




**Dar, Beijing to bolster links in construction projects** Page 3



**Subsidise beekeepers, govt urged** Page 4



**Power transmission line from JNHPP reaches 99pc** Page 6

**Page 13**

## Soybean farmers adopt TARI-Uyole new soil vaccine

*For many years farmers have relied on traditional farming practices which at the end produce poor outcomes*

**By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya**

SOYBEAN farmers in the Southern Highlands regions have taken up the use of a biological vaccine for the crop, likely to help increase productivity by at least 30 percent.

Fredrick Mlowe, soil researcher at the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Uyole centre in Mbeya Region said that the vaccine has been researched collaboratively with Moroccan scientists.

The centre has started to show farmers on the proper use of the vaccine, cutting the use of planting fertiliser in order to increase productivity and reduce production costs. If well used, the vaccine can help improve productivity by 30 to 40 percent, he stated.

"A soybean farmer using a planting fertiliser can harvest 10 to 15 sacks per acre but with application of the vaccine, the yield rises to 20 sacks," he said, noting that this was the only vaccine enabling farmers to end dependency on fertilisers and thus reducing production costs.

"We have already educated farmers on how to utilise the vaccine," he explained, affirming that this is done through various model farmers trained farmers to spread skills to others in Mbeya, Iringa, Ruvuma, Rukwa, Katavi and Songwe regions, he stated.

Dr Dennis Tippe, the TARI-Uyole director

**TURN TO PAGE 2**

# Higher populations scaling back five regions' per capita incomes



Swahili Honey firm official Christopher Kedendula (L), who reported having made a honey processing machine, briefs Vice President Dr Philip Mpango when the VP visited the firm's pavilion at the World Honey Day exhibition in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: VPO

*The region's population expanded to 3.08m in 2022 from 2.08m in 2012, a 3.9 per cent growth rate, a percentage higher than the national average and sixth highest countrywide*

**By Mnaku Mbani**

AVERAGE per capita incomes experienced positive growth in most Mainland regions during the past three years, with exceptions of five regions.

Daniel Masolwa, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) director of economic statistics said in an interview yesterday that provisional data for 2022 and revised data for 2020 show that the national average income per person for Tanzania Mainland grew to 2.84m/- in 2022 from 2.59m/- in 2020, although average individual incomes of 15 regions were still below the national average.

Coast, Katavi, Rukwa, Geita and Dodoma regions recorded declines in average income per person from 2020 to 2022, with their GDP per capita dropping below the national average, with the decline attributed to higher rates of population increase.

Calculating regional GDP per capita takes up the region's GDP and the total number of people, he said, noting that if one of these

**TURN TO PAGE 2**

# World Bank zonal chief views courts uplift drive

**By Guardian Reporter**

Nathan Belete, the World Bank zonal director for Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe made this remark during a visit to the Integrated Center for Family Affairs and Justice located in Tembeke in the city of Dar es Salaam.

Seeing what is being done on the spot and satisfying himself on the implementation of the projects, the high level official said the global lender sees the courts projects as helpful in reducing the backlog of

**TURN TO PAGE 2**

## Equity Bank (T) launches women's special window

**By Guardian Reporter**

EQUITY Bank (T) Ltd, one of the largest banks in Tanzania with the purpose of transforming lives socially and economically, has launched a special window named 'Mwanamke Plus' that is tasked with extending financial services to women.

To be eligible for the window's services, customers are required to open an account, and through the 'Mwanamke Plus' window, a client will access quality banking services including loans, insurance services and financial education.

The window will also be used to provide public health education, specifically concerning non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in

**TURN TO PAGE 2**



Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups minister Dr Dorothy Gwajima (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday gracing the launch of 'Mwanamke Plus', Equity Bank's special window for women. Right is the bank's managing director, Isabela Maganga. Photo: Equity Bank

## SPORTS



**GAMONDI PROUD OF YANGA PLAYERS AFTER INCREDIBLE EFFORT SECURES FEDERATION CUP WIN**

**Page 20**



**MAN CITY MAKE CASE TO BE RANKED AS ENGLAND'S GREATEST-EVER TEAM**

**Page 19**





## Higher populations scaling back five regions' per capita incomes

FROM PAGE 1

variables increases or decreases in relation to other regions, it would definitely create the per capita difference in results, the director explained.

Coast Region, where the population has grown sharply on the basis of the Population and Housing Census of 2022 was the most salutory example, he stated, urging regional administrations to take measures to either create conditions for expanding economic activities and controlling high population growth.

NBS provisional data for 2022 shows that the regional GDP per capita for Coast Region amounted to 1.69m/-, significantly below the 2.2m/- recorded in 2020, despite increased regional GDP at current market price to 3.43trn/- in 2022, from 2.92trn/- in 2020, he stated.

The 2022 survey findings indicate that the region's population roughly doubled to 2.02m in 2022 from 1.09m in 2021, an average growth rate of 6.1 percent, the second highest behind Katavi Region, he said.

The regional GDP per capita for Katavi Region declined to 1.91m/- in 2022, from 2.42m/- in 2020, amid expansion of the region's economic size to 2.29trn/- from 1.95trn/- earlier.

Katavi Region population by

the 2022 census had more than doubled to 1.15m by 2022, compared to 564,604 in 2012, translating into 7.1 annual growth rate, the highest countrywide, he stated, highlighting the GDP per capita drop for Rukwa.

It stood at 2.32m/- in 2022 compared to 2.45m/- in 2020, despite expanded size of the regional economy to 3.5trn/- compared to 3.1trn/- earlier, as it had a relatively high 4.3 percent annual growth from 1.0m in 2012 to 1.5m in 2022, above the 2.7 per cent national yearly average.

Geita Region per capita income declined to 2.58m/- in 2022, compared to 2.68m/- in 2020, despite the expanded size of the regional economy to 7.7trn/- from 6.5trn/- earlier, he said, noting that its size of population grew to 2.9m in 2022, compared to 1.7m in 2012, an annual growth of 5.6 percent and third highest countrywide, doubling the national average in excess.

Dodoma Region GDP per capita slid to 1.71m/- in 2022 from 1.72m/- in 2020, a telling impact even as regional economic size rose to 5.3trn/- from 4.5trn/- earlier. The region's population expanded to 3.08m in 2022 from 2.08m in 2012, a 3.9 per cent growth rate, a percentage higher than the national average and sixth highest countrywide, he added.

## Soybean farmers take up TARI-Uyole soil vaccine

FROM PAGE 1

tor, said that apart from increasing crop productivity, the vaccine also helps to preserve soil health in cutting down industrial fertilisers and chemicals in farms.

Vaccines also help increase productivity during more than one season as the soil remains safe and fertile through the next farming season, he stated, elaborating that if a farmer cultivates soybeans in the first season using the vaccine, he can grow another crop the fol-

lowing season in the same field and get a good harvest from the vaccine residues.

Farmers participating in the training commended the vaccine initiative as it will greatly help farmers improve their wellbeing, with Salanji Mataka, resident in Nantumbo in Ruvuma saying the farmers obtained new skills and aid for farming.

For many years farmers have relied on traditional farming practices which at the end produce poor outcomes, he added.

## World Bank zonal chief views courts uplift drive

FROM PAGE 1

cases in court, cutting long distances of walking or travel to seek court services.

On the basis of the state of improvement of court services that was seen it is evident that the remaining nine centres will be completed on time, he stated, reassuring officials of cooperation in the task.

Prof Elisante ole Gabriel, the chief court administrator, lauded the World Bank for extending soft loans to the government for judicial services improvement.

Judiciary administrators expect that the funds will be properly managed to realise the intended goal of improving the delivery of justice from primary courts to the High

Court, he stated.

Before its being revamped, the centre had a backlog of 400 cases and after the renovation, the number of cases received has increased to 1,000 and were being resolved fast, helping to reduce the backlog of cases.

Zanzibar High Court judge Ibrahim Mzee Ibrahim said that the judiciary there was executing a World Bank funded project targeting to improve the environment for court operations.

"We have learned a lot of things, when we arrive in Zanzibar with my colleagues we will sit down and look at what we have to do to improve the delivery of court services," he vowed.

## VP issues directives to enhance bee sub-sector

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has issued ten directives meant to strengthen the bee sub-sector including ensuring that Tanzania's embassies abroad to engage in looking for markets to generate foreign currencies for economic growth.

Dr Mpango issued the directives here yesterday when wrapping up World Bee Day, aimed at raising awareness on the importance of pollinators, the threats they face and their contribution to sustainable development.

He said all the embassies should engage in looking for markets to find reliable markets for the country's bee products to give farmers a channel to transform their economy.

"Let me also direct the ministry of finance to reduce taxes on products used in processing of honey and production of other bee products," he said.

He said together with the availability of a conducive environment for beekeeping, the country's production remains low calling upon the ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism to work with the Tanzania Forest Research Institute (TAFRI).

In his instructions he asked the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism in collaboration with the responsible for local government to identify special areas with opportunities unique in Dodoma and Singida region to increase production.

"Also to educate the people living in those areas that are characterized by vegetation at Itigi bushes which are found in Tanzania and Zambia only, which are suitable for beekeeping" emphasized Dr Mpango.

In addition, he asked the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism in collaboration with stakeholders in the sector to come up with



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa represents President Samia Suluhu Hassan at a virtual summit of Southern African Development Community (SADC) Heads of State from Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: PMO

## PM: Tanzania supports SADC move to invest in rainwater harvesting systems

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa said that Tanzania supports the decision of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to invest in innovative rain water harvesting techniques in efforts aimed to overcome water scarcity challenges.

Majaliwa made the statement in Dodoma yesterday when speaking on behalf of President Samia Suluhu Hassan in a virtual Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and government to discuss the humanitarian situation in the region, following the ongoing El Niño induced drought.

He said that it is important to

come up with more techniques to harvest more water which will be used during the dry season but also help prevent floods during heavy rains.

"We also emphasise SADC secretariat to increase support to member countries especially in construction of water storage dams," he said.

The Heads of State Meeting was preceded by a SADC Council of Ministers' meeting, who recommended for increment in rain water harvesting techniques, fight floods as well development partners channel their support to help mitigate the impact of the El Niño induced drought and address the food and nutrition security situation in the SADC region.

Other recommendations include improvement of water resources management, monitor water quantity and implement Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) projects, heighten protection of water used by more than one country and promote water sources conservation.

Speaking on water storage dams, the Prime Minister told the meeting members that the Tanzania government has already prepared a special strategic plan for construction of 40 rain water ponds, a work which commenced in November, 2023 and will end in July, 2024 for the first phase.

"We also have a strategy for construction of charcoal dams in villages located in drought-prone areas in

order to increase access for water for irrigation farming," he added.

Meanwhile, the Premier said Tanzania will continue to implement plans to increase food production for local and surplus for others.

He said in efforts to fight nutrition challenges in the country, major emphasis has been put in research for production of quality seeds (bio-fortified) to ensure that farmers are supplied with enough seeds for increased production of nutritional food.

Majaliwa also informed the meeting that during the recent tropical cyclone Hidaya which hit the country, the government took immediate measures to fight impacts brought by the cyclone.



Muheza District OC-CID Charles Ntenga (R) pictured at the weekend appealing to residents of Magila ward to refrain from engaging in mob injustice by taking the law into their own hands when handling criminal suspects. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

FROM PAGE 1

partnership with various stakeholders in the health sector, as such maladies account for nearly 74 percent of deaths, from ailments like diabetes, blood pressure, cancer, etc.

The bank said in a statement yesterday that as part of the community, clients are among potential victims of this health tragedy, so the purpose is to ensure that we have a healthy society for sustainable development of the country.

Equity Bank has initiated partnership with the Tanzania NCDs Alliance (TANCD) to provide health education to customers, employees and the community at large in order to change risky lifestyles or consumption behaviour, it said.

The bank is seeking to promote financial inclusion and optimise the penetration of banking services closer to the people through physical branches and innovative digital services with mobile banking, it asserted.

## Equity Bank (T) launches women's special window

"Equity Bank is targeting to ensure that through Mwanamke Plus, all women manage to acquire financial literacy and enable them to grow their capital through differential banking services opportunities we are offering including loans," it specified, affirming that through the newly launched product, customers will also be empowered on how to mitigate or protect against risks through public education conducted by insurance experts.

To this end, Equity Bank is forging closer collaboration with the African Guarantee Fund (AGF), created in 2011 by the Danish development agency (DANIDA), the Spanish aid agency (AECID) and the African Development Bank (AfDB), with a mandate to facilitate access to financing for SMEs.

The fund seeks to enable them to fully play their role as an essential

part of private sector engines of growth in African economies, as these institutions are major sponsors of 'Mwanamke Plus' through the Affirmative Finance as Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA), described online as a pan-African initiative to bridge the \$42bn financing gap facing women in Africa.

Equity Bank similarly seeks to ensure that finances of women small and medium enterprises are channelled through formal banking services to enable them to grow their businesses, the statement affirmed, asserting that "this is what Mwanamke Plus is all about."

Equity Bank (T) has 16 branches and more than 3,000 agents across the country, with 400 employees being part of successful investment originated from Kenya and spreading to other East African Community (EAC) partner states, it added.





Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (R) exchanges greetings with Ecobank Tanzania managing director Charles Asiedu in Dodoma city yesterday upon their arrival for a meeting focusing on collaboration between the government and the bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Getrude Mbago

## Tanzania, China to enhance ties in construction projects

TANZANIA and China have agreed to heighten its ties in the implementation of mega road and bridge construction projects to boost transport services in the country.

They agreed that through the cooperation, Tanzania construction companies will be given some work in the mega projects implemented by Chinese construction companies.

This was reached yesterday in Dar es Salaam by Minister for Works, Innocent Bashungwa and China's Ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian when they met and held talks on various cooperation issues between the two countries.

Bashungwa explained that the cooperation will involve improving some areas in tender and construction contracts which will be signed as one of the government's strategies to increase the participation of

local contractors and consultants in the implementation of projects.

In addition, Minister Bashungwa discussed with the ambassador about some of the Chinese companies which have failed to implement their projects as per contract agreement, something which affects development. He mentioned the companies as China Railway Seventh Group (CRSG) and STECOL Corporation and that the government has started to take various contractual measures.

Ambassador Chen said that China values the robust relations with Tanzania and that the Asian country will continue to provide opportunities for local contractors to implement mega projects in the country.

She explained that Tanzania and China have enjoyed diplomatic relations for over 60 years which have brought a huge development revolution, so it was important to continue cementing the relations in order to boost social and economic development of the two nations.

The meeting was also attended by various leaders and officials from both the Works Ministry and China Embassy.

Tanzania and China relationship dates back from the days of the generation of leadership of the founding fathers of these nations, namely the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, Abeid Amani Karume and Chairman Mao Zedong, Premier Zhou Enlai and later Supreme Leader Deng Xiaoping.

## TMA warns: Cyclone Ialy is near Tanzania coastline

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) has warned that the cyclone Ialy is strengthening from a moderate to severe tropical storm as it remains in the Indian Ocean.

The presence of the moderate Ialy in the Indian Ocean, north of Madagascar Island, was announced on Friday but the updated information released on Sunday evening indicated that it was about 680 kilometres from the east coast of Tanzania.

"The analysis of weather systems show that the moderate tropical storm has strengthened to a severe tropical storm and has continued to remain in the Indian Ocean as previously forecasted," TMA said in a statement.

"Following its position and the distance from our country, periods of strong winds exceeding 40 kilometers per hour and waves exceeding two meters may occur in the In-

dian Ocean, especially between Monday May 20 and Tuesday May 21, 2024," the agency stated, adding that rain periods are also likely to be observed over the coastal areas between Tuesday and Wednesday.

TMA also advised mariners and the public in general, to take appropriate precautions and continue to monitor and consider forecast information as well as follow guidance from experts in the relevant sectors.

This is the second cyclone in the East African coast happening in May 2024.

Tropical Cyclone Hidaya had triggered heavy rains and winds as it rolled towards Tanzania and neighbouring Kenya, countries already battered by torrential downpours and floods that have left more than 400 people dead across East Africa in recent weeks.

The cyclone lost its strength on May 4, 2024 after making landfall and there were no casualties reported.

## Tigo (T) unveil one-stop shop app to simplify mobile money transactions

By Guardian Reporter

TIGO Tanzania has officially launched a new mobile money transaction application dubbed "Super App" to improve its customers' experience and access to financial transaction services.

The new mobile app launch comes 10 years after the company launched its TigoPesa app which marked it as the first mobile services company to create such an application.

Speaking at a brief launch ceremony in Dar es Salaam, Angelica Peshu, the chief executive officer of Tigo Pesa said the new app carries more capabilities and features compared to its predecessor.

"The new app grants the consumer to execute various kinds of payments and monetary transactions making it a one stop shop for all tigo pesa services," she said.

She added that the Super App can be accessed in three different versions, wielding the customer with the ability to choose which type of App he wishes to use.

"Super App allows users to send money to three people in one moment even though the transfer funds may differ in amount," she said.

Peshu said a new feature which allows customers to make payments to government services like parking fees and many others.

"This is a unique service for Tigo users that is compatible with all mobile phone users as we continue to lead the way in

the discovery of new services to be offered to Tanzanians," she said.

Peshu added that the company has set aside a IGB internet bundle for every customer who will download the app on their phones.

### TANGAZO KWA UMMA KUZUIA MALI ZA MIRATHI

Familia ya Lwakatara inapenda kuitasifu Umma kwamba, kuanzia leo tarehe 21-5-2024 hakuna mamiliki aliyeidhinishwa na Mahakama kuuza au kufanya chochote juu ya mali zilizochwa na Marehemu GEORGE MUBEZILWAKATARA aliyefika tarehe 12-02-2021.

- Mali zote za Marehemu HAZILIZWI zikiwamo:
1. Plot No. 436, Block J, Mbezi Beach, Dar es Salaam.
  2. Plot No. 438, Block J, Mbezi Beach, Dar es Salaam.
  3. Plot No. 598, Block J, Mbezi Beach, Dar es Salaam.
  4. Plot No. 308, Block D, Mbezi Beach, Dar es Salaam.
  5. Plot No. 188, Block B, Mbezi Beach, Dar es Salaam.
  6. Plot No. 972, Block J, Mbezi Beach, Dar es Salaam.
  7. Plot No. 290, Block E, Tegeta, Dar es Salaam.
  8. Plot No. 282, Block E, Tegeta, Dar es Salaam.
  9. Plot No. 45, Block B, Kisesa, Mwanza.
  10. Plot No. 467, Block Y, Ngarenara, Arusha.
  11. Plot No. 301, Kijitonyama, Dar es Salaam.
  12. Plot No. 302, Kijitonyama, Dar es Salaam.
  13. Plot in Salasala, Dar es Salaam 3 1/2 Hektares.
  14. Plot No. 79, Block M, Kiwaa Masoko.
  15. Plot No. 15, Block J, Mwanagaza, Dodoma.
  16. A plot in Mwenenji, Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam.

Mamba ya Mirathi ni Na. 65 ya 2021 na Na. 2834 ya 2024. Watu wote wanatazwa kuuza Mali zote za Marehemu zilizo orodheshwa hapu juu hazuzwi, kwani bado hakuna mamiliki wa mali za marehemu kwavasa mpele pale Mahakama itakapotoa tamo la mwitoto.

Tangazo hili limetolewa na Familia ya Lwakatara

## How to Buy Nipashe and The Guardian Newspapers at [www.ippmedia.com](http://www.ippmedia.com) or [epaper.ippmedia.com](http://epaper.ippmedia.com)

### Through the website [epaper.ippmedia.com](http://epaper.ippmedia.com)

1. Open the [epaper.ippmedia.com](http://epaper.ippmedia.com) website from your browser, select the version of publication you want to purchase, whether **Nipashe** or **The Guardian** by clicking "Read"
2. It will send you to another page where you need to fill in your information and the package you want to join. Then click "**subscribe**"
3. It will take you to the payment page where you can pay with either **bank card** or **by mobile money transfer** after correctly filling in your required information
4. Through mobile Money, choose the mobile network, write your number and tick the box to accept the terms and conditions and go to "**pay via mobile**". It will give you instructions

on how to pay by phone according to the network you are using.

5. Through the **bank card**, you enter your card information and allow the amount to be deducted from your account after accepting the terms and conditions. Then log in to your account and finally enjoy the publication of your preference
6. When the payment is completed, you will receive a payment confirmation **email** and **SMS**, then login into your account and start reading the publication of your choice

### Through the [www.ippmedia.com](http://www.ippmedia.com) website

7. Open your browser [www.ippmedia.com](http://www.ippmedia.com) website on the right hand side you will see "**E-Paper**" click on it and follow the processes same as **number 1-6**





## Lay stress on proper use of chemicals, DC urges SMEs

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANGA District Commissioner Joseph Kaji has cautioned small and midsize enterprises (SMEs) to observe proper use of chemicals to protect the environment and community.

Kaji said that over the weekend in Tanga when speaking at one-day training for SMEs that was organised by the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) in collaboration with Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO).

Kaji said chemicals are essential to life on earth, adding that humans have developed chemicals to use for sanitation, preserving foods, treating diseases, and increasing crop yields.

He said incorrect use of household chemical products may cause immediate health effects, such as skin or eye irritation or burns, or poisoning.

Kaji added that there can also be longer-term health effects from chemicals which may be as a result of exposure to certain chemicals over a long period.

"Some chemicals are beneficial if properly stored or used. I therefore, call all of you to focus on the training to get detailed information on how to use it wisely in a community," he said.

Eliamini Mkenja, GCLA Northern Zone Manager said that the aim of the training was to give knowledge and increase their level of awareness about safe use of chemicals.

"Every person has a right to know

the types of chemicals, its impacts and how to be safe and protect the community," he said.

He said chemicals can cause harm to health ranging from mild skin irritation to cancer when they come in contact with the human.

Mkenja said that the training will enable them to expand their production activities and later become large producers.

Niko Mahinya, SIDO manager in Tanga Region said that the training does not benefit only entrepreneurs, but also consumers of their products.

GCLA was established as an Authority by the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority Act No. 8 of 2016 on Jun 2022 that provides for the management and control of the production, importation, transportation, exportation, storage, dealing, and disposal of chemicals and for matters connected therewith.

The authority's core functions are the provision of laboratory analytical services to facilitate forensic investigations to enhance justice and rule of law.

Others are ascertaining safety and quality of agricultural and industrial products; facilitate treatment on cases involving laboratory analysis for sexual ambiguity and sibling.

It is also the principal advisory organ of the government on matters relating to relevant forensic sciences (illicit drugs, DNA, toxicology), laboratory testing on food, medicine, chemical and environmental management.

## World Bee Day: Govt advised on subsidising of beekeepers

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE government has been challenged to roll out a special subsidy scheme meant to empower the local bee farmers to improve production and productivity.

It has been revealed that the majority of bee farmers in Tanzania are short of the financial muscles to manage their projects professionally, exacerbating low honey quality, among others.

Giving an exclusive interview on the sideline of observation of this year's World Bee Day (WBD) in Dodoma Capital City, the Director General (DG) for Igembensabo Farm Implements Limited, Mazzari Tajji said the sector was facing myriad challenges.

He observed Tanzania has been endowed with useful ecological zones for supporting the flourishing of beekeeping activities, but the involved farmers are being crowded-out from benefiting accordingly, due to several factors.

"Lack of access to modern bee hives, clouds-connected honey processing machines, and poor technology in honey harvest standards among serious challenges that frustrate the local beekeeping farmers," Tajji expressed.

Due to the prevailing setbacks, he said the indigenous bee farmers are failing to benefit from the available prestigious international markets.

"For years, the players in the country's apiculture sector have been failing to produce hygienic honey with international standards due to the challenges," he insisted.

To help overcome the challenges, he said his company, Igembensabo Farm Implements Limited, is working to assist the beekeeping farmers in the regions of Singida, Iringa, Man-yara, Njombe, and Dodoma.

"In the robust program, we have entered into three-year contracts with a record number of out-grower bee farmers, through which, we're injecting them with modern beehives, and as per the sealed pact, the farmers are supposed to sell all of their produced honey to our company," Tajji detailed.

He communicated that, after the phasing out of the contract, the beehives remain the property of the beneficiary bee farmers. As part of the vital contract scheme, and he observed that the reputable apiculture company is also assisting the bee farmers to improve their beekeeping areas and other key facilities, to comply with the recommended international standards.

"The government must also mull over the possibility of lowering, or removing some unnecessary and un-

friendly taxes being imposed to the imported honey packaging facilities," he urged.

The local apiculture mogul, Tajji also spoke about the need for the financial institutions in the country to provide capital loans to small-scale bee farmers to boost their initiatives.

With its headquarters based in Nananane grounds, in the Nzuguni area, at the fringe of Dodoma Capital City, Igembensabo Farm Implements Limited stands among the leading apiculture stakeholders in the country, which works round the clock to supplement efforts by the government to heighten the performance of beekeeping sector.

Tanzania stands 14th country for beekeeping in the world and 2nd in Africa with most of the country's produced honey and beeswax often exported to Germany, France, Belgium Netherlands, Oman, USA, Japan, Botswana, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Congo DRC, Somali and neighboring Kenya.

The country holds at least 48.1 million hectares of forests, equivalent to 54 percent of the country's area, whereby the government-reserved forest area is 465 hectares, including 24 tree plantations, 23 natural environmental conservation areas, and 20 beekeeping reserves.

World Bee Day is celebrated each year, on 20th May, to raise awareness of the essential role bees and other pollinators play in keeping people and the planet healthy, and in the many challenges they face today.

The annual-staged event has been celebrated since 2018, being concerted efforts of the Government of Slovenia with the support of Apimondia, which led the UN General Assembly.

This year's event focuses on the theme of "Bee Engaged with Youth." This theme highlights the importance of involving young people in beekeeping and pollinator conservation efforts, recognizing them as the future stewards of our environment.

Bees and other pollinators are essential for allowing sustaining agriculture and biodiversity worldwide. With over 20,000 species of bees and various other wild pollinators, they face challenges from human activities, such as habitat loss, pesticide use, and climate change. But research shows that today bees, pollinators, and many other insects are declining in abundance.

This year's WBD provides an opportunity for all of the participants - governments, organizations, civil society, and other concerned citizens - to promote actions that will protect and enhance pollinators and their habitats, improve their abundance and diversity, and support the sustainable development of beekeeping.



Shi Yong, head of the community of Chinese entrepreneurs and producers conducting their activities in Tanzania, makes remarks at yesterday's handover in Dar es Salaam of classrooms they had just rehabilitated and presenting various items to Mlimani Primary School. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC) has been commended for its effective management of climate change funds and supervision of adaptation projects funded by the Adaptation Fund in Tanzania.

Representatives from at least 34 countries gathered in Dodoma for the annual summit, which brought together environmental watchdogs and climate change experts from the National Implementing Entities (NIEs) of the fund to discuss the progress of climate adaptation projects.

The meeting also aimed to build capacity among NIEs from developing countries worldwide.

Fredrick Mulinda, Adaptation Fund Country Coordinator, praised NEMC for its exemplary work in implementing projects. He noted that visiting countries are keen to

## NEMC wins plaudits for managing climate change project funds well

adopt NEMC's strategies and project designs in their own nations.

In Tanzania, the Adaptation Fund finances projects and programs that help vulnerable communities adapt to the negative impacts of climate change. NEMC is responsible for managing the Fund's activities.

Mulinda explained that the conference brought together similar institutions from 34 countries.

"We are meeting here as part of the Fund's secretariat's annual routine to share experiences and insights on executing climate adaptation projects. Delegates visited the climate adaptation project for agro-pastoral communities in Kongwa district and the strategic water harvesting project in Bahi," he said.

"The workshop concluded with sessions held in Arusha where various NIEs shared their experiences with similar activities in their respective countries."

The delegates were impressed with the implementation reports of projects in the Kongwa and Bahi districts in Dodoma region, Man-yoni in Singida region, and Nzega in Tabora region. These projects focus on enhancing drought resilience for farmers and pastoralists.

In a related development, Tanzania requested expedited reaccreditation from the Adaptation Fund to enable NEMC to continue its climate change adaptation efforts in the country.

Dr Immaculate Semesi, NEMC director general, emphasized that

the meeting is crucial for the Council to gain and share expertise to further the nation's climate change adaptation efforts.

"This workshop will be a catalyst for the nation in its fight against the challenges posed by climate change," she remarked.

Permanent Secretary in the Vice President's Office, Eng Cyprian Luhemeja, called on the Adaptation Fund to continue supporting Tanzania financially for its climate adaptation projects.

Luhemeja expressed gratitude to the Fund for its financial contributions and assured that the government's Office, would ensure that the funds are allocated to priority projects identified by the Fund.



Opposition ACT-Wazalendo Vice Chairman (Zanzibar) Ismail Jussa addresses an in-house meeting of members of the party leaders held at Kiembe Samaki in Zanzibar at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Innovation Week kicks off today in Dar, to showcase emerging tech

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has emphasised on the need for collaboration between stakeholders, saying it is key to creating solutions that address the evolving needs of human capital.

Dr Ladislaus Nyoni, director of technology in the Ministry for Education, Science and Technology, said this yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the media symposium ahead to this year's Innovation Week, which kicks off today.

He said that characterized by technological advancements, globalization, and shifting socioeconomic landscapes, the demand for a highly skilled and adaptable workforce has become more important than ever before.

Dr Nyoni said Tanzania, like many

other nations, faces the challenge of aligning its educational system with the dynamic needs of the present and the future. "We must foster a progressive educational ecosystem that nurtures diverse talents, fosters innovation, and equips learners with the skills and competencies necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing world," he said.

He said by fostering partnerships and leveraging the collective expertise and resources of all stakeholders, they can create an educational system that is truly responsive to the demands of the 21st century.

The director said that meeting current and future human capital needs through a progressive educational system requires a holistic and forward-thinking approach.

Furthermore, it demands innovation, collaboration, and a steadfast

commitment to excellence.

"We are committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of their background, has access to education that is not only accessible but also relevant and of high quality. This includes initiatives to improve infrastructure, enhance teacher training, and update curriculum to reflect the demands of the modern workforce," he added.

Dr Amos Nungu, the Director General for the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) said this year's innovation week will be held in various locations across the country and its climax will be in Tanga Region.

He said the week offers room for innovators to showcase their work and contribute towards building a vibrant Tanzania innovation ecosystem.

Joseph Manirakiza, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP's) Ufunguo programme manager said that the platform serves as a showcase for tracking the implementation progress of diverse science, technology, and innovation policies, plans, and strategies.

He said it also illustrates the tangible impact of technology by featuring innovative ideas and projects supported by Tanzanian innovators and entrepreneurs.

According to him, the week is an opportunity to raise awareness on the use of science, technology and innovation, to recognize, award and promote local innovations and inventions for socio-economic development. It also promotes the need for innovation-friendly and progressive policies through engagement and dialogues.





Children with spina bifida and hydrocephalus being cared for at House of Hope centre in Magu District, Mwanza Region, pictured at the weekend showing the wheelchairs and various other devices they had just been gifted by The Desk and Chair Foundation chairman Sibtain Meghjee (2nd-R). Photo: Correspondent Rose Jacob

## Network calls for joint efforts to bolster women engagement in leadership posts

By Getrude Mbagu

A network of Women in Constitution, Elections and Leadership has called for combined efforts from stakeholders to break cycles of inequalities and increase participation of women in elections and various leadership positions.

Prof Penina Mlama, network chairperson made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking the two-day national forum of the network.

She said that despite progress in women inclusion, there are still gaps which hinder participation of women in various leadership positions and decision making bodies.

Prof Mlama underscored the need for the government to continue to review policies, laws and guidelines governing the country's general and local government elections as well as political parties so as to increase women participation in various leadership positions.

Reports show that although women representation in various sectors was increasing, the pace is still very slow, something which needs more efforts to support their participation.

She noted that reports show that out of 11,916 Village chairpersons in the country, women are only 246 which is equivalent to 2.1 percent.

Similarly, in towns and cities where one would expect increased number of elected women leaders at local level, the trend is more like in villages because out of the 4,171 towns and cities, women Mtaa chairpersons are 528 which is equivalent to 12.6 percent while out of 58,441 hamlets, women chairpersons are 4,171 (6.7 percent).

She said women especially in remote villages and towns are not heard and considered despite their competence.

According to her, there are a good number of women who are competent and can contribute well if given the opportunity but due to various reasons including geographical locations, they fail to participate in leadership.

"Women have rights to vie for various leadership positions in communities, the network has been working closely with the government and various development stakeholders to improve the environment

and increase women participation in various fields such as of the economy, political and social," she added.

Dr Ave Maria Semakafu, country coordinator of the Tanzania Women Cross Party (TWCP) - Ulingo platform said many positions in political parties are taken by men with women having low representation.

She urged political parties to stop giving hard times to women who are interested in leadership but rather support them to realize their goals.

Dr Semakafu noted that political parties are the major gatekeepers in determining which candidates have qualifications to vie for election. They play a critical role in enabling or blocking women's participation in decision-making processes, so they must ensure they increase the number of women in those positions.

"Top leaders in political parties have a big role to play to make sure that women are given opportunity without facing any kind of setbacks, because for a long time women have been complaining of being mistreated or given fewer chances to vie for leadership positions," she noted.

She encouraged women in the country to work hard, be confident and not hesitate to vie for leadership positions in the forthcoming elections so as to bring out their personal best to serve the public.

Rose Marandu, executive director of Women Fund Tanzania-Trust (WFT-T) called on women not to fear vying for leadership positions in the next local government positions.

According to her, members of the network have a role to support the change of mindsets in the society towards women's capacities in leadership which are fuelled by cultural barriers, lack of confidence and awareness.

"It is important we continue to advocate for change, educating communities in remote areas to know the importance of valuing women power. Political party leaders also need to promote equality in their parties," she said.

Prof Ruth Meena, women rights veteran activist claimed that there are still many gaps in elections as the competition system isn't fair for women to compete.

"We need more transparent systems for choosing women in political party leadership positions," she added.

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

## 'Ensure crucial development projects get House approval'

ACT-Wazalendo has pointed out shortfalls in the implementation of development projects in Zanzibar, saying some of them are being implemented without the approval of the House of Representatives which is against the law.

The party's Vice Chairman Ismail Jussa Ladhu expressed the sentiments during an internal meeting that took place at Kiembe Samaki in the Urban West Region, Unguja.

Jussa gave an example of the second passenger terminal at the Abeid Amani Karume which is expected to cost \$ 30 million without the approval of the House of Representatives in 2023/24.

He said the cost of repairing Amani Stadium has reached 105bn/- instead of 56bn/-, which was also not approved by the Zanzibar House of Representatives.

He said the situation will change when ACT-Wazalendo comes to take over the leadership of the government in Zanzibar.

"Public funds embezzlement acts that turn the Isles into a corruption den will cease in 2025 after ACT comes to power," he said.

He said reports by the auditor and controller of government accounts (CAG) have revealed acts of corruption in public institutions, but no action has been taken.

"According to the CAG report, there are six employees who have been given a loan of 1bn/- by People's Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ) without the loan being approved by the bank's board of directors, which is against the law," said Jussa.

Party chairman who is also the First Vice President for Zanzibar, Othman Masoud Othman said, the party no longer has time to negotiate with the government

about the things they agreed on before the formation of the Government of National Unity.

The first VP said every citizen of Zanzibar has the right to be registered and become a voter after being given a resident ID card, and a birth certificate and called on the government to remove the bureaucracy in the access of the documents.

Speaking about the setup of the Union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar, he said things are happening in Zanzibar that go against the constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1967.

ACT Wazalendo continues with internal meetings after completing the election of the party leaders while using the platform to speak against corruption in the Isles.

## REPOA Brief



# Room for improvement: Perception of employers towards hired TVET graduates

By Veronica V. Kakengi

Key messages:

- Despite finding the quality of TVET graduates high, employers emphasize the need for improved matching of TVET training with in-demand technical and vocational skills.
- Employers prefer working with better skilled TVET graduates over non TVET graduates.

### Introduction:

This brief examines employers' perception of the quality of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) graduates. Based on in-depth interviews with 49 small and medium scale firms engaged in Manufacturing and Services in Tanzania, assessment is made of the Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes (KSAs) that TVET graduates possess, of the extent to which such KSAs meet employers' expectations. In the labour market, KSAs play a significant role in maximizing workers' productive capacities as argued by Lowden et. al. (2011). Therefore it is important to assess whether KSAs of TVET graduates are in line with the quality required by employers.

The Government of Tanzania is currently implementing the National Employment Policy of 2008, which aims to enhance and develop human capital and utilization by improving KSAs (URT, 2008). On the one hand, this and other government efforts prioritizing skills development demonstrate its willingness to produce ready-made labour for the market. Existing studies suggest that employers continue to spend a lot of resources in terms of money and time searching for workers that will match their KSAs requirements (Commander & Denisova, 2012). In Tanzania, employers in the service sector are found to invest heavily on their workforce, in terms of searching for the right candidates and later train them (Sabarwal, 2013). These arguments demonstrate that, employers expect to hire prospects with not only high-quality technical skills but also with relevant skills that seamlessly meet their more specific requirements. Lowden et. al. (2011) suggest that employers not only expect technical and discipline competence but also a range of other soft skills and abilities. Thus, enhanced skills improve workers' employment prospects as employers' expectations are met while poor quality of skills and skills mismatch discourages employers and accelerates unemployment.

### Methodology:

This brief analyses findings from semi-structured interviews with 49 small and medium scale employers (39 non-state, 10 state) involved in services and manufacturing from seven regions in Tanzania mainland namely Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Dodoma, Morogoro, Arusha, Mbeya and Lindi. The data was collected by REPOA in September 2018 using a purposive sampling technique. Findings are derived from quantitative (descriptive statistics) and qualitative data analyses of an assessment of employers' perceptions of the quality of TVET graduates, along with employers' preference between TVET graduates and non-TVET graduates.

### Findings:

#### Employers' perceptions of the quality of TVET graduates

A descriptive assessment of employers' perceptions on the quality of TVET employees in their organizations reveals that, 53% of all employers rated the quality to be very high or high, 39% of employers said their quality is somewhat high and only 8% find the quality of TVET employees to be very low or low. Likewise Sabarwal, (2013) found that 50% of employers in Tanzania rated the quality of employees from vocational institutions to be above the average and only 37% said their quality was average. These findings indicate that a significant number of employers remain skeptical of the quality provided by TVET graduates. To ensure that graduates that enter the labour market meet the quality required, it is important to have TVET programmes that are demand driven.

Table 1: Employers rating of quality of TVET graduates

Quality of VET graduates	Percent (%)
Very high or high	53
Somewhat high	39
Very low or low	8
Total	100

Source: Field survey of employers, 2018

#### Working with TVET against working with non-TVET graduates

Besides the quality of TVET graduates that are employed, employers further expressed their preference for working with TVET graduates over non-TVET graduates. More than 3 out of 5 employers (61%) expressed that they are better off working with TVET graduates than non-TVET graduates. 29% of employers see no difference between working with either TVET or non-TVET graduates while 10% of all employers find their capabilities to be below that of non-TVET graduates.

Some of the reasons highlighted by employers as to why they prefer working with TVET graduates as compared to non-TVET graduates are related to their practical experience, ability to innovate as well as their ability to learn and adopt to their working environment. A couple of employers remarked that TVET graduates:

"Are more practical, we need more practical employees to produce goods, run production plant/ machines" (Employer 21).

"Can learn and understand more quickly because they attended foundation courses/ elementary training in VETA colleges" (Employer 10).

Few employers' preference for non-TVET graduates is underpinned by widespread perceptions of TVET graduates' communication skills' inadequacies and irrelevance of skills to basic manufacturing and processing. Some employers lament that TVET graduates:

"Have a language problem. They are faced with communication barriers. This is the primary weakness of VETA graduates since English is the official language in most companies, so communication becomes difficult" (Employer 22).

"Most VETA graduates have knowledge/ skills which are not relevant in the labour market" (Employer 19).

Most reasons highlighted by employers relative to their preference are linked to the quality of knowledge and skills that TVET graduates are equipped with. Although the majority of employers prefer working with TVET graduates and are happy with their quality of skills, still there are few with diverse views. Few employers with different views find that TVET graduates they have hired possess skills with poor quality as well as skills mismatch. Being the key player in the labour market, employers' views are of significant contribution to employment programmes as they will assist in identifying where there is mismatch and gaps in skills.

#### Conclusion and policy recommendation

Faced with the need to enhance productivity and maximize profits, employers require quality knowledge and skills from their employees for which they acquire from school. Field data suggest that employers consider skill relevance and practicality, essential to assessing quality. Evidence from this study indicates that most employers find TVET graduates to possess good qualities. However, a considerable number of employers (47%) continue to doubt the qualities of TVET graduates skills. Thus, employers' views on the quality of TVET graduates not only portrays the quality of programmes that TVET institutions provide, but also provide evidence that there is yet skills mismatch in the labour market which are key issues of policy consideration.

These findings lead to one key policy recommendation in line with employability skills: Priority needs to be directed towards strengthening collaboration between employers and the government through the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology so as to further strengthen TVET institutions in Tanzania. This way the two institutions will contribute to the improvement of TVET programmes which in turn will improve delivery of demand-driven skills at a quality acceptable to employers.

#### References

- Commander, S., & Denisova, I. (2012). *Are Skills a Constraint on Firms? New Evidence from Russia*. IZA Discussion Paper No. 7041.
- Lowden, K., Hall, S., Elliot, D., & Lewin, J. (2011). *Employer's Perception of the Employability Skills of the New Graduates*. Edge Foundation.
- Sabarwal, S. (2013). *Skills for competitiveness in the small and medium enterprise sectors*. World Bank.
- Shury, J., Winterbotham, M., Davie, B., & Oldfield, K. (2010). *National Employer Skills Survey for England 2009: Main report: Evidence Report 23. IFF Research and UK Commission for Employment and Skills*.



REPOA HQ  
157 Migombani REPOA streets, Regent Estate, P.O Box 33223, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255(22) 270 0083 call: +255(0)784 655855  
Website: <https://www.repoa.or.tz>, Email: [repoa@repoa.or.tz](mailto:repoa@repoa.or.tz)

Branch office  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Kilimo Kwanza Building 41105 Makole East, Kisesa, Dodoma, Tanzania

REPOA's core mandate is to generate knowledge through research and to provide information and evidence needed for policy formulation and to contribute to enhancing research capacity. The ultimate good is to accelerate socio economic transformation for inclusive development and for increased quality of life of Tanzania.



# ACT urges govt to settle media debts

By Carlos Banda

ACT Wazalendo has urged the government to allocate 0.4 percent of its budget to the Ministry of information communication and Information Technology to enable the ministry to settle the long-standing debt owed to the media in Tanzania.

Rahma Mwita, the shadow minister of information, communication, and information technology, said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday while briefing the media on the party's analysis of the Ministry of information's budget that was presented in parliament on Thursday last week.

"For seven years the government and its institutions have had debt arrears owed to the media. Until April 2024, the debt totaled 19bn/- which includes 8bn/- owed to privately owned media outlets and 11bn/- owed to the Daily News a state-owned newspaper," she said.

"In 2021, President Samia Suluhu Hassan pledged to disburse 6bn/- settle the debt area. However, three years have passed but there has been no implementation of the pledge. We followed through the discussion in parliament and the responses of the Ministry of information that the government will start the implementation process."

The shadow minister said that the party also wants the government to address the problem of unreliable mobile internet, communication, and broadcast services in rural areas, a situation that poses a setback to development.

"According to the analysis done by the information ministry in 2023 which was used in the 2024/25 budget, only 69 percent of Tanzania's geographical coverage reached mobile communication networks. However, in 2022 the analysis showed that the geographical coverage was still at 69 percent," she said.

Mwita said mobile internet was a major problem in rural areas as statistics showed that 31 percent of rural dwellers have no access to

mobile networks.

"There are more than 2,212 villages faced with communication challenges. Until April 2024, only 616 villages had communication services and communication towers built. In the 2023/24 financial year, only 124 communication towers were turned on out of 758 communication towers that are being built in 731 wards. It is disappointing to see that there are still villages that are without access to mobile communication in the 21st century," she said.

Mwita added: "Last week's country-wide internet blackout caused by the technical failure of the marine cables has sparked a discussion on the country's independence and national security risks due to dependency on a private company."

The shadow minister said that accountability by the government is required to highlight the losses incurred by businesses noting that the country is already on course to have an economy that is entirely digitized, therefore internet blackouts, unreliable internet connection, and dependency on a private contractor to provide internet is a threat to the country security and future.

"We advise the government to invest in satellite communication as an alternative and investment in outer space research to become fully independent in terms of internet communication for the safety of our nation. The government should ensure that telecommunication companies compensate consumers with regards to the losses incurred as a result of the internet blackout," she said.



**...Until April 2024, only 616 villages had communication services and communication towers built**



Preparatory work on the Sam Nujoma Road stretch of Dar es Salaam's rapid transit road project has begun, as witnessed yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

# Bring up new products to reach more customers, insurers urged

By Getrude Mbago

THE Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) has called on players in the sector to invest in innovation and bring new products that benefit Tanzanians both in urban and rural areas.

Dr Baghayo Saqware, TIRA Commissioner of Insurance, made the call in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during the launch of a new insurance product.

He encouraged insurance companies to put more weight on raising public awareness and encouraging Tanzanians to buy insurance covers to protect themselves from various disasters.

According to him, insurance is key for the country's financial inclusion agenda considering the fact that the bulk of growth of the financial sector in the coming decade is hinged on insurance.

Dr Saqware said TIRA will continue to create an enabling environment for the insurance market while calling the insurance companies to increase creativity in designing various insurance products.

He underlined that as people live in the world full of uncertainty and disasters that endanger human plans, joining the insurance services is inevitable.

"Most importantly, use the

opportunities you have to provide insurance education and encourage Tanzanians to take up various insurance services to protect themselves from various disasters," he said.

"Disasters happen at times we don't expect and disrupt our plans and even our families."

Dr Saqware said the authority will continue to improve the environment and management for a safe insurance market in the country.

He said the insurance market in the country has continued to improve.

"The growth of the insurance market has contributed to the

growth in gross premiums for general insurance policies which increased from 893 bn/- in 2022 to 1.2trn/- in 2023, representing a significant growth of about 26 percent," he said.

He called on companies to adhere to all rules, regulations and guidelines governing the industry so as to operate in fair competition by sticking to professionalism for the development of the industry.

"The insurance companies have to continue to be innovative and bring new insurance products that I firmly believe in one way or another will be able to help the people as well as promote and develop the insurance sector," he said.

# Construction of power transmission line from JNHPP reaches 99 pct

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

CONSTRUCTION of the electricity transmission line from the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHPP) has reached 99.5 percent.

Deputy Minister of Energy, Judith Kapinga unveiled this over the weekend when speaking before the Parliamentary Committee on Energy and Minerals when it visited the construction of an electric cooling station in Chalinze, Coastal Region.

Kapinga thanked the members of the Parliamentary Committee for the monitoring and inspection of the project which is of wide interest to the entire nation and promised to continue to work on the instructions given by the members.

"This project has been 100 percent funded by the Government and the cost of the construction of the electricity transmission line is 158bn/- whose implementation has reached 99.5 percent. Also, the cost of the construction of the Chalinze cooling station is 128bn/- whose implementation has reached 93.7 percent," said Kapinga.

Newton Mwakifwamba, Chalinze cooling station project manager said that the completion of the station's project will help strengthen the availability of electricity and strengthen the infrastructure to receive electricity and feed it into the National Grid.

The Vice Chairman of the Committee, Kirumbe Ngenda expressed his satisfaction with the speed of construction of the Chalinze cooling station project

which includes the construction of a 400-kilowatt power transmission line from JNHPP to Chalinze.

"We congratulate President Samia Suluhu Hassan for the great work she is doing by continuing to implement energy projects, the construction speed of this project has increased from 55 percent last year to 93.7 percent this year," said Kirumbe

He said the Ministry of Energy in collaboration with the Tanzania Electric Co. Ltd (TANESCO) has done a great job in implementing the project where the construction of the mechanical building has been completed by 100 percent.

He explained that the completion of the project will further strengthen the availability of electricity in the country and the rest will be sold abroad when the demand is sufficient.



**We congratulate President Samia Suluhu Hassan for the great work she is doing by continuing to implement energy projects, the construction speed of this project has increased from 55 percent last year to 93.7 percent this year**



It remained business as usual for small traders on the pedestrian bridge at the Mbezi Luis section of Dar es Salaam's Morogoro Road until yesterday, with most complaining that they were yet to find a suitable alternative site for their activities. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

# Call for action as Lake Victoria 'threatens' Bukoba municipality

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast,

Bukoba

FORMER chairman of CCM in Kagera Region Pius Ngeze has expressed fear that Bukoba municipality may be swallowed by water following swelling up of Lake Victoria and called for immediate measures to address the situation.

Ngeze, who is an author, farmer and businessman made the call at the weekend here during a meeting he convened for regional and district government leaders, CCM

leaders and journalists.

He reminded the impact brought by floods in Bukoba on May 10 this year, destroying homes and public infrastructure.

He has said that as a resident of Bukoba since 1977, there are many things he knows about the municipality.

He said that something is 'brewing' in Lake Victoria and if the government does not take action to come up with a policy to advise on the planning of buildings in Bukoba, there could be a big disaster.

He mentioned the disasters that

have hit Bukoba as the flooding of Lake Victoria in July 2016 surprisingly during the summer and floods that destroyed several large buildings including hotels.

In September of the same year, there was an earthquake that caused big damage, knocking down houses in the municipality and its environs.

In 2023, there was a strong cyclone from Lake Victoria that destroyed houses in some streets and the elderly here say they had never seen such an event in Bukoba.

Ngeze further said that the floods of May 10 this year shocked him

because if it had happened during night it would have caused bigger harm to the residents.

He criticized some people's habit of continuing to build on streams and waterways, something which endanger sustainability of the town and asked municipal authorities to take action.

The former leaders also appealed to the government to establish Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) office in Bukoba as well as provide a building policy that supports the real conditions of the municipality.





This bicyclist was found waiting to cross a Magomeni Mapipa section of Dar es Salaam's busy Morogoro Road at the weekend. However, he would not be drawn into saying where he was taking the dozens of empty 20-litre plastic containers. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

## Be united in the fight against GBV, advisory board advised

ZANZIBAR'S Minister of Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children, Riziki Pembe Juma, has requested the national children's Advisory Board to be united in the fight against gender-based violence (GBV) among women and children.

She made the call yesterday when she met the board at her office in Kinazini in Unguja urban, adding that male children are endangered at a high rate.

Riziki wanted the board members to unite together in the fight against violence against women and children.

The minister said that her ministry was formed to work on

various social affairs in the country including children's issues, where she called on the board to ensure challenges against children are brought to the ministry to find solutions.

She wanted them to change the perceptions of children who refuse to partake in any meetings that have no financial compensations or rewards, a habit that gives room to perpetrators to attempt to violate the children.

She assured them that the

ministry will strive to address the challenges they face in the board through their districts as much as possible to see that success is attained from the establishment of the councils.

Tatu Khamis Ramadhan, vice chairperson of the national children advisory board expressed her joy noting that it was the first since the board met the minister, that she highlighted the challenges they face including early child marriages, with some villages

violating the children's Act law number 6 of 2011 which outlines rights of children.

She requested the ministry to provide special certificates to verify the servitude of members or leaders who completed their tenure at the children's councils.

They also requested the possibility of establishing one-stop centres in various hospitals to simplify the provision of medical services for victims of gender violence.

## New study exposes gender bias in African family laws

By Lameck Masina, Blantyre

A NEW report finds that gaps in family laws in most African countries are fuelling discrimination of women and girls. The report from the international NGO Equality Now says laws that favour men in matters of sex, marriage and inheritance, among other issues, leave many women in despair.

The study, released to coincide with the United Nations-declared International Day of the Family on Wednesday, highlights how legal frameworks and customary practices in 20 African countries have fuelled discrimination in marriage, divorce, custody and property rights.

Esther Waweru is a senior legal adviser at Equality Now and co-author of the report.

She spoke from Kenya on how gaps in family laws have affected the lives of women in Africa.

"Take a case of Sudan for instance, where women cannot initiate divorce, unlike men. So, it therefore means that the woman will be trapped in a marriage that they don't want to live [in], just because they can't initiate a divorce," she said.

Waweru said in some countries where women initiate a divorce, they are not allowed to take custody of the children from a previous marriage when they remarry.

In Malawi, the report notes that courts have ruled rape does not extend to marriage. It says customary law in Malawi presumes perpetual consent to sex within marriage and that a wife can deny her husband sex only when she is sick or legally separated.

While in Tanzania, the report says marital rape is only criminalized upon separation.

It also says customary and religious laws in countries like Algeria, Cameroon, Ivory Coast and

Nigeria undermine women and girls in matters of inheritance, as they receive less than men and boys.

Hala Alkarib is the executive director for Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa.

She said that the legal imbalance in many African countries leaves women feeling helpless.

"Imagine that you are not treated equally and discriminated against. It automatically goes without saying you are typically poor. You are exposed to violence systematically. You are dehumanized and undermined. You don't have equal access to opportunities. You are subjected to different forms of sexual violence, and your dignity is compromised," said Alkarib.

Francis Selasini is the executive director for Network Against Female Genital Mutilation in Tanzania. He said communities also play a role in undermining or sidestepping laws meant to protect women.

He cited issues of genital mutilation in northern parts of Tanzania, where he said communities have changed tactics to protect their traditional norms.

"For example, initially they were mutilating girls from 10 and above, for the reason of preparing her for marriage. But nowadays, they are mutilating even babies. They are doing so because they would like to defeat the legal process. Because they know if they mutilate babies, babies will not be able to take them to court. They will not be able to report," he said.

Waweru of Equality Now says although many countries have ratified key international treaties that protect women's rights, existing domestic laws make implementation and enforcement of these treaties difficult.

She calls upon African states to fully align their family laws and their practices with international human rights standards.



Norwegian Embassy  
Dar es Salaam

### JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Dar es Salaam has a vacant contractual position of Program Officer/adviser for communication and events. We are seeking a proactive and creative communication and events officer to enhance our communication strategies, increase our public presence, and execute impactful events aligned with our mission. The Communication and events officer will work closely with the thematic teams in the Embassy to develop and implement effective communication tactics and events.

#### PROGRAM OFFICER/ADVISER - COMMUNICATION & EVENTS

##### Main duties and responsibilities:

- Prepare and implement the Embassy's strategic communication plan, assess target groups and message to strengthen the Embassy's visibility.
- Collaborate closely with other teams to integrate communication and event activities in their line of work and ensure consistency with broader organizational objectives.
- Responsible for the Embassy's social media presence, ensuring consistency and engagement across various platforms.
- Take a leading role in planning, coordinating and executing all organizational events, including receptions, visits, meetings/conferences and other events.
- Provide internal regular media updates and improve media monitoring across the organisation.
- Monitor, assess and refine the effectiveness of communication and event strategies.
- Maintaining relationships with local media and journalists to promote coverage of events and key initiatives.
- Represent the Embassy in meetings with development partners as well as other partners.

##### Desired Skills, Qualifications and Experience:

The successful candidate should have:

- Working experience (at least three years or more) in communication/media and events management.
- Good networking skills.
- Preferably working experience from an international working environment such as embassies, international organisations, companies or news media.
- University education (preferably a master's degree) in Communications, Public Relations, Event Management, or a related field, or equally relevant professional experience.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills, including analytical abilities.
- Proficient with social media management and brief report writing.
- Experience in handling logistics for large and small-scale events, attention to detail.
- Fluency in Kiswahili and English, preferably experience with plain language practices. Some knowledge of French is added advantage.

##### Personal Qualities:

- A person who is well organized, efficient, and able to manage his/her own workload with a high level of administrative tidiness.
- A proactive team player who can work independently and contribute to a positive working environment.
- A person who can develop good working relationships in a culturally diverse environment.
- Interest and understanding of news, political and social affairs.

The Embassy has an inclusive and diverse working environment. We encourage all qualified candidates to apply, regardless of their race, sex, disability, age, religion, or sexual orientation. The position involves some travelling.

If you are interested in this exciting career opportunity, send your current CV (max. 5 pages) and one page cover letter as one file to **Prospect Africa**. Write "Program Officer, Communications & Events" in the e-mail subject line. Do not send copies of certificates, letters of recommendation etc. Applications should not be sent directly to the Embassy.

**Closing date for receipt of applications: 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview. If you do not hear from us within 4 weeks of the closing date, please, assume your application was unsuccessful.

Executive Search and Selection Division  
Prospect Africa Limited  
e-mail: [recruitment@prospect-africa.net](mailto:recruitment@prospect-africa.net)



World Vegetable Center

### JOB VACANCY

Research Associate – Seed distribution, on farm evaluation and user feedback  
Arusha, Tanzania

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) is a nonprofit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and regional offices around the globe. WorldVeg conducts research and development programs that contribute to improved incomes and diets in the developing world through increased production and consumption of nutritious and health-promoting vegetables. For more information about World Vegetable Center, please visit our website: [worldveg.org](http://worldveg.org)

WorldVeg seeks to recruit a Research Associate – Seed distribution, on farm evaluation and user feedback to strengthen the ability of the Center to provide timely response to germplasm requesters, monitoring germplasm use, develop evidence-based solutions for making available vegetable seeds that meets needs. The incumbent will be based in the Center's regional office for Eastern and Southern Africa in Arusha, Tanzania.

##### Key Responsibilities:

- Coordinate the distribution of high-quality seeds of WorldVeg genetic materials to different seed requesters, following national and international regulations.
- Design and update survey tools intended to collect seed requesters' feedback on the genetic resources they received from the genebank.
- Conduct research and surveys on the use of WorldVeg genetic resources by farmers, researchers and breeders worldwide.
- Follow up with seed requesters and gather user feedback to identify challenges, successes, and areas for improvement in seed distribution of WorldVeg genetic materials.
- Design and implement on-farm evaluation protocols to assess the promising genetic materials and cultivation techniques under varying environmental conditions.
- Analyze and synthesize data on crop performance, environmental conditions, user feedback, and generate reports, presentations, and publications to communicate research findings and recommendations.
- Undertake any other duties as required by the needs of the Center and directed by the supervisor.

##### Required Qualifications:

- MSc in Agriculture with major in plant genetic resources, plant breeding, agronomy, horticulture, seed technology or a related field.
- Demonstrated knowledge of national and regional seed policies, and international agreements on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.
- Demonstrated experience in agricultural research, seed systems, and management of experimental trials. Experience of research on genebank genetic resources is an added advantage.
- Proficiency in data collection, analysis, and interpretation using statistical software such as R programming language, STATA, SPSS, or Python.
- Excellent communication and writing skills, with the ability to engage effectively with diverse stakeholders in the seed sectors.

**The Reward:** This is a Nationally Recruited Staff (NRS) position with competitive pay and benefits.

##### The candidate we hire will embody WorldVeg's Five Core Values:

1. Dedication to Innovation and Knowledge Sharing Supports the conduct of world-class science, respects ethical standards, and is committed to sharing results in a transparent manner.
2. Commitment to Impact Aspires to achieve positive, tangible, and lasting impact contributing to Sustainable Development Goals.
3. Commitment to Partnerships Believes in the value of partnerships to advance research for development.
4. Respect for People Respect the diversity of gender, culture, ethnic origin, religion, age, beliefs, and views.
5. Respect for the Environment Strives to minimize its environmental impact and to introduce greener technology and practices.

**How to Apply:** Applicants should submit a letter of application explaining their suitability for and interest in the position along with a curriculum vitae, a recent passport-size photograph, names, and addresses (including telephone/fax/e-mail) of three referees, and date of availability to [info-esa@worldveg.org](mailto:info-esa@worldveg.org) or the job bank site before **31 May 2024**. Please mention the position title in the subject line.



## As world marks Hypertension Day, what we lack is not medical advice

There are considerable efforts nationally and globally to sharpen the capacity of governments and other stakeholders to combat non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

A total of 760 scholarships for post-graduate diploma and master's degree in preventative cardiovascular medicine, diabetes, endocrinology, obesity and weight management have been recently offered to doctors from 52 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

That means that anything between 15 and 20 doctors from Tanzania will be participating, this according to Merck Foundation.

The foundation pointed at its partnership with African First Ladies and ministries of health and medical societies.

They have linked up to extend a one-year post-graduate diploma and two-year master's degree courses, thus building stronger hospital sector awareness on the issues.

This intent was expressed as the world marked World Hypertension Day (May 17) on Friday. It was pointed out that efforts were being made to extend scholarships to 42 critical and underserved medical specialties including oncology, sexual and reproductive care, respiratory medicine, embryology and fertility specialties.

There are other equally sensitive fields like gastroenterology, dermatology, psychiatry, emergency and resuscitation medicine, paediatric emergency medicine, neonatal medicine, advanced surgical practice, general surgery, clinical microbiology and infectious diseases, internal medicine, trauma and orthopaedics.

As all these appear to be routine medical specialties in our universities and most specialised treatment services, the issue is to provide updates and fortify competences at all levels where such services are offered. One just hopes doctors make a difference.

Noticeably, the foundation said that the agencies linked were marking WHD with a quest for improving access to quality and equitable hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular preventive care.

What was also apparent was that little distinction was being made on the respective needs of Africa, Asia and Latin America, whereas in other spheres of development there is a special regard for Africa.

This lack of contrast or particularity illustrates the manner in which what used to be diseases of affluent societies are becoming increasingly familiar elsewhere, with the picture even being reversed.

The point is that it is even possible that the problem of NCDs starts being more of a burden in the Southern Hemisphere than in the developed Northern Hemisphere, in which case it is in the former zone that such programmes are needed most.

The point is that they focus on how doctors can help raise awareness and more credibly provide advice either on prevention or when any mild syndromes appear, as arresting the development of a disease is quite similar to prevention.

Obtaining improved training on the diseases will thus help us to further improve cardiovascular, hypertension and diabetes care.

Illustrations provided at that event show how serious the matter has become, as a sort of emergency for various levels of society, such that the foundation prepared animation films, one entitled Mark's Pressure and another Sugar Free Jude.

Such literature is usually directed at children, and this effort reminds one of similar initiatives targeting children in school, like fighting corruption.

If the level of success that can be projected from these efforts is indicative, it follows that no solutions can be seen as matters where society relies merely on mass awareness and where constant reminders are too often bound to fail.

## UDSM's new Kagera campus sign of maintaining standards

WIDENING the territorial sphere of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) to Kagera Region stands to be welcomed with immense and widespread joy and pleasure in the higher education sphere.

It won't just relate to the fact of that being an additional facility but courtesy of its more direct relations with the leading university in our country.

The other universities have tended to draw acknowledged scholars, researchers and administrators from UDSM and constituted new sphere of academic administration.

Several others were meanwhile initially faculties or institutes that grew into affiliated colleges and then lifted graduated into fully fledged universities. Private universities largely "poached" or recruited key staff from UDSM that then proceeded to set up own benchmarks without direct UDSM oversight.

UDSM has reportedly signed a 13.4bn/- contract with China Jiangxi Corporation for the putting up of four buildings on the new campus.

A top official from the flagship institution said the campus is part of implementation of the Higher Education for Economic Reforms (HEET) project.

The project's development objectives tie up with various university strategic plans similarly aligned with national strategic priorities.

This is expressed in formulas like UDSM's Vision 2061 and its five-year rolling strategic plan. Still, it is uncertain how this vision specifically has an impact in a situation where graduate unemployment is more the norm than the exception.

The HEET project spans five years, based on World Bank funding, as the

need for higher education widens since universal secondary school has attained half a decade already.

In a situation of what has constantly been said to be falling educational standards, what are often called the liberal professions are starting to be tied up with university degrees.

Other levels of training, while many of them feature even in university curricula, are classified as occupational proficiency at best.

There is no doubt that the university will be doing what most it can in monitoring and evaluating the project, but it is harder to figure out what will be its set project development objectives.

The reason for this has to do with the ongoing intermingling of occupational and academic orientations in lower levels of schooling.

Ordinarily, occupational orientations need to be set outside the formal schooling, as additional training especially if a youth is seeking 'self-employment' in particular areas.

Changing curricula to insert occupational skills and reduce 'liberal' content essential to thinking may prove a big threat.

The UDSM hierarchy would be well-advised to admit that higher education is on a slippery slope as lower levels of education are dismantling syllabi that were insufficient in the first place given standing challenges in the policy and governance spheres, etc.

There is a peculiar definition of self-employment which basically rhymes with artisan work, whereas the proper field is altogether outlandish and can't be captured at a glance.

Learning ought to remain in its place as abstract formats of living things or visible objects in nature or society, and we need to pair local institutions even at pre-university level with developed countries to uplift content quality.

### The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO  
Circulation Manager: DENNIS NTAITA  
feedback@guardian.co.tz

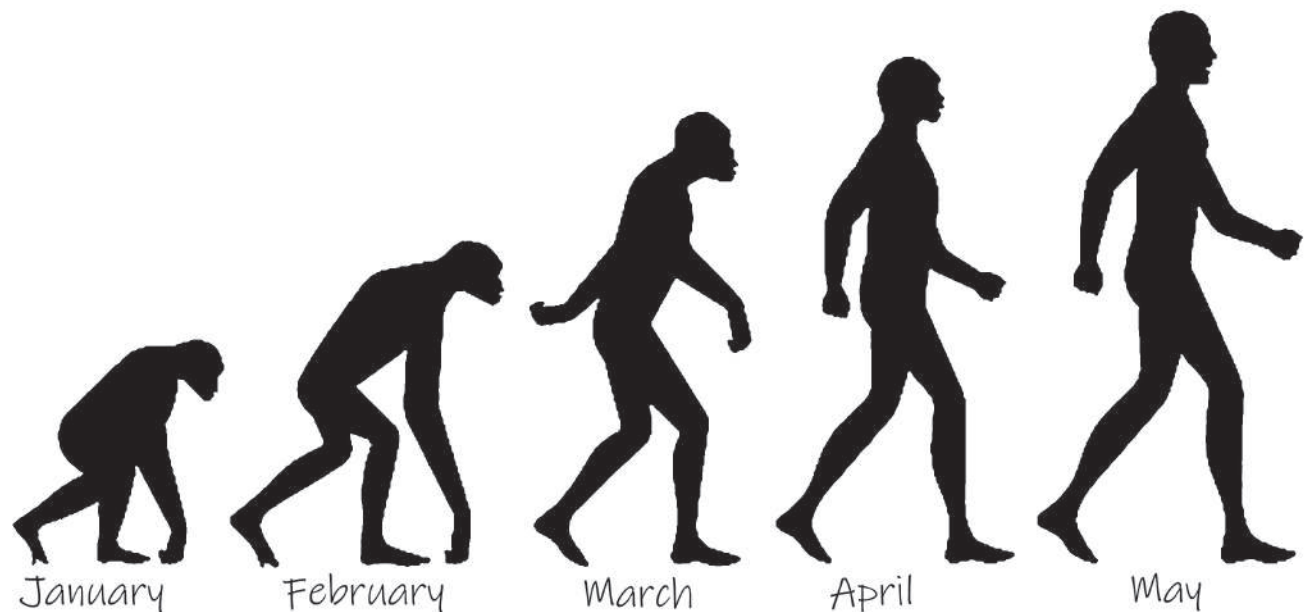
### Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON  
0757154767  
General line: 0745700710  
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

### Advertising

Mobile: 0677020701  
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz  
Website: www.ippmedia.com  
epaper.ippmedia.com

### Evolution of Year 2024



By Maina Muiruri

ILLEGAL, unreported, unregulated (IUU) fishing may be a term only well understood in blue economy spheres, but it poses a significant threat to marine ecosystems and coastal communities worldwide.

In East Africa, the vice has reached critical proportions, affecting the livelihoods of millions and threatening the sustainability of marine resources.

The waters off the coast of countries such as Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia and Mozambique are rich in biodiversity and economic potential, yet they are increasingly at risk from rampant IUU fishing activities.

IUU fishing encompasses a range of activities that violate national and international laws. It includes fishing without proper licences, failing to report catches, exceeding quotas, using prohibited gear and fishing in closed areas or during closed seasons.

In East Africa, the problem is exacerbated by the region's extensive coastline and limited capacity for surveillance and enforcement.

Several other inadequacies leave loopholes that make possible the extensive IUU fishing in East Africa.

**Weak Governance and Enforcement:** Many East African countries struggle with limited resources and weak governance structures, making it challenging to monitor and control fishing activities off their coastlines effectively.

Local and international corruption, perpetrated by the violators, and lack of political will, further undermine enforcement.

**High Demand for Seafood:** Both local and international demand

By Borges Nhamirre

ON 5 May, the ruling Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) chose Daniel Chapo, a 47-year-old lawyer, as its presidential candidate for the 9 October elections. He will likely be declared president, regardless of opposition candidates.

Frelimo controls State institutions and retains power through election irregularities and an uneven political playing field, in which the state-owned media, public servants, police and even the judiciary are forced to support the ruling party. If Chapo does succeed President Filipe Nyusi, he will be the second Mozambican president to rule without having been a Cabinet member (the first was Samora Machel in 1975).

His first challenge for the future president will be implementing a coherent, realistic strategy to address terrorism in Cabo Delgado, in the north of the country. The seven-year insurgency has killed 5,600 people and internally displaced over a

## Why illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing in East Africa must be tackled decisively

for seafood drive IUU fishing. Local communities rely heavily on fish for food and income, while international markets, particularly in Asia and Europe, create lucrative opportunities for illegal operators.

**Economic Incentives:** The high profits associated with IUU fishing attract both local fishers and foreign fleets. The cost of illegal fishing is often outweighed by the economic benefits, especially when the risk of detection and penalties is low.

**Lack of Effective Regional Cooperation:** While some regional initiatives exist, cooperation among East African countries is often insufficient. Differences in national policies and priorities hinder collaborative efforts to combat IUU fishing.

The negative impacts of IUU fishing include environmental degradation, as the practice leads to overfishing and the depletion of fish stocks.

It disrupts marine ecosystems, affecting biodiversity and the health of coral reefs and mangroves. Destructive fishing practices, such as the use of dynamite and cyanide, cause irreversible damage to habitats.

The economic loss to the countries affected suffer needs no emphasis. IUU fishing results in significant economic deprivation for East African countries in the line of violation.

Legal fishers face unfair competition, leading to reduced incomes and job losses. Governments lose revenue from taxes and fees, which could otherwise support sustainable

development initiatives.

Food insecurity affects many coastal communities where fish is a primary source of protein. The depletion of fish stocks due to IUU fishing threatens food security, particularly for vulnerable populations.

Social consequences such as loss of livelihoods and income resulting from IUU fishing exacerbate poverty and can lead to increased migration and social instability. They undermine traditional fishing practices and cultural heritage, affecting communities' cohesion.

Kenya has made some strides in addressing IUU fishing, including establishing a Coast Guard and increased regional cooperation. However, enforcement remains inconsistent and erratic, leaving illegal activities to persist, particularly in remote areas.

The waters off Somalia, which are among the richest fishing grounds in the region, are heavily targeted by illegal fishing fleets, primarily from powerful East Asian nations.

The absence of a stable government for many years has left the country's marine resources vulnerable to unchecked exploitation.

Tanzania also suffers under-resourced enforcement and has been cited in maritime research in the region for widespread use of illegal gear such as mono-filament nets, which are cheap and effective but highly destructive.

Blue economy experts have been pushing for the enhancement of the capacity of national and regional enforcement agencies to

include investing in surveillance technology, training personnel and implementing stricter penalties for violations.

Civil society groups working for community development have been underlining the need to adopt sustainable fishing practices through education and incentives to help reduce IUU fishing.

Community-based management and co-management approaches have shown promise in some areas. However, a key route to making it an international issue is greater international cooperation that includes sharing of information, harmonising regulations and supporting capacity-building initiatives among East African countries.

Implementing measures such as catch documentation schemes and certification programmes can help ensure that only legally caught fish enter international markets. Consumer awareness campaigns can also drive demand for sustainably sourced seafood.

Blue economy stakeholders are largely in agreement that addressing IUU fishing involves tackling its root causes, from governance and enforcement to market dynamics and international cooperation.

By taking decisive action, East African countries can protect their marine environments, support sustainable development and secure a better future for their coastal communities.

• **Maina Muiruri is a media consultant based in Nairobi, Kenya, who comments frequently on matters of blue economy.**

## Next Mozambique president faces urgent Cabo Delgado insurgency and insecurity focus

million.

The recent attack on the Macomia district headquarters – considered one of the most daring and sophisticated since the March 2021 attack on Palma – shows that the insurgents are still active and haven't been contained as the governments of Mozambique and Rwanda claim. Soldiers and police from Rwanda and the Southern African Development Community Mission in Mozambique (Samim) have been deployed to combat the insurgency since August 2021.

How the new president will respond is unclear. Experience suggests a high likelihood of discontinuity in the government's peace and security approach. But a change in leadership also presents opportunities to improve conflict resolution efforts.

Lack of policy continuity Since Frelimo took power in 1975,

new presidents have tended to abandon their predecessors' policies. Leaders bring entirely new ideas in a process enabled by the country's authoritarian regime. Parliament and the judiciary have no power over the president, so there are few checks and balances over the head of State's decisions. And influence groups that build up around the president often oppose predecessors' policies.

When Joaquim Chissano took over from Machel in 1986, Chissano abandoned Machel's radical military policy and negotiated peace with the Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo), ending the decade-long civil war. The fall of the Berlin Wall and end of apartheid in South Africa shaped Chissano's stance, but his personal decision was important.

His successor in 2005, Armando Guebuza, abandoned Chissano's policy of dialogue with Renamo and began persecuting its soldiers.

Renamo suspended the peace agreement and started a new military conflict.

When he took office in 2015, Nyusi, who was defence minister in Guebuza's government, discontinued the controversial \$2-billion maritime security project. The project to protect Mozambique's coastline by providing vessels, radars and other equipment was used toembezzle hundreds of millions of dollars from the State. However, some military and intelligence officials believe it could have reduced the risk of insurgents using the sea as a logistics trafficking route, including arms from Tanzania.

Nyusi did however resume negotiations with Renamo, leading to the 2019 Maputo Accord and enabling the disarmament and reintegration of Renamo fighters, which opened the way for more sustainable peace.



By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

# Agro-tech: Pupils equipped with modern farm management skills

**A**GRICULTURE is one of the important economic activities that help people to generate an income and food.

Statistic shows that the contribution of agriculture in the country's gross domestic product (GDP) from 2012 to 2022 was 28 percent. The current growth rate is a measly 2 per cent while the government's five year development plan projects the growth at 5.7 percent by 2025.

The relatively low contribution of the agricultural sector and high import of processed foods is partly associated with low engagement of youth in the agricultural sector which account for a large share of the labour force in the country.

According to the African Development Bank (AfDB) report of 2016, youth accounts for higher share of the country's active labour force (67 percent) and they are more likely to be unemployed.

The AfDB report suggests that if the jobless youth are empowered in the production sector like agriculture which employs a good number of people, Tanzania would feed the world as well as increased contribution to the national economy.

However, the government has been taking a number of initiatives to improve the sector whereas through the National Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP III), it has outlined ways to ensure a sustainable food system by 2030.

Among the priorities of the country's food and agriculture delivery compact are to enhance wheat production thus reduce the deficit by 90 percent. The improvements in wheat production would enable the government to save \$221 million used to import wheat.

It has also set a target to enhance sunflower production by 2025 whereas the target is producing 3 million tonnes. The move is expected to ensure reliable supply of edible oil. A 40 percent increase in horticulture production to 7,560,010 tonnes as well as increasing production of meat and other livestock related products such as hides and milk.

To address the various challenges in the agricultural sector, the government through The Ministry of Agriculture, launched the 'Kilimo ni Biashara'-Agenda 10/30 in 2022 aiming to attain an impressive 10 percent annual growth rate for the sector that is the livelihood for some 65 percent of Tanzanians. The target is to be met by 2030.

'Kilimo Biashara'-Agenda 10/30 aims at transforming agriculture (crop sub-sector) whereas it has to grow by 10 percent by 2030.

The Building a Better Tomorrow - Youth Agribusiness (BBT-YIA) initiative also aims to promote Tanzanian youth engagement in agribusiness for sustainable and



Pupils from four primary schools in Tanga Region demonstrate how to apply agro-tech in farming without affecting the environment. Photo: Cheji Bakari

improved livelihoods.

It intends to inspire youth through implementation of behaviour, attitude changing, communication strategy that would rebrand agriculture and make it more appealing to youths, empower youth through training, mentoring and coaching and other interventions that would impart necessary skills for employment or management of their own agribusiness.

In Tanga, the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics centre (STEM Park) organized a four-day scientific hands-on-work training that brought together 80 primary school pupils to learn on agro-ecology best practices. The pupils were from Kisosora, Nguvumali, Changa and Chumbageni primary schools.

The training based on innovation activities on how smart farming technologies could be the solution to achieve Tanzania's set agriculture compact initiatives through the application of digital technology, modern scientific technologies as well as digitalized and data -empowered agriculture.

The pupils demonstrated on how strategic interventions supports, increasing research and innovative investments thus bring best production results.

The training was conducted by STEM Park in collaboration with Project Inspire and Jenga Hub with support from the Rotary Club of Tanga. Pupils alongside with their teachers were trained on how to improve agriculture and increase crop production despite climate change impacts.

The imparted technologies included the use of Internet of Things (IoT) and other digital technologies to feed communities by improving crop production without affecting other water users when both farmers and animals use the same source of water.

Max George, STEM Park manager stated applying technology in agriculture would ultimately boost productivity whereas the use of sensors in measuring moisture in the soil and proper use of electricity in pumping water would help in reducing cost.

"We have brought pupils from different environments for

purposes of ensuring they share knowledge and skills as they are future farmers. We are doing all these because we are aware that the government is investing in youth and wants them to fully engage in the sector after college," he added.

George stated that pupils were given chances to practically apply modern hands -on- activities through participatory methods.

"Pupils have imparted with skills and knowledge on how to use digital technologies, data -driven insights to improve decision making and eventually elevate the sector which is expected to be one of the more attractive job to younger generations.

# Desire for prosperity: Need for Tanzanians to work harder as government sets good policies, strategies

By Thomas Lyimo

**T**HE powerful institution in the country which citizens believe it can bring changes and development is the government. Due to the conviction and hope that citizens retain, the government is always criticized when there are some matters which trouble citizens. With the freedom of expression which the constitution guarantees a lot is spoken which may or may not be valid.

It becomes the task of the government to filter what the public says and work on those feasible suggestions so that it can enhance prosperity among the people. It must enable individuals to own the means of production so that they can push forward the development of the country.

When citizens do not have economic agenda to pursue, it is when they become vagabonds loitering in the streets aimlessly causing underdevelopment by wasting the very precious resource which is time. Therefore there must be some efforts by the government to make people work for their development. If people are not made to work sufficiently the government can be wrongly accused.

The government has managed to come up with very good economic strategies to push the economy forward but what is missing is follow-up. A good example is the law which prohibits taking of alcohol before 3 pm. The challenge is big in rural areas where selling of alcohol to some people has become the formal means of earning the daily bread.

Among the indicators of development and civilization is self-discipline which is taught at home and school since a person is young but the problem is when a person is above 18 years of age where he is regarded as capable of self-control and hence the society no longer bother with their conducts.

As learning and evaluation of learning outcomes should be permanent process for positive results to be seen, the task of enhancing discipline should be permanent until a person dies. After parents and teachers have tried their level best to discipline individuals the government should continue with this task so that the country's development goals can be met.

Good policies like this of prohibiting taking alcohol before 3pm should be accompanied by some strategies which will enable individuals utilize properly the time they gave to alcoholism. There must be an alternative because the aim of government must be enhancing economic production.

But if people are prohibited from taking alcohol during working hours and there is no any follow-up on how they use the created time after the prohibition, some may buy alcohols and use at home where they may be safe from the law. What should be done? The government should put emphasis on the fol-



lowing areas so as to enhance promising future for Tanzanians and make other policies she has created effective one of them being denial to take alcohol before 3pm.

One of the areas where the government should put emphasis is encouraging cultivation of permanent crops. Permanent crops such as coffee, sisal and fruit plants provide permanent work opportunity in farms.

There are some individuals who loiter in streets because they do not have permanent place of work. Putting emphasis on cultivation of permanent crops may enable individuals to use the created time due to enacting of some laws properly. When people are prohibited from doing something they need to be directed on what they are supposed to do instead.

Another area to be considered by the government in order to boost the development of people is building a reading culture among the people. The government has set for instance a very low fee of 10,000Tz for someone to use library services for the

whole year. Despite this low fee when someone visits its regional libraries he will find very few individuals reading who are mainly young learners and few adult learners who read as requirement by the learning institutions that they are studying in. For the libraries to have impact to the Tanzanians the services should be extended to normal citizens. People should be educated on importance of reading. The target should be those people outside the school system. When the government leads knowledgeable people no more unnecessary criticism arises.

Also the government needs to encourage the culture of doing physical exercises among people so as to enhance socio-economic development. It is healthy individuals who can work well for their development. Health which is being free from diseases is enhanced by boosting the body immunity through regular exercising. We are advised that prevention is better than cure. Good health among the people will help to reduce the dependence ratio as people work for themselves.

Again the government is obliged to encourage individuals to join socio-economic groups such as Village Community Banks (VICOBA) and Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies SACCOS in order to boost their economic strides.

Unlike banks, these VICOBA and SACCOS have terms and conditions which are more affordable to normal citizens and hence more assurance of success in the individuals' undertakings. Development is the result of industrious individuals who need capital to effectively and efficiently run their activities.

For the future of Tanzanians to be promising the government needs to create a resilient society. People should be ready to work hard for their current and future development. Self-reliance can only be built if people are determined and ready to work hard. Our today's actions will prepare our tomorrow. The government is obliged to show us the way.

**The author is a teacher based in Moshi. He can be reached at [lyimo.thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:lyimo.thomas@yahoo.com)**



By Ione Wells

“I came here with just the clothes on my back. Nothing, nothing at all,” says 71-year-old Albertina Simonetti.

She is one of about 6,000 people now living in a university sports hall in Brazil's southernmost state - Rio Grande do Sul.

It has been converted into a shelter for those whose homes have been destroyed in the worst floods in the state's history, which have killed more than 150 people, displaced more than 600,000 and left whole cities underwater.

People are sleeping on mattresses on the cold and crowded floor.

Albertina says she saw 50 helicopters fly over the roof of her house before a boat finally rescued her family.

She is with her husband, four of her sons and two of her grandchildren in the shelter.

Her son, Luiz, spoke of his home: “We couldn't save anything because it was so fast.”

Luiz's family were waiting for help on the third floor of their neighbour's house while it filled up with water.

“The helicopters didn't come to help us,” he says.

“Then on Saturday night they came. But it was late at night, raining, there was a lot of water, the streets were very full, you could no longer see any houses - it was quite scary.

“The future is worrying, what will become of us?” They are among those who have at least made it out.

Many people are still stranded, or in some cases are choosing not to leave because they are afraid their flooded homes will be robbed.

But, as Luiz and Albertina describe, the rescue operations are fraught with danger too.

At a firefighter base in Porto Alegre, Ricardo Mattei, the city's military firefighter chief, points at an aerial photograph he took from a recent rescue operation.

He tells me there used to be fifty homes and now there is only one.

It's a small patch of land that is now entirely underwater.

All the homes but one have been entirely washed away leaving just fragments of their white frames, like skeletons, floating in the water.

“On one day, this aircraft saved 120 people from the roofs of houses,” he says, gesturing to the helicopter behind him.

With many roads underwater or flooded it is currently the only way of delivering food and aid to people still trapped and of transporting people to hospital - but it's not without its risks too.

He shows us another video of two people standing on a roof of an underwater house waiting to be rescued before the house collapses into the brown water, saying it is “very dangerous” both for the people trapped and his team.

We join the military firefighters in one helicopter rescue operation to pick up an 89-year-old woman who has had a stroke and take her to a hospital.

From the sky the scale of the damage is evident.

Whole towns and large, urban city centres are in some cases almost completely underwater.

Swathes of agricultural land are ruined - which brings more economic damage ahead.

The elderly patient picked up by rescuers, Odilia Faustina Marques, was in an area which would be impossible to exit by ambulance in time.

It is near a lake which had just flooded the roads of its neighbouring towns.

Her son, Nilo José Vieira Marques, took her to a local medical centre at 08:00 local time.

Rescuers only reached her at around midday - much longer than you should leave it after a stroke.

“It's much easier to take a helicopter than to take an ambulance, which struggle a lot with these floods,” Nilo says at the scene.

“With people dying in the waters, dogs dying, horses dying, everyone dying in the water - that's what we didn't want. We managed to save my mother.”

After dropping her at a better medical centre, the weather turns bad again. The pilots cannot see a thing. Rain hammers down against the roof of the helicopter as we navigate through the storm clouds.

After we land, further rescue flights are called off for the day.

On the ground, volunteers from around the country - not just fire-fighters, military, police and doctors - try by any means to continue delivering aid to those trapped in flooded homes.

Some we speak to are using jet skis to travel across a strip of land which was once a field for festivals with an amphitheatre but is now an extension of the river.

# Inside the dangerous rescue for Brazil's victims of floods



Albertina, her family and 6,000 other people are now sheltering in this sports hall

Many of the emergency services seem frustrated. The medic who treated the elderly woman says the world hasn't prepared for the changing climate and doesn't seem to care about, in her words, the impact on “poorer countries”.

Others manage to maintain hope even through this adversity.

When we said goodbye to Albertina at the shelter, she held onto me with a very tight, prolonged grip - the hold of someone who has had to let go of so much.

But she says aid from volunteers, and crocheting clothes at the shelter to help others, has helped her.

“I was very sad,” Albertina tells me. “I didn't even sleep for five nights. But after I saw that it seemed like everyone was going to help us I slept.”

“So, I'm not worried because I see that we're going to have everything. I think I'm not worried anymore.”

As we drive away, the neighbourhoods people have fled from are visible from the side of the road.

Only the roofs of most houses are still visible above the water. Most are totally destroyed.

Hope of returning to, and rebuilding, their lives soon is the branch people like Albertina are gripping onto tightly, but the stark reality here suggests that could still be a long way off.



Volunteers from around the country are joining the rescue and aid effort

## 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 KIPIMIA 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



# Rising temperatures now drive HWC in Zimbabwe

By Ignatius Banda, Bulawayo

RISING temperatures are being blamed for an increase in human-wildlife conflicts in Zimbabwe as animals such as snakes leave their natural habitat earlier than usual.

High temperatures have also given rise to early fire seasons, driving wild animals into human-populated areas, authorities say, placing the lives of many in danger in a country with already compromised health services.

This is also happening at a time when agencies such as the World Health Organization are highlighting the link between climate change and health and calling for increased research.

Globally, unprecedented high temperatures are being blamed for devastating wildfires, and low income African countries such as Zimbabwe that are bearing the brunt of climate change have not been spared.

At the beginning of the year, Zimbabwe's health ministry reported a spike in the number of snake bites as snakes moved into areas inhabited by humans.

Residents witnessing the upsurge of snakes within residential areas say this has coincided with extreme heat being experienced across the country, while snake catchers in the country's cities are also recording booming business.

Wildlife authorities say disappearing natural habitat for wildlife has led to increasing endangerment for humans, while climate researchers have noted a link be-

tween rising temperatures and snake attacks.

The Zimbabwe National Parks and Wildlife Authority (Zimparks) says brumation, the period snakes spend in hibernation, has been shortened by extended, unusually high temperatures as snakes move from their hiding places earlier than during normal seasonal temperatures.

Shorter winters and longer days have also become normal in a rapidly changing global climate, researchers note, forcing wildlife to adapt and, in some circumstances, move to human-populated areas.

This has led to a record number of snake bites, says Tinashé Farawo, the parks and wildlife spokesperson.

High temperatures in Zimbabwe are also being blamed for extended fire seasons as dry conditions provide ideal conditions for the spread of veld fires.

And as the veld fires spread, dangerous wildlife such as snakes seek safety elsewhere, further endangering the lives of humans, Zimparks officials say.

Affected communities, however, find themselves in a fix regarding how to deal with this climate driven phenomenon.

It is a punishable offence in Zimbabwe to kill wildlife and protected snake species even when humans feel their lives are threatened, highlighting the impact and complexity of climate change on biodiversity and ecological balance.

"As ecosystems change, people and wildlife roam farther in search



Dry conditions and extreme heat are changing natural wildlife habitat and behaviour.

of food, water and resources. The issue of human-wildlife conflict in Zimbabwe is increasingly gaining traction," said Washington Zhakata, climate change management director in the environment ministry.

"Rising temperatures are affecting vegetation, food sources, access to water and much more. Ecosystems are gradually becoming uninhabitable for certain animals, forcing wildlife to migrate outside of their usual patterns in search of food and liveable conditions," Zhakata told IPS.

Zimbabwe has in recent months registered record high temperatures that have affected everything from crops to people's health, at a time when global temperatures have also soared, triggering a raft of environmental, social, economic, and health challenges.

Researchers have noted that global warming has over the year's disrupted biodiversity, forcing wildlife to move to more habitable regions, and, in the process, upsetting natural ecosystems.

"In many parts of sub-Saharan Africa, during periods of drought, people and their livestock are competing with wildlife for diminishing resources," said

Nikhil Advani, senior director of wildlife and climate resilience at the World Wildlife Fund.

Amid the challenges brought by climatic shifts, experts say improved interventions are needed to navigate increasing human-wildlife conflict.

Despite all evidence, least-developed countries such as Zimbabwe have struggled to mobilize and channel resources towards climate management programmes, exposing both humans and wildlife to open conflict.

"There are a number of interventions that can help mitigate human-wildlife conflict, for example, predator-proof bomas (safe areas) and early warning systems for wild animals in the area. One key thing is that communities need to see the benefits of living with wildlife," Advani said.

While Zimbabwe has the Communal Areas Management for Indigenous Resources (CAMPFIRE) aimed at helping address issues such as human-wildlife conflict, broader issues that include the impact of climate change on ecology remain unaddressed, affected communities say.

"Initiatives like eco-tourism are an excellent way for communities to see the benefits of living with wildlife, as long as the tourism ventures have strong inclusion of local communities throughout the value chain," Advani added.

With climate researchers warning that the globe will continue warming, concerns linger about the long-term impact of climate change on human-wildlife conflict as communities struggle to normalize cohabiting with dangerous animals.

"Already today we face an exponential increase, compared to 30 years ago, in climate and weather-related natural disasters. These disasters are causing catastrophic loss of life and habitat for people, pets, and wildlife," Zhakata said.

# Farmers laud African heads for ban on donkey slaughter business

By Ann Salaton

DONKEY stakeholders have celebrated the decision by the African Heads of State to ban the slaughter of donkeys in the continent for the next 15 years.

The stakeholders drawn from Narok, Nakuru, Baringo, and Nyandarua counties who met at Uhuru Market in Narok town to commemorate the Donkey Welfare Day said the ban was a big gain for donkey farmers.

Dr Benson Kibore, the Director of Farming System Kenya, recognised a donkey as a precious animal as it helps improve livelihoods for people living in rural areas.

The ban that was adopted at the 37th African Union (AU) Summit held in Ethiopia on February 18 this year was aimed at ensuring the welfare and sustenance of communities across Africa who depend on donkeys.

The director said the population of donkeys was dwindling, but with the new directive, the numbers of the beast of burden are expected to rise again.

"Donkeys in this region will have enhanced protection following the new directive. The Donkeys in Africa will have enhanced protection from the devastating donkey skin trade, which was very rampant," he said.

Dr Kibore called on donkey farmers to form groups where they can articulate the issues affecting them as well as benefit from training from his organisation.

Dr Benard Njau from the Narok Veterinary Department said the ban was a major

achievement for the Africans who use the donkey to transport their goods through impassable roads.

Dr Njau said any person transporting a donkey should have a permit, meaning no donkey should be seen moving from one county to another without a movement permit.

"Currently, the director of veterinary services has stopped the issuance of movement permits for donkeys so as to curb the animals' trade. This will help the population of donkeys to continue increasing," he said.

The veterinary officer said all animals have a right to be guarded, saying any person who mistreats a donkey should be arrested and prosecuted in court.

"A donkey should not be canned because it also has its rights. There is no time when this animal should feel pain. You should train

your animal so that it can receive instructions without being mistreated," he reminded.

Narok Central Assistant County Commissioner Ali Shakur reiterated that they are keen on ensuring the movement of donkeys and the sale of donkey meat are not conducted in the county.

"In the 2009 census report, the population of donkeys in Kenya was 1.8 million. The number decreased in 2019, and it could further decrease if the ban is not imposed by the African leaders," he said.

Director of Programmes, Brookes East Africa, Elijah Mithigi, said his organisation supports donkey farmers to improve their livelihoods by training them to diversify their source of income.

During the celebrations, over 300 donkeys, dogs, and cats were vaccinated against tetanus and rabies free of charge.

Margaret Wambui, a donkey farmer from Baringo County, said many people who are not formally employed have been helped by a donkey to gain a livelihood.

"Before, we would send our girls to fetch water in faraway places, which was not safe for them, but things have changed in modern days as we use a donkey to go to the river to bring enough water that can run for many days," she said.

Another farmer, Margaret Mpatiany, thanked the government for putting initiatives in place to protect the beast of burden and challenged the farmers to also collaborate with the authority to report any suspicious person who buys donkeys for slaughter.

"During seasons of heavy rainfall, the elderly, sick, and children were being transported by donkeys to move from flooded places to safer grounds because no vehicle could access the area," he said.











AI: Navigating the future of marketing landscape – Part 4

Page 14



Bank of Kigali utilises golf to unite executives worldwide

Page 14



Govt urges telecom firms to invest in remote areas

Page 15

# Africa's accountants, financial experts confident on economic recovery

By Guardian Reporter

ACCOUNTANTS and finance professionals are more confident in the global economy than they have been since Q2 2023.

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and Institute of Management Accountants' Global Economic Conditions Survey (GECS) released over the weekend has shown a moderate increase in confidence to put the index just above its historical average.

Add in small increases to the New Orders and Employment indices – both of which are slightly above their averages – and a positive picture emerges of a gradually improving economic outlook.

The survey shows there was a small decline in the Capital Expenditure Index, which remains below average.

In Africa, the Confidence Index improved slightly in Q1, after a

very sharp fall previously and is moderately below its historical average.

New orders rose moderately and are materially above their average.

On a less positive note, there were large declines in both the Capital Expenditure and Employment indices, which are at quite low levels by historical standards.

Overall, the Confidence and New Orders indices are indicative of a broadly reasonable backdrop for the region, although the Capital Expenditure and Employment indices point to significant caution among firms.

Jamil Ampomah, Director – Africa at ACCA said, 'Any improvements in the global economy would clearly be beneficial to our region. The beginning of monetary easing by the major central banks, particularly the US Federal Reserve, would be helpful too, by easing global financial conditions and reducing currency depreciation pressures. However, geopolitical developments remain a major downside risk.'

Globally, there were gains in confidence in most regions.

The rise in Asia Pacific was the third



Jamil Ampomah, Director, ACCA– Africa

largest on record and may reflect growing confidence in the resilience of the US economy, signs of improvement in the Chinese data and wider global economy, and perhaps rising optimism that Japan may finally be exiting from its decades long battle against deflation.

The moderate rise in confidence in Western Europe also suggests that growth may be gradually improving from the weakness of recent quarters.

On a less positive note, global concerns about increased operating costs rose, although they remain below their Q3 2022 peak.

Interestingly, concerns about costs eased again in the advanced economies of North America and Western Europe while remaining elevated by historical standards. By contrast, cost concerns rose noticeably in Africa, Asia Pacific, and South Asia.

Additionally, Q1 2024 responses from the Global Risks Survey section of the GECS report demonstrate how the ripple effects of economic uncertainty have been exacerbated by rising geopolitical and talent scarcity challenges.

Respondents across all sectors and regions said that they are feeling the impact of talent retention risks, with numerous respondents describing the skills shortage as an epidemic.

Cyber-security is also viewed as a significant threat, especially with advancements in generative AI making ransomware and other cyber-crimes increasingly easier and quicker

to carry out.

Jonathan Ashworth, Chief Economist, ACCA, said: 'The survey points to some improvement in global growth. Nevertheless, while encouraging, it is no time to celebrate just yet, with the global economy facing many risks and challenges and still set for below average growth in 2024. Moreover, the elevated level of concerns about costs suggests that the major central banks should proceed very cautiously with any monetary easing.'

Susie Duong, Senior Director of research and thought leadership at IMA, said:

'The continued improvement in confidence in North America, and the rise in the other indicators, likely reflects growing optimism that the US economy is on course for a 'soft landing' or perhaps no landing at all in 2024.

That would clearly be welcome news for businesses, although it means we are likely to see less monetary easing by the Federal Reserve this year than investors expected a few months ago'.

## Four reasons financial wellness is important in the workplace

By Henry Albrecht

TRADITIONAL views of wellness focus on exercise and nutrition. And frankly, if everyone ate and exercised perfectly, life would be better for all of us. But counting steps, joining exercise challenges and eating healthy lunches are so much harder when we're stressed about money. It's time to take a look at the relationship between financial wellness and overall well-being.

Here are a few reasons why financial wellness is a critical part of employee well-being:

### Finances are a major stressor.

Work isn't the only thing stressing employees out – money can be a huge source of anxiety. In a 2015 PwC survey of working adults in the US, 45 percent of respondents said dealing with their finances is stressful.

For some, money can be a constant source of stress. In fact, a 2015 report conducted by the American Psychological Association (APA) found that 72 percent of adults feel stressed about money at least some of the time, and 22 percent experience extreme financial stress. When it's extreme, health suffers. Some respondents said they thought about skipping or actually did skip doctor visits be-

cause of financial concerns.

The same APA study found that those in lower-income households with extreme financial stress are more likely to engage in unhealthy behaviors to manage that stress. Think watching TV for hours, ice cream binging and drinking one too many to manage that stress.

We know that chronic stress is unhealthy on its own, but financial stress multiplies the impact. People may avoid health investments to save money.

### Managing finances takes time.

Managing finances isn't just stressful, it's time-consuming. Without control of their financial health, employees bring their worries into the workplace. In fact, 37 percent of those surveyed by PwC said they spend three or more hours at work each week thinking about their personal finances.

Some employees even miss work due to money woes, according to a SHRM survey in June 2014. Among HR pros surveyed, 37 percent indicated that employees had missed work because of a financial emergency. And another study published by Rand in 2015 found that lack of sleep, financial concerns and taking care of family members are negatively associated



with productivity.

Stress is distracting – and when employees worry about their financial wellness, they lose focus and are less productive in the office.

### Employees want support.

Employees feel the burden of all this stress, and they want their employers to help support financial wellness. Although the SHRM study found 81 percent of HR professionals said they provide retirement planning to their employees, a majority don't provide credit score monitoring or financial literacy training.

But employees, especially those just out of college, want financial planning benefits.

In a 2015 survey of employees published by Quantum Workplace and my company, Limeade – almost 40 percent of employees younger than 25 said they wanted their employer to provide these benefits. Employees who feel stress from money

issues are looking for help to improve their financial wellness.

Financial wellness improves engagement.

In our study, 71 percent of employees surveyed said they want standard-of-living raises – but only 31 percent of employers provide them as financial benefits. I'm a big fan of market – and merit-based pay – but employers should be aware of cost-of-living realities, especially for lower-paid employees.

Cost-of-living adjustments account for increased living expenses due to inflation. They may alleviate stress and allow more work focus. When you give employees these raises, they're 15 percent more engaged, on average.

Providing financial benefits also shows employees that the organization cares about them as individuals, inspiring loyalty and motivation. When employees feel their employers care about their health and well-being, they're 38 percent more engaged.

Investing in financial wellness boosts the overall well-being of employees, increasing their health, productivity and engagement.

**Henry Albrecht (pictured) is the founder and CEO of Limeade, the corporate wellness technology company that measurably improves employee health, well-being and performance. You can connect with Henry on social media.**

## Google, Rwanda all out to promote culture, art

KIGALI

HAVE you ever wondered where in this era of misinformation, one would get authentic information that tells the Rwandan story accompanied with images? Or where one would see heritage objects that show our identity that we didn't even know existed?

In a partnership between the Rwanda Cultural Heritage Academy (RCHA) and Google Arts & Culture, a platform with all this, and more, digitized, was created.

Launched on May 17 at the Rwanda Art Museum (former presidential palace), the Rwanda Cultural Heritage Academy gallery will also be an opportunity for visual artists to showcase their talents, giving demonstrations through images, videos, as well as 360 captures.

'This is a milestone for us who work in preserving the culture and heritage, but especially Rwanda. It will help us preserve and promote our heritage and culture. The platform currently consists of past exhibitions on the history of Rwanda, visuals of museums and heritage sites, and exhibitions that promote art and craft in Rwanda,' Chantal Umuhoza, who is in charge of exhibitions at RCHA told the media.

She added that alongside these exhibitions, there are also photos of objects that haven't been at public display. She said: 'Many people who visit museums have access to exhibitions, but are not lucky enough to visit the reserves. This project gives authentic information on Rwanda's culture and heritage, and what is most interesting is that it will be accessible by everyone all over the world.'

Alex Okosi, the Managing Director at Google Africa said that this milestone is important for Rwandans because it shares their culture to them, as well as the rest of the world who would wish to know it.

'The world gets to see the rich culture and the beauty of Rwanda. If I am Rwandan, there is nothing that will give me greater pride than to know that the world now understands my culture from whatever corner they are,' he noted.

Jemima Kakizi, artist and curator, who has been advocating for women in the art sector, told 'The New Times' that being on Google Arts and Culture, also from RCHA also means that you are an established artist or known in your country, which can give you more opportunities.

'When you see someone on that platform, you know this is someone credible. It will also increase our visibility. There is growth in the digital art scene and I am happy that even women artists have an article on the platform,' she added.

The project started in 2021, but its implementation was implemented from 2022. So far, 58 stories and 1,500 photos have been

## Iran president's death, Saudi king's health see oil climb

SINGAPORE

OIL prices extended gains on Monday amid political uncertainty in major producing countries after Iran's president died in a helicopter crash and Saudi Arabia's crown prince cancelled a trip to Japan, citing issues with the king's health.

Brent crude futures gained 25 cents, or 0.3 percent, to \$84.24 a barrel, after rising to \$84.43 earlier, the highest level since May 10.

US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude for June was up 15 cents to \$80.21 a barrel, after hitting \$80.35 earlier, the highest since May 1. The June contract expires on Tuesday, and the more-active July contract was at \$79.78, also paring earlier gains.

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, a hardliner long seen as a potential successor to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, was killed in a helicopter crash in mountainous terrain near the Azerbaijan border, officials and state media said on Monday.

Separately, Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman postponed his visit to Japan, scheduled to begin on Monday, because of a health issue with his father King Salman, said Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi.

Saudi Arabia's state news agency on Sunday reported that 88-year-old King Salman will undergo treatment for lung inflammation.

'If the father's health is failing, it adds to the layer of uncertainty already circling energy markets this morning following the news that the Iranian President is missing,' IG Markets analyst Tony Sycamore said.

He added that WTI prices may rebound further toward \$83.50 after rising above the 200-day moving average of \$80.02.

'I do think there are enough reasons out there for this to happen, more so when you factor in China property measures announced last week, including relaxing mortgage rules, lowering deposits, and buying unsold

homes,' Sycamore said.

Brent ended the previous week up about 1 percent, its first weekly gain in three weeks, while WTI rose 2 percent on improved economic indicators from the US and China, the world's largest oil consumers.

Despite the volatility in the region, oil prices moved only slightly.

'The oil market remains largely rangebound and without any fresh catalyst we will likely have to wait for clarity around OPEC+ output policy in order to break out of this range,' said Warren Patterson, head of commodities strategy at ING.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies, together called OPEC+, are scheduled to meet on June 1.

'The market also appears increasingly numb to developments on the geopolitical front, likely due to the large amount of spare capacity OPEC is sitting on,' Patterson said.

Saul Kavonic, an energy analyst at MST Marquee, said the market and in-



Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz

dustry were already accustomed to Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman's leadership in the energy sector. 'Continuity in Saudi strategy is expected regardless of this health issue,' he added.

In the United States, Washington took advantage of the recent drop in oil prices, saying late last week it had bought 3.3 million barrels of oil at \$79.38 a barrel to help refill its Strategic Petroleum Reserve after a massive sale from the stockpile in 2022.



# AI: Navigating the future of marketing landscape – Part 4

Continued...

WILL that creative space be taken though? No, but you need to at least get on the job training, go to school to upgrade your knowledge on the matter at hand via training or some esthetic talent building. The creativity part in you, it's not going anywhere. Can it help? Oh yes it can. For example, you can talk to ChatGPT 4 this minute as a creative and you can ask it some questions that will inspire you to do things differently. You can also ask it to mash things up that you can sort of see in your head or mind to materialize or morph into a sort of a concept. It can give you that niche of an idea to build your creative on. That is what we call a gold nugget. That is how people communicate, and if you communicate with a large language model the same way, it will give you feedback. Yes, sometimes good and sometimes not good which is where your subject matter expertise is the most important part of the equation.

There is a saying, if you don't know what you're looking at, then you definitely don't know but if you know what you're looking at, you're ahead of the curve. What about copywriting and copywriters, aren't their jobs at stake? As we saw last year, copywriters, storywriters etc. from Hollywood and other parts of the world have been demonstrating against AI. Many of them have lost their jobs to AI. I was fortunate to have met a young man from an agency from the western hemisphere and he mentioned that, in their agency they have reduced the number of writers that they had. A reduction of upto 80% of their writers. I can imagine a lot of people are now scared of losing their jobs to AI. He also mentioned that a lot of blue chip companies have been eliminating the role of Chief Marketing Officer (CMO), the likes of Starbucks, Johnson & Johnson, Craft and so forth. The reasons are very different, but I won't go into detail on that.

## DIGITAL MARKETING

### Alley Mbatya



That coupled with the creation of synthetic human as mentioned earlier, leaves me to wonder, is it possible to create a synthetic CMO? Generally, if you look at the role in a Marketing organization of a global CMO. If you break-up the key functions of a CMO say between, "the key decision-making points in the organization" and "the executional points in the organization". "Where there are executional points in the organization, yes, they can be automated", so the organization can be streamlined, he said.

Cultural leadership now is more important than it has ever been, because when you teach someone to do something in three hours that maybe used to take 30 days. That someone does not want to move on to the next project without getting paid. A good example, the Chief Executive Officer at his agency writes a thought leadership memo on the company's newsletter every day or every morning for about 45 minutes just after getting up from bed around 6 am in the morning. Then sends it to a proofreader for verification. With the advent of Di Vinci 3 which is pre-cursor to ChatGPT 3.5 so as soon as he got the API to this, his time to finish the thought leadership memo reduced from 45 minutes to 15 minutes. Less than half an hour a day, five hours a week that his saving which is 2 hours a week of his time and life saved. His 3 hours on Saturday on the memo went down to about 45 minutes. His getting back 5 hours a week of his life. 5 hours a week into a whole year, that is

basically a full month of productivity measured and returned back. That's just one task of the many tasks he needs to complete in a day as a leader.

If you look at that on a marketing perspective and say, where can I take my best people and crush it down. As a leader you need to ask yourself, how will you fiscally, psychologically and socially incentivize them to do much more work. They will be doing the work of two people with these basic tools.

Most people in organizations will hate these tools. Why? well nobody wants to work more for less, nobody wants to do more basically, and people are afraid if they demonstrate that they can do more for less will either be burdened with it because no one is leading them to believe otherwise. Therefore, these tools also need a narrative to the stakeholders and the board members that this is a new error with a need for a new cultural understanding and a new social, psychological and business contract that needs to be made with the workforce. This is an augmented workforce. We now have AI co-workers and their capable of things humans are not. They will do things humans cannot do or do things humans can do and at a speed humans cannot match. We've had advances in technology, and we've lived through it before.

*Alley Mbatya (pictured) is the digital marketing expert based in Dar es Salaam*

# Traversing the regulatory maze: Unlocking Tanzania's compliance, governance terrain

By Ruwaida Manji

IN Tanzania, the symbiotic relationship between adherence to compliance measures and governance practices lays the foundation for a flourishing business landscape. In the pursuit of attracting investments and nurturing sustainable economic growth, businesses operating within the country must prioritize an in-depth understanding and strict adherence to legal prerequisites.

This article aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the pivotal compliance requirements essential for businesses in Tanzania, with a specific focus on crucial certificates and licenses, encompassing both pre- and post-incorporation stages for maintaining lawful operations within the Tanzanian jurisdiction.

**Pre-Incorporation Requirements:**

**Certificate of Incorporation/Certificate of Compliance:** When establishing a local company, obtaining a Certificate of Incorporation is requisite, while branches need to apply for a Certificate of Compliance with the Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA).

**TIN Certificate:** Subsequent to BRELA approval, businesses are obligated to procure a Tax Identification Number (TIN) Certificate from the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) within 15 days of commencing operations. Furthermore, a Tax Clearance Certificate from TRA is obligatory for business license applications, attesting to compliance with tax laws.

**Business License:** Every entity must possess a valid business license to conduct operations in Tanzania, issued by either the Ministry for Industry and Trade (Licensing Department) or Local Government Authorities.

**Value Added Tax Certificate:** Mandatory registration for Value Added Tax (VAT) is triggered when business surpasses an annual taxable turnover exceeding 200m/-.

**Post-Incorporation Requirements:** Certificates from Occupational,



Safety, and Health Authority, Workers' Compensation Fund and Fire Safety: Ensuring workplace safety mandates factory or workplace owners to register and obtain a Compliance License from the Occupational, Safety, and Health Authority. Employers are compelled to register with the Workers' Compensation Fund within 30 days of hiring the first employee. A prominently displayed Certificate of Registration ensures equitable compensation for occupational injuries or diseases. Issued by the Fire Rescue Force, the Fire Safety Certificate grants permission for facility use following inspection, guaranteeing safety and non-hazardous conditions

**Sector Licenses:** Specific licenses from relevant government authorities or ministries are requisite for sectors such as banking, mining, construction, telecommunications, and aviation. These sector licenses are prerequisites for obtaining the general business license.

**Ongoing Compliance Obligations:** Annual Return Filing at BRELA: Companies in Tanzania are required to file annual returns with BRELA to ensure that the company's information is up to date.

**Tax Filings at TRA:** Regular and accurate tax filings with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) are crucial to maintain compliance with tax laws and regulations.

**Renewal of Business Licenses and Sectoral Licenses:** Business licenses need to be renewed periodically, and adherence to renewal timelines is essential to avoid legal complications. Sector-specific licenses must be renewed as per the regulations of the respective sectors to ensure continued lawful operations.

**Other Ongoing Compliance Matters:** This includes adherence to labor laws, environmental regulations, and any other industry-specific compliance requirements.

In Tanzania, the amalgamation of compliance and governance is indispensable for cultivating a business environment characterized by integrity, transparency, and responsible conduct. Businesses committed to both legal compliance and sound governance practices not only shield themselves against legal risks but also position for enduring success within Tanzania's dynamic business ecosystem.

*Ruwaida Manji is an Associate Corporate at Rive & Co, a law firm known for its commitment to trust, credibility, and innovation in providing top-tier legal services. This article is for informational purposes only. For personalized legal advice, consult a qualified professional.*

# Bank of Kigali utilises golf to unite executives worldwide

KIGALI

BANK of Kigali (BK) is using Golf as a corporate sporting discipline to bring business executives, both local and international, in an attempt to tap into each other's expertise through cordial relationship.

Regarded as the premier banking institution in Rwanda, the bank held a Golf Tournament for CEOs who attended the 2024 Africa CEO Forum (ACF) that concluded in Kigali on Friday, May 17, as a platform to network with their local counterparts.

Under the theme "Bank on the blue, Score on the green," the competition attracted around 80 delegates from the Africa CEO Forum.

In a communique issued by the bank, the participants emphasized on the need of business unity and how company bosses can build cordial relationships with other professionals outside their domain.

"As the title sponsor, Bank of Kigali underscores its commitment to fostering business relationships and supporting the local sports and leisure in Rwanda," the bank stated in the communique.

"The tournament serves as a unique platform for local and international executives to connect and build meaningful relationships beyond the boardroom. With delegates from ACF in attendance, the BK Golf tournament offers an exclusive environment for fostering partnerships and

collaborations between local and international Cross," it added.

On his part, Vizege Kumwende, the Managing Director of Malawian firm Nico Holding PLC, said he was impressed by the golf event and his experience in Rwanda in general.

"I am a casual golf player but I am very impressed with the golf park I have seen here; the facilities are top notch. I will also laud Bank of Kigali for putting up this tournament, it gives us the opportunity to interact and build relationships with business executives from other part of the continent," Kumwende told Times Sport.

He further indicated that Rwanda is a nice country and commended the development that the country has achieved so far.

"I am very happy with what I have seen here in Rwanda; I hope my country Malawi takes a leaf from Rwanda. I will come back to Rwanda again for a week, tour places like Musanze where the mountain gorillas are and build more business contacts."

Concerning the various categories in the golf tournament, Arnold Kwizera won the men's handicap 19-18 with 42 points whereas Dr. Roger Bayingana emerged as winner of handicap 10-18 with Butera Rutagarama emerging as the runner-up.

In ladies' category, Zoe Lin won the handicap 19-16 whereas Cecilia Misari emerged victorious in the ladies 0-20 with 34 points.



The Golf tournament for CEOs, attracted around 80 delegates from the Africa CEO Forum. Photo courtesy of The New Times

# Afreximbank attains notable US\$393.4 million in Q1, 2024

KAMPALA

AFRICAN Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) and its subsidiaries have reported a 31.73 percent increase in income to US\$393.4 million for the quarter ending March 31, 2024, driven by significant growth in loans and advances.

The Group's interest income surged by 40.07 percent to US\$721.8 million, as the net interest margin improved from 4.4 percent to 4.82 percent during the period under review. This growth was attributed to a combination of higher benchmark rates and effective management of borrowing costs.

Afreximbank also demonstrated enhanced operational efficiency, achieving a lower cost-to-income ratio of 14.50 percent in Q1 2024, compared to 16.82% in Q1 2023. However, staff costs increased by 28.55 percent year-on-year due to a rise in headcount aimed at supporting business growth and other initiatives aligned with the Bank's Sixth Strategic Plan. Staff costs constituted 52.93 percent of the Group's expenses.

The financial institution's total assets stood at US\$32.8 billion as of March 31, 2024, compared to US\$33.5 billion as of December 31, 2023 (FY 2023). Cash and cash equivalents closed the period at US\$4.9 billion (FY 2023: US\$5.6 billion), with the liquidity ratio remaining strong at 14.9%.

Denys Denya, Afreximbank's Senior Executive Vice President, said the Group reported robust performance amidst the expansion of its subsidiary companies and activities in the Caribbean.

"Looking ahead, we will continue to prioritize revenue and quality asset growth, operational efficiency, while ensuring capital adequacy and maintaining adequate liquidity levels," he said. "Focusing on these key areas will enhance the Group's ability to execute its strategy and initiatives as outlined in its Sixth Strategic Plan."

Denya also emphasized the importance of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), supported by a robust payments and settlement system like PAPSS, in bolstering the continent's economic resilience. This, he noted, is projected to sustain Africa's resilience in 2024, with an anticipated growth rate of approximately 4 percent.



# Govt urges telecom firms to invest in remote areas

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

THE Minister for Information, Communications, and Information Technology, Nape Nnauye, has called on the country's mobile companies to enhance telecommunications infrastructure in remote and underserved communities.

Nape made the call here recently when visited Kinua Village in Name-lock ward, Kiteto District to one of the telecommunication towers in the area.

He said that mobile companies need to do more in serving people who are in the peripherals to complement the government's efforts of bringing a digital economy.

"As government, we want to see all people get reliable and better communication services," he said, lauding some of the telecommunication companies for their efforts to invest more in rural areas.

The tower, funded by UCSAF and the World Bank under the DTP project, symbolizes a vital step towards improving connectivity in areas that have long been disconnected from vital communication networks.

The Minister, impressed by the level of development, saying the mobile firm is committed to bridging the digital divide and empowering local communities through technology.

Nape also said, "The site visit and the inspection of the tower has been enlightening. Initiatives like these are pivotal in ensuring that every citizen, regardless of location, has access to essential communication services."

He further noted: "Name-lock tower alongside the other 65 that have started operating, proves how telecom companies are truly committed to support and achieving the government's course of bridging the digital divide across the country."

The impact of these towers on the villagers is expected to be transformative. Improved connectivity will en-



Nape Nnauye, Minister for Informations, Communication, and Information Technology. File Photo

able villagers to access a wide range of services, including financial inclusion through mobile saving and mobile money services. According to him, access to communication services, data, and content will also be vastly improved, fostering digital inclusion and providing essential services to every site.

"The activation of these towers represents our unwavering commitment to connect the unconnected and empower communities through technology. We are grateful for the endorsement from the

Honorable Minister, which underscores the importance of our efforts in bridging the digital divide and driving socio-economic development," said Airtel Business Manager, Salim Ngululu.

The Minister's visit underscores the government's commitment to ensuring that all citizens have access to vital communication infrastructure.

It serves as a testament to the collaborative efforts of public and private entities in driving socio-economic development through enhanced connectivity.

# NEEC, ministry prepare guidelines for entrepreneurship training in schools

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology prepares guidelines to ensure that entrepreneurship is taught in schools right from the grassroots to the university level.

NEEC Executive Director, Beng'i Issa made the remarks in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between NMB Bank and the Tanzania Association of Women Owners of Schools and Colleges (TAWOSCO) geared towards enhancing financial inclusion.

According to her, if one has an entrepreneurship mindset, one will be successful in whatever he or she does.

Speaking on the signed MoU, Issa hinted that many banks have been skeptical about offering loans to school entrepreneurs as such business loans take so long to break even. She commended the bank for embarking on the financial literacy drive across the country urging that it is pivotal in ensuring the sustainability of businesses.

Filbert Mponzi, the bank's chief retail banking said education sector development is among the bank's top priorities which is why the bank has for years been investing massively in the development of the sector.

Under the MoU terms, the lender through its digital FlexMalipo proposition will offer several sustainable banking options to TAWOSCO as part of its efforts to support education sector development across Tanzania.

"The signing of this MoU with TAWOSCO underscores our bank's commitment towards accelerating the development of the education sector. I am optimistic that this collaboration will spur the sector's growth and I take this opportunity to thank TAWOSCO management for choosing



NEEC executive director Beng'i Issa. File Photo

to partner with us," he said.

Mponzi noted that all the schools under the TAWOSCO umbrella would be incorporated into the bank's digital FlexMalipo system to enable them to collect school fees while enjoying a number of benefits including bank loans, insurance covers and financial literacy.

"This partnership will be a win-win for all the parties involved including school owners, parents, and the students as we will be providing financial literacy through our NMB Business Club program," he stressed.

NMB Bank Chief Finance Officer (CFO) Juma Kimori speaking on behalf of the bank's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ruth Zaipuna during the event said, "This is not just an ordinary MoU since it comes with many digital solutions attached to it that will address existing challenges."

He added, "For instance, parents have been making big queues in banks to pay school fees, through our digital FlexMalipo proposition, such challenges will now be history"

Kimori said the bank's collaboration with TAWOSCO will also synergize and enable the bank to provide loans to school owners in the form of asset financing, loans for renovation, and administration loans.

"Very many banks have for years been so skeptical to offer loans to schools but NMB Bank has dared and I can authoritatively reveal that we will be providing loans to school owners and their staff at an interest rate of only 14 percent. This is with effect from today" Kimori said.

Kimori during the event urged both parties to adhere to the terms of the MoU adding that feedback was essential to ensure the smooth running of the partnership.

TAWOSCO Secretary, Aisha Mzee commended the bank for its decision to partner with her organization and promised that her organization will always adhere to the terms and conditions of the partnership that have been set.

"I take this opportunity to urge TAWOSCO members to develop payment plans once you secure loans from NMB. This will enhance your credibility," she stressed.

# Iranian President's tragedy triggers gold price surge

TEHRAN

IRANIAN President Raisi's tragic demise in a helicopter crash amplifies geopolitical tensions, with a surge in gold prices

Gold surged to a historic high of \$2440 per ounce, while in the free market, the price of a gram of gold exceeded 2525, nearing peak levels.

Gold prices started the new week with volatility. Bolstered by favorable economic data from the US indicating an easing of inflationary pressures and a global weakening of the dollar, gold prices per ounce surpassed \$2400 after a month.

Closing at \$2,415 on Friday, it marked a weekly gain of 2.33 percent. This week, gold prices surged further by reaching unprecedented levels amid escalating geopolitical risks.

All eyes are on Iran following the tragic incident involving the helicopter carrying Iranian President Raisi.

Iran officially confirmed on Monday that President Raisi, along with Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and others, tragically died after their helicopter crashed in a forested area of East Azerbaijan province.

The crash occurred around 4:00 p.m. local time on Sunday.

Due to adverse weather conditions from Türkiye, which was instrumental in locating the wreckage using its domestically produced UAV, Akinci.

Despite efforts, Iranian authorities faced challenges in locating the wreckage for several hours.

Meanwhile, Israel's military ac-

tions in Gaza continue unabated, with multiple areas, including Rafah, subjected to bombardment over the weekend.

Additionally, the Houthis in Yemen have announced plans to target all ships heading to Israel.

Gold prices on May 20 reflected the heightened tensions and uncertainties in the market.

Having reached an all-time high of \$2431 on April 12 before experiencing a decline, gold surged to a new peak of \$2440 at the beginning of this week. Currently, prices are hovering around \$2435 in the morning hours.

The price of a gram of gold also approached peak levels from last month, reaching 2529 this morning, maintaining close to 2525.

In the Grand Bazaar, the price of a gram of gold fluctuates between 2502 and 2551 for buying and selling, while quarter, half, and full gold coins are priced at 4,144, 8,288, and 16,498 respectively in jewelry stores.

Market analysts are closely monitoring key indicators such as the dollar index, which currently stands at 104.45, and US 10-year bond yields hovering around 4.42 percent.

There's a growing anticipation of a future interest rate cut from the Fed, and experts emphasize that prevailing geopolitical risks are bolstering gold prices.

Key levels to watch in the gold market include \$2400 as the initial support level and \$2430 as a critical resistance level. Sustained trading above \$2430 could potentially accelerate the upward momentum in gold prices.



# Kenyan industries protest against finance bill 2024

NAIROBI

AS the May 28th deadline for public participation for the Finance Bill 2024 nears, more industry players have opposed proposed tax measures, arguing that it will increase the cost of goods and services.

The bill proposes a 25 percent excise duty on vegetable oils, which the Edible Oil Manufacturers Association of Kenya terms a "potential humanitarian crisis that Kenya cannot afford."

The Associated Battery Manufacturers (ABM), a prominent battery manufacturing company, said it opposes the ECO tax which it has called "completely unsustainable."

Others who have opposed tax measures in the bill include the Kenya Bankers Association, the Association of Kenya Insurers, and digital lenders.

"If implemented, this excise duty will trigger an unprecedented surge in the price of cooking oil, a staple in Kenyan households," edible oil manufacturers' said in a statement on May 19th, "The cost of this essential commodity is projected to skyrocket by 80 percent, rendering it unaffordable for millions of Kenya."

Among the association's arguments is that price increases for cooking oil will also have cascading effects on other every day products. "The excise duty will cause a cascading effect on these items, inflating the price of a standard loaf of bread (400g) from Kshs 70 to Kshs 80. The price of a long

bar soap could escalate from Kshs 180 to Kshs 270, and margarine (250g) from Kshs 160 to a staggering Kshs 300," the association said.

Meanwhile, ABM is lobbying against the proposed ECO tax on batteries and dry cells, which would be charged at KShs. 750 per kilo. "A small lead acid battery for a motor vehicle is 12kg, with a retail price of Ksh 8, 500. The Eco tax for this small battery will translate to an additional Ksh 9, 000 plus VAT. Therefore, a small car battery will retail at Ksh 17, 500," ABM said in a statement signed by its CEO, Guy Jack.

In addition to this increase due to the ECO tax, car owners will also have to pay more on insurance premiums if the Motor Vehicle Tax in the Finance Bill 2024 is implemented. "This imposition will notably increase the cost of motor insurance. Currently, the average comprehensive insurance premium rate stands at 5%, and with the additional 2.5 percent, the total premium rate surges to 7.5 percent," Tom Gichuhi, the Executive Director of the Association of Kenya Insurers (AKI) said in a statement on May 17th.

According to the industry lobby group, this increase in insurance premium will push more people to Third Party insurance, which is cheaper because it only covers for third-party liabilities. Such a shift would increase maintenance expenses for vehicle owners, and "lower insurers' income which will translate to lower corporate tax contributions."

VIEW FROM THE TOP



## WORLD

## Global leaders express shock over death of Iranian President, FM

TEHRAN

IRANIAN President Ebrahim Raisi and Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian died in a helicopter crash, state-run IRIB TV reported yesterday.

Due to the bad weather, the helicopter carrying Raisi (pictured) and other senior officials was forced into a hard landing in the northwestern province of East Azarbaijan on Sunday.

Six other passengers and crew, including East Azarbaijan's Governor Malek Rahmati, and the Friday prayers leader Tabriz Mohammad Ali Ale-Hasehem also lost their lives, the IRIB TV reported.

The tragedy occurred while Raisi was on his way from Khoda Afarin county, where he had attended the inauguration ceremony of a storage dam, to the provincial capital Tabriz for the inauguration of a petrochemical complex.

Media reports said images show the helicopter crashed into a mountain peak. State news agency IRNA said Raisi was flying in a US-made Bell 212 helicopter.

Fog and rain had hampered the search operation before rescuers spot-

ted the helicopter earlier in the day.

Early yesterday morning, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) confirmed that a heat source detected by a Turkish drone is believed to be the wreckage of a helicopter carrying Raisi.

The incident occurred earlier Sunday in Varzaqan county, some 670 km away from the capital Tehran. Rescuers from the Iranian Red Crescent Society, police, army, and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, had been sent to the scene.

Low temperatures and rainfall were causing further difficulties for their work, Iranian Vice-President for Executive Affairs Mohsen Mansouri said.

Raisi was traveling in a convoy of three helicopters when the one carrying him lost communication with the other two approximately 30 minutes after takeoff.

The two other helicopters immediately began a search of the area for about 20 minutes, but were later compelled to make an emergency landing due to thick fog and other weather conditions, Mansouri noted.

Head of the Iranian Red Crescent So-



ciety Pirhossein Kolivand told IRIB TV that 40 rapid reaction teams had rushed to the scene and were monitoring the region.

Global leaders were shocked and saddened yesterday by the tragic death of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Amir Abdollahian and other senior Iranian officials in a helicopter crash.

In an online statement, Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe expressed his deepest sympathies and sincere condolences to the bereaved families, the government and the people of Iran.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of President Raisi and his entourage," Wickremesinghe said.

Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammad Shia Al-Sudani extended his condolences to the Iranian nation and Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei.

"We express our solidarity with the brotherly Iranian people and the officials of the Islamic Republic during this painful tragedy," he said.

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said Pakistan will observe a day of mourning and the national flag will fly at half-mast as a mark of respect for Raisi and his companions.

"I along with the government and people of Pakistan extend our deepest condolences and sympathies to the Iranian nation on this terrible loss," he said.

"May the martyred souls rest in heavenly peace. The great Iranian nation will overcome this tragedy with customary courage," he added.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he was deeply saddened and shocked by Raisi's death, adding that the late president's contribution to strengthening India-Iran bilateral relationship will always be remem-

bered.

"My heartfelt condolences to his family and the people of Iran. India stands with Iran in this time of sorrow," he said.

Regional countries including Türkiye, Azerbaijan, Iraq and Saudi Arabia earlier voiced concern over the incident and readiness to assist in search and rescue efforts.

"We were profoundly troubled by the news of a helicopter carrying the top delegation crash-landing in Iran ... As a neighbor, friend, and brotherly country, the Republic of Azerbaijan stands ready to offer any assistance needed," said Azeri President Ilham Aliyev on X.

International organizations and other countries also expressed concern over the incident and readiness to provide help.

"The Secretary-General is following reports of an incident with Iranian President Raisi's aircraft with concern. He hopes for the safety of the president and his entourage," said Stéphane Dujarric, chief spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

The European commissioner for crisis management, Janez Lenarcic, said the commission had activated its satellite mapping service to aid search efforts, following a request for assistance from Iran.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said that Russia will extend all necessary assistance to Iran in the search operation, Russia's Tass news report.

Putin's message was conveyed by the Iranian Ambassador to Moscow, Kazem Jalali, who was summoned to a meeting with the Russian leader.

US President Joe Biden reportedly suspended his vacation and rushed back to the White House for an urgent briefing following the incident involving the Iranian president's helicopter.

## South Africa's top court rules former president Zuma ineligible for elections

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's Constitutional Court, the country's highest court, ruled yesterday that former president Jacob Zuma (pictured) is not eligible to run for parliament in the upcoming elections.

The court's judgement came following the Independent Electoral Commission's appeal of the Electoral Court's order that allowed Zuma to remain on the candidates' list nominated by the uMkhonto weSizwe (MK) Party.

"Zuma was convicted of an offense and sentenced to more than 12 months' imprisonment... and is accordingly not eligible to be a member of and not qualified to stand for election to the National Assembly," the Constitutional Court said in its judgement.

The order of the Electoral Court is set aside and the counter-application by Zuma and the MK Party is dismissed, according to the judgement.

Zuma, who was sentenced to 15 months in prison for contempt of court in 2021, was nominated as a candidate for the elections by the MK Party. South Africa is scheduled to hold national and local elections on May 29.



## Russia to expose US lies about weapons in space – Foreign Ministry

MOSCOW

MOSCOW will be exposing and showing the world Washington's disinformation regarding the alleged placement of Russian nuclear weapons in space, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov has told the media.

The diplomat was asked to comment on the reports that the US was planning to significantly upgrade its space forces by various means, including launches of combat satellites.

"One of the underlying factors for this destructive, purely destabilizing activity, which the US has been engaged in for years, are the media rumors regarding so-called Russian nuclear weapons in space.

We will be exposing them and showing the world majority countries and all unbiased observers who do not take for granted the endless disinformation flows coming from Washington what this kind of policy leads to.

For our part, we will continue our efforts to prevent the deployment of strike weapons in outer space," Ryabkov pointed out.

In February 2024 the US authorities, including President Joe Biden, accused Russia, without providing evidence that Moscow was allegedly considering the placement of nuclear weapons in space.

Russian Presidential Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told the media such publications were another in a series of the White House's ploys. Russian President Vladimir Putin stressed at a meeting with then Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu that Moscow "has always been categorically against and is now against the deployment of nuclear weapons in space."

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov pointed out in late February that the appearance of nuclear weapons in outer space would be inexpedient from all points of view.

The existing delivery systems are quite sufficient, he explained: "No arbitrary decisions are involved here. Everything depends on military and military-technical expediency."

Agencies

## Chinese peacekeeping team to depart for South Sudan

BEIJING

A team of 12 Chinese peacekeepers will depart for South Sudan on Wednesday, according to China's Ministry of Public Security.

A ceremony for the scheduled departure of the team, which is the 10th Chinese peacekeeping police team to be sent to South Sudan for the UN peacekeeping mission, was held on Monday.

This is China's first peacekeeping police team to be dispatched to the mission area of South Sudan since the smooth transition in the country's COVID-19 response, according to a ministry official.

The dispatch is among the ministry's efforts to put the Global Security Initiative into action and fulfill China's responsibilities as a major country, the official said. **Xinhua**



A helicopter carrying Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi takes off, near the Iran-Azerbaijan border on Sunday. REUTERS

## Julian Assange wins High Court victory in case against extradition to US

LONDON

WIKILEAKS founder Julian Assange yesterday won a victory in his battle against extradition from the United Kingdom (UK) to the United States after the High Court in London granted him permission to appeal.

Assange (pictured) had been granted permission to appeal only if the U.S. government was unable to provide the court with suitable assurances that Assange is permitted to rely on the first amendment (free speech) and is not prejudiced at trial.

The U.S. government also had to provide assurance that Assange would not be sentenced to death if convicted.

The latest move came after the High Court de-



ferred a decision in March on whether Assange could take his case to another appeal hearing.

Assange, 52, is wanted by the United States on allegations of disclosing national defense information following WikiLeaks's publication of hundreds of thousands of leaked military documents relating to the Afghanistan and Iraq wars a decade ago, which included a helicopter video footage documenting the U.S. military gunning down journalists and children in Baghdad's streets in 2007.

He has been held at southeast London's high-security Belmarsh Prison. Britain approved his extradition to the United States in 2022 under then Home Secretary Priti Patel after a judge initially blocked it on Assange's mental health concerns. Assange and his lawyers have appealed since then. **Xinhua**

## Fujian builds diverse food supply system with all-encompassing approach to food

FUJIAN province, located on the southeast coast of China, has a per capita arable land area of only a quarter of the national average. In the 1980s, there was an overall shortage of food, with limited varieties. The types of meat, aquatic products, fruits and vegetables were relatively few, with low yields. Every year, the province had to source large amounts of grain and vegetables from other provinces.

To solve the problem of food scarcity, it's not enough to focus only on the existing arable land. Instead, an all-encompassing approach to food must be adopted to build a diversified food supply system, and develop food sources in

multiple ways.

The all-encompassing approach to food was raised by Chinese President Xi Jinping when he worked in Fujian province. Xi proposed to "attach as much importance to sea areas as to cultivated land, and as much to marine development as to food production, so as to extend the tentacles of speeding up economic development from land to sea." He proposed the "Fuzhou at Sea" and "Fujian at Sea" initiatives to seek economic development from the sea.

Over the past 30 years, Fujian has earnestly implemented the all-encompassing approach to food, harnessing its abundant natural resources found in mountains and seas

to create a diverse food supply system tailored to its unique geographical advantages.

This approach has yielded remarkable results. The province overfulfills grain production tasks assigned by the central government every year. The output of livestock and poultry has seen a significant increase, with the total meat production reaching 3.11 million tons last year, a 25 percent increase compared to early 1990s. In particular, poultry production surged by 13 times.

The per capita share of aquatic food in Fujian province stands at over 200 kilograms, one of the highest across China. The province is also one of the leaders in the

total output of commercial edible fungi, cultivating over 30 varieties.

The annual tea production in Fujian has grown from 50,000 tons in late 1980s to 500,000 tons today, with both total output value and per unit yield ranking among the highest in the country. Furthermore, Fujian has become a major source of vegetables, playing a significant role in a "south-to-north vegetable transporting" initiative.

In Huanxi township, Jin'an district, Fuzhou, Fujian province, a demonstration base for high-quality specialty products has been established, covering over 1,000 mu (66.7 hectares). The township has constantly improved field fa-

cilities, collaborated with the Fuzhou Vegetable Science Research Institute to breed superior varieties, and signed long-term supply agreements with e-commerce platforms under the promotion by relevant state-owned enterprises.

As a result, trucks of online grocery platforms are always seen heading to the fields of the demonstration base, and previously undervalued agricultural products due to logistical challenges and low recognition are now selling well in the market.

In Yaoxia village, Hetian township, Changting county, Longyan of Fujian province, agroforestry is thriving. A prime example is villager Zeng Xianfu, who grows milkwort,

a type of medicinal herb, and raises Hetian chickens, a local breed, under broad-leaved forest, and his agritainment business is also flourishing.

By adeptly pairing the milkwort with Hetian chicken - two "treasures from under the forest" - in an herbal chicken dish, he has created a hot-selling product that is in high demand on e-commerce platforms.

In Baiji Bay, Sandu'ao, Jiaocheng district, Ningde of Fujian province, there are over 80 new-type plastic deep-water net cages. "The deep-water net cages have strong resistance to wind and waves, and provide more space. Our company's annual production of large yellow croaker has

increased from 6,500 tons to 8,500 tons," said Song Xiangguo, head of an offshore aquaculture base of a local food company.

Fujian province is making efforts to cultivate featured advantageous industries and diversify food sources to construct a high-quality agricultural product supply system. Apart from focusing on land and offshore areas, the province is also expanding into the deep sea.

On May 7, the waters around Dinghai Bay in Lianjiang county, Fuzhou, were calm and serene. Stepping onto the "Dinghai Bay No. 2" aquaculture platform felt like walking on solid ground.

**People's Daily**



# Belgrade think-tank forum highlights Serbia's Belt and Road achievements

## BELGRADE

SERBIA is actively participating in the development of the "Belt and Road" Initiative, Prime Minister Milos Vucevic said on Thursday, emphasizing the ironclad friendship between Serbia and China.

Vucevic made these remarks at the fourth forum co-organized by the Belgrade think tank "Belt and Road" Institute and the Center for Sustainable Development of Beijing Jiaotong University in Belgrade, Serbia's capital.

In his speech, Vucevic highlighted that Serbia was among the first countries to sign a "Belt and Road" co-operation agreement with China, underlining a clear plan to remain committed to equal cooperation.

He noted that, under the leadership of both countries, China and Serbia have recently signed or reached agreements on 28 cooperation documents across various fields, marking a significant milestone in their joint construction of the "Belt and Road" Initiative.

Chinese Ambassador to Serbia Li Ming praised the China-Serbia partnership as a model in the joint development of the "Belt and Road", particularly in infrastructure development.

"We adhere to the principle of consultation, joint construction, and sharing. We have built roads and railways in Serbia, aiding the local government in fulfilling its duties and promoting Serbia's economic and social development," he said.



This photo taken on May 17, 2024 shows a scene at the fourth forum co-organized by the Belgrade think tank "Belt and Road" Institute and the Center for Sustainable Development of Beijing Jiaotong University in Belgrade, Serbia. Serbia is actively participating in the development of the "Belt and Road" Initiative, Prime Minister Milos Vucevic said on Thursday, emphasizing the ironclad friendship between Serbia and China. Xinhua

The official added that such cooperation also "enhances connectivity between the peninsula and the European continent, fostering coordinated development of countries along the route and driving regional economic integration."

The forum focused on infrastructure construction, cooperation, and development, attracting leaders, experts, Chinese companies, and academic institutions from over 20 countries.

Special discussions at the forum also covered geopolitical dynamics and regional cooperation, the first decade of the "Belt and Road" Initiative, infrastructure construction, external relations, sustainable development, and other critical issues. **Xinhua**

## EAM Jaishankar meets Mauritius envoy to UN, discusses a range of global issues

### NEW DELHI

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met the Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations Jagdish Koonjul, yesterday.

EAM Jaishankar appreciated the discussions held with him on a range of global

issues.

"Glad to meet Ambassador Jagdish Koonjul of Mauritius. Appreciated our discussions on a range of global issues," Jaishankar said in a post shared on X.

India has close, longstanding relations with Mauritius, an island nation in the Western Indian Ocean, owing to

historic, demographic and cultural reasons.

A key reason for the special ties is the fact that Indian-origin people comprise nearly 70% of the island's population of 1.2 million.

Earlier in March, President Droupadi Murmu oversaw the signing of four Memoranda of Understanding (MoU)

between India and Mauritius to enhance cooperation in the financial services sector, information sharing, and capacity building to combat corruption and money laundering.

Also, an MoU was signed between the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) of India and the Public Ser-

vice Commission of Mauritius to share experiences and expertise in public services recruitment.

Both countries also agreed on a protocol to amend the India-Mauritius Double Tax Avoidance Agreement, making it compliant with the OECD/G20 Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Minimum

Standards.

President Murmu and the Mauritian PM also virtually inaugurated 14 community development projects that are to be implemented with monetary assistance from India.

India has traditionally been the 'first responder' for Mauritius in times of crisis,

including during the recent Covid-19 and Wakashio oil-spill crises. On Mauritius' request, India supplied 13 tonnes of medicines (including 0.5 million tablets of HCQ), 10 tonnes of Ayurvedic medicines and an Indian Rapid Response Medical Team to help combat Covid in April-May 2020. **ANI**

## Why Russia's economy continues to thrive amidst sanctions?

### ST. PETERSBURG

THE International Monetary Fund said in April that Russia's economy is expected to grow 3.2 percent in 2024, faster than all advanced economies this year.

Despite the unprecedented sanctions imposed by Western countries, the Russian economy has not only maintained stable growth but also outpaced the global average growth rate.

What has enabled Russia's economy to withstand the pressure of sanctions and continue to grow?

### VITAL ECONOMIC LIFELINE

Western countries have repeatedly extended the sanctions on Russia since the start of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, expanding embargoes on Russian goods and technological blockades, and forcing hundreds of large companies to exit the Russian market in an attempt to sever its international supply chains.

However, they have failed to fundamentally undermine Russia's vital economic lifeline -- its energy sector.

While the EU has



A staff member patrols to check equipment at Kovvykta gas condensate field in Irkutsk, Russia, Dec. 18, 2022. (Xinhua/Meng Jing)

banned imports of Russian coal and seaborne crude oil, the European Commission isn't proposing an outright ban on imports of Russian liquefied natural gas, which countries including Belgium, France and Spain still purchase in large quantities, as Politico reported.

The United States is also cautious about halting Russian oil supplies because it could lead to a sharp increase in oil prices, resulting in significant disruptions in the international energy market and potentially increasing Russia's oil export revenues.

The Russian economy has demonstrated a significant degree of adaptability to these Western sanctions and analysts believe that the U.S. government has almost exhausted its options for sanctions against Russia.

Russia's GDP achieved a 3.6 percent growth in 2023, significantly

higher than forecast. Additionally, Russia's average annual unemployment rate stood at 3.2 percent as of the end of 2023, the lowest since 1992.

Russia can become the fourth-largest economy in the world, provided it maintains sustainable growth of at least 2 percent per year with a gradual acceleration to 3 percent, said Andrei Belousov, Russia's new defense minister and former first deputy prime minister.

### ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING

As a major global producer of oil and gas resources, Russia heavily relies on energy exports for its fiscal revenue. The worsening geopolitical situation and the sharp increase in sanctions have compelled Russia to adjust its economic structure, aiming to boost the contribution of non-energy sectors to its GDP.

Since 2015, Russia has imple-

mented an import substitution strategy. Initially focused on agro-industrial complexes, this strategy later expanded to areas such as information technology and mechanical engineering.

The sanctions imposed by the West on Russia since 2022 have prompted Russia to expand its countermeasures, said Mikhail Kuzyk, deputy director of the Centre for Industrial Policy Studies of the HSE University in Moscow.

Today, Russian domestic manufacturers have effectively replaced many foreign suppliers that have left the Russian market, especially in sectors like the food industry, heavy machinery and shipbuilding.

Last week, Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin announced plans to increase the volume of non-resource, non-energy exports by two-thirds.

"The share of local high-tech goods and services created based on our own developments will increase 1.5 times in six years," he was quoted as saying by Tass news agency.

To counter Western isolation and containment, Russia is also fostering economic and trade cooperation with regional organizations such as BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

"It seems that we are being strangled and pressured from every side, but still, we are the largest economy in Europe," Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a meeting with entrepreneurs, according to TASS.

### RUSSIA'S SWIFT ALTERNATIVE

Among the sanctions imposed on Russia by the West, financial sanctions have had the most profound impact on the Russian economy.

Notably, the freezing of foreign exchange reserves and the expulsion of Russia from the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial (SWIFT) -- a global provider of financial messaging services -- have not only caused the ruble to fluctuate but also created significant obstacles for Russia in conducting international trade and financial activities.

## Moscow expects implementation of agreements with Tehran, says senior Russian diplomat

### MOSCOW

RUSSIA will continue deepening its relationship with Iran as Moscow hews to the position that previous agreements with Tehran will be implemented, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov (pictured) told reporters.

"Of course, we deeply condole with the government and people of Iran over this terrible tragedy as we reaffirm our commitment to close, in-depth cooperation on both bilateral and international issues," Ryabkov said.

"And we also hew to the position that all agreements reached earlier will be implemented," he added, taking a TASS reporter's question about whether cooperation with Russia would be affected following the death of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian.

The senior Russian diplomat emphasized that Moscow and

Tehran would continue to develop their relationship gradually, including in terms of the tasks of "strengthening security."

On Sunday morning, Raisi opened a hydro dam on the Aras River on the Iranian-Azerbaijani border together with his Azerbaijani counterpart Ilham Aliyev. Following the ceremony, Raisi traveled home.

A helicopter carrying Raisi went down in Iran's province of East Azerbaijan on May 19. Amir-Abdollahian, Governor of East Azerbaijan Malek Rahmati and Tabriz Ayatollah Mohammad Ali Al-e-Hashem were also on board and died.

Head of the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran Pir Hossein Kollivand pronounced all passengers and the crew of Raisi's helicopter dead. Iranian Vice President for Executive Affairs Mohsen Mansouri confirmed reports about the death of Iran's leader in the crash. **Agencies**



## Unveiling motives behind 'overcapacity' narrative in China's new energy sector

IN recent times, the United States has been promoting the notion of "overcapacity" in China's new energy sector, even in the absence of factual evidence. This has led to some countries following suit and joining in the hype. The true purpose behind these efforts is quite evident.

The main objective of hyping up this notion is to contain and suppress China's advantageous industries. The United States has identified China as its most serious strategic competitor. In the economic realm, the United States has been attempting to suppress China's high-tech and strategic emerging industries. Given that the new energy sector is crucial for green and low-carbon transformation and future development, it has inevitably become a focal point for the United States in its competition with China and its efforts to restrain and suppress China's growth.

In recent years, China's new energy industry has experienced robust growth, with three major tech-intensive green products, or the "new three" -- new energy vehicles (NEVs), lithium-ion batteries, and photovoltaic products gaining wide popularity globally. China has established a certain competitive advantage in the global market by pursuing technological innovation,

production efficiency, and high-quality products.

During this year's China Import and Export Fair, or Canton Fair, importers from Europe and the United States noted the popularity of China's green technologies worldwide and acknowledged the country's role as a global leader in NEV sector. They were also keen to procure more NEVs from China.

Earlier this year, journalist and writer Henry Sanderson highlighted in Foreign Affairs that when it comes to clean energy industries, the West lags far behind China. "China is at the forefront not just in production and deployment of clean energy technologies but also now in innovation," said Sanderson.

Bloomberg reported on April 2 that Chinese carmakers are more competitive, thanks to technology, local supply chains, brand new transport infrastructure, and lower energy and land costs. Chinese companies aren't dumping electric vehicles on global markets at a lower cost. China's biggest electric vehicle exporters all have capacity utilization rates above 80 percent, said the report.

The U.S. government turns a blind eye to these facts and maliciously promotes the notion of "overcapacity" in China's new energy sector. It distorts China's indus-

trial policies, overstretching the concept of national security, and attempts to rally allies and partners to decouple from and disrupt China's new energy industry. The ultimate goal is to impede and suppress the development of China's advanced manufacturing and new energy industries with unfair and non-market means.

The intention behind the "overcapacity" narrative in China's new energy sector is to support U.S. domestic industries. Since the 1970s, traditional manufacturing in the U.S. has increasingly moved to developing countries with lower production costs, causing the hollowing out of its manufacturing sector.

The value added of manufacturing contributed 22.7 percent to the U.S. GDP in 1970, but the figure dropped to 10.3 percent in 2022. During the same period, the proportion of manufacturing employment to total non-farm employment decreased from 24.5 percent to 8.4 percent.

The 2008 global financial crisis revealed the dangers of an economy detached from tangible production, prompting the U.S. government to implement a reindustrialization strategy that aimed at reshoring the manufacturing sector and developing U.S. domestic industries.

When it comes to the new energy sector, the conflicting ideologies of the Democratic and Republican parties have resulted in a wavering and indecisive approach in balancing traditional energy sources with the advancement of clean energy. This created the pendulum effect that has hindered the development of the U.S. new energy industry.

At the beginning, the U.S. actively participated in global climate governance and implemented the Paris Agreement on climate change, vigorously developing clean energy technologies.

However, it later announced the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and shifted its energy policy towards the traditional fossil energy industry.

In August 2022, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act into law, marking another major shift in the U.S. climate and energy policy. According to the Act, subsidies of up to \$369 billion would be invested in industries such as NEVs, charging stations, and photovoltaic equipment.

The fluctuating energy policies have bewildered many new energy companies in the U.S., causing them to miss out important development opportunities.

**People's Daily**



# SPORT

## Simba promises major overhaul following disappointing season

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA Sports Club is set to undergo significant changes following a season marked by unmet expectations and lackluster performances.

The club's leadership, through its Information and Communication Manager, Ahmed Ali, has called on fans to brace themselves for a series of transformative moves aimed at revitalizing the squad and reclaiming their dominance in Tanzanian football.

Ali addressed the fans with a message of hope and anticipation, highlighting that the upcoming registration window will bring substantial changes based on recommendations from the technical bench.

He emphasized the club's commitment to enhancing its roster to meet high standards and achieve ambitious goals.

"At the moment, our fans have nothing to wait for more than the end of the season and to see what the team will do in the transfer window," Ali stated. "There are players, some with big names, who will be leaving, and we will bring in others who we believe will meet the club's requirements and fulfill our goals."

Reflecting on the season, Ali acknowledged that Simba fell short of their objectives despite securing two trophies, the Charity Shield and the Union Cup.

"This season, we have not reached our goals. We aimed to win all domestic titles and reach the semi-finals of the CAF Champions League, but we did not succeed," he admitted.

Ali assured fans that the club is taking decisive action to address these shortcomings.

"Let me tell the fans to be ready because we are going to make big changes to the squad based on the major goals of our club," he said. "There are players that we will part with, and the goal is to bring in others. If you see the best player leaving our club, don't be shocked; know that a better one is coming. We need to improve our team, and the process has already started," he said.

The current season has been particularly challenging for Simba. The team was

eliminated from the CAF Champions League quarter-finals by Al Ahly, losing both home and away matches with an aggregate score of 3-0.

Additionally, they suffered a disappointing exit from the CRDB Bank Federation Cup, falling to Mashujaa FC in a 6-5 penalty shootout after a 1-1 draw in regular time.

In the NBC Premier League, the Msimbazi Street side's performance has also been underwhelming. They currently sit in third place with 18 wins, six draws, and three losses out of 27 matches.

The club's struggles were highlighted by defeats in both fixtures against their long-time rivals, Young Africans, losing 5-1 in the first round and 2-1 in the second round.

Given these setbacks, the club's management recognizes the urgent need for a comprehensive overhaul. The planned changes aim to restore Simba's prowess and dominance in the league.

The club's supporters, often referred to as African fans of the year, are eagerly awaiting the start of the new season, hopeful that the team will return to form and deliver the performances they have come to expect.

Ali's message to the fans underscores the club's determination to learn from this season's disappointments and come back stronger.

"We are committed to making the necessary changes to ensure we are competitive on all fronts next season," he said. "Our fans deserve the best, and we are working tirelessly to deliver that."

As the season draws to a close, all eyes are on Simba's next moves. The club's leadership is expected to announce a series of strategic signings and departures designed to strengthen the squad.

Fans are encouraged to stay patient and supportive as the club navigates this critical period of transition.

The upcoming transfer window will be crucial for Simba, as they seek to rebuild and reassert their position at the top of Tanzanian football. The club's success in making these changes will be vital to their ambitions of reclaiming domestic glory and making a significant impact on the continental stage.

SPORTS

## Yanga fittingly capture the 2023/24 Premier League trophy

By Lloyd Elipokea

WITH merely a few fixtures remaining in the scintillating 2023/24 NBC Premier League, the various competing clubs in local football's top flight must be green with envy over Young Africans' impressive title triumph this season.

Indeed, Yanga's sublime league trophy victory marks the third time in a row that they have clinched the greatly prized and highly coveted league crown.

Despite the monumental efforts of Azam FC and their age-old foes Simba SC, Yanga remained laser-focused on their ultimate objective, which was to regain their league silverware.

Following the bitter disappointment of being ousted from the CAF Champions League earlier this season, Yanga shifted their attention to the local football scene, where they have been the singular dominant force in the last three seasons.

And, the recently crowned league champions are not done yet as the Jangwani Street side are still in with a shout of claiming the Federations Cup this season, which would further solidify their position as the country's lone pre-eminent football club.

As we tip our hats to Young Africans for their unmatched excellence this season, we should also spare a thought for erstwhile traditional title contenders, Mtibwa Sugar, who are presently involved in a do-or-die battle to avoid relegation.

Indeed, Mtibwa Sugar are precariously occupying last place on the league standings at the moment, which is admittedly a far cry from the days of yore when they perpetually challenged the big guns Yanga and Simba for the league crown.

It is hoped then that Mtibwa Sugar can muster the courage needed for the crucial task at hand as they stare down the barrel of relegation.

Let us stick with football and consider a recent media report which said that Tanzania is slated to host the CECAFA Kagame Cup this year following a two-year hiatus.

The hugely respected championship, which is revered by the great and the good of East and Central African football, was last staged in Dar es Salaam in 2021.

The Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) has also excitingly revealed that the premier league champions from the twelve-member associations and four guest teams will take part in the much-



Courtesy of Young Africans Sports Club.

awaited and unforgettably riveting football spectacle.

Interestingly, local juggernauts Simba has claimed the CECAFA Kagame Cup a whopping six times while their fierce nemesis Yanga has lifted the coveted trophy five times.

Thus, with this year's championship set to kick off on July 20th in our neck of the woods, one hopes that the football action thrillingly lives up to expectations.

Let us now dive into the English football season which came to a fantastic end last Sunday.

Indeed, the ceaselessly dramatic race for the English Premier League (EPL) trophy went right down to the wire with two teams in contention for the title, which were Arsenal and Manchester City.

Regarding the exploits of African football greats in the EPL this season, there was more than sufficient reason for good cheer.

For example, the Ghanaian right winger Mohamed Kudus, who moved from Dutch titans Ajax to the Londoners West Ham United at the outset of the just-ended league campaign, was the pick of his new English club in many EPL encounters.

In addition, Liverpool's terrific Egyptian attacker, Mohamed Salah, may not have been as prolific as he was last season.

Nevertheless, the immensely skillful Egyptian still played a pivotal role in the Reds' (Liverpool's nickname) campaign, which saw the Merseyside-based English giants finish in a thoroughly respectable third place on the EPL standings.

In conclusion, the roll-call of African football icons plying their trade in the EPL all made invaluable contributions to the overall performance of their respective English clubs. Therefore, as our African stars based in England prepare to go for some much-needed R and R, one can only hope that they can infinitely improve their displays come next season.

## New tournament organised to develop football talents

By Guardian Correspondent

EIGHT soccer teams are expected to participate in a new special tournament namely Parimatch Kitaa Cup aimed at nurturing young talents.

The tournament involves a total of eight teams from various areas of Dar es Salaam, according to Levis Paul, the coordinator of the tournament.

Paul named the teams as Faru Dume, Karume FC, Kawe UTD, Makubuli FC, Kauzu FC, Namanga FC, Mpakani FC, and Rangi Tatu FC.

The winner of the two-day tournament will be awarded 1m/-, while the runner-up will receive 500,000/-.

There will also be a prize for the third place, consisting of two footballs.

According to Paul, other tournament awards will include the top scorer, best goalkeeper, and best player of each match.

"All participating teams have been provided with jerseys and footballs for the tournament, and the morale



Players of Faru Dume and Karume United competing in the opening match of the Parimatch Kitaa Cup 2024 at Zakhim Stadium, Mbagala in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

of every player is high," said Paul.

"We are committed to contributing to the development of sports in the country, particularly for local teams where many players can bring success to various clubs and the national team.

"That's why we've organized this short tournament, provided sports equipment, and set up grand prizes to encourage players to compete for their teams to emerge victorious. I urge football fans in Dar es Salaam to come out in large numbers to enjoy the entertainment from our local teams," he said.

“

That's why we've organized this short tournament, provided sports equipment, and set up grand prizes to encourage players to compete for their teams to emerge victorious. I urge football fans in Dar es Salaam to come out in large numbers to enjoy the entertainment from our local teams

## Zanzibar takes centre stage as African Schools Football Championship kicks off

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE CAF African Schools Football Championship Continental Finals 2024 kick off today in Zanzibar.

The four-day tournament that ends on Friday brings together talented young players from across the continent, providing them a platform to showcase their skills and passion for the game.

The competition, which is

part of CAF's overall African Schools Program, is coupled with capacity-building programs, including the Young Reporters Program, Young Referee Program, Young Medical Officers Program, CAF D License Coaching Course, and CAF Safeguarding workshops.

It includes over 44 African countries and it features boys and girls under the age of 15. The tournament begins at the country level where

winner proceed to the Zonal qualifiers.

For the Finals in Zanzibar, 12 teams, who qualified from the Zonal qualifiers, will battle it out for the ultimate prize.

Winners of both the boys' and girls' competitions will each receive \$300,000 prize money, runners-up each receiving \$200,000, while the bronze medallists will each take home \$150,000, courtesy of CAF's partnership with the Motsepe Foundation to

be utilised for development projects within schools.

In a draw conducted on Sunday in Zanzibar, 12 teams were divided into two groups for each category.

For the girls' categories, hosts Tanzania were drawn in Group A alongside Morocco and Congo Republic, while Group B sees South Africa, Togo, The Gambia and Uganda facing each other.

In the boys' category, Tanzania headline Group A

as the tournament hosts and will be up against Senegal and Uganda.

In Group B, South Africa, who played host to the finals last season, are up against Benin, Guinea and Libya.

This is the second edition of the competition that is not only focused on Football but also on a number of programs including the Young Referee's Program, Young Reporter Program and Safeguarding. All games will take place

at the renovated Amaan Stadium, with the boys playing full pitch size eleven aside, while the girls compete in the eight-aside format.

The CAF African Schools Football Championship Finals is expected to be attended by some of African football legends to help inspire and encourage the budding footballers.

Emmanuel Adebayor, CAF Player of the Year in 2008, Olympic Gold medallist

and AFCON winner, Daniel Amokachi, and former Banyana Banyana (South Africa) captain Amanda Dlamini are some of the top names that have been confirmed to set foot in Zanzibar.

Former Taifa Stars captain Abdi 'Babbi' Kassim and Serengeti Girls head coach Hilda Masanche will headline the local cast in the tournament.



## Klopp hails 'superpower' fans in emotional Liverpool farewell

LONDON

JURGEN Klopp hailed Liverpool's fans as the "superpower of world football" after his final match as manager ended in a 2-0 win at home to Wolves on an emotional day at Anfield on Sunday.

Alexis Mac Allister and Jarell Quansah scored the goals, but the game was largely a sideshow as supporters paid tribute to the German they have taken to their hearts.

The charismatic 56-year-old, who announced in January he was leaving the club, has forged a strong bond with the Anfield faithful, who gave him a rousing welcome as he emerged from the famous tunnel.

The fans used cards to create giant mosaics, one simply reading "Jurgen" and another saying "Danke", with many holding scarves aloft bearing Klopp's name during a rousing rendition of the club's anthem "You'll Never Walk Alone".

After full-time he returned to the pitch through a guard of honour from the players to address the crowd wearing a red top bearing the words "Thank You" on the front and "I'll Never Walk Alone Again" on the back.

A stage was set up in the centre of the pitch and the club's owners, directors and ambassadors, including Anfield great Kenny Dalglish, all welcomed Klopp onto the field, with fans chanting his name.

"It doesn't feel like an end," said Klopp, who arrived at Anfield in 2015 with the club at a low ebb.

"It just feels like a start. Today I saw a football team full of talent, youth, creativity, desire, greed. That's one part of development, that's what you need, obviously.

"People say I turned them from doubters into believers. That's not true. You did it. Nobody tells you to stop believing. This club is in a better moment than for a long time.

"We have this wonderful stadium, training centre and you -- the superpower of world football. Wow."

Klopp added: "We decide if we are worried or excited. We decide if we believe. We decide if we trust or don't trust. Today I am one of you and I keep believing. I stay believing 100 percent."

"Obviously I saw a lot of people crying and I will tonight too because I will miss people but change is good. Everything will be fine because the basics are 100 percent there.

"You welcome the new manager (Arne Slot) like you welcomed me. You go all in from the first day. You keep believing. You push the team. I'm one of you now. I love you to bits.

"Thank you. You are the best team in the world. Thank you."

Klopp then also adopted the song Liverpool fans had created for him to lead the crowd in a chant of "Arne Slot, na, na, na, na, na".

The German led the club to Champions League glory in 2019 -- the sixth time they had been crowned European champions.

The following season he secured his place as a Liverpool great by winning their first Premier League title for 30 years, the 19th time they had been crowned English champions.

He also lifted the FA Cup and won two League Cups in his spell.

When Klopp made the shock announcement that he was leaving earlier this year, Liverpool were chasing a quadruple.

They won the League Cup final against Chelsea in February but crashed out of the FA Cup against Manchester United and the Europa League against Atalanta.

Their Premier League title bid also faded quickly, but by finishing third Liverpool have qualified for next season's Champions League.

Pep Guardiola, the manager of Premier League champions Manchester City, paid a warm tribute to his long-time rival, saying Klopp deserved to be ranked alongside such outstanding Liverpool bosses as Bill Shankly and Bob Paisley.

"He has been a huge competitor in my life," Guardiola said after guiding City to an unprecedented fourth straight English title.

"It's not just about titles won and who won the most. There are personalities that when they arrive in one place they stay forever and Jurgen will depart in the level of Shankly, Paisley, these incredible legends."

AFP

## Hamdy gives Zamalek second CAF Confederation Cup title

CAIRO

AHMED Hamdy scored midway through the first half to give Zamalek of Egypt a 1-0 victory over Renaissance Berkane of Morocco on Sunday and a second CAF Confederation Cup title.

The two-leg final finished 2-2 on aggregate with the Cairo club winning the African equivalent of the UEFA Europa League on away goals.

The previous Zamalek triumph in the second-tier competition also came against Berkane with the Egyptians winning on penalties in 2019 after another aggregate draw.

It was a historic triumph for Zamalek boss Jose Gomes, who became the first Portuguese coach to win the Confederation Cup.

Zamalek made one change to the team that started the first leg in Morocco last Sunday with Senegalese Ibrahima Ndiaye replacing Nigeria-born fellow winger Samson Akinyoola.

Berkane were unchanged with Burkina Faso centre-back Issoufou Dayo captaining the team and Senegalese Paul Bassene leading the attack.

A sell-out crowd in the 75,000-capacity Cairo International Stadium cheered, chanted and waved large flags as Zamalek attacked relentlessly in the early stages.

It seemed a matter of time before Berkane conceded, and Zamalek took the lead on 23 minutes through Hamdy, a midfielder who joined the White Knights four months ago.

An attempted clearance by Berkane was blocked and Ahmed 'Zizo' Sayed pushed the ball to unmarked Hamdy, who rifled a low shot wide of goalkeeper Hamza Hamiani into the corner of the net.

Level on aggregate but behind on away goals, Berkane came out of their defensive shell and Dayo almost levelled soon after with a far-post header after a free kick.

Paul Bassene had his first sight of goal on 32 minutes, but blazed over, then Yassine Labhiri was much closer to equalising with a shot from just outside the area.

Zamalek finished the opening half strongly and Berkane had to defend desperately with defenders blocking several goal attempts after Hamiani failed to grasp a cross.

The Berkane goalkeeper nearly gifted Zamalek a second goal just past the hour mark as he initially hesitated to clear the ball and came close to being dispossessed by Seifeddine Jaziri.

Berkane threatened with 14 minutes remaining when awarded a free kick close to the area, but a poor attempt by Ayoub Khairi sailed over.

The Moroccans were reduced to 10 men two minutes into added time when Hamza El Moussaoui was red-carded for stamping on Zizo after fouling the winger.

AFP

# Man City make case to be ranked as England's greatest-ever team

LONDON

MANCHESTER City strengthened their case to be ranked as English football's greatest-ever team by winning the Premier League title for an unprecedented fourth consecutive year on Sunday.

No side has ever enjoyed the stranglehold over the English top flight that City have held during Pep Guardiola's glorious reign as manager.

On top of six Premier League titles, in the past seven years City have been crowned world and European champions for the first time in the club's history, won two FA Cups and lifted four League Cups.

Another FA Cup triumph could come next weekend when they are favourites to beat Manchester United in the Wembley showpiece for the second straight season.

Dominance over United is especially sweet for generations of City fans who had to live in the shadow of their neighbours.

Last season, Guardiola's men became only the second club to win the Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup in the same season -- matching United's vintage group of 1998/99.

That was part of a run of seven Premier League titles in nine years for United under Alex Ferguson.

Liverpool's domination in the 1970s and 1980s included 10 league titles in 15 seasons and four European Cups.



Manchester City won a historic fourth successive Premier League title on Sunday. Agencies

Arsenal went through the entire 2003/04 league season without defeat as Arsene Wenger's title-winning "Invincibles" staked their claim to be regarded as the best ever.

Yet the scale of City's command over their rivals, despite the depth of resources in the world's richest league, has surpassed even the feats achieved by United, Liverpool and Arsenal in their glory years.

City are on a 35-match unbeaten run in all competitions from open play, setting a record in the Premier League era. Their 3-1 victory over West Ham to seal the title on Sunday took the champions past 90 points for the fourth time in seven seasons -- a mark United only managed twice in Ferguson's entire Old Trafford reign in a 38-game season.

"I think to win the Premier League four times, no team has ever done it before, so to do it means we are up there," said City midfielder Phil Foden on the debate over which side is England's greatest.

In past seasons, City have been pushed hard by Liverpool, who interrupted their dynastic spell by winning the 2019/20 title, while Arsenal finished just two points behind the champions this season.

Liverpool racked up 97 points in 2018/19 and 92 points two years ago but still missed out on the title due to City's relentlessness.

This time a club-record 28 wins in a season and 89 points was not enough for Arsenal's first title in 20 years.

"In the beginning of the season, we

didn't think about it," said Guardiola, speaking last week about the possibility of winning four in a row.

"But then we were in February, March and April, we were still there (in the title race). After that, it ignites something in all our heads.

"No team has done it. That shows how hard it is. Liverpool in the 1980s, Alex Ferguson's United in the 1990s. Chelsea with (Roman) Abramovich and Jose (Mourinho), Arsenal with (Arsene) Wenger didn't do it."

City have been showered with praise for their performances on the pitch, but the plaudits come with caveats.

In a Premier League season in which Everton and Nottingham Forest were docked points for breaches of financial rules, a case against City over 115 charges has rumbled on for 15 months without resolution.

City strongly deny any wrongdoing, but face accusations of failing to provide accurate financial information between 2009 and 2018 and not cooperating with the Premier League's investigation.

The source of the club's wealth since a takeover by Abu Dhabi's Sheikh Mansour, which transformed City's fortunes on and off the pitch, has also dampened the enthusiasm of many for their astonishing success. "I don't know," said Guardiola on whether his side get the credit they deserve for their historic feats. "We know how good we have been."

AFP

## Man City's 115 charges and Guardiola's exit loom on horizon despite historic triumph

By James Ducker

NOTHING drew attention to the elephant in the room quite like the absence of the Premier League's chief executive at the Etihad Stadium on Sunday.

Richard Masters has attempted to downplay the significance of his decision to go to the Emirates to watch Arsenal rather than see Manchester City clinch an unprecedented fourth Premier League title by insisting there was nothing "particularly scientific" behind the move.

Had it been Arsenal, not City, holding the two-point advantage heading into the final day, it would have been a logical choice to pitch up in north London.

But, in the circumstances, it was hard to escape the feeling that Masters was happy to spare himself the awkwardness of handing over the trophy to the very club his organisation have hit with 115 charges for alleged financial irregularities, which City -- of course -- strenuously deny.

So it was left to Alison Brittain, the Premier League's chair who keeps a low profile and probably had plenty of City fans guessing as to her identity, to present the trophy to City's captain Kyle Walker and exchange pleasantries with the players and manager Pep Guardiola.

It is hard to believe anyone of a City persuasion was thinking too much about those charges as Walker hoisted the Premier League trophy into the air and they basked in their new-found status as the only club in English football history to win four consecutive league titles.

But there is also little doubt that the next 12 months could present two huge obstacles for City, on and off the field, as they bid to extend this era of extraordinary dominance.

The Premier League case, which is expected to come to a head in some form over the course of next season, should present enough of a headache on its own, even if City are convinced they will be exonerated and this talk of asterisks and tainted titles quashed once and for all.

But City will also have the small matter of Guardiola's future to resolve -- an elephant in the room of a different kind. The City manager's contract expires at the end of next season and he did not sound like a man certain to extend it by any means when the subject was raised.

"The reality is I am closer to leaving than staying," he said. "We have talked with the club -- my feeling is that I want to stay now. I will stay



Pep Guardiola celebrates the title with Man City executives, but Premier League chief Richard Masters was at Arsenal -- Reuters

next season and during the season we will talk. But [after] eight or nine years [at City] -- we will see."

City could face an unprecedented range of punishments including points deductions, sweeping fines and the ultimate sanction of expulsion from the League should they be found guilty of the charges that now cast a shadow over a second consecutive title win. But the prospect of Guardiola calling it a day a year from now presents all kinds of other threats and unknowns.

Liverpool's departing manager, Jurgen Klopp, made an interesting point when he suggested over the weekend that, for all the furore around the charges, City would not have won four in a row had they not had Guardiola in charge, praise that almost brought the Catalan to tears on Sunday as he reflected on their rivalry. City may be one of the best-run clubs in Europe but, just as Liverpool fans are now unsure how a post-Klopp world will look, City

without Guardiola will instantly be weaker. They need only look across the road at the state of Manchester United since Sir Alex Ferguson's retirement to know how devastating the impact of losing a master manager can be.

Equally, City's executives will know that this summer may be the last -- for a while at least -- from which they are operating from this level of strength. Guardiola responded to City's latest title success by declaring they had "got the message from Mikel [Arteta] and his [Arsenal players]" and that they would "have to make the right decisions in the next years because they [Arsenal] are here to stay".

It sounded like Guardiola sounding the starting pistol on another busy summer and City will doubtless view it as a prime opportunity to strengthen, particularly with all the uncertainty ahead and some of the pillars of their success not getting any younger.

Kyle Walker celebrates his 34th birthday next week and Kevin De Bruyne turns 33 next month. John Stones is 30 on Friday and Bernardo reaches the same milestone in August. Renewal will be required and City can at least head into this window free from the stresses that may soon be around the corner.

"Are you watching Arsenal?" chanted the City fans as they revelled in another title success. They were and they probably have their own view on things. Some Arsenal supporters, who now know how their Liverpool counterparts felt in 2019 and 2022, could be heard chanting "you're cheats and you know you are" outside the Emirates as they headed home to reflect on what might have been.

City emphatically refute such suggestions but a season of reckoning awaits.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Man City make case to be ranked as England's greatest-ever team

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

## Azam now out to boost Champions League hopes against JKT Tanzania

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

FRESH from securing their spot in the CRDB Bank Federation Cup final, Azam will resume NBC Premier League duties with a trip to Mbweni to face JKT Tanzania at Major Isamuhyo Stadium in the afternoon.

With three games left to play, Azam find themselves in the chase for second place with Simba as the two sides seek to settle who joins already crowned champions Young Africans in next season's CAF Champions League.

Azam remain in second place thanks to their vastly superior goal difference to third-placed Simba and have it in their own hands to secure the coveted African football club premier competition ticket if they win all their matches.

All of Youssouph Dabo's men, who contributed to the 3-0 slaughter of Coastal Union on Saturday, emerged unscathed and two of those goals were struck with almost thirty minutes to play, so the Senegalese coach had the luxury of making a multitude of changes.

Meanwhile, JKT Tanzania are undefeated in their last eight league matches having drawn 1-1 with Singida Fountain Gate last week.

With 31 points amassed from their 27 league outings this term, JKT Tanzania sit ninth in the standings, just four points clear of the relegation zone. The army side still has work to do to avoid the relegation playoffs.

Having picked up 19 points from 14 home matches, the fifth-lowest number of points on home soil by a side in this campaign, today's hosts will be hoping to find a way to stop an opposition that has dominated them.

In seven recent meetings between both sides in the league, JKT Tanzania have lost five times, and drawn twice.

When the teams met earlier this season, at Chamazi Stadium in December, Azam claimed a 2-1 victory thanks to goals from Sospeter Bajana and Iddy Selemani.

Najim Magulu scored the consolation strike for JKT Tanzania.



Vijana basketball players during a training session at the Jakaya Kikwete grounds in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**MJADALA**

**EATV TUESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Mpera Mpera  
13:30 Kati Za Wana  
13:55 Dandao Za Michezo  
14:00 5SPORTS (R)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zite Kuntu  
16:55 Dandao Za Michezo  
17:00 5SELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kati Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (R)  
21:00 MJADALA  
21:30 Zite Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa  
23:05 EATV SAA 1

**MJADALA** is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

**eastafrica RADIO**

05:00 Supa Breakfast  
09:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
19:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Gobind appointed as senior national cricket team's head coach

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA Cricket Association (TCA) has appointed Rivash Gobind as the new head coach of the senior men's cricket team.

The association's Information and Media officer Atif Salim stated in a recent statement that with a Level Four coaching qualification and an illustrious career spanning over two decades, Gobind brings a wealth of experience and expertise to his new role, poised to lead Tanzania to cricketing success.

Gobind's coaching journey, Salim pointed out, is adorned with notable achievements and impactful contributions to various cricketing establishments globally.

The TCA official disclosed that in 2012, Gobind served as an assistant coach of the Dolphins team, which was under the tutelage of Lance Klusener, playing a pivotal role in guiding the team to victory in the 2013-14 Ram Slam T20 Challenge.

His coaching prowess was further



New Tanzania's senior national cricket team's head coach, Rivash Gobind. AGENCIES

showcased when he assumed the position of head coach for the Dolphins during the last six weeks of the 2015-16 Sunfoil Series, demonstrating his ability to lead teams to excellence.

In August 2016, Gobind embarked on a new chapter in his coaching career as he was appointed as an assistant

coach of the Warriors on a three-year contract, keeping on honing his strategic acumen and mentorship skills.

His journey took an international turn in October 2019 when he joined the coaching staff of the Afghanistan national cricket team as an assistant coach, contributing to the development of cricketing talent on the global stage.

Gobind's dedication and expertise were further recognized in January 2021 when he was appointed as South Africa's Performance Analyst, highlighting his invaluable contributions to the cricketing landscape.

The coach has moreover served as an assistant coach for Cape Town Samp Army in the ZimAfro T10 league and Team Abu Dhabi in the AD T10 league in 2023, showcasing his versatility and adaptability in different cricketing formats.

In 2024, he took on the role of coach at Durban Super Giants in SA20 and served as a consultant to the Titans Cricket Team in South Africa, further solidifying his reputation as a leading figure in the world of cricket coaching.

Salim stated that the new coach will start his new role immediately, commencing with a camp for the U-19 Boys at the TCA's headquarters in Dar es Salaam to prepare the national U-19 team for the upcoming World Cup Qualifying tournament.

As Gobind assumes the role of head coach of Tanzania's national cricket team, his impressive credentials and unwavering commitment to excellence promise to usher in a new era of success for Tanzanian cricket.

With his strategic vision and proven track record, Gobind is poised to inspire and nurture the nation's cricketing talent, paving the way for Tanzania to emerge as a formidable force in the international cricketing arena.

Meanwhile, TCA Operations Manager, Kanute Masanja, and Players Pathway Officer Khalil Rehemtullah recently engaged in a comprehensive discussion on the trajectory of cricket players in TCA programs.

Their conversation, aired on a sports program run by a domestic Television station, shed light on the journey from grassroots leagues like the Chanzo League to school competitions such as the Junior League, and the eventual transition to competitive club cricket that offers the players a chance to catch the eye of selectors.

This pathway underscores TCA's commitment to nurturing talent from the ground up, ensuring a robust pipeline for the national team.

Looking ahead, the new management of TCA has set ambitious goals for the expansion of cricket across Tanzania.

TCA aims to, by 2025, have cricket actively played in a minimum of 15 regions, significantly broadening the sport's reach and accessibility.

To support this endeavour, plans are underway to increase the number of coaches across various centers, facilitating the teaching and development of cricket at the grassroots level.

These initiatives reflect TCA's dedication to fostering a thriving cricket culture nationwide and creating opportunities for aspiring players to excel.

During the show, Masanja and Rehemtullah also fielded questions from callers, delving into various aspects of cricket development at the grassroots level.

From talent identification to infrastructure development, the discussion underscored the multifaceted approach TCA is taking to strengthen the foundation of cricket in Tanzania.

Through strategic planning, community engagement, and investment in coaching resources, TCA is poised to realize its vision of cricket as a prominent and inclusive sport across the nation.

## Gamondi proud of Yanga players after incredible effort secures Federation Cup win



Young Africans head coach Miguel Gamondi. Photo: Courtesy of YASC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans head coach Miguel Gamondi says he couldn't be prouder of his players after the hard-fought win over Ihefu set up a CRDB Bank Federation Cup final for the fourth year running.

Young Africans booked a place in the final with an extra-time 1-0 win over Ihefu in the Federation Cup second semi-final match played at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha on Sunday.

Stephane Azizi ki's 101th-minute goal was the decisive moment as Gamondi's men progressed to the final to face Azam for a second successive season.

The defending champions had to battle and ride their luck on occasion, but the Argentine coach

believes the team's fighting spirit and determination were evident throughout, in spite of a gruelling battle.

"We are happy for the win. It was a very tough game. In the first half, it was a very good game. We created three to four chances. Ihefu created three to four chances as well.

"We improved a lot in the second half. I think we dominated the game in the second half. Even though there was not much goal threat, Ihefu defended very well. I told the players to be calm, be careful with the counterattack and transition of Ihefu.

"They did not create much and in the last 30 minutes, I think we were physically stronger than them as well. We scored a goal and won the game and I think it is well deserved but let me congratulate Ihefu because they played a fantastic game. They played and fought well," he said.

Gamondi was proud of his players for

their ability to remain calm and composed to claim a huge deserved victory against a tough opponent.

"Congratulations to my players because they fought as well. They showed maturity to handle all the moments and we won and are in the final," he added.

The CRDB Bank Federation Cup final is due to take place on Sunday, 2 June 2024 at Kwaraa Stadium, Manyara.

Last season, Kennedy Musonda's goal gave Young Africans a 1-0 win over Azam on the way to a successive domestic double. In 2022, that victory came against Coastal Union.

Young Africans, who have already sealed a record-extending 30th league title, will be hoping to secure their fourth triumph in the Federation Cup, having won it in 2016, 2022 and 2023 since it was re-launched in the 2015/2016 season.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

