



PROPERTY WATCH
DISCOVER INFORM INSURE

COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES APEX BODY SEEKING TO REPOSSESS NATIONALISED PROPERTY

5th MSCl South Africa Green's Annual Property Index is out

Nyusi inaugurates cement plant

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INTEGRATION



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MATERNITY



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CORRUPTION



'EXPOSE UNFAITHFUL GOVT OFFICIALS' PAGE 6

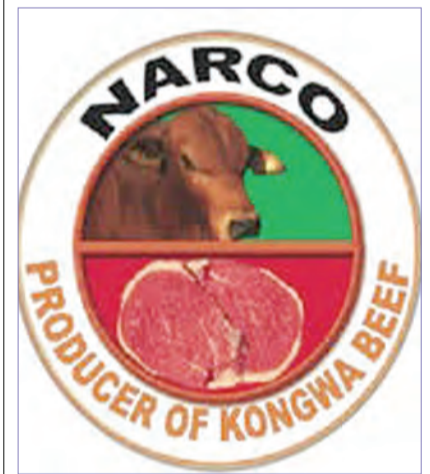
ACCIDENT

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LIVESTOCK

Page 3



FARMING

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SOKOINE MEMORIAL EXHIBITION: Dr Ladislaus Mnyome (R), director of a predatory organisms control centre, pictured in Morogoro municipality yesterday briefing Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (L) on mice specially trained at the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) in the detection of TB and explosives. This was at an exhibition at SUA's Moringe Campus of Sokoine University of Agriculture held in memory of former prime minister Edward Moringe Sokoine, who died in a road crash in Morogoro Region on April 18, 1984. Photo courtesy of VPO

MPs question high livestock numbers, low productivity

By Songa wa Songa, Dodoma

LAWMAKERS yesterday called on the government to undertake major reforms in the livestock sector after new statistics showed that the number of domesticated animals increased substantially last year but productivity went down.

Tabling the 2021/22 budget estimates in the National Assembly, yesterday, Livestock and Fisheries minister Mashimba Ndaki said the number of cattle increased from 33.4m to 33.9m in the past year.

Goat numbers reached 24.5m from 21.29m earlier, while sheep stocks rose from 5.65m to 8.5m animals, he stated.

Chicken numbers were up from 83.28m to 87.7m and pigs from 2.14m to 3.2m, while productivity cast a grim picture at a meager five per cent in 2020, contributing 7.1 per cent in the Gross Domestic Product. Noticeably, this input was a mark down from the 7.4 contribution

in GDP during 2019, he stated. Lawmakers took issue with this dwindling productivity, pointing accusing fingers at the government for contributing to this situation by hanging onto its loss-making ranching businesses and failing to invest in modern livestock keeping methods.

Charles Mwijage (Muleba North) recommended the formation of a livestock development authority to undertake reforms so as to make the sector more efficient, since Tanzania has the third highest number of livestock in Africa after Ethiopia and Sudan, but it loses billions of shillings annually for failing to transform the sector.

Uganda for instance earns one million (US) dollars annually from milk exports while Tanzania has no milk export figures to talk about, he pointed out.

Edward ole Lekaita (Kiteto) blamed under investment in the sector, saying it boggles the mind that with 65 to 70 per cent of Tanzanians living upon

agriculture, fisheries and livestock, the sectors get meager budgetary allocations.

Botswana is the leading beef exporter in Africa but that happened after the country invested heavily and modernized its livestock sector, he asserted.

"For the sake of efficiency, I recommend that we have separate ministries for agriculture, livestock and fisheries," the legislator thundered.

Kilumbe Ng'enda (Kigoma Urban) said that for the sector to be more productive, the government should introduce reform to facilitate greater private sector involvement.

"The little progress we are making in fisheries is because of private sector investment," he said.

Tumaini Magessa (Busanda) said the ministry in its current formation cannot transform the sector and it requires radical changes.

"Let's institute a livestock development authority to spearhead this transformation," he added.

VP: Importers can produce seeds locally

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has directed all firms that import seeds to start producing the seeds in the country, instructing the Ministry of Agriculture to supervise the implementation of this instruction.

The VP also directed the Prisons Department and the National Service (JKT) to work to produce quality seeds, urging the heads of these institutions to measure up their performance in how they carry out this task.

The VP was officiating at the closing ceremony of a commemoration week for the 37th anniversary of the death of erstwhile prime minister, the late Edward Moringe Sokoine at the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) in Morogoro.

The VP was flanked by one of his predecessors in the office of the VP, former First Vice President and Prime Minister under the second phase government, Judge (ret) Joseph Warioba who is also the Chancellor of the university, along with model farmer and former prime minister, Mizengo Pinda.

Dr Mpango said producing quality seeds locally will upgrade the use of technology and correct anomalies in the importation and distribution of seeds as their quality is often uncertain, as is the case with mineral fertilisers.

Firms that import seeds need to begin producing seeds here, he said, tasking the Ministry of Agriculture to mobilise itself for supervision and not wait for higher authorities to make inquiries thereof.

Agriculture ministry as well as Livestock and Fisheries need to work on expanding extension services to reach

farmers and small livestock keepers in rural areas, he said, noting that this requires follow ups on how far the targeted groups adopt the methods instructed.

He said the Phase VI government has stressed developing agriculture as the sector provides 70 per cent of gainful occupations and 23 per cent share in the GDP, which also includes a 30 per cent share in export values and 65 per cent of needs in industrial raw materials.

House blames govt as output falls amid surge in fish stocks

By Songa wa Songa, Dodoma

EFFORTS to control illegal fishing led to more sustainable fish stocks in Tanzanian water bodies but productivity in the fisheries sector remained low, with MPs yesterday blaming underinvestment.



Citizens have key role in ensuring security - PM

By Songa wa Songa, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa (pictured) yesterday said that all citizens and residents of Tanzania have a key role in ensuring safety and security by reporting suspected criminal activities to the relevant authorities.

In his weekly impromptu question and



answer session, the premier said that ensuring safety and security is indeed the duty of the government but the state cannot deliver on that without extensive assistance by law abiding citizens everywhere.

He was responding to a query by Festo Sanga (Makete) who sought to know what the government is doing to rein in recent incidents of armed robbery in Dar es Salaam,

Dodoma Mwanza, Mbeya and Arusha cities. "We have repeatedly appealed to Tanzanians to take it as civic responsibility to protect themselves, their neighbours and the community as a whole," he stated.

The premier affirmed that security organs can't man every corner of the country

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Citizens have key role in ensuring security - PM

FROM PAGE 1

at each moment, but good citizens are found all over the country, in which case securing the entire nation is eased when citizens work with the security organs.

By sitting back and waiting for authorities to keep the country secure, law abiding citizens are abdicating their noble role of helping government authorities secure the country, he declared.

"It is our collective responsibility to actively take part in ensuring the security of our country," he said, commending the police force for its recent effective response to a wave of robbery incidents in the commercial capital.

He sought to reassure the public that the country is safe, with security organs working round the clock to foil criminal activities and keep criminals where they belong, in correctional facilities.

He reiterated the position expressed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, cautioning criminals who are testing the water - to see if there is effective government - that this is not the time to commit crimes.

The president directed police authorities to stamp out crime, noting that "they did so in the past and can do it now."

"My appeal to all Tanzanians is: tip off authorities whenever you see a suspicious person or activity," the premier intoned.

House blames govt as output falls amid surge in fish stocks

FROM PAGE 1

Livestock and Fisheries minister Mashimba Ndaki said in delivering the ministry's 2021/22 budget estimates yesterday that in Lake Victoria, fish stocks increased from 2.68m metric tonnes in 2019 to 3.46m tones, an upsurge of 29.27 per cent. The contribution of the sector in the Gross Domestic Product was a meager 1.71 per cent in 2020 even as it grew at a rate of 6.7 per cent per annum, he said. The fisheries sector provided direct employment to 195,435 fishermen and some 30,064 people in aquaculture, he stated, noting that livelihoods of more than 4.5m people depend on fishery-related activities, including boat making and repair, net making, the fish trade and food vending. In its report, the parliamentary committee for Agriculture, Livestock and Water apportioned the blame to the government for failing to disburse financial resources for unlocking the potential of the sector.

In the current financial year the fisheries sector was allocated 13bn/- for development activities but as of last month, about 4.09bn/- had been disbursed, equal to 31.4 per cent," the committee noted.

In her presentation, committee chairperson Dr Christine Ishengoma (Special Seats) said that 1.05bn/- was domestic

revenue and 3.04bn/- was obtained from foreign sources, noting that the committee was irked by the low disbursement of funds for the fisheries sector development, and had demanded to know the reasons that underlie the situation.

The committee was told that procurement guidelines require contractors to implement projects with their own funds and are then reimbursed after producing a certificate of completion, she said. Insisting that the requirement is a hindrance for local contractors with limited capital, and explains why projects take too long to complete. The committee recommended that the ministry improve the way it engages contractors so that fisheries development projects are undertaken and completed in time.

But in his speech, the minister appealed to the private sector to continue investing in the fisheries sector by putting up more factories and storage facilities for fish and fish products. So far there are 90 storage facilities, 16 big factories, five medium factories and 33 small factories, he elaborated.

The minister sought approval of 16919bn/- estimates for the next financial year where the ministry seeks to improve security for sustainable fishing and control revenue losses in fisheries, among other objectives.

Importers can produce seeds locally - Mpango

FROM PAGE 1

"As it was during the time when Edward Sokoine was in office, the agriculture sector still remains the 'mother sector' in the country's economy, a reliable source of food and income for the majority of Tanzanians," he said.

Despite the importance of agriculture for the country's economy, its productivity level and benefits are not satisfac-

tory, he said, illustrating with observations that the local maize harvest stands at 1.5 tonnes per hectare, which comes down to just around 15 per cent of the 10 tonnes maize harvest per hectare in the United States, the main producer and exporter of the crop.

Rice fetches 2.3 tonnes per hectare locally, measuring up to 35 per cent of what farmers in China obtain, with a 6.7 tonnes yield per hectare, he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has a word in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday with (from-L) Livestock and Fisheries deputy minister Abdallah Ulega, Livestock and Fisheries minister Mashimba Ndaki, and Deputy Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) Dr Festo Dugange. Photo: PMO

Two artisanal tanzanite miners die of suffocation

By Guardian Correspondent

TWO artisanal miners have died due to suffocation at the Mulla Tanzanite mining site in Simanjoro district in the Manyara Region.

The two are said to have gone to the mine which has been operational for a long time.

Manyara regional police

commander, Marison Mwakyoma confirmed the incident saying they were found dead on 26th at around 11 am this year.

"The miners are said to have entered the mining site which is owned by Kilimanjaro mining which belongs to Arusha based tycoon Alhakim Mulla," he said.

The source of the death is

said to be suffocation after they entered the mine site and died inside.

Mwakyoma named those who died as Omary Shabani (44) a resident of Kazamoyo at Mirerani Township and Frank Ndekirwa (43) who is a resident of Tengeru in Arusha.

According to Mwakyoma Police are going on with in-

vestigations in collaboration with mineral officers to identify other incidents related to this one.

On May, 7th this year other two miners died at California mining site after they were hit by a blast in the mine.

The two miners are said to have been hit by the blast when they were at site B (opecc) in a site owned by Deo

Minja (48) a resident of Njiro in Arusha.

One of the eyewitnesses who saw the incident, Elias Lazaro said the two entered the mining site thinking they will get Tanzanite.

Upon entering the site, the two suffocated following the removal of an oxygen machine after ending of operation.



John Masenza (L), manager of the Iringa regional chapter of Save the Children Tanzania, presents a rabbit to acting regional administrative secretary Dr Mohamed Mang'una yesterday. The gift was meant as a token to inspire model farmers in Iringa municipality to consider rabbit meat, which is white and acknowledged as white, high in protein and low in fat and cholesterol, as a regular part of family diets. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya



Special Seats legislators Hawa Mchafu asks Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa a question in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Leave council loans to boys, men told

By Songa wa Songa, Dodoma

THE government has no plans to consider men aged 35 and above for government's economic empowerment loans issued by councils, parliament heard yesterday.

Deputy Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) Festo Dugange told the House that the 10 per cent of councils' revenues are strictly meant for people with disabilities (PWDs), women and youth.

"Our laws categorize youth as boys and girls aged between 18 and 35; there are no plans to extend that bracket," he said.

Every council is required to set aside 10 per cent of its annual revenues for the three groups in the following percentage: PWDs (2 per cent), women (4 per cent) and youth (4 per cent).

The deputy minister said that men aged 35 and above should just work hard and raise capital for their businesses instead of expecting to be included in the programme.

The explanation was in response to a question posed by Priscus Tarimo-Moshi Urban (CCM) who asked if the government has plans to extend the age

of male beneficiaries to 45.

"People aged between 18 to 45 are very energetic and productive; can't the government see the need to extend the age?" he asked.

But the minister said the matter cannot be handled politically since it involves legal matters such as definition of youth, meaning male who are off that bracket have no hope of accessing the funds any time soon.

Sophia Mwakagenda-Special Seats (CHADEMA) raised the issue of repayment, saying most of the funds are lost because borrowers do not repay, making it impossible for other deserving Tanzanians to benefit from the programme.

"Beneficiaries are not repaying; a lot of Tanzanians are on the waiting list but there are no funds to loan them," she said.

To this, Dugange acknowledged that there were administrative weaknesses in recouping the funds to ensure sustainability of the programme.

"Before, there were no funds for follow-up of these loans," he said.

"In the 2021/22 financial year, funds have been allocated for this and community development of officers will be responsible for follow-up and recovery of the loans."

Kiir reaffirms South Sudan commitment to EAC integration

By Guardian Reporter

SOUTH Sudan President, Salva Kiir Mayardit has reaffirmed his commitment to the East African Community integration, urging EAC secretariat to devise strategies that will further enhance the integration of his nation into the community.

Kiir made the remarks on Wednesday when speaking with EAC Secretary General of the East African Community, Dr Peter Mathuki who paid a courtesy call on him at State House, in Juba.

Dr Mathuki was accompanied by the Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly, Martin Ngoga, the Judge President

of the East African Court of Justice, Justice Nestor Kayobera, the Deputy Secretary General in charge of the Productive and Social Sectors, Christophe Bazivamo, as well as Registrar of the East African Court of Justice, His Worship Yufnalis Okubo, and EAC Director of Finance, Juvenal Ndimurirwo.

The President called upon the Secretary General to put in place mechanisms to increase South Sudan's level of participation in intra-regional trade in addition to initiatives that will enable the people of South Sudan to fully capitalize on the benefits of the community.

He commended the current close col-

laboration between EAC Organs and institutions as a clear commitment towards achieving the objectives of the community.

A meeting between the EAC delegation and the country's Minister of East African Community Affairs, Deng Alor Kuol, preceded the courtesy call on the Head of State.

During the visit, the Secretary General thanked the President and other members of the EAC Summit for his appointment as the sixth Secretary General of the East African Community.

"I am cognizant of the very heavy responsibilities inherent in this appointment. I will remain dedicated, diligent and

trustworthy so as to ensure we achieve tangible results for the betterment of the livelihoods of our people in East Africa," said Dr Mathuki.


Dr Mathuki briefed the President on the current EAC state of play on various integration matters including progress on consolidating the Single Customs Territory, implementation of the Common Market and Monetary Union protocols, as well as progress towards attainment of the EAC Political Confederation.

The Secretary General informed the President that the EAC Secretariat was keen on supporting South Sudan in strengthening her institutions, such as the

automation of customs offices, thereby facilitating more efficient clearance off goods.

Dr Mathuki further said that the EAC Secretariat was providing various scholarships aimed at building the capacity of the youth in information technology and called upon the youth in South Sudan to capitalize on such opportunities.

"Digital skills are critical in facilitating all aspects of our regional integration agenda, we offer full-time scholarships for students to be enrolled in a Master's programme in Embedded and Mobile Systems (MSc EMOs) that is open to students across the region," said Dr Mathuki.



**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:
BASELINE EVALUATION SURVEY OF CHILDREN WITH CHILDREN -
INITIATIVES FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS PROJECT IN TANZANIA**

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is a local non-government organization affiliated to SOS Children's Villages International, a worldwide child care organization that provides orphaned and destitute children with a permanent home and educational opportunities. Established 60 years ago, SOS Children's Villages International the umbrella organization, currently has Children's Villages and other projects in 135 countries around the world. Globally, it runs the SOS Children's Village Programme which has two main arms, i.e. Family Based Care based at SOS Children's Villages and Family Strengthening Programmes supporting families in local communities. SOS has been working in the United Republic of Tanzania since 1991, and implements its programs in the following locations Zanzibar, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Iringa

1. DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAMME LOCATION

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania has recently been awarded a three years Children with Children (CwC) project to respond to the needs of children and adolescent girls and boys in the Iringa region.

The overall goal of the project is to contribute in improvement on wellbeing and rights of adolescent girls and mothers in Iringa, Tanzania. This is a three years project (2020-2023) funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland and SOS Children's Villages Finland. The project is implemented in all three districts (Kilolo, Mufindi, and Iringa) of the Iringa region. The primary beneficiaries of the CwC project are 600 adolescent mothers (10-19-year-old) and 15,000 adolescent boys and girls who are in secondary schools.

The project key results areas to be attained by 2023 include:

Outcome 1: Improved national gender policy on rights of adolescent girls and mothers in Tanzania

Outcome 2: Local systems and community based structures in Iringa region respond to incidences of Violence against Children (VAC) and Gender Based Violence (GBV).

Outcome 3: Adolescent girls and mothers and boys in Iringa region have access and utilization of Sexual Reproductive Health services as the basic health care services in Mufindi, Kilolo and Iringa rural district councils.

Outcome 4: Improved socio-economic ability for targeted adolescent mothers and vulnerable caregivers in Mufindi, Iringa rural and Kilolo districts.

2. RATIONALE AND OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE BASELINE STUDY

The overall objective of the baseline evaluation survey is to assess the situation prior to a programme, against which progress can be assessed and comparisons made. This intends to establish benchmark indicators values based on the program logic to measure the results during and after completing the project. The findings from this baseline study inform with stand monitoring tool and evaluation plan toward end line evaluation of the project

Similarly, the baseline study intends to test the validity, reliability, and data availability of indicators (for instance, do they measure what they measure what supposed to be measured, are they cost effective etc.). The overall goal of the study is collect base data of each indicator to feature in project M & E plan and provide the basis of annual, midterm and final evolution of the project.

Specific objectives of the baseline survey;

- To assess teenage/adolescent mothers with children's social economic status and ability to provide care and support for themselves and their children.
- To identify the gaps in care and support of the teenage/adolescent mothers (10 -19 years old) for designing a response that will contribute to improve their well-being.
- To understand resource allocation and policies and structures related to parenting, child care, and SRHR at the national level and specifically for Iringa region.
- To understand gender and SRHR gaps among girls and boys in schools and their surrounding communities and beyond.

3. MANNER OF SUBMISSION:

Interested bidders are welcome to contact SOS Children's Villages Tanzania through National.Office@sos-tanzania.org to obtain Request for Quotation form and Terms and reference(TOR) for the assignment not later than **4th June, 2021.**






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Casual workers prepare sachets of soil in which to 'plant' seedlings for use in nurseries under the care of Kiwira Forest Plantation in Mbeya Region, as found yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga

2,000 farmers expected to attend trade, farming exhibition to be held in Mbeya

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MORE than 2,000 farmers from various regions countrywide are to participate in the agricultural and trade exhibition organized by the government through Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) in collaboration with other stakeholders to be held today (May 28) in Mbeya City. The preparations for the exhibition, whose third edition this year is being held in Mbeya have been completed and farmers were now being mobilised to participate so as to be provided with better farming and business technologies.

Addressing reporters yesterday on the preparations, the Acting Director of the Uyole Centre of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI-Uyole), Leonard Sabula said they have mobilised themselves to impart to

farmers various farming technologies to enable them engage in gainful farming practices.

He said farmers and business people from various areas countrywide are expected to participate to learn on how to add value to their crops.

"Various institutions, including those distributing farm inputs are participating, the aim is to help farmers learn about farming practices using modern technologies, but also to connect them to markets for their crops," Sabula added.

Some of those expected to attend, include Prudence Gerald, representative of East African Cereals Council (EACC) who said the exhibition have been beneficial as many received education that have improved production of their crops.

Mbeya police hold youth on allegations of father's killing

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

POLICE in Mbeya Region have detained one youth, Daniel Manga, better known as 'Hofu' resident of Iheha Village in Mbarali District for allegedly killing his father, Victor Manga (79) accusing him of being a witch.

Addressing reporters in his office Wednesday this week, Mbeya regional Police Commander Ulrich Matei said the suspect was arrested on Tuesday (May 25) following a police hunt working together with other members of the public.

The RPC said the suspect allegedly slashed the deceased on the head and the right hand with a machete and died due to loss of blood.

"The police hunt resulted in the arrest of the suspect who hid himself in Iheha Village in Mbarali District," said RPC Matei.

He called upon the people to reject tra-

ditional misbeliefs that make them take the law in their own hands and that stern action would be taken against such people.

He also appealed to them to solve family and community problems via legal channels instead of taking the law in their hands, saying that was a crime in itself.

He also called upon them to report family quarrels to the police in order to take early steps to control the quarrels before they ran out of hand.

Meanwhile, RPC Matei said the police were also holding six people on claims of their involvement in motorcycle and tricycles (bajaj) theft network in the region as well as for house breaking and stealing.

He mentioned those held as Samson Daniel (47), a resident of Uyole in Mbeya City, Samwel Isack (49), a carpenter and resident of Mwanza City and Mtumigwa Moses (23) a resident of Kyela.

Other suspects being held are Christantus Eugin (26) and Fauz Said (20), both residents of Dar es Salaam and Steven Chamshama (32), resident of Block T in Mbeya City.

He said the suspects, after interrogation, confessed of their participation in various criminal incidents in Mbeya, Katavi, Kigoma and Mwanza regions.

"But this one - Chamshama was found with 40 tablets of drugs used to intoxicate motor cycle drivers and when they pass out he steals their machines, and added that investigations were continuing, after which they will be taken to court," he added.

He also said the police were holding three people for allegedly being found with 535 grams of marijuana.

He mentioned the three as Nicholas Mbonde (24), Isaka Philipo (25) and Kened Francis (21).

Z'bar spice project provides vanilla seeds to 50 farmers in Pemba

By Guardian Reporter

A total of 5,000 vanilla seeds have been provided to 50 farmers in the 'shehias' (wards) of Mtambwe South and North in Wete District, Pemba North Region to increase the crop's production as part in the development of the Grand Spices and Horticulture Project being implemented in the Isles.

Presenting the seeds, Assistant Agricultural Officer for the two 'shehias' Hamad Mwitani said they are handed out following the completion of special training for farmers on better farming practices.

He said 50 farmers benefitted from the seeds hand-out, hence each farmer received 100 vanilla seeds for planting in their farms.

One of the seeds recipients, Maryam Hamad Sharif, said following to what they have been trained on modern farming practices would use seeds on her farm to increase the crop's production in the Isles.

Another recipient, Rashid Abdalla Salum, thanked the Zanzibar Spices and Horticulture Project for recognizing challenges faced by farmers and providing them with the seeds since for a long time they had been lacking quality vanilla seeds.

"I pledge that I will do all my best to increase vanilla production and I will call agricultural experts to inspect my crops to see how I will be faring," he added.

Earlier, Pemba Community Forests Managing Director, Mbarouk Mussa Omar appealed to farmers provided with vanilla seeds to develop them according to the knowledge they received from agricultural experts in order to attain the project's targets.

Earlier, the project's Operation Officer for Pemba Zone, Sharif Maalim Hamad said the distribution of the seeds was part of efforts in the implementation of the Zanzibar Spices and Horticulture Project to ensure

farmers produce quality spices and horticultural products from quality seeds. The Zanzibar Spices and Horticulture Project is being implemented by Tanzania Media Women Association

in Zanzibar (TAMWA-Zanzibar), Community Forests Pemba (CFP) and People's Development Forums (PDF) under sponsorship from the European Union (EU).



ACCESS MICROFINANCE BANK TANZANIA LIMITED AMENDMENTS OF CHARGES AND FEES

DESCRIPTION	CHARGE/FEE	
LOAN PRODUCT LENDING RATES	TZS	USD
MICRO LOANS TZS 500,000 to 35,000,000	from 50.4% to 60% with graduation for good repeat clients and with good account turnover.	N/A
AGRO LOANS TZS 500,000 to 50,000,000	from 50.4% to 60% with graduation for good repeat clients and with good account turnover.	N/A
SME LOANS/ODs 35,000,000 to 150,000,000	from 26.4% to 42% with graduation for good repeat clients and with good account turnover.	N/A
Agent OD/Wakala Overdraft from 500,000 to 20,000,000	20.40%	N/A
Loans/OD Secured by Fixed Term Deposits from 10,000,000 to 150,000,000	20.40%	
Loan Processing Fee	TZS	USD
MICRO LOANS TZS 500,000 to 35,000,000	3.40% inclusive of excise duty and VAT	N/A
AGRO LOANS TZS 500,000 to 50,000,000	3.40% inclusive of excise duty and VAT	N/A
SME LOANS/ODs 35,000,000 to 150,000,000	3.40% inclusive of excise duty and VAT	N/A
Agent OD/Wakala Overdraft from 500,000 to 20,000,000	1.5% inclusive excise duty and VAT	
Loans/OD Secured by Fixed Term Deposits from 10,000,000 to 150,000,000	from 1.5% to 3.40% inclusive of excise duty and VAT	N/A
Application Fee	TZS	USD
MICRO LOANS TZS 500,000 to 35,000,000	20,000.00	N/A
AGRO LOANS TZS 500,000 to 50,000,000	20,000.00	N/A
SME LOANS/ODs 35,000,000 to 150,000,000	20,000.00	N/A
Agent OD/Wakala Overdraft from 500,000 to 20,000,000	20,000.00	N/A
Loans/OD Secured by Fixed Term Deposits from 10,000,000 to 150,000,000	20,000.00	N/A
Insurance Fee	TZS	USD
MICRO LOANS TZS 500,000 to 35,000,000	1%	N/A
AGRO LOANS TZS 500,000 to 50,000,000	1%	N/A
SME LOANS/ODs 35,000,000 to 150,000,000	from 0.6% to 1%	N/A
Agent OD/Wakala Overdraft from 500,000 to 20,000,000	1%	N/A
Loans/OD Secured by Fixed Term Deposits from 10,000,000 to 150,000,000	1%	N/A

I pledge that I will do all my best to increase vanilla production and I will call agricultural experts to inspect my crops to see how I will be faring



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Violence, distance and early pregnancies named among factors contributing to Rorya District's school dropouts

By Getrude Mbago

VIOLENCE in schools, long walking distance and early pregnancies have been named as among major factors that contribute highly to school dropouts in Rorya District, Mara Region.

Briefing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Ochola Wayoga, national coordinator of the Tanzania Education Network (TENMET), called for coordinated efforts from both government and stakeholders to fight the challenges and thus enable children to learn comfortably and achieve their education dreams.

He was talking on the forthcoming Global Education for Education (GAWE), which will be held in Rorya District, Mara Region from May 31 to June 4 this year.

He said TenMet in collaboration with other education stakeholders in the country have been cooperating in celebrating the Global Education for Education (GAWE) so as to among others, discuss on continued efforts to facilitate provision big quality education.

Wayoga mentioned the national theme will be 'Financing Education Systems for Sustainable Development'. The main objective is to encourage sustainable focus on the SDG goal number 4 as a whole to ensure quality education is provided.

He mentioned other reasons for celebrating the Education week are to provide public awareness on demands for the right to a quality ed-

ucation and to encourage the government to focus on other groups such as children with disabilities and calls for access to school infrastructure and facilities and training for teachers and people with disabilities.

According to government statistics for 2020 students with disabilities from standard one to three were 57 while in private schools the number is very small which hinders access to quality education for children in need as education is the right of every child.

"Efforts have also been made by the people and the government including increasing classrooms to reduce student overcrowding and TenMet has seen fit to encourage investment in education systems for sustainable development," he said.

He further called on young girls to value their life and focus more on studies so as to successfully reach their big dreams in life.

Wayoga further urged the government and stakeholders to invest heavily in quality and inclusive education for the country to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

He said that TenMet joins others in the commemoration of the "Global Action Week" which is one of the major focal points for the education movement. It provides every national and regional education campaign with an opportunity to highlight one area of the "Education For All" agenda and make targeted efforts to achieve change on

the ground.

"The Global Action Week for Education in 2021 focuses on actions to reach SDG4 in 2030. It proposes civil society's recommendations for accelerated action to reach the goal, focusing on one overarching theme, Education Financing," he noted.

Alistidia Kamugisha, TenMet Coordination officer said that this year's education week commemoration will also involve visiting various schools and education facilities in Rorya District as well as speaking to parents and educating them on the importance of valuing education.

"During the five days of the Education Week, stakeholders will also have an opportunity to showcase their education related activities and projects, learn from each other and exchange ideas aimed to improve education in the country," she said.

Kamugisha urged schools management to create conducive and friendly environment, prevent violence so as to encourage children to attend to school and thus achieve their education dreams.

"Teachers should be friendly to students so as to encourage them to be in class," she added.

HakiElimu Quality Assurance Coordinator, Dr Ellen Otaru hinted on the note that the presence of a friendly environment at school improves good student-teacher relationships and will help reduce truancy.



Selemani Jafo (L), Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), exchanges greetings with Vodacom Foundation managing director Rosalynn Mworia in Dodoma city earlier this week. They then held talks on the commemoration of this year's World Environment Day (June 5). Vodacom Tanzania has for years stood out as a frontline environment stakeholder. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Farmers urged to cultivate finger millet owing to its huge demand

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

TANZANIANS have been urged to grab opportunities in millet and finger millet farming whose demand has increased due to their being used as raw materials for beer making.

The call was made by the National Research Coordinator for millet and finger millet Emanuel Mwenda at Technology and Quality Seeds Exhibition held at Atamizi Centre in Morogoro Region.

Mwenda, who is also a senior researcher from the Ilonga Centre of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI-Ilonga) in Kilosa, Morogoro Region said as for now the demand for millet stood at 2.1 million tonnes per year while production was 1.1 million tonnes, or 51 per cent of the demand making a shortfall of 990,000 tonnes.

He said due to the shortfall TARI-

longa decided to come up with seeds produced via modern technology including the 'Masai' type of millet planted at the Atamizi Centre for training farmers to enable them increase production due to the crop's high demand.

"We have the 'Masai' millet seed brand which is in high demand in the country, as apart from being used for food, it is also used as raw material for beer making," Mwenda said.

In regard to finger millet, there are two types of the seeds - 'Okoa' and 'Shibe' that have been planted at the centre for teaching farmers, and which can yield three tonnes per hectare and whose demand was also very big due to its being as nutritious food.

For his part, TARI-Ilonga Director Dr Joel Meliyo said after suspension of this year's Nane Nane Agricultural Exhibition, they have

come up with strategies in their various centres to continue providing better services and train farmers on modern farming practices by using modern quality seeds that have been researched on.

He called upon Tanzanians and farmers in particular to visit the centre that provides services to farmers at all time to learn on better farming practices for millet and finger millet due to their high demand at present.



We have the 'Masai' millet seed brand which is in high demand in the country, as apart from being



RTI (www.rti.org) is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to conducting innovative, multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. With a worldwide staff of more than 4,000 people, RTI offers innovative research and development and multidisciplinary services.

VACANCIES

Communications Specialist - Dar es Salaam

Job Summary:

The Communications Specialist will lead in the development and implementation of a communications strategy to share Jifunze Uelewe program activities and accomplishments to a wide audience, including USAID, Government of Tanzania, RTI, and other key stakeholders. S/he will work under the supervision of the DCOP-Technical to ensure effective communications and reporting and to assure that proper branding and marking are applied to all program materials. This position is based in Dar es Salaam.

Application process

Please follow the link provided below or visit [RTI International Careers](http://m.rfer.us/RTIIqfA0w) page for more information about job opportunities.

<http://m.rfer.us/RTIlsr3A0v>

Grants Manager – Dar es Salaam

Job Summary:

Under the leadership of DCOP Operations and Finance, the Grants Manager steers financial management and administration of the grants under contract portfolio. On the Financial Management function, he/she will be responsible for RTI accounting and financial management for the Project. He/she will also ensure that RTI, USAID, and United Republic of Tanzania's accounting and financial reporting standards are applied and that the funding resources are being used efficiently and in compliance with the established policies and procedures. It is his/her responsibility to co-lead grants making process in tandem with DCOP- technical, He/she will also be responsible to administer grants under contract and monitor them, as well as build capacity of subgrantees on organizational policies and compliance. This position is based in Dar es Salaam.

Application process

Please follow the link provided below or visit [RTI International Careers](http://m.rfer.us/RTI1miA5d) page for more information about job opportunities.

<http://m.rfer.us/RTI1miA5d>

School and Community Inclusive Education Coordinator – Dar es Salaam

Job Summary:

The School and Community Inclusive Education Coordinator is responsible, under the direction of the School and Community Inclusive Education Lead for supporting and coordinating the planning and implementation of community engagement and inclusion education activities (in and outside of the school) across the program regions and for building the capacity of GoT counterparts at both the national and regional levels to improve inclusion in early grade education (pre-primary through standard 4). The School and Community Inclusive Education Coordinator will be based in Dodoma and will report to the School and Community Inclusive Lead. This position is based in Dodoma.

Application process

Please follow the link provided below or visit [RTI International Careers](http://m.rfer.us/RTIIqfA0w) page for more information about job opportunities.

<http://m.rfer.us/RTIIqfA0w>

Finance Manager – Dar es Salaam

Job Summary:

The Finance Manager will provide support for finance aspects of the project. S/he will provide support and work with the contractor's internal auditing system, Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) Operations and Regional Finance Manager. Finance Manager will support to ensure appropriate systems, procedures, (payroll, cash management, vendor payments, budgeting and others related to financial management) in place are adhered to with proper internal controls. S/he will support to provide capacity building and financial training for internal staff and partner NGOs. The Finance Manager will report directly to DCOP Operations.

Application process

Please follow the link provided below or visit [RTI International Careers](http://m.rfer.us/RTICH7A5c) page for more information about job opportunities.

<http://m.rfer.us/RTICH7A5c>

Monitoring & Evaluation Assistant – Dar es Salaam

Job Summary:

The Monitoring & Evaluation Assistant is responsible to provide support to the design and execution of data management and analysis plans for monitoring, evaluation and Learning for Jifunze Uelewe project. He/she will serve as primary resource to support the M&E team in their assurance of high quality data and continuously perform in-depth data analysis; management of continuous professional data base (CPD), data visualization and interpretation to increase data use for decision-making and communicate results of the activity programme. He/she will also support the data analysis for learning activities including trainings, assessments, evaluations and surveys as they arise.

Application process

Please follow the link provided below or visit [RTI International Careers](http://m.rfer.us/RTINQMA5e) page for more information about job opportunities.

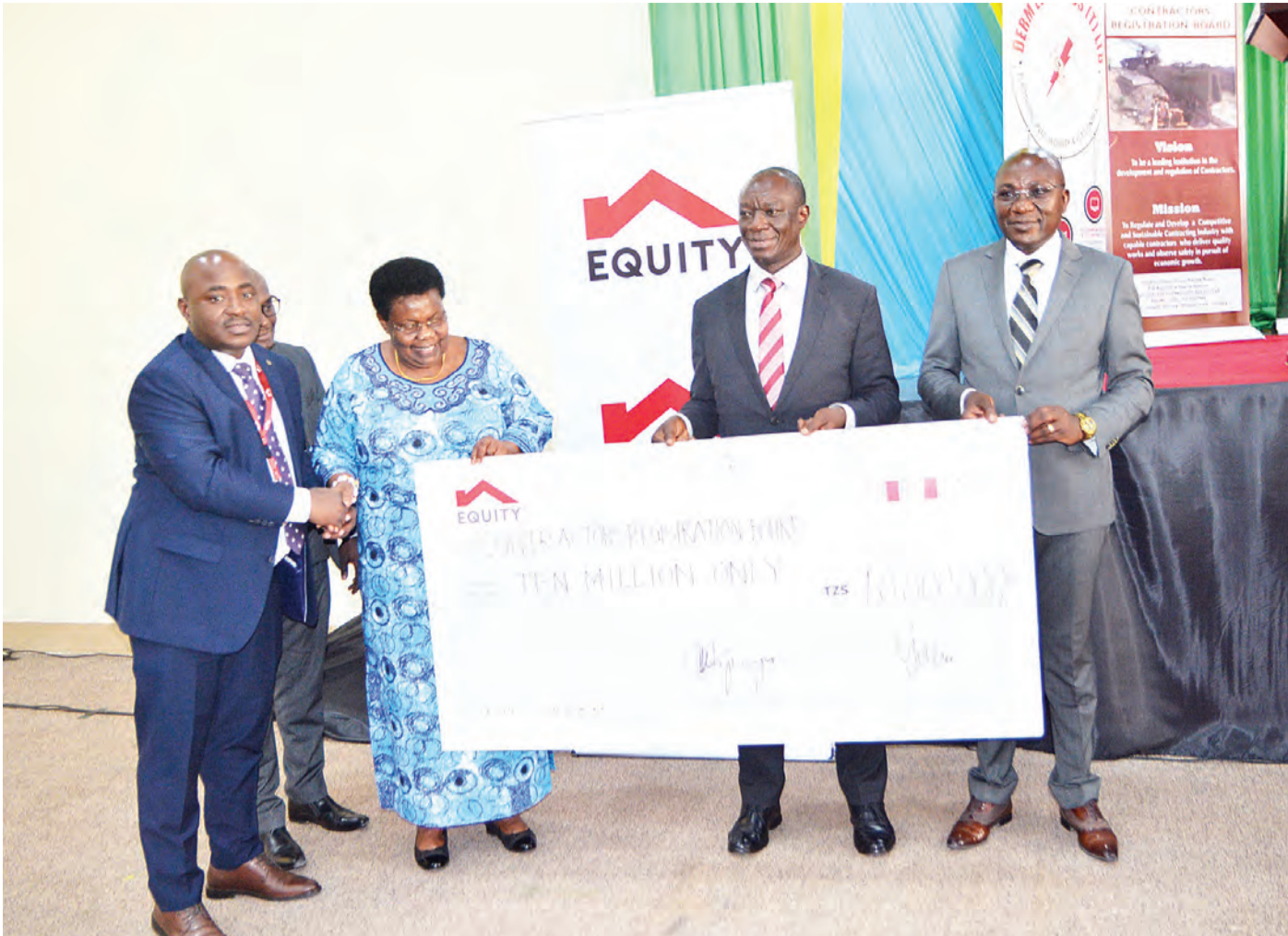
<http://m.rfer.us/RTINQMA5e>

The application deadline is June 12th, 2021.

We regret that only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

*No applicant will ever be asked for any payment either to secure a role with RTI International or as a follow-up to having been awarded a position with RTI International. If anyone ever approaches you asking for any such payment, please immediately email ethics@rti.org

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Works and Transport minister Dr Leonard Chamuriho (2nd-R) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday receiving a dummy cheque for 10m/- from Equity Bank head of marketing Godwin Semunyu (L) in part-sponsorship of an upcoming construction stakeholders meeting. Others are Contractors Registration Board registrar Rhoben Nkori (R) and chairperson Consolata Ngimbwa (3rd-R). Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Iringa farmers set to benefit from Save the Children, TAHEA project

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

THIRTY two farmers in Iringa are set to benefit from a nutrition project by Save the Children Tanzania in partnership with the Tanzania Home Economics Association (TAHEA) which has provided 192 rabbits to promote nutrition.

The two organisations donated the rabbits to breeder groups as model farmers in Iringa municipality, to take care of them and eventually breed them and share them with other groups with the aim of supporting better nutrition for the community.

Speaking during the handing over ceremony of the animals to the model farmers, the acting regional administrative secretary of Iringa region, Dr Mohamed Mang'una said the rabbit support for farmers' groups was aimed at empowering the groups economically in order to improve nutrition in the community.

Dr Mang'una who is also the regional medical officer (RMO) said the support will ultimately reduce malnutrition, being the first phase of handing over the rabbits to 32 groups. "In solving the challenge of nutrition issues in the community, the model farmers who have benefited from rabbit support, will be able to care for and raise them and eventually breed so that they too can help other groups to find rabbits after breeding," he said.

According to Dr Mang'una added that Iringa Region is one of the regions in the country

with the challenge of malnutrition and stunting despite the fact that the region is a food basket.

He said the Sustainable Nutrition project implemented by stakeholders in the region will help alleviate the nutritional challenge for women, youth and children, adding that the project hopes to reach five hundred different groups in the Iringa region.

He said that the government through the sustainable nutrition project will also help people to get better nutrition considering that rabbits have various benefits more than just nutrition, for example their feces will help make compost manual as well as rabbit urine is used as a pesticide in the fields.

"As you are aware that rabbit urine is used as a natural chemical to kill pests in fields' especially vegetable gardens, so we believe the farmers will benefit twice," he added.

One of the beneficiaries, Haruna Mbatia, who is the secretary for people with disabilities in Iringa region, and also the secretary of the Amani Economic Group in Kigamboni Street, Mwangata Ward, in Iringa, said he is grateful as they have been given hybrid rabbits who are fast growing and more useful.

In his update, John Masenza, the manager of Save the Children in Iringa Region, said that they are implementing a sustainable nutrition project in Iringa region which hopes to reach more than 388,000 beneficiaries across the region, who are women of child-bearing age, children of five years old but also with young people.

Minister asks contractors to expose unfaithful govt officials

By Correspondent Joseph

Mwendapole

MINISTER for Works and Transportation, Dr Leonard Chamuriho yesterday asked contractors to expose government officials who ask them bribe during tendering process for the law to take its course.

Dr Chamuriho made the call in Dar es Salaam when opening the two-day consultative meeting between local contractors and construction stakeholders

organised by Contractors Registration Board (CRB).

"When a contractor offer bribe and is awarded tender there is possibility of delay of the project and also to be implemented in low quality something which cost the government in the future because the project will not last longer," Dr Chamuriho said, adding:

"There are a lot of corruption complains in construction industry so we ask you to join us government to fight corruption practices in this industry.

You must know that if you get tender by corruption you are not going to grow so be carefully and follow tender procedures."

He further said it is high time for local contractors to use the available opportunity to form joint ventures so that they can be able to implement big construction projects like Standard Gauge Railways and Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Projects (JNHPP).

He said currently many big construction works are done

by foreign companies because local contractors lack capital, human resource and enough machines so the option of forming joint ventures can be their solution.

"We are not happy to see all big strategic projects are implemented by foreign companies, you must stop this selfishness habit and join hand so that you can be able to do big projects because the government believes that if you get capacity to implement this big project we will save billions of money," he

said.

The minister also promised that the government will deliver its stand on why it decided to implement its project by using Force Account and leave the common practice of using local contractors in many construction works.

He said the government will reveal its position on that matter during the coming consultative meeting between construction stakeholders meeting which is expected to be held in Mwanza June this year.

"We are working on that matter so relax until that time you will understand what we have done. Even CRB board Chairperson engineer Consolata Ngimbwa in her speech spoke about this matter so be patient," he said.

The minister made the clarification after the CRB Board Chairperson engineer Ngimbwa said force account created disorder to many local contractors because many of them don't have any project to do for many years.

She said in 2018 the government decided to implement its own project by using force account for the reasons that many local contractors tender at a very high rate which are not realistic.

Eng Ngimbwa said since then they have conducted tailor made courses for local contractors all over the country on how to fill tender documents and currently they are ready to do government projects at very high standards.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FHI 360 is a nonprofit human development organization dedicated to improving lives in lasting ways by advancing integrated, locally driven solutions. Our staff include experts in Health, Education, Nutrition, Environment, Economic Development, Civil Society, Gender, Youth, Research and Technology; creating a unique mix of capabilities to address today's interrelated development challenges. FHI 360 serves more than 70 countries. FHI 360 is seeking applications for the **Technical Director** position in Dar es salaam for an **anticipated USAID-funded Next Generation OVC**.

Position Main Responsibilities: The Technical Director will provide technical leadership and oversight for the anticipated project. She/He will be responsible for the implementation of evidence-based, high quality, multi-sectoral interventions to improve the health and well-being of children and adolescents who are living with, affected by, and vulnerable to HIV. She/He will manage the design and implementation of key components of the program and ensure adherence to global standards of excellence in health and social service delivery programming.

Recruitment is contingent upon successful award of the project and the selection of the final applicant is subject to USAID approval.

Position Requirements- Qualifications, Skills and Experience:

- A Master's Degree in Public Health, Social Sciences, Social Work, or related field
- At least 8-10 years of experience designing, implementing, and managing PEPFAR/USAID-funded OVC care and support projects and DREAMS programs for AGYW. Experience in OVC and DREAMS programming in Tanzania is highly desirable
- Expertise in Case Management, pediatric HIV care, VAC/GBV prevention and response, HIV prevention among AGYW, Economic Strengthening, and Gender
- Broad knowledge of Tanzanian policies and strategic frameworks for OVC care and support programming and HIV prevention programming for adolescents
- Proven ability to manage technical assistance teams and ability to integrate teams of professionals around common goals
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with a range of stakeholders including government representatives, local community organizations, donors, and other stakeholders
- Strong interpersonal, writing, and oral presentation skills in English.
- Ability to work independently and manage a high-volume workflow
- Relevant computer software skills (including, at a minimum, the standard applications in MS Office)

How to Apply:

FHI 360 has a competitive compensation package. Interested candidates may apply online through www.fhi360.org/careers by uploading his/her Application Letter, Curriculum Vitae (CV)/Resume, Photocopies of Certificates and Names and Addresses of three (3) referees

FHI 360 is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. Closing Date: June 02, 2021



INADES-FORMATION TANZANIA

Serving the common good

JOB VACANCY:

Job Vacancy: Managing Director of Inades-Formation Tanzania

Duty Station: Dodoma

Background:

Inades-Formation Tanzania (IFTz) is a legally registered, independent, autonomous, not for profit, Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that serves rural communities. It is one of the institutions providing action -training support for socio-economic empowerment of smallholder farmers and rural communities aimed at building their capacities to bring about their socio-economic advancement and transform the societies in which they live.

IFTz wishes to invite applications from pro-active, hard-working and committed individuals to fill the post of Managing Director.

Minimum requirements:

1. Master's degree in the social sciences, economics, agriculture or rural development.
2. Minimum of 8-years work experience in management of NGOs or similar position.
3. Broad experience of rural development and its challenges in Tanzania, and commitment to addressing poverty and marginalization of rural communities and smallholder farmers.
4. Proven experience in project planning and management, proposal writing, implementation, monitoring and reporting of donor funded projects.
5. Experience in nurturing good working relationships with local government authorities, donors and partners.
6. Analytical, dynamic, team-builder, solution seeker, well organized, flexible and gender focused.
7. A team player with good communication skills, co-ordination, facilitation, planning and training skills.
8. Pro-active and ability to work under pressure, stressful conditions and strict deadlines.
9. Fluent in English and Swahili, with knowledge of French as an added advantage.
10. Good practical skills in computer programs: Word, Excel etc.

Remuneration: Attractive and negotiable remuneration commensurate with experience and responsibilities of the post.

Age limit: The candidate should be 35 years old and above.

Terms and conditions of Service:

Successful candidate will be employed for a 3-years renewable contract, with a one-year probation. Other conditions of service are as promulgated in the IFTz's Terms of Service.

Mode of Application:

Application letter with photocopies of relevant certificates, a detailed CV and contacts of 3 referees (senior and responsible persons) with mailing address, e-mail and telephone numbers. Applications should be sent to the following address:

The Board Chairperson,
Inades-Formation Tanzania,
P. O. Box 203 Dodoma,
Tel: +255 26 2354230,
E-mail: inadestz@gmail.com

Closing Date: 14th June 2021.

NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Those who will not hear from us two weeks after the closing date of this announcement, should consider their applications not successful.

Ruwasa due to spend 2.1bn/- on Musoma District water projects

By Guardian Reporter

MORE than 2.1bn/- is expected to be spent in a huge piped water project from Lake Victoria to various villages in Musoma District, Mara Region from the FY 2021/2022 Budget.

This was revealed early this week by the District's Rural and Urban Water and Sanitation Authority (RUWASA) Manager Edward Silonga when explaining the development of water services in Musoma District.

He mentioned some of the villages to benefit from the project as including Mikuyu Chumwi, Maubimafuru, Seka and Kaboni," said Silonga.

"Other villages to benefit from the project are Mwiringo, Maneke, Kwikuba, Nyegina Nyegina, Mkirira and Kurukerege," he added.

He explained that the district has 68 villages and 21 wards of which every ward has been allocated with funds for the water project, and cited the Bugoji Ward that has been allocated 227.9m/-

"In this Ward there are three villages - Bugoji, Kaburabura and Kanderema and will have 16 water collection centres from Lake Victoria and 10,328 villagers are expected to benefit," added Silonga.

He said apart from this project there are other projects from the 2020/21 budget that have been completed and people enjoy safe and clean water service.

"The 2020/21 budget allocation totaled 1.3bn/- and assisted in completing some of the water projects, for example residents of Bukima Village have started enjoying piped water service and we continue to finalise other projects," he added.

He mentioned some of the other projects having been completed as those for Suguti and Kusenyi that cost 84m/- and the one from Suguti to Kwikonero, Rwanga and Kasoma villages to cost 80m/-.

He said RUWASA continues to lay pipes and installing pumps to pump water to remote villages.

TRA invites businesspeople for talks on payment of tax arrears in installments

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA District Commissioner, William Ntinika has urged business people in Mbeya Region to conduct their businesses freely and pay tax in time because Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has welcomed talks for those needing to pay their tax arrears in installments.

Ntinika made the remarks here yesterday on behalf of the Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera when opening a meeting involving TRA and Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (TCCIA).

He called on the business people to use the occasion to discuss with TRA so as to strike agreements on how to pay their tax arrears by phases, adding that the government had good intention to assist them.

"The government has put in place friendly business environment, so you should conduct their businesses freely, but you must remember your tax obligations, he added.

The director of TRA Taxpayers Education Richard Kayombo said the authority will continue to put in place friendly environment for paying taxes including the establishment of the electronic system that would simplify tax payment.

"We shall continue providing tax education via the ongoing door to door campaign in various regions and we stress the use of EFD machines and other electronic systems to simplify the lives of the business people in the whole concept of tax paying," Kayombo added.

He said such meetings with businessmen will be conducted in 19 regions of Tanzania Mainland to strengthen the authority's relationship with its stakeholders.

Deputy TCCIA chairman, Dr Kulwa Meshack called on businessmen and members to participate in these meetings because they were appropriate forums for solving their problems with TRA.

Lukuvi asked to intervene in village land conflict involving retired DC

By Guardian Correspondent, Namtumbo

VILLAGERS from 16 families of Mchomoro Village in Namtumbo District have appealed to the Minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development, William Lukuvi to intervene and find solution for their land's conflict involving more than 700 hectares allegedly grabbed by former district commissioner Amlima so as to enable them to continue with development activities.

Speaking to reporters who visited the village early this week, representatives of the more than 68 families said the conflict has been going on for five years, adding that district officials have been shying away from the conflict for their own interests, as they seemed to favour the retired DC.

One family member Rashid Malamaye said the retired DC allegedly their ancestral land which they used for farming and herding activities for many decades.

Malamaye said in the land there were farms and grass huts, that were set on fire including their plants including coconut, cassava, orange and banana trees, saying that was done without their knowledge and placed guards that were harassing them whenever they enter their ancestral areas.

Another family head, Issa Languka said after invasion of their land they reported the matter to village officials including CCM leaders but were told the investor was a legal owner of the area.



JOB - ADVERTISEMENT

TALENT ACQUISITION SPECIALIST

YOUR POSITION WITH TNC

The Talent Acquisition Specialist provides human resource support services in talent acquisition and employee capacity building. The position will report to the People Learning and Development Manager – Africa region. Possible locations will be Tanzania, South Africa, or Kenya, with preference being Nairobi - Kenya.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The Talent Acquisition Specialist is responsible for administering and maintaining HR systems, programs, procedures and plans according to HR policies and will provide assistance to all levels of personnel on HR-related issues and requests within the TNC Africa Business Unit. This position provides support to the People Learning and Development manager and maintains a high degree of confidentiality and a strong customer service focus. Using their specialized knowledge, the Talent Acquisition Specialist will deal with customers with high level of maturity, tact, and diplomacy. Their key role is to oversee our full cycle recruiting processes and reinforce Africa Business Unit's policy on talent acquisition, assessment, and interviewing, which includes employee planning and sourcing processes, serve as the BU focal person on recruitments, onboarding and contracting. The Talent Acquisition Specialist will provide support into overall hiring strategy of the Business Unit to ensure our teams consist of a diverse set of qualified individuals. The role must provide excellent customer service, demonstrate initiative, take ownership of responsibilities, and complete projects with positive results. The role will work closely with the worldwide Office talent acquisition team, training and development, and Global Safety and security teams to provide required HR support on youth safety .

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree or a minimum of 5 years related work experience in area(s) of specialization or equivalent combination.
- Human Resource certified professional.
- Experience coordinating and leading projects.
- Experience responding to HR related questions and problems from employees/management.
- Experience in one or more of the following areas: database management and spreadsheet software; constructing and producing reports; data input, manipulation, and analysis.
- Experience working with MS Office software, including Word, Excel, Access and PowerPoint

For full Job profile and how to apply please visit <http://careers.nature.org> and search for Job Id 49728

Submit CV and cover letter separately using the upload buttons online. All applications must be submitted in the system prior to end of day 11th June 2021



JOB - ADVERTISEMENT

JOB TITLE CONSERVATION TOURISM PROJECT MANAGER

YOUR POSITION WITH TNC

The Conservation Tourism Projects Manager shall be primarily responsible for TNC's conservation advisory services to the ACGT Fund. This includes working closely with the tourism operators to identify potential outcomes that can be achieved with Fund support and working with TNC local country programs and strategy leads to provide targeted technical assistance to the tourism operators as they seek to deliver their outcomes. In addition, they will be primarily responsible for managing the conservation approval process for each new investment, including developing the conservation recommendations to the Conservation Committee. The Conservation Tourism Projects Manager will work closely with the Fund's Conservation Committee, TNC's local country programs in the target geographies, the third-party investment management team and with the conservation tourism operators themselves. The Conservation Tourism Projects Manager will report to our Protect Indigenous Landscapes Strategy Director and will work closely with our NatureVest team. This position will be based at TNC Lusaka office in Zambia.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The Conservation Tourism Projects Manager shall manage all aspects of TNC's conservation advisory services to the ACGT Fund. In this capacity, the Conservation Tourism Projects Manager shall be responsible for conducting detailed conservation and socio-economic diligence on conservation tourism companies who are under consideration as potential investments for the Fund. This includes annual on-site meetings with each of the conservation tourism operators in the Fund's portfolio and review of the operators' conservation and social outcome potential and/or delivery against the benchmarks set by the Fund.

The Conservation Tourism Projects Manager will be responsible for developing detailed written recommendations to the Fund's Conservation Committee outlining (i) whether a conservation tourism company meets the Fund's conservation criteria, (ii) what outcomes each conservation tourism company should seek to achieve over the life of their loan and (iii) what conservation covenants should be put in place to hold the tourism companies accountable to their impact metrics. They will submit a written recommendation to the Conservation Committee for each new investment and will also be asked to present their findings and recommendation in person or over teleconference to the Conservation Committee. The Conservation Tourism Projects Manager will receive guidance and input from the members of the Conservation Committee throughout the diligence process.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in Business, Conservation, Finance, Tourism Management or related and 7 years of related experience or equivalent combination in a private sector environment, such as tourism or conservation finance focused on the landscapes of Africa.
- Experience leading and managing complex projects and strategic initiatives in an unstructured environment in the nature-based tourism sector in Africa.
- International work experience.
- Project management experience and experience meeting deadlines.
- Experience developing end products with software such as PowerPoint, Word, Excel.

For full Job profile and how to apply please visit <http://careers.nature.org> and search for Job Id 49660

Submit CV and cover letter separately using the upload buttons online. All applications must be submitted in the system prior to end of day 11th June 2021



JOB - ADVERTISEMENT

JOB TITLE GENDER ADVISOR

YOUR POSITION WITH TNC

The Gender Advisor will provide leadership and technical support as a subject matter expert for TNC conservation strategies, programs, as well as conservation teams in Africa. The Gender Advisor will be the gender focal point person between Africa and TNC's Global teams as well as other conservation and development organizations that focus on gender. They will implement gender strategies in line with TNC Gender policy. The position will report to the TNC Africa Director of Conservation and can be based at any of the TNC office locations in Kenya, Tanzania, or Zambia.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The Gender Advisor advises and trains conservation teams in the Africa Region on how to better address and integrate gender issues. This position will identify the top leverage points for increasing uptake of gender transformative initiatives within our teams and programs. The Gender Advisor will primarily focus on integrating gender into all aspects of the regional program of work and supporting our ongoing programs.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Multi-lingual and multi-cultural or cross-cultural experience appreciated.
- 7-10 years' experience in conservation practice, rural development, or gender integration or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Knowledge of current trends and practices in gender, reproductive health and conservation.
- Ability to develop practical applications of scientific concepts and technical innovations related to gender, reproductive health, development, and conservation. Knowledge of methods and standards of gender planning, analysis and
- Ability to conduct training and capacity building for staff and implementing partners on gender equality, women inclusion and integration.

For full Job profile and how to apply please visit <http://careers.nature.org> and search for Job Id 49721

Submit CV and cover letter separately using the upload buttons online. All applications must be submitted in the system prior to end of day 11th June 2021



JOB - ADVERTISEMENT

JOB TITLE AFRICA SUSTAINABLE FINANCE ANALYST

YOUR POSITION WITH TNC

The Africa Sustainable Finance Analyst will assist regional landscape programs in defining and executing sustainable financing plans. Working with project teams, they will define the annual expenses needed to maintain strong conservation management and design a blended revenue model to meet that need. They will work closely with TNC and other stakeholders in the landscape to define what sustainable and durable financing solutions exist or could be created for tangible lasting outcomes. Landscapes may include northern Kenya, Northern Tanzania, Western Zambia, and others. This position will report to the TNC Africa Finance and Operations Director and can be based at any of the TNC office locations in Kenya, Tanzania, or Zambia.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The Africa Sustainable Finance Analyst will work closely with the Africa Indigenous Landscape Protection Strategy Director, Freshwater Director, and the Conservation Director in meeting TNC Africa's conservation goals through detailed financial analysis and planning, creative thinking, strategizing and execution. The role will support this critical planning phase in collaboration with the Kenya Focal Place Manager, Kenya Country Director and Kenya Conservation Trust Fund Coordinator to assess total annual financial need and current revenue, then strategize how to close any gap in resources (via endowment, debt restructure, etc. for example) to accomplish this and other TNC Africa conservation goals.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree and 5 years' experience in a private sector environment, such as management consulting and investment banking, economics, or with a leading conservation organization or government entity, or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Experience developing and implementing complex projects and strategic initiatives in an unstructured environment.
- Experience leading and managing large scale projects, including working with both internal and external stakeholders.
- Experience negotiating complex agreements.
- Experience developing, managing, and stewarding complex partnerships and collaborative initiatives with non-profit partners, community groups and/or government agencies.

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Are employers obliged to pay professional fees for their staff? – Part I

By Correspondent Ziada Kilobo



PEOPLE are employed to serve the needs of the companies and this ranges from service delivery, manufacturing or transportation and many more fields of operations in pursuit for earnings.

Different companies employ people for specific reasons, be it in the skilled or unskilled cadres. Many of the skilled workers come with a package, depending on their respective professions.

According to the Australian Council of Professionals, a profession is a disciplined group of individuals who adhere to ethical standards and who hold themselves out, and are accepted by the public, as possessing special knowledge and skills in a widely recognized body of learning derived from research, education and training at a high level.

These people are expected to be prepared to apply this knowledge and exercise these skills in the interest of others.

Furthermore, these ethical standards are enforced by the profession and are acknowledged and accepted by the community.

In Tanzania, each profession has its own regulatory mechanism, be it voluntary or involuntary. For instance, we have the Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) for lawyers, the National Board of Auditors and Accountancy (NBAA) for auditors and accountants, the Engineers Registration Board, the Medical Council of Tanganyika for medical practitioners and dentists, Contractors Registration Board, and the Tanzania Nursing and Midwifery Council.

Other examples include boards bringing together procurement and supplies professionals as well as all manner of technicians.

Over the years, the need to employ professionals has increasingly been on the rise - and most are required to have valid registration or licences to practise.

The professionals are also required to accumulate professional learning hours or points annually. For them to keep abreast with the ever-changing professional environment and good practices, professionals have found themselves required to comply with the laws and regulations which govern the profession and which have a cost implication.

The costs involve annual professional fees. For accountants, this is 30,000/- for accounting technicians, 75,000/- for graduate accountants, 130,000/- for associate certified public accountants (ACPAs) and fellow certified public accountant, and USD 700 for temporary ACPAs and others.

For lawyers, the fees range between 120,000/- for non-practising ones and 520,000/- for those who have been in practice for at least 21 years, depending on members' years of practice.

And, as per Third schedule of Notaries Public and Commissioners for Oath Act, CAP 12 as amended by Act No. 2 of 2016 they have to pay Judicial fees ranging from 90,000/- to 140,000/-, depending on the years of practice by the members.

The fees are paid to enable these professionals to be counted as valid professionals. Additionally, considering changes in the business/operating environment, the accountants or lawyers have to attend professional development courses on an annual basis to attain hours or points each.

This largely depends on one's professional level. For example, ACPAs have to earn 40 hours annually.

The all-important question here is: Who should bear these costs which are required to keep the profession in the professional?

There has not been a single or uniform response or reply to this question. First it's because there are professionals who are self-employed as well as those who have been employed in institutions - and both are required to abide by the requirements of the laws and regulations governing their establishment.

Second it's because there are no regulations requiring that employers bear the cost. The onus is left on employers to decide what to do, according to how they value best practices.

A discussion with accountants, doctors, engineers, nurses and lawyers from different institutions generated such thoughts as to what happens if the liability to take care of the costs involved lies on employer or employee. In practice, many institutions have been paying the costs of annual professional fees and continuous learning - some pay in full while others partly. There also some who are not concerned when it comes to paying for their employees' practising licences upon the attainment of the continuous professional development (CPD) points.

A human resource (HR) official with a government agency says that they have many professionals, with more than 50 employees required to pay annual professional fees at different levels while also undergoing professional training.

"Imagine if each of them has to attend two sessions in a year outside one's work station. You have to pay for the fee which is paid once annually, training fees per attendance and daily subsistence allowance. How much will the organisation pay," the official asked rhetorically.

She noted that, largely owing to budgetary constraints, sometimes they have to agree with the employees that the office pays professional and training fees and other costs are borne by the employees themselves. Sometimes they pay for everything depending on the budget available.

According to Dr Aggrey Mlimuka, Executive Director of the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE), there are no laws binding employers to pay professional fees for their staff.

But he explains that it would be good practice for

those employing, say, an accountant with an ACPA or an advocate, to pay the employee's professional costs "because that way the advocate or accountant employee would be eligible to continue to practising".

Mlimuka said that, with the payment made, the employer would continue to use such professionals properly and save money instead of outsourcing the respective experts to take care of the employer's activities and that would make attending to such activities one of the employee's responsibilities.

Much the same would apply in respect of both lawyers and accountants - for the latter in closing books of accounts. In that this requires the services of a professional with at least an ACPA, employers would need to engage an accountant for the purpose while you can save by helping their own staff validate their credentials to satisfaction.

Commenting on the burden to employers, Dr Mlimuka said that for employers to pay their employees' annual professional fees and related costs "is the best practice and actually it is even encouraging to employees to know that their employers are concerned about compliance issues and they will be motivated". In case the accountant or lawyer is disqualified from practising owing to nonpayment of the relevant fees, it would automatically mean that the employee will not be able to attend to the relevant professional tasks. Dr Mlimuka therefore said employers should plan for this kind of cost and make deliberate efforts to take care of it.

Matrinda David, a long-serving accountant, meanwhile explained that she has been lucky on her employment journey in that she found employers who

always understood the need to keep their staff employees professionally relevant.

She said in all the four companies she worked for, she did not face a situation where an employer refused to pay for her continuous learning and annual fees.

She also admitted, though, that some of her colleagues had problems because their employers refused to carry that burden - and had no option but to ship out.

Immediate part TLS president advocate Rugemeleza Nshala was emphatic that self-employed lawyers have to pay for their practising licences "and must, in fact, comply with all relevant laws and pay the relevant taxes".

He said there are no laws binding employers to pay licence fees for lawyers or advocates they have engaged, adding: "Employed lawyers' practising licence do not belong to employers but to the employees. When an employee leaves a particular company, he or she cannot leave the licence behind.

"This is because such licence is vested in the individual, the common practice being that the relevant fees are paid by their employers both to enable the employees to practise (as they must have a valid licence to do so) and also to motivate them."

Advocate Nshala admitted that at times this can prove a heavy burden to employers, "but what can you do when you want to employ professionals? You have to take care of them. This would involve setting aside funds, and it can be pre-arranged and included in process of signing of contracts".

Advocate Jebra Kambole meanwhile said that the law could help to bind the employers, "but it is not necessary since the employee can agree with the employer and include it in the contract, which means the agreement will be binding at the time of engagement".

Ziada Kilobo is Human Resources and Administrative Manager with the Media Council of Tanzania. To be continued.

It's time to support women peacebuilders' potential

By Pamela O'Donnell



NO country in the world has achieved gender equality, and the global Covid-19 pandemic has been a stark reminder of the enormous work that remains if we are to build a gender-equal world.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, women have been on the front lines of response and recovery but have also faced its dire impacts: alarming levels of domestic and intimate partner violence, increased and unacknowledged care responsibilities, and economic insecurity.

Yet, from challenges comes the opportunity to bring meaningful change - and Canada is committed to working with partners around the world to make this change a reality.

Resolution 1325 - the foundation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, adopted by the United Nations Security Council just over 20 years ago - calls on us to recognize that women are powerful agents of change and to ensure that they are included in key decisions that impact their lives.

This is their right. We also need their participation. There is growing evidence showing that peace is more likely, and more likely to be sustainable when women's voices and experiences are taken seriously and their rights are respected.

When women are involved in peacebuilding, for example, the probability that violence will end increases by 24 per cent.

In times of crises and conflict, women and youth play vital roles in building peaceful communities, despite the enormous risks they often face in doing this work.

Time after time, women and youth are the ones leading demonstrations, building movements and campaigns, and calling for inclusive peace negotiations and representative governments.

Despite their important contributions to prevent, end and rebuild after crisis and conflict, women are still largely excluded from peace processes, their work remains underfunded, their expertise remains under-recognised, and they are targets of violence.

This is why the Government of Canada has launched a year-long campaign, #PeaceByHer, to increase the recognition, access, support and protection of women peacebuilders worldwide.

The #PeaceByHer campaign is relevant to us all. In Canada, in Tanzania, and elsewhere.

Canada recognizes that since 1983, Tanzania has been a substantial contributor to UN peacekeeping operations and Tanzanian women make key contributions to

UN peace operations and regional peace building efforts.

In 2020, Tanzania deployed a total of 186 female uniformed personnel to six

peacekeeping operations: Lebanon, Darfur, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic.

Tanzanian women are also actively en-

gaged in African networks of women mediators and in promoting women in leadership. Overall, Tanzania is the 13th largest UN contributor and the seventh largest African and African Union (AU) contributor of peacekeepers.

Canada also welcomes the efforts of the Government of Tanzania, in collaboration with civil society, to develop its first Women Peace and Security (WPS) National Action Plan.

Once this is completed, Tanzania will join 80 other countries in having a framework for a cohesive whole-of-government approach to implement the Women Peace and Security agenda.

As Canada's High Commissioner to Tanzania, I am reiterating the pledge I made on International Women's Day to support the work of women peacebuilders.

Over the coming months and beyond, we will continue to support Tanzania's development of its WPS National Action Plan and continue to support women's inclusion and empowerment. I invite you to join me by making a pledge of your own.

Times of crisis often present profound turning points. Do we want to carry on with the status quo or is it time for change? This International Day of UN Peacekeepers (May 29), Canada affirms that it's time to get behind the peacebuilding potential that women peacebuilders possess. It's time for change.

Peace by her - it's time.

Piece e-mailed to The Guardian by the Canadian High Commission in Dar es Salaam - for publication. Pamela O'Donnell is Canada's High Commissioner to Tanzania.

Covid-19 widens learning gap for girls in rural Ghana

ACCRA/WA EAST DISTRICT

SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD Muniratu Adams, a form two student of the Jeyiri D/A Junior High School at Funi in the Wa East District of the Upper West Region of Ghana, is fortunate to have returned to school this January after the long COVID-19 shutdown.

Ghana's education sector was one of the hardest affected by the pandemic and for many girls, particularly those in rural areas, the consequences of school closures means many will never return to their schooling.

"It was difficult for me to come back to school," she tells IPS. "When I was home, I did not think I will be able to return to school."

Adams was like many girls here who had to take on more responsibilities at home during the lockdown.

"I had little time to study my books because I had more household chores to do and I also had to help my family farm for food which we survive on," she explains. "When I get to learn, I don't get the help I need," she adds.

Last March, Ghana closed schools in the wake of rising COVID-19 infections across the country.

Approximately 9.2 million learners from Kindergarten to High School and about 500,000 tertiary learners were affected until schools opened in mid-January, according to a report by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

However, the prolonged absence of teaching and learning activities in a structured setting disrupted the academic calendar affecting the gains made in education and negatively impacting low performing students.

For many children from vulnerable groups, including children with disabilities, the prolonged school closures have put a premature end to their education.

Prior to the pandemic, UNICEF data for Ghana showed that 16.9 percent of children aged 5 to 11 years, 50.9 percent of children aged 12 to 14 years, and 83.3 percent of children aged 15 to 17 years were either not attending school, two or more years behind in school, or have not achieved the correct level of schooling for their grade.

The pandemic's impacts on children's access and quality of education were most severely felt through the tracking closure of schools without adequate alternative education services accessible by all children, nationwide.

This exacerbated existing inequities in education in the short and long-terms and worsened existing barriers to access as urban/rural disparities are significant, with children in rural areas, as well as in the Northern and Upper West regions faring far worse.

Adams says initially she was unable to continue with her studies at home during the closure of schools as she did not have the tools to facilitate her studies.

"My parents did not have a television or a radio at home so I read only



Sarah and Doris ride to school on their bicycles because they live several kilometres away. Ghana's education sector was one of the hardest affected by the pandemic and for many girls, particularly those in rural areas, the consequences of school closures means many will never return to their schooling.

my notes, which I had before our school was closed," she says. "But later I got a mobile device which helped me to learn through the remote learning system."

Remote Learning Impact

Ghana's government, with funding from the World Bank, introduced a \$15 million, one-year remote learning system as part of the COVID-19 response for continued learning, recovery and resilience for basic education.

It included developing accessible and inclusive learning modules through TV and radio, distributing printed teaching and learning materials, distributing pre-loaded content devices to vulnerable groups

who lack access to technology, and in-service teacher training to ensure teachers can effectively deliver lessons through innovative platforms.

Despite the remote learning platforms, Adams says she and some students in her community still faced a lot of challenges in ensuring equitable access to these services, because "we do not have access to online learning devices or the internet at home".

"A large number of us in my community lack technology such as TV sets, computers, smart phones and other online devices, as well as stable internet connectivity," Adams says.

Chief Director of the Ministry of Education, Benjamin Kofi Gyasi, who is also the COVID-19 focal person

for education, tells IPS that while remote learning strategies aim to ensure continual learning for all children, "we know that the most marginalised children, including those in the most rural, hard-to-reach and poorest communities and girls, may not be able to access these opportunities."

He adds that the ministry is prioritising the learning of most vulnerable children through the provision of learning devices/equipment and connectivity, where possible, adding that the initiative has reached more than half of targeted learners.

Executive Director of the African Education Watch, Kofi Asare, tells IPS that more children have been left behind as a result of the pandemic. He believes the government can do more to ensure that vulnerable children especially those in the remote and poorest communities of the country have the tools needed to access quality education.

"Now the children are back to the classrooms but I can confidently say that we have lost a significant number due to the long period schools were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic," he asserts. His statement is confirmed by Adams, who says some girls in her class are yet to return more than five months after schools reopened.

"I have not seen some of my friends since we started school in January, I do not know if they will be coming or not," she tells IPS. "My friend, Hassana Yakubu who came to school here from another community has still not returned."

IPS

Africa Day 2021: The greatest chapter in Africa's story will be written by the youth

Mmusi Maimane

"We face neither East nor West; We face forward." So said continental giant Kwame Nkrumah when describing the future of Africa more than 60 years ago in Ghana's capital city, Accra. Having led Ghana to become the first liberated country on the continent just three years prior, Nkrumah's words served as not only a visionary clarion call, but a cautionary warning to leaders both then and now to become self-sufficient and not become dependent on world powers – whether from the East or the West.

As millions of Africans across the continent as well as in the diaspora celebrate Africa Day and Africa Month, it is perhaps the most appropriate time to reflect on these words and call for the nurturing of the best gift that the continent has to offer the world: the people of Africa. I for one believe that the greatest chapter in Africa's story is yet to be written.

Indeed, only once we achieve full independence and liberation – from an economic, infrastructure, and technology point of view – will Africa become the roaring continent it has promised to be for decades.

In 2020 the United Nations projected that the global population would move closer to crossing 10 billion people by the year 2050. While over 90% of this growth is being projected to take place in middle- to low-income countries, it is also projected that the African continent will account for 55% of this growth, or roughly 1.2 billion people.

These projections are of particular interest because they mention that the population of sub-Saharan Africa will double while the continent remains the youngest in terms of median population age, with almost 60% of the continent's population being under the age of 25.

By contrast, the median age of Africa's 10 oldest presidents was 80 in 2019. With leaders

who are almost four times older than the populations that they make decisions on behalf of, it is high time to consider the nurturing of Africa's young population and call for their inclusion at all of the decision-making tables. We must go back to the drawing board and attempt to find innovative ways to keep Africa on a forward-looking path whereby the youth of Africa take on more responsibility in directing economic and social policy. The world has changed since most African countries gained their independence from European colonial powers and it continues to change at an incredibly fast pace. Leaders need to be agile – to evolve and adapt. Generations of African leaders have worked very hard to move the continent away from its history of exploitation and there is a generation of new leaders in waiting who are ready to take over and build on the foundations of Nkrumah, Sisulu, Lumumba, Mxake and Tlali.

We can do this by reimagining the African Agenda for the next generation, focused on three key areas: advancing intra-Africa trade between countries, developing competitive and independent infrastructure and ICT, and working to eradicate xenophobia, homophobia and sexism in both law and society. It is time to consider merit- and human rights-based systems with mechanisms to address structural disadvantages within African economies and societies. South Africa needs to take seriously its Constitution and be clearer in advocating human rights across the continent.

When I was in Kenya recently, the sentiment towards South Africa was that people are disappointed in our government's quiet diplomacy approach. South Africa as a leader on the continent must step up the game and be the champion of social justice and human rights. The African Union should be strengthened in order to make sure that it can intervene ap-

propriately in cases of human rights abuses, and that it plays a larger role in supporting nations to institutionalise democratic institutions that will help fend off threats to upholding democracy and the rights of all to live peacefully and have opportunities for better lives.

An important step in the African Agenda is the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and projects for educational exchange programmes. These would revitalise regional trade and development relations similar to the Association of East Asian Nations (Asean) development partnership model. This would support and ensure growth and development throughout the region and therefore promote stability throughout the continent.

To make further strides in the advancement of the African Agenda the creation of a regional energy policy is an idea that should be explored further. Such a policy would see

the construction of a regional power grid that can incorporate natural resources of gas in Malawi and Mozambique, solar in South Africa's Northern Cape and hydropower in Zambia.

Additionally, quicker visa decisions can create better partnerships within the SADC region, support the building of a dynamic trade area and venture capital fund similar to that of Asean.

This can be achieved by pursuing the electronic issuing of visas to all visitors that come into South Africa. This is key, as a corrupt and poor border control has proven an ineffective way of dealing with immigration.

To secure the rights of all citizens, South Africa must make it easier to qualify for visas in order to facilitate the movement of people between borders. Movement of goods is essential for Africa to prosper and it cannot be right that it is easier and quicker to move a container from Mombasa to China than

from Kigali to Mombasa.

This can be achieved by the investment and development of competitive and independent infrastructure and ICT. This investment includes the push for lower data costs and increased access to online resources for young people. This investment has long-reaching outcomes because it will result in positive outcomes in different areas of concern and interest such as education in Africa becoming competitive globally, and innovators being able to innovate and conduct business with ease and support.

The celebration of Africa Day 2021 is the most opportune time to call for a reimagining of the path that the continent takes – 2020 and the Covid-19 pandemic showed the importance of regional cooperation and the hoarding of vaccines by wealthier nations continues to make a case for strengthening the continent's collective bargaining power.

DM

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMUUAVYO 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

This Rwandan-born designer champions African unity using 'wizardry' in fashion

By Special Correspondent

RWANDAN-born fashion designer and visual artist Eli Gold left his home when he was 13 as his country was wracked by a civil war and genocide, a journey that took him across several African states.

Gold lived in Tanzania, Burundi and Malawi among others after leaving Rwanda, before arriving in South Africa, where he is based.

Now 30-year-old Gold expresses his love of the continent through art and fashion.

"By living in those places I got to understand what Africa is about and I got to meet different cultures ... the inspiration that I use in my creativity all come from different African cultures," said Gold.

His company, Masa Mara, unveiled its latest fashion ranges at an event in Johannesburg on Tuesday to celebrate Africa Day, which commemorates the founding of the Organisation of African Unity.

Catwalk models showed off his collection of colourful African prints called "Migration Is Beautiful, Destroy All Borders", which is a call to embrace migration and, like much of Gold's work, was inspired by his own experiences.

"I wanted to show that if we come together, understand and embrace one another, we can have a beautiful united Africa," he said of his work. "I always say, if the garments can correspond and show harmony and togetherness, we [as] people can also do that."

Gold is also known as Nyambo MasaMara. Nyambo, which means "a long-horned Rwandan cow", is a name he took after he



styled his hair into the shape of bull horns.

His other projects include "Beyond Borders", a choreographed show where a spirit travels through space and time to an Africa where borders and limits to creativity do not exist. His

"Gift of Life" exhibition also combines visual art and design with movement.

"I come from a nation that was broken and now we're fixing ourselves and reuniting better than ever," said Gold.

"When I left (Rwanda) it was a country that I was not proud to be a part of," said Gold. "But when I went back (in 2017), it really made me proud to be Rwandan."

Kagame, Elumelu lead UBA Africa conversations 2021

By Guardian Correspondent

UBA group chairman and founder of the Tony Elumelu Foundation, Tony Elumelu has led other Africa international leaders in celebrating this year's UBA Africa Day.

UBA has since been celebrating this day for years, the bank celebrates this day by decorating their offices with traditional African themes and even staff are encouraged to research and represent various African heritage through clothing, food and aesthetics.

UBA then went further to introduce UBA Africa Day conversations with its third edition of its annual discussions

this year, UBA invites reknown African leaders familiar with the continent heritage to discuss various social, economic and political issues impacting Africa as a continent and this year's panel included African leaders such as Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO), Rwanda's President Paul Kagame and Makhtar Sop Diop, Managing Director, International Finance Corporation (IFC).

Taking into consideration the current challenges of COVID 19 the bank has taken

further safety measures by conducting these conversations online where the entire African continent can follow through, learn and engage in the conversations.

Speaking during the conversation which mostly featured the effects of Covid 19, President Kagame said that Covid 19 has affected many African countries economically due to lockdowns and therefore urged other African leaders to come together and discuss ways of moving to the next stage.

"The effect of Covid 19 has both been felt by the government and private sector. We should learn from this shock

to invest more of our budget in our national health system. This is not the last global crisis and the next one should not catch Africa unprepared", said Kagame.

President Kagame added, "I think it is important for African leaders to come together and discuss this crisis, we can discuss about the causes of conflicts and poverty. It is not about who is doing this or that, I think mutual respects is the best form of relationship between Africa and rest of the world, we talk of problems in Africa, deprivation and poverty, but this is not our identity".

UBA Group Chairman and Founder of the Tony Elumelu

Foundation - Tony Elumelu said: "We have seen how our youth despite Covid 19 have leveraged their talents expertise network and technology to create wealth and support the communities they live. We must therefore make sure that the gains these youths have made are not erased".

The World Health Organization Director Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that WHO is working day in day out to bring immediate solutions for the equitable distribution of vaccine doses. However, it is clear that Africa cannot rely solely on the importation of vaccines from the rest of the world. We must build capacity

not only for Covid vaccines but for other vaccines and medical products'.

He added, more than anything else, the pandemic has demonstrated that health is not luxury item or simply an outcome of development but its human right and a prerequisite for social and economic development.

Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) said that if Africa wants to recover from Covid epidemic, the discussion of restricting debt is most important and giving Africa economies space of breathe so that they can invest only in the health sector but also on eco-

nomical sector and we are going to recover. 'It is important for the world that we reverse this vaccine inequality and Africa benefits from it. We cannot recover sustainability without it. So we have to fight for it, whether by getting more vaccines in or by manufacturing our own, said Iweala.

Africa Day has been celebrated since 1963 on May 25th across the African continent and worldwide. The day was inaugurated by the Organisation of African Unity, in celebration of the unity, diversity and beauty of Africa and its people and the theme for this year was 'Bringing Africa to the World'

Africa urgently needs 20 million second doses of Covid-19 vaccine

By Special Correspondent, Brazzaville

AFRICA needs at least 20 million doses of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine in the next six weeks to get second doses to all who received a first dose within the 8-12-week intervals between doses recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO).

A single dose of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine gives around 70% protection for at least 12 weeks. Data on the protection from one dose after 12 weeks is limited, however COVID-19 antibodies have been found in the body up to 6 months after one dose. The full course provided with a 12-week interval gives 81% protection for an extended period.

In addition to this urgent need, another 200 million doses of any WHO Emergency Use Listed COVID-19 vaccine are needed so that the continent can vaccinate 10% of its population by September 2021. This follows a call made by WHO Director General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at the World Health Assembly, WHO's governing body earlier this week for all Member States to support a massive vaccination push.

To date, 28 million COVID-19 doses, of different vaccines, have been adminis-

tered in Africa, which represents less than two doses administered per 100 people in Africa. Globally, 1.5 billion COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered.

"As supplies dry up, dose-sharing is an urgent, critical and short-term solution to ensuring that Africans at the greatest risk of COVID-19 get the much-needed protection," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa. "Africa needs vaccines now. Any pause in our vaccination campaigns will lead to lost lives and lost hope."

"It's too soon to tell if Africa is on the cusp of a third wave. However, we know that cases are rising, and the clock is ticking so we urgently appeal to countries that have vaccinated their high-risk groups to speed up the dose-sharing to fully protect the most vulnerable people."

France is the first country to share COVID-19 vaccines from its domestic supply, donating over 31 000 doses to Mauritania, with another 74 400 set for imminent delivery. France has pledged to share half a million more doses with six African countries in the next few weeks. The European Union and its Member States have pledged over 100 million doses for low-income countries by the end of 2021. The United States of America has

pledged to share 80 million doses with lower-income countries, and other high-income countries have expressed interest in sharing vaccines. Expediting these pledges is crucial and the COVAX Facility is a proven tool for swift delivery.

African countries that are unable to use all their vaccines are sharing them across the continent. While this prevents vaccine wastage, redistributing doses is costly and countries must roll out all available doses as soon as possible. WHO is working closely with countries to improve vaccine rollout by optimizing delivery strategies and increasing uptake.

In the longer term, Africa must boost its manufacturing capacity for vaccines. Yet there is no quick-fix and putting the policies, processes and partnerships in place may take years. Intellectual Property waivers are a crucial first step but must come alongside the sharing of expertise and critical technologies.

More than 100 WHO Member States, including 54 African countries are co-sponsoring a draft resolution led by Ethiopia which is being presented at this week's World Health Assembly. The resolution aims to strengthen local production, promote technology transfers and



innovation, and consider the agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and intellectual property rights through the lens of boosting local production.

WHO is helping African Member States to lay the groundwork to build up vaccine manufacturing capacity.

Around 40 African countries joined a recent WHO training to build manufacturing capacities and WHO is working with the African Union to support the African Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa, supporting feasibility studies and potential technology transfers on request, sharing

expertise and helping forge crucial partnerships.

Dr Moeti spoke during a virtual press conference today facilitated by APO Group. She was joined by Honorable Semano Henry Sekatle, Minister of Health, Lesotho, and Her Excellency Stéphanie Seydoux, Ambassador for Global Health, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France. Also on hand to answer questions were Dr Richard Mihigo, Coordinator, Immunization and Vaccines Development Programme, WHO Regional Office for Africa, and Dr Nsenga Ngoy, Emergency Response Programme Manager, WHO Regional Office for Africa.

Govt waives duty on machines, materials for leather processing

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has waived import duty on machines and materials used for processing leather to encourage invest-

ments in the leather industry. It aims to promote local processing of leather products and is implementing a project to train over 419 livestock keepers in methods that help add value to the hides and

skins of their livestock. Minister for Industry and Trade, Prof Kitila Mkumbo revealed this recently in the august house in the country's capital, Dodoma while tabling the budget proposals for the

2021/2022 Fiscal Year. The project for training livestock keepers has already started in three districts of Arusha region. It is being conducted by the state-run Tanzania Industrial Research and Develop-

ment Organization and financed by the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology, said Prof. Mkumbo.

The government will also be mobilising the textile

and garment industries and improving the ease of doing business in the country.

The government has amended two laws through the Finance Act of 2020 and is in the process of in-

troducing the Trade Remedies Act of 2021 to protect local businesses and control importation of products and market distortion by subsidized products which come to the local market at lower prices.

Security and intelligence: What would it take to stabilise Cabo Delgado?

By Jakkie Cilliers, Liesl Louw-Vaudran, Timothy Walker, Willem Els and Martin Ewi

LAST month, in the midst of New Delhi's coronavirus lockdown, 37-year-old labourer Prakash Kumar wanted to return to his rural home in India's northern state of Uttar Pradesh. But instead of travelling the usual few hours by bus, Kumar had to journey for three days.

"The firm [where I worked] was closed down and there was no work left in the city. The government had kept the busses and trains operational and that is why we decided to leave," Kumar told IPS.

Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province is caught up in a security challenge that has captured global attention. The situation endangers tens of thousands of lives and has destabilised northern Mozambique. It also potentially threatens foreign direct investment in large-scale infrastructure, mining, exploration and other projects in the entire southern Africa region.

At the root of the conflict is a governance challenge that includes allegations of deeply entrenched corruption in the ruling party, the Liberation Front of Mozambique (FRELIMO). Poor governance and state absence have antagonised the local population and left a security vacuum.

The insurgency can stir up age-old social problems, ethnic rivalry and longstanding dissatisfaction among Mozambicans towards FRELIMO. While Southern African Development Community (SADC) members and other countries can help Mozambique, they cannot fix the problem.

Stabilising northern Mozambique will require a people- rather than security-centric strategy that tackles the security, humanitarian, political, economic, social and religious aspects of the insurgency. To achieve this, a centralised government body is needed to entrench an inter-agency approach and deliver a unified national response.

In the short term, the attacks need to be contained and the violent extremists driven out of the areas they occupy, such as the strategic port of Mocimboa da Praia. Substantial aid and support are urgently needed to respond to the humanitarian tragedy caused by the recent attacks during which 30,500 people were displaced. Overall, the insurgency has caused 2,838 deaths, of which 1,500 were civilians, and displaced more than 700,000 people.

To restore security, Mozambique's government should develop a detailed intelligence picture on funding, arms sources, local collaborators and supporters and external linkages.

A 24-hour intelligence, policing and operations centre in the country's north is needed, informed by ongoing land, sea and air surveillance systems. The SADC technical team indeed recommends establishing a Regional Coordination Mechanism and a Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre.

Intelligence sharing among SADC members and other countries with a naval presence in the Mozambique Channel is essential. In time, technology such as drones and cellphone surveillance will be useful; but a human intelligence network is the immediate priority. It can provide a constant supply of information on local developments, new people entering villages and towns and possible external threats.

Without intelligence and a detailed understanding of the context, security and development cannot follow.

Mozambique requires a security capacity (police and military) stationed in Cabo Delgado that can quickly move by road, air and sea throughout the region and along the Tanzanian border. These security forces also need to patrol and secure the coastline.

This is where an envisioned SADC force could be critical, provided the troops are trained and prepared for non-conventional operations, follow appropriate doctrine and can communicate with and support the local population. At the same time, it is important to remem-



Mozambique army soldiers pass near a destroyed building during a patrol in the streets of Palma, Cabo Delgado, Mozambique, 09 April 2021. The violence unleashed more than three years ago in Cabo Delgado province escalated again when armed groups first attacked the town of Palma.

ber that SADC troops cannot replace the need for well-trained, equipped and accountable Mozambican police and soldiers.

Together with Mozambique's police and military, SADC forces must act impartially and within the law if they are to stabilise the area and earn community trust. This is necessary not just for safety in Cabo Delgado but to avoid giving locals another reason to support the insurgents. Security force abuses have been a major driver of terrorist recruitment in East and West Africa and the Sahel, and must be avoided in Mozambique.

Along with boots on the ground, the most important element of SADC's intervention should be regional cooperation in intelligence gathering and border management. The maritime smuggling routes that enable the illicit economy in the region also need to be closed down.

It is unclear to what extent the insurgency is funded by the extensive criminal networks that transport heroin in bulk from Afghanistan by sea down Africa's East coast for onward smuggling into Europe. But 2018 research in northern Mozambique detailed links between the insurgents and a substantial illicit economy with ties to "political figures, the ruling party and their elite criminal associates." Lessons on how to break the links between violent extremism, organised crime and local conflicts have been well documented in West Africa's Liptako-Gourma region. They should be taken on board in Mozambique.

An effective strategy must also deny the insurgents funding, arms and a rear base in neighbouring countries. Mozambique needs to deepen its police, military and intelligence cooperation with Tanzania and Kenya, including agreement on border management, hot-pursuit operations into Tanzania and maritime operations.

Police in Mozambique and Tanzania have signed an agreement on cooperation and intelligence sharing, although the joint operations centre at Mtwara in southern Tanzania is not fully operational.

In the medium term, stabilisation will require bringing to book those responsible for the attacks and abuses in Cabo Delgado. Sustainable security is much more likely when a criminal justice approach led by police and prosecutors, and informed by community members, is used instead of a military response focused on defeating terrorists.

Providing amnesty and undertaking a robust disarmament, demobilisation, rehabilitation and reintegration programme is also necessary. Security force action will rout some combatants and individuals forced to associate with the insurgents.

Institute for Security Studies research on Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin has shown that demobilisation is vital in dealing with violent extremism. Mozambique's government and its partners must take a proactive and holistic approach. Formal screening and profiling are needed to ensure that innocents are reintegrated, and those with a criminal record are processed through the justice system. o effectively counter radicalisation at community level in Cabo Delgado, the Mozambican government should pursue broad consultations with community, youth, women, civil society and religious institutions. Initiatives to promote inter-community and inter-faith dialogue among the population will be needed. This could culminate in civil society or non-governmental platforms or committees to help resolve the crisis.

In the longer term, the region's recovery will depend on alternative livelihoods and poverty-alleviation measures to offset the local community's reliance on the illicit economy, smuggling and the drug trade. That economy is deeply rooted in Mozambique's large informal sector and will resist regulation.

The government must commit to the development and effective governance of the region. Without this, the people of Cabo Delgado are unlikely to provide intelligence, support the security forces and join development initiatives.

There have been some steps in this direction. Ma-

puto is mobilising \$764-million from multilateral partners to finance the Integrated Northern Development Agency (ADIN). ADIN has four main pillars – humanitarian assistance, economic development, community resilience and communication. The government needs to ensure that all critical stakeholders, including the religious and private sectors and traditional authorities, support it.


The education system must be reinvigorated to train and prepare locals for skills suited to new job opportunities. Authorities in Cabo Delgado would also need to invest in public works programmes to complement job creation in the formal and informal sectors and offer social activities such as sport to engage the youth.

An important poverty-alleviation measure would be a cash transfer (or social grants) programme that would directly benefit the community and demonstrate the government's commitment to development. ADIN has already earmarked \$25-million for this purpose for families in Cabo Delgado, Niassa and Nampula province. After that, it could be funded by ringfencing government income from the natural gas resources that should start flowing in 2024.

Finally, Mozambique must control and coordinate the foreign support now flowing through many aid agencies and countries eager to help. Its future income from gas allows some flexibility not available to other similarly afflicted countries. Support that is uncoordinated and comes with numerous conditionalities detracts rather than contributes to stabilisation efforts.

Maputo needs to own and drive the response to the insurgency and the recovery of local and investor confidence. No amount of private security advice, support or foreign troops and equipment can compensate for political leadership and the establishment of trust between people, the government and regional actors.

DM



RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



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COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES APEX BODY SEEKING TO REPOSSESS NATIONALISED PROPERTY



Ushirika Tower in Dar es Salaam, which is the headquarters of the Tanzania Federation of Cooperatives.

By Francis Kajubi

AS the country's market economy maintains sustained growth, Tanzania Federation of Co-operatives is gathering documentary evidence to pressure the state give back its properties which was nationalised in early 1980s.

Talking to journalists earlier this week in Dar es Salaam about this year's Co-operative Day celebration to be held at national level in Tabora Region on July 3, TFC Executive Secretary, Florian Haule said that the government has shown interest in listening to them concerning the privatised property in order to bring a win-win situation in resolving matter.

Haule said TFC property such as buildings and warehouses worth billions of shillings were nationalized for the first time in 1972 when Mwalimu Julius Nyerere was president. Mwl. Nyerere further nationalised land that the body owned legally during the second wave in 1984.

"We have opted to start collecting evidence and details about a few properties in Kilimanjaro Region which include the Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI) at Lyamungo in Hai District, Lyamungo Secondary School and Moshi Co-operative University," Haule said saying that they need to repossess the property so that TFC can earn an income through leasing them.

According to him, the Prime Minister's Office had during the last year's Co-operative Day welcomed TFC to present a reasonable list of the property that the state will be willing to sit down with the coops apex body to find an amicable solution.

"We have invited the Prime Minister to be the guest of honour at this year's Co-operative Day celebrations. In that perspective, we are looking forward to delivering progress made so far in achieving this ambition," he affirmed.

The TFC chief executive said union members are eager to get back their property because they invested billions of shillings to acquire or erect them. "Our members will be more than happy to see property in which they is returned to TFC by the current government," he noted. Currently, there are 8,040 primary co-operative unions with 1,432, 978 individual members and 57,483 institutional groups.

The TFC which currently owns the multi-storey office complex called Ushirika Tower in Dar es Salaam, is a federation of primary cooperative unions which were grouped under regional apex bodies which represented the country's farming community.

In Tanzania the celebration marks its 20th anniversary having taken place for the first time in 2001 while globally, this is the 27th anniversary because since 1994, International Co-operation Alliance has been organising the event annually.

AfDB's board gives nod to bank's policy prioritising water security

ABIDJAN

The African Development Bank's (AfDB) new policy on water prioritises water security and the transformation of water assets to foster sustainable, green and inclusive economic growth in regional member countries. The policy has been approved by the bank's board of directors which commended its water, policy and strategy departments for leading the policy-preparation process.

"This new policy on water provides a general framework for the African Development Bank Group to expand its role as the continent's partner promoting the integrated development and management of Africa's water sector for inclusive and sustainable growth in Africa," said Atsuko Toda, the bank's acting vice president for agriculture, human and social development.

The policy aims to promote Africa-wide attainment of a minimum platform of water security, with a special focus on areas of fragility, as well as assist African countries and sub-regional groups harness and sustain water resources productivity potential to support development.

The new water policy is anchored around four principles:

Principle 1: Attaining water security at household, national and regional levels should be recognised as a key outcome fundamental for inclusive growth. The bank seeks to promote the attainment of water security in all its regional member countries and sub-regions.

Principle 2: Equitable social welfare and economic growth. The bank will continue to advocate for an integrated approach to water development and management by striking a sustainable balance in the social, economic and environmental spheres.

Principle 3: Promoting sustainable and equitable access to water services as an enabler for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Water is a key enabler for many of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, The Bank considers water to be essential for life, health, dignity, empowerment, environmental sustainability, peace and prosperity. The new policy aims to vigorously promote water security to advance the SDGs agenda.

Principle 4: Transboundary water resources management and development should be recognised as a significant requirement to achieve seamless regional economic integration. The bank will actively seek to use the transboundary nature of water to enhance regional integration and promote conflict resolution.

The AfDB will establish an internal coordination mechanism for water-related interventions to be overseen by a committee with adequate capacity, resources and appropriate skills. Since 2010, the AfDB has invested an estimated \$6.2bn in water supply and sanitation services delivery.

Covid-19 has exposed vulnerabilities caused by under-investment in water, sanitation and hygiene services, also known as WASH. Despite these challenges, the active water sector portfolio stood at \$4.3bn, comprising nearly 100 national projects implemented in 40 countries, and six multi-national projects.

5th MSCI South Africa Green's Annual Property Index is out

JOHANNESBURG

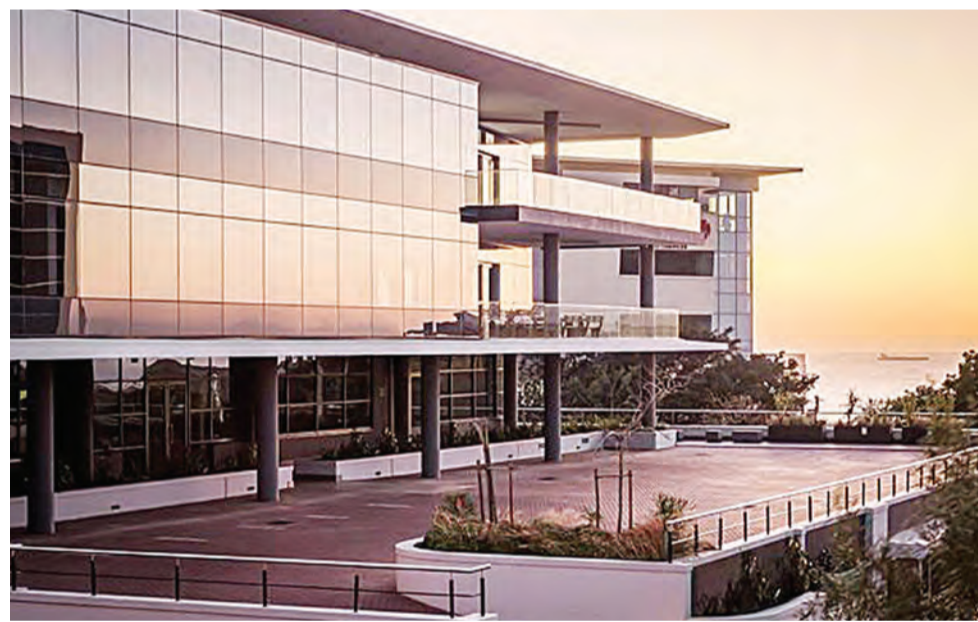
Released annually, in conjunction with the Green Building Council of South Africa (GBCSA) and sponsored by Growthpoint Properties, the MSCI South Africa Green Annual Property Index provides an independent, globally consistent view on the investment performance of green-certified and non-certified offices.

At the end of 2020, the index sample comprised 289 prime and A-grade office properties valued at R54.5bn, of which 139 were green-certified buildings. These were compared to 150 non-certified offices of a similar quality. "Growthpoint is proud to sponsor the MSCI Green Property Index for Offices for the fifth year. Its insights have never been more relevant than in today's market. The in-

dex's findings continue to strongly support the case for investing in green-certified buildings. The MSCI Green Property Index for Offices demonstrates the real rewards of investing in green-certified buildings and provides proof that these buildings are better placed to retain and attract tenants and are cheaper to operate," says Paul Kollenberg, Growthpoint's head of asset management: office.

Green-certified offices outperformed in 2020

For the year ended December 2020, the green-certified office sample delivered a total return of -1.6%, 170bps above the non-certified sample's return of -3.1%. Capital growth was the main driver of outperformance as the green-certified sample held its value better in a challenging operating environment for the office



Growthpoint office development at 29 Richefond Circle, Ridgeside, Umhlanga, KZN.

market.

Over the index's five-year history, the sample of green-certified offices delivered an annualised outperformance of 260bps as its compound annual total return of 7.3% exceeded the 4.7% of non-

certified P- and A-grade offices. On a cumulative basis, this equates to a total return of 42.1% as it outperformed the non-certified sample by 13.2%.

As the Covid-19 pandemic stressed property fundamen-

als, green-certified offices proved more defensive, both from an income and capital perspective as its superior capital growth was the result of a better net income growth and lower discount rate.

Amid the impact of Cov-

id-19, the green-certified office sample saw a significantly smaller decline in net operating income when compared to non-certified offices (-5.8% vs. -10.1%) and had a 40bp lower discount rate when compared to the non-certified sample, implying that its future cashflows were deemed lower risk. Also telling was a lower vacancy rate of 12.7% versus the non-green sample of 14.9%, highlighting the value occupiers are attaching to green certified premises.

The meaning behind these results

Released by MSCI in April 2021, the index results reinforced the association between quality and green-certified buildings, as reflected by a 31% higher capital value per square metre, more resilient capital growth and a higher net operating income per square metre compared to the non-certified office buildings.

Nyusi inaugurates cement plant

MAPUTO

Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi on Wednesday inaugurated a new cement plant, Dugongo Cement, in the southernmost district of Matutuine, which results from a 330 million US dollar investment by the Chinese West International Holding.

The plant, which stretches across an area of 400,000 hectares, comprises a wide range of facilities such as mining fields for limestone and clinker, the milling infrastructure, the storage silos, four filling lines as well as a residential complex for some of the 300 permanent staff.

With an installed production capacity estimated at two million tonnes of cement per year, the new plant also produces 5,000

tonnes of clinker, the raw material which is the backbone of Portland cement production. Dugongo Cement has its own power station run on charcoal which will generate 36 Megawatts of electricity. Water is harvested from the Maputo River basin and treated to serve the plant.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony, Nyusi said the country now has 16 cement plants which have an annual production capacity of over seven million tonnes. Of the total number, nine factories are in Maputo and the others in Sofala, Nampula and Cabo Delgado provinces. There are two others under construction, one in Niassa and another in Maputo.

"The Dugongo Cement plant will improve the economy of the cement industry, because it will

reduce the import of inputs such as clinker", Nyusi pointed out. The success, Nyusi declared, will also contribute to larger savings in the budget for the construction of several infrastructures.

"I reaffirm the government's commitment to promote further investments to establish industrial clinker production units in the other regions of the country", Nyusi stressed, adding that the country wants to gain from its existing comparative advantages in minerals such as limestone. The chairperson of West International Holding, Wang Fayin, expressed his commitment to expand, in the near future, his company's investment in Mozambique, which he believed offers great market opportunities in a wide range of development areas.



Dugongo Cement Plant in the southernmost district of Matutuine, Mozambique.

MOSHI-BASED KILACHA COLLEGE STUDENTS APPLAUD BREWER'S FIELD FACTORY VISITS

By Property Watch Reporter

FOR Mary Nash, being a Serengeti Breweries Limited 'Kilimo-Viwanda' scholarship is more than a dream come true. Apart from getting competent classroom theory on agriculture best practices, Nash has also had the exposure of visiting the brewer's factories and partners farmers located in various regions of the country.

"I say thank you to Serengeti Breweries for this astonishing opportunity which prepares me to be one of the best extension officers in the country," said Nash who alongside her peers from Kilacha Agriculture and Livestock College visited SBL's factory in Moshi last week.

She pointed out that the scholarship does not only build their capacity to boost production in the agriculture sector, but also empowers her and other children from struggling farming families to graduate into commercial farmers in future.

In 2020, World Bank declared Tanzania as having graduated into a lower middle income economy with a gross national income per capita of \$1,035. Following such a feat, the government which had envisaged to reach such a status by 2025, adopted its five years development plan to ensure that the country is a proper middle income economy in 2025.

Through industrialization which is preceded by an agrarian revolution, the government urged various stakeholders including the private sector to invest and align with its development plan. One of the critical areas the government has prioritized to propel the economy into a proper middle income status is commercialization of the agriculture sector.

Over the recent years, Tanzania has strengthened the sector by providing subsidies, training manpower, reducing business costs, opening , investing in infrastructure such as roads, railways, bridges and ships and ferries to ease transport and logistics challenges facing agriculture.

SBL has been an important state partner in this regard through its investment in manpower training of extension officers. The brewer's 'Kilimo-Viwanda' Scholarship Programme which started in 2019 targets students from struggling rural families with



SBL's material clerk manager, Deogratius Adam (R), briefs students from Kilacha Agriculture and Livestock Training Centre on how beer is produced. They visited the Moshi-based factory last week. Photo courtesy of SBL

an agriculture background.

The scholarship programme helps underprivileged students from such families study agricultural related courses at one of four tertiary colleges located in Coast, Iringa, Kagear and Kilimanjaro Regions. The beneficiaries who currently number 70, are fully funded to pursue diploma course in agriculture.

Speaking at the unveiling of 10 beneficiaries from Kilacha Agriculture and Livestock College recently, SBL Managing Director, Mark Ocitti said the program compliments government's efforts to commercialize the agriculture sector which plays a key role in development of the country's economy.

"We believe that a robust agricultural

sector is vital in sustaining Tanzania economic development, hence our resolve to support the sector training of experts," said Ocitti who added that the scholarship program builds on both the student's theoretical learning and practical exposure through field visits.

"And while the college students learn new skills, they are likely to grow as big commercial farmers who can supply SBL with cereals necessary for beer production, such as barley, maize and sorghum," he added.

Currently, SBL has a vast network of over 400 local farmers in eight regions in the country. The farmers are found in Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Manyara, Singida, Dodoma, Shinyanga, Mwanza, and Mara

regions. SBL supports them by providing free seeds, field technical services and linking them to financial institutions to access credit facilities.

In 2020, SBL sourced 17,000 metric tons of grains, equal to 70 per cent of the company's annual raw materials requirement. By 2025, SBL has targeted 85 per cent of its raw materials from these local farmers.

SBL sponsors other three colleges in Tanzania: Igabiro Training Institute of Agriculture in Bukoba, KaoleWazazi College of Agriculture in Bagamoyo and St Maria Goretti Agriculture Training Institute in Iringa. Over 40 students from these colleges have been sponsored through the programme.

Q1 2021 sees uptick in the residential rental sector

JOHANNESBURG

According to the PayProp Rental Index for Q1 2021, the South African residential rental sector has shown early signs of recovery with an uptick in quarterly rental growth to 0.5%, measured year on year, following five consecutive quarters of steady decreases.

PayProp's head of data analytics, Johette Smuts, says this number is still far below the rental growth rate of 3.2% seen in the corresponding quarter of 2020. "The increase in rent between the first quarter of 2020 and the same quarter in 2021 was just R33, to R7,819."

Smuts says rental growth had been under pressure since 2018, long before Covid-19 reached South African shores, with slow economic growth putting pressure on tenants' financials, and an uptick in residential developments adding to rental accommodation supply.

"Looking back at year-on-year growth rates from years gone by, it seems unlikely that we'll see growth rates approaching 10%, like we did in 2013, anytime soon," says Smuts. Another positive indicator in the Q1 index is the decreasing percentage of tenants in arrears after an initial spike.

In Q1 of 2020, 19.4% of all tenants were in arrears, and this quickly escalated to 24.9% in Q2 - an increase of close to 30%. Seen in context, this was when lockdown was first enforced, leading to many tenants losing their income or being forced to take a reduction in salary.

Then in June 2020, most industries reopened and tenants returned to work, leading to a steady improvement in the percentage of tenants in arrears each quarter since then. Encouragingly, only 20.3% of tenants were in arrears by Q1 2021.

"It's clear to us that South Africans are still in recovery from the financial implications of the pandemic and the lockdown. Tenants that defaulted in 2020 are having to pay their full rent each month as well an additional sum towards their outstanding balance - no easy feat in the current economic climate," says Smuts. "However, while the average arrears amount relative to rent has improved to 93.2% from its peak of 104.6%, it is not surprising that this is still much higher than the 78.5% measured before lockdown."

Egypt's road building drive eases jams but leaves some unhappy

CAIRO

At weekends, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi is often driven out to a road construction site in Cairo where he is pictured surveying stretches of recently poured asphalt and being briefed by workers.

The highways and bridges he inspects are the most visible part of a big infrastructure push meant to galvanise Egypt's economy after decades of rapid population growth and unplanned building. Led by the government and the military, it includes several new cities and one million low-cost homes and has helped pull Egypt through the economic shock of the pandemic and remain in growth last year.

After overthrowing Egypt's first democratically elected president in 2013 and pushing through painful fiscal reforms, Sisi is invested in infrastructure's ability to drive success. But there is a cost. Some of those displaced by new roads are unhappy at losing their homes, others at seeing their neighbourhoods suddenly transformed. Analysts question how much difference the infrastructure boom can make while structural economic problems persist.

One area of intense activity is eastern Cairo, where new roads and bridges scythe through the urban sprawl towards a futuristic capital under construction in the desert and due to open this year. In the Ezbet el-Hagana neighbourhood, drilling machines and diggers are laying out an intersection that cuts through cheap, informal housing, of which hundreds of units have been demolished to make way for the road.

When Sisi visited in February, he met ministers in front of unpainted brick housing blocks and discussed how half Egypt's population of 100 million lived in similar conditions. Afterwards, Sisi announced it would be renamed "Hope City."

But residents of Ezbet el-Hagana, many



An aerial view of new mega-highways and bridges on the way to the New Administrative Capital (NAC) east of Cairo is pictured through the window of a plane.

of whom moved from rural areas and built apartments and livelihoods, say they worry about the uncertainty. Ali Abdelrehim, a 52-year-old father of four, said his house was not at immediate risk but others might suffer if authorities carry out the president's suggestion to widen the area's narrow streets.

"These changes worry people," he said, adding that business at his carpentry shop has slowed to a trickle as people stop work on homes that risk demolition. Hosni Ali, a 34-year-old selling tomatoes from a donkey cart, said a storage room he rented was demolished because of the new roadworks. "Everyone here is scared ... everything is on hold," he said.

Resettlement

Across eastern Cairo and beyond, long-delayed road projects are racing

ahead. As much as \$70bn will be spent on transport in the decade to 2024, one third of that on roads and bridges, the transport minister has said.

Officials present the road building as part of efforts to develop informal areas across Egypt, connecting them to transport networks and basic services. They say those displaced will be compensated or resettled.

Some of those moved from Ezbet el-Hagana have been allocated furnished housing in Ahlina, a new district on Cairo's outskirts with a youth centre and playgrounds, and residents say conditions are good. But they have to pay rent and some have lost access to work.

"The problem is money, and life is expensive," said 75-year-old pensioner Sabri Abdo, whose son is a motor rickshaw driver. "Before this, I lived in

my own property and didn't pay rent. No one knows my son here, so things aren't working for him like they were over there."

The east Cairo governor's office, which oversees the area, was not available for comment. The road building surge - social media posts dub Egypt "the republic of roads and bridges" - has triggered disquiet for other reasons.

Bridge and road building near the pyramids, around Cairo's "cities of the dead" where people live among old family tombs, and in the genteel neighbourhood of Heliopolis, has alarmed conservationists.

Commuting in and out of Heliopolis has become quicker but the character of the neighbourhood had changed for residents, said Choucri Asmar, head of volunteer group Heliopolis Heritage Foundation. "They cannot walk in the

street anymore, they can't cross the street anymore, they cannot see trees from their balconies every afternoon with the birds," he said.

Less stress Asked for a response to complaints about the road and bridge programme on TV earlier this year, Sisi said no sector - including health, education, agriculture and manufacturing - was neglected. "We need to do this so we can make people's lives easier, so we can reduce the amount of lost time, people's stress and the fuel being used causing more pollution," he said.

A World Bank study in 2014 estimated the costs of congestion in greater Cairo at 3.6% of Egypt's gross domestic product, far higher than some other big cities - though it warned that building more roads and bridges would not solve the problem.

CONSTRUCTION

The Guardian PROPERTY WATCH

DISCOVER INFORM INSPIRE

AXA IM BUYS JAPANESE APARTMENTS FROM SAMTY RESIDENTIAL

TOKYO

French financial services giant AXA is moving farther afield in search of yield in Japan's rental residential sector, with the company announcing this week that it has acquired a pair of apartment towers in the city of Sendai.

AXA IM Alts, the alternative asset division of the French insurer's investment management business, is paying JPY 4.2 billion (\$38.6 million) for 282 rental units in northern Japan's second-largest city as its 15th investment in the country's residential market on behalf of clients, the company said in a statement.

The deal in the Miyagi prefecture city of 1.6 million people underlines AXA IM's willingness to move beyond Japan's largest cities as competition increases for prime assets in Tokyo and Osaka, and investment yields continue to compress in the face of growing competition for assets.

Completed in 2006, the 191-room S-Fort Katahira is the newer of AXA IM's latest acquisitions, with the 91-room S-Fort Miyamachi having been finished in 2001. The French firm is buying both properties from



S-Fort Katahira was completed in 2006 and is the newer of AXA IM's two Sendai acquisitions.

Tokyo-listed real estate investment trust Samty Residential Investment Corporation for the equivalent of JPY 420,000 per square metre.

Located 370 kilometres (230 miles)

north of Tokyo on the east coast of Japan's main island of Honshu, Sendai's status as a hub for the Tohoku region has made it home to a number of well-known educational institutions.

AXA said the two towers "have been designed to appeal to young single occupants, including students, and dual income couples due to their affordable rents and proximity to both

the city centre and nearby Tohoku University."

Both properties are also within walking distance of Sendai's Ichibancho commercial district and are close to the city's train station, offering the opportunity for a less than two-hour trip to Tokyo via the Shinkansen bullet train.

With this latest acquisition, AXA IM has grown its Japanese residential assets under management to nearly \$656 million, making it one of the largest investors in the country's multi-family sector. Along with its counterparts at investment firms such as Allianz Real Estate, Nuveen and Blackstone, AXA, in recent months has seen capitalisation rates for prime apartment assets compress to levels usually associated with core office deals.

Speaking at a Mingtiandi event on Japan's multi-family investment market earlier this month, Ken Sakuramoto, head of equity advisory for Japan at JLL, said that investors

hoping to acquire rental residential assets in Japan's four largest cities of Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya and Fukuoka can expect investment yields in the range of 3 to 4 percent, with opportunities in the capital towards the lower end of that range or at 3 percent in some cases.

While investors such as Allianz, which last week announced a \$1 billion fund dedicated to Japanese multi-family, have focused their energies on Tokyo and Osaka while taking on some leasing risk, AXA IM has been moving beyond Japan's largest hubs.

In early July last year, the Paris-based company spent JPY 20 billion acquiring a residential tower in Nagoya, Japan's fourth-largest city, and followed up a few weeks later with another purchase in the capital of Aichi prefecture. In December 2020, the firm spent JPY 70 billion to acquire a Tokyo apartment portfolio.

Global real estate deal volumes drop 13pc to \$187bn in first quarter

LONDON

Global real estate transaction volumes in the first quarter of 2021 declined 13 per cent to \$187 billion amid the coronavirus pandemic-related movement restrictions, according to the latest report from consultancy JLL. Mature markets such as the US, the UK, France and Japan recorded stronger performance during the quarter.

"While the overall global investment market remained resilient, its recovery is proving to be uneven across geographies and sectors," Sean Coghlan, global director of capital markets research and strategy at JLL, said.

"We continue to see improving economic conditions, continued government stimulus and increasing inoculation rates as providing reasons for optimism and avenues for market improvement, but we do remain cautious given ongoing restrictions in Western Europe and large scale flare-ups in

India."

The coronavirus pandemic, which disrupted air travel, shuttered borders and led to an overnight shift in work patterns, have also impacted the real estate sector. Investments in industrial real estate have risen over the last year as homebound users flocked to e-commerce sites to shop, leading to a demand for warehouse spaces. Logistics and multi-family investments represented 63 per cent of total transactions in the first quarter, up from 44 per cent during the same period past year, according to the report.

Europe posted the strongest first-quarter performance on record with a total investment of €10bn (\$12.18bn) in the industrial and logistics sector, which is more than 40 per cent higher than the first-quarter five-year average from 2016 to 2020. Investment into the multi-family residential segment during the quarter also increased 66 per cent in Europe, led by the UK, Germany and France, the report said. In the Asia Pacific, Japan was the most liquid market with investments totalling



High-rise buildings in London.

\$11.5bn, partially due to the persistent appetite for multi-family assets in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya, according to the report.

Markets historically focused on office and retail investments also experienced gains in investor confidence in the first quarter. "During 2021, investors demonstrated increased confidence for select markets in Asia, such as Singapore and Hong Kong, where cultural norms and the structure of housing in the markets limit widespread work-from-home policies," the report said.

Overall, momentum in global office markets remained subdued, with first-quarter leasing volumes down 31 per cent on an annual basis.

All three regions including the US, Europe and Asia-Pacific recorded lower transaction levels.

Cross-border capital flows remained fairly muted throughout the quarter, offset by markets with deep domestic access to capital. Global investors with ample dry powder and an established on-the-ground presence continue to play a critical role in the cross-border market, deploying \$17.5bn in the first quarter, according to the report. The UK is benefitting from renewed interest from North American and Singaporean firms, which invested \$2.9bn in the first quarter, according to JLL.

Scotland-based architect Kettle Collective now designs world's second tallest tower for Russia

MOSCOW

Scotland-based architect Kettle Collective has unveiled its design for a spiralling 703m tower for St Petersburg, Russia that would be the second highest skyscraper in the world next to Dubai's Burj Khalifa (828m).

Although the Burj is taller, this tower, called Lakhta Centre II, would have the highest occupied floor in the world at 590m, the firm said in a press release, adding it would knock the Shanghai Tower (632m) from its current place as the world's second tallest tower, at 632m. The tower would be located on the outskirts of St Petersburg next to Europe's tallest building, the Lakhta Center (462m), which is the headquarters of energy giant Gazprom.

Gazprom yesterday revealed its proposal for Lakhta Centre II in a meeting with St Petersburg city government, saying the tower would be built on land Gazprom would provide. The company said the project would "be implemented via project financing outside the scope of Gazprom's investment program by a special-purpose company unaffiliated with Gazprom."

Kettle Collective design lead Tony Kettle designed the existing Lakhta Centre when he worked at architectural firm RMJM, winning a competition in 2006. He said the new tower would be "a template of sustainable design for global high-rise projects", with features including multi-car lifts powered by energy generated by their own movement.

He said the spiralling exterior columns would form an "open organic helical diagrid." Kettle Collective managing director Colin Bone said the tower would have national significance, "showcasing Russia on the world stage as an investor in business, innovation and creative thinking."

First floating villa of Dh870m Dubai luxury resort unveiled

DUBAI

The UAE-based ship building and repair company Seagate Shipyard unveiled the first floating house, which will be part of its Dh870 million Sea Palace Floating Resort project.

The project also includes a floating luxury hotel and 12 mobile boat villas that will be stationed near Dubai Marina. The first mobile boat villa, an eco-friendly house known as Neptune, was unveiled at the Al Hamra Port in Ras Al Khaimah on Monday. "The project will include a luxurious hotel of 156 suites and rooms, encircled by 12 residential floating boats," Muhammad Elbahrawy, chief executive of Seagate Shipyard, said. Seagate Shipyard is among a handful of developers



Sea Palace Floating Resort is a Dh870 million project that includes a luxury hotel surrounded by floating houses.

in the UAE that are building floating residences or hotels.

The Kleindienst Group is building floating "seahorse" villas at its \$5 billion Heart of Europe project in Dubai. The first phase of the project is on course to be open to the public in time for Expo

2020, the developer said earlier this month.

Construction on the overall Sea Palace Floating Resort project, which is inspired by the design of a glass boat, will be completed in the first quarter of 2023, a statement said. Remaining units in the project will be launched

soon, it added. The first floating villa in the project was sold in October last year to Dubai-based businessman Balvinder Sahani for Dh20m, the company said.

Each boat villa will contain two storeys and have an area of about 10,333 square feet. They will have

four ensuite bedrooms, indoor and outdoor living areas, a roof with an infinity swimming pool and a ground floor made of glass allowing for views of the water. There will also be a kitchen, living room and two separate rooms for staff, the statement said. The furniture

for the floating villas has been designed by luxury car company Aston Martin, the company said in November last year.

The luxury boat villa will be powered by solar energy and will use technology for wastewater treatment and air filtration. It will also feature a muted engine room and wave-resistant hydraulic engines, which will allow residents to move the villa to other locations, the company said. Each unit conforms to international safety standards and is equipped with a self-sterilising system, as well as a smart home system, it added.

The floating Sea Palace hotel will be managed by an international hotel chain and investors will be able to buy units in the property, according to the company's website. Dubai was picked as the location for its resort as it is a "significant tourism and investment destination" and offers flexible economic policies and robust infrastructure, Mr Elbahrawy said.

WORLD

UK health minister says ex-PM aide's Covid-19 lies claim are not true

LONDON

BRITISH health minister Matt Hancock said yesterday "unsubstantiated allegations" from the prime minister's former chief aide that he had lied to colleagues and the public about the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic were untrue.

Dominic Cummings, who was Prime Minister Boris Johnson's right hand man until late last year, delivered a withering attack on his former boss and Hancock during seven hours of testimony before a parliamentary committee on Wednesday, saying their ineptitude led to tens of thousands of unnecessary deaths.

Johnson, Cummings said, was unfit for his role, while his greatest criticism was reserved for Hancock who he said had repeatedly lied to such an extent that the country's top civil servant lost confidence in his honesty.

"These allegations that were put yester-

day ... are serious allegations and I welcome the opportunity ... to put formally on the record that these unsubstantiated allegations around honesty are not true, and that I've been straight with people in public and in private throughout," Hancock told parliament.

With almost 128,000 deaths, the United Kingdom has the world's fifth highest official COVID-19 toll, far higher than the government's initial worst-case estimates of 20,000.

One of the most damning allegations from Cummings was that Hancock's statement that the government had thrown a "protective ring around" care homes at the start of the pandemic was nonsense, and that instead people had been sent back from hospital who had contracted the coronavirus.

The opposition Labour Party says if he had lied, he should lose his job.

"I've been straight with people in public and in private throughout," Hancock said.

"Every day since I began working on the re-



Britain's Health Secretary Matt Hancock

sponse to this pandemic last January, I've got up each morning and asked, 'what must I do to protect life'. That is the job of a health secretary in a pandemic."

Lawmakers from the governing Conservative Party rallied around Hancock, while Jeremy Hunt, a co-chairman of the committee at which Cummings had appeared, said the allegations from the former aide should be treated as unproven until evidence was provided to back them up.

Hancock is also due to face questioning from media at a news conference later.

Agencies

Politicising COVID-19 origin tracing gives free rein to 'political virus'- Chinese embassy in US

WASHINGTON

TO politicize the origin tracing of COVID-19, a matter of science, will not only make it hard to find the origin of the virus, but also give free rein to the "political virus" and seriously hamper international cooperation on the pandemic, said the Chinese Embassy in the United States on Wednesday.

"On the origin tracing of COVID-19, we have been calling for international cooperation on the basis of respecting facts and science, with a view to better coping with unexpected epidemics in the future," said the spokesperson for the embassy in a statement.

"Out of a sense of responsibility towards the health of mankind, we support a comprehensive study of all early cases of COVID-19 found worldwide and a thorough investigation into some secretive bases and biological laboratories all over the world," said the spokesperson.

"Such study and investigation shall be full, transparent and evidence-based, and shall get to the bottom to make everything clear," the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson noted that some people lately have played the old trick of political hype on the origin tracing of COVID-19 in the world. Smear campaign and blame shifting are making a comeback, and the conspiracy theory of "lab leak" is resurfacing.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 last year, some political forces have been fixated on political manipulation and blame game, while ignoring their people's urgent need to fight the pandemic and the international demand for cooperation on this front, which has caused a tragic loss of many lives, the spokesperson said.

"The lesson from last year



Photo taken on May 4, 2021 shows the White House in Washington, D.C., the United States. (Xinhua)

is still fresh in our memory. While the pandemic is still causing great damage in today's world and the international community is expecting greater coordination among countries, some people are turning to their old

playbook," said the spokesperson.

"We cannot but wonder, have they already put that bitter lesson behind them, so soon? Or do they want to see a replay of tragedies? With such irresponsible be-

haviors, how can they face up to their own people? How can they face up to the international community? And how can they face up to human conscience?" the spokesperson said.

Xinhua

Moscow vows to defend rights of Russian woman held in Minsk

MOSCOW

MOSCOW is making every effort to ensure that the rights of Russian citizen Sofia Sapega who was taken into custody in Minsk along with opposition figure Roman Protasevich are observed, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said yesterday.

"We are doing everything to ensure that the Russian national's rights are respected,"

Zakharova emphasized in an interview with the Echo Moskvy radio station when answering a question if Moscow was taking any steps to release Sapega.

The diplomat also cautioned against jumping to conclusions over the reasons for the Ryanair flight's landing in Minsk. "We don't have any right to act emotionally. We are acting in compliance with legal norms," Zakharova

specified. Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman mentioned also that "a Russian consul was granted access to Russian national Sofia Sapega detained in Belarus after Minsk had completed the necessary legal proceedings."

"The matter is that some legal proceedings were taking place and she [Sapega] was involved in them," Zakharova said. "The consul went to

meet with her as soon as we received official notification from Belarus after waiting the entire day for the proceedings to be completed.

They were over by the end of the day and the meeting was held in the evening," the diplomat added.

Russian national Sofia Sapega and founder of the extremist Telegram channel Nexta, Roman Protasevich, who was wanted in Belarus, were de-

tained on May 23 at Minsk International Airport after a Ryanair airliner was forced to make an emergency landing. The Vilnius-bound Ryanair flight that took off from Athens was compelled to touch down in Minsk after a reported bomb threat. A Mikoyan MiG-29 jet was scrambled to escort the plane. The bomb threat came up empty after the aircraft had been inspected and no explosives were found.

IBM unveils world's first 2 nanometer chip technology, opening a new frontier for semiconductors

NEW YORK

IBM has unveiled a breakthrough in semiconductor design and process with the development of the world's first chip announced with 2 nanometer (nm) nanosheet technology.

Semiconductors play critical roles in everything from computing, to appliances, to communication devices, transportation systems, and critical infrastructure.

Demand for increased chip performance and energy efficiency continues to rise, especially in the era of hybrid cloud, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet of Things (IoT).

IBM's new 2 nm chip technology helps advance the state-of-the-art in the semiconductor industry, addressing this growing demand. It is projected to achieve 45 per cent higher performance, or 75 per cent lower energy use than today's most advanced 7 nm node chips.

The potential benefits of these advanced 2 nm chips could include quadrupling cell phone battery life, only requiring users to charge their devices every four days.

It also slashes the carbon footprint of data centers, which account for one percent of global energy use.

According to IBM, this new technology will drastically speed up a laptop's functions, ranging from quicker processing in applications, to assisting in language translation more easily, to faster internet access.

It will also contribute to faster object detection and reaction time in autonomous vehicles like self-driving cars.

"The IBM innovation reflected in this new 2 nm chip is essential to the entire semiconductor and IT industry," said Dario Gil, SVP and Director of IBM Research.

Gil said it is the product of IBM's approach of taking on hard tech challenges and a demonstration of how breakthroughs can result from sustained investments and a collaborative Research and Development ecosystem approach.

IBM at the forefront of semiconductor innovation

This latest breakthrough builds on decades of IBM leadership in semiconductor innovation. The company's semiconductor development efforts are based at its research lab located at the Albany Nanotech Complex in Albany, NY, where IBM scientists work in close collaboration with public and private sector partners to push the boundaries of logic scaling and semiconductor capabilities.

This collaborative approach to innovation makes IBM Research Albany a world-leading ecosystem for semiconductor research and creates a strong innovation pipeline, helping to address manufacturing demands and accelerate the growth of the global chip industry.

IBM's legacy of semiconductor breakthroughs also includes the first implementation of 7 nm and 5 nm process technologies, single cell DRAM, the Dennard Scaling Laws, chemically amplified photoresists, copper interconnect wiring, Silicon on Insulator technology, multi core microprocessors, High-k gate dielectrics, embedded DRAM, and 3D chip stacking. IBM's first commercialized offering including IBM Research 7 nm advancements will debut later this year in IBM POWERIO-based IBM Power Systems.

50 billion transistors on a fingernail-sized chip

Increasing the number of transistors per chip can make them smaller, faster, more reliable, and more efficient. The 2 nm design demonstrates the advanced scaling of semiconductors using IBM's nanosheet technology. Its architecture is an industry first. Developed less than four years after IBM announced its milestone 5 nm design, this latest breakthrough will allow the 2 nm chip to fit up to 50 billion transistors on a chip the size of a fingernail.

More transistors on a chip also means processor designers have more options to infuse core-level innovations to improve capabilities for leading edge workloads like AI and cloud computing, as well as new pathways for hardware-enforced security and encryption. IBM is already implementing other innovative core-level enhancements in the latest generations of IBM hardware, like IBM POWERIO and IBM z15.

Agencies

Evidence can't support COVID-19 lab leak theory, says researchers

HONG KONG

RESEARCHERS at China's Wuhan Institute of Virology have found a new branch in the family tree of bat coronaviruses and the result cannot support the COVID-19 lab leak theory, the South China Morning Post has reported.

The viruses, which have high levels of similarity across certain areas of the genome, are more distantly related to the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 than several other known viruses, the researchers was quoted as saying on Tuesday in a paper released last week.

In the paper, the researchers said the "evidence cannot support" the lab leak theory since the closest strain in their laboratories, with a 96 per cent similarity to Sars-CoV-2 or decades of evolutionary distance, has a very weak ability to bind to human cells.

Xinhua

Chinese smart home appliances improve user experience for overseas consumers

MANY Europeans love taking a sip of the wines from the collection in their cabinets when they get home. Now such experience is made smarter by an intelligent wine cabinet co-produced by renowned Chinese home appliance manufacturer Haier and the world's largest online wine dealer Vivino.

The cabinet, which was exhibited at the Internationale Funkausstellung Berlin last year together with many other new home appliances and solutions, is able to recognize

over 1,000 wine brands, as well as the years and locations of production. It can also be connected to a Haier phone application through which users can buy and manage wines.

The open ecosystem built by Haier has enabled interaction between appliances and users, said Yannick Fierling, CEO of Haier Europe.

Smart home appliances emerged in recent year with the thriving technologies of internet of things, cloud computing and AI, and the COVID-19 pandemic further raised Eu-

ropean users' requirements on the health-friendliness and intelligence of home appliances.

Last June, Haier Europe launched a smart home application on which users can manage home appliances manufactured by Haier and its subsidiary brands. The application also offers immersive interaction solutions and has received two million users.

Fierling told People's Daily that Haier's business maintained rapid growth in Europe despite of the COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, the sales

of high-end home appliances increased 20 percent to 30 percent from 2019, the highest in the industry in Europe.

Apart from building smart ecosystems on the continent, Haier is also working to expand its overseas production capacity. It is reported that a refrigeration production facility of Haier Europe will be put into operation this June in Romania. The plant, with an investment of more than 70 million euros (\$85.7 million), employs over 30 robots and is able to produce a million sets

of refrigerators on a yearly basis.

Alessia Ianni, Cooling Technical Operation Director at Haier Europe and Managing Director at Haier Tech Romania noted that the plant will play a pivotal role in Haier's smart home strategy in Europe for its strong capabilities in production, technological transformation and logistics, helping the manufacturer become one of the industrial leaders.

Relying on its solid strength of R&D, production and brand

effect, Haier is gaining an increasingly larger influence among European consumers. In recent years, the Chinese manufacturer has won multiple European awards, including the Red Dot Design Award and the Industry 4.0 Award.

Last September, Haier was rated the Shooting Star of the Year in the Customer Recommendation 2020 by German media outlet Handelsblatt, for its brand performance in five assessment dimensions such as general impression, quality, customer satisfaction, value

for money and employer image.

Being green, intelligent and sophisticated, "made-in-China" products have reinforced technologies, improved quality and made their names. They are recognized and welcomed by more and more overseas consumers.

Acquiring advanced technologies in core areas and striving to become global industrial leaders, Chinese brands are gaining a firm foothold in the international market.

People's Daily

Syria's Assad votes in former rebel town, site of chemical attack

SYRIAN President Bashar al-Assad voted on Wednesday in an election certain to extend his rule over a country ruined by war, casting his ballot in an ex-rebel bastion where a suspected chemical weapons attack in 2018 prompted Western air strikes.

The government says the election shows Syria is functioning normally despite the decade-old conflict, which has killed hundreds of thousands of people and driven 11 million people - about half the population - from their homes.

"Syria is not what they were trying to market, one city against the other and sect against the other or civil war. Today we are proving from Douma that the Syrian people are one," Assad said after voting in the former insurgent stronghold.

However, in the southern city of Deraa, cradle of the uprising against Assad in 2011 and an opposition redoubt until rebels there surrendered three years ago, local leaders called for a strike.

The election went ahead despite a UN-led peace process that had called for voting under international supervision that would help pave the way for a new constitution and a political settlement.

Dismissed as fraudulent by his enemies, Wednesday's vote is set to deliver Assad seven more years in power and lengthen his family's rule to nearly six decades. His father Hafez al-Assad led Syria for 30 years until his death in 2000.

The opposition boycotted the vote and said Assad's presidential rivals were deliberately low-key: former deputy cabinet minister Abdallah Saloum Abdallah and Mahmoud Ahmed Marei, head of a small, officially sanctioned opposition party.

Addressing his critics, Assad said Syrians had made their feelings clear by coming out in large numbers. "The

value of your opinions is zero," he said.

Polls closed at midnight after authorities extended voting by five hours due to the high turnout.

At Damascus University's Faculty of Arts, hundreds of students lined up to vote, with several buses parked outside.

"With our blood and soul we sacrifice our lives for you Bashar," groups of them chanted before the polls opened, in scenes repeated across the 70 percent of Syria now under government control.

"We came to elect President Bashar al-Assad. Without him Syria would not be Syria," said Amal, a nursing student, who declined to give a second name for fear of reprisals.

Officials said privately that authorities had organised large rallies in recent days to encourage voting, and the security apparatus that underpins Assad's Alawite minority-dominated rule had instructed state employees to vote.

"We have been told we have to go to the polls or bear responsibility for not voting," said Jafaar, a government employee in Latakia who gave his first name only, also fearing reprisals.

Day of anger

Douma, where Assad voted, is a Sunni Muslim town in the Eastern Ghouta region on the outskirts of the capital Damascus. It was long a focus of defiance against Assad's rule until it was retaken after years of siege and bombing that killed thousands of civilians.

A suspected chemical attack in 2018 killed at least 50 civilians, one of several - mainly in the Ghouta area - that left hundreds dead. The United States, France and Britain responded with air strikes on suspected chemical weapons sites. "Assad wants to send a message that Douma, one of the first areas that fell out of his control, is today secure and safe to cover up the election farce,"



Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, center, and his wife Asma, right, cast their votes at a polling station in Douma, near Damascus on Wednesday. (AFP)

said Wael Alwan, a researcher from Douma who now works at Istanbul's Syrian Jusoor think-tank.

Sulaiman, a former militiaman who battled the rebels in Ghouta when they threatened Assad's hold over Damascus early in the conflict, described Assad's vote as "a final declaration of victory" against Islamist militants.

In parts of Deraa in the far south, local figures called for a general strike to vent their opposition to the election.

Former rebels in the area said there were several in-

cidents of gunfire against vehicles carrying ballot boxes, and shops in many towns were closed.

"All people reject the rule of the son of Hafez," read graffiti scribbled across several towns in the south, the last part of the country to fall to Assad under Russian-brokered agreements, where former rebels still resist his rule.

There was no voting in the northwestern Idlib region, the last existing rebel enclave where at least three million of those who fled Assad's bombing campaign are sheltering, people took to the streets to denounce the election "theatre".

"It's a day of anger, let's participate

and raise our voices in the squares of freedom to announce our rejection of the criminal Assad and his elections," said one of the posters hung in a rebel-held town along the border with Turkey.

In the northeast, where U.S.-backed Kurdish-led forces administer an autonomous oil-rich region, officials closed border crossings with government-held areas to prevent people from heading to polling stations.

They said the election was a setback to reconciliation with a Kurdish minority that has faced decades of discrimination from one-party rule and Arab nationalist ideology.

DRC preparing for another evacuation over persistent earthquakes in Goma

KINSHASA

THE government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is preparing to activate a precautionary evacuation plan in response to frequent earthquakes in Goma, said the Ministry of Communication and Media yesterday.

"Goma is still under persistent threat of repeated eruptions and earthquakes. This requires the government to activate as a precautionary measure a gradual evacuation plan for residents as soon as possible, before the threat is completely eliminated," the ministry tweeted.

The province's military governor, General Constant Ndima, warned about a possible fresh volcanic eruption following intense seismic activity in the city of Goma, at the foot of the Nyiragongo volcano in the north-eastern province of North Kivu, as well as surrounding areas and neighbouring Rwanda.

"Current data of seismicity and soil deformation indicate the presence of magma under the urban area of Goma with an extension under Lake Kivu," the governor said.

He also warned that the eruption might occur with very little or no warning signs, adding that several inhabited areas exposed to the risk of destruction will be emptied of their residents, which will be asked to relocate elsewhere.

The eruption of the volcano was reported on Saturday night on the outskirts of Goma.

Xinhua

Innovation makes air conditioners greener

AIR conditioners are a necessity for many to get through the scorching heat in the summer. However, apart from cooling down the air around us, they are also affecting the temperature of the planet Earth.

According to the UN Environment Program, half of the energy consumption of the buildings in the world comes from cooling and heating systems.

How to make air conditioning greener and more efficient has become an unavoidable topic for the refrigeration industry in today's world where the growing demand for air conditioning and climate change are posing a dilemma.

China will strive to peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060. It is a major strategic decision made by the country to build a community with a shared future for mankind and achieve sustainable development, as well as a solemn promise China makes to the world.

The next five years is critical for China to peak carbon dioxide emission. For energy sectors, it means both feeding more clean energy at the supply side and upgrading the ways of energy consumption and improving energy use efficiency at the client side.

Statistics indicated that refrigeration accounts for over 15 percent of China's total power consumption, and air conditioners in large- and medium-sized cities contribute 60 per-



A volunteer explains to residents what convenience and changes a kilowatt hour of electricity can bring them in Hai'an, east China's Jiangsu province, March 15, 2021. (File photo)

cent of electrical load during peak summer months. As a result, a low-carbon reform in the manufacturing sector is imperative, and there is much to be explored.

Technological advances, especially new breakthroughs in core technologies, to a large extent decide how much the manufacturing sector can contribute to emission peak and carbon neutrality.

Chinese appliance manufacturer Gree and Tsinghua University have jointly developed a technology that is able to cut 85.7 percent of energy consumption in air conditioning. The technology was recently awarded a grand prize at the award ceremony of the Global

Cooling Prize, which was signed up by 2,100 competing teams from nearly 100 countries and aims to explore breakthrough innovative technology in the refrigeration industry to solve climate challenges.

It is estimated that the cooling technology, once massively employed, could possibly reduce carbon emission by 100 billion tons by 2050, equivalent to the amount of carbon absorbed by 116 billion trees in 100 years.

Responding to global climate change is a common challenge and task facing all countries. China has always been a major participant, contributor, and champion in building a global ecological civilization.

The Gree-Tsinghua Univer-

sity technology has served over 6,000 projects in the world, marking another contribution of Chinese innovation to the world.

This explains from the side that whoever leads in energy conservation and emission reduction technologies can claim the high ground in global competition as the world tackles climate change and seeks sustainable development.

At present, Chinese industries are speeding up low-carbon transformation, so as to contribute more wisdom, solutions and strength to global energy conservation, emission reduction and green development.

People's Daily

Putin, Biden may deliberate over Open Skies deal, but time is running out, says Kremlin

MOSCOW

PRESIDENTS Vladimir Putin of Russia and Joe Biden of the United States are likely to discuss the Treaty on Open Skies at their Geneva summit but since Russia is about to wrap up the denunciation procedures, the US has little time left to review its earlier decisions on pulling out, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters yesterday.

"Perhaps, somehow this issue [the Treaty on Open Skies] may be touched upon. Time is running out or should I say shrinking like the Skin of Shagreen [La Peau de chagrin, a novel by French writer Honore de Balzac] and we are fulfilling the procedures on [denouncing the Treaty on Open Skies] and they will be soon completed, so there is little time left for Washington to review its earlier made decisions," Peskov cautioned, when answering a question if Russia planned to offer the US a chance to return to the Open Skies Treaty at the Putin-Biden summit in Geneva.

Earlier, Russian President Vladimir Putin submitted a bill to the State Duma (the lower house of parliament) on denouncing the Open Skies Treaty.

In practical terms, this document enables the participating countries to carry out flights over each other's ter-



President Vladimir Putin (R) and Joe Biden

ritory to monitor military activity in accordance with the agreed quotas of monitoring missions.

The treaty establishes the rules of flights and a mechanism of verifying compliance with its provisions and contains the requirements the planes involved must meet, as well as restrictions on the structure and technical parameters of monitoring instruments.

Russia's Foreign Ministry announced on January 15 that Moscow had launched internal state procedures for exiting the Treaty on Open Skies. The Russian diplomatic

agency explained the move by the absence of progress in removing obstacles for the Treaty's continuation in new conditions after the US quit it in November 2020. The US Department of State stated in April that Washington had not decided yet on rejoining the Open Skies Treaty.

For years, Washington had been accusing Moscow of exercising a selective approach to implementing the Open Skies

Treaty and violating a number of its provisions. Russia had been laying counter-claims on the Treaty's implementation.

FROM 2012 to 2020, Chinese cities saved 45.3 billion cubic meters of water, which was five times the quantity transferred annually through the middle route of China's South-to-North Water Diversion Project, according to statistics released by the country's Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD).

In China, urban water consumption only accounts for around 10 percent of the total volume consumed, but it supports 60 percent of the country's population and contributing to over 70 percent of its GDP.

China is making reclaimed water a "second source" for urban water consumption. Last year, 14.6 billion cubic meters of reclaimed water was consumed in the country's urban areas, growing fourfold from that in 2012 and accounting for 23.2 percent of total urban water supply.

In recent years, water conservation

China's efforts to enhance urban water conservation pay off

has been taken as a priority by Chinese cities in their work related to water consumption, as they strived to build an urban water system in which water supply, water environment treatment and water security are interconnected.

From a stinky ditch to a beautifully clear channel, Liangmahe River in Chaoyang district of Beijing has taken on a new look.

The clear water comes from a nearby water reclamation plant, said Zhao Tan, director of Beijing's water conservation office, adding that the water for the irrigation on the two banks of the river is also reclaimed.



Photo taken on Aug. 20, 2020 shows a "sponge parking lot" in Rugao, east China's Jiangsu province. (File photo)

An official from the MOHURD introduced that local authorities across China has been accelerating the

upgrading of battered water supply networks and improving management capabilities. As a result, the leakage rate of

urban water supply pipelines has been on a stable decline, the official said.

In the plant of a cement company in Yichang, central China's Hubei province, there is a huge pond. "Rainfall and rinse water stored in the pond are turned into clear water after recycling, and sent to the mixing plant for production through pipelines," said an executive of the company. Around 80 percent of the company's water consumption is recycled, which cuts cost by more than 400,000 yuan (\$62,183) each year, he said.

In recent years, the concept of sponge city has been gradually instilled into the

urban planning, construction and management of many cities in China, as a way to improve their capability in utilizing, regulating and absorbing rainfall. For instance, hardened roads are replaced by permeable pavers, while grassed canals and sunken grassbelts are built to store rainfall for irrigation of treelawns.

As of the end of 2020, over 40,000 projects of sponge city construction had been completed, which can utilize 350 million tonnes of rainfall on an annual basis.

Besides, China is also actively building water-conserving cities and promoting water conservancy methods

and ideas in communities to shape a green development model and lifestyle. So far, 130 cities in the country have been rated as water-conserving cities. Accounting for 58.5 percent of total urban water consumption, these cities will forcefully advancing water conservation in China's urban areas.

People's Daily



From a stinky ditch to a beautifully clear channel, Liangmahe River in Chaoyang district of Beijing has taken on a new look



Can Simba maintain their CAF Champions League successful run next season?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA Sports Club has already been knocked out of this season's CAF Champions League, going down 4-3 to Kaizer Chiefs in the last eight.

Simba SC won the second meeting with Kaizer Chiefs at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, but they were defeated earlier in Soweto, Johannesburg after conceding a 4-0 defeat.

They have reached the quarterfinal stage this year, but despite having the best run in the continental championship, they were aspired to reach the semi-finals and equal a record they set in 1974.

And now there are important questions for Simba SC investor, Mohammed Dewji, as well as the club's Chief Executive Officer, Barbara Gonzalez.

Questions that will focus on measuring Simba's strength in holding on to where they are now.

Rising to success is an easy task, staying on top is a little tricky. Joining Egypt's Al Ahly and Zamalek, Morocco's Raja Casablanca, DR Congo's TP Mazembe, Mamelodi of South Africa and other top clubs is not an easy task. So far Simba SC has not joined the group for various reasons.

These big teams are every day back to their top positions. If such outfits do not make it to the quarterfinals, then they might progress to the semi-final or a final.

Two years ago when Simba SC reached the quarterfinals of the tournament they were, the following season, eliminated by the Mozambican side, UD Songo, in the preliminary stage.

This season they have ended in the quarterfinals and we are not sure where they will end up next season.

This is an opportunity soccer followers must exploit, as far as putting Simba's quality into focus, heading to next season, as they have shown many good signs in this year's CAF Champions League.

The first sign is that Simba has turned out to be way better this season.

Every week their players have been in the weekly squad for the Champions League.

Such players like Aishi Manula, Luis Miquissone, Clatous Chama, Mohammed Hussein, and Larry Bwalwa were selected for the weekly squad.

Simba's status will be measured when it first succeeds in keeping the prominent players in their squad that will otherwise be needed elsewhere.

Top soccer outfits from West Africa or even Congolese outfit, TP Mazembe, will want to sign Simba players.

Football is indeed a business, but sometimes it depends on the goals of the team.

Simba's goal is to do business or take the continental event's silverware.

Football aficionados will see Dewji's strength in withstanding the waves when the big African teams want to sign famous players from Simba.

For example, Raja sought to rope Kapombe in for \$500,000. What would Simba do if Wydad table an offer for Hussein?

What would Simba do if Zamalek wants to sign Chama. What about Miquissone?

It will be a test for Dewji because I don't think Simba will receive cheap offers if the African soccer giant decided to do the right thing by seeking to sign Simba's players.

The team has put itself in a good perspective. It would not be surprising, should the offers come to the Msimbazi Street side.

Will they decide to keep their players and strengthen their squad or will they decide to take the money?

The Northern African squads' leaderships are quite reluctant to release their players.

I believe that TP Mazembe's owner, Moise Katumbi, was refusing a lot of money from North Africa sides who were demanding for Mazembe's Mbwana Samatta, Jean Kasusula, Rainford Kalaba, and others.

It was not surprising to see Mazembe return to the same quality almost every season because they continued to keep their best players.

It was not that their players were unwanted, no, Moise Katumbi's financial supremacy played part in the outfit's ability to retain the players.

Football is a business! Simba players may or may not leave but is Dewji ready to invest a lot to register new players to strengthen up the squad?

Simba needs reliable players for accomplishing their plan to excel in CAF tournaments.

Even if they have the likes of Chama remaining in the squad and will not be wanted by other teams, the side ought to emulate all big teams in Europe and beyond that are bringing in other prominent footballers to improve their outfits.

Improving the squad means making sure the existing players are not going to be on relaxation.

They did well last season by recruiting Bernard Morrison and Larry Bwalwa, intending to increase competition in the midfield.

Upfront there were John Bocco and Meddie Kagere but they still registered Chris Mugalu. This is exactly what is required.

However, it is time to save money for meaningful players who are needed in the squad. This is no time to be complacent.

Luckily for Simba, things went well for Morrison and Bwalwa but sometimes they do not only rely too much on getting quality from signing players, but the outfit must also invest.

Sometimes an outfit should accomplish a dream. It would be better for Simba to reach the Champions League semi-finals and the finals, possibly lifting the silverware.

We have seen many teams face a downfall just after having a great season, which saw the outfits lift trophies, this is called second season syndrome.

Sometimes you can have a good season, the same way Simba has had, but suddenly everything changes if you fail to accomplish the dream. Sometimes you find players tired and are lacking motivation.

Simba should be aware of this situation by roping in prominent footballers who will join the squad to continue where Chama and other footballers left.

In this way, Simba will continue to remain as one of the successful football outfits on the continent.

It takes a lot of money and knowledge to get into a group of giant African football teams.

Al Ahly has been doing it now and then. It was not a surprise they took the Champions League title and then invested millions of dollars to take a defender from Morocco and a coach from South Africa.

Kagere agent's benching outcry, play formulations unwarranted

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

Afurore has been kicked up by a soccer practitioner managing at the league level, and also acting as an agent for Simba SC forward Meddie Kagere, over the player's benching in the crucial return leg encounter with Kaizer Chiefs in the CAF Champions League quarterfinals run.

There is something bizarre about the discussion around the issue, as it isn't about one of the players who were on the reserve list on that day, but about a particular player.

It is a discussion laden with ifs as to what would have taken place had the player been there - which for those familiar with logical discussion is unwarranted.

While the manager might be speaking for himself and to an extent for his client - as presumably, the client is likely to be more realistic as to the choices the Simba head coach was working with, manner of play and who fits into what position - and indeed whether any substitution was needed.

The agent may also have an inkling of knowledge in that regard but keeps it close to his chest, and what he says in public is wishful thinking on behalf of his client, in addition to a personal vendetta.

From both viewpoints, he was unqualified to speak on the outcome of the return leg, because he has too much of a stake to be impartial.

The French have an expression, razor blade with which they shave off illogical arguments that start with 'if,' as such formulations have so many unknowns as to be of not much use to clarify on what



Simba SC striker, Meddie Kagere (R), dribbles past Kaizer Chiefs' midfielder, Bernard Parker, when the clubs met in the first leg match of the CAF Champions League's last eight, which took place in South Africa on May 15. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

took place.

For a soccer technician with a personal vendetta against Didier Gomes da Rosa, the French head coach of the Msimbazi Street outfit based on his reported remarks, he ought not to indulge in evaluating the coach as one reason for people to pay attention to evaluation is that it is conducted in a technically sound manner.

A biased mind is by definition incapable of constructing reasonable arguments.

'With if, one can fill Paris into a bottle,' is what the French say about '...if' when it becomes the core piece of an argument, as it can be liberally extended to get away from the real situation into dreamland.

That is what was creeping when the contention was being raised as to what would have happened 'if' Kagere had been on the pitch, either from the start or from some point after 70 minutes as replacements are

due by that time.

The discussion doesn't go far without showing by its characteristic wishful thinking that it doesn't merit being on the table, the three goals are taken for granted and Kagere would add more!

This outlook was the lamentable starting point of the pointless discussion that has been on the rounds in countless FM platforms and other quarters for several days on end, with the agent's remarks sort of giving flavour to a less cogent internal dispute among the fans.

This earlier version of the discussion hovered around the issue of 'what happened' leading to Simba being 'axed from the CAF Champions League.'

It is this prior weakness that gave the agent plenty of room to dribble his accusations, as the fans more or less wanted something tangible to show why wishful thinking like a

minimum 5-0 margin didn't come.

In that sense, there is plausibly no need to lay accent on what Kagere's agent said or what the pundits were making of his assertions, except based on the fact that the club fan base needed an explanation of that sort, that a competent soccer practitioner says Kagere's benching made all the difference.

Desire being what it is, chances of a fan who was bitterly disappointed that the players failed to score five goals failing to get absorbed into those formulations are well nigh negligible, so the agent gets his audience.

But fortunately unlike at the rival club two hundred meters away, the agent's ideas won't lead to disturbances.

Looking at the issue from a close-up position, the agent wished to say that either Clatus Chama Jr or especially Boko could easily have been replaced with Kagere, which is plausible to so many people, but for one thing, the coach didn't think so.

In that context, some of us feel more at ease to try and figure out why the coach placed the two center players the way he did and did not have a 'plan B' for the last 20 minutes, as he trusted the combination he fielded.

Even without being a soccer expert, it isn't easy to say that had someone else been in Chama Jr's position he would have dribbled more than once to score a gem goal as the second slot.

Nor can it be said that Bocco's pinpoint finishing and sense of position could have been repeated several times - in the sense of being improved upon by Kagere. We simply beg to differ.

DCC B cricketers step up quest for lifting Kazim Nasser tourney's Div C title

By Guardian Reporter

DAR Cricket Club (DCC) B has kept on pushing for a successful quest for winning this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division C's title, edging Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Centre (SKLPSC) B by three wickets in a clash, which took place early this week.

The DCC B cricketers displayed resilience in the clash, which took place at the University Dar es Salaam venue, with Michael Kepha making his experience count in the team's successful chase.

The SKLPSC B cricketers batted first, notching

paltry 86 runs all out in 19 overs of the 20-over tie.

The team's top order batsmen were visibly below par, with none of them notching a two-digit score.

After an extremely brief spell the opening batsmen, Chhabariya Kishore and Navin Dabasiya, had with the bat, SKLPSC B was pegged back with Athumani Siwa's early exit.

The openers turned out to be DCC B's Deepak Joshi's victims, as Joshi first bowled Kishore out once the batsman had managed two knocks.

Joshi then put his bowling skills to show, sending Dabasiya back to the pavilion, with the cricketer managing to

score three runs.

Top order batsman, Ghanshyam Gondaliya, so far ended up recording eight runs which included a boundary.

Middle order batsman Rudra Hirani sought to stop the skid, nailing 13 runs which included two boundaries.

The DCC B bowling unit kept on punishing SKLPSC B, as this time around, middle order batsman, Ramesh Dabasiya, was yet another cricketer with a brief spell.

Manish Hirani eventually turned out to be SKLPSC B's top run-getter, scoring 31 runs which consisted of three fours.

Shadab Choughule slightly boosted the to-

tal, recording 11 runs.

The DCC B bowlers, Ally Hafidh and Joshi, made full use of their prowess, notching three wickets apiece.

The DCC B, surprisingly, were forced to deploy all skills at their disposal, when it came to chasing SKLPSC B's score, notching 90 runs for the loss of seven wickets in 18.5 overs.

Opening batsman, Junaid Usman, notched 11 runs as DCC B batsmen expressed their desire to fend off SKLPSC B's bowlers.

Joshi stepped at the crease after opener Usman's early exit and recorded 11 runs which included a four.

Kepha's experience played a crucial role in

the team's pursuit of victory, he notched 20 runs not out, which consisted of a four.

Gopal Solanki kept DCC B in the match, given he scored 10 runs, clearing the boundary once.

The DCC B survived a scare in the closing stages as Kaiz Osman and Divesh Nadiadhara made their way back to the pavilion in quick succession.

Low order batsman, Rameez Osman, formed an unbeaten stand with Kepha, posting unbeaten four runs which included a four and a six.

The SKLPSC B's Siwa showcased his spin attack, ending his spell with two wickets, as was the case for Navin, who took two wickets.

The spinner gave away 12 runs in four over he bowled, recording 3.00 in economy rate, his fellow bowler leaked 15 runs in 2.5 overs.

Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) organizes the annual tournament, aiming at boosting the sport's promotion at the domestic level.

This season's KNML moreover has teams battling it out in divisions A and B.

Harab Motors Company, Shamsu Pharmacy, and Swepac Imports International are the tournament's sponsors.

The tournament is also backed by Imports International, 3M Pharmacy, and Funity that will present free vouchers to players in divisions B and C events' knockout stages.



Dar Cricket Club (DCC) B side. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DAR CRICKET CLUB



Solskjaer's Man Utd rebuild mission laid bare by Europa League agony

LONDON

MANCHESTER United's gut-wrenching defeat on penalties by Villarreal in the Europa League final re-emphasised the magnitude of the rebuilding task for coach and club hero Ole Gunnar Solskjaer at Old Trafford.

Exactly 22 years to the day since the Norwegian struck his famous winner for United in the Champions League final against Bayern Munich, he was made to swallow a bitter pill after watching his side lose a match they largely controlled while, crucially, lacking bite.

David de Gea bowed his head after missing the decisive spot-kick, having seen the first 21 successfully converted, but Solskjaer's refusal to make a change until the 100th minute suggested little faith in a bench that included his injured captain Harry Maguire.

After steering United to successive top-three finishes in the Premier League for the first time since Alex Ferguson retired as champion in 2013, Solskjaer had earmarked the final in Gdansk as the "stepping stone for something better to come".

Despite clearing the semi-final hurdle at the fifth attempt with a high-scoring win over Roma, Solskjaer's side mustered just two attempts on target against Villarreal, organised superbly by Europa League maestro Unai Emery.

While United have moved forward each year under Solskjaer, at least in terms of league position, since his appointment in December 2018, catching Pep Guardiola's Manchester City next season still appears a distant prospect.

"It's not a successful season and those are the fine margins in football. Sometimes one kick can define a season as successful or a good one, and it can define it as not one," said Solskjaer. "Trophies matter and that's what matters at this club."

The 11-10 loss on penalties came after a 1-1 draw following extra time and extended United's four-year run without a trophy -- the club's longest since the 1980s in the early days of the Ferguson era.

- Calls for reinforcement -
Solskjaer, who took the job with limited top-level management experience, has been forced to drown out the critics and naysayers while reconstructing a team that hasn't properly challenged for the title in almost a decade.

"I've been delighted with the effort, determination and desire of the players. We've probably done as well as anyone could imagine but we need to do better," he said. "Two or three players to strengthen the starting XI and squad altogether is important for us to go further and improve."

Solskjaer overcame the disappointment of a Champions League group exit to lead United to the top of the table in January, despite having overseen the club's worst home start in 48 years.

United became just the fourth team to go through an English top-flight campaign undefeated away from home, indicating the progress that is being made under his guidance.

"We need to use that disappointment. It is the worst feeling, these are the moments you remember most in your career as a player and a manager," said Solskjaer. "You can either go on holiday and do nothing about it, or go home and come back and do better, come back hungrier."

Marcus Rashford, one of three players who started United's 2017 Europa League final win over Ajax, vowed the pain of defeat would drive the team on even more next season.

"Second doesn't count for nothing," an impassioned Rashford told BT Sport.

"I don't want to hear 'they were so close' because it means nothing. One winner, one loser. Today we lost. We have to find out why and make sure next time we don't lose. We have to get rid of the disappointment and look back at the game and see what we did wrong."

"The team will not give up - no chance. The manager won't allow us to give up. We will come next season with bigger desire."

AFP

Guardiola on the brink of exorcising Champions League demons

LONDON

A DECADE on from when he last lifted the Champions League trophy, Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola is once again in the final and is looking to back up his claim to being the greatest coach football has ever seen.

Victory over Chelsea in Porto would take Guardiola level with Zinedine Zidane, Carlo Ancelotti and Bob Paisley as the only men to win three European Cups as coach.

The 50-year-old's record in 12 seasons at Barcelona, Bayern Munich and City speaks for itself. Among his 26 major trophies are nine league titles, three in each of Spain, Germany, England, and nine domestic cups.

At his boyhood club Barca he also conquered the Champions League in two of his first three seasons.

But since masterminding one of the greatest ever performances in a European final to sweep aside Manchester United 3-1 at Wembley in 2011, Europe's top club competition has been the one blot on Guardiola's record.

Newly-crowned European champions Bayern expected a dynasty when the Catalan arrived in Bavaria fresh from a year's sabbatical in 2013. Instead, Guardiola's



Pep Guardiola

Bayern suffered semi-final heartache to Spanish opposition in each of his three seasons to create the perfect project to lure him to Manchester by City's determination to

appointing his former colleagues at Barcelona, Txiki Begiristain and Ferran Soriano, to top jobs at the Etihad Stadium has been fully vindicated with three Premier League titles in the past four years.

"They have an incredible squad and the best manager in the world and that makes it a good recipe," said Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp after City dethroned his side as English champions.

Chelsea manager Thomas Tuchel is also a Guardiola disciple, labelling City "the benchmark" for the Blues to aim for.

Guardiola has been so revered because he brings a style to go with the substance of hoarding trophies.

"He's had, arguably, the most positive influence of anyone, ever on our game," said former England striker Gary Lineker on how Guardiola has shaped a change of style in English football more reliant on technique than tenacity.

- Overthinking -

Yet the Champions League continued to bring out the worst in Guardiola as persistent tinkering and surprise team selections saw him labelled as a coach guilty of overthinking a series of knockout ties.

City did not even make it beyond the quarter-finals in his first four seasons in charge as a combination of wasteful finishing, defensive

errors and controversial refereeing calls repeatedly combined to cost them.

That has all changed this season with the signing of Portuguese centre-back Ruben Dias helping City to boast the tightest defence in the Champions League, while Guardiola's use of a system without a natural striker has not stopped City scoring four goals in each of their knockout ties against Borussia Monchengladbach, Borussia Dortmund and Paris Saint-Germain.

"We are quite a similar team from when we were out," said Guardiola this week. "The margins are little details. This year it fell on our side when for many years it was the opposite."

"Now we are quite satisfied to get to the final but we know if you don't have a huge desire to win it, a huge desire to know what we have to do, it will not be possible to win the game, to win the Champions League."

Winning the Champions League has been the long-term goal for City's Abu Dhabi owners since Sheikh Mansour's takeover transformed the club 13 years ago.

In their 10th season in the competition, City have finally made it to the final. A decade of disappointment for both the club and their manager will be quickly forgotten if they make history on Saturday.

AFP

Tuchel now earns second crack at Champions League glory with immediate impact on Chelsea

LONDON

WHATEVER happens in Saturday's Champions League final against Manchester City, Chelsea's Thomas Tuchel can already claim a small bit of history by becoming the first coach to make it to the showpiece game in European club football in successive seasons with different clubs.

Tuchel's impact on Chelsea, at least up until the last few matches, has been little short of remarkable and, it can be argued, hardly reflects well on his old side Paris Saint-Germain.

The French giants' gratitude towards Tuchel for leading them to the Champions League final for the first time in their history last season was not enough to stop them sacking him in December.

PSG have since gone on, under Tuchel's replacement Mauricio Pochettino, to finish second in Ligue 1 to Lille while going out of the Champions League in the semi-finals to Pep Guardiola's City.

In any case Tuchel came out of that sacking with his reputation intact, in large part thanks to the job he did in taking PSG to last season's final where they lost narrowly to Bayern Munich in Lisbon.

At Chelsea, he took over a team that was underperforming under Frank Lampard and had an immediate impact

-- Tuchel has turned the London club into a supremely well-drilled machine with a three-man defence led by his old captain in Paris, Thiago Silva.

They kept 18 clean sheets in his first 24 matches in charge, culminating in the semi-final victory over Real Madrid.

- 'Great connection' -
"He came in and from the first minute the players felt a great connection with him, from the first meeting," said midfielder Mateo Kovacic this week.

"It was like he had been here for two years so it came quite naturally, everything."

"I think the team completely changed, how we approach games, like we were more confident, solid at the back, not conceding anything in the last two or three months."

After the difficulties of dealing with a Paris team built around Neymar, Tuchel has been effusive in his praise of the Premier League and the mentality of the players he inherited at Stamford Bridge.

"It is different here, it's like we play a Champions League game every weekend and I think in the end it means we are better prepared," Silva, who spent eight years at PSG, said after the Madrid semi-final.

Silva joined in August but when Tuchel came in, he took over a team that looked unlikely to



Thomas Tuchel

qualify for next season's Champions League before leading them to a top-four finish.

Now they have the chance to cap it all if they can win Saturday's final in Porto to give Tuchel the medal he missed out on last year.

Chelsea have already beaten City twice under their new coach, a 1-0 FA Cup semi-final victory being followed by a 2-1 away success in the league.

It has not all been a bed of roses though, with Chelsea losing three of their last four games, including the 1-0 defeat by Leicester City in the FA Cup final.

"It concerns me because it always concerns me when we lose, and it's not so easy to get a grip on these losses and analyse them," Tuchel said this week.

- Back in Portugal -

Now he is back in Portugal, where he took PSG through two knockout ties against Atalanta and RB Leipzig in the 'Final Eight' last season before

succumbing to Bayern.

Tuchel followed in the footsteps of Jurgen Klopp when he took the coaching job at Mainz at the start of his career and again at Dortmund.

He is now hoping to match Klopp's achievement in winning the Champions League final in 2019 with Liverpool, 12 months after his side lost at the same stage to Madrid.

However, the 47-year-old is not convinced his experience last season means much to the players who will step out at the Estadio do Dragao against City.

"If I was a player, I am not sure I would love to hear the story from my coach who was there last year with a different team," Tuchel admitted.

"If we had it together as a team we would clearly use it but now we arrive for the first time together."

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Guardiola on the brink of exorcising Champions League demons

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5 EATV FRIDAY

TONIGHT @ 9:00

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Mid Week Movie (r)
13:30 Kaili Za Wana
14:00 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Wakilisha (r)
16:00 Ujenzi (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Skongga
19:30 EATV S.A.A I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Friday Night Live
23:00 Kurasa (r)

Friday Night Live The Weekend begins here! Listen to upbeat mixed music by the hottest DJs. Gossip, showbiz updates and exclusive interviews with celebrities from home and abroad. Don't you dare miss this.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 Friday Night Live

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM



Director of Administration and Compliance at SportPesa Tanzania, Tarimba Abbas (C), in a group photo with Simba SC's Chief Executive Officer, Barbara Gonzalez (2nd L), and players (L-R) Ibrahim Ame, Gadiel Michael, and David Kameta, in Dar es Salaam on Thursday, shortly after the company has handed over a cash prize of 50m/- to the team following its achievements in this season's CAF Champions League. The team booked a place in the showpiece's last eight. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Selous Marathon 2021 participants to receive insurance cover

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETES who will battle it out in the forthcoming Selous Marathon, set to take place in Morogoro, will enjoy a full package of insurance cover in case of uncertainties during the race.

Selous Marathon's Organizing Committee's Chairman, Imani Kajula, stated Dar es Salaam yesterday at the launch of this season's edition, which will take place in Morogoro on August 21.

"There is a need for participants in the marathon to be presented with insurance covers to protect them in cases of uncertainties," he said.

The event's main race is 21km while its subsidiary events are 10km race and 5km fun race, according to the organizers.

According to him, among the insurance services to be offered to participants include life insurance, accident insurance, and disability cover to ensure the safety of the runners.

Besides racing, other activities to be conducted on the day include planting trees around Mount Uluguru area to protect the environment and water sources in the community.

Kajula added that through the event, domestic tourism will enjoy a boost as athletes will be passing through various tourist attractions and places available in the region.

He further noted that the classic marathon is organized by a seasoned team with hands-on experience in events organization in the field of sports, conservation, and tourism, and will take place in Morogoro municipality in August.

Selous Marathon is a prestigious town race that brings together people from within and outside Tanzania.

Twiga Stars determined to excel in 2021 AWCON qualifiers



Senior national women soccer team, 'Twiga Stars'.

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE head coach of the senior national women's soccer team, 'Twiga Stars', Bakari Shime, has continued to sharpen his squad, which is set to confront Malawi women's national team in an international friendly match.

Twiga Stars are gearing up for their Women's Africa Cup of Nations's first-round qualifiers' clash against Namibia next month.

The teams will take on each other in the first and second legs on June 7-15.

Tanzania's U-20 women squad will take on the winner of the first-round match between Djibouti and Eritrea in the second round of FIFA U-20 World Cup Qualifiers, with Costa Rica playing host to the final next year.

As for Tanzania's U-17 women soccer team, they are set to

come up against Botswana in the first round match for the U-17 FIFA Women's World Cup Qualifier, with India hosting the final next year.

It should be recalled that the FIFA India Women's U-17 World Cup was originally scheduled to take place in mid-November 2020 but had to be postponed due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

Shime noted towards the tournament they are in dire need of international friendly matches.

The coach noted they are keeping on making arrangements to find a team that will be the right fit for them.

He said, in search of

those matches, the Malawian team has asked to play a friendly match with them but they will not play with them as they are to face them in the qualifiers' upcoming rounds, a situation which may affect them.

Commenting on the progress of their camp, the coach said that, as the days go by his players are getting stronger.

Shime disclosed he has high hopes for his players who have shown the best standards and performed well in the recently concluded Serengeti Lite Women Premier League.

Simba Queens lifted the women's top-flight title for the second season in a row. "We need friendly match-

es to test our squad and you need to find a team that will give us the right competition to be able to identify areas where we need to work harder before our first game," he said.

He disclosed: "Right now the big task ahead of us is to get the team together and make sure we give them the best tactics that will further strengthen their standards and get the best results that will enable us to go far as we are going to meet the team from a different football zone."

He added: "We ought to work on their tactics as our strategy is to do well and I am sure it will be so."

In another development, Namibia women team's in-

terim coach, Uerikondjera Kasaona, says they will prepare thoroughly for the 2022 Women's Africa Cup of Nations qualifier against Tanzania next month.

"We have a lot of respect for Tanzania and we know the strength and power of that team because we have played them on numerous occasions," former national team star Kasaona says.

The coach stated: "We are, however, not focused on them right now, we want to get the team up and running as soon as possible."

The Women's Super Cup that was played in Windhoek, and later expanded to the regions served, as a scouting platform for all women's national team coaches and technical teams.

Kasaona, who replaced Robert Nauseb after his contract ended recently, adds that the current crop of players selected is coming from all different regions of the country.

She disclosed: "The Women's Super Cup helped the players to keep fit and in shape, the cup also produced talented and skilful players from the regions that we will incorporate in the current squad that played against Angola in the international friendlies."

She stated: "We started with gym sessions and the field training, but we are still waiting for confirmation for when the training camp officially starts."

Mwakinyo to trade punches with Mayala

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA'S prominent professional boxer, Hassan Mwakinyo, and Angolan boxer, Antonio Mayala, will today fight for the African Boxing Union (ABU) Super Welterweight title at the Next Door Arena, Masaki in Dar es Salaam.

The bout has been scheduled for 12 rounds and Mayala and Mwakinyo have, on separate occasions, boasted they will come out victorious.

Mwakinyo who has a record of 18 wins and two losses maintained he is confident of beating Mayala before the fifth round of the bout organized by promoter Kelvin Twissa of the Jackson Group Sports.

He disclosed: "I have trained more than 12 rounds aiming at maintaining my fitness level in all rounds. I, however, want to finish the bout before the fifth round."

He said Mayala was not his target, but he has to confront the Angolan due to injury sustained by Brendon Denes of Zimbabwe, previously lined up for the main card.

"I will not underrate him. I am regarding him as the official opponent and I will teach him how to fight and make all my followers happy in the bout," he stated.



Jackson Group Sports Head of Business Development and Projects, Levis Paul (C), introduces Tanzanian professional boxer, Hassan Mwakinyo (R), and Angolan boxer, Antonio Mayala, in Dar es Salaam yesterday ahead of today's African Boxing Union (ABU) Super Welterweight title bout between the pugilists to be held at Next Door Arena, Masaki in the city. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

"I know all Tanzanians will be behind me supporting, I will not let down them including the first female President of Tanzania, Mama Samia Suluhu Hassan," he

said. As per schedule, Tanzanian boxer Shabani Jongo will fight for the vacant ABU's Heavyweight bout against Nigerian Olanrewaju Durodora

while the former's compatriot Ibrahim Mgendera 'Class' will fight against South African boxer Sibusiso Zingange in a non-title Lightweight fight.

The boxing series' sponsors are KCB Bank, Plus TV, Multichoice Tanzania, Tanzania Tourism Board, Onomo Hotel, Precision Air, Prestine Logistics, Urban Soul, and international partners Global Boxing Stars, M-BET, and Epic Sports Entertainment.

Other fights will see Daniel Matefu confront Bulgarian boxer Pencho Tsvetkov while female boxer Leila Yazidu will fight Bulgarian boxer Joana Nwamerue.

Also on the list is Tanzanian Hamisi Palasungulu facing Congo Brazzaville boxer Ardi Ndembo, Imani Daudi Kawayi will face South African boxer, Chris Thompson.

Speaking after the weigh-in, Jackson Group Sports CEO, Twissa, commended the sponsors for the tremendous support in the fight to be televised live in more than 32 countries on the continent.

"We are very proud to be part and parcel of promoting talents in the country especially in professional boxing," he disclosed.

"The 'Rumble in Dar 2' series is the sign of professional boxing and our commitment to the game. We call on well-wishers to offer support as we aim to take the game to the next level," he noted.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

