "Yeah, I may be these racial slurs that you're talking about - but you're the orphan. I have a mother, she says she's going to be back in two weeks." And she was always back in two weeks.

For a while, this routine continued. Then one morning, Milton and his mum took a taxi to a different orphanage, where many of the children looked like Milton. It was an orphanage for children born to American servicemen and Korean mothers, called the St Vincent's home for Amerasian children.

Milton's mum assured him she'd be back the following day and promised him a present - he asked for a train set. But when she returned there was no train set, just a hug that he didn't know meant goodbye.

"She told me, 'I need you to be strong,'"

he says. "That was the last time I saw her."

It wasn't long after Milton first arrived at St Vincent's orphanage that Captain and Mrs Washington took him to their home on a military base - from where he decided to run away.

He didn't get far. He was still small and the compound fences were high, and a search party found him, hours later, sound asleep in a children's playground.

But the incident shook the Washingtons, who decided that both Milton and Joseph could stay with them permanently. The boys were adopted in 1977 and eventually moved to America - becoming part of a noisy, loving family of six children, who rode bikes, played sports, and went to school - all the normal childhood things Milton had longed for.

But he worried about what had become of his mother and would cry himself to sleep. He was haunted by dreams of wading through paddy fields looking for her. She had always been his "island of refuge in a very tough world", he says.

Now in his 50s - he's not sure of his exact age - Milton works as a photographer in New York and is writing a memoir called "Slickboy". He's always remained curious about his biological family, and in recent years began to look for connections via DNA websites. In April 2019, he got a hit. It was a family member on his mother's side, who wanted to speak to him immediately.

"Hello, I'm calling from Seattle," the voice - with a strong Korean accent - said.

"This is Milton-ah (little Milton)," he said, using the name his birth mother had often called him.

"I am your sister, Tong, do you remember me?"

Milton did remember meeting Tong - she was one of his older sisters, and they had met a handful of times in Korea when Milton was a little boy. Tong had lived with their grandparents, from whom Milton's mother was estranged.

Speaking to his half-sister, Milton says, was "an incredible moment".

"I was just really excited [to be] connected with my past, and to have my memories validated by her."

Milton had not expected his mother to survive, but Tong told him she'd lived a long life, and had died just a few years previously. His mother and sisters had come to the US in 1998, and though they knew that Milton was living there too, Milton's mum had felt she had no right to contact him.

But she had left a keepsake for Milton with Tong - a gold and jade necklace to remember her by.

"It's a beautiful piece," he says. "It's a way to carry my mother with me."

Milton keeps searching for answers about his father. He believes his dad likely came from Louisiana, but has little more information.

"I want to know what kind of man he is. He's the only missing link," Milton says.

Despite the sadness he still sometimes feels, Milton is certain his mum made the right decision giving him up all those years ago.

"She knew that if I had a shot at an American life, I would do well at it. I love her for that act," he says.

"There is a hole in my heart that's always going to be there. But the benefits of my current life versus what it could have been - there's no argument there."

Western governments criticised for downplaying pandemic amid warning of long COVID threat

BEIJING

CLAIMS by some Western leaders that the COVID-19 pandemic "is over" has drawn criticism as the coronavirus continues to infect and kill people everyday across the world.

Such claims have also sparked warnings from health experts and observers, who have stressed that the end of the pandemic is still a long way off and that downplaying the pandemic by some Western countries will have severe consequences as new threats of long COVID and monkeypox are emerging.

PANDEMIC "NOT OVER"

While acknowledging that the United States still has "a problem with COVID," the White House said "the pandemic is over" in the United States, adding that "if you notice, no one's wearing masks. Everybody seems to be in pretty good shape."

In response to such comments, the Washington Post penned an editorial, writing straightforwardly that "the pandemic is surely not over."

"The pandemic is still raging -- in the sense that a dangerous virus is infecting, sickening and killing people, mutating to survive and haunting the globe," the article wrote. "The pandemic has shifted -- and normalcy has returned in many ways -- but it is not over."

The seven-day moving average of new COVID-19 deaths in the United States is about 325 while more than 47,000 infections have been reported each day, according to the latest COVID data tracker weekly review released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In total, the United States has seen over 96 million COVID-19 cases and more than 1 million related deaths. Both numbers remain the highest in the world.

Across other Western countries that have taken lax approaches to the pandemic and ended most restrictions, the pandemic outlooks are also gloomy.

"One of the problems we have in the UK, of course, is all restrictions have been removed and people are assuming, as a consequence, that we're out of the pandemic, and there's been some very mixed messaging from government, including messages that somehow we're in a post-pandemic situation when we're clearly not," said Lawrence Young, a virologist and a professor of molecular oncology at the University of Warwick in Britain.

British health experts on



People wearing face masks are seen at L.A. union station in Los Angeles, California, the United States, on Aug. 5, 2022. (Xinhua)

Wednesday warned that increased circulation of flu and a resurgence in COVID-19 could lead to a difficult winter that increases pressure on the already stretched National Health Service, said a Reuters report.

In France, during the week ending Sept. 25, there had been 358 confirmed COVID cases for every 100,000 people, up 22 percent from the previous week, representing an average of around 34,700 new cases per day, according to the latest data from the public health agency Sante Publique France.

DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES

While the Western governments are trying to downplay the pandemic, the severe consequences of their failure in handling the disease are becoming increasingly apparent.

Due to COVID-19, the average life expectancy of Americans fell in 2020 and 2021, the sharpest two-year decline in nearly a century, according to a report published by the CDC in late August.

Besides, the virus has become the third-leading cause of death in the United States after heart disease and cancer, said the CDC.

Meanwhile, reports of people contracting and re-contracting COVID-19 as well as experiencing side effects in one way or another have pointed to the long-term physical fallout from coronavirus infection, known as "long COVID," which is largely underestimated.

COVID is not a single condition but rather "a wide range of new, returning, or ongoing health problems that people experience after first being infected with

the virus that causes COVID-19," according to the CDC.

People with post-COVID conditions may experience physical and mental health problems of different types and combinations of symptoms happening over different lengths of time, including malaise, fatigue, breathing challenges, cardiovascular abnormalities, migraines, depression and anxiety, among other conditions.

In the United States, for instance, long COVID has been described as the "next national health disaster" and the "pandemic after the pandemic," the Kaiser Family Foundation, a U.S.-based health research organization, said in a policy watch piece in August.

In the World Health Organization (WHO) European Region, at least 17 million people experienced long COVID in the first two years of the pandemic, and millions may have to live with it for years to come, said an article published on Sept. 13 by WHO.

"The pandemic isn't over, but will continue to resonate for months to come," Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Darrell West told Xinhua. "Long COVID will have an impact on the labor force because it will push some people into long-term care issues and keep them out of the workforce."

In addition to concerns over the long COVID, the worry that Western governments may repeat their mistakes in containing the emerging threat of monkeypox is on the rise, especially in the United States, where over 25,000 monkeypox cases have been reported.

"From vaccinations to communications, the White House effort to fight the monkeypox virus has been one mess after another," said a recent report of Bloomberg.

VIGILANCE URGED

The assertion that the COVID-19 pandemic is over is both "reckless" and "irresponsible," Steven Thrasher, a journalism professor at Northwestern University, tweeted.

Thrasher also expressed concern that many businesses, state and local governments, non-profits and educational institutions across the United States would "end all attempts at mitigation, support, and care" as a result of the remark.

Lawrence Gostin, director of the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law and professor at Georgetown Law, tweeted that he is worried that members of the public may relax masking and even delay getting vaccinated.

"As we move to respiratory virus season & launch a vaccine campaign, we must urge vigilance," Gostin said.

The WHO has warned against complacency in fighting COVID-19, urging coordinated action and political commitments to saving lives and preventing economic and health damage by the ongoing pandemic.

The organization also noted that the pandemic is still inflicting a death toll of 10,000 per week, most of which could be prevented, while large vaccination gaps exist especially in low- and middle-income countries.

"That means everyone needs to use, when needed, the simple tools that are available to stay safe: distancing, masks and ventilation. And it means everyone needs access to the medical tools to stay safe: vaccines, tests and treatments," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said.

Richer nations must not step back from tackling COVID-19 as a global problem now, ahead of future potential waves of infection, Bruce Aylward, WHO senior adviser, warned.

Countries need to be ready and have treatments in place for any further waves of infection, and "if you go to sleep right now and this wave hits us in three months ... God -- blood on your hands," Aylward was quoted as saying in a recent report by Reuters. **Xinhua**



U.S. national flags fly at half-staff at the Washington Monument to mourn 1 million American lives lost to COVID-19 in Washington, D.C., the United States, May 12, 2022. Xinhua

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 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 18:10-21:00HRS 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

Africa's biotechnology heroes celebrated at OFAB Day forum

By Getrude Mbago

FORMER President Dr Jakaya Kikwete has been named as one of the African biotechnology heroes and awarded for supporting farmers' rights to access modern agricultural technologies and innovations.

He was honoured by the Open Forum on Agricultural Biotechnology (OFAB) along with other Africans who have contributed to the accelerated development of biotechnology to increase agricultural productivity in the continent.

In a statement availed to the media, OFAB, a project of the African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF), awarded the nominees during a ceremony to mark the 2nd OFAB Day, an annual event held in Accra, Ghana during the weekend and commended them for their contribution to the prosperity of farming in Africa.

The statement noted that Dr Kikwete's administration recognized the potential of modern biotechnology in transforming agricultural production and the well-being of Tanzanians. During his first tenure, the government developed and adopted laws and regulations to govern research, development and commercialization of GMOs.

This year's OFAB Day theme was "The Role of Biotechnology in Achieving Africa's Development Aspirations." The theme aligns with AATF's vision that agricultural biotechnology has a role to contribute to the growth of Africa's agriculture and food systems.

OFAB, now operating in ten African countries, convenes stakeholders contributing to the biotechnology space to share knowledge and experiences in creating awareness on agricultural biotechnology in the achievement of the African Union's Agenda 2063, the Malabo Declaration, and the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).

According to the statement, the nominees were carefully selected by OFAB chapter countries in consultation with OFAB boards.

The current President of the All Farmers Association of Nigeria, Arc Kabir Ibrahim, who was awarded for pulling millions of farmers to adopt genetically modified crops through his untiring and firm campaign for GM technology.

Arc Kabir has played a key in the adoption of Nigeria's first food transgenic crop Pod Borer Resistant (PBR) cowpea, which has just been commercialized into the Nigerian seed market. He has con-



ducted interviews on national television sensitizing the public and Nigerian farmers on the safety and benefits of the application of biotechnology in agricultural production.

Other OFAB Day biotechnology awardees were Society for Biotech Farmers of Kenya Chairperson Daniel Mugo Magundu, Prof James Bokosi of Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Malawi, Prof Chantal Zoungana Kabore, fellow of the Burkina Faso National Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters and Ethiopia's Agricultural Transformation Institute CEO Dr Mandefro Nigussie.

Prof Moris Ogenga Latigo, a former MP and Leader of Opposition in Uganda, was also awarded alongside Ghana's Dr Marian Quain, a plant biotechnologist with expertise in plant physiology, tissue culture, molecular biology, genetic engineering and biosafety.

In her speech Marian highlighted her unpopular journey of using biotechnology tools to improve crops over years

but which is being celebrated today as an important tool to transform Africans Agriculture. Quain thanked AATF for this significant recognition adding that it gave her impetus to innovate more and to better the lives of farmers.

Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board Director-General Dr Patrick Karangwa and Mozambique's Biotechnology and Inter-Institutional Group on Biosafety Coordinator Dr Roda Sansao Nuvunga, who is also the Director of the Mozambique Water Research Institute were also recipients of the OFAB Day awards.

AATF's Director, Product Development and Commercialization, Dr Emmanuel Okogbenin, said the cross-section of actors were celebrated for their contribution to the advancement of agriculture biotechnology during their normal lives and activities.

"The nominated policymakers, scientists and farmers have championed biotechnology not for personal gain, but

because of belief in its potential to uplift the people's livelihoods. Through their example, we learn that each one of us, in our areas of expertise and influence can promote the role of science in Africa's development," said Dr Okogbenin.

The STI Director in the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation, Kwamina Quaison said the OFAB Day theme resonates with continental goals at a time Africa is accelerating efforts toward food sufficiency.

"Biotechnology as relatively new science has been met with resistance in Ghana due to lack of understanding and misinformation about the technology in the public. The biggest challenge, which may hold for other African nations, is the knowledge gap between scientists and the public who are the end users of the biotech products," he said.

Prof Mike Yaw Osei-Atweneboana, acting director general CSIR, Ghana, said since OFAB's establishment on 18 August 2011, it has consistently facilitated dialogues and conversations to promote the role of STI, particularly agricultural biotechnology toward a prosperous and food-secure Africa.

He urged the heroes to continue supporting agricultural biotechnology development and OFAB chapters in their countries.

AATF is contributing to the wealth and health of Africa's small-holder farmers, showing how progress is possible when governments, NGOs, the private sector, researchers and farmers work together to unleash technology that targets specific production challenges and opportunities.

Stakeholders come together to advance restoration efforts

By Felister Peter

THE country's deforestation rate has been increasing over the years calling for concerted efforts to save thousand hectares of forest cover that are lost annually.

Environmental stakeholders gathered recently to discuss various issues that contribute to the destruction but also conservation challenges as well as the achieved successes.

During the meeting on Forest Governance and Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar that was held in Morogoro, stakeholders emphasized the importance of cooperation between the government and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) as well as having harmonized policies, regulations and plans to reduce the current loss rate of forest cover.

The meeting was organized by the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF) with support from World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

Tanzania is currently losing 469,000 hectares of forest per year, the number which is too high compared to

300,000 hectares that were lost annually in the 1990s.

In his presentation on pillars of forest governance, Coordinator, Tanzania Forest Working Group (TFWG) Casian Sianga emphasized the need for enhanced transparency with the need to work on information sharing gaps, mainly on budgets and other financial issues.

Sianga noted that to ensure better forest governance there shouldn't be communication gaps between local government authorities and Village Natural Resource Committees (VNRC) and that policies and regulations should be put in a language that can be understood by everyone. Most of the documents are in English.

Talking on decision making, he said the community needs to be capacitated to engage in decision making discussions, linking their failure with language barriers.

Sianga cited poor involvement of stakeholders including community members especially in development of strategies. He said community members in most of the places fail to implement priorities set by the government



due to low participation.

Dr Lawrence Mbwambo, WWF Conservation Manager stressed the need for stakeholders including CSOs, government, private sector to clearly outline their roles and how they contribute in efforts to restore the forests and ensure sustainable governance of the resource.

"It is important to look at how we can move on together, NGOs, CSOs and the government. We have a good National Forest Policy of 1998; but yet we are losing

thousands of hectares of forest per year, and the situation is worsening," stated Dr Mbwambo.

He added: "Something has to be done to reduce the loss. Our forest policy is inclusive as it has mentioned all the stakeholders including, private sector and speaks on community engagement, participatory forest management, community based and sustainable timber trade. We need to take action because forests are important for our lives."

Emmanuel Msofe, Principal Forest Officer from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism underscored the need to protect forests because they are part and parcel of people's daily life.

He noted that at least 45 percent of all the construction projects in the country rely on forests, but also almost 90 percent of households in Tanzania depend on forest resources for energy sources.

Msofe noted that 2015 data from the National Forestry

Resources Monitoring and Assessment (NAFORMA) indicates that Kigoma and Katavi regions have the highest rate of forest cover compared to other parts of the country. He said the deforestation rate in Lake Zone regions is alarming as farmers continue to clear land for agricultural activities.

He insisted on team work spirit to save the forests calling upon the Tanzania Forest Working Group (TFWG), CSOs and the government to work collaboratively.

He said the government is working to review some of the regulations governing the forest sector for conservation purposes as well as ensure it contributes more to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Currently, the forest sector contributes 3 percent to the national income.

According to Msofe, extension officers should be involved in forest conservation plans to make sure that agricultural activities (expansion of farms) considers retention of forest land.

Giving her Zanzibar experience, Aziza Yunus Nchimbi, Chief Conservator at the Jozani Chwaka Bay National

Park in Unguja said that deforestation is a serious problem in the Isles, as yet some people are not aware of

"The problems you face in Tanzania mainland are similar to Zanzibar; the deforestation rate is alarmingly pushed by a number of factors including poverty amongst communities residing near the forest," she remarked, calling for collective efforts from various forest related actors to restore the lost cover.

Hawa Mwechaga, Principal Game Officer in the Ministry of State in the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government said to ensure sustainable forest protection, there should be efforts to capacitate local government leaders, increase budget and make sure that leaders at grassroots levels are able to take actions.

"There are a number of initiatives we can take to restore our forests, there are over 15 million students across the country; if each of them plants a single tree per year, we would have our forest cover restored in a few years," she said.

TGNP training beneficiaries push for gender equality and sustainable growth

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

BENEFICIARIES of the four-day training organised by the Tanzania Gender Networking (TGNP) have underscored the need to liberate women from oppressive systems for gender equality and sustainable development.

They were concerned that women's human rights and feminist organisations have been essential to advance, sustain, protect and implement women's human rights.

Most of the beneficiaries came from Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Kigoma, Kilimanjaro, Mara, Mbeya, Morogoro, Mtwara and Shinyanga. Among them, there were women's rights organisations and feminist groups that work tirelessly to fight for gender equality, women empowerment and ensure women's emancipation from oppressive systems is attained.

TGNP's Executive Director, Lilian Liundi said the main objective of the training was to consolidate their understanding, know the usage of the regulations and guidelines, leadership, and the systems of feminism to all women's rights organisations and groups.

"You need to have a gender eye. You are not supposed to remain silent when you see a person is being oppressed. You need to take action," she said, advising the trainees on the need to work together because gender inequality in African countries results in a loss of \$105 billion yearly.

"You are here because your organisations defend women's rights; and because TGNP has its programme in those regions," she said.

TGNP's engagement in advocacy, expert consultations, training, and



A cross-section participants of training organised by TGNP in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo courtesy of TGNP

information activities has made it a natural hub and resource centre on gender issues in Tanzania.

Liundi said the training also aimed to sharpen their knowledge, skills, expertise and tactics to increase the understanding of the woman emancipation agenda in the establishment of organisations and women movements.

She added: "If we combine our resources and ensure participation of both women and men in efforts aimed at promoting gender

equality, we will also be able to achieve social and economic development."

According to her, women and girls continue to face a multitude of barriers to gender equality, hence the need for continuous collective action.

She said men have an important role to play, urging them not to shy away from the fight for gender equality.

One of the facilitators, Dr Dinah Mmbaga urged women to join hands to be able to break and dismantle cultural and oppres-

sive archaic systems that halt women's development, noting that the training is meant among other things to brainstorm with participants to help them change their mind-sets.

Dr Mmbaga cautioned that the process of breaking oppressive systems is not waging a war, but it needs persuasive and convincing language. She suggested that changes to dismantle those oppressive systems should start at family level.

She said despite extensive work undertaken by both the government and civil society organisations in terms of legislation; institutional frameworks; lobbying by feminists and massive investments to raise awareness on women's human rights, there are still huge deficits in the actual enjoyment of women's social, economic and political rights.

"It is critical that we flag out some of the gaps that still undermine women's and girls' full potential. This can be possible with the education we are receiving," said Dr Mmbaga.

Director of the Foundation for Community Involvement based in Mtwara, Kassim Chikwenga said there is a major challenge at family and community level in transforming discriminatory social norms and gender stereotypes.

He said: "Freedom from violence in a society, and freedom from violence in the family is a necessary starting point for fruitful relationships and for development."

Chikwenga suggested for stakeholders to confront the stigma of domestic violence urging fellow men to play a positive role for change.

BY BERND DEBUSMANN JR AND ALEXANDRA OSTASIEWICZ

Hurricane Ian: They stayed for the storm - what happens now?

FOR Renee Smith and her paralysed, cancer-stricken husband Christopher, evacuation was not an option when Hurricane Ian came violently bearing down on their Florida home. "It would have taken an ambulance, a stretcher, and three grown men to move him," she said of Christopher, who became paralysed just days before the hurricane as a result of prostate cancer spreading to his spine. "I had no control and it was terrifying."

Without any other choices, Mrs Smith resorted to desperate measures to protect her husband. She used cable ties and gaffer tape to attach a tarpaulin to his hospital bed in a bid to keep him dry and used his wheelchair to barricade the front door from the 150mph (241km/h) winds.

Even that, she feared, may have not been enough.

"I'm his caretaker, so I stayed," she told the BBC from her home in Punta Gorda - one of the Gulf Coast communities hardest hit by the category four storm. "I put a life preserver around his neck, kissed him and told him I loved him."

In Mrs Smith's case, the danger primarily came from the hurricane's ferocious winds. Many others were hit by a powerful storm surge.

Suzie Mack, a Fort Myers resident, told the BBC that her brother's mobile home park saw water as high as 8ft during the storm.

"They got on their air mattresses inside their house, because it was too late to leave, and by the time the surge got to its peak, they had about a foot of air left in their homes," she said. "Nobody died there, but it was a



Suzie Mack's brother's home was badly affected by the storm

horrific story to hear."

Not everyone was so lucky. So far, 35 deaths have been confirmed in Florida's Lee county, according to the local sheriff - a grim toll that is still expected to rise.

In Ian's wake, some Florida residents have come under criticism for failing to heed repeated warnings and calls to evacuate. But for families like the Smiths and hundreds of thousands of others, logistical and financial hurdles to evacuation meant that staying was the only option.

Others were simply trapped by bad luck.

A woman who identified herself as Melody, for example, fled from her home in the Tampa Bay area to Fort Myers. By the time it was clear that Ian's track had shifted south, it was too late for her to leave.

"My area turned out to be safe, never got hit," she told the BBC at a mobile home park near Fort Myers. "I came down here and experienced the worst thing I've ever experienced in my whole life."

"If there is another, I'm going to Chicago," she added.

Tough decisions to make

While for the moment the scale of Ian's destruction remains unclear, independent experts have warned that the economic impact is likely to be well into the tens of billions of dollars.

Consultancy firm Milliman estimated that only 18% of people in areas under evacuation order had flood insurance, putting many residents in difficult or impossible

financial situations as they seek to rebuild their homes or recover their losses.

Governor Ron DeSantis - who called Ian a "500-year flood event" - said that the storm may well have "changed the character of our state".

In these conditions, many Florida residents have been left wondering what their future looks like - and whether to stay in the state or to leave.

Tom, a 48-year-old resident of the town of Port Charlotte, 38 miles (61km) from Fort Myers, told the BBC that he decided to leave the morning after the storm along with his 66-year-old mother, Kathy.

While the pair had already planned a move to Colorado, the hurricane prompted them to pack up and leave the morning after Ian passed.

"The town is destroyed," Kathy said. So was her home for the last six years.

Cindy Brackett, a resident of the mobile home park, said that the prospect of being forced from her home was an additional and unwelcome trauma, just days after the violent hurricane.

"With my arthritis, I can't do anything. I can't even walk out of my home. I feel so useless," Ms Brackett said. She doesn't want to leave and isn't sure where she would go if she had to.

Federal officials and the American Red Cross say that about 10,000 displaced people are currently in shelters - not including people who may have taken shelter with friends, family or left the area entirely.

State and federal officials have promised millions of dollars in relief funds, but many people on the ground remain sceptical of how - and whether - it will reach them.

Rebuilding begins

For those able - and willing - to stay, the effort to rebuild has already begun.

Across damaged parts of western Florida, the BBC saw people beginning to clear debris from their homes and businesses, sweeping away palm fronds and parts of shattered houses.

In some places, people were working to clear cars that had been overturned or crushed by felled trees, or boats that had been left sitting useless and far from the water.

"People around here are devastated," said Cal Bruno, the owner of a Fort Myers restaurant that gave away thousands of pasta meals to residents for free after the storm. "But we'll come together."

Among those vowing to stay to help with the effort is construction worker Alejandro Carrera, an Argentine immigrant and 14-year resident of Fort Myers. "We will rebuild," he told the

BBC, standing just feet from a shattered local marina. "I work in construction. I'm going to have a ton of work."

Not everyone is as optimistic

Phoebe Gavin, a Washington-DC based native of Sanibel Island - whose aging parents fled across a causeway to nearby Fort Myer just ahead of the storm - said that she's "pessimistic" about the island's immediate reconstruction.

Sanibel - which is located just off the coast and has a population of about 6,000 - was among the hardest-hit communities during the hurricane.

Parts of the causeway connecting the barrier island to Florida were destroyed during the storm, severing access from the rest of the state.

"I can't see it as a top priority as far as rebuilding," she said. "It would be shocking to me if we saw previous levels of road traffic within the next year."

A lack of connectivity to the mainland, she said, would be devastating to a community which survives largely on tourism. The alternative to a working causeway - a ferry - could potentially drive tourists away.

"A lot of people would choose a much easier option," she said.

Just across the shattered causeway in Fort Myers, pensioner Lucia Kim said that while she is confident that local communities will get back to normal sooner than later, she fears that some of the "spirit" of the area might be lost.

"There is an atmosphere here," said Ms Kim, who moved from New York a decade ago attracted by the freedom and sense of community.

"Just look at the 1960s architecture as well," she added, gesturing at art deco buildings in the distance. "Who knows what comes next?"

It could have been a lot worse

After Hurricane Ian passed, Renee Smith cautiously emerged from her home to survey the damage.

What she found wasn't encouraging. Her driveway remains covered in debris and detritus from nearby buildings, including some items she immediately recognised as having been ripped from a four-storey hotel blocks away.

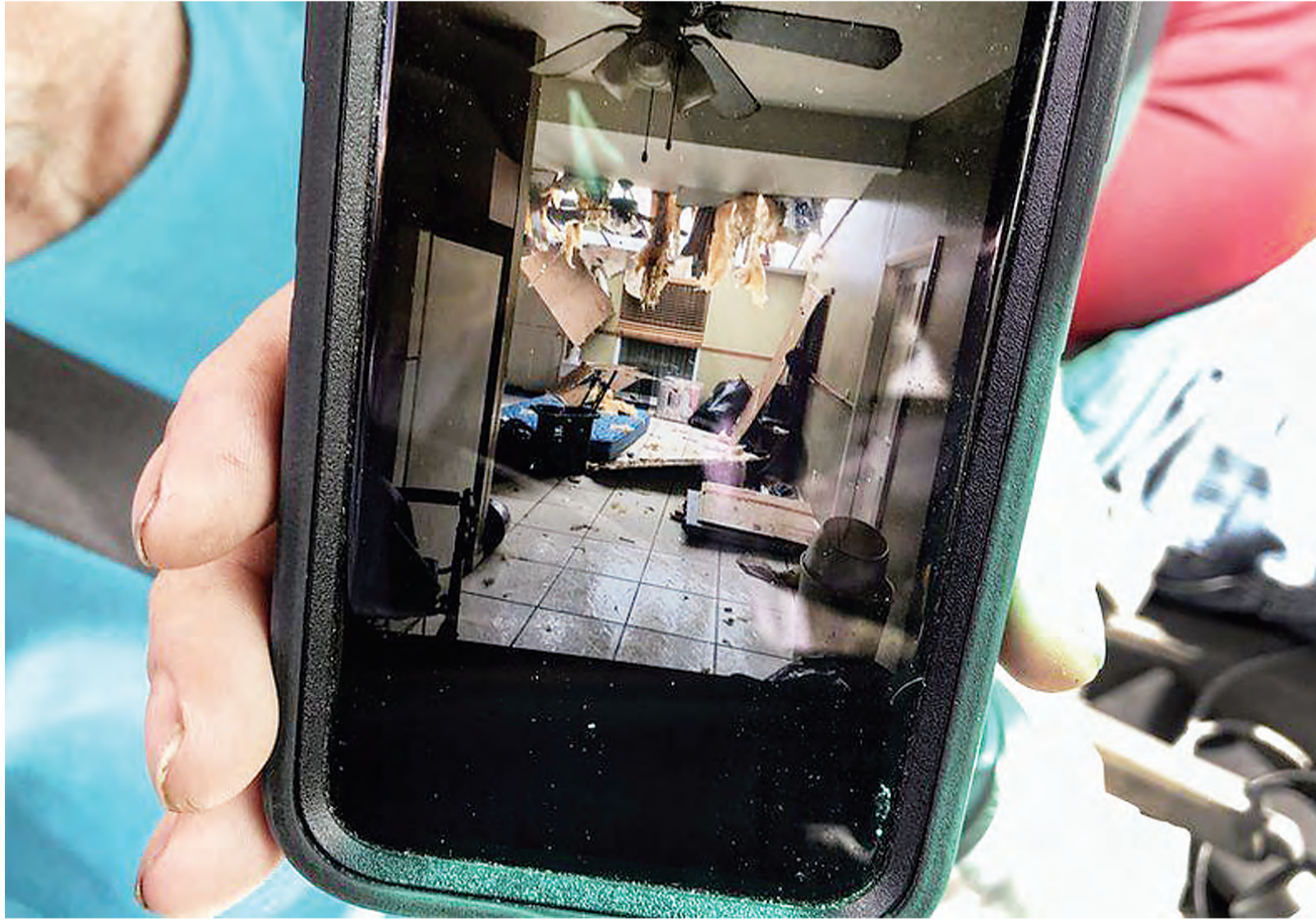
To make matters worse, Mrs Smith's front door won't shut, her chimney has collapsed and parts of her roof were blown away, leaving her and her bedridden husband partially exposed to the elements.

Mrs Smith, however, sees things that may suggest that the damage in her devastated community could ultimately lead to a stronger and more resilient neighbourhood. Many of the buildings rebuilt after previous hurricanes - such as 2004's Hurricane Charley - managed to weather the storm better than the rest of the town.

In any case, her husband's condition means that rain or shine, she'll be staying put. She has no choice.

For the moment, however, she is simply happy that mother nature has given her a reprieve. Since Hurricane Ian passed, the sun is back out while Florida's often oppressive heat has been replaced by more comfortable temperatures.

"We're very fortunate," she said of the conditions after the storm. "It could have been a lot worse."



A picture on a mobile phone shows Tom and Kathy's destroyed home

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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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One

Radio One

BUSINESS

Mining company wins govt accolades for full execution of CSR programme

Join accountancy profession as its demand is high, Mafuru calls on Tanzanian students

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government has encouraged people to join in the accountant profession as its demand is high at all levels to serve private and public service.

Lawrence Mafuru, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend when speaking to the 44th graduation of National Board of Accountant and Auditors (NBAA).

He said there is need for affirmative action to be taken to sensitize more people to join the profession in order to satisfy the current market demand in accountancy and auditing.

"Our economy is growing fast so when we continue to welcome private investors we must remember also that there is need for more accountant and auditors to serve in their industries and firms and it will be sad and shame for us if we give them assurance to invest and at the end of the day they don't get proper accountants to work for them," he said.

Mafuru insisted that even government need more accountants with highest standards and morals who will stand firm to their profession and save public funds from embezzlement and argued the graduates to show their competence in work places.

He said accountant is rare professional, which is appreciated by the community so he argued the graduates to protect its image before the public for working professionally and show people that they have graduated with competences and not by favor.

Mafuru argued NBAA to consider international standards in its curriculum to enable the graduates to compete in global market when job opportunities arise.

"There are some accountants who conspire with their clients and prepare two financial reports to cheat the government, you can find that some of them prepare a report for Tanzania Revenue Authority and other report to send to financial institutions where they seek for loans, this is not right and it is dangerous for you because if you are found you can lose your certificates," he said.

"If you want to know how this profession is important and has respect compare the number of Tanzanians and the number of accountants since the establishment of NBAA in 1972. Am told that since then there is 12,000 accountants out of 60 million people so you can see how important you are," said Mafuru who is also Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

He further said the government is satisfied with the good number of women who have entered in accountant profession that was dominated by men for a very long time, noting that the previous trend for women accountant is encouraging adding that affirmative action is needed to encourage more women to join the rare profession.

"The statistics that was mentioned in this graduation show that women are coming with the highest speed in this profession and the current situation is 50/50 this is good and we need more women to continue so that they can surpass men in the near future," said Mafuru.

The PS also commended NBAA for teaching accountancy by using highest standards and be innovative because despite all challenges they face including shortage of human resources they have managed to breakthrough in their activities.

"There are some institutions which closed their business because of COVID 19 but that was not the case to NBAA congratulations to you," said Mafuru.

By Guardian Reporter, Geita

MINISTER of Minerals, Dr Dotto Biteko has said that Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) is the leading mining company in Tanzania and Africa in general in full implementation of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme.

Dr Biteko made the remarks here over the weekend when visited the GGML mine site in Geita Region and his visit was meant to witness how the new gold mining projects are being executed.

He noted that the ministry is planning to develop special rules and guidelines that will make all investors implement CSR in projects to the full expectation of the government, saying that for a long time, GGML has been implementing the CSR programme to a satisfactory level, adding that anyone

doubting that should check their records.

The minister further said: "I would like us to be honest, in this country the company that does well in CSR in the minerals industry is GGM. They have done a good job."

"The company has been cooperating with the citizens in the provision of various services to the communities surrounding it, especially in the construction of hospitals, schools, and medical facilities so that the communities get better services."

He said his visit was aimed at seeing the state of the mines after moving from open pit mining to underground that has also started production, adding: "Our fear was that since this mine will be in the development stage to extract gold underground, we thought it would go down but now we are happy that the mine has worked

hard to keep production at the required level."

Simon Shayo, AngloGold Ashanti's Vice President (Sustainability) Tanzania and Ghana said the company will continue to cooperate with the surrounding communities to build good relations, thanking Dr. Biteko for congratulating GGML on the way the company strives to buy local products and use Tanzanian services in the implementation of local contents.

"You will know that this mine has been an open pit mine for 15 years, from where we started to move downwards, until today we have big projects of Star and Comet at Nyankanga, Nyamililima and Geita Hill," he pointed out.

He further said a large percentage of the mine's products estimated as 70 percent, especially their money is used to buy products locally made in Tanzania.

According to Shayo, the company's goal is to ensure that it continues to be a leader by doing well so that Tanzanians are attracted to become local employees, adding that a large percentage of the surrounding communities are employed in the mine.

Geita Town MP, Constantine Kanyasu commended the company for fully engaging the locals in the miner activities, called on Tanzanians to take advantage of the opportunities announced by the GGML to get tenders for the sake of providing services in the mines.

"We at the Geita Town Council are the direct beneficiaries because in the allocation of the CSRs, we get 54 percent of about 9bn/- as a priority. This amount goes to address education, health infrastructure, normal social infrastructure like football fields among others," he added.



Minerals minister, Dr Dotto Biteko (2nd R) exchanges views with the GGML processing manager, Elibariki Andrew (2nd L) and AngloGold Ashanti vice president (Sustainability) for Tanzania and Ghana Simon Shayo (L) when he visited the mines yesterday. Looking on is the firm's CEO, Terry Strong.

Brewer rolls out programme to promote agribusiness for people with disabilities

By Guardian Correspondent



SERENGETI Breweries Limited (SBL) has rolled out a program to promote agribusiness for people with disabilities (PWDs).

In making the plan a reality, SBL has partnered with the Foundation of Disabilities Hope (FDH) to empower over a hundred PWDs through agricultural and business training.

According to SBL's Corporate Relations Director, John Wanyancha, the brewer is partnering with FDH to facilitate the income-generating training program that will equip over 100 PWDs with agricultural and other technical skills.

"We are confident that as a re-

sult of this, we will create a new pool of agriculture officers and agribusiness experts who will be involved in commercialized farming, thereby strengthening our agriculture sector, which is the backbone of our economy;

We will also be proud to source our raw materials from PWDs, which will, ultimately, boost their income and raise their standard of living" said Wanyancha.

Agriculture Deputy Minister Anthony Mavunde who graced the opening of the program held in Dodoma at the weekend, acknowledged how crucial PWDs will be in developing the agricultural sector.

He asserted that the role played by SBL will help the gov-

ernment implement strategic involvement in expanding the agricultural sector.

"I am pleased with SBL's efforts in playing a significant role in supporting agriculture in the country through its business operations that source over 18,000 tons of cereals per annum. We are grateful to SBL for fostering agriculture resilience in our country by being inclusive of persons enabled differently," He said.

SBL is out to partner with key PWDs associations and stakeholders to drive the inclusion agenda that will ensure sustainability in the community.

The company has been providing scholarships for PWDs to

study agriculture-related courses in their new Kilimo-Viwanda Scholarship window that was launched in August this year.

At SBL, creating the most inclusive and diverse culture is core in achieving our performance ambition, which is deeply rooted in their purpose to promote sustainability by 2030 through their community programs.

With this in mind, SBL has deliberately announced to partner with key stakeholders and other PWDs associations in other sectors to ensure sustainability and assist the government in achieving inclusive economic growth that leaves no one behind.

UBA unveils solution to micro, small and medium enterprises access to finance

By Guardian Reporter

UBA Bank Tanzania has launched a tailor made micro-small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) working capital loan dubbed to bolster business activities in the sub-sector.

Dubbed 'Mkopo Kitonga' is a solution targeted at helping MSMEs to also grow existing businesses.

This product is exclusively designed to target MSME customers within the trade and service sectors to help them address the existing challenges hampering their significant growth due to limited access to

finance.

"As a bank we understand and care about the needs of our customers and we have set aside 13bn/- to ensure we can address their challenges they face;

The Working Capital Loan product we are unveiling today is designed to serve the financing needs of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises with strong cash flow and a good credit history along the trading and service verticals," said Gbenga Makinde, UBA Tanzania Managing Director and CEO.

According to him, the bank's cli-

ents will now be able to access finance and expert advice from a lucrative team of financial advisors on how to use the product in a way that will help its customers ranging from distributors, wholesale and retail trading.

He asserted other targeted consumers are general merchants, supermarkets, and green energy equipment merchants while Service sectors players include Legal practitioners, architectural firms, consulting firms, accounting and audit firms, CT, Clearing and forwarding agencies, which have verifiable cred-

it net worth.

The bank has also expanded its footprints to Dodoma, Mwanza, and Rufiji and has four branches in Dar es Salaam. However, the bank anticipates expanding its operations in the Arusha region this month and soon in Zanzibar and Mbeya.

"We have also made banking easier and more convenient to our customers by giving access to their money 24/7 across WhatsApp, Messenger, Apple Messages, Instagram and Google Business Chat," said Amb. Tuvako Manongi, UBA Tanzania Board Chairman.

Speaking during the launch, Deputy Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade, Exaud Kigahe, has commended UBA for coming with a solution that would help the MSME sector to thrive and have significant impact in the prowess of the national economy.

The product has come at a time where the government is striving to improve the business and investment environment, trade relations and open doors for the influx of new investors to invest in the country's growing economy.

"I applaud you for creating a facil-

ity that would allow businesses to thrive and become better competitors. What you have done sets an example to other financial institutions on the importance of having tailor made products and facilities that will aid the expansion of businesses," said Kigahe.

According to him, the product will in turn help the government gain more revenue through taxes which will then be channeled into building a better and functioning business environment for the MSMEs and for the investors whom we are inviting.

DC Mwegelo praises Azania Group for creating jobs

By Guardian Reporter

TEMEKE District Commissioner Jokate Mwegelo has lauded Azania Group for investing heavily in initiatives that create large number of employment opportunities particularly youth and women in the country.

DC Mwegelo made the remarks on Thursday in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the official launch of the Azania Group's premium home flour (PHF). The flour adds value and convenience to the firm's consumers.

"There are more people in our district and the country at large, who have directly and indirectly employed by Azania group,"

DC said, noting: "I am happy to hear that Azania has created a large number of employment opportunities, most of them are residents of our district."

According to her, Azania PHF flour is going to make the work easier for Mama and Baba lische and other consumers in general.

"Demographics show that there are more people who are self-employed in the district, I ask that you do not end in wheat only, continue to diversify products range and cater for the mothers, but also as we are aware you have more products such as cooking oil, coconut cream and many more, we hope we also enhance them to cater to bring ease to Mama Lishe and other women and men in the food industry," she said.

"Our new Azania PHF flour comes as research to bring a solution to bring diversity and convenience to its consumers, as most are often too pressed for time to produce quality range of products such as Maandazi, Chapati and many more elaborate and diverse dishes and snacks" said Joel Laiser, Azania Group business development manager.

Laiser said: "The attraction of food comes from the pleasure it gives in the texture, taste and pleasure in eating it delivers. Hence our aim with this product launch is to increase benefits and add value to our customers as we believe our market is ready to be adventurous in its use of higher quality ingredients across a wider array of snacks and meals."

He said: "Azania PHF flour is whiter and softer than other flours I have used before and most important, it cooks more rapidly, delivering exceptionally soft and tasty snacks in good time compared to other baking flours."

He stated: "Azania PHF flour will be made available from 30th in all outlets across Tanzania and across borders, we at Azania group will continue to work hard to provide quality products, solution oriented for our consumers."

Azania Group of Companies formed under umbrella of 7 companies, is one of the leading economic force changing lives of thousands people in Tanzania and beyond its borders, through businesses engagement as well as direct and indirect employment.

Azania Group began nearly 27 years ago, as a small family business founded by Fuad Edha, Azania has grown slowly over the years, it's evident that in recent years, Azania Group has become one of the largest manufacturers and distributors of its locally made various essential household products.

The Group currently operates 8 factories within and outside the borders of Tanzania with its headquarters located in the business capital of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

The Group has its operations spread across Tanzania, Uganda, DRC Congo, Malawi, Burundi, Rwanda and Zambia. Plans are in place to spread its wings to all sub-Saharan African countries.

Dr Kijaji now urges textile industry stakeholders to outline policy and tax challenges

By Guardian Reporter

INDUSTRY, Trade and Investment minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji has urged stakeholders in the textile industry to outline policy and tax challenges facing the sector so that they are worked on by the government.

Dr Kijaji made the statement over the weekend in Dodoma Region during her meeting with textile stakeholders under the Textile and Garment Manufacturers Association of Tanzania (TEGAMAT). The meeting aimed to discuss the various challenges facing the sector.

She however urged them to avoid closing the factories because garment manufacturing is among the sectors which employ a good number of people.

"Let us discuss the available challenges together; we need to strategize to ensure the factories continue to operate. The government is ready to listen to your concerns and work on them," said the minister, adding the government would wish to see Tanzanian industries becoming competitive in the East African region and abroad.

TEGAMAT Executive Secretary, Adam Zuku called upon the government to ensure fair competition between garment importers and local manufacturers. He said creating a level playing field would enable local manufacturers to compete in local and international markets.

Zuku added that garment manufacturers in the country are determined to utilize market opportunities in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), East African Community (EAC) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

In separate interviews, the stakeholders called upon the government to take appropriate measures to increase the number of experts in the textile industry. They also appealed for review of the various taxes charged to textile manufacturers, saying they add-up to operation thus affecting their competitiveness in the market.

Tabling the ministry's budget for 2022/2023 in the National Assembly, Dr Kijaji said the government is eyeing to increase the number of large industries by nearly 12-fold come 2025 as it implements a new industrial scheme that is expected to employ 100,000 people directly.

She said Tanzania has 618 large-scale industries but only 41 of them can employ over 500 people each, noting the number is expected to increase to 541 come 2025.



Minerals Minister Dr Dotta Biteko being shown the map of an area which has been evaluated for the Tembo nickel project during a recent visit to the Ngara site.

Tembo Nickel urged to compensate communities surrounding project

By Guardian Reporter

TEMBO Nickel Corporation Limited has tasked to timely compensate communities surrounding the Ngara Nickel Project before the commencement of full operations slated to in the first quarter of 2026.

Minerals Minister Dotto Biteko issued the directives over the weekend when visited Tembo Nickel Project site in Ngara District, Kagera Region to get an update on the project progress as well

as to assess how the ongoing land and asset valuation was progressing.

The minister remarked that building relations with key stakeholders and the community at this early stage of the project was critical and the 208m/- disbursement in CSR is an indication of a bright future to surrounding communities.

According to him, the company has paid 2.4 billion/- in taxes between the periods of January and September this year. The min-

ing site has so far offered 200 direct and indirect employment opportunities.

The minister demanded to be kept updated periodically in line with how matters unfold on the ground.

"Those who invade land that has already been compensated will clearly be breaking the law. You need 4000 hectares; you have already evaluated 2,800 hectare. You should have paid them by this time. Almost 30bn/- has been allocated for compensation" said

Biteko.

"The surrounding communities of Bugarama and Rwinyana want this project to start, No one wants this project to be delayed. Let's make sure that the compensations are timely paid," he said.

Biteko said that the world is now more focused on critical metals, especially those used in the production of more environmentally friendly energy sources, as the pressure mounts for countries to commit to

reducing carbon emissions.

Biteko said the government is doing all it can to attract investors to the country, and a good example to point out is the Kabanga Nickel project. He appealed to the Ngara people to protect and be part of the realization of this strategic project.

"My wish is to see livelihoods improved over the next couple of years to come and we cannot allow a few people to delay or jeopardize this project," he said.

Tembo Country Manager Benedict Busunzu said over 70 percent of the valuations have been done and that soon the company will share the data with the Chief valuator readiness for compensation to start.

He said that the company will urgently work on the minister's directives. He stressed the need for continued cooperation and joint solutions for minor glitches so as not to cause any delays in the project.

PTAL in new partnership with two regional insurance firms

By Henry Mwangonde

INSURANCE service provider-Phoenix of Tanzania Assurance Co. Ltd (PTAL) has entered into a strategic partnership with two regional companies to facilitate access to quality healthcare across multiple African countries in a fully regulated way.

The agreement signed over the weekend between the Unisure Group, Phoenix of Tanzania Assurance Co. Ltd (PTAL), (Part of MUA) and Smart Applications International is an important milestone in the insurance industry according to organisers.

"We are extremely proud to be adding the Tanzanian market to the existing partnership countries. Tanzania is a key market in terms of growth opportunities in medical insurance in particular," said The Unisure Group's Deputy Executive Chairman, Stephen Conway.

Industry leaders, regulators and

key stakeholders came together to learn more about how this partnership in East Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands, which was first launched in Nairobi, Kenya, in May, will help transform healthcare in the region.

"We're incredibly excited for the long-term collaborations and new business opportunities that lie ahead for our Umatter International Private Medical Insurance (IPMI) plans and look forward to adding additional countries to the four existing partnership countries," Added Conway.

The Unisure Group's Head of IPMI, Daniel van der Merwe, explained, this partnership not only addresses the regulatory requirements that exist with cross-border insurance transactions, but it will bring quality medical insurance and service delivery to a larger number of members who previously would not have had access to this level of international cover.



Head of International Private Medical Insurance (IPMI) at Unisure Daniel Van Der Merwe (C) Country Manager for Smart Applications Tanzania Grace Gathuri (L) and Phoenix Assurance of Tanzania Head of Business Development, Underwriting and Reinsurance, at a press conference over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

His sentiments were echoed by PTAL's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Ashraf Musbally who the agreement was a commitment to greater access for all, and world-class service and customer care.

"This partnership greatly increases our operational footprint, and

with this wider geographical scope, we can assure our clients' seamless health insurance services globally," he said. "At the end of the day, our top priority with the Umatter product is to ensure our clients receive personalised, world-class health insurance services across the globe."

He said.

In partnering with Smart Applications International, The Unisure Group and PTAL members benefit from Smart's biometric systems, resolving the challenge that many insurers have with regard to direct access to medical service providers,

billing, and potential cases of fraud.

"Our goal has been to transform access to healthcare through the use of foolproof digital solutions and to increase medical insurance penetration," said Grace Gathuri, Country Manager at Smart Applications International, Tanzania.

"For the last 18 years, Smart Applications Tanzania has been a leading pan-African technology player. With access to over 10 countries using our Biometric Smart system, we believe that our partnership with Unisure and Phoenix Assurance will catapult the provision of international private medical insurance coverage, both in Tanzania and throughout the region," he added.

The Unisure Group, MUA and Smart's strategic partnership extends across East Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands. This includes Kenya, Tanzania, Mauritius, and the Seychelles, with Uganda and Rwanda following in the New Year.

FAO's youth incubation programme in Mkongo and Rufiji secures market

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Rufiji

THE Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) initiative of youth incubation program (YIP) that inspires and promotes youth and women engagement in agriculture and agribusiness value chains has started paying off among the youth gri entrepreneurs in Coastal region.

Interviewed recently, the Youth agri entrepreneurs currently attached to youth led enterprises at Mkongo based Agri Farm limited, Rufiji district in Coastal region say they have secured big market for their vegetables and other horticulture crops in the coastal communities and Dar es Salaam Markets. The youth are growing Tomatoes, Okra, Capsicum, cucumber, and leaf vegetables through



Youth attending FAO's initiative of youth incubation program at Mkongo, Rufiji District, Coast Region display their produce. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

drip irrigation. Dickson Alex, a graduate of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) said there is a huge market at Mwalimu Nyerere hydroelectric power project and potential market at Selous game reserve. Citing an example, he said

demand for Mwalimu Nyerere hydroelectric power project alone is more than five tones of tomatoes per week. "This is a big opportunity for our project. We started supplying but we couldn't fulfill the market now, we are working hard to make sure

we increase production of quality tomatoes to tape that full market," he said. With a slogan, 'sustainable agriculture for better life- Services beyond farming' Dickson who lead the youth-led agri enterprise known as Agri Farm Ltd located at

Mkongo in Rufiji district said there are issues that motivated him to venture into horticulture.

"My survey revealed that first production of vegetables is limited although there is huge demand, but second, the people are nowadays cautious of health and diet issues, and third, the location. Mkongo is located near the huge market opportunity of Dar es Salaam," he said.

Acting district agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Officer (DALFO) in Rufiji district Hussein Hary said the district is proud of FAO's Youth incubation program because it gives an opportunity the youth to change their mindset. The program has removed the youth from streets and put them into agribusiness to realize their dreams.

"The youth are attached for two months' hands-on skills. We hope

they will contribute to their own livelihood and the growth of the district and national economy. As the district we are happy to work with FAO in this endeavor," he said.

The beneficiaries of the program, Juma Hemed Mponda from Nyamwaga and Salma Hussein Rwambo from Mkongo in Rufiji district said they have been inspired by the program because they learn practically such that even those who did not go to school can do it.

"When we are here for these two month, we test agribusiness ideas. We learn agronomic practices from farm preparation, planting to harvesting. When we go back home we can still promote positive change in our communities," said Mponda.

I have learnt a lot and practiced agribusiness development, finance, and marketing concepts from our mentors, I hope the

government through Rufiji district council, financial intuitions and FAO will continue capacitating us in terms of soft loans and farm equipments so that we can excel well in our agri business ventures, said Rwambo.

Ajuaye Sigalla from Program Office-Development and Youth Employment at FAO said Youth incubation program is meant to inspire entrepreneurs to invest in agriculture and generate income. "So, what we do we identify youth-led agri enterprises which are either on production side, processing or marketing or doing all those and are owned by young people," she said.

The program has so far attracted youth from and outside the region, it has enhanced skills development, technology transfer and provision of space for innovation ecosystem to bridge agribusiness skills gap.

Masanja for bold step to harness blue carbon ecosystems

By Guardian Correspondent

THE government has called on stakeholders to build synergies and promote blue carbon ecosystems.

According to experts, the blue carbon ecosystems do not only prevent climate change but also protect coastal communities from its harmful impacts, such as rising seas and flooding, and provide important habitats for marine life.

Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Mary Masanja made the call at the meeting on mainstreaming and sustaining blue carbon in Tanzania's blue economy held for two days recently in Dar es Salaam.

She said in the process of implementing the projects, its important that key issues that are identified including challenges are shared so that the government and other stakeholders can work and find solutions for sustainable development.

She urged local communities to stop activities that cause deforestation instead, they should support initiatives and programs to achieve mainstreaming and sustaining blue carbon in Tanzania's blue economy.

Citing an example, she said Wetland International has been doing good work in the conservation and restoration of mangroves in Tanzania, the work that should be emulated by other stakeholders.

With support from DOB Ecology and the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), Wetlands International has been working with key stakeholders in the protection and restoration of mangroves in the Rufiji delta. With an area spanning 53,355 hectares and home to about 45,000 community members whose lives are closely intertwined with the mangroves, Rufiji Delta is the largest of its kind in the east coast of Africa.

Blue economy and blue carbon ecosystems concepts are relatively new in mainland Tanzania, and there exist challenges and gaps in information on how to scale them up. With 48.1 million hectares forest cover (woodlands, catchment forests, coastal forests, forest plantations and mangroves), the country is regarded as one of the potential countries for climate financing. However, the exploitation of this opportunity has been limited, with no carbon credit benefits accrued from the blue ecosystems which include mangroves and sea grass to date in

mainland Tanzania.

According to the Deputy Minister Masanja, the loss of mangroves and other blue ecosystems have an impact on the development of the blue economy.

"We are losing the blue ecosystems to human activities such as unplanned agriculture, fishing and salt production, and livestock incursions in mangrove areas. If we are to reduce new emissions of carbon into the atmosphere, collaborative efforts are essential to increase effective and equitable protection of mangroves as well as to expand their restoration," she said.

Estimated at 5% of Tanzania's forest cover, blue carbon ecosystems are widely known

for their contribution to human society and nature. Local communities depend on these biodiversity-rich ecosystems for food, building materials, wood fuel and as a source of livelihoods. In addition, blue carbon ecosystems are known to store up to five times carbon dioxide the rate of terrestrial forests. Experts estimate that carbon emissions from mangrove degradation account for up to 10% of emissions from deforestation globally, despite being 0.7% of land coverage.

The Blue Economy has diverse components including a variety of services provided by these ecosystems such as carbon capture and storage, coastal protection, waste disposal, and biodiversity support. Despite the Blue Economy having been identified as a priority agenda by mainland Tanzania, there has not been full focus on harnessing blue carbon ecosystems.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Fredrick Mngube, Wetlands International Tanzania Programme Coordinator, noted that mangroves are being lost at a rate of 2% annually according to The State of World's Mangroves Report 2021. "We are already feeling the heat of the climate crisis - rising temperatures, prolonged droughts, heavy floods. In the race to net zero targets by 2050, we need to ensure that the loss of these ecosystems is halted, appropriate restoration undertaken in degraded areas and sustainable livelihoods approaches are locally embraced. These contribute to the achievement of Nationally Determined Contributions. Together with TFS and the local administration and communities, we are implementing this three-pronged approach in Rufiji delta," stated Dr Mngube.



ITV	WEDNESDAY 5 Oct	FRIDAY 7 Oct	SUNDAY 9 Oct	CAPITAL
MONDAY 3 Oct 5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 ITV Top Ten 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jungu kuu 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Mjue Zaidi 13:40 Art and Lifestyle rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:10 Soap rpt: Rebecca 14:40 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Abu yako rpt 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 18:30 DWTV: Kesho leo 19:00 Afya ya Jamii 19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 22:00 Bundesliga na DW 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV	WEDNESDAY 5 Oct 5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:25 Uchumi wetu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 The Base rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Bundesliga rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt 14:40 Mipishi 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Korean: Jumong 19:00 Jarida la wanawake 19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 20:00 Habari 21:05 Abu Yako 21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco 21:40 Ripoti maalum 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV	FRIDAY 7 Oct 5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Usafiri Wako 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 The Base rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt 13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ 14:30 DWTV rpt: Kesho leo 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base (DJ Show) 17:30 Kiislami 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 18:30 Uchumi wetu 19:00 Shamba lulu 19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima Joto 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV	SUNDAY 9 Oct 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Watoto Wetu 10:00 Soap: I Plead Guilty rpt 11:50 Bongo Movie rpt: 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo 15:30 Mwangaza 16:30 ITV Top 10 17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mipishi 18:30 Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Rebecca 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko 21:10 Kipindi maalum: Reflexology 21:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 21:30 Mjue Zaidi 22:15 Bongo movie: 23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt 02:05 Al Jazeera	CAPITAL Mon 03 Oct 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Club 101 rpt 11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Spots gazette 12:00 Innovation 12:30 Curinary 13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind 16:30 Business edition rpt 17:00 In good shape 17:30 Meza Huru 19:00 Turning the spotlight 19:30 Tanzania yetu 20:00 Series: Lies that Bind 20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Capchat rpt 23:00 Al Jazeera Frid 07 Oct 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Club 101 rpt 11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Capchat 12:30 Decor 13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind 16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt

WORLD

UK's Liz Truss says she should have laid ground better for economic plan

LONDON

British Prime Minister Liz Truss moved to reassure her party and the public yesterday, saying she should have done more to "lay the ground" better to try to minimize market reaction, which

saw the pound hit record lows and government borrowing costs soar.

On the first day of her governing Conservative Party's annual conference, Truss, in power for less than a month, adopted a softer tone by trying to reassure the public she would look after



Britain's Prime Minister Liz Truss arrives to attend the Conservative Party conference at the ICC, in Birmingham, England on Saturday. AP

them during a difficult winter and beyond.

But she stood by her "growth plan" that investors and economists have criticized for setting out billions of pounds of additional spending while offering very few details on how it would be paid for in the short term.

"I understand their worries about

what has happened this week," she told the BBC's Sunday with Laura Kuenssberg show.

"I do stand by the package we announced, and I stand by the fact that we announced it quickly because we had to act, but I do accept that we should have laid the ground better," she said. **Agencies**

Moscow warns US against 'using Zelensky regime' as proxy

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will act to defend all of its territory and people, as well as residents of regions in eastern Ukraine that voted to join the Russian Federation this week, Moscow's ambassador to the United States said, accusing both Washington and NATO of stoking further violence with military aid to Kiev.

Asked about recent comments from US Secretary of State Antony Blinken - who said the White House has no problem with Kiev using Western arms to attack territories that voted to join Russia - Ambassador Anatoly Antonov warned that the weapons shipments only risk "further escalation of the conflict."

"In instigating Kiev to continue using the military equipment received from the West, Washington does not realize the riskiness of its actions," the envoy said on Tuesday, adding that the Joe Biden administration is "approaching the dangerous line that Rus-



A local resident looks at a damaged apartment building near the Illich metallurgical plant in Mariupol on April 16, 2022. File photo

sia has repeatedly and clearly warned about: the United States becoming a party to the Ukrainian conflict."

Earlier in the day, Blinken insisted the US "will never recognize the annexation of Ukrainian territory by Russia," referring to votes in the two Donbass republics already recognized by Moscow - Donetsk and Lugansk - as

well as the Ukrainian regions of Zaporozhye and Kherson, which are largely under the control of the Russian military. All four regions voted overwhelmingly to join Russia, according to local referendum observers.

"Ukraine has the absolute right to defend itself through-out its territory, including to take back the territory that

has been illegally seized, one way or another, by Russia. And the equipment, the weapons that we and many other countries are providing, have been used very effectively to do just that," Blinken said.

In response, Antonov said Russia would take "firm and decisive" steps to "defend the Fatherland," going on to ar-

gue that "diplomatic efforts to find a peaceful resolution to the crisis cannot be effective as long as the collective West uses the Zelensky regime as a military mercenary against Russia."

"Civilians and children are being killed. Residential areas, schools and hospitals are being irreparably damaged," the ambassador continued, accusing both the US and its allies in the NATO alliance of "sowing death and destruction."

The Biden administration previously said it received "assurances" from the Ukrainian government that US-made long-range rocket artillery systems would not be used for attacks on Russian soil. However, at the time it was not clear whether those guarantees applied to Crimea, which voted to reunite with Russia in a 2014 referendum similar to those that took place this week, and Kiev has since launched strikes on the peninsula. **Agencies**

Doctors warn of risk as Australia to end home quarantine

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA will end the mandatory five-day home quarantine for COVID-infected people on Oct 14, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said on Friday, even as some doctors warned the move would put the public at risk.

The decision to let COVID-infected Australians decide whether they need to isolate or not removes one of country's last remaining restrictions from the pandemic era, and comes about a month after the quarantine period was cut to five days from seven.

"We want a policy that promotes resilience and capacity-building and reduces a reliance on government inter-

vention," Albanese told reporters after a meeting of the national cabinet.

The pandemic leave payments for casual workers will also stop when isolation rules end, as Albanese said "it isn't sustainable for government to pay people's wages forever."

"The crucial point is that the emergency response phase is probably finished at this point in the pandemic," Chief Medical Officer Paul Kelly said. "This virus will be around for many years but it's time to consider ... different ways of dealing with it."

But Australian doctors warned that ending the mandatory quarantine rules puts the public at risk.

Professor Brendan Crabb, a microbi-

ologist and chief executive of the Burnet Institute, told ABC: "It's disappointing, pretty dark day actually. You know, it's illogical and uninformed, for me I find it distressing."

Australian Medical Association President, Steve Robson, concurred.

"I think people who are pushing for the isolation periods to be cut are not scientifically literate," Robson told ABC television ahead of the government decision.

Australia, one of the most heavily vaccinated countries against COVID-19, has given two doses to 96.5 percent of those older than 16, although just under 72 percent have had the booster shot.

India

India on Sunday reported 3,375 new cases of COVID-19 for the past 24 hours, bringing the total tally to 44,594,487.

According to the latest data released by the federal health ministry, India's active caseload currently stands at 37,444.

The South Asian country also logged 18 more COVID-19 related deaths in the past 24 hours, taking the death toll to 528,673 since the beginning of the pandemic.

With the newly reported cases, the daily positivity rate now stands at 1.28 percent and the weekly positivity rate at 1.35 percent for India, the health ministry's data showed. **Agencies**

UN chief deeply concerned about indiscriminate North Ethiopia shelling hitting civilians

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is deeply concerned over reports that indiscriminate shelling is causing civilian casualties in northern Ethiopia, a UN spokesman said on Friday.



Stephane Dujarric, the chief spokesman for Guterres, said the UN chief underlines that military action cannot bring sustainable peace.

"The secretary-general notes that the continuation of the conflict jeopardizes the safety of civilians, the delivery of much-needed humanitarian assistance and the stability of the broader Horn of Africa region," Dujarric said.

"He reiterates his call for an immediate cessation of hostilities, the disengagement of the regional countries from the conflict, and for the parties to move forward with the African Union-led mediation process as a sign of urgency."

Recent published reports said troops from neighboring Eritrea entered Tigray in support of Ethiopia in its battle with the Tigray rebels.

The spokesman told reporters in a regular briefing that the situation in northern parts of Ethiopia remains unpredictable and fluid, with hostilities continuing to drive more people from their homes.

Hundreds of thousands of men, women and children were displaced in parts of Tigray and neighboring Afar and Amhara regions. He said that hostilities affect the lives and livelihoods of millions of people living in conflict areas.

Large parts of Tigray and several locations in the neighboring Amhara and Afar regions are now inaccessible due to the ongoing fighting.

"This is significantly disrupting our humanitarian operations, as well as access to people in need, including displaced people."

Dujarric said humanitarian convoy movements into Tigray from Afar were suspended on Aug. 24, which cut off life-saving supplies to millions of people in need.

Then, on the following day, UN Humanitarian Air Service flights into and out of Tigray stopped and "that has halted our ability to rotate humanitarian workers in and out and the transport of key supplies, as well as cash, which is a critical component of our humanitarian operations."

However, the spokesman told reporters that humanitarian partners of the world body continue to respond where they can work in the three regions, despite the many challenges they face and "the stretched resources and capacities we have."

He said that in Tigray, humanitarian partners distribute the remaining stocks. During Sept. 15-21, they reached more than 775,000 people with food, but due to limited supplies, some 230,000 of these people received less than they would have otherwise.

"In Amhara and Afar, our partners are providing newly displaced people with food, water, emergency shelter and other supplies, as well as health services," Dujarric said.

"In southern and northeastern parts of Ethiopia, communities are continuing to suffer from a devastating drought following four consecutive failed rainy seasons. Our partners are now targeting about 17 million men, women and children for assistance for the rest of the year in those areas. Seventeen million."

He said that UN humanitarian partners continue to call on the parties to the conflict to take constant care to spare civilians and civilian objects, including vital infrastructure.

And, of course, yet again, we reiterate our call to immediately facilitate the resumption of rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian workers and supplies, so that we can help those people that need help in conflict areas, wherever they are, in accordance with international humanitarian law."

The spokesman also said the world body appeals for urgent funding to support the response across Ethiopia. "Our partners are reprogramming their response to address the most urgent needs and to sustain life-saving operations," he said. "At least an additional 1.8 billion U.S. dollars, 60 percent of the total amount needed, is still not with us."



In Amhara and Afar, our partners are providing newly displaced people with food, water, emergency

China-proposed Global Development Initiative paves fast lane for global cooperation, development

GLOBAL development was a topic receiving high attention at the general debate of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly that concluded at the UN headquarters in New York on Sept. 26.

According to a recent report by the UN Development Program, over 90 percent of countries endured a decline on the Human Development Index in 2020 or 2021, while over 40 percent declined in both years. Human development has fallen back to 2016 levels globally.

All parties are expecting a renewal of global development.

The Global Development Initiative (GDI) proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping last September bears great expectations.

China recently held the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of the GDI in New York. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres addressed the meeting via video link, and the meeting was attended by nearly 40 foreign

ministers and heads of international agencies.

All participants believed that the GDI is of great importance to boosting international development cooperation and helping implement the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and it will serve as a catalyst for developing countries, small and medium-sized countries in particular, to accelerate development.

The GDI, aiming at building a community with a shared future for global development, gives priority to development and puts people at the center. It helps promote common development of the world and enhance people's wellbeing.

As global development enters a critical stage, the GDI guides countries to focus on key areas, offers more forceful and targeted support for developing countries, and seeks to expedite the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

China not only presented the

GDI but also carried out the initiative with real actions. In June this year, Xi chaired the High-level Dialogue on Global Development, announced China's 32 important measures to implement the GDI and helped bring development back to the center of the international agenda together with leaders of other countries, staying committed to forging a united, equal, balanced and inclusive global development partnership.

At the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of the GDI, China said it is willing to strengthen strategic synergy with UN development agencies and work with members of the Group of Friends to take seven additional measures to implement the 2030 Agenda. It once again demonstrated China's major country responsibility in being action-oriented and promoting the implementation of the initiative.

China presented to the UN six sets of data products for global

sustainable development, including data products on global arable land and forest, so as to provide data support for all countries to better achieve food security, ecological conservation on land, and other sustainable development goals.

The GDI enjoys a bright future because it adheres to multilateralism and builds synergy for global development. To realize sustained global development, the international society must work as one. More than 100 countries and international organizations, including the UN, have supported the GDI, and more than 60 countries have joined the Group of Friends of the GDI.

China has worked actively with relevant parties to implement the 32 pragmatic measures and has achieved multiple early fruits. Institutions from 17 countries and regions became the first to join the International NGOs Network for Poverty Reduction Cooperation.

One hundred and fifty institutions from nearly 40 countries and regions are making joint preparations to establish a World Technical Vocational and Education Training League. China has engaged in the co-production of COVID-19 vaccines with 13 countries.

China follows the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, forges greater synergy through coordination, and upholds inclusiveness and common progress. It is pooling collective wisdom and strength for the implementation of the GDI.

On the path of development, no country or individual should be left behind. This is the humble aspiration of the GDI and the goal advocated by the UN. China will continue to share development opportunities with all countries, stand with fellow developing countries, and make all-out efforts to advance the GDI. It will join hands with other countries on

the journey of implementing the 2030 Agenda and build an even better community with a shared future for mankind.



The GDI, aiming at building a community with a shared future for global development, gives priority to development and puts people at the center. It helps promote common development of the world and enhance people's wellbeing

The Guardian

SPORT



Singida Big Stars FC's Pele Dacruz (L) and teammate Miguel Escobar in action at a training session at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend as their club was shaping up for 2022/23 NBC Premier League game against Azam FC scheduled to take place in the city today. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Former Coastal Union defender delighted with move to African Sports

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

FORMER Coastal Union defender Hamadi Juma who recently joined rivals African Sports has expressed happiness over the move.

Juma who played for Coastal Union for two seasons and also had a one-season spell at Simba SC, said the life at African Sports, currently participating in Championship League, is not akin to the life he lived previously in football.

The defender joined Coastal Union from July 2014 to June 2016 and thereafter moved to Simba SC where he played for one season until June 2017.

In 2016, Coastal Union, Mgambo JKT, and African Sports were taking part in Mainland Tanzania Premier League.

The sides later suffered relegation to the then First Division League after showcasing a dismal showing.

Out of the trio, Coastal Union is so far the outfit that successfully regained promotion to the NBC Pre-

mier League.

Juma said that after joining African Sports, he will use his experience, skills, and knowledge to help the squad garner promotion to NBC Premier League.

The footballer stated: "First of all, I would like to thank African Sports for their warm welcome, the life I met here is not the same as the one I lived in other Premier League teams I played for."

"Here we are in preparation for our upcoming Championship League match but I want to tell you we are ready to fight hard and we focus on seeing to it that African Sports is one of the top-flight clubs next season," Juma insisted.

On Monday, African Sports will play its third Championship League match against Pamba FC of Mwanza.

African Sports is currently occupying the eighth position in the 2022/23 Championship League standings with two points as the side posted a draw in the opening two outings.

Majaliwa to grace SHIMIWI Games' opening ceremony

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa is set to grace the opening ceremony of the 2022 Inter-Ministerial Sports Federation (SHIMIWI) Games that got underway in Tanga last weekend.

According to Tanga Regional Commissioner's Office information and a statement issued by SHIMIWI, the sporting events are set to take place in the city.

The information explained the sporting events will be played in various venues found in Tanga but the games' official opening is expected to take place at Mkwakwani Stadium on October 5 whereby Prime Minister Majaliwa will be the guest of honour.

The information further declared that all sporting activities would be winding up on October 15.

"I would like to welcome you all at SHIMIWI Games whereby this time Tanga will host the big government sporting event," Tanga

Regional Commissioner Omari Mumba disclosed last weekend.

He further stated: "The event will get underway on October 1 and come to a close on October 15, 2022."

The information stated that the 2022 SHIMIWI Games are themed 'sports reduce the risk of contracting non-communicable diseases and increase productivity at workplaces'.

Participating sides will battle it out in various disciplines, namely football, netball, athletics, cycling, playing cards, tug-of-war, draft, and scoring games.

Venues to be used in the show-down include Mkwakwani Stadium, Galanos Secondary School, Poptal Secondary School, Tanga Technical School, and Usagara Secondary School.

Harbours Club netball and basketball courts, Police Chumbageni basketball and netball courts, as well as Tanroads netball and basketball courts, are other venues.

How VAR technology impacts referees' decisions in football

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

IN a soccer clash, there are 22 players, a football, and match officials. Despite their importance, referees are often an overlooked part of professional football.

Referees are an integral part of the global game and are required for fixtures to take place and competitions to be hosted.

For example, Mainland Tanzania's NBC Premier League and the country's other soccer leagues like Serengeti Lite Women's Premier League, Championship League, First Division League, as well as other top-flight competitions on the continent provide a unique opportunity to consider the development of referees in the leagues.

Referees have dealt with numerous changes, developments, and technological advancements and continue to operate and perform at the highest level required to officiate the football leagues.

However, the continued growth of these leagues has been accompanied by challenges for referees, with the officials' decisions being scrutinized by pundits and the sport's fanatics in detail.

This article considers the evolution of refereeing in leagues, examines some of the most significant changes that have impacted refereeing, and



Tanzanian football referee, Ramadhan Kayoko.

identifies some of the current challenges and opportunities that might exist for the duty.

Tanzania's football has had unprecedented growth since the formation of the leagues.

Participating clubs have seen the league's sponsorship income grow every season, and are collectively negotiating agreements for broadcasting rights.

There have been more financial backing since Azam Media Limited, Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC), and other companies entered the agreements for sponsorship and broadcasting rights.

Players have seen their transfer fees, as well as salaries, rise to unparal-

leled levels, and managers/coaches have observed their profession turning into an increasingly lucrative endeavour, although it happens to be a profession that is precarious and results-oriented.

The increased financial investment in the game has, consequently, had stakeholders experiencing an increase in demand for success, with the rewards for winning and the implications of losing being as important as ever.

Central to all of this are the referees, the individuals who uphold the laws of the game, maintain authenticity

and make the decisions that can be the difference between winning

and losing.

These referees have also been on a journey of evolution, they have become professionals and full-time match officials.

They have seen law changes and adaptations in the domestic leagues, CAF inter-club tournaments, and other international competitions to which they must adapt.

Technological introductions have impacted the referees' training, development, and on-pitch performance, whilst the professional support networks around the referees have expanded, given a lot is demanded from them by players, coaches/managers, spectators, and media commentators.

Referees are therefore central to the modern game. Many of these referees have become household names in the NBC Premier League, which takes place in Tanzania, and the African market at large in terms of the number of countries to which the matches are broadcast.

This increased exposure has led to attention directed to the conduct of referees, a fascination with the officials' competence in decision-making and performance, as well as focus on any on-field and off-field support that they might be offered to enhance their perceived effectiveness.

Given this backdrop, it is perhaps unsurprising that technology was controversially introduced

into English Premier League (EPL), and Mainland Tanzania's NBC Premier League, with the agendas and competing interests of different stakeholders such as FIFA, UEFA, fan groups, the Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB), clubs, and managers evident in the journey towards this introduction.

The technology was approved and installed to 'support' referees in their decision-making and overall performance.

In England, the 2013/14 season saw the addition of goal-line technology in the EPL with the technology utilized in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, despite FIFA previously disagreeing with the introduction of the goal-line technology, even supporting the use of additional assistant referees on the goal line ahead of prioritizing its implementation.

Goal line technology is now an established part of matches in the EPL and was joined in the 2019/20 season by Video Assistant Referees (VAR) technology, with varying and debatable levels of success.

Consequently, the development and evolution of referees and the structures in which they function and have operated during the EPL era, considering the wider changes to which they have had to adapt and the associated impact upon these referees.

Magnet Youth Sports Organization footballers to join African Lyon FC

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MORE than 15 young football players from Dar es Salaam's Magnet Youth Sports Organization stand a chance to play for African Lyon FC in the Championship League.

Magnet Youth Sports Organization's Director Tuntufye Mwambusi issued the information in Dar es Salaam last weekend when his academy signed a partnership with the club.

The Magnet Youth Sports Organization head said his firm is optimistic that the initiative will have multiple effects on many other domestic sides.

He said under the partnership, 17 players from Magnet Youth Sports Organization will be playing for the side that had a few years back taken part in Mainland Tanzania Premier League.

Mwambusi said the center is an outfit that trains young players, both boys, and girls, from the age of 9 to 18 to create a clear path towards a football career and other life-building skills.

He noted Magnet Youth Sports Organization also believes that social integration is key to everything as the institution brings together children from various backgrounds.

Mwambusi said African Lyon is an ideal soccer side for the partnership as the club has a great history.

The official stated the club believes in youth and both Magnet Youth Sports Organization and the club has solid local and international networks.

The official noted: "Today



Dar es Salaam's Magnet Youth Sports Organization's Director Tuntufye Mwambusi (2nd L) speaks at a press conference last weekend to announce his institution's partnership with Championship League's club, African Lyon FC. Under the partnership, young football players from the institution will join African Lyon FC. He has been flanked by officials from the institution and their counterparts from African Lyon FC. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MAGNET YOUTH SPORTS ORGANIZATION

we are delighted to have signed the partnership with Africa Lyon FC, this will see the promotion of 17 young but solid players to the Championship League side."

Mwambusi pointed out: "Our relationship started two years ago at youth level and now we see the same extent to the first team of African Lyon FC."

"This partnership is the first of its kind in the country and it's a testimony of the two similar like-minded joining hands to promote young players who are the key to the future of not only the two organizations but also the nation in general," he said.

Mwambusi said the partnership of the two is a living example of the trust posed by the two institutions in youth development in the

country.

The official revealed: "This partnership will reward young talents who struggle to get a platform in the competitive league to further their success and their career plan due to lack of trust in them by coaches."

"This partnership will further present life-changing opportunity and fight norms and negative perception on youth football which have demoralized many young athletes," he noted.

He requested the corporate world, the government, and stakeholders to support them both financially and with materials.

He said since its inception, Magnet Youth Sports Organization has managed to participate in local and international

tournaments including Chipukizi Cup held in Arusha, and Gothia Cup which takes place in Sweden and Norway.

The institution managed to create a good platform for both players and coaches at local and international levels such as Africa Lyon, Celta Vigo Academy of Spain, ITK Leipzig University of Germany, Transition Football of South Africa, and Amazing You, a joint initiative between Tanzania and United States of America (USA).

Magnet Youth Sports Organization has also managed to establish an elite program to provide a ladder for upcoming players.

The official noted: "We have done a lot in terms of preparing our young players to become professional players, in 2019 five of our players went to the national U-17 team

'Serengeti Boys', and in 2020 two players were selected for the national U-20 side which participated in a regional competition in Ethiopia."

The official said: "In last season's NBC Premier League, there was one player from our institution."

"There are as well two players from Magnet Youth Sports Organization that are playing in the ongoing Zanzibar Premier League," he said.

African Lyon FC's Director Cosmas Tangaraza said they are delighted with the partnership with Magnet Youth Sports Organization, revealing it is a sign of a better future in football.

"At African Lyon, we believe in giving young players a chance to show their talent, the players from Magnet Youth Sports Organization are at a good place," said.

African Lyon FC has a good track record of producing top players who have done well at domestic and international levels including Mbwana Samatta, Nizar Khalfan, Nadir Haroub, Razak Khalfan, Khamis Thabit, and others.

The squad moreover has a network with international football clubs like USA's Major League Soccer outfits Seattle Sounders and White Caps FC, Club Athletico Paranaense of Brazil, TP Mazembe of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and other top clubs.

Arsenal soaring and Liverpool struggling in EPL

LONDON

IT'S looking increasingly like Arsenal is the real deal in the English Premier League.

It's also looking like Liverpool hasn't got what it takes to mount another title challenge.

Arsenal made it seven wins from eight games to open the season by beating Tottenham 3-1 in the north London derby on Saturday, ensuring Mikel Arteta's team will stay top for at least another week.

The only defeat for Arsenal came at Manchester United, but that was only after an encouraging and dominant performance for large spells at Old Trafford.

On current form, it looks well within Arsenal's grasp to finish in the top four and qualify for the Champions League for the first time since 2017.

Getting in the top four might be the extent of Liverpool's ambitions after a 3-3 home draw against an entertaining Brighton team already molded in the bold style of its new Italian coach, Roberto De Zerbi.

Leandro Trossard scored twice in the opening 17 minutes and completed his hat trick in the 83rd at Anfield after Roberto Firmino's double sparked Liverpool's fightback.

Liverpool, the 2020 champion and the biggest league rival of dominant Manchester City in recent years, is already 11 points behind Arsenal and has won only two of its first seven games.

Conor Gallagher scored a 90th-minute winner for Chelsea in its 2-1 victory at Crystal Palace, the team where the midfielder spent last season on loan.

Newcastle won 4-1 at 10-man Fulham, Everton rallied to beat Southampton 2-1 away, West Ham beat Wolverhampton 2-0, while Bournemouth and Brentford drew 0-0.

DERBY JOY

Thomas Partey, Gabriel Jesus and Granit Xhaka were the scorers for Arsenal, which cruised to the win at Emirates Stadium as Tottenham played with 10 men from the 62nd minute. Emerson Royal's red card was for a needless studs-up challenge on Gabriel Martinelli when the score was 2-1.

Harry Kane equalized via a penalty for Tottenham, which would have climbed above Arsenal into first with a win but instead saw its 13-game unbeaten run in the league – stretching back to last season – come to an end.

City can climb back to a point behind Arsenal with a win over crosstown rival Manchester United on Sunday.

"It's a really hungry and humble team, believe me," Arteta said. "It's nothing that we have done yet and there's still a lot of things to improve. That's the direction we're taking."

AP

Arteta: Spurs win shows Arsenal can beat PL elite

LONDON

MIKEL Arteta said he believes Arsenal's 3-1 win over Tottenham Hotspur has sent a message to his players they can beat the Premier League's elite sides.

Arsenal eased to victory at the Emirates on Saturday after midfielder Thomas Partey sent the hosts ahead with a superb curling effort from outside the box before Harry Kane equalised from the penalty spot, with Gabriel Jesus and Granit Xhaka netting after half-time.

The results means Arsenal remain at the top of the Premier League for at least another week after seven wins from eight matches with their only defeat coming at Manchester United last month.

The north London side have endured a poor recent record against the traditional 'Big Six' sides, and Arteta said: "[It was] 100% needed because when you play such a big game you want to win."

"Those opinions are correct because when you look at the start and just put it in that context you can do it, but it's about how you give and receive information and how that affects you or not."

"For me the message is to the players and everybody here at the club that we are able to play at this level against this kind of opponent. That should give them confidence and belief."

Arteta played down his side's title prospects, however, despite guaranteeing they will end another weekend in top spot.

"Looking at the table and seeing the club in this position is great," continued the Spaniard. "It gives you a great feeling obviously. But we are focused. It's a really hungry and humble team believe me. It's nothing that we have done yet and there's still a lot of things to improve. That's the direction we're taking."

Meanwhile, Tottenham Hotspur boss Antonio Conte has criticised the standard of Premier League refereeing and urged officials to meet on a more regular basis to improve their performances.

Spurs were beaten 3-1 at Arsenal on Saturday as Thomas Partey opened the scoring before Harry Kane equalised from the penalty spot, only for Gabriel Jesus and Granit Xhaka to complete a commanding win for the home side at Emirates Stadium.

Emerson Royal was sent off when Tottenham were 2-1 down for a late challenge on Gabriel Martinelli, a decision Conte claimed "killed the game" before condemning the officiating throughout the league.

(Agencies)

Is Africa heading towards World Cup humiliation?

By Ed Dove, Special to ESPN

THIS international break represented an opportunity for Africa's FIFA World Cup-bound quintet to finalise their preparations for the tournament in Qatar and lay down a blueprint for progression to the knockout stages.

But Africa's five qualifiers endured a grueling week, winning four of their 10 combined matches -- only one against an opponent ranked inside FIFA's top 80 -- and each was left with clear issues that require attention before the global showpiece.

Indeed, for Ghana, Senegal and Cameroon, the optimism that greeted their group-stage draw earlier in the year has been replaced by hard-nosed realism, and the prospect of another miserable performance for Africa's sides at the tournament cannot be ignored.

Despite some glorious efforts by African teams in the past, the continent's recent record at the tournament has been poor.

Only at Brazil 2014 did more than one side feature in knockout stages, and Russia 2018 was the continent's worst combined performance yet -- as none of the five qualifiers progressed out of the groups.

African teams have won only 10 of their past 47 matches combined at the tournament proper, and the spectre of another poor showing -- even a repeat of 2018's first-round eliminations -- looms large.

We present a status report for each of Africa's five Qatar-bound teams, including the key areas they need to improve.

*Morocco

Top of the class after the international break, Morocco were one of only two teams to have gone unbeaten, and the only side of the five to have improved on their previous international performances this year.

Replacing Vahid Halilhodzic with Walid Regragui -- untested at this level but accomplished in his homeland -- remains a gamble, but the early evidence suggests the new man has overseen a major boost in morale, and the 2-0 victory over Chile in Barcelona was the outstanding performance by any African qualifier this week.

There's no shortage of top-end talent in this squad -- this has never been in doubt -- but Halilhodzic's old-school approach failed to get the best out of Morocco's creatives, with Amine Harit ostracised and Hakim Ziyech opting to retire from international football in February.

Ziyech's return was everything an impatient Morocco will have been seeking, as he struck up a sound interplay with Sofiane Boufal and the duo created a plethora of goalscoring chances.

The returning Noursair Mazraoui slipped in at left-back, complementing Achraf Hakimi on the other flank and solving another



Aliou Cisse

problem that Vahid had created, and Morocco look the most dangerous and cohesive of Africa's teams -- as they did before Russia 2018.

However, there's still room for improvement. Striker Youssef En-Nesyri still looks a shadow of his former self, bringing his barren run in front of goal in LaLiga to the international game, and improvement is needed if he's to lead the line in Qatar.

Similarly, 32-year-old Romain Saiss's creaking performance -- he was caught out of position on several occasions -- will generate some consternation considering fellow centre-back Nayef Aguerd is already a doubt for the tournament.

Improve both ends of the team, and Morocco can realistically hope to sneak out of a balanced Group F.

*Senegal

Senegal were the other African team to go unbeaten this window, following up a routine victory against Bolivia with a respectful 1-1 draw with Iran.

It was hardly an international break to set the pulses racing, but it could have been much worse considering Edouard Mendy's injury-enforced absence and the loss of several other key players from the Africa Cup of Nations-winning squad due to injury, lack of game time or being without a club.

Head coach Aliou Cisse complained at the conclusion of the window about his side's inability to put away chances, and, indeed, this is a key area that needs to be improved considering Senegal's workmanlike midfield can't be relied upon to create an excess of chances against tougher teams at the World Cup.

"It's efficiency we need to work on more," Cisse said after the draw with Iran. "We see the ratio of chances we created, and we can say that we should have scored a second goal. This is a crux of our work, and when you have chances in football, you need to bury them."

Sadio Mane scored a penalty against Bolivia, ending his six-game run without a goal, but the likes of Ismaila Sarr cannot afford to be similarly profligate against more ominous



Walid Regragui

foes.

Senegal have lost just one full international match in the past two years -- the World Cup qualifying playoff first leg against Egypt -- and they remain well placed to advance from Group A.

*Ghana

This has been a topsy-turvy year for Ghana, and the rollercoaster shows no sign of settling as we approach the World Cup.

A disastrous Africa Cup of Nations campaign preceded the controlled, composed playoff victory over Nigeria, but the Black Stars have struggled to kick-on despite

figure this new-look team around Partey has been lost, although it could prove to be useful exercise if the Arsenal man's injury concerns flare up ahead of the World Cup.

Ghana improved in the second half against Brazil, with Mohammed Salisu bolstering the defence, and Inaki Williams and Tariq Lamptey each making their debut, before going on to beat lowly Nicaragua.

Otto Addo acknowledged after the Brazil game that he'd made mistakes in the way he'd set the team up, perhaps hinting that he would adopt a back three for the World Cup, and it re-

area in Qatar.

*Tunisia

This was a difficult international break for Tunisia, for whom any positives that could be taken from the narrow victory over Comoros were overshadowed by their rout at the hands of Brazil.

The vibrancy of the Selecao's performance and the appalling racist abuse aimed at Richarlison couldn't entirely detract from a woeful Tunisia display as the North Africans conceded four goals in 40 minutes and ultimately lost 5-1.

It's an unwanted scoreline on the eve of a major tournament.



Rigobert Song

the addition of several dual-nationality players who have boosted the quality of the starting XI.

Thomas Partey's withdrawal from the team minutes before the kick-off against Brazil was a reminder of his fragility, and his absence doubtless influenced the West African's disastrous first half in which they were 3-0 down inside 40 minutes.

His return to London meant that a valuable opportunity to con-

tain to be seen whether Ghana have enough time to integrate their new faces.

The one key positive from the Nicaragua game was the burgeoning relationship between in-form Mohammed Kudus and Williams, but can they do it against more demanding opposition?

After this week, Ghana appear to be long shots to squeeze their way past Portugal, Uruguay and South Ko-

Tunisia, like Ghana, will be grateful that Brazil eased off after the break, although a 42nd-minute red card for Dylan Bronn certainly left the second half feeling like a training match that was little use to either side.

At least seven of the starters against the South Americans would have been expected to start their World Cup opener, although that XI displayed worryingly little of the 'grinta' that

has traditionally given Tunisia hope they can trouble stronger sides.

Ali Maaloul, Bilel Iifa and Bechir Ben Said will likely come back into the defence for the World Cup opener against Denmark, while Wahbi Khazri, Naim Sliti and Taha Khenissi should boost the attack, but there's a sense that man-for-man Tunisia are short of the talent required to escape the group.

They certainly need to maintain composure and concentration better against France than they managed against Brazil on Tuesday.

*Cameroon

Cameroon, like Ghana, have struggled to build on their triumphant World Cup playoff success, and they are still to convince that they can be more than the sum of their parts.

This was a particularly testing week for the Indomitable Lions, who surely would have been relieved to turn the attention back to events on the pitch following FECAFOT's controversial break from Le Coq Sportif that has dominated Cameroon's backpages since the start of July.

However, after their latest two fixtures -- both defeats -- they may now be hoping for some juicy off-field controversy to detract from this side's limitations!

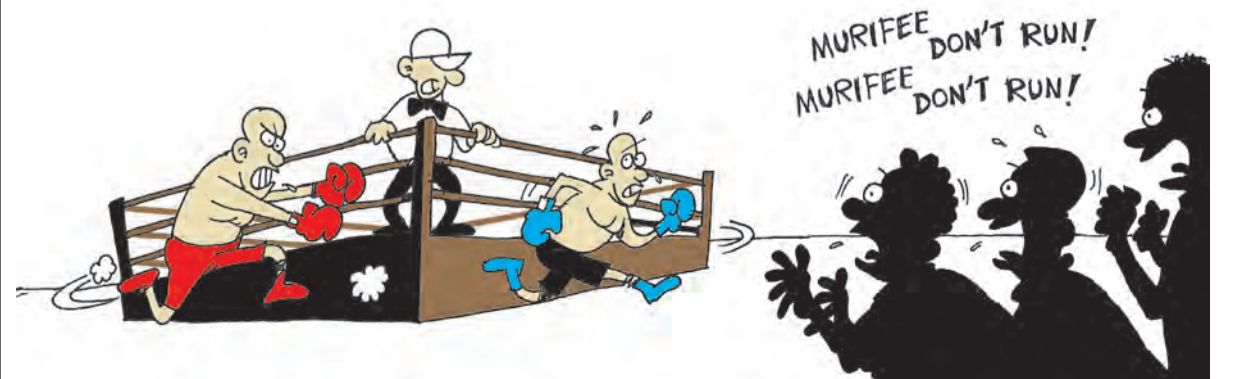
FA President Samuel Eto'o may have declared after the defeat by World No. 77 Uzbekistan that Cameroon were still planning to reach the World Cup final, but there was little evidence to suggest they can take points from Switzerland, Serbia or Brazil.

Nicolas Nkoulou's international return was riddled with errors, fullbacks Nouhou Tolo and Collins Fai struggled to impose themselves, Bryan Mbeumo appeared short of self-belief, and Vincent Aboubakar was effectively neutralised.

Olivier Ntcham offered some encouragement on debut, and Mbeumo improved in the defeat by South Korea, although coach Rigobert Song will be desperate to welcome Andre-Frank Zambo Anguissa back into the midfield.

The likes of Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting and Karl Toko Ekambi -- both absent this window -- will also add depth, experience and a goal threat, but Eto'o's aim for Cameroon to remain in the tournament until Dec. 18 is laughable.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Is Africa heading towards World Cup humiliation?

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India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan (L), speaks to the participants of an international meeting aiming to maintain culture and arts cooperation between Tanzania and India held at India's High Commission to Tanzania office in Dar es Salaam recently. Sitting (R) is Bagamoyo Arts & Cultural Institute's Principal, Herbert Makoye. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Arusha hotel keen on hosting golf tournaments to spur sports tourism

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

A prominent hotel in Arusha has embarked on promoting golf as part of its grand mission to unlock the potential of sports tourism in Tanzania's northern circuit.

To start with, the Four Points by Sheraton Arusha, The Arusha Hotel has sponsored the just-ended amateur golf tournament organized by the Arusha Gymkhana Golf Section in its efforts to spur the corporate game in northern Tanzania.

"We would like to unleash the full potential of golf, promote it as a game of choice for all age groups, which in turn could contribute towards promoting sports tourism," the Four Points By Sheraton, The Arusha Hotel General Manager, Krishna Suri, revealed.

Founded in 1894, formerly known as The Arusha Hotel, it has been a city landmark playing host to many dignitaries and well-known personalities for close to a century.

Rebranded after renovation, the hotel retains its unique charm reminiscent of a bygone era and a fabled past.

The hotel, located steps away from the famous Clock Tower, known to mark the center point from Cairo to Cape Town, is easily accessible from both Arusha as well as the Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA).

Nestled within three acres of lush tropical gardens, it sits snugly in the central business district of the city, within the shadow of the majestic Mount Meru forming the perfect gateway to the popular Serengeti Northern Safari Circuit and Mount Kilimanjaro.

"Tanzania has long been on the global travelers' bucket list and the Four Points by Sheraton brand, with its blend of stylish comfort and genuine service, offers an ideal choice at an honest value," Suri added.

Designed for the modern traveler with an emphasis on approachable design, the 114-room Four Points by Sheraton Arusha, The Arusha Hotel features spacious and modern rooms including suites and four conference halls for corporate and private events.

It moreover offers great dining options such as Hatari Lounge, which has a large screen for all football games, wood-fired pizzas, and Parachichi restaurant for all meals.

Yanga looks to extend its winning streak against Ruvu Shooting



Yanga players take part in the side's drills at Avic Town camp in Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam on Sunday ahead of the 2022/23 NBC Premier League which resumed last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC, alias Yanga, will look to extend the club's winning streak in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League when they host Coast Region's Ruvu Shooting at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the evening, kick-off at 18h15.

The defending champions have not been in league action since September 13, when they extended their unbeaten streak to four matches with a 3-0 home win over Mtibwa Sugar.

The sequence of results has

brought the Jangwani Street club to 10 points from a possible 12 and remains among four teams that are still unbeaten so far.

On the availability front, Yanga's head coach Nasreddine Nabi has slowly seen some players return from injuries.

Fiston Mayele, Khalid Aucho, and Feisal Salum all returned to training last week whilst Bernard Morrison is unavailable.

Morrison has been suspended for three matches and fined 1m/- as he deliberately stepped on Azam FC's defender Lusajo Mwaikenda

when two teams battled at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium on September 6, in a third-round league game that ended in a 2-2 draw.

Nabi will once again look up to Mayele to deliver goals, the Congolese striker has had a bright start this season.

He opened his season account with a brace against Simba SC in the Community Shield match which saw Yanga cruise to a 2-1 win.

The goal-getter, then, scored one goal each in the Premier League matches against Polisi Tanzania, Coastal Union, and Mtibwa Sugar.

He also grabbed two back-to-back hat-tricks in this season's CAF Champions League first preliminary round ties against South Sudan's side Zalan FC Rumbek.

The DR Congo international who finished last season with 16 goals, one less than top scorer George Mpole of Geita Gold FC, has been directly involved in 13 goals in seven matches this season.

The forward will once again be determined to have another good showing

against Ruvu Shooting.

Ruvu Shooting claimed a second straight win and established themselves at the top of the league log with a 2-1 home win over Coastal Union on Tuesday.

A brace netted by former Simba SC winger Rashid Juma saw the Mlandizi-based side claim the victory and move to nine points from five matches.

In head-to-head stats, Yanga and Ruvu Shooting have met in 22 league matches since the 2011/12 season.

The Green and Yellow outfit has claimed 17 wins compared to only one for Ruvu Shooting, while four matches have ended in a draw.

Yanga has won eight of their 11 home matches in the rivalry, suffering one defeat in the process.

Last season Yanga took four points off Ruvu Shooting, winning 3-1 in the first half of the season in November 2021 thanks to goals netted by Feisal Salum, Mukoko Tonombe, and Djuma Shaban before settling for a goalless draw in the reverse fixture which took place in Kigoma.

Azam FC, Singida Big Stars FC keen on getting back to winning ways

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM FC will host Singida Big Stars FC at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the evening, in one of the three 2022/23 NBC Premier League matches scheduled to take place today.

These two teams have had slightly differing starts to the season, but Azam FC's defeat last week means that there is a small amount of pressure on them to bounce back.

Friday's 1-0 defeat to Tanzania Prisons could provide a reality check, but Azam FC head coach Dennis Lavagne will hope it leads to much better performance against Singida Big Stars, leading to a return to winning ways.

Singida Big Stars will have big ambitions this season and their unbeaten start should give them hope that they can achieve something.

They extended their unbeaten run in the league to four matches with a 1-1 away draw with last season's high-flying debutants Geita Gold FC in Mwanza.

Singida Big Stars FC is currently in fifth position level on points with Azam FC, having played one less game.

Following back-to-back draws in their last two outings, Singida Big Stars will be keen on bouncing back to winning ways to make a statement of intent to compete with the 'big boys'.

In an interview ahead of the match, Singida Big Stars head coach Hans Van der Pluijm said he anticipates a tough but very good match between the two sides while insisting Azam FC is not a side one can underrate.

Pluijm stated: "We are happy to be here, I think we are prepared very well, it is also necessary when

you play against a very good team. They will react like wounded lions having lost the last match but that is not important for me, the most important thing is that we have prepared very well."

The Dutch gaffer disclosed: "That the boys will exercise patience, that we will bring the best out of our players and that is what we

want. We are prepared technically and tactically."

He added: "We know a bit about Azam FC, but you can know everything about Azam FC from your opponents but I think you have to play your own game, your style, that's what we want."

"If you want to play in the top of the league and you want to compete with the

top teams then you need to play every match to win."

The gaffer disclosed: "What I expect from my boys and what we expect from the team, and I say it again, we have prepared like that, then you only play matches you want to win."

Pluijm pointed out: "I expect a lot from my team, and I always say you have to re-

spect an opponent because if you don't then you won't achieve your best, which means you underrate opponents."

The tactician noted: "I don't think that Azam FC is an underrated opponent to underrate, they have a very good team, they made some mistakes last week and want to correct them too."



Azania Bank Limited's Tanga Branch Manager Hajira Mmambe (3rd L) poses for a picture with Tanga's Assistant Regional Administrative Secretary Sebastian Masanja (front row 2nd R) after donating a set of sports items to support the region's team which is taking part in 2022 Inter-Ministerial Sports Federation (SHIMIWI) Games that started in the region yesterday. Others are regional officials. The function was held at regional offices. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Flexibles by David Chikoko

HOW IS A BIRD DIFFERENT TO A FLY?



A BIRD CAN FLY BUT A FLY CANNOT BIRD!