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# CTI wants levies, fees in Budget reviewed

By Francis Kajubi

MEMBERS of the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) have asked the government to revisit some of the levies and fees listed in the just tabled 2022/23 government budget to ease operational costs for local industries before the estimates are endorsed.

CTI vice chairperson Hussein Sufian addressing reporters on the issue in Dar es Salaam yesterday, applauding the government for taking into consideration a number of reforms in the tax

structure.

There is still a lot that needs to be addressed in the fiscal plan to make this work best for the private sector, he stated.

The Treasury needs to maintain a grant duty remission at a rate of 10 percent instead of raising it to 35 percent on imported wheat grain under HS Codes 1001.99.10 and 1001.90.90 as per the East African Community Customs Management Act, 2004, he stated.

Treasury needs to revert back to the EAC

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Finance and Planning ministry Permanent Secretary Emmanuel Tutuba (R) and the Head of Development Cooperation at the Embassy of Sweden in Tanzania, Sandra Diesel, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday exchanging signed documents on a 44.3bn/- grant agreement involving Swedish government assistance meant to benefit poor households in Tanzania. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



## Zanzibar traders happy after Samia halts tax arrears probe

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

A DECISION by President Samia Suluhu Hassan (pictured) to halt investigation into and pursuit of tax dues dated five years ago or slightly less has elated the business community, industrialists and farmers in Zanzibar.

Addressing reporters in Zanzibar yesterday, the Isles business community public relations officer Mafuda Faki said the decision will help to remove inconveniences they were encountering.

"To investigate a person and demand taxes that were due five years ago is not right, as some are unable to pay and opt to close down their businesses," he said.

He said that inspection of businesses in regard to taxes not paid within a year will assist in removing inconveniences as the government will have the correct statistics for collecting taxes.

Explaining support for the decision, he said the situation was largely caused by negligence on the part of tax officials, and it was a big burden to traders as they cannot pay the tax amounts being demanded.

Abdul Mshangama, an economist, told reporters that since issues monetary and fiscal policy are Union issues, Zanzibar is also supposed to abide by President Samia's directive.

There are traders in Zanzibar whose businesses are being inspected in regard to paying taxes that were due five years ago, but many are failing to pay those taxes, he said, praising Zanzibar President Hussein Ali Mwinyi for efforts being taken to remove various taxes in social services and on entrepreneurs.

"If President Samia's directive is properly implemented, trading and tourism will be experience discernible boost, as the issue has also been a great inconvenience to investors in these sectors," he stated.

Ahmed Suleiman Nassor and Muhammed

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By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE National Assembly has advised the government to convert its vehicles to run on natural gas, to save costs and reduce carbon emissions, in implementing the national budget that hinges on making a difference among the poor.

Sillo Baran, the chairman of the standing committee on the budget, made this observation yesterday when presenting views of the committee on the state of the nation's economy and national development plan as well as central budget estimates for fiscal 2022/23.

Installing government vehicles with gas power will also reduce fuel imports and improve the overall balance of payments, he said, citing the case of the Dangote Cement whose trucks are fuelled by natural gas.

It has been proven that gas use is cheaper than petrol or diesel and its use will significantly reduce operating costs and stimulate eco-friendly transportation, he

## 'Use natural gas in govt vehicles'

**The govt must quicken the pace of reviewing policies and laws so as to facilitate full implementation of the blueprint on regulatory and licensing reform**

stated.

He referred to a World Bank report on reinvigorating growth in resource-rich Sub-Saharan Africa dating back to 2018, citing Tanzania is one of the top ten resource-rich countries in the zone.

Despite being blessed with abundant natural resources including gas, the country is yet to utilize them to spur development and fight poverty, he asserted.

"For development to take place those resources must be used for a variety of activities. Continuing to have unused resources does not

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## Italy inks 49.5bn/- loan for technical education uplift

By Henry Mwangonde and Beatrice Philemon

THE government has received euros 19.79 million (49.07bn/-) in concessional loan and a grant of 200,000 euros (496.47m/-) from Italy to finance a technical education improvement program, the enhancing higher learning technical institutions project.

Emmanuel Tutuba (pictured), the Treasury permanent secretary, said the loan is meant to help the country achieve sustainable development goals in that sphere, procured from the Cassa Depositi e Prestiti SpA, a prominent Italian investment bank.

The project aims at establishing centres for entrepreneurship, innovation and technology transfer (CEITT) in four technical



higher learning institutions, namely the Arusha Technical College, the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology, the Karume Institute of Science and Technology in Zanzibar and the Mbeya University of Science and Technology.

These centres will promote entrepreneurial skills to enhance innovation and technology transfer, reducing youth unemployment by empowering graduates of those institutions with business skills. This will boost chances of self-employment and job opportunities generally, he stated.

The project will enhance employability of youths through increased productivity and competitiveness of the formal and informal sectors, thus enabling job creation and poverty reduction, he said.

It will also facilitate improved capacity in sustainable utilization of natural resources by promoting the use of renewable green energy and other environmentally friendly technologies in socio-economic activities, he explained.

"The purchased laboratory and workshop

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# CTI wants levies, fees in Budget reviewed

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Common External Tariff rate of zero percent instead of 25 percent on crude palm oil under HS Code 1511.10.00, he further appealed, citing also the need to apply a duty rate of 25 percent or \$500 per metric tonne whichever is higher for one year on semi-refined and refined vegetable oils instead of an EAC common external tariff of 35 percent.

The manufacturers' body wants a reduction of radiation test free from 0.2 percent of free on board (FOB) to 0.1 percent on exports of food chain materials including fertilizers, tobacco and tobacco products, along with imported relief food.

CTI is proposing the deduction of TBS batch certification fee on imported sugar from 6/- per kilogram to 2.5/- per kilogram, abolishment of occupational safety and health authority (OSHA) peak expiry of fee of 10,000/- and flow test fee of 25,000/-.

It also wants to be granted duty remission at a duty rate of zero percent instead of 10 percent on paper used to manufacture corrugated boxes and inputs.

"The government should continue to grant duty remission at a duty rate of zero percent instead of 25 percent or 10 percent on raw materials used to manufacture baby diapers," he

suggested.

CTI is asking that the government maintain duty remission at a duty rate of zero percent instead of 10 percent for one year on organic surface-active agents (Anionic) LABSA under HS Code 3402.11.00 used by manufacturers of detergents and liquid soaps.

On the Value Added Tax (VAT) changes, CTI recommends a zero rate VAT on double refined edible oil manufactured locally for one year, exempting VAT on agro-net (twines) HS Code 56.08, zero rate VAT on inputs for locally manufactured gas cylinders.

On excise duty, CTI is asking the government to maintain specific excise duty rates for all "non-petroleum products" such as soft drinks, cigarettes, beer and wine. Treasury also needs to maintain duty remission at a rate of zero percent instead of 25 percent on printed aluminum barrier laminates (ABL), plus duty remission on raw materials and industrial inputs used to manufacture textiles and footwear.

"All these tax measures, if worked on as suggested by manufacturers, will enable domestic industries to reduce the cost of production, improve consumer welfare, promote the use of local materials, enhance competitiveness and stimulate economic growth," he added.

## EAC partner states called on to educate citizens on monkeypox

By Guardian Reporter

EAST African Community (EAC) Partner States have been urged to provide necessary information for their citizens to protect themselves against monkeypox and prevent the virus from spreading.

This follows reports by the World Health Organisation (WHO) of 780 laboratory confirmed cases of monkeypox as of 2nd June, 2022. The cases have been reported to or identified by the World Health Organisation (WHO) from 27 Member States across four WHO regions that are not endemic for monkeypox virus, while Monkeypox is endemic in some African countries.

According to the WHO, 1,392 suspected cases of monkeypox have been reported this year until mid of May in seven African countries. Out of these, 44 cases are confirmed. This is in the 4.5 months slightly less than half the number of cases reported for the whole of last year.

According to WHO, the sudden appearance of monkeypox in multiple countries across the world indicates the virus has been spreading undetected for some time outside the West and Central African nations where it is usually found.

"Because of the proximity of the EAC Partner States to some of the affected countries, it is important that we take precautionary measures to minimize its spread. It is important that people are given necessary information on the nature of the disease and how they can protect themselves and prevent the disease from spreading," said Christophe Bazivamo, the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of the Productive and Social Sectors.

"This will also help in avoiding unnecessary panic and stigmatization particularly now that people easily associate any disease outbreak to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic," added Bazivamo.

The DSG further emphasized on the importance of factual risk communication to communities, that provides necessary information without causing unnecessary concern, and need for stepping up surveillance.

Monkeypox outbreaks are not new. The virus was first discovered in monkeys in 1958, with the first human case in the African region detected in 1970. Since then, there have been multiple outbreaks of the viral disease that can spread from animals to humans but can also spread between people.

## Italy inks 49.5bn/- loan for technical education uplift

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equipment will contribute in producing skilled graduates, applied research outputs, innovations and provision of good service to various stakeholders for sustainable growth," he further noted.

Enhanced environmental protection and conservation of historical sites for sustainability was also envisaged, with the proposed initiatives contributing to sustainable economic growth and transformation, plus social wellbeing.

Some of these outcomes will be realized in the intermediate period and others towards the end of the implementation period, he remarked, while resident Italian ambassador Marco Lombardi said the signing signaled a new era in bilateral cooperation between the two countries. It offers an opportunity for more such agreements and promote existing ties, he stated.

Dr Antonella Baldino, the chief international development finance officer at the deposit and lending facility, said that this is a new begging for cooperation, noting that the bank specializes in providing financing to

support young people between 15 and 25 years of age.

The purpose is to reduce youth unemployment while promoting entrepreneurial skills of young people, enhancing the development of a third generation of academic institutions promoting innovation, she elaborated.

The loan will assist beneficiaries to strengthen technological institutes through new training courses enhancing employment opportunities for young people, while strengthening technological innovation, he further affirmed.

The agreements were signed by Ambassador Lombardi and the permanent secretary, in the presence of Paolo Razzini, of the country office of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), Dr Baldino and her colleague, Dr Lisbi Carina Valdez, who flew to the country to sign the financial agreement.

A chronicler notes online that the Cassa Depositi e Prestiti SpA bank was founded on November 20, 1850 in Turin, north Italy, to finance public works like roads and waterworks during the reign of Victor Emmanuel II of Italy, King of Sardinia-Piedmont



Industry, Trade and Investment deputy minister Exaud Kigaha (R) presents to Sarah Gordon-Gibson, the World Food Programme Resident Representative in Tanzania, a copy of a report on participatory food processing censuses in the country shortly after launching it in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## 'Use natural gas in govt vehicles'

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guarantee national development," he declared, while the committee aired the view that many countries are shifting to natural gas use and various types of renewable energy.

"Tanzania has a lot of resources that if we don't use them right now in the future they may be worthless, for example coal. It is important now for the government to ensure that these resources are harvested carefully in the wider national interest," he cautioned.

The government must quicken the pace of reviewing policies and laws so as to facilitate full implementation of the blueprint on regulatory and licensing reform, he said, as committee

members underlined its relevance for stimulating investment and economic development.

The government needs to formulate a policy on monitoring and evaluation of proposed budgetary reforms, enacting legislation to closely control spending and ensure that public funds are properly used. This must include quality in what is implemented, he stated.

Monitoring and evaluation is a vital exercise in the public service, to ensure that intended goals are achieved and value for money is realized. It is also meant to clear gaps in implementing any project or service activity, he stated, insisting that all this needs

legislation based on explicit policy statement.

Debating the budget proposals, some MPs urged the government to ensure that deliberate measures be put in place to facilitate implementation of the goals set out in the national development plan and the budget.

Judith Kapinga (Special Seats) told the House that by 2063, the population in the country will have tripled and youths will be over 60 percent of the population and the major taxpayers.

Unemployment remains a major challenge facing young people, she stated, tasking the government to support youths initiating income generating projects but still face capital

and infrastructure challenges.

The government must support the youth by using innovative youth intellectual property as the basis for extending loans enabling them to improve their ideas and projects.

Jerry Silaa, (Ukongu) faulted the government's decision to start charging a fee for users of TV decoders, saying that the move will hurt many low income earners.

The 1,000/- to 3,000/- fee on television decoder subscription depending on the use was likely to be unhealthy to a breadth of the public, he stated. The increase of taxes and levies upon artisanal miners will similarly affect progress of the group, he added.



Ardhi University (ARU) vice chancellor Prof Evaristo Liwa (R) and Prof Yves Schoonjans, dean of the Faculty of Architecture of Belgium's Leuven University, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday signing an MoU on renewed cooperation between the universities. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Zanzibar traders happy after Samia halts tax arrears probe

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Abdurrahman Bajuber, both traders, said the issue of being charged with taxes going back more than one year was a persistent issue in Zanzibar-holding back business development.

For President Samia's directive to be implemented, there number of tax officials and equipment they dispose

during tax inspections should be commensurate so that tax liability is assessed on time. At present many traders don't often meet with tax inspectors or revenue collectors.

"President Samia has to be praised because she has come up with the right answer enabling business development, but the government must facilitate tax authorities by

employing sufficient revenue officials, provide equipment, and use modern technology in tax collection," Nassor emphasised.

Juma Bakari Hassan, TRA's deputy commissioner for Zanzibar, said the revenue agency had received President Samia's directive and was working on it.

"When the President issues

directives, we as officials must implement it and in this one, we are mobilizing ourselves to make sure it is fully implemented as directed," he stated.

Zanzibar has over 20,000 registered traders paying taxes while TRA has 150 officers in Zanzibar, a situation posing a big challenge, he added.





MNB Bank Plc chief financial officer Juma Kimori pictured in Dodoma city yesterday symbolically presenting to Dodoma regional commissioner Anthony Mtaka (3rd-L) waste disposal items worth a total of 20m/-. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Govt signs 44.3bn/- grant with EU to finance PSSN II

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government yesterday signed a Euro 18.7 million (44.3bn/-) grant agreement with the European Union (EU) to finance Productive Social Safety Net phase II programme (PSSN II) under the supervision of the Swedish Embassy.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning Emanuel Tutuba said the objective of the EU's support to PSSN II is to promote women's economic empowerment through supporting poor households' access to and control of their own income-earning opportunities and socio-economic services.

"It is apparent that, if you want to successfully implement social protection measures and improve livelihoods, investing in women is very strategic," said Tutuba.

The PS said the objectives of the PSSN II have been achieved significantly as it has been engaging beneficiary households with labor capacity into productive works so as to improve their livelihoods, increase incomes and create community assets through participation in labor intensive public works.

The PSSN II Programme includes provision of conditional cash benefits (Cash Transfer Program) to eligible and duly registered households, carrying out of activities for labor-intensive public works (Public Works Program - PWP) designed to generate temporary employment opportunities to PWP Beneficiaries in eligible households with labor capacity to implement community sub-projects.

According to Tutuba who is also the paymaster general, up to May 2022, 2,674 projects were developed and implemented to provide temporary employment to beneficiary households.

"The projects are at different levels of implementation and have provided 253,117 temporary employments across all 184 LGAs councils. Up to May

2022, total of 25.14 bn/- were already disbursed as wages to beneficiary households," he added.

The programme has also contributed to improvement of infrastructures; for example 550 infrastructure projects were prepared and implemented, 3 of them costing 321.21m/- are completed and others 547 costing 16bn/- are at different stages of implementation.

EU Head of Development Cooperation, Cedric Merel said the funds are made through the new EU Gender Transformative Action in Tanzania, "Breaking Glass ceiling," financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) Global Europe.

He said the grant will be managed indirectly by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

"The Plan reflects the commitment by the EU Delegation in Tanzania not only to mainstream gender in all of our programmes, but also to have a stand-alone programme dedicated to promote gender equality and women's rights," said Merel.

The action, he expounded, addresses several of the underlying factors preventing women and girls from exercising their rights and contributing fully to the economic growth of the country.

**It is apparent that, if you want to successfully implement social protection measures and improve livelihoods, investing in women is very strategic**

# Tragedy as driver dies at steering wheel

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

ZUBERI Hamza Haule is reported to have died at the steering wheel while driving a bus from Mwanza to Kahama in Shinyanga Region thereby causing the vehicle to crash, killing five passengers and injuring 26.

The incident happened Wednesday at around 2:00 in the afternoon at Mwigumbi area in Kishapu District, Shinyanga Region when the bus, Reg No. T435DJS hit a bridge side barrier and overturned.

Shinyanga Regional Police

Commander George Kyando said earlier reports said the cause of the accident was the driver's poor health and is said to have died at the wheel.

He said further reports, which the police were still investigating, said that before the start of the journey the driver stated that he was not feeling well.

"The accident has claimed the lives of five people, two of them died on the spot, while three died at the hospital they were rushed to," said RPC Kyando.

He also called on drivers to adopt the habit of checking their health statuses before they start their journeys, and in case they do not feel well, they should not drive to avoid accidents.

Daniel Sewe, one of the injured passengers said when they arrived at the spot, the bus hit a road embankment and started swaying and finally hit a bridge side barrier and overturned.

Doctor in Charge at Kolandoto Hospital, Masunga Maneno said so far five people lost their lives - four being

adults and a child, and 26 other people were injured, but some of them were discharged after treatment and 13 remain hospitalised.

The accident also claimed the life of Nghama Primary School teacher in Shinyanga District, Kassam Kassam, while another teacher, Mashaka Kisomeko of Bulambila Primary School in the same district broke an arm.

However, four deceased persons are yet to be identified and their bodies have been preserved at the Kolandoto Hospital's mortuary.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021		
	2021 TZS	2020 TZS
<b>Income from non exchange transactions</b>		
Grants income	8,862,338,432	5,279,338,864
Amortisation of capital grants	28,063,998	-
	<b>8,890,402,430</b>	<b>5,279,338,864</b>
<b>Operating Expenditures</b>		
Staff costs	3,042,342,028	3,190,357,799
Program costs	5,203,015,997	1,470,465,642
Administrative costs	574,778,051	529,143,018
Travel costs	103,517,131	72,407,545
Equipment costs	17,764,075	16,964,860
Depreciation	28,063,998	-
	<b>8,969,481,280</b>	<b>5,279,338,864</b>
<b>Deficit for the year</b>	<b>(79,078,850)</b>	<b>-</b>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021		
	2021 TZS	2020 TZS
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and bank balances	101,198,018	150,681,206
Trade and other receivables	96,740,550	435,886,285
Inventories	-	1,191,001,266
	<b>197,938,568</b>	<b>1,777,568,757</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property and equipment	163,125,262	-
	<b>163,125,262</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>361,063,830</b>	<b>1,777,568,757</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Deferred revenue grants	-	1,029,789,805
Other payables	277,017,418	747,778,953
	<b>277,017,418</b>	<b>1,777,568,757</b>
<b>Non current liabilities</b>		
Deferred capital grants	163,125,262	-
	<b>163,125,262</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>440,142,680</b>	<b>1,777,568,757</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(79,078,850)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Represented by:		
Accumulated deficit	(79,078,850)	-
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>361,063,830</b>	<b>1,777,568,757</b>

The financial statements were approved by the Management of Room to Read Tanzania on 14th APRIL 2022 and were signed in their behalf by:

Juvenalius Kuruletera  
Country Director

Joan Msumi  
Accounting and Finance Manager



**WWF for a living planet®**

## VACANCY: RECEPTIONIST

WWF is seeking to hire a competent and motivated Receptionist for its office in Dar es salaam, Tanzania

**I. Major Functions:**

- Answer telephone and direct calls to relevant destinations in the office and outside the office
- Take and relay messages to relevant staff and provide information to callers
- Organize and manage the Country Office Front Desk including receiving visitors, determining their business, and directing them to the relevant offices.
- Organize appointments for Senior Officers as appropriate
- Keep track of the office phone use, prepare monthly summary reports, and advice on telephone bill charges
- Ensure effective functioning of office telephone lines
- Ensure posts /mails are collected from the Post Office;
- Receive, date stamp and review all incoming mails and faxes and distribute to the appropriate staff with correspondences recorded in appropriate logbooks.
- Maintain proper record/contact list of staff database and of key stakeholders, partners, and WWF Offices globally for quick access.
- Regularly, keep track of senior staff movements and maintain staff movement schedule, a record of key visits and official events to facilitate better plans for appointments, meetings, and field visits as may be appropriate.
- Support staff in flight booking through WWF Air travel agents and preparation of air travel LPO
- Receive air travel invoices and reconcile with LPO's and submit to Finance office for payment process.
- Deal with queries from the public and customers and monitor visitor access and maintain security awareness

**II. Required Qualification**

- At least an Advanced Diploma in Business Administration/ Public relations coupled with Customer Care skills and/or Office management training;
- Minimum of three to five years relevant work experience with proven skills in managing telephone operations /switch board for a large/busy organization.
- Experience in working with international agencies and a variety of partners/customers;
- Computer literate.
- Excellent communication skills both written and oral English and Kiswahili are indispensable;
- Interest in working with an Environmental Management Organization.
- Should be flexible, articulate and ability to work with minimal supervision

Additional information, Interested applicants may get the detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) through the following websites:  
[https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/jobs/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/) Applications must include a complete Cover Letter & CV with full contact details of three referees and should be addressed to the People & Culture Manager, via email to: [hresources@wwftz.org](mailto:hresources@wwftz.org) by **Monday, 04th July 2022 at 3:30 pm.**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and the interviews.

WWF has a principle of zero tolerance for fraud and corruption, if you encounter such an incident, then report by sending an email to [fc@wwftz.org](mailto:fc@wwftz.org)



## Govt tasks MSD to raise ALMC budget to 250m/-

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE government has ordered the Medical Stores Department (MSD) to increase the medical supply budget from 70m/- to 250m/- for Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre (ALMC) to empower the hospital to serve the influx of patients.

Health Deputy Minister Dr Godwin Mollel issued the directive recently during the official tour at the ALMC where he engaged with management and staff to get a glimpse of services they offer.

Dr Mollel was informed that ALMC, the designated zonal referral hospital, serving more than five regional referral hospitals in northern Tanzania, has experienced unexpected patient surge from about 150,000 to more than 200,000 per year.

"I take this opportunity to instruct MSD to raise the budget for ALMC from 70m/- to 250m/- per annum to help the hospital cope with unexpected influx in patients," Dr Mollel said, directing the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) to integrate the ALMC on its online portal to ease its due claims process as part of the government support to the hospital to serve the Tanzanians well.

"I instruct the NHIF to pay the ALMC its dues in a timely manner to leverage the hospital's capacity in strengthening accessibility and delivery of essential health services not only to locals, but also to the imminent influx of tourists," he stressed.

Dr Mollel also tasked the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) to reduce the length of issuing the import permits and certification for medical equipment and pharmaceuticals to tackle shortages and supply constraints, particularly for private hospitals, imploring the Regional Health Management Team (RHMT) to forge a

closer working rapport with ALMC to foster the medical tourism drive.

"I would like to see public and private hospitals work together in fostering medical tourism," he said noting that plans are well underway to reform the NHIF to be more inclusive not only to cover the fund's retiree benefit packages that exclude the retired private sector workforces, but also to include some of essential drugs in order to achieve universal health coverage (UHC).

NHIF's retiree benefit is a plan for the retired public servants who were active members of the fund before attaining retirement age. "Under this plan, the retired member will enjoy free health insurance services together with his or her spouse for the rest of their life," he emphasized.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) North Central Diocese Bishop, Dr Solomon Jacob Masangwa asked the government not to isolate the faith-based health care providers because they complement its efforts in serving Tanzanians.

ALMC Board Chairman, Dr John Hillary urged the government to support the private sector hospitals to meet their overhead cost to be able to render the quality health services to the people.

ALMC CEO, Elisha Twisa said that the hospital is well equipped in terms of state-of-the-art equipment, healthcare services, and healthcare staff including 25 medical specialists, the highest number indeed compared to its peers.

"The hospital runs an advanced emergency medicine department, performing laparoscopic surgeries, Nephrology and Dialysis, Neurosurgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology and a well-equipped neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), Orthopedics, Radiology that include CT-Scanning, palliative care among others," Twisa said.

## Govt, UNICEF, EAA partner to boost access, retention of quality primary education for out of school children

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

THE government and UNICEF have launched a project in partnership with Education Above All (EAA) Foundation to enable 100,003 out of school children get back to school in Tanzania.

The project for Improved Access and Retention to Quality Primary Education for Out of School Children in Tanzania aims to enroll a total of 100,003 out of school children, in school, by 2027, of which, 32,564 will be enrolled from Kigoma, 36,481 from Tabora, and 30,958 from Songwe.

Ranking the regions, Tabora stands out with the highest out of school rates in the country - 198,840 primary school age children out of school. Kigoma follows with over 99,540 and Songwe with 77,990 out of school children of primary school age.

The project, which will be carried out by UNICEF and EAA's Educate A Child programme, will further benefit some 176,776 children including those at risk of dropping out of schools due to barriers such as disabilities, poverty, and gender discrimination. This is the latest project in a long-standing commitment by EAA and UNICEF to work together to ensure equitable access to quality education, with a focus on the hardest-to-reach out of school children at the primary level.

"We've been working to ensure that every boy and girl has the opportunity to learn through a quality primary education in Tanzania, regardless of their circumstances, since 2016. We believe that education is the key to a safe and bright future, and with our partners, we are determined to bring some of the hardest to reach children back to the classroom," said Dr Mary Joy Pigozzi, EAA's programme director.

The project is a community-based initiative that will involve parents, teachers, community members, village leaders, ward education officers, district, town, municipal councils, and ministries in the identification of children who have never attended school or who have dropped out, then register them in schools and support their ongoing retention. The project aims to tackle the barriers to education, increasing opportunities for access by expanding the provision of formal and non-formal education. It

will improve learning environments, enhance teaching and learning materials, including those specific to children with disabilities and provide teachers with capacity building and help strengthen life skills provision.

An online system for monitoring attendance of the formerly out of school children will be developed. The system is expected to provide real time data on the registration and attendance of the learners in school. The project will embrace technology at all levels starting from the learners themselves, the teachers, and the education officers at ward, district and national level, who will be using technology to monitor progress on the implementation of the project.

"UNICEF continues to work with the government of Tanzania to ensure that every child has access to quality education and those who missed the opportunity are given a chance to enroll again, stay in school and are learning. Through this programme we will train teachers, refurbish classrooms and WASH facilities, and provide learning materials, making the schools more learner-friendly and attracting more children to come to school. We know this responsibility is fully supported and shared with the community," says Daniel Baheta, UNICEF Tanzania's Chief of Education.

Five outcomes are set to be achieved throughout this project, which will run until 2027. First, is the increase in community engagement and support in the identification, enrolment, and retention of out of school children in primary schools. Second, is an improved school infrastructure and safe learning environments for primary school children in targeted regions. Third is an increase in the use of relevant teaching and learning materials and technologies in schools, adaptable to formerly out of school children with diverse learning needs - including those with disabilities. Fourth, is improved life skills among formerly out of school children and support to their smooth integration into mainstream education. And fifth, the availability of strengthened monitoring systems that track the educational progress of formerly out of school children, including learners with disabilities.



Aloyce Beza, a human resources officer with Dar es Salaam's Johari Rotana Hotel, pictured in the city on Wednesday leading more than 30 members of the hotel's staff in donating blood. The event was coordinated by the Muhimbili National Hospital blood bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Kilindi

AUTHORITIES in Kilindi District, Tanga Region have successfully returned an eight acres piece of land to the village government after it was illegally sold to an investor - Rajab Shemdoo.

The government intervention followed villagers complaints that their village chairman, Mussa Masali and village executive officer, Eliud Senyagwa sold the piece of land to an investor at a cost of 800,000/-.

Speaking at a special meeting convened to discuss and find a solution to the problem, Kwekivu Division Officer in Kilindi District, Michael John announced to the villagers that the piece of land had been returned to the village government.

He said the decision was reached after authorities were satisfied that the land was sold to an investor without

## Kilindi district authorities return to villagers unlawfully sold land

following the available procedures as well as the law.

Michael, who represented Kilindi District Commissioner Abel Busalama, ordered the accused leaders to give the money back to the investor since the land is now owned by the village government.

During the meeting, the villagers also raised concerns that the accused leaders have illegally sold a cattle dipping infrastructure to the same investors.

The villagers rejected a report presented by the two leaders as well as documents containing contracts indicating they were involved in

the processes of selling the village properties which includes a cattle dipping infrastructure and a piece of land.

"I have checked the documents; most of them have been forged. The leaders also used the money for their personal interests instead of development issues. When it comes to selling village properties, each of the villagers has to benefit with the money through improvement of social services," said Michael.

On March 4th 2020, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa visited the district during his five-day official tour in Tanga Region whereas one of the

challenges raised by villagers was land conflicts between them and investors.

Responding, the premier said since Kilindi District was established in 2006 it has been experiencing a number of land conflicts with the main source being district and village leaders who have been violating the laws and procedures when selling land pieces to investors.

Majaliwa directed the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development in collaboration with Kilindi District council to work on the villagers' concerns and make sure all the procedures and guidelines are followed accordingly.



Children from various parts of Dodoma Region take part in International Day of the African Child celebrations (June 16) held at national level in Dodoma city yesterday. This year's theme for the Day is 'Eliminating harmful practices affecting children: Progress on policy and practice since 2013'. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Ministry assures Msomera village residents of better telcom services

By Guardian Correspondent, Handeni

PERMANENT Secretary to the Information and Information Technology Ministry, Dr Jimmy Yonazi has assured residents of Msomera Village in Handeni District, and all those who will shift to the area from Ngorongoro of better communication services at the village.

Dr Yonazi gave the assurance at the village yesterday during his visit, saying the government recognises the importance of communications in economic development, hence the ministry and institutions under it are well set to ensure an uninterrupted communications services.

He instructed Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority

(TCRA) to make sure it directs all telcom providers to invest in and provide communications services at Msomera Village.

In the same vein, TCRA Managing Director, Dr Jabir Bakari said the authority will implement the directive at once to enable residents of Msomera village and its environs to enjoy mobile communications and

internet services.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF), Justina Mashiba said the fund will sponsor Information and Technology (ICT) laboratory at the primary school to educate students on the ICT basics while still young.

In regard to preparations by Msomera village to receive visitors from Ngorongoro, Handeni District Commissioner, Siriel Mchembe said the village is ready to accommodate them as all basic services - accommodation, water, electricity, schools and cattle dips were ready.





Bahati Vuai Haji, a beneficiary of Tanzania Social Action Fund (Tasaf) assistance beneficiary who now runs a food kiosk, briefs journalists from her business premises at Kwareni Vitongoji on Pemba Island earlier this week. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

## Japanese company to establish anti-mosquito drugs to help in fighting malaria, dengue fever

By Correspondent James Kandoya

JAPANESE company Fumakilla Limited is set to introduce an anti-mosquito product to fight against malaria, dengue fever, and other mosquito-related infectious diseases in the country.

Toshiaki Muramoto, Head of a Delegation of the Fumakilla Limited that visited Tanzania in mid-May 2022 to make an assessment supported by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) said the decision came after visiting spot areas which are highly affected with malaria and dengue.

It came after Toshiaki Muramoto, Japanese who researched the agricultural system in Morogoro Region in Tanzania for about one year, 27 years ago, with the support of the Sokoine University of Agriculture.

Muramoto said their visit was the first one since the approval of the Fumakilla's project as a JICA's Private Partnership Initiative in 2019, due to Covid-19 strict travel restrictions from Japan.

He said with the new technology, the new product (mosquito coil) produces less smoke

to kill mosquitoes when it is used indoors and it repels mosquitoes when used outside.

"The new mosquito coil is a highly effective product against local mosquitoes. At the same time, it has achieved a high level of safety which is categorized as Class U (unlikely to present acute hazard) by the World Health Organisation (WHO). It is a classification with very less smoke. Moreover its price will be affordable to most people," he said.

"When I was in the village, I visited farms every day to interview farmers and to collect soil for laboratory experiments. While working in the field, I was bitten by mosquitoes and contracted malaria three times within a year and was admitted to hospital two times," he noted.

After completing his studies, he went back to Japan and decided to work for Fumakilla Limited, and he thought there is a need to introduce the high quality mosquito coil, as a useful product in controlling malaria in Tanzania.

The Fumakilla's product has been already tested and approved by the Tropical Pesticide Research Institute (TPRI), the government

agency which regulates the use of insecticide products in Tanzania.

The Fumakilla's needs assessment survey, supported by JICA, started in October 2020 and will come to an end in 2023, with three more planned visits to Tanzania.

During their visit, the delegation conducted group discussions with local communities to check the local compatibility of the Fumakilla's products, provided the products to residents for home use tests, and held workshops for raising public awareness.

Places designated for the survey are Dar es Salaam, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Dodoma, Pwani, Mwanza, and Mtwara Regions.

In this first JICA-Fumakilla assessment visit, the team made consultation meetings with government officials in-charge of vector control at the Ministry for Health (MoH) and the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) on the possibility of utilizing Fumakilla's product as a vector control means and the possible public-private partnership for promoting malaria prevention further.

## Africa steps up targeted Covid-19 vaccination of most at risk people

By Special Correspondent, Brazzaville

AFRICA is intensifying COVID-19 vaccination of high-risk population groups with some promising signs. Nearly 50% of health workers and people over the age of 60 are fully vaccinated against the virus in countries reporting data to World Health Organization (WHO).

The data from June 2022 from 31 countries reporting on COVID-19 vaccinations of high-risk groups shows a significant increase compared with the end of December 2021 when only 33% of health workers and 10% of seniors were fully vaccinated. WHO recommends 90% vaccination coverage for health workers and 80% coverage for people over 60.

Only two African countries (Mauritius and Seychelles) have fully vaccinated 70% of their total population. Rwanda is expected to achieve this target by the end of the month based on the pace of its current uptake, bringing to three, the number of countries in Africa reaching the 70% global target by the end of June.

However, Africa has a largely youthful demography, with 45% of the continent's population under the age of 18. In a bid to use vaccines strategically, most countries are targeting their adult population. WHO is recommending to countries with low vaccination coverage to focus on high-priority groups - health workers, older adults and people with comorbidities. The continent's coverage of people over 18 years is estimated at 34%, significantly higher than the 18% full coverage in the general population. Nine countries have fully vaccinated more than 70% of their adult population, while 21 have reached more than 40% of adults.

"Having been beset by poor access to doses, costly delays and shortfalls, Africa's COVID-19 vaccination progress so far is no mean feat," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa. "Africa's youthful population has helped the continent weather the COVID-19 pandemic. While protecting young people at high risk of COVID-19 is paramount, focusing efforts on vaccinating older people, health workers and other vulnerable populations will ensure we stay a step ahead of the virus."

WHO recommends that countries continue to focus on high-priority populations such as health workers, people with comorbidities and older people, and to diversify vaccination delivery strategies, combining vaccination in fixed health facility sites with efforts to take vaccination to the communities through mass vaccination campaigns and intensification of routine immunization activities.

To date, at least 31 countries have planned mass vaccination campaigns until the end of the year. During mass vaccination campaigns, WHO recommends that countries set up bespoke mobile teams for targeted vaccination of high-priority groups. Learning from the experience of HIV testing and treatment, provider-initiated COVID-19 vaccination should be offered in primary health care and

in special units offering care to people with comorbidities such as HIV, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and cancer.

WHO and partners are focusing support on countries that risk falling behind. Fourteen African countries with less than 10% vaccination coverage are to receive multi-partner country support, with WHO stepping up efforts to strengthen the management of COVID-19 vaccination data in its assistance to these countries, many of which are also grappling with humanitarian crises and/or diseases outbreaks.

Over the past week, the number of new COVID-19 cases in Africa marginally increased following a sustained three-week decline. This slight uptick was due to

the recent surge in cases reported in East and North Africa. As of the 13 June 2022, there were 11.9 million COVID-19 cases in Africa, including 254 442 deaths.

Dr Moeti spoke during a virtual press conference today facilitated by APO Group. She was joined by Dr Daniel Kyabayinze, Director, Public Health, Ministry of Health, Uganda; Professor Emmanuel Nakoune, Acting Director of the Institut Pasteur in Bangui, Central African Republic; and Dr Peter Fonjongo, Director of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Also on hand from WHO Regional Office for Africa to respond to questions were Dr Abdou Salam Gueye, Director of Emergency Preparedness and Response; Dr Thierno Balde, Regional COVID-19 Incident Manager; Dr Fiona Braka, Team Lead, Emergency Operations; and Dr Phionah Atehebwe Vaccines Introduction Medical Officer.

## HakiElimu outlines areas for improvement in Tanzania's education sector for 2022/23

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

HAKIELIMU has outlined four perspectives for improvement of the country's education sector after the government's budget estimates for the 2022/2023 financial year was tabled in the National Assembly on Tuesday.

Speaking yesterday at HakiElimu headquarters in Dar es Salaam, the Executive Director, Dr John Kalage said the national budget should consider strengthening the use of Kiswahili language, education budget, free Advanced Level of education and provision of loan to intermediary and vocational training students.

On Kiswahili language, Dr Kalage who is also an activist in the sector commended the government's decision to allow people to use the language during job interviews as there are some qualified candidates who cannot present their ideas in English.

"The government's decision strengthening the use of Kiswahili is commendable. Job seekers can opt to use English or Kiswahili; it is a good idea and we support it," he said.

Dr Kalage said the 5.6trn/- allocated for the Ministry of Education in the coming financial year is not enough taking into considerations the implementation of development plans. He advised the government to further increase it to facilitate improvement of the sector. He said the budget set for the ministry is equivalent to 13.6 per cent of the central government budget. He added that national, regional and international recommendations suggest for the government to set aside 20 per cent of the total budget for the education ministry.

"We urge the government to allocate 7.39trn/- for the Education Ministry to be able to implement its targeted development

plans," said Dr Kalage.

HakiElimu supported the government move towards free A Level education since its implementation will benefit 95,000 Form Four students and 60,000 Form Six students enrolled at public schools. He said most of these students came from poor families.

He said the government will need 10.3bn/- to offer free education, an addition to the 32bn/- free education expenses for primary and secondary education. "It's our expectation that the government will work on our recommendations and increase the capitation grant to primary school pupils from 10,000/- to 25,000/-," he added.

He said loans should also be offered to students at intermediary and vocational training institutes to enable more Tanzanians to benefit with the loan programme.

Tabling national budget estimates for the financial year 2022/23, Minister for Finance and Planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba said decisions to abolish school fees for Form Five and Form Six students is a policy strategy aimed to further facilitate easy access to education for children in the country.

Dr Nchemba said currently, form five and six students are 90,825 and 56,880 respectively with financial needs amounting to 10,339,350,000/-.

He said the government has continued to finance the fee free primary education programme where up to April 2022, a total of 244.5bn/- was disbursed.

The minister noted that President Samia has been deeply concerned by school drop-outs for various reasons including household poverty, teenage pregnancies, poor education awareness in some communities, absenteeism and those who do not continue based on the prevailing rules including examination performance.



High Commission of India  
Dar es Salaam

Date: 16.06.2022

Subject: Tender for Supply of 10 Units Of Ambulances for the High Commission of India Dar es Salaam

High Commission of India, Dar-es-Salaam invites sealed quotations from reputed, experienced and financially sound maintenance Companies registered under relevant Tanzanian Companies Law which can provide maintenance services for High Commission of India, Dar-es-Salaam Building. The Tender document can be downloaded from the Mission's website <https://hcindiatz.gov.in> in the What's New Section under the heading "Tender for Supply of 10 Units Of Ambulances for the High Commission of India Dar es Salaam"



## PUBLIC AUCTION OF UNHCR

25<sup>th</sup> of JUNE 2022 at 11:00AM in AIRD Mubondo Logistics base  
2<sup>nd</sup> of JULY 2022 at 11:00 AM in Dar Es Salaam - Bahari Beach

### HOW TO BUY AND IMPORTANT TERMS & CONDITIONS:

VIEWING of the items (motor vehicles) can be done at the Auction location to verify the condition of the items for sale, as these are not warranted by the Auctioneer.

### SALE WILL BE ON "AS-IS-WHERE-IS-BASIS"

In physical condition and location of the vehicles on the day of the sale. Buyer Registration, issuance of bidding numbers & catalogues in

- MUBONDO, Kigoma, at AIRD Mubondo Logistics base, Kibondo Road -12 kms away from Kasulu Town from 20th to 24th of June 2022 from 08:00 AM - 04:00 PM and will continue during the auction day of the 25th of June 2022 from 08:00 to 10:00 AM.
- DAR ES SALAAM at YONO AUCTION MART & Co. Ltd. Yard, behind LAKE OIL Petrol station, Moringe Street, Bahari Beach from 27th June 2022 to 1st July 2022 from 08:00 AM to 04:00 PM and will continue during the auction day of the 2nd of July 2022 from 08:00 to 10:00 AM.

Due to large interest the buyers should preferably ensure they register, get the bidding numbers, and pay the deposits latest by Friday before the auction day.

### THE AUCTION SHALL START

- MUBONDO at 11:00AM on 25th of JUNE 2022 at AIRD LOGISTICS BASE - KIGOMA
- DAR ES SALAAM at 11:00AM on 2nd of JUNE 2022 at YONO AUCTION YARD - BAHARI BEACH

### BIDDING AND DEPOSITS: ALL BUYERS MUST REGISTER & PAY A REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT IN ADVANCE TO PARTICIPATE.

- You must have bidding number to participate in the auction. Interested buyers are required to pay a refundable deposit of TZS 2,500,000 per each vehicle/truck/heavy equipment and TZS 1,500,000 for IT equipment/generators/small items. The registration should be paid directly to the YONO AUCTION MART & CO LTD and is refundable within two working days after the auction (28th of June 2022 Kasulu and 5th July Dar Es Salaam) if the bidder does not buy any goods from the auction.
- PAYMENTS for all purchases must be in form of DIRECT DEPOSIT to the given auctioneer's bank account details.
- The declared buyer will have to pay 25% of the purchase price by the end of the AUCTION DAY (25<sup>th</sup> of JUNE 2022 Kasulu and 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 Dar Es Salaam) the remaining 75% will be paid within working 3 days after auction (28<sup>th</sup> of JUNE 2022 and 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022 Dar Es Salaam closing of Business time). Failure to pay the 75% will make the deposit (TZS 2.5 M/ TZS 1.5 M) forfeited and the property will be re-auctioned.
- The declared buyers deposit (TZS 2.5 M/ TZS 1.5 M) will be applied to the purchase price and become a part of the 25% deposit and will NOT BE REFUNDED. No second bidder will be taken into consideration.
- Sale is subject to confirmation based on reasonable reserved prices.

Please note that all motor vehicles were originally duty and tax exempted, hence it is the obligation and responsibility of the buyer to make sure he/she pays all TAXES and DUTIES within seven days after paying 100% of the price. All expenses and cost in respect of TAXES and CUSTOMS DUTIES shall be borne by the buyer.

In case the buyer does not clear the taxes in the period defined (max. 14 days after the auction date) the buyer will be charged for extra storage fee. Neither the AUCTIONEER YONO AUCTION MART & CO LTD nor our PRINCIPAL will be liable for any repairs, transport of the vehicles or refund of collected sales price.

To limit the risks of a resumption of the epidemic, the wearing of masks for the general public, washing hands and keeping distance is made compulsory inside of the auction yard!

YONO AUCTION MART & CO LTD shall sell UNHCR Vehicles and other Items by Public Auction: TOYOTA Land Cruiser Hardtop, TOYOTA Station Wagon, MB TRUCKS, TOYOTA PRADO, IT equipment, Gensets...other



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## Government recognizes contribution of religious leaders in upbringing of children, says Dar mayor

By Correspondent Devota Mwachang'a

DAR ES SALAAM City Mayor, Omary Kumbilamoto has said the government recognizes and appreciates the contribution of religious leaders in upbringing of children, especially those living in difficult conditions.

He was speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday during a spiritual seminar organised by the Spirit Word Ministry (SWM) church as part of commemorations of the International Day of the African Child.

This year's commemoration is themed: 'Eliminating Harmful Practices Affecting Children: Progress on Policy and Practice since 2013'.

Kumbilamoto said the government has improved the access to information systems for children, including those living in vulnerable conditions whereas they can now report those who torture and abuse them.

"We appreciate the contribution of religious leaders to our community; these children need to be assisted to live a better life like any other children," he said.

Meanwhile, a leader from Spirit Word Ministry (SWM) Church Elizabeth Kilili called upon parents, teachers and guardians to build friendship with children and give them chances to express themselves in order to know their challenges.

"We should let children talk to us without obstruction, bringing them closer to us would enable us to know the various challenges they face and discuss possible solutions together. Talking to them in a friendly manner would save them from acts of violence," said Kilili.

She said that what they are doing fulfills President Samia Suluhu Hassan's directives who urged religious leaders to help change the society by educating people on the importance of protecting children and make sure they get all their rights including

education.

Ceaser Masisi, a Bishop at SWM church urged the community to refrain from committing wrongful things against children.

Prophet Joshua Mwanyala of the Healing Voice Ministry Church said: "Adults should remember that they were children too, and they were not abused, humiliated or ignored. It is the parent's responsibility to protect children against perpetrators of violence."

One of the children, Hussein Bakar who lives in a famous slum at Tandale known as 'Uwanja wa Fisi' called upon the government and stakeholders to keep an eye on street children because they also need love and care.

He said most of these children are innocent and have found themselves in such an environment due to various reasons including conflicts at family level.

"Street children face all kinds of violence as they are totally unacceptable in the society," said Bakar as he thanked the SWM Church for taking him out of such a dangerous environment.



**We should let children talk to us without obstruction, bringing them closer to us would enable us to know the various challenges they face and discuss possible solutions together. Talking to them in a friendly manner would save them from acts of violence**

## Google announces new initiatives to help small businesses in Africa

By Special Correspondent

GOOGLE has announced new initiatives to support small retail businesses and offered 1,000 scholarships to business owners in Africa.

Google Country Director for West Africa Juliet Ehimuan said in a statement that it was part of a month-long commemoration of International Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Businesses (SMB) Day in June.

Ehimuan said the programmes commemorating the International SMB Day reaffirms Google's dedication to ensure that small retail businesses on the continent acquire the necessary digital technology, tools and training to thrive and be more resilient.

She said this includes a one-hour virtual training event, tagged: the 'Shopping Small Business Summit', aimed at helping SMB owners develop skills and tools to compete online.

She said that topics would include e-commerce trends and digital marketing, open to all who register at [g.co/events/shoppingmail](https://g.co/events/shoppingmail).

According to her, Google has also partnered with Coursera, a well known open online course provider, to develop an online career certificate digital marketing and e-commerce for SMEs, and is offering 1,000 scholarships to Africans who wish to attend.

"E-commerce presents an opportunity for small businesses in Africa to reach new customers and grow.

"Through the digital marketing, e-commerce career certificates, specialised trainings and 1,000 scholarships, we want to be able to assist small businesses in Africa gain the expertise to connect online, expand their customer base and scale up."

"The certificate course is the latest in a series of initiatives aimed at preparing participants for entry-level jobs," she said.

According to her, this month also sees the debut of 'Local Opportunity Finder', a new tool that evaluates a Google Business Profile and makes personalised recommendations for changes.

Ehimuan said that the tool evaluates changes or recommendations that a business owner might make to enhance how their business profile looks to consumers in Google Search.

The director also said that free, one-week-long Hustle Academy in June would focus on essential skills that would help small and medium-sized retail businesses (SMBs) build the skills they need to grow.

According to her, Africa's growing young population and urbanisation present huge expansion opportunities for small retail businesses. She said South Africa had almost 2,000 shopping malls covering over 24 million square metres.

Ehimuan said that wholesale and retail were the third largest contributors to Nigeria's GDP, with more than 90 per cent of the industry made up of informal merchants.

According to her, while Kenya, with an e-commerce market growth rate of 44 per cent in 2021, has seen a steady rise in the number of outlets over the last five years.

Ehimuan said that e-commerce markets in Kenya and Nigeria increased by 40 per cent and 30 per cent, respectively, in 2021, while online sales in South Africa increased by 66 per cent from 2019 to 2020, reaching more than \$1.8 billion.

"As more consumers on the continent continue to search for goods and services online, it is critical that small retail businesses learn how to better harness online tools for growth," Ehimuan said.

According to her, Google's ongoing commitment to supporting small businesses in Africa is visible through initiatives such as Google Hustle Academy, Google Business Profile, Market Finder and Market Kit.



Dr Rashid Tamatamah (L), Permanent Secretary in the Livestock and Fisheries ministry's Fisheries wing, presents construction agreement documents to China Harbour Engineering general manager Cheng Yongjian earlier this week. This signalled the endorsement of the company as the contractor in-charge of pending construction of Kilwa port in Lindi Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Ward reports 280 cases of violence on women, children in six months

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

A TOTAL of 280 women and children in Bugarama Ward, Msalala District, have experienced acts of violence in the period of six months beginning January this year, a situation that forced school going children to not doing so.

This was revealed by the Doctor in Charge of Bugarama Health Centre, Dr Silam Kayanda during his inspection of construction of the joint centre for treating victims of gender based violence and child abuse being built by UN organisations based in Tanzania -

UNFPA, UN Women and sponsored by KOICA.

Kayanda said acts of gender based violence (GBV) and child abuse are rampant in the ward and that last year 705 incidents were reported and the victims were treated at the health centre.

He added that these are statistics from the victims who reported at the centre, apart from those reported at the police gender desk and other ward offices.

He said five kilometres separates the health centre and

the police station, while offices of the community development department are 70 kms away, hence many victims fail to reach the police station or community development offices for assistance.

Meanwhile, Msalala District Community Development Officer, Richard Ngondya said apart from education provided against GBV acts, still they have been increasing on daily basis, and every month from 10 to 15 incidents take place.

He added that acts of rape and Sodom and beatings to women are

rampant in all wards of Msalala District and many fail to report them due to great distances to the police station or community development offices.

Earlier, presenting his report on the construction of the treatment centre, the Director of Kiota Women's Health and Development (KIWOHEDE), a non-government organisation with a focus to promote reproductive health, children's rights, development and advocacy, Justa Mwaituka said the centre is expected to be completed by the end of this month (June) and will cost 95m/-.

He said the centre will have a gender desk, health and gender desk and MTAKUWWA offices at ward level and will process GBV cases it receives.



Michael John (R), division officer for Kwekivu in Kilindi District, inspects Pagwi Secondary School's science laboratory earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Dege Masoli

## It's all joy as three mothers unite with their children after 20 years

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

THREE women respectively from Kilimanjaro, Mtwara and Dar es Salaam regions have been united with their children after they had not communicated for over 20 years.

Among the women is Rehema Saidi from Masasi in Mtwara district who lost communication with her son Anuary Mbaraka (22) in Dar es Salaam in 2000 while the child was only three months old.

Another one is Happy Lema from Hai in Kilimanjaro Region who was united by her son, Boniface Rwehumbiza (33) who had lost communication with him in 2004 while he was four years old.

According to Happy Lema, Boniface was born in 1989 in Hai district and was taken away by his father in 1994 to Kagera Region and that since then, for 28 years she did not see him.

One Semeni Selemani, resident of Tabata in Dar es Salaam had lost communication with his son Mwita Adam (22) 17 years ago after he was taken away by his father to live in Musoma, Mara Region.

Mwita was taken away by his father when aged five and that they have come to be united when he is 22 and it was not easy to identify him.

Speaking on how the three mothers were united with their children, the presenter of Leo Tena programme aired by Clods FM radio, Husna Abdul

said the radio has the procedure of uniting families that had lost communications to one another.

"This is the third year since we established the procedure in which people call the radio station or making personal visits to seek for help to be united with their "lost" family members," she said.

The FM Radio presenter said since they started the procedure they have united six families, including three mothers who were united with their children two days ago.

"We do so once a year especially during World Mother's Day commemoration. Our call to parents is that they should try to avoid issues that cause families to separate," Husna

added.

Also, Rehema Saidi stated that she decided to entrust her son to his father in Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam when he was three months old due to financial challenges for his upkeep and decided to go back to her home in Masasi.

Happy Lema said her husband took away his son Boniface to Kagera Region believing that he would bring him back, but she never saw him for 28 years.

For her part, Semeni selemani, mother of Mwita she parted well with her husband and decided to go to their home area in Musoma, but became worried for the 17 years she did not see him.



## PF comes up with education project targeting rural youth

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

POLICY Forum (PF) has launched an education project called KUYENDA Project intending to address challenges facing youth who are in schools and out of schools.

Speaking with this paper yesterday in Dar es Salaam during the launch, PF's Executive Director Semkai Kilonzo said that KUYENDA Project is an initiative trying to work together with education actors and rural youth collectives.

Kilonzo said, "We designed it after massive evidence of the learning crisis in Sub Saharan Africa [SSA]. We are seeing a lot of enrollment in the success of students in schools, but we have discovered they are not learning."

He further said that this time around instead of dealing with policy makers exclusively, they want to do a bit more listening.

Thus, they want to talk to the rural youth collectives, with the aim of understanding the challenges facing them from their perspectives then give them the capacity to voice those concerns not only at the national level but also at the transnational level as well. "So, we want their audience to be actors at the transnational level, here we are talking about the African Union, East African Community, SADC and the United Nations.

The whole idea is to get transnational actors to hear directly from those people who have only just left school on what the education challenges are. And from their perspective what should be done to improve education.

Kilonzo noted that previously they have talked enough with policy makers and now they believe it was a high time to take another innovative approach to get those problems voiced by those who are most affected.

Meanwhile, Kilonzo has urged the youth that education has no end. So, they need to struggle to grab it.

"You might have finished primary school but did not go further, you have to engage with education actors and explain to them what your needs are and you want them to improve."

He has also advised the general public not to stigmatize the youth who haven't completed their high levels of education. Saying they are still useful.

"They can still be productive...they are the ones who take care to our children when we are at work. So, we should still take them as productive citizens."

Policy Forum's Manager of Local Governance, Richard Angelo, said that the project aimed at addressing the learning crisis in sub-Saharan Africa led by Global Integrity and comprises four countries and hence termed as Global Integrity Alliance.

It is a diverse but complementary alliance team consisting of country partners: FAWEMA (Malawi), Policy Forum (Tanzania), CESC (Mozambique) Teach for Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe) and transnational partners Global Integrity, PSAM, and Stimulus Africa.

The overall goal of the project is to create a stronger global and transnational enabling environment for national civil society advocacy and transparency efforts.

Its specific objectives include: Rural Youth Collectives have strengthened their advocacy efforts to better engage with system actors at the transnational level.

Non-traditional actors and rural youth voices start influencing education focused decisions made in transnational spaces through enhanced and diversified advocacy efforts that include previously excluded voices and perspectives.

Rural youth collectives are defined as the civil society organisation [CSOs], non-traditional actors and the rural youth.

The project will be implemented in three zones, these include: Southern Highland Zone- Voluntary Service Overseas; Lake Zone- Community Active in Development Association (CADA); and Southern Zone- Lindi Association of NGO (LANGO).

Ruangwa District Community Development Officer Rashid Namkulala has urged government and key stakeholders to support the youth because they are the national workforce.

District Academic Officer from Mbogwe DC in Geita Region Ngwegwe Makoye has commended Policy Forum for coming up with this project.

He said that the project was timely because many youths are leaving school and going to engage in mining. Urging PF to ensure the project becomes sustainable.

Assistant Director- Secondary Schools from Local Government President's Office Hadija Mcheka commended PF for their initiative of empowering the rural youth.

She said that the government has been working tirelessly to ensure youth's essential needs are addressed.



Dr Jim Yonazi (2nd-L, gesturing), Permanent Secretary in the Information, Communications and Information Technology ministry, Permanent Secretary, has a word with Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) and Handeni District officials yesterday. It was during the downloading of a telecommunications tower at Msomera village meant to serve people relocating from Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## TAMCODE urges parents to protect their children against sexual abuse

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Media for Community Development (TAMCODE) has urged parents and family members to take good care of their children and protect them against sexual abuse in all forms inclusive of child marriage as the vice also contributes to early and unintended pregnancies.

TAMCODE Executive Director Rose Mwalongo made the call in her statement issued at the climax of the International Day of the African Child, which is celebrated on June 16 every year since 1991, when it was first initiated by the OAU Organisation of African Unity. It honors those who

participated in the Soweto Uprising in 1976 on that day.

She said: "Children should not be left to wonder around let alone to share a room with just anyone as it is too risk to them. It is more often than not said that a child holds the future of tomorrow's nation. Failure to take a good care of them will mean creating a nation and a continent whose children will resort to vengeance and resentment when they grow up. What happens to children now, has a greater impact to their future."

She stated: "It is about time that parents and family members took stern measures to protect the little

ones for a better tomorrow. It is only through actions that a day like today will be meaningful more than mere jubilations. Let us protect our African Child for a bright future for our continent. Long Live the African Child, Long live our Tanzanian Child."

However, she said: "As we celebrate this day, the lives of children in Tanzania remain under siege more than ever before as some fall victims to sexual abuse, child marriage, FGM, early and unintended pregnancies as well as abandonment."

"For instance according to the 2021 Tanzania Human Rights Report by the Legal and Human Rights Centre, 89% of incidents on violence

against children reported by the media for the reported year were sexual violence against them. These statistics are alarming."

Mwalongo also stated that the pride of each nation and each family is to see its children flourish and become decent human beings.

"However, the current trend leaves little to desire for as cases on sexual abuse against children seem to escalate with each day, with children being unsafe even with their own family members, and not to mention of close relatives and even maids. Children are now unsafe even with some of those who are supposed to protect them."

## Zambia's ARC parametric drought insurance pays the govt US \$5.3m

By Special Correspondent

THE African Risk Capacity (ARC) has paid out and already disbursed US \$5.3 million to the Government of Zambia after the African nation's parametric drought insurance coverage was triggered.

A symbolic US \$5.3 million cheque was presented to the Zambian Government by representatives of the African Risk Capacity Group and the African Development Bank, with the payout set to help the country's recovery from the extreme drought experienced during the 2021/2022 agriculture season.

The parametric insurance payout is expected to help Zambia carry out respond better and faster to communities affected by drought, through the provision of cash transfers and food assistance, helping to make sure food is available for the targeted households during the lean season period.

Zambia's Acting President, Her Honour W.K Mutale Nalumango, welcomed the payout from ARC to the Republic of Zambia, and said the parametric insurance payout would provide relief and livelihood reconstruction funding to benefit the most vulnerable households impacted by the 2021/22 drought.

"With the national treasury experiencing unlimited demand for the provision of public goods and services, the government stands ready to support disaster risk transfer initiatives that lighten the burden on government. I urge other organisations such as the World Food Programme and other international and local civil societies to come on board to help expand the ARC insurance coverage

in Zambia by partnering with my government to take up replica and micro insurance," the Acting President explained.

During the 2021 and 2022 growing season, a substantial lack of rain affected crop production and resulted in severe food insecurity in districts in the southern and western parts of Zambia.

The Zambian Government was assisted by premium financing support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation and the African Development Bank in order to maintain the parametric drought insurance policy for the 2021/22 agriculture season.

"The African Development Bank is pleased to see this African Risk Capacity Group payout to the Government of Zambia. We expect this to be the beginning of continued support to help the country enhance their resilience to the shocks of climate change. The Bank's support has brought assistance to farming communities hit hard by drought and poor crop yields, by enabling Zambian authorities to provide them with cash payments and sustaining them from eating their seeds as food, quitting farming as livelihoods, or migrating in search of food and non-existent jobs," AfDB Vice President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development, Dr. Beth Dunford said.

"ARC offers an African solution to one of the continent's most pressing challenges, the shocks of climate change, transferring the burden of climate risks away from governments to ARC through sovereign insurance," added Dr Abdoulaye Jannah, ARC Group Deputy Board Chair and ARC Ltd Board Chair.



Marceline Kimaro (in red blouse), headmistress of Dar es Salaam's Miburani Secondary School, receives a consignment of bags of cement the World Islamic Propagation and Humanitarian Services has donated to help in the construction of a wall fence to enhanced security at the school. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



## We can only ignore or neglect campaigns on immunisation against diseases at serious peril

VACCINES are among the greatest advances in global health and development. For over two centuries, vaccines have safely reduced the scourge of diseases like polio, measles and smallpox, helping children grow up healthy and happy. They save more than five lives every minute - preventing up to three million deaths a year, even before the arrival of COVID-19.

Thanks to immunization efforts worldwide, children are able to walk, play, dance and learn. Vaccinated children do better at school, with economic benefits that ripple across their communities. Today, vaccines are estimated to be one of the most cost-effective means of advancing global welfare.

Despite these longstanding benefits, low immunisation levels persist. Some 20 million children miss out on life-saving vaccines annually. The most poor and marginalized children - often most in need of vaccines - continue to be the least likely to get them. Many live in countries affected by conflict, in remote areas, or where polio remains endemic. Immunisation is the process by which an individual's immune system becomes fortified against an agent known as the immunogen.

When this system is exposed to molecules that are foreign to the body, called non-self, it will orchestrate an immune response, and it will also develop the ability to quickly respond to a subsequent encounter because of immunological memory. This is a function of the adaptive immune system. Therefore, by exposing an animal to an immunogen in a controlled way, its body can learn to protect itself: this is called active immunisation.

of these elements by the body itself. Immunisation is done through various techniques, most commonly vaccination. Vaccines against microorganisms that cause diseases can prepare the body's immune system, thus helping to fight or prevent an infection.

Immunisations are often widely stated as less risky and an easier way to become immune to a particular

disease than risking a milder form of the disease itself. They are important for both adults and children in that they can protect us from the many diseases out there. Immunisation not only protects children against deadly diseases but also helps in developing children's immune systems. Through the use of immunizations, some infections and diseases have almost completely been eradicated throughout the United States and the world. One example is polio. Polio is still found in other parts of the world so certain people could still be at risk of getting it. This includes those people who have never had the vaccine, those who didn't receive all doses of the vaccine, or those traveling to areas of the world where polio is still prevalent.

Active immunisation/vaccination has been named one of the "Ten Great Public Health Achievements in the 20th Century".

Germany has committed Euro 35 million to East African Community to be invested in vaccination programmes in the partner states.

Speaking at the EAC headquarters, senior policy officer from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development recently, Claudia Imwolde-Krämer said Germany is contributing Euro 35 million to immunisation programmes in the EAC.

"I appreciate and acknowledge the EAC's efforts to immunise every child in the region," he said.

In his remarks, the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Planning and Infrastructure, Eng. Steven Mlote said the visit by Imwolde-Krämer reaffirms the strong ties of friendship and cooperation between the EAC and the Federal Republic of Germany.

"Indeed, the Federal Republic of Germany and the EAC have historically had strong and cordial relations dating back to the founding of the EAC, 20 years ago", added Eng. Mlote.

Eng. Mlote noted that the two partners been cooperating in different areas with notable achievements being realized in the Health and Pharmaceutical Sectors; Trade and Customs; Agriculture as well as Tourism.

## Sustainable Gastronomy Day vital as it links food availability with quality

JUNE 18 is an international festival celebrating gastronomy, which an online chronicler says is often known as the art of food, and its substance is actually the differences of style of cooking from one region to another, and is among tourism and travel favourite topics.

Gastronomy, when it refers to local food and cuisine, may also be considered as an astronomical region or sphere, and here we have as many circles in the knowledge of systems of gastronomy as one may wish to count. There are just a few areas in which gastronomy is globalized at a certain level and becomes sensitive to prices, in rare beverages or meats.

The chronicler explains that on the other hand, sustainability is the idea that something (e.g. agriculture, fishing or even preparation of food) takes into account the use of natural resources, in which case it isn't the food being prepared in the kitchen which preoccupies activists for its sustainability, but the resources.

It is what environment experts for instance during COP 26 (global conference on climate change) were referring to as the "carbon footprint" of a particular commodity, and it is especially applicable for foods served in restaurants or processed and sold in supermarkets, etc. Plenty of environmental issues are involved.

The core concern of Sustainable Gastronomy Day is thus to appeal to the public worldwide to abandon wasteful of natural resources in the way people eat and even drink, on account of the

worry that if these habits continue unchecked into the future, they will be detrimental to the global environment and largely also to human health. There is no need to look far for the evidence, as urban life settings and a rising middle class whose standard identification is driving a car (building a house is less visible, though) and all this adds to the carbon footprint we all make in life. There are few innocents in this, perhaps excepting the poorest sections of society.

Experts say that sustainable gastronomy means cuisine that takes into account where the ingredients are from, how the food is grown and how it gets to our markets and eventually to our plates. It is the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) that is credited with that definition, eliciting others' help to facilitate the observance of Sustainable Gastronomy Day. Member states, UN organizations and scores of civil society organisations were ready, but is gastronomy limited to taste or it extends to ethics?

For local activists, it is likely they get more attention from the public by focusing on non-communicable diseases arising from unsustainable gastronomic practices, like using processed foods excessively at middle age and above. But even at a younger age it isn't uncommon to see youths already having signs of diabetes or high blood pressure, if they are growing up in houses where one opens a fridge and picks whatever a child or youth wants. Let's not forget that genetic disposition to such ailments is also a reality.

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## It's time to act together to protect oceans

By Jonas Gahr Støre and Surangel S.

Whipps, Jr

On World Ocean Day, ocean governance needs a comprehensive rethink. Jonas Gahr Støre is the Prime Minister of Norway and Surangel S. Whipps, Jr. is the President of Palau.

The ocean today is often associated with turquoise waters, abundant sea life, and pristine beaches. But look below the surface and the outlook is far more dire.

Alarming new ocean records were set in 2021 - greenhouse gas concentrations, sea level rise, ocean heat and ocean acidification all hit their highest levels. The ocean is changing before our eyes, and not for the better.

But there is reason for hope - if we act together. The theme for this year's World Oceans Day is Revitalization: Collective Action for the Ocean. It's time to shift away from the fragmented approaches to ocean governance that consider only one sector's needs, and move toward collective action that benefits all people who rely on the ocean.

Governments, business and local civil society groups should come together to protect, conserve, and restore our oceans, coasts, and waterways. This collective action can unlock the ocean as source of solutions to both the climate crisis and to sustainable development challenges.

## Let's revamp how we talk about climate change

By Michael Shank Alliance

To win real climate action, we need to clearly show how that benefits people - and talk more frankly about the risks of inaction.

Anytime the international community convenes on climate change there's a predictable mix of criticism and encouragement. This month's 50th Anniversary of the Stockholm Declaration, commemorating the United Nations' first official gathering to discuss the "human environment" and ways to protect it, was no different.

After the Stockholm+50 talks last week, and in response to the final remarks by hosts Sweden and Kenya, environmentalists lauded language on the need to "phase out" fossil fuels. Understandably so. This was remarkable. This phase out language was stronger than last year's "phase down" language at the UN's 26th Conference of the Parties in Glasgow, Scotland.

Simultaneously, environmentalists were frustrated that only "sustainable

like food security, reduced inequalities, and renewable energy.

The ocean has always been a pivotal part of the climate crisis. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), it is virtually certain that the global ocean has warmed unabated since 1970 and has taken up more than 90% of the excess heat in the climate system.

Climate change is here, now, and it is already affecting the ocean and vulnerable coastal and island communities through more severe and frequent extreme weather events such as hurricanes, typhoons, and flooding.

The ocean does not honor national borders - what happens on one coast will affect coasts and ocean areas many kilometers away. Pollution and mismanagement in one country impacts the resources of another. This is why we must act together to address the issues facing the ocean, from climate change to pollution.

In honor of World Oceans Day, we share our vision for 2030 with you: A world in which ambitious climate action has set the world on track to achieve the Paris Agreement, coastal and ocean states have implemented plans to sustainably manage their national waters, and all actors are united in building a better, more equitable future for generations to come.

Sustainable Ocean Plans are a key tool to achieving this vision - these are strategies countries can implement to

ensure the ocean is advancing social, economic and ecological outcomes. Countries' ocean plans should safeguard ocean resources, attract investment in ocean-based solutions, and create jobs and opportunities for coastal communities.

These plans should be developed and implemented alongside local communities and grassroots organizations, who are not only the most impacted by climate change's impact on the ocean, but also have local knowledge and connections that lead to more effective solutions.

Public-private partnerships can help advance innovative ocean solutions. For instance, businesses, governments and financial institutions should work with civil society groups to provide both technical and financial assistance to transition to a sustainable blue economy.

Initiatives such as the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy (The Ocean Panel) are showing what collective action can achieve. Ocean Panel countries have committed to sustainably manage 100% of their national ocean areas through Sustainable Ocean Plans.

Palau, a member and co-chair of the Ocean Panel, continues to build on its long history of ocean leadership.

We are balancing protection and production to achieve a blue economy that provides durable conservation benefits, food security, and livelihoods for our people. Our Palau Blue

Prosperity Plan aims to develop a new generation of sustainable pelagic fisheries. These fisheries will directly support the Palauan people by improving food security and providing new livelihoods.

Norway, another member and co-chair of the Ocean Panel, is working to harness the power of the ocean to provide cleaner energy to Norwegians. We recently launched an ambitious target of developing 30 gigawatts of offshore wind before 2040.

Norway also plans to reduce emissions from domestic shipping and fishing vessels by half by 2030, and deploy zero- and low-emission solutions for all vessel categories. Already, more than 80 Norwegian coastal ferries - about one-third of the country's ferries - have batteries installed, which lower emissions.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic the world has been forced to consider where we stand at a pivotal moment. We have an unprecedented opportunity to invest in partnerships that lead to a sustainable ocean economy and healthy ocean where people and planet - the whole blue planet - can prosper.

Our 2030 vision is only eight years away. To achieve it we must - together - act for the ocean, and build a future where effective protection, sustainable production and equitable prosperity go hand-in-hand.

Jonas Gahr Støre is the Prime Minister of Norway

It's not common parlance. That we're witnessing a "Code Red", in contrast, is a clearer and compelling rallying cry.

A "suicidal war on nature" is something the public understands.

Guterres isn't alone in his narrative leadership. UNEP's Andersen was forthright in her communication at Stockholm+50, praising the fact that "ecocide", mentioned 50 years ago in the 1972 Stockholm conference, had newfound prominence in recent climate talks.

Rightly so. Ecocide has teeth. It's an effective way to tackle climate change because it "contains stronger legal consequences and employs a narrative that emphasizes the protection of human rights".

Andersen didn't stop there. She reiterated the "war on nature" and corresponding "crimes against the environment" and called out our problematic behavioral status quo, flagging fast fashion and meat-heavy diets, something many climate leaders are loathe to touch.

Andersen noted that it's ridiculous that in 2022 we're only now recognizing

the "human right" to a clean, safe, and sustainable environment. This is something we should've all known. But at least it's now on paper, she said, calling for a UN General Assembly resolution on it.

This is the kind of strong language needed to convey the gravity of the situation. Leaders should let go of "existential" and match more closely the UN's clarion call. If they do, citizens will want to know how their governments are taking that code red, ecocide, and human right seriously, which is perhaps why some leaders avoid it.

This is where Stockholm+50 leaned in. The number one recommendation in final remarks by Sweden and Kenya was to center climate work in "human well-being" - that a better planet brings a better life and vice versa. This seems obvious when appealing to systems and behavior change, but it's not often prioritized.

The climate community spent a lot of capital winning the climate science fight and is finally pivoting to messaging that builds public and political will for this work.



## OBITUARY

By Correspondent Ani Jozeni

MEMBERS of the media fraternity are observing days of mourning ahead of today's burial in Dar es Salaam of long-serving journalist Josiah Ekwabhi Mufungo.

A former chief editor of the ruling CCM's Uhuru and Mzalendo newspapers, he was born at Makojo in Majita (Musoma District) and died in the city on Tuesday night.

Mufungo (pictured) counts among a fairly limited crop of career journalists who worked for one newspaper or group of newspapers all their lives, and his story is a glowing recapitulation of what happened in the newspaper group over the years.

His story can't all be told in a loose string of events but fellow journalism veteran Joe Nakajumo, who similarly spent his entire career with the group, has lately retold it in great detail and with telling accuracy and impact.

While the story is about reminiscences of how the newspaper staff grew from early stages in the mid-1960s to the start of the new millennium, where most of that crop went into retirement, there is a longer and wider tale of massive instruction.

Uhuru (daily) and its sister weekly Mzalendo weren't just newspapers in the current sense of the term but a media sector pillar from Independence in late 1961 right to the mid-1980s.

The latter period is when media sector liberalisation reduced Uhuru and Mzalendo to a newspaper group much like any others and ignited some especially trying moments.

A number of its senior staff and promising reporters shifted to newly born newspapers, and it was at that particular time that Mufungo assumed the position of editor, after be-



ing part of the staff for the better part of 40 years.

After rising in the ranks of the newspaper to the very top, the veteran retired apparently at the usual public service regulatory age of 60.

That was back in 2013, when he was still healthy save for routine health disruptions until the menace of non-communicable diseases caught up with him as well.

Three years later a partial stroke put him out of routine functions even as a retiree, and it was in that state that he lay for what was to be some seven gruelling years - that

is, until he breathed his last in a Dar es Salaam hospital.

As is often the case, 'chief' Mufungo left behind some of those who introduced him to the Uhuru/Mzalendo newsroom and taught him his first steps upon his entering the place as a bright secondary school leaver aged 20.

One such individual was Nakajumo, who joined the newspaper in the late 1960s and whom this writer met in 1974 in debuting newsroom engagement as a part-timer still in high school, and early 1975 as a fresh trainee.

As with Nakajumo and Mufungo, the prime mover in this orientation and career building was news editor Kusai Kamisa, a militant from Malawi whose camp, along with former ministers Orton Chirwa and Kanyama Chiume, had fled the regime of life president Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda.

A devoted socialist, Kamisa kept insisting to this trainee that being assured of food, shelter and clothing was the most critical component of democracy; he was shrill on the issue, and we grasped it. He had trained as a journalist in India for a while and knew grinding urban poverty at close range, so to speak.

Mufungo's passing and the unparalleled account of his life by his erstwhile colleagues and seniors at Uhuru/Mzalendo is also a mental relieving of that period for some of us who may not have remained in the newsroom long enough to see him rise the ladder up to the enviable but often thankless editorship.

By the time some of us were back in the media in the mid-1990s about 20 years from that period after higher education and other career efforts intervened, the newspaper scene was worlds different.

As happened, Uhuru and Mzalendo were each passing day struggling for space in a crowded stable, despite having a devoted readership among the ruling party's rank and file.

One quality or characteristic worth a mention about the two publications over the years, and definitely Mufungo worked to maintain this tradition as editor, was the way they preserved the history of the newspaper and those who helped shape it.

One would meet with journalists who served there in the 1990s and hear about media practitioners who were there decades back, and the manner in which veteran Nakajumo penned an authoritative Mufungo obituary was surely a cornerstone, a summary of this experience from a devoted colleague.

Others could have picked other recollections - as another media devotee,

the late Dr Sengondo Mvungi who died in a bestial attack at his home by presumed gangsters didn't remain at the then Faculty of Law of the University of Dar es Salaam but first went back to Uhuru/Mzalendo upon graduating in 1981.

This is simply to underline that for Mvungi, a militant since his high school days, being in those sister newspapers meant serving from an excellent forum. However, career calling dictated differently, so he went back to The Hill.

Other colleagues who entered the newsroom at about the same time as Mufungo include former Habari Corporation managing editor and later presidential press secretary (or director of communications) Salva Rweyemamu would more or less have wished to remain there permanently. Well, maybe, maybe.

But with a plethora of newspapers and cut-throat professional and business competition two decades later, any semblance of divided loyalties would have been a problem with the management at Uhuru/Mzalendo.

At that time a later entrant to Uhuru was chief editor Yahya Buzaragi, later hit by illness and dying relatively young nearly 20 years ago.

As a sub-editor, Mufungo meanwhile oversaw the early work of Freddy Macha, a life-long journalist who cut his teeth with Uhuru/Mzalendo in the 1976 batch along with the likes of Dr Mvungi and long-serving academic and top government aide Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, entering from Mzumbe and then National Service.

Macha was later to become a musician and permanent writer based in London and currently running a YouTube periodical.

All this shows that Uhuru/Mzalendo was a cadre-hatching institution without parallel, and Josiah Ekwabhi Mufungo helped to steer it through thick and thin.

An anonymous former mentor of his describes him as "a humble human with a strong heart who was born for journalism and community service". May the Lord rest the deceased's soul in peace. AMEN.

## Signing of LNG initial agreement a big leap towards natural gas economy

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is now set to significantly diversify its economy by entering elite club of natural gas exporters. Now, the question is no longer if but when.

The signing of a framework Host Government Agreement (HGA) with Norway's Equinor and Britain's Shell in Dodoma last weekend is a step towards the construction of a \$30 billion (70tr/-) Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) processing plant and export terminal.

This is a big deal for Tanzania because its implementation will be a huge boost to the economy in terms of employment for Tanzanians. Speaking at the signing ceremony at State House Chamwino, Energy Minister January Makamba said that between four and six years of construction of the project, there will be 10,000 jobs and after completion of construction, there will be 500 permanent jobs. That's good news, isn't it?

It must be remembered that this project has been delayed for five years now by previous administrations. By endorsing it, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has walked the talk of her commitment to transforming the lives of Tanzanians through sound economic policies that attract investors through ease of doing business which in turn create much needed jobs and tax revenues.

Speaking at the event, President Samia who witnessed the signing said the project is massive, strategic and special as it brings capital and revenue to the country.

"My instructions are to continue to safeguard the interests of the country in the next stages of negotiations and it is also important to note that it is give-and-take, so both sides should embrace fluidity in order to achieve the intended goal," she said.

The President also stressed that the project is set to benefit the country as a whole but communities surrounding project areas in Lindi and Mtwara regions in special ways through corporate social responsibility initiatives.

Considering project host communities is a smart move by President Samia because this is where many leaders in Africa fail hence the notorious resource curse tag.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan witnesses the signing of a framework Host Government Agreement (HGA) for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) project at State House Chamwino in Dodoma last weekend. File Photo

She also touched on another important issue when it comes to big projects like this: skills transfer. She said implementation of the project by foreign experts should take place alongside training of Tanzanians so that when they leave, the work continues seamlessly.

"The process of discussion, preparation and implementation of the project must lead to building the capacity of Tanzanians in this sector; our mission is that in the years to come, future generations can harvest the country's resources more productively

and more independently," she added. Equinor and Shell, along with Exxon Mobil, Ophir Energy and Pavilion Energy, plan to build the LNG plant in Lindi Region and the final investment decision is expected to be sealed in 2025.

Tanzania boasts proven natural gas reserves of 57.54 trillion cubic feet, with at least 49.5 trillion cubic feet of those reserves offshore in the Indian Ocean. But natural gas is not found everywhere like oxygen. Only Tanzania and Mozambique are home to East Africa's largest natural gas reserves with a

combined capacity of nearly 250 trillion cubic feet.

Tanzania in particular benefits from convenient geography, with the coastline acting as a springboard to ship the energy to rising demand in the Middle East, India, China, Southeast Asia and Northern Europe.

As for global players, Qatar remains the world's biggest LNG exporter, while Iran - home to the world's second largest gas reserves - has started increasing its marketing efforts in Europe, India and Pakistan after the Western-imposed sanctions were

lifted.

Russia, a long-term and reliable European supplier, is now focusing on Asian clients after the US and European countries slapped it with economic sanctions as punishment for its invasion of Ukraine in February this year which it calls special military operation.

If our LNG project decision was made earlier and say, we were now exporting, we would be making a killing because the turbulent in Russia and Ukraine has disrupted global energy production and distribution hence high prices.

The sanctions target Russia's economy but not directly its oil supplies or energy payments. However as sanctions intensified and as financial institutions started to refuse financing Russia-related transactions, including opening letters of credit or clearing payments and as some companies became reluctant to purchase Russian crude, Brent on March 2 was trading above USD110 for the first time since 2014.

The effect of Russia-Ukraine conflict saw prices of petroleum products go through the roof all over the world whereby in Tanzania, by last month pump prices went up from 2,000/- plus before the war to between 3,000/- and 5,000/-.

This led to high transports costs which saw nearly everything else go up in price. This led to countryside outcry and call for the government to intervene.

Last month, President Samia approved 100bn/- oil subsidy to cushion Tanzanians from high cost of living occasioned by rising pump prices.

The money was released this month and the President has since announced that the same amount will be released every month until things stabilize.



# As we chase big success, we should not forget to enjoy the process

WHEN I was growing up, success looked like a handsome, masculine black guy with a neatly groomed black beard. He wore black shades, a sky-blue suit, and shiny, polished khaki shoes that made it possible for someone to see their reflection.

The handsome guy held a bunch of car keys, an expensive golden watch enveloped his wrist tightly and he was leaning on a Mercedes, staring at his mansion.

Before our handsome black guy got here, there was so much he had to endure. He had to keep his eyes on the goal. He had to work more than others. When others slept, he rose to work on his project. He slept for less than six hours.

His posts were entirely about making money and getting rich. He never had days where he posted memes or a video of himself and his friends having fun. He read something like, 'make money or go home'.

He worked tirelessly even when he was sick. This guy had an ongoing engagement with his business; he missed the hangouts with friends. He missed Eid or Christmas celebrations with family. He missed Kariakoo derby and even FIFA world cup finals!

This man missed the magic in the eyes of that little girl who kept staring at him before he opened the door to his room. He was focused, he was hardworking. I never saw him drained, crying, or being vulnerable to a friend. He was perfect.

As I grew up, I followed his manual of success. My friends and family followed it too. It wasn't fun but it was a manual that could help you get to own a mansion and a Mercedes and anything else you desired.

As we followed the manual, some of my colleagues managed to get to where the handsome guy was, we called it a success. Some friends left the world for being frail along the process. They did not work hard enough; they couldn't follow the manual. They failed.

Years went by, and the handsome guy and his manual sounded like a boring lullaby in my ears. I guess I was tired of waiting for success. It's not that the guy was no longer attractive but his way of achieving success was unattractive.

I wanted to find success in the present but the manual portrayed success



as a future thing. What if I don't get to the mansion of success? What if I die on the road to the mansion? Will I die sad? Unfulfilled? I had to redefine success.

Success could be getting to the mansion and the Mercedes but success also means enjoying the journey in between. I dropped the other guy and his manual to redefine success. Now success looks like a handsome, hardworking man taking an entire day off for himself.

He'd lock himself in his room to watch some interesting documentaries. Sometimes he'd go walk at the beach, swim in the ocean, and share memes on his social media walls.

He would celebrate the festive season with his family and leave his laptop alone. He would pay attention to his friend with whom he holds candid conversations before retiring to bed at night. They'd hang out sometime and talk about the nights they barely slept thinking about market rates and if their businesses would survive inflation.

They'd laugh about how they are all still single while their peers are going down the marriage club seriously. They'd plan about their wedding scenes, they'd play scenes of them being fathers and having naughty, loving wives. They'd plan on wearing maroon kanzus while attending the next business conference.

Our second man has his eyes on the goal. He has a bigger picture of reaching the mansion and leaning on a Mercedes. However, his manual allows him to live every single moment wholeheartedly. His manual allows him to feel success in the ability to see magic in another friend.

This manual allows him to feel successful by celebrating the festive season with family or spending a day alone watching interesting documentaries. He works hard and he makes sure he is enjoying the process. Whether he gets to the mansion or not, he will die happy. Whether he leans on a Mercedes or a bike, he is happy. He is not a loser.

Sometimes he spends nights working on his business portfolio. Sometimes he is too busy and forgets to engage with his friends. Sometimes he feels drained and exhausted and he takes a break from work. He is imperfect and he knows that life sucks at times. This man chooses to work while inspired, sometimes he enjoys the process, and sometimes he goes with the flow. He celebrates himself along the way to the mansion. He doesn't postpone his happiness; he lives feeling it, even in the darkest times.

We all want to succeed but we have to choose a manual to follow carefully. I hope you choose the manual of the second man by disrupting what success means. You enjoy the process as you journey to the bigger picture of whatever you want to achieve.

Find magic in waiting. Find happiness in helping others. Find fulfillment in sweeping the street or village compound in the early morning. Find magic in preparing a meal or helping a colleague. See the beauty of silence, of those moments when you are drained and sad. See the beauty in doing your assignments and making them fun.

You might get to the mansion or die along the way. Instead of waiting to get there in order to be happy, enjoy the process and find magic on your way. Happiness also means disrupting the popular success narrative.

**College Comfort Zone**  
With **Salima Hamisi**  
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## Kenya, Zambia resolve to remove barriers to spur trade

NAIROBI

KENYA and Zambia have resolved to jointly remove barriers that hinder trade and investment between the two countries.

Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Zambian counterpart, Hakainde Hichilema, who met in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya on Wednesday, vowed to eradicate obstacles to trade and investment between the two countries.

"We have agreed to address the prevailing bottlenecks, including addressing ourselves to a few tariff and non-tariff barriers that bar our people from enjoying the freedom of trade amongst themselves," Kenyatta said in a statement issued on Thursday.

The discussions between the two leaders focused on opportunities to harness the strong

bonds of friendship as well as the business and economic ties including the removal of obstacles to trade.

The two leaders agreed that the ministers responsible for trade in both countries will work together to expeditiously address the outstanding tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade.

The Kenyan leader who spoke during a state banquet he hosted in honor of Hichilema noted that Kenya and Zambia were amongst the first two countries to sign and ratify the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement.

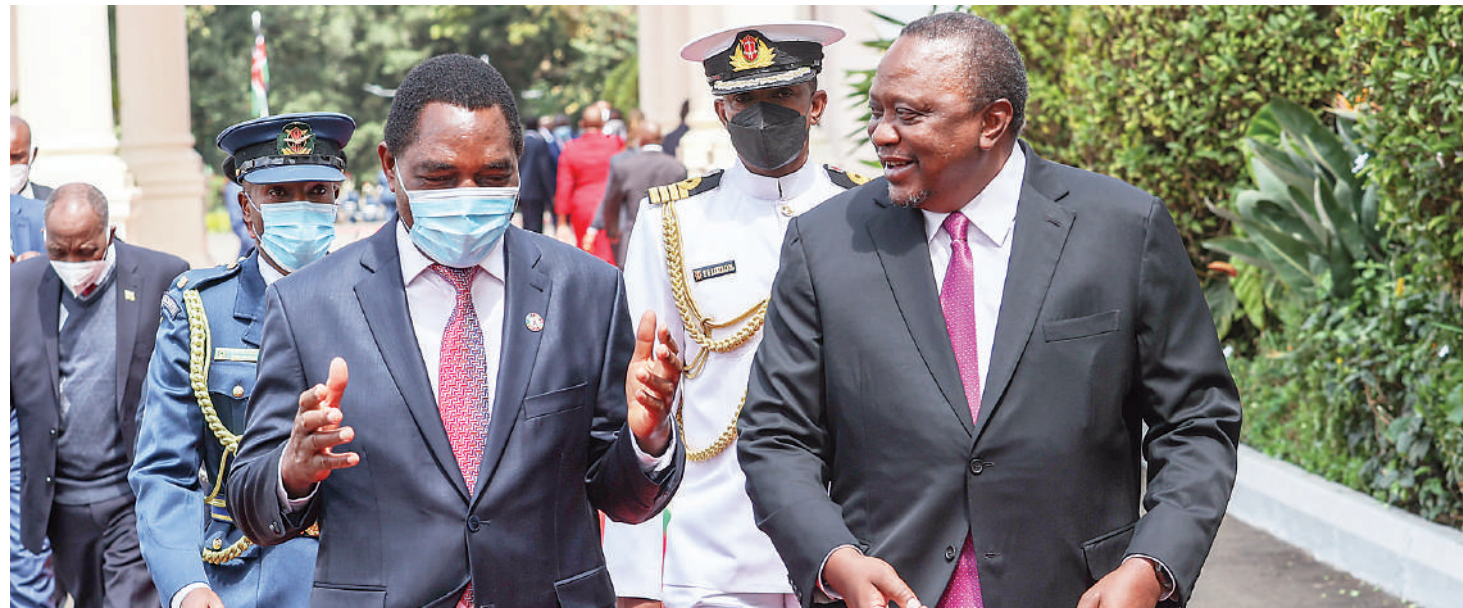
Kenyatta affirmed Kenya's commitment to working with Zambia and other African countries in improving the ease of doing business. He said Kenya will continue to work with its partners in Zambia and across the African continent to continuously

remove barriers to trade and continue to improve the ease of doing business.

Kenyatta encouraged Zambian investors to not only make Kenya their investment destination of choice but also to look to their Kenyan counterparts as their investment partners of choice.

On his part, Hichilema said the two countries should work together in eradicating obstacles to trade and investment between the two countries. He said time has come for the two countries to trade directly between them instead of passing through a third party.

The Zambian leader stressed the need to ensure that the agreements and MoUs signed were implemented as the two countries move to redefine the way they work with each other to lower the cost of doing business between them.



Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta (R) welcomes visiting Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema at State House in Nairobi on Wednesday. Kenyatta and his visiting Zambian counterpart signed six memoranda of understanding geared towards scaling up bilateral cooperation between the two countries. PHOTO: Xinhua

**CAPITAL RADIO**

**RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Insect muffins? Africa's bio-economies boost food, energy security

KUALA LUMPUR

FACED with the double hit of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic, many African nations are looking to nature to bolster their economies sustainably - from meat and baked goods made of lake flies to coffee husks generating renewable energy.

A recent report published by the Malabo Montpellier Panel, a group of 18 top African and international scientists, explores the best ways to improve nutrition, food supplies and energy security in Africa by fostering a nature-based "bio-economy."

"Given its vast resources and fast-growing science and innovation capacities, the African continent can be at the forefront of building its own sustainable bio-economy," said Joachim von Braun, panel co-chair from the University of Bonn.

About 60 countries worldwide have already adopted the approach, which taps into science, technology and innovation to sustainably produce and use renewable plant and animal resources for food, fuel and other goods, according to the new report.

Entitled "Nature's Solutions: Policy Innovations and Opportunities for Africa's Bioeconomy", it looks at four African nations - Ghana, Namibia, South Africa and Uganda - whose policies and innovations are blazing a trail.

Here's why bio-economies are important and how they can help African countries combat rising food, fuel and fertiliser costs, as well as climate change-fuelled impacts like drought:

**Why are African countries well-placed to develop bio-economies?**

Africa has abundant biodiversity and roughly 60% of its workforce earns a living from the farming sector.

This offers large potential for developing a "bio-economy" - from making use of agricultural by-products and waste, all the way to processing indigenous plant and animal species into new, higher-value products.

Examples include a native fruit called monkey orange, which is widely available in southern Africa and rich in vitamin C, zinc and iron. It can be dried or made into jam, juices or wines so it can be consumed year-round as part of nutritious diets.

Elsewhere, flies found around the Lake Victoria region in East Africa are being turned into foods like crackers, muffins, meatloaf and sausages.

And so-called Faidherbia "fertiliser trees" are being planted alongside crops in Malawi, where they shed their leaves and



Lake Victoria

provide soil nutrients as a replacement for chemical fertilisers, boosting maize yields.

On the energy front, coffee husks and pulp are being turned into bio-gas in Ethiopia, and fruit waste transformed into a bio-alkanol gel that burns without smoke or soot in the Lake Victoria basin.

These bio-fuels can be used for cooking that is greener and healthier for women who bear the brunt of indoor air pollution.

In addition, Africa's youth population is expected to double to more than 830 million by 2050. Growing a bio-economy can contribute much-needed employment opportunities for more of the 10-12 million young people who enter the workforce each year, where only about 3 million new jobs are created annually, the report said.

How can African nations better take advantage of bio-economy opportunities?

To fully capitalise on bio-solutions, African leaders should first identify sectors that offer the easiest wins for their development ambitions, the panel said.

The next step is strengthening research and development, and creating demand to attract business involvement.

Policymakers can also introduce rules and regulations that incentivize investment in the bio-economy, such as certification schemes or advisory boards to guide a transition at scale.

The benefits are already evident in some places.

South Africa, for example, assessed that its bio-economy contributed 8% of its gross domestic product and created as many as 16 mil-

lion jobs between 2007 and 2020 - about 70% of it in the food and beverage industry and agricultural sector. One of its most successful products is a mosquito-repelling candle made from the oils of an indigenous plant and now available in major retailers across the country.

Uganda is one of the few African countries that has drafted a national bio-economy plan, which targets food, farming and traditional medicines, while Namibia is working with the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization to develop its first national bio-economy strategy.

Meanwhile, the East African Community is the first economic body in the region to develop a dedicated bio-economy strategy.

"Sustainability and adaptation to a changing climate require a more judicious use of biological and ecological resources," said Ousmane

Badiane, Malabo Montpellier Panel co-chair.

"This includes how these resources might be leveraged to generate innovative products that help mitigate climate change, conserve resources and protect biodiversity, while creating new and well-paying employment opportunities."

Why is wise use of nature crucial for the world economy now?

With global food supplies and prices impacted by conflict, growing populations, climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic, it is increasingly important for all countries to find innovative solutions, the report said.

While most African nations are still at the early stages of developing bio-economies, global trends - especially in Europe, Southeast Asia, Latin America and India - indicate a wider shift towards the approach, it added.

About 60 countries have already drafted related strategies, including 14 in Africa that are now in the process.

Creating bio-economies will also depend on better conservation and management of natural areas, such as oceans, forests and parks - all seen as crucial to safeguarding the ecosystems on which humans and animals depend.

But often, governments opt to just set aside protected areas without any real investment or ignore the potential rewards from nature-reliant industries that adopt sustainable practices.

Examples include an economic return of at least six times original investments in protected areas and support for nature-based tourism, according to a World Bank report last year.

Besides tourism revenue, surrounding businesses can create jobs and provide quality services, like lodgings, restaurants and indigenous handicrafts that bring in more visitors.

In farming, more sustainable livelihoods can be created by using green methods such as organic fertilisers and new crop varieties, selective logging, and promoting local, traditional foods and products sourced from forests or nature.

# Study: Facebook fails to catch East Africa extremist content

NAIROBI

A NEW study has found that Facebook has failed to catch Islamic State group and al-Shabab extremist content in posts aimed at East Africa as the region remains under threat from violent attacks and Kenya prepares to vote in a closely contested national election.

An Associated Press series last year, drawing on leaked documents shared by a Facebook whistleblower, showed how the platform repeatedly failed to act on sensitive content including hate speech in many places around the world.

The new and unrelated two-year study by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue found Facebook posts that openly supported IS or the Somalia-based al-Shabab - even ones carrying al-Shabab branding and calling for violence in languages including Swahili, Somali and Arabic - were allowed to be widely shared.

The report expresses particular concern with narratives linked to the extremist groups that accuse Kenyan government officials and politicians of being enemies of Muslims, who make up a significant part of the East African nation's population. The report notes that "xenophobia toward Somali communities in Kenya has long been rife."

The al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab has been described as the deadliest extremist group in Africa, and it has carried out high-profile attacks in recent years in Kenya far from its base in neighboring Somalia. The new study found no evidence of Facebook posts that planned specific attacks, but its authors and Kenyan experts warn that allowing even general calls to violence is a threat to the closely contested August presidential election.

Already, concerns about hate speech around the vote, both online and off, are growing.

"They chip away at that trust in democratic institutions," report researcher Moustafa Ayad told

the AP of the extremist posts.

The Institute for Strategic Dialogue found 445 public profiles, some with duplicate accounts, sharing content linked to the two extremist groups and tagging more than 17,000 other accounts. Among the narratives shared were accusations that Kenya and the United States are enemies of Islam, and among the posted content was praise by al-Shabab's official media arm for the killing of Kenyan soldiers.

Even when Facebook took down pages, they would quickly be reconstituted under different names, Ayad said, describing serious lapses by both artificial intelligence and human moderators.

"Why are they not acting on rampant content put up by al-Shabab?" he asked. "You'd think that after 20 years of dealing with al-Qaida, they'd have a good understanding of the language they use, the symbolism."

He said the authors have discussed their findings with Facebook and some of the accounts have been taken down. He said the authors also plan to share the findings with Kenya's government.

Ayad said both civil society and government bodies such as Kenya's national counterterrorism center should be aware of the problem and encourage Facebook to do more.

Asked for comment, Facebook requested a copy of the report before its publication, which was refused.

**The company then responded with an emailed statement.**

"We've already removed a number of these pages and profiles and will continue to investigate once we have access to the full findings," Facebook wrote Tuesday, not giving any name, citing security concerns. "We don't allow terrorist groups to use Facebook, and we remove content praising or supporting these organizations when we become aware of it. We have specialized teams - which include native Ar-



abic, Somali and Swahili speakers - dedicated to this effort."

**Concerns about Facebook's monitoring of content are global, say critics.**

"As we have seen in India, the United States, the Philippines, Eastern Europe and elsewhere, the consequences of failing to moderate content posted by extremist groups and supporters can be deadly, and can push

democracy past the brink," the watchdog The Real Facebook Oversight Board said of the new report, adding that Kenya at the moment is a "microcosm of everything that's wrong" with Facebook owner Meta.

"The question is: wWo should ask Facebook to step up and do its work?" asked Leah Kimathi, a Kenyan consultant in governance, peace and security, who suggested that government bod-

ies, civil society and consumers all can play a role. "Facebook is a business. The least they can do is ensuring that something they're selling to us is not going to kill us."

India Weighs Panel to Rule on Appeals Against Social Media Takedown Twitter Policy Aims to Clear Fog of War Misinformation Twitter Policy Aims to Clear Fog of War Misinformation Can Reforming Social Media Save American Democracy?

**Can Reforming Social Media Save American Democracy?**

Two police officers walk near a Boeing 767 at a military base in Amesbury, Salisbury, on June 14, 2022, preparing to take asylum-seekers to Rwanda. After a last-minute intervention by the European Court of Human Rights, Britain cancelled its first deportation flight. UK Cancels First Flight to Deport Asylum Seekers to Rwanda

Cambodian-U.S. human rights advocate Theary Seng, dressed as Lady Liberty, is arrested by police in front of the Phnom Penh municipal court. &nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;A Cambodian court handed down jail sentences to about 60 opposition figures including Theary Seng for conspiring to commit treason, in a mass trial condemned by the United States and rights groups as politically motivated.



# Reports of foreign-influenced regime change pressure cloud Eswatini dialogue process

By Ringisai Chikohomero

RECENT allegations that Eswatini's July 2021 'winter revolution' involved foreign-funded protest action aimed at regime change have put the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the country's pro-democracy movements in a bind. They have also emboldened King Mswati III's position on the format of the delayed national dialogue – a process he committed to in November 2021 after SADC's intervention.

A year after student leader Thabani Nkomonye's death, which sparked the most recent violent wave of popular protest and civil unrest, Eswatini is drifting further away from solving the crisis through dialogue. Opposition party members and civil society continue to demonstrate, and the security forces continue to carry out illegal detentions and torture against protest leaders.

SADC seems to be losing whatever traction was built by South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa during his visit to Eswatini last year, and the pro-democracy movement is faltering. The regime change allegations have muddied the waters and could delay efforts to democratise the kingdom, at least with SADC's intervention. The king has yet to give timelines for the traditional Sibaya talks and still needs to respond to SADC's terms of reference for the national



Eswatini's King Mswati III.

## THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 305 00--

Crossword grid with numbers 1-34 and letters P, A, Y, S, I, N.

- 3 letters OCA, SRI, MAN, AKA, ERV, OSE, MAN, USA
- 4 letters ARIE, AGAR, SAND, PAYS, IRON, LIMA, LAIR, LOGS, SEWN, KIVU, SAIL, DOWN, ARNO,
- 5 letters ASSAI, NGETA, RUKWA,
- 6 letters ALBERT, CARINA, PLACID, RETINA, CARINA
- 7 letters TURKANA
- 8 letters BUNYONYI, VICTORIA, NAIVASHA,
- 10 letters TANGANYIKA, CASPIAN SEA

- CLUES: Across**
- Soccer player
  - regarded as one of the greatest African players of all time
  - 1998 FIFA world cup winner
  - an animal of a race of the Asian wild ass native to northern Iran
  - obtained
  - Real Madrid is their biggest rival
  - wind-blown sediments
  - plays as forward for Barcelona
  - Universities and Colleges Admissions Services in UK
  - Voted world player of the century in 1999
  - monetary Unit of the Maldives
  - generosity
  - Capital of the Hausa state
  - match
  - Qatar's Capital
  - Super Eagle's is her national team
- Down:**
- founded in Paris, 21 May, 1904.
  - Branko Ivankovic is the head coach
  - 'so be it'
  - a fielding position far behind the bowler and towards the on side
  - to raise
  - the score made
  - voted England player of the year in 2010
  - before the present
  - and others (abbrev)
  - search and rescue (abbrev)
  - the oldest football tournament in Africa
  - African cup of Nations winner five times
  - a vassal who owed feudal service
  - go against the rules in Sports
  - the oldest football tournament in Africa
  - search and rescue (abbrev)
  - African Antelope
  - piece of music
  - small barrel
  - impair
  - flightless bird

WORD-FIT and CROSSWORD solutions grid.

dialogue.

On 13 May, the Eswatini Financial Times published an article that alleged the pro-democracy and anti-monarchy movements were foreign-sponsored. The claims were repeated on Twitter by Zimbabwe's controversial former cabinet minister Jonathan Moyo, who produced apparent dates and minutes of meetings and key players involved.

The meetings are said to have taken place in Rwanda, Mauritius and South Africa. The National Democratic Institute, an American non-governmental organisation, is reportedly funding the 'winter revolution', with planning and logistics allegedly provided by organisations like Amnesty International and Canvas Africa. Eswatini's pro-democracy movement and the organisations mentioned in the allegations have denied the accusations.

The government of Eswatini's response to the allegations has put SADC in a bind. The story presents the government as under attack, with the monarch as the main victim. As SADC prepares for its August summit, it must balance calls by Eswatini's citizens for democracy and human rights with perceptions that it supports an endeavour tainted by a regime-change narrative.

By linking the alleged 'winter revolution' with a planned Zimbabwe protest in May, Moyo strengthened the regime change argument in Eswatini. A group of social movements in Zimbabwe had pushed for a nationwide

shutdown to protest the rising cost of living in the country. The shutdown failed to materialise.

The narrative is that the global North is 'at it again' – attempting to use concern for human rights and democracy as a justification to fund and support regime change. This well-worn argument conjures up memories of alleged efforts by the North to push for regime change in the region and elsewhere.

Liberation movements, including South Africa's African National Congress, are wary of foreign powers' apparent accusations of human rights violations made to topple legitimate governments. In recent years, Zimbabwe's government has used this narrative to get SADC off its back. The regional bloc has been engaged with that country's political crisis since South Africa's then-president, Thabo Mbeki, took on the SADC mediation role in 2007.

In the case of Zimbabwe, SADC member states seem to have bought the regime-change story and now sing from the same anti-sanctions hymn sheet. This position has allowed the government to continue its draconian tendencies and clampdowns on civic space.

Whether or not the reports of foreign funding in Eswatini are accurate, SADC is sensitive to any notion of externally-sponsored regime change clothed in popular protest. The regional bloc will now likely favour a more cautious approach than what the people of Eswatini have called for – a firm stance and push for comprehensive and inclusive national dialogue.

There is arguably a thin line between claims of funding regime change and supporting active citizenship. Eswatini's democratic movement risks losing goodwill from stakeholders in the region, such as South African opposition party, the Economic Freedom Fighters. The tag of 'paid mercenaries' can't sit well with its supporters.

Regional actors concerned with Eswatini's democratisation must consider that the allegations could be a red herring. SADC needs to distinguish between this sideshow and the citizens of Eswatini's struggle that has continued since the 1973 decree banning political parties. The regional bloc should adhere to its principles and insist on the talks agreed between Ramaphosa and Mswati. This will help ensure that the national dialogue goes ahead and show SADC's ability to handle crises decisively.

Eswatini's pro-democracy movements also need to change tack. Their current push for extensive reductions in the king's power plays into the regime change narrative. The transition requires a willingness to compromise and work incrementally towards achieving a parliamentary democracy.

DM

**RADIO One** **RATIBA YA VIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.15 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 11.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11.30 HRS DJ SHOW 11.35 HRS NEWS BRIEF 11.40 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11.45 HRS NEWS BRIEF 11.50 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.00 HRS DJ SHOW 12.05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.15 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.20 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.25 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.35 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.40 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.45 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.50 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.55 HRS NEWS BRIEF 13.00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 13.10 HRS DEATH 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# COLLEGE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTRE

By Beatrice Philemon

**A**RUSHA Technical College (ATC) has received a 5.4bn/- concessional loan from the Italian government to build state-of-the-art Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Technology Transfer Centre to train students and staff on entrepreneurship skills and sustainable green energy.

ATC's Rector, Musa Chacha said on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam at the signing ceremony of a bilateral agreement between the Italian government through the Italian embassy to Tanzania and the Tanzanian government through the Ministry of Finance and Planning.

He said also both students and ATC's staff will be trained on technology transfer and green energy instrumentations to become self-employed, employ others to reduce poverty, create job opportunities for others and help their innovations to be accelerated to commercialization.

So far, the college has set aside 3 acres of land in Tanzania's safari capital of Arusha for center construction.

The training will be offered through "Enhancing Higher Learning Technical Institutions in Tanzania to contribute in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals Project"

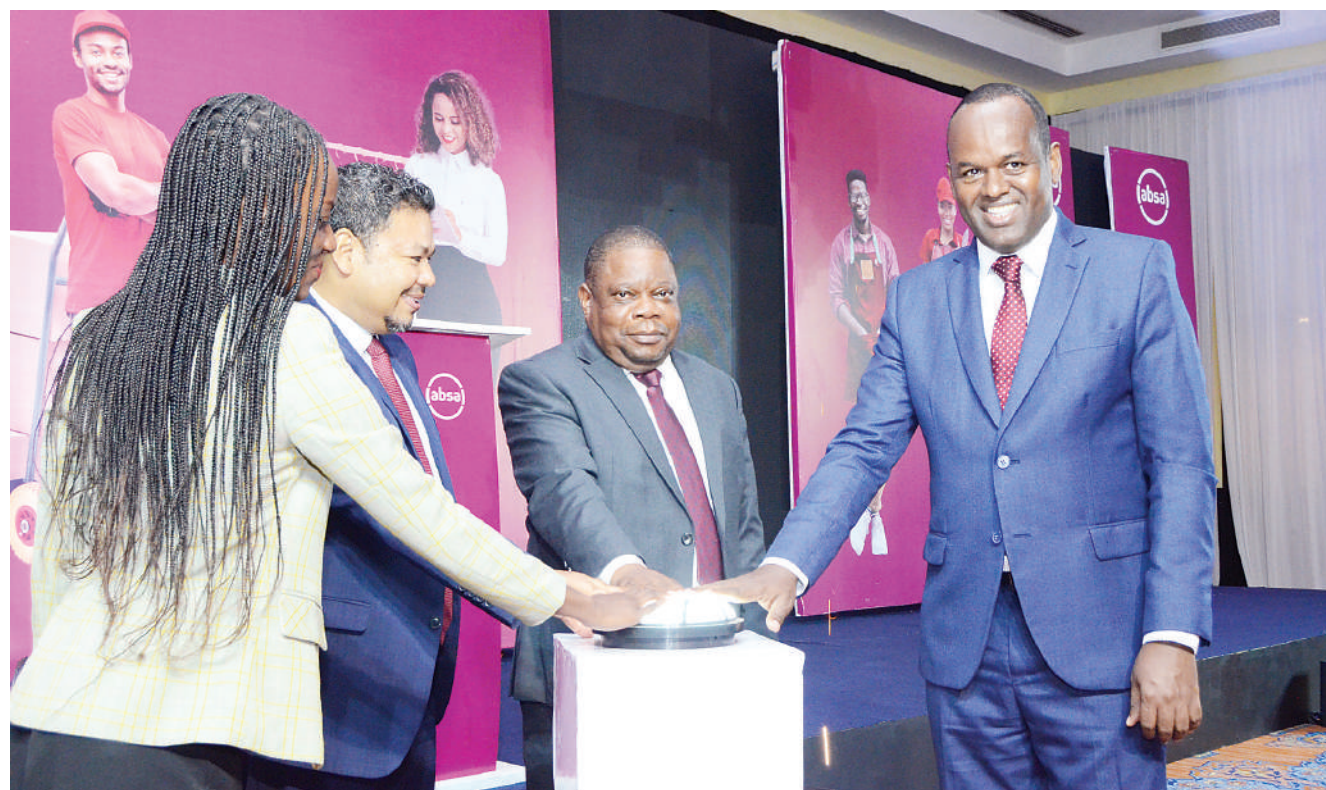
Under the programme, the college will provide them with mentorship and coaching for both students and ACT's staff, advisory services and how to create product prototype that in turn will help them to set up their own enterprises in their localities.



He said the soft loan will help young people to learn in a conducive environment and promote entrepreneurship spirit to enhance innovation and technology transfer in Tanzania and thus reduce youth unemployment.

Italian Ambassador to Tanzania, Marco Lombardi noted: "This is a new historical moment we've to renew bilateral for both countries to improve the quality of teaching and learning in scientific and technological education, with a special attention to promote entrepreneurship spirit and technology transfer in Tanzania."

"Tanzania is growing very quickly and 70 percent of your population needs vocational training, this agreement is not the end of the cooperation, Italian government will continue to support Tanzania to promote technology transfer for industrial," he said.



Bank of Tanzania's Human Resources Director, Dr Kennedy Nyoni (C), Absa Bank Tanzania Managing Director, Abdi Mohamed (R), National Economic Empowerment Council Director for Empowerment and Local Content, Neema Mwakatobe (L) and Absa's Head of Business Banking, Melvin Saprapasen, presses a button to official launch the bank's small and medium enterprises campaign in Dar es Salaam yesterday

## ABSA Bank rolls out SME value chain programme

By Francis Kajubi

ABSA Bank Tanzania Limited has rolled out a Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) value chain, targeting formalizing the sector's players and channeling them into the line of easier access to funds.

The new initiative designed as a game-changer programme will see SMEs across the country trained at a bank's academy on topics on financial literacy, business planning, and the production value chain.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the launch of the initiative Absa Bank Tanzania Managing Director Abdi Mohammed said that since Tanzania already has a framework for financial inclusion in place, the initiative plays as a complement to supporting SMEs growing businesses.

According to him, the bank has partnered with PASS Trust through its subsidiary leasing company for extending machinery, farm inputs, and other equipment to SMEs in the agriculture value chain.

"The initiative apart from enabling SMEs to access loans at affordable interest rates, the bank will ease its accessibility to the group. Some new products will be introduced purposely to support this initiative such as the unsecured bid bonds," said Mohammed.

Melvin Saprapasen, Absa Head of Business Banking, seconding his boss said the bank is cognizant of the changing needs of SMEs and their growing importance to the country's economy.

"Therefore, through this programme we have strengthened our SME customer offering to provide enhanced funding and non-funding solutions;

This will help accelerate SMEs business growth through new developed solutions such as purchase order financing, micro SME lending, enterprise and supply chain development (ESD)," said Saprapasen.

He asserted that in their growth pathway, SMEs face numerous challenges, some of which include unanticipated

financial mismatches between their income and expenses.

"SMEs also face facility rejections due to having no collateral, incorrect documentation, business being deemed too risky, startups, lack of proper track records, no deposits, or lack of business plans," he added.

Dr Kennedy Nyoni, Director of Human Resources at the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) who graced the launch event as the guest of honor challenged Absa to make sure that the initiative is sustained.

"SMEs need not only money to prosper but also technology empowerment and their operations being monitored throughout the way instead of just making a bold follow-up for loan repayments," SAID

Nyoni.

On her part, Neema Mwakatobe, Director of Human Empowerment and Local Content at the National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) applauded the bank for the initiative that she said will contribute to the growth of the SMEs sector.

"NEEC has been working on a similar initiative and recently had launched the Geita Enterprise Development Centers that had reached 500 SMEs so far linking at least 50 young people to the Geita Gold Mining Limited;

Of these youth, 11 have already secured contracts for offering different services in the mining company," said Mwakatobe.

Killo Lussewa Managing Director at PASS Leasing Company said that the company is working with Absa in extending required facilitation to SMEs especially those in the agriculture value chain.

"PASS has been issuing digital credit guarantees at a minimum of 500,000/- with a cover of up to 80 percent. Since its inception in 2002 it has enabled the creation of 2.6 million jobs in the agriculture sector;

PASS has facilitated the disbursement of almost 1.3trn/- in credit guarantee loans to farmers within AMCOS and SACCOS especially those who own two acres and above to boost their production," said Lussewa.

The Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture (TCCIA) 95 percent of the businesses in Tanzania are small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and they represent about 35 percent of the country's GDP.

TCCIA states that although 9 out of 10 SMEs are said to operate in the informal sector, inevitably both formal and informal SMEs in Tanzania contribute to the GDP by creating opportunities for future growth and an innovative diversified

## Brewer extends support to bolster water accessibility

By Guardian Reporter

WATER is necessary for human life and economic excellence. According to the Ministry of water, every Tanzanian needs at least 2,250 cubic meters (CM) of water per day, a slightly higher amount than the international water sufficiency mark of 1,700 CM per day.

As of 2022, nearly 86.5 percent of Tanzania's urban areas had water access. On the other hand, water access in rural areas has reached 74.5 percent. This output is a fruit of 303 water projects executed nationwide, targeting to cater safe and clean water to more than 1.4 million people in rural areas (Ministry of water).

However, the European Union (EU) finds investment in sustainable water infrastructures fosters economic growth with high rates of return. The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) quarterly economic bulletin for March 2022 noted that water sector-related economic activities contributed 4.9 percent to real GDP growth.

As an investor and supporter of government efforts, SBL's Water of Life (WoL) projects in multiple regions across Tanzania complements the government's efforts to improve water access to Tanzanians.

In this case, investment at any level is essential, as President Samia Suluhu Hassan urged.

"Tanzania is fortunate for being bestowed. With numerous natural resources, public and private sectors should work together to bring development to Tanzanians," said President Samia.

The ambitious and competitive beer maker has seeded its investment in Tanzania's water landscape for decades. SBL's very own strategic water project, Water of Life (WoL), partnering with WaterAid, is setting the stage for millions of Tanzanians to access safe water and improve their lives to execute economic activities well.

While the government of Tanzania is deliberately working to increase water access to Tanzanians via an ambitious water project worth 500m/- for enhancing water access, SBL has also embarked on strategic water investments worth billions.

SBL's corporate relations director, John Wanyancha, found the WoL instrumental in supporting government efforts to supply clean and safe water to Tanzanians nationwide.

"SBL has a policy of supporting the wellbeing of the community with Water of Life being one of our four priority areas that the company financed," SBL's corporate relations director said.

According to SBL's corporate relations director, the strategic water project has served more than 2 million people. SBL is not a newcomer in the water sector development. The strategic beer maker has filled Tanzania with its support to the water sector for a decade now.

Over the past ten years, more than Tshs.1.5 bn/- has been poured into 20 boreholes across the nation by SBL. The WoL project is revitalizing the efforts laid on the ground in villages which struggle to fetch water by walking a long distance to access unsafe water on ponds and perennial rivers.

A good example is the SBL's Tshs. 220m/- project in Machochwe division of Serengeti District of Mara region, whereby over 12,000 residents benefit from the solar-powered water pump, producing 7,500 litres per hour—a swift water technology.

More than 4000 Bassotu and neighbouring villagers in Hanang district in Manyara region have benefited from SBL's WoL project. The water project is now capable of catering water for more than 14,000 people in four villages in the district.

SBL's ambition is to support the government's efforts to build water infrastructures and improve the water supply across the nation. The WoL initiative has helped communities in Iringa, Kilimanjaro, Mwanza, Tanga, Ruvuma, Coast, Dar es Salaam and Dodoma regions.

The government of Tanzania is aware that stable water access is essential in attracting investment in the long run and is taking various measures to ensure the entire nation is furnished with sustainable water infrastructures.



## UBA DONATES BOOKS TO DAR SECONDARY SCHOOL

By Guardian Reporter

**U**NITED Bank for Africa Tanzania Limited (UBA), through its Read Africa Initiative has joined the rest of the world to celebrate International Day of the African Child by donating literature books to Kurasini Secondary School in Dar es Salaam.

UBA Tanzania's Head of Corporate Banking, Dora Kyungu, used the opportunity to explain what the 'UBA Read Africa Initiative' means and the role it plays in encouraging students across Africa to improve their vocabularies and communication skills through reading.

UBA is a global Africa bank with presence in 20 African countries, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and France. The bank recognizes how the reading culture is critical to the future of our African children and the continent as well. All children were encouraged inculcate the habit of reading and read the donated books to enrich their bank of vocabularies to enhance their learning abilities.

After receiving the books, the headmaster of Kurasini Secondary School, Amry Jaribu Fundi, acknowledged the kind gesture of United Bank for Africa Tanzania Limited (UBA) for supporting quality education across in Tanzania.

He urged the students to take full advantage of the donated books to increase their knowledge and continue to build a reading habit.

School head girl, Sonia Madaha, expressed her sincere gratitude on behalf of other students and promised to continue to lead by example by reading a lot more.

UBA has an impeccable track record of supporting the communities where it operates.

June 16 every year has been set aside by the United Nations as the International Day of the African Child to celebrate children in Africa and in recognition of the courage of students who marched for their right to better education in Soweto, South Africa.

Since this day aims at raising awareness for the situation of children in Africa and highlights the need for continuous improvement in Education.



UBA Tanzania's head of corporate banking, Dora Kyungu (L) hands over a book to Kurasini Secondary School head girl, Sonia Madaha (R) as the bank donated more than 300 textbooks for the school. The donation is part of the celebration of the International Day of the African Child. Others are UBA Marketing and Communications Officer Valdy Khahima (2nd L), and school head boy Fredrick Halilu (2nd R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## US national set for 47th Mount K'njaro scaling

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THE Tanzania's Goodwill Ambassador in US Macon Dunnagan will later this month start his 47th Mount Kilimanjaro climb along with a group of other tourists

In an interview Dunnagan is going to start his 47th six-day Mt Kilimanjaro climb through the Rongai route.

"I've climbed Mount Kilimanjaro 46 times, but what I have experienced from Mount Meru climbing last year was more challenging than Kili as I used a special chain to make a technical climb," he said, adding: "I would like to thank everyone who made my Mount Kilimanjaro climbs successfully including officials at the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and my professional mountain guide, Edwin Kilawe from ZARA Tours."

Dunnagan commended the making of the Royal Tour Documentary by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, saying good results have been seen in promoting Tanzania's tourism destinations worldwide.

He added that President Samia made a wise decision to go for the film as it will help at-

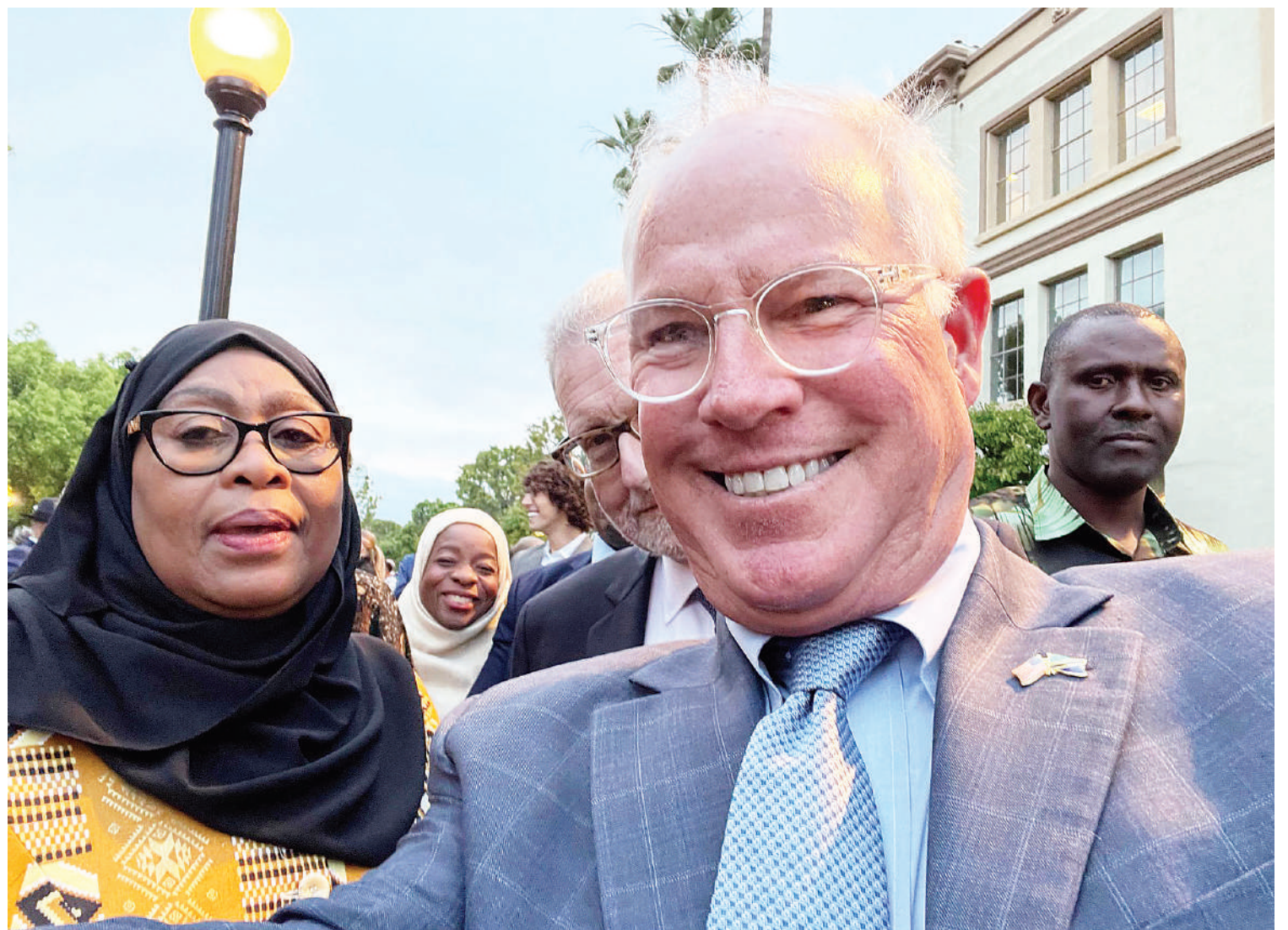
tract more investment that would result in creation of jobs.

Before his official marriage in the US, the Goodwill Ambassador engaged his wife Kim Brown at the Serengeti National Park (SENAPA) some years back before celebrating their engagement by climbing Mt Kilimanjaro through the Rongai route in a special expedition organized by ZARA Tours.

Macon who climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, with ZARA Tours for 46 times, comes to Tanzania every year two or three times with a group of tourists to climb Mt Kilimanjaro and visit some tourism destinations in Tanzania with his group including Serengeti National Park (SENAPA) for fun or for the cause.

Tanzania's Goodwill Envoy in the US said he has climbed Mt Kilimanjaro 46 times and wrote many books about the attractiveness of the country's tourism destinations including his famous book named 'Sons of Kilimanjaro', and was later announced by the Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) as a Goodwill Ambassador for Tanzania's tourism.

Last year, the Goodwill Ambassador climbed Mount Meru to its highest peak



Tanzania's Goodwill Ambassador in US, Macon Dunnagan (R), with President Samia Suluhu Hassan during the recent launch of the Royal Tour documentary in the US.

Meru Summit-4562 metres above the Sea levels.

He climbed Mount Meru and visited other tourism destinations within the

Arusha national park including the Little Serengeti and Momella lakes.

## Entrepreneurs seek new funding model for African SMEs

By Special Correspondent

THE All Africa Association for Small and Medium Enterprises (AAASME) has called for the introduction of an alternative finance model to enable 80 million small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to access finance in Africa.

Ebiekure Jasper Eradiri, secretary-general of AAASME, said the Afrocentric Alternative Finance Model for SMEs has the capacity to uplift small businesses within the continent by improving their access to finance.

Eradiri stated this at a stakeholder meeting on the African SME development platform held at the African Union Secretariat in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

In a statement signed by Eradiri and made available to BusinessDay in Yenagoa, he lauded the efforts of the African Union Economic Affairs, Trade, Tourism, Indus-



try and Mines for the growth of SMEs in the continent. He said the AU is poised at leveraging its convening power to engage member states, RECs and critical stakeholders in re-examining how to strengthen SMEs.

According to him, the AU move would also reinvigorate SMEs to achieve set goals as well as support the creation of an enabling environment for the development of SMEs. Eradiri added that it formed part of

AAASME strategies for the implementation of a plan of action for Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa and develop the Africa SME Development Program partnership platform.

This would be achievable through a participatory approach by a continent-wide multi-stakeholder perspective that adheres to the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and Accra Agenda for Action.

He stated that financial institutions needed to wear the shoes of African SMEs to understand and serve them better than operating colonial banking templates designed for the western world. Eradiri stressed that African SMEs deserved a new finance recipe that would resonate with the peculiarities of the African people.

Responding, the African Union chair on Economic Affairs, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Mines (AUC-ETT), Ron Osman Omar, assured that considerations for the AAASME position and the necessity for a standardised definition of SME/MSME in Africa would be broadened.

Omar informed the stakeholders of the upcoming maiden AU SME Annual forum scheduled for Cairo, Egypt from June 27 to July 1, 2022, with African Business Council and AAASME as co-organisers of the event.

## WIPAHS donates 20 bags of cement worth 300,000/- for school wall fence construction

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE World Islamic Propagation and Humanitarian Services (WIPAHS) has donated 20 bags of cement worth over 300,000/- for the construction of wall fence at Miburani Secondary School in Temeke Municipality in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking at the handing over ceremony held in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, Miburani Secondary School headmistress Marcelina Kimaro thanked the institution for the support after the management pledged in the last Form Four graduation.

She said WIPAHS was an exemplary institution since it has been supporting the surrounding community calling on the management of WIPAHS to continue supporting them in other development activities.

"On behalf of my staffs, I would like to thank WIPAHS for the support. I call on other good Samaritans to volunteer donating for the school development," she said, noting that the construction of a wall fence will help to increase efficiency in student's performance since it will protect students against external interference including noises.

WIPAHS representative Murtaza Sikiladh said the institution give prior-

ity education issues adding that the students and teacher's volunteering persuaded to support them.

Sikiladh said apart from education, WIPAHS has also donated for other sectors including health and economy such as women empowerment.

"WIPAHS is ready and will continue to support in other development activities any time just in case asked to do," he assured.

WIPAHS is an organization based in Dar es Salaam. It is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), started its activities in early 1985/86.

For the past 23 years, WIPAHS has improved the living conditions of the indigenous community of Tanzania, which has been suffering from poverty, disease and illiteracy.

WIPAHS' impact can be seen by its vast amount of projects which promote rural development through education, the access of water, economic sustainability and the enhancement of religious learning.

The vision of WIPAHS is to transform individuals into an egalitarian and literate society through supporting and promoting community education to people irrespective of their ethnic linguistic, provincial or religious background.



## TECHNOLOGY

# SHS3.8BN INVESTED IN POWER SUPPLY IN KIRA



## KAMPALA

**P**OWER distributor Umeme has said it is injecting Shs3.8b to improve power supply in Kira Municipality.

The project seeks to put in place two new power lines from Namugongo substation to Kira to wear areas such as Najeera off the overloaded Namugongo-Kyaliwajjala power line.

It also seeks to shorten the distance between the substation and Kira Municipality, thus reducing loss of electricity in the form of heat.

Mr Job Watti, the Umeme projects investment manager, said in a statement yesterday that demand for power in Kira Municipality has outstripped supply thus the new project.

"Demand for power from our 62,247 customers has outgrown the capacity of the three lines feeding Kira and the surrounding areas," he said, noting that to solve the demand and reliability problems, there was need to introduce additional lines.

The project is expected, according to Mr Watti, to be completed by the first quarter of 2023.

Kira Municipality, which for years was largely a residential area for many of Kampala's working classes, is now transforming into a business centre.

Many structures have been demolished to pave way for commercial buildings such as apartments and shopping malls.

Furthermore, the expansion of the Matugga-Kasangati-Kira-Kyaliwajjala road, will present more economic opportunities and as a result, the demand for electricity in the area is expected to increase, which calls for reliable supply.

The Namugongo-Najeera reliabil-

ity improvement project is one of the many Umeme is undertaking.

Others include constructing dedicating lines to, among other installations, national hospitals to enable the health facilities store blood and drugs without worrying of outages.

Mr Selestino Babungi, the Umeme managing director, said in a statement that works would now offer customers assured and more reliable supply.

"Not only will the supply be reliable, the quality of supply is also greatly enhanced," he said, urging customers to bear with interruptions such as traffic interruptions during the refurbishment works.

#### Increasing demand

With Uganda's power generation capacity now exceeding demand, attention has been redirected to providing stable power and increasing consumption. Power distributors are increasingly investing in underground cables and connecting more applicants to the electricity grids respectively.

Reference is made to the Daily Monitor June 2 article titled 'Only 1.7 million households are connected to electricity - ERA'.

Since the connection charges and the requirements like copies of identity cards and internal wiring on the applicants have been thrashed out as the main obstacles, this letter seeks to shed light on what is being done to increase access.

It is important to note the government requires US\$65 million (Shs237 billion) annually to subsidise at least 45,000 one pole and 255,000 no pole connections, according to the Minister of Energy Ruth Nankabirwa.

And it has engaged many development partners over the matter.

As of March 31, 2022, the World Bank had committed US\$568 million (Shs2 trillion) towards Uganda's Electricity Access Scale-up Project (EASP).

Up to 900,000 will benefit from EASP, which is projected to kick off in July/August 2022 and run until 2027.

Whilst it could take more than one month before draw-down, when it happens it will contribute to clearing the free Electricity Connections Policy (ECP) backlog - currently at 211,000 and cater for fresh ones.

It is in the interest of all the stakeholders that the backlog is cleared.

Were each of just the 211,000 domestic users to consume 30 units of power (kilowatt hours - kwh) per month at the current retail tariff, they would wipe off 75.9 million kwh (8.6 Mega Watts) of the 'excess electricity' in one year.

Once you add the commercial and industrial users, consumption would be even higher, thereby contributing to the Government's efforts to increase the demand for power, reduce 'surplus electricity' and mitigate the deemed energy costs.

Still working with the pending cases, were each, once connected, to spend sh20,000 monthly on power, that would increase the electricity supply industry's revenue by sh50.6 billion, money that could be deployed to either extend the grid or upgrade aged assets, among others.

Writing from the perspective of a distribution utility, clearing the backlog, effecting fresh ones, and at the same time persuading legitimate electricity users to fight power theft - since illegal connections contribute to voltage fluctuations and outages - would take a bite out of energy losses.

How so? It is probable that many of those who are not connected could

be tempted to steal electricity, even at the risk of paying hefty fines, over three years in prison, and death from electrocution.

This could be inferred from the increase in power distribution losses from 15% in February 2020 to 17.3% in September 2020 after money was rechannelled from activities like subsidising connections to checking the spread of COVID-19.

To connect applicants, power distributor Umeme recruited up 700 technical officers over the years to support the Government's programme to increase the proportion of the population accessing electricity.

Technical officers, among other roles, connect eligible applicants to the grid and to fix electrical faults.

To complement the ECP it has made capital investments - used its resources - to connect applicants to electricity.

The utility has also moved applications for connection online; any prospective customer with a smartphone, iPad, laptop or desktop and data can apply and pay the inspection fee from wherever he or she is.

Additionally, the utility has invested in a vending system with the bandwidth to handle the transactions of up to 3 million customers effortlessly.

To ready for connection, those who had constructed houses but were yet to do internal wiring should engage certified electricians to do their house cabling, ensuring it is safe.

Once connected, the customers should consider using power to generate income.

For instance, they could buy hair clippers and open barbers shops, acquire competitively priced refrigerators and chill drinks for customers.

They could also use it for tailoring, carpentry, milling, welding, among many others.

## Govt commits US\$872b to oil financing

## KAMPALA

GOVERNMENT has allocated Shs872b in the 2022/23 Budget to oil related activities, which signals commitment towards going through the development phase to achieve first oil.

Finance Minister Matia Kasaija confirmed the allocation during the Budget Speech in which he said government had fulfilled its earlier commitment that had been made early this year.

The Shs872b will be shared with a number of oil-related government agencies, with Shs720b going into oil financing, while the Petroleum Authority of Uganda, the oil regulator and Ministry of Energy taking Shs64b and Shs87.3b.

Construction of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), Mr Kasaija said, is expected to commence in the coming financial year while: "The capacity of the Uganda National Oil Capacity to invest in oil and gas development has also been enhanced".

"While there have been negative campaigns against the development of the Crude Oil Pipeline, government will develop the country's oil and gas resources in a responsible and sustainable manner for the benefit of all Ugandans," he said.

Mr Kasaija also indicated that investments in the oil and gas sector had contributed significantly to the increase in private sector imports to \$6.4b for the period ended April from \$5b in the previous 12 months.

Uganda National Oil Company, which handles the state's commercial interests in the petroleum sub-sector, holds a 15 percent participating interest as government's nominee in the Petroleum Production Licences.

UNOC's shareholding and capital structure include the Energy Ministry with 51 percent shares and the Finance Ministry with 49 percent shares.

At the 5th UNOC Annual General Meeting held at the end of April, Mr Kasaija had pledged to provide UNOC with the remaining equity for the oil pipeline and the refinery when it is due, reiterating that government is committed to ensuring UNOC is sufficiently funded as the country seeks first oil by 2025.

UNOC is also expected to undertake stocking of the 30 million litre Jinja Storage Terminal to enhance security of petroleum supply in Uganda.

Ms Proscovia Nabbanja, the UNOC chief executive, reaffirmed the need to capitalise the company by the shareholders.

Mr Peter Muliisa, the UNOC legal and corporate affairs manager, said the pipeline remains the key project that requires financing.

"We have been able to pay our cash calls from February after the final investment decision announcement, we should be able to exhaust that money we got last financial year probably in November, and the money provided for in this Financial Year should be able to kick in at the end of this year to help us meet cash calls for next year," he said, noting that capital expenditure budget focuses on construction activities such as procuring and contracting a company for the installation of pipes, technical and environmental studies around the pipeline, and the compensation of people for pipeline land.

UNOC is expected to make a 15 percent contribution of the whole \$3.5b capital expenditure on the pipeline project.

#### Fuel reserves

UNOC is working on a final proposal to receive financing for restocking of petroleum reserves in the Jinja Storage Terminal.

The 30 million-litre fuel storage facility is meant to hold national fuel reserves.

On this year's budget, the Finance Minister Matia Kasaija has said government will fund the 2022/23 Budget through enhanced domestic revenue mobilisation, external financing in form of loans and grants from development partners, private creditors and public-private partnerships.

The measures, announced yesterday, will heavily rely on domestic revenue mobilisation to fund the Shs48.1 trillion 2022/23 Budget.

While delivering the Budget Speech in Kampala yesterday, Mr Kasaija said government is expected to mobilise Shs30.7 trillion through domestic revenue, of which Shs23.7 trillion will be generated from taxes while Shs1.7 trillion will come from non-tax revenues.

Government is expected to increase tax collections, which during the 2021/22 financial year was below the targeted Shs22.425 trillion by Shs939b.

Domestic borrowing, Mr Kasaija indicated, will contribute Shs5 trillion while budget support will contribute Shs2.6 trillion.

External financing is projected to contribute Shs6.7 trillion, of which Shs4.6 trillion will be from loans while Shs2 trillion will come from grants.

Mr Kasaija also noted that while tax revenues are expected to remain stagnant in the 2022/23 financial year, the medium-term financing strategy will largely depend on implementation of revenue strategies to help government to rise revenues internally.

Government, he noted, will, during the year seek to increase revenue by 0.8 percent of gross domestic product, underpinned by expected increase in taxable economic activities, gains from revenue enhancement measures, increased employment and an increase in aggregate demand.

"Government will achieve revenue targets by improving efficiency in tax collection and enhancing compliance. The capacity of Uganda Revenue Authority will be enhanced by recruiting and training staff, deploying appropriate equipment and ICT to enforce tax laws," he said, noting that Parliament had made amendments to various tax laws with the view of simplifying previously ambiguous provisions as well as the desire to close revenue leakages.

For instance, Mr Kasaija noted, a number of tax laws including the Income Tax Act, Value Added Tax, Stamp Duty Act and Tax Procedures Act, had been amended. Under the Income Tax, he said, corporate income tax exemption for Bujagali Hydro Power Project had been extended for one year up to June 30, 2023 and amendments were made to streamline the rental income tax regime for individuals and non-individuals.

For instance, the amendments introduce a zero rental income tax rate for individuals that earn annual rental income not exceeding Shs2.8m and a 12 percent levy of rental income above Shs2.8m while income generated from business properties will pay 30 percent with expenses capped to 50 percent.

Under the Value Added Tax Act, government amended a number of provisions, among which include exemptions on supply of oxygen cylinders or medical oxygen and supply of assistive devices for persons with disabilities.

Other amendments under VAT include exemption of supply of airport user services and acceptance of cash basis accounting for suppliers who supply goods and services to government to facilitate them to hedge against the risk of interest and penalties arising from delayed payments, among others.



**Under the Value Added Tax Act, government amended a number of provisions, among which include exemptions on supply of oxygen cylinders or medical oxygen and supply of assistive devices for persons with disabilities.**

## Egypt's Boyot raises fresh funding to digitise real estate payments

## By Dunya Hassanein

**E**GYPT-BASED Boyot, a start-up that offers an end-to-end operating system for payments and financial services focusing exclusively on the real estate market, has raised a six-figure pre-Seed round led by a Kuwait-based real estate firm.

The startup is set to open an office in Kuwait later this year.

Founded in 2020 by Mahmoud El Sabongy (CEO) and Khaled El Refaay (CTO) and Mohamed Sayed,

Boyot enables real estate firms to digitise their entire payment operations, allowing them to track the status of their customer payment from the moment it is scheduled ultimately through to settlement. Moreover, companies can leverage the existing application programming interface (APIs) to provide and launch financial products such as buy now and pay later (BNPL).

"Poor cash flow management is one of the key challenges hindering the growth of small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) operating in the local real estate market in Egypt. About

85 per cent of merchants don't get their receivables through cheques. Instead, they either send out agents to perform cash transactions or get the payment through a bank transfer. Irregular cash collection methods ultimately translate into lower margins. As merchants scale, the payment collection process becomes more and more complicated and far from straightforward, leaving businesses struggling with inconsistent gains," says ElSabongy.

The startup officially commenced commercial operations back in May. Shortly after, it onboarded Misr Asset

Management Company, the real estate arm of Misr Insurance Company, as its first corporate client.

According to ElSabongy, the startup plans to expand its client base, hire across tech and business as well as invest in its product technology.

The SaaS market has witnessed an upswing over the past few years, as digitisation continues to gain ground among traditional sectors. Of 3 billion raised by startups in the Middle East and North Africa region (Mena) last year, SaaS startups scooped a total of \$176,350,000 across 31 deals.



## WORLD

## UN refugees chief: Food crisis to worsen record displacement levels

GENEVA

A food security crisis stoked by the Ukraine crisis is set to push more people to flee their homes in poorer countries, driving record levels of global displacement even higher, the head of the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) said.

A report by the UN body showed on Thursday that some 89.3 million people were forcibly displaced worldwide as a result of persecution, conflict, abuse and violence at the end of 2021.

Since then, millions more have fled Ukraine or been displaced within its borders, with price hikes linked to blocked grain exports set to stoke more displacement elsewhere.

"If you have a food crisis on top of ev-

everything I have described - war, human rights, climate - it will just accelerate the trends I've described in this report," Filippo Grandi told journalists this week, describing the figures as "staggering".

"Clearly the impact if this is not resolved quickly will be pretty devastating." Already, more people were fleeing as a result of price hikes and violent insurgencies in Africa's Sahel region, he said.

Overall, the number of displaced has increased every year over the past decade, according to the UNHCR report. It is now more than double the 42.7 million people displaced in 2012.

Grandi also criticized what he called a "monopoly" of resources given to Ukraine whereas other programs to



Internally displaced people from Rutshuru territory in troubled DR Congo's North Kivu province lining up for lunch at the Nyakabande Holding area in Kisoro, Uganda, June 7, 2022 after being resettled by the government of Uganda following deadly fights between M23 rebels and DRC troops. AFP

help the displaced were underfunded.

"Ukraine should not make us forget other crises," he said, mentioning a two-year-old conflict in Ethiopia and a drought in the Horn of Africa.

The European Union's response to refugee crises has been "unequal", Grandi added.

He compared the bickering between states over taking in small groups of migrants crossing the Mediterranean by boat with EU coun-

tries' generosity with Ukrainian refugees since the Russia-Ukraine conflict began in February.

"Certainly it proves an important point: responding to refugee influxes, to the arrival of desperate people on the shores or borders of rich countries is not unmanageable," he said.

According to the report, low-and-middle income countries hosted 83 percent of the world's refugees at the end of 2021.

Agencies

## Australia says has ground to make up on climate change

WELLINGTON

NEW AUSTRALIAN Foreign Minister Penny Wong said yesterday that her visit to the Solomon Islands this week as well as trips to other countries in the region were due to her belief that Australia had ground to make up on the issue of climate change.

"Many countries in the region have been concerned about Australia's previous position about climate," she said after a meeting with her New Zealand counterpart Nanaia Mahuta in Wellington. Wong was named foreign minister late last month.

"So part of why I wanted to engage really early is because I think we do have some ground to make up and we want to demonstrate we bring stronger and more ambitious commitments on climate because we actually think it matters."

According to a joint statement after the meeting, the two foreign ministers underlined the impor-

ance of consultation on new security measures in the region.

The two countries' partnership in supporting the Pacific would include joint practical action on issues such as climate change, Mahuta said.

The statement added the ministers were looking ahead to discussions on regional security among Pacific Islands Forum members in Fiji next month.

"During our consultations, we discussed cooperation and engagement in the Pacific region, and particularly the importance of working together to support Pacific partners facing a complex and growing array of challenges, including the effects of climate change and an increasingly contested strategic environment," said Mahuta.

The United States and its Australian and New Zealand allies have for decades seen the Pacific islands as largely their sphere of influence.

Agencies



Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong (left) is welcomed to Parliament House by New Zealand Foreign Minister Nanaia Mahuta ahead of a bilateral meeting in Wellington, New Zealand, yesterday. AP

## Xi, Putin call for fairer global order

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping held a phone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday, in which the two nations agreed to contribute positive efforts to building a fairer and more equitable international order.

Xi (pictured) said that China stands ready to work with Russia to strengthen communications and coordination within important international and regional organizations such as the United Nations, BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

This will help promote solidarity and cooperation among emerging market economies and developing countries and promote the development of the international order and global governance in a more just and reasonable direction, he said.

Xi said that, since the beginning of this year, faced with global turmoil and changes, China-Russia relations have maintained a good momentum of development.

China is willing to work with Russia to continue supporting each other on their respective core interests concerning sovereignty and security as well as issues of

major concern, he said.

In terms of bilateral trade and economic cooperation, Xi said that a new cross-border bridge connecting Heihe in China and Blagoveshchensk in Russia's Far East has opened a new route of interconnectivity between the two countries.

China stands ready to maintain the sustainable development of long-term bilateral practical cooperation, he added.

With a length of 1,284 meters and a width of 14.5 meters, the bridge, which opened on Friday, is the first highway bridge connecting China and Russia, according to media reports.

Putin said that practical cooperation between Russia and China has maintained steady development this year and Russia supports the Global Security Initiative proposed by China.

His country is opposed to interference by any force in China's domestic affairs under the pretext of so-called issues related to the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Taiwan, Putin said.

Russia is ready to strengthen multilat-



eral coordination with China in order to contribute constructive efforts to promoting global multipolarization and building a fairer and more equitable international order, Putin added.

The two leaders also exchanged views on the Ukraine issue. Xi said China always makes independent judgments based on

the historical merits of the Ukraine issue and is actively committed to promoting world peace and fostering stability in the global economic order.

He called on all parties to push forward the appropriate settlement of the Ukraine crisis in a responsible way, saying that China is willing to continue to play its due role in this regard.

The two leaders' phone call came ahead of the 14th BRICS Summit to be held this month under China's chairmanship. The BRICS countries consist of nations at a similar development stage, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Alexey Maslov, director of Institute of Asian and African studies at Moscow State University, said the phone call showed the willingness of the two countries to work together for better global governance to address common challenges under both bilateral and multilateral mechanisms.

He also said the two countries have maintained close cooperation in the medical and anti-coronavirus fields, and should continue to enhance cooperation in areas including high-tech and finance. Xinhua

## Russia has no intention of leaving Paris Climate Agreement, presidential envoy says

ST. PETERSBURG

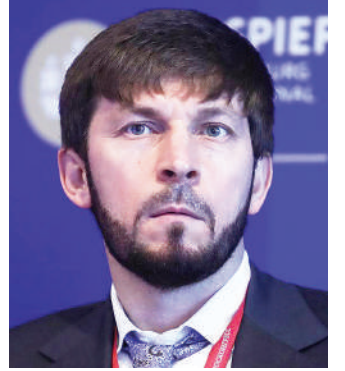
MOSCOW does not intend to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement, Russian Special Presidential Envoy for Climate Ruslan Edelgeriyev said at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum yesterday.

"I would like to point out that as a responsible country, Russia has no intention of leaving the Paris Agreement because we joined it consciously, the government did a lot of work, there was an important round of talks with businesses and public figures and a clear position was expressed that we needed to be part of the Paris Agreement."

We took this step based on those decisions. Since we are fully responsible to future generations for combating climate change, we won't play games like some other countries who first joined the Paris Agreement and then pulled out. This leads to seriously bad optics and creates risks in terms of future development," Edelgeriyev (pictured) explained.

According to him, international developments may lead to slight shifts in the near future but there are no plans to reconsider the goal of reaching carbon neutrality by 2060.

The St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, organized by the Roscongress Foundation, is taking place on June 15-18. The topic of this year's forum is New Opportunities in a New World. The event will particularly include SME and creative business forums, the Drug Security Forum, the SPIEF Junior Dialogue and the SPIEF Sport Week. TASS is the forum's information partner and photo hosting agency. Agencies



## Ugandan scientists build low-cost air quality monitoring system

KAMPALA

IN a tiny workshop at Uganda's top university, Makerere University, tech-savvy youths develop a low cost air quality monitoring system that experts say will influence decision-making regarding the increasing air pollution in the east African country.

According to the 2021 World Air Quality Report, Uganda's capital Kampala was ranked among the most polluted cities, with pollution levels exceeding World Health Organization (WHO) cutoffs 5 to 7 times. Key drivers of air pollution in Kampala, according to environmentalists, are unpaved roads, domestic solid biomass energy uses, exhaust and non-exhaust emissions from vehicles, industrial emissions, and open burning of solid waste.

This exposure to hazardous air pollution has health related threats. According to WHO, about 7 million people die of air pollution every year; 4.2 million die from outdoor air pollution and about 3.8 million from indoor air pollution.

According to Global burden of disease studies, air pollution ranks second driver of death. In Uganda alone, over 26,000 deaths are attributed to air pollution alone annually.

With the new innovation of a low cost air quality monitoring system, experts say the real-time data would be used to influence decisions at a personal, local council and at country level regarding policies to be enacted to reduce air pollution.

The system is designed by AirQo, a software company bringing together 15 scientists at the university. It has two components, the hardware and software. The hardware has a palm size metallic box, with air sensors attached.

The box is fixed at a desired place, from where it sends data to the cloud through the internet. The box is connected to the grid in order for it to run and according to Marvin Banda, a systems developer at AirQo, there are plans to connect the boxes to a solar system especially in areas that are not connected to the national power grid.

Banda told Xinhua that the data collected by the device is uploaded onto a cloud system from which a consumer can download real time air quality data of a place of choice using the AirQo application.

"The application can also advise accordingly, for example, if the air quality in a given area is not good, and you have children who are asthmatic, the application will advise that children stay indoors until the hazardous air is not anymore," Banda said.

Authorities can also use the air quality information to make informed decisions regarding control of air pollution, according to Banda. Authorities, for instance in the capital Kampala, have been trained on how to analyze, interpret and understand air quality data thereby taking informed policies and actions, according to AirQo.

Banda said the hardware system has been built to withstand Africa's harsh weather conditions and therefore the device can be deployed anywhere. AirQo has so far installed 120 monitors across the country with the support of partners and the local authorities. Xinhua

## UN chief urges protection, promotion of women's rights amid proliferating crises

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday urged the international community to protect and promote women's rights amid "proliferating crises."

"At this time of proliferating crises, the international community must pursue proven strategies for peace and stability. Protecting and promoting women's rights is such a strategy," the UN chief told the Security Council ministerial-level open debate on women, peace and security.

The Women, Peace and Security agenda is "one of our best hopes" for a more peaceful future and a livable planet,

Guterres said, highlighting the positive role regional organizations have played in protecting and advancing the key agenda.

In spite of the fact that gender equality offers a path to sustainable peace and conflict prevention, the UN chief said the world is moving in the opposite direction.

"Today's conflicts are amplifying gender inequality, poverty, climate disruptions, and other forms of inequality," he said, noting how women and girls are disproportionately affected by violence, as well as the effects of these cascading crises.

Despite these factors, the number of

girls out of school and without prospects of financial independence continues to rise, as do the numbers of women and girls experiencing violence in their homes.

"Misogyny and authoritarianism are mutually reinforcing, and are antithetical to stable, prosperous societies," he said, reminding that "women's equality is a question of power."

As in Afghanistan, Mali, and Sudan, entrenched conflicts and deadlocks highlight enduring power imbalances.

"In all these conflicts we have men in power and women excluded, their rights and freedoms deliberately targeted," the secretary-general said.

A neighboring country or regional organization can make a significant difference when a conflict breaks out, he noted.

As such, Guterres expressed his appreciation for UN collaboration with the European Union, the African Union (AU), the League of Arab States and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe - all of which participated in Wednesday's debate.

The secretary-general gave the example of the UN-AU and regional Intergovernmental Authority on Development partnership, in Sudan, to steer the political process back to an agreed and legitimate constitutional order, aiming to

ensure that at least 40 percent of participants are women.

Through its peacebuilding and political missions around the world, the UN supports women peacebuilders and civil society organizations, including by supporting survivors of sexual violence and investing in partnerships with local women leaders and peacebuilders, and by increasing the number of women personnel at all levels.

"Supporting survivors of sexual violence as well as women peacebuilders and activists is key," he said. "The evidence is growing by the year that securing women's rights, including their right to equal participation at all levels, is essen-

tial to building and maintaining peace."

In addition, there needs to be full gender equality - including through quotas - across election monitoring, reforms in the security sector, and disarmament, demobilization, and the justice system.

Despite the evidence, "the Women, Peace and Security agenda continues to be challenged and even reversed around the world," said the UN chief, urging all member states to reflect on the fact that, despite consistent agreement on the value of women at the peace table, "there is still a huge gap in their participation, and in the implementation of promises made for their protection, human rights and dignity." Xinhua



## Members hope for outcomes on key issues at WTO's 12th ministerial meeting

GENEVA

DURING the ongoing 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva, numerous members reiterated the WTO's fundamental role in the multilateral trading regime, hoping that the MC12 will achieve results on key issues pertaining to institutional reform and trade negotiations.

The delegation of Kazakhstan said that Kazakhstan is a strong supporter of the multilateral trading system and actively supports reforms to address the institutional challenges the WTO is facing today.

Kazakhstan considers it crucial to deliver meaningful multilateral outcomes on key issues such as the pandemic response, COVID-related intellectual property rights, food security and fisheries subsidies.

According to the delegation of Kenya, the ministerial meeting is being held amid an unprecedented economic situation caused by the pandemic and prevailing geopolitical trends, which have presented both trade-related challenges and opportunities.

The Kenyan delegation emphasized the important role of the multilateral trading system in the search for common solutions to cross-border challenges.

Noting the WTO is the only international body governing the rules of trade between nations, the delegation of Indonesia said the bedrock of the international trading system remains unchanged, calling for updating the WTO rulebook.

The Brazilian delegation said that the WTO has been facing serious challenges for some time: gridlocked negotiations, a non-functional Dispute Settlement Body and the need for modernizing reforms, and that their country hopes to revitalize the WTO.

The WTO can play a central role in the global response to economic and geopolitical challenges, said the delegation of the European Union, stressing that root-and-branch reform should focus on the WTO's dispute settlement, as well as its functions of trade negotiations and monitoring.

Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao said that the WTO-centered multilateral trading system is the cornerstone of international trade, and China is willing to work with all parties to promote the WTO's role in world economic recovery.

China will continue to safeguard the multilateral trading system with concrete actions and support the WTO reform to move in the right direction, Wang said.

The reform of the WTO should reinforce its functions and promote economic globalization to benefit all members, said the minister.

The ministerial conference is generally held once every two years and attended by trade ministers and other senior officials from the organization's 164 members.

Kazakhstan was scheduled to host MC12 in June 2020, but the conference was postponed due to the pandemic.

## Russia's top prosecutor castigates West for ignoring abuse of Donbass civilians

MOSCOW

THE West has been hypocritically ignoring the suffering and abuse of Donbass civilians that prompted Russia to conduct its special military operation, Russia's Prosecutor General Igor Krasnov said on the sidelines of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum yesterday.

Krasnov said, "the only reason why Russia has been conducting its special military operation is the hypocrisy of Western diplomats who have, for many years, turned a blind eye to the abuse of civilians in the Donbass republics, virtually a genocide carried out by the Kiev regime," the Prosecutor General's office quoted him as saying at a meeting with Armenian Prosecutor General Artur Davtyan.

"It simply became impossible to tolerate this Nazi rampage any longer, as Russian nationals were denied the right to exist and were being killed en masse in the absence of any national or international condemnation," Krasnov emphasized.

Since 2014, Russian prosecutors alone have opened more than 1,000 criminal cases, Russia's chief prosecutor added.

Krasnov and Davtyan are taking part in SPIEF. The Russian prosecutor general is expected to speak at a session on Russian businesses abroad today.

## Protests break out in India over new military recruitment system

LUCKNOW

CROWDS in India set a train coach on fire and blocked railway tracks and roads in protests yesterday against a new military recruitment system, police said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government this week announced an overhaul of recruitment for India's 1.38 million-strong armed forces, looking to bring down the average age of personnel and reduce pension expenditure.

Sanjay Singh, additional director general of police in the eastern state of Bihar, said protests broke out in about a dozen locations, with roads and railway tracks obstructed. "The protesters set fire to a train bogie (coach) in one place," Singh told Reuters.

"They have ransacked one railway station."

The new system, called Agnipath or "path of fire" in Hindi, will bring in men and women between the ages of 17-and-a-half and 21 for a four-year tenure, with only a quarter retained for longer periods.

Previously, soldiers have been recruited by the army, navy and air force separately and typically enter service for up to 17 years for the lowest ranks.

The shorter tenure has caused concern among potential recruits. "Where will we go after working for only four years?" one young man, surrounded by fellow protesters in Bihar's Jehanabad district, told Reuters partner ANI. "We will be homeless after four years of service. So we have jammed the roads."

## DR Congo to take time off from Rwanda over Kigali's alleged support for M23 rebels

KINSHASA

THE Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) decided late Wednesday to ask its government to "suspend all protocol agreements, agreements and conventions" concluded with Rwanda, a new episode of the diplomatic spat between the two neighboring countries, provoked and fueled by Kigali's alleged support for the March 23 Movement (M23).

As rebels of the M23 have been on the offensive in north-eastern DRC since late March and reportedly occupied a key town since Monday, Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta, also Chairperson of the East African Community, called Wednesday for the immediate deployment of a new regional military force to try to stop rebel violence in the eastern DRC.

Kinshasa made the decision to "suspend all protocol agreements, agreements and conventions" concluded with Rwanda, according to an official statement, released after a national defense meeting held late Wednesday chaired by the Congolese President Felix Tshisekedi.

This is the second national defense meeting chaired by Tshisekedi since M23's resurgence in late March. At the last meeting in late May, DRC classified the M23 as a terrorist group and decided to suspend all flights of RwandAir, the flag carrier airline of Rwanda, to the DRC soil.

Stemming from a former Congolese rebellion, the M23, created in April 2012, quickly gained international notoriety when it occupied the city of Goma, capital of North Kivu, for ten days in November 2012.

After its defeat by the army in 2013, the M23 signed a peace accord with the government in December 2013, in which it agreed to demobilize its fighters and transform itself into a political

party.

However, M23 now accuses the Kinshasa authorities of not respecting the commitments. Since late March, M23 has been on the offensive in the North Kivu province, with thousands of civilians displaced by still ongoing fighting. Bunagana, a key strategic town bordering Uganda, reportedly fell into the hands of rebels on Monday.

Besides the haunting nightmare of the M23, Kinshasa now faces a diplomatic tug of war with Kigali, with the latter having been accused of supporting the M23 rebels.

In early June, Felix Tshisekedi publicly claimed that there was "no doubt" that Rwanda was backing the M23 on the Congolese territory. Rwanda has denied the charge and instead accused the Congolese army of allying with Rwandan rebels of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), active in eastern DRC, whose elements are blamed for the 1994 genocide against Tutsi.

On Wednesday, the DRC also demanded Rwanda "proceed with the withdrawal of its troops on Congolese soil". There has been no immediate comment from Rwanda on Kinshasa's latest decisions.

On Wednesday, Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta, who currently chairs the East African Community (EAC), called for the immediate deployment of a new

regional military force to try to stop rebel violence in the eastern DRC, where dozens of armed groups have been active for over two decades.

"The East African Regional Force shall be deployed to the Ituri, North Kivu, and South Kivu provinces immediately to stabilize the zone and enforce peace in support of the DRC security forces and in close coordination with MONUSCO (UN Stabilization Mission in the DRC)," Kenyatta said in a statement, referring to the joint force that the seven EAC members agreed to form at a summit in April.

Kenyatta said that a meeting of regional commanders would be held in Nairobi on Sunday, which "should finalize the preparations to undertake the deployment of the regional force", without providing further detail. Kinshasa, which has become this year EAC's latest member, has not yet commented on Kenyatta's decision.

The eastern DRC, troubled by decade-long insecurity, has prompted regional military operations and deployment, given its proximity to multiple countries that share borders.

Since late November 2021, the armed forces of DRC and Uganda have officially launched joint military operations in northeastern DRC against rebels of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF).

In an exclusive interview with Xinhua last year, Ma-



Kenya's President Uuru Kenyatta gives an address when he attends commemorations of Kenya's Madaraka (self-rule) Day at the Uhuru Gardens in Nairobi on June 01, 2022. File photo

party.

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## China's Yellow River Delta sees ecological improvement

By Li Rui,

THE Yellow River Delta National Nature Reserve, located at the river's estuary in east China's Shandong Province, has constantly enhanced its eco-compensation efforts in recent years, diverting nearly 360 million cubic meters of water from the river to the wetlands.

The nature reserve has effectively prevented saltwater intrusion from destroying the wetland ecosystem and alleviated the salinization of soils.

The Yellow River, China's second largest river, flows into the Bohai Sea in Shandong's Dongying. The deposition of huge amounts of sand and mud from the great river makes the Yellow River delta, which generates extensive wetlands.

The wetlands there, retreating from the sea, are extremely vulnerable. They once shrank in the 1980s and 1990s due to saltwater intrusion, coastal erosion, droughts and other factors.

To protect the wetland ecosystem and the rare birds living there, the Yellow River Delta National Nature Reserve was established in 1992. Covering 1,530 square kilometers, the nature reserve boasts the world's most complete and the youngest wetland ecosystem in warm temperate zone.

Sporobolus alterniflorus, commonly known as smooth cordgrass, hinders the stability of the wetland ecosystem, said Wang Jinhe, head of a Dongying institute that studies the development of the marine economy.

"The plant is very prolific and has a strong root system. It has severely encroached on the growing space of local plants such as Suaeda salsa and Chinese tamarisk. Its presence in the nature reserve had led to a sharp decline in the biological density of benthos in the tidal flat and reduction in the foraging and inhabiting space for birds. It is a threat against the biodiversity in the nature reserve," Wang explained.

Since 2016, Dongying, in collaboration with scientific institutions such as the Yantai Institute of Coastal Zone Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, has used geographic information systems and remote sensing technology and launched field



Black-headed gulls lead their young to feed, May 27, 2022. (Photo by Zhao Yingli/People's Daily Online)

investigations to learn the distribution and intrusion mechanism of the smooth cordgrass in the Yellow River Delta. As a result, it has developed multiple treatment technologies and carried out management projects that have effectively contained the expansion of the plant and restored the biotic population in the intertidal zone.

The nature reserve has also launched 16 wetland restoration projects with a total investment of nearly 1.08 billion yuan (\$160.65 million), restoring 72,500 mu (4,833 hectares) of wetlands and flat from farmlands, connecting 241 kilometers of water channels, and recovering 47,000 mu (3,133 hectares) of Suaeda salsa and seagrass beds.

The unique restoration model has achieved remarkable progress that reaches long-term stability of natural succession with one treatment, and a compound ecosystem that includes river, land, flat and sea is taking shape. The integrity of the river estuary's new wetland ecosystem is further enhanced.

Black-headed gulls, known as "elves on wetlands," are quite "picky" when choosing their breeding places, said Zhao Yajie, senior engineer of the Yellow River Delta National Nature Reserve's management committee, adding that the birds are an indicator of the ecological changes

taking place on wetlands. The nature reserve has put the habitats of black-headed gulls, oriental white storks, cranes and other species under key protection, according to the engineer. Over the years, the nature reserve has seen a prominent increase in the variety and number of bird species. Now, it is home to 371 bird species, up from 187 when it was just established.

Known as an "international airport for birds," the nature reserve has become an important stop, wintering ground and breeding place for birds migrating along the East Asia-Australasia and the West Pacific flyways. It is also an important breeding place for oriental white storks, the world's second-largest breeding place for black-headed gulls and the world's second-largest wintering ground for white cranes.

Dongying is currently working to build the Yellow River Estuary National Park, which will span 3,523 square kilometers, including 1,371 square kilometers of land area and 2,152 square kilometers of sea area. It will set a new sample for the protection of river and delta ecology as China's first integrated land-sea national park.

"There must be more birds coming to and settling around the Yellow River estuary in the future," said Zhao.

People's Daily

## Senior Chinese official chairs BRICS security meeting

BEIJING

YANG Jiechi, director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, chaired the 12th Meeting of BRICS National Security Advisers and High Representatives on National Security via video link on Wednesday.

Yang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, said that facing various risks and challenges, the Global Security Initiative put forward by China has contributed Chinese wisdom to solving the current dilemma of global security and provided an important guideline for building a world of lasting peace and universal security.

Yang said that the BRICS was born in the historical tide of the collective rise of emerging markets and developing countries and represents the direction of the evolution and adjustment of the world pattern and international order.

He called on the five countries to follow the trend of times, respond to changes of the times and inject more stability and positive energy into the turbulent international situation.

He also called on BRICS countries to practice true multilateralism, address both traditional and non-traditional security threats in a coordinated manner, advocate

solidarity, and coordinate security and development to realize the "common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security."

The meeting reviewed the work of the working group on counter-terrorism and cyber security, agreed to jointly promote plans and roadmaps for international counter-terrorism and cyber security cooperation, and uphold the central coordinating role of the United Nations in the global counter-terrorism cause, and called for a more inclusive, representative and democratic global Internet governance system.

South Africa's Minister in the Presidency Mondli Gungubele, Brazil's Minister of Institutional Security Augusto Heleno, Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation Nikolai Patrushev and Indian National Security Advisor Ajit Doval attended the meeting.

They had an in-depth exchange of views and reached a consensus on important issues such as strengthening multilateralism and global governance, responding to new threats and challenges to national security, and strengthening and improving governance on new frontiers.

All parties expressed their readiness to work for fruitful outcomes of the 14th BRICS summit.

Xinhua



Yang Jiechi, director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee, chairs the 12th Meeting of BRICS National Security Advisers and High Representatives on National Security via video link, on Wednesday. (CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTRY)



# SPORT



Rap artist Emmanuel Elibariki 'Nay wa Mitego'.

## Nay Wa Mitego opens up on relationship with Nini

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

TANZANIAN rapper Emmanuel Elibariki, alias 'Nay wa Mitego', has made it clear that he was the one who prevented fellow musician Agnes, alias 'Nini', from engaging in new generation music.

According to 'Nay wa Mitego', the two had at some time in the past lived as husband and wife, so he did not want to let the female artist get involved in music.

The rapper revealed that they have now parted ways, adding that 'Nini' is set to return to new generation music. He was adamant that their current relationship is only based on music.

The artist stated in a recent interview with a local Television station, adding that the new genre music fans will soon hear the new album released by 'Nini'.

According to 'Nay wa Mitego', the new album is about to be completed.

"Soon you will hear 'Nini', she is coming up with something new, my relationship with her no longer exists...our relationship is now centered on music, I previously didn't want to see her sing," said.

The artist said he is cooperating with 'Nini' to ensure she achieves success in the new generation music.

"'Nini' was my wife, even though we are divorced I can't stay away without helping her, that's why I say at the moment my relationship with her is focused on music," she said.

He said now that their relationship is over they have turned to a new page of collaboration in music, not love, adding he wants to make sure

'Nini' holds sway in the new generation music. Meanwhile, a few days after veteran Hip Hop artist Joseph Haule, alias 'Professor Jay', was released from the hospital, fellow artist Judith Wambura 'Lady Jaydee' has posted a message on her social media page wishing the former well.

'Lady Jaydee' has expressed her closeness with the Hip Hop musician, citing 'Professor Jay' as one of her closest associates that have stood by her at all times until she became popular.

The songbird posted a video on her page listening to one of the veteran Hip Hop musician's songs.

She moreover wrote that 'Professor Jay' is one of the people she will never hesitate to support, should the songbird be asked to do so.

"He's the only brother who stood by me all the time. Love you, big bro. We're together," 'Lady Jaydee' wrote on her social media page, expressing her admiration for the veteran musician.

'Professor Jay' was hospitalized for about 127 days but has now been allowed to return home after his health improved.

His wife has used the musician's social media page to thank everyone involved in the fight for her husband's health.

"On behalf of the family of Joseph Leonard Haule 'Professor Jay', we thank God Almighty for continuing to improve 'Professor Jay's' health to this day," she wrote on his social media page.

She especially thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for issuing a government declaration to pay for her husband's treatment, adding that they pray to God to bless the President.

## Zambian forward lifts lid on move to Yanga

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

ZAMBIAN attacker, Lazarous Kambole, has opened up on an outfit the footballer looks to move to, citing Tanzania's Yanga as his destination.

Kambole was recently released by South Africa's football powerhouse, Kaizer Chiefs, after the conclusion of the country's season.

The Zambian striker has found himself unveiling his next move after leaving South Africa.

Yanga has already begun registration of new players to improve its squad for next season's Mainland Premier League and CAF Champions League.

Kambole said his agent is currently in talks with the Dar es Salaam side and an agreement is underway.

He said he seeks to keep on playing competitive football and he believes Yanga is the right place for him.

The footballer disclosed that the outfit's strategies for the 2022/23 Premier League and CAF Champions League led to his decision.

The performer revealed: "The only thing I can tell you right now is that everything is going on well because the agency is in charge of the final details, so it is a matter of waiting."

"I can't say how long they have agreed on the agreement, leave me for now and then I will come back to you to tell you everything, but I am coming to Yanga" Kambole noted.

It should be noted that this is not the first time Yanga has approached Kambole.

The outfit had the previous season failed to reach an agreement with him due to his huge demands for a move to the Jangwani Street club.

## SPORTS

## Complicated relativism in Yanga shareholding, power-sharing math

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

EXPLANATIONS are being provided with pointed precisions as to how the company format already adopted by presumed Premier League champions Young Africans SC, alias 'Yanga', is going to operate.

On the whole, it corresponds with what the regulatory authorities earlier wanted the now outgoing Premier League champions Simba SC to do but they rejected the proposition, of having three or four investors in the minority block of 49 percent of the shares.

It is unclear why this was accepted in Yanga, but the difference is also sentimental.

The point is that there seems to be greater antipathy to the company format among fans of the Jangwani Street club than their next street counterparts, for reasons of inherited sentimentality, noticed for instance in the nickname 'the people's club.'

This implies that the club will never be identifiable with a single investor as proprietor, in which case there is a need for plurality in the bloc of shares held by this or that investor.

The trouble is that 'wishes aren't horses and it is unlikely any powerful investor is expected outside the current wielders of power, GSM Group, and even less so that club leaders are looking for that rival.

What is rather telling is that the top leadership or rather those who were in the office until now, and some had picked forms to contest for the same positions or higher levels, are openly declaring their loyalty to a keen representative of the sponsor-cum-investor.

Some pundits raised a commotion in demanding whether this is procedural, asserting that it was tantamount to launching the campaign well before time, but some of us disagreed with that assessment.

An expression of loyalty is a personal view, and the leader making those declarations did not issue an appeal for votes but expressed loyalty, and it implies 'accept him.'

So the first sphere or dimension where the Yanga shareholding and power distribution math is inoperable is concerning the block of 49 percent 'minority' shares, as by definition GSM Group cannot have it all, but no rule exists as to how much the other investors would have.

It follows that whatever amount GSM



Yanga's Chairman, Mshindo Msolla (sitting L), signs an agreement for partnership with Spanish Premier League, La Liga, and Sevilla FC, in which the latter was set to provide consultancy services to Yanga through a partnership with GSM Group, Yanga's sponsors. The agreement was signed in 2020. Others are (L-R) Yanga's Acting Secretary-General, Simon Patrick, GSM Group's Investment Director, Hersi Said, and the company's lawyer. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

has placed (in shares, rather than working capital, presumably) shall amount to 49 percent at the moment.

If another investor comes up and places say half of what the pioneer investor has put in, the sums of the first investor will diminish in share significance so that his shares and the newcomer add to 49 percent.

The difficulties will start being experienced in the sharing of influence, as at present the pioneer investor has nearly 100 percent influence, while the presumed 51 percent influence of the members and the fans put together seems to constitute in-warranty to exercise pressure, not to make decisions.

This sphere has a management team that relies on the pioneer investor at the moment and could be shared with one or two others in the implausible situation that they turn up.

If minor investors turn up they will merely have a right of citation as Yanga shareholders, but chances of displacing the influence of GSM Group will be limited.

That is why it is interesting to look at a question being raised by pundits if the sole contender for the club presidency is an employee of the sponsoring firm, who shall be representing the members and the fans in case of a 'due diligence' problem with the leading investor or sponsor?

One answer was that the contender comes in as a club member and is not being seconded by the company management, as in the case of a CEO at present.

That means there is a harmony of interests between the contender as a club member and as an employee of the sponsor, and no adversarial contentions needing a representative exist.

That is why it is difficult to agree with the view that the club has 'silently been sold.'

If that was the case the new owner would simply appoint management, noticing also that at their next street rivals where the club sponsor and monopoly investor by statute is also a club member he is only so in an

honorary context.

The company insider is becoming effective president at the 'people's club,' so there is a slight difference.

What is especially noticeable is that there is greater proximity between the club and the investor on the Jangwani Street side than in the other context, where the singular individual of Mohamed Dewji comes up as a sponsor and in the new format, a key shareholder.

It is not Mohamed Enterprises as such which is at the center of things, making GSM Group relations with Yanga something of a hybrid situation between outright ownership as with Azam FC and personal shareholding by the Mohamed Enterprises chief executive.

Here one finds a firm that more or less places itself at the service of a club, without visible discrepancy.

## Premier League players that failed to reach fans' expectations

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THIS season's NBC Premier League has either three or four matches left for the league's clubs before the top-flight conclusion.

Several footballers playing in the league that was expected to do well have failed to shine, thus failing to win the hearts of their respective outfits' supporters.

Some players were signed after showing good performance at various clubs but they have failed to continue showing their quality in their new outfits.

They include Yanga's Denis Nkane registered from Biashara United, Crispin Ngushi from Mbeya Kwanza FC, and Chico Ushindi that moved to Yanga after turning out for DR Congo's TP Mazembe.

When Nkane was signed by Yanga he had two goals and showcased a good showing for his former club, but he has failed to maintain his quality due to the intense competition he has faced in the Jangwani Street squad.

The DR Congo winger Jesus Moloko has been the first choice at Yanga ahead of Nkane despite the latter's talent.

Ngushi was signed from Mbeya Kwanza FC having netted three goals for the outfit this season.

The goal-getter has failed to get a chance to prove his worth at Yanga, the striker has, in the few games he has taken part in, not managed to show the quality that could persuade head coach Nasredinne Nabi to continue to trust him.

Nabi however believes Ngushi will be a threat in front of opponents' goals in the next two years.

Much as Congolese players have had success at Yanga, Ushindi has had difficulty making his presence felt at the club.

Yanga fans had high hopes for him but so far he has not scored any goal and has no place in the



Former Yanga attacker Ditram Nchimbi.

first team. Other players who were signed by their teams in the mini transfer window but have not shown the edge are, among others, midfielder Clatous Chama of Simba SC that has been plagued by injuries since returning to the Msimbazi Street side.

He had headed to Morocco's RS Berkane after the conclusion of the previous season's top-flight but had a short stint at the club.

Midfielder Ibrahim Ajibu is now struggling at Azam FC after failing to prove his worth at Simba, forwards Shaaban Chilunda and Yahya Zayd of Azam FC also make the list.

Ditram Nchimbi of Geita Gold FC has continued to struggle in front of goal

after scoring two goals in the previous two and a half years that he had played for Yanga. Eliuter Mpepo of Mbeya Kwanza FC has since his return to Tanzania after his spell at Angloan outfit of Interclub not managed to show his edge despite playing for other outfits including teams in Zambia.

Ajibu had experienced a periphery role at Simba SC and he surprisingly joined Azam FC in a mini transfer window.

Many had expected to see the midfielder make his presence felt at Azam FC but the move has hardly made difference, considering he has not garnered an opportunity to play regularly for his new outfit.

Chilunda has as well not shown quality and failed to catapult his outfit to wins in some matches.

The fixtures include this season's semi-final of the Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) that had Azam FC taking on Coastal Union in Arusha, the attacker wasted several opportunities that came his way.

Chama who returned to Simba SC after turning out for RS Berkane for a few months has not won the hearts of the Msimbazi Street squad's supporters and is not showing the quality that many of the outfit's enthusiasts are accustomed to seeing the midfielder display on the field.

Although he has four goals in the ASFC and three in the Premier League, he has missed some of his team's games because of injury.



# The biggest questions around Bayern Munich this summer

By Bill Connelly, ESPN Staff Writer

AFTER an ultimate high came an ultimate hangover. In 1973-74, Bayern Munich not only won their third Bundesliga title in a row (and fourth in six years) but also expanded their dominance onto the continent for the first time. Less than 10 years removed from life in the second division, the burgeoning German giants took down Atletico Madrid in Brussels to win their first European Cup.

Two months later, a West German squad filled with Bayern stalwarts – including six of the team's starters, and both goal-scorers, in the final round – upset heavily favored Netherlands to win the 1974 World Cup.

A dropoff was almost inevitable in 1974-75, but this one was stark. Star Paul Breitner, long a bit of a maverick, left for Real Madrid under contentious circumstances, and prolific scorer Gerd Muller fell into a long bout of poor form by his standards: after averaging an absurd 53 goals per club season in the previous three years, he would finish with only 30. Meanwhile, important contributors like Uli Hoernes, Franz Roth and Conny Torstensson all battled injuries, Bayern won just one of 11 matches during a turgid winter stretch and manager Udo Lattek was sent packing.

They finally began to rally in March, just in time to inch past the USSR's Ararat Yerevan and France's Saint-Etienne and back into the European Cup final, where they knocked off Leeds United. But their league fate was sealed: They finished 10th, behind Kickers Offenbach and Eintracht Braunschweig and 16 points back (in the two-points-for-a-win era) of champions Borussia Monchengladbach.

Conflict, distraction and hangovers have taken down champions in every sport. It stands to reason that Bayern would have been no different – repeating as champs is really difficult, after all, but in the present day, as Bayern prepare to chase after an 11th straight Bundesliga crown, it's fair to seek reminders that typical laws of nature might still occasionally apply. Maybe they don't.

We're early in what seems like the most tumultuous offseason for the Rekordmeister in quite a while. Star scorer Robert Lewandowski is not only seeking an exit after eight years in Munich, but is also seemingly looking to burn every conceivable bridge on the way out. Rumors suggest that winger Serge Gnabry, far apart from the club in his contract demands, might be leaving, too. Centre-back Niklas Sule, meanwhile, has already left for Borussia Dortmund on a free transfer.

Bayern have raided Ajax for key reinforcements at right-back (Noussair Mazraoui) and in midfield (Ryan Gravenberch), and they appear close to a deal for Liverpool forward Sadio Mane. They will remain ridiculously talented in 2022-23, but after a bumpy season that saw their vulnerabilities exposed in the winter and spring – too late to threaten their league domination, but just in time to prompt a shaky Champions League quarterfinal exit – the six-time European champions and 31-time Bundesliga winners have a lot of questions to answer.

Let's walk through some of them.

What would they lose in Lewandowski and Gnabry departures?

Three words: high-quality shots. Bayern have long been blessed with a bounty of devastating attackers, and while that won't stop if (or when) these two leave Bavaria, Gnabry and Lewandowski were first-year manager Julian Nagelsmann's best options in 2021-22 when it came to both setting up and attempting particularly high-quality looks.

In last week's discussion about "big shots" – shots worth 0.3 expected goals (xG) or more – Lewandowski was the top name on the continent, creating 41 such shots in league play, easily the most in Europe's Big Five leagues. (His 23 such goals were also first.) His pressing has dropped off a bit as he has approached his mid-30s, but when it comes to the craft of scoring, no one is more consistent.

Along these same lines, few players complete as many "big passes" as Gnabry. Looking specifically at completed passes worth at least 0.2 expected assists (xA), Gnabry and Liverpool's Trent Alexander-Arnold were tied for first in the Big Five with 15. That only two actual assists came from Gnabry's completions was rather bad luck, especially considering eight of the passes went to the clinical Lewandowski.

Again, Bayern won't suddenly lack high-quality passing if these two leave. Thomas Muller completed 13 "big passes" in league play and led the Big Five in actual assists (18), while Leroy Sane had seven "big passes" and seven assists. Joshua Kimmich is a creative force, and 19-year-old Jamal Musiala could soon become one.

Still, even if they make great moves in response to this potential loss – here's where I mention Mane had the second-most "big shots" in the Premier League – that's a lot to lose. Which explains why Bayern officials continue to insist that Lewandowski remains under contract for one more year and that they won't entertain suggestions of a transfer unless they feel comfortable with who they have as a replacement.

(That also might be why Lewandowski has been so insistent and dramatic in his recent public remarks. He knows how stubborn Bayern can be, and he wants to make a return as unpalatable as possible. Of course, his primary suitor, Barcelona, still have to make the money work for such a move, too.)

What do the newcomers (real and rumored) bring to the table?

While future needs could indeed come about with Lewandowski's and/or Gnabry's departures, Bayern quickly moved to address the needs that emerged in 2021-22.

Kimmich and Leon Goretzka are both vital members of the Bayern midfield, and both missed extensive time – Kimmich because of fitness issues following a particularly bad COVID-19 case, Goretzka because of a hip issue.

Bayern played 47 matches in all competitions, but Kimmich and Goretzka were both on the pitch for only 22 of them. Corentin Tolisso showed flashes of solid form but missed extensive patches of the season to injury as well, while Marcel Sabitzer never really got going in his first season at the club.

Enter Gravenberch. The 20-year-old has proved strong in terms of basic interventions (interceptions, tackles, etc.), and he was brilliant in buildup play for a brilliant buildup team. He owned Eredivisie midfields, winning 66% of his duels and 77% of his aerials in the middle third and completing 89% of his passes to someone in the middle third. He made his national team debut at age 18 and has already made 10 appearances. With Tolisso leaving and Sabitzer's status uncertain, Gravenberch becomes both the deputy for Kimmich and Goretzka



Robert Lewandowski says his "story is over" with Bayern Munich as he seeks a transfer away from the club. (Agencies)

and a huge piece of Bayern's future.

The other primary need Bayern showed during the season came down the right touchline. Longtime right-back Benjamin Pavard began to thrive as a centre-back in a three-at-the-back structure, but Bayern struggled at times with natural width – especially in the midfield, where anyone from Kimmich or Goretzka to one of many centre-backs (Pavard, Lucas Hernandez or Sule) might end up with most of the touches.

If Gravenberch is a good fit, it appears at first glance that fellow Ajax product Mazraoui is a spectacular one. The lanky 24-year-old was the Joao Cancelo of the Eredivisie, contributing heavily in both attack and defense. He won 59% of his duels in league play, completing 83% of his passes in the attacking third and creating 1.4 chances per 90 minutes, well above average for a right-back. Perhaps more encouragingly, those numbers were also steady in Champions League play (57%, 88% and 1.4, respectively).

Mazraoui has dealt with an almost Christian Pulisic-like variety of injuries through the years – random knocks, an eye injury, plus thigh, foot, knee and ankle problems – and has topped 3,000 minutes in all competitions just once in the past four seasons. In theory, Bayern can still go with the "by-committee approach" for width on the right if he's out, but his presence could make a massive difference.

There is great balance to a lineup with Hernandez, Dayot Upamecano and Pavard at the back; Goretzka and Kimmich in the middle; Mazraoui and Alphonso Davies wide; and whichever combination of solid attackers up front, even if that requires a decent amount of luck in keeping them all fit.

Then there's Mane. If Bayern are able to complete their long-rumored deal for the 33-year-old, it would certainly go a long way toward filling the impending Lewandowski-and-Gnabry void. Liverpool used him as both a left winger and centre-forward at times in 2021-22, and he produced in both roles.

Among Premier League attackers, he finished the season with the third-most touches in the opponent's box, the fifth-most shots in the box and the fifth-most first-time shots. And he did this all despite sharing attacking duties with Golden Boot winner Mohamed Salah (not to mention Diogo Jota, Luis Diaz and Roberto Firmino).

Like the 33-year-old Lewandowski, Mane is not as much of a pressing presence anymore, but he's coming off maybe his most impressive attacking season. The only other Premier League players who combined at least 15 goals and 40 chances created: Salah, Jota, Manchester City's Kevin De Bruyne and Tottenham Hotspur's Son Heung-Min and Harry Kane.

That's elite company, and now, he could be coming to a more attacker-friendly league.

No centre-forward in the world could single-handedly replace Lewandowski's production if he departs, but Mane could replicate a good chunk of those numbers. If Bayern don't sign another attacker, it would put pressure on players like Sane (all competitions: 14 goals and 14 assists among 74 chances created), the oft-injured Kingsley Coman (eight/five/51) and Musiala (eight/five/36) to raise their respective games a bit. But they're capable of doing it.

What went wrong last year (when something actually went wrong)?

Really, two results made Nagelsmann's first season in charge feel more disappointing than it actually was.

Bayern did win the league by eight points despite massive injury issues, after all, and they did outscore Champions League opponents by a combined 31-7 over 10 matches. They finished the season third in FiveThirtyEight's SPI ratings, far closer to the top two (Manchester City and Liverpool) than the rest of the field.

Still, those two results were jarring. Their 5-0 loss to Borussia Monchengladbach in the second round of the DFB-Pokal was a shocking blowout in the middle of an otherwise excellent run of form: In their two matches before and after this game, they beat four top-half-of-the-table German teams by a combined 16-4. And their 2-1 aggregate loss to Villarreal in the Champions League quarterfinals denied us a tantalizing date with Liverpool in the semifinals.

The attack had fallen into a bit of a funk around the time of the Villarreal loss – they scored either zero or one goal in six of eight matches between Feb. 26 and April 12 – but Bayern still finished a distant first in the

goals-friendly Bundesliga in goals scored, xG generated and shots per possession.

While Villarreal prevented them from finding almost any particularly high-quality looks, that wasn't exactly a season-long issue either: They were third in the league with 13% of their shots generating at least 0.3 xG.

We could nitpick a bit that only 56% of their shot attempts came from inside the defensive box (sixth in the league), or that their average post-shot xG for shots on target (0.34) ranked fifth. They were a bit better at shot quantity than quality this season – Mane could help quite a bit in that regard – but they were as prolific as ever over the course of the season.

The blowout to Gladbach was a bit more indicative of real issues, but only so much. Bayern allowed by far the fewest shot attempts in the league – as tends to be the case with teams that possess the ball 65% of the time – but they ranked seventh in xG allowed per shot, eighth in percentage of opponent shots allowed in the box and ninth in save percentage. They righted some of their issues in transition defense compared to 2020-21, but they still gave opponents more decent looks than Nagelsmann would have preferred.

Perhaps some issues would have been expected with (a) a first-year manager, (b) a first-year starter at centre-back (Upamecano, attempting to fill a void left by the departed David Alaba) and (c) midfield injury troubles, but it was an occasional issue all the same.

Do they have an actual Bundesliga challenger to worry about?

While Bayern have often fielded one of the two to three best teams in Europe, we've seen even weaker Bayern teams win the Bundesliga because of the lack of a genuine challenger. Dortmund have always seemed to fall victim to the wrong injury (or overall flaw) at just the wrong time, emerging power RB Leipzig haven't put together a genuine, 34-match run at the champs just yet, and none of the other potential German heavyweights has managed to both get and keep their act together over the long haul.

It's at least possible that changes in 2022-23. We'll talk about this more in depth when we're closer to the season – as it becomes more clear whether RBL can hold on to star Christopher Nkunku, whether Bayer Leverkusen can keep Patrik Schick and Moussa Diaby, etc. – but as things stand, BVB, RBL and Leverkusen could all present interesting challenges.

Borussia Dortmund lost star Erling Haaland to Manchester City, but they already got used to playing without him during an injury-plagued 2021-22. With that windfall,

they added the most recent star attacker from FC Salzburg in Karim Adeyemi, and while their defense desperately needed an upgrade, they potentially provided just that in adding Sule and SC Freiburg star Nico Schlotterbeck.

They are looking for another attacker, and if United States standout Giovanni Reyna can finally return to full strength after a year beset by hamstring issues, it would be like adding yet another star attacker to the fold. They could end up with better depth in key areas than they've had in quite a while.

After a miserable start that saw them eliminated early from both Bundesliga and Champions League contention, RB Leipzig topped the table in the second half of the season as new manager Domenico Tedesco shored up the defense and Nkunku continued to produce magic. If they hold on to Nkunku and simply maintain that second-half form from start to finish, they're potential contenders.

Under first-year coach Gerardo Seoane, maybe the most interesting young (youngish at 43) manager in the league, Bayer Leverkusen uncovered a tantalizing combination of sturdy defensive potential – they ranked 11th in shots allowed per possession, but only 6% of those were "big shots," fewest in the league – and spectacular transition play.

They averaged 0.9 goals per match in transition possessions (what I define as possessions lasting 20 or fewer seconds that start outside of the attacking third) and allowed only 0.3; both marks were the best in the league. Generally, whoever owns transitions in Germany puts a big point total on the board, and that will only be amplified once Florian Wirtz returns from his ACL injury and turns the Schick-Diaby duo back into a power trio.

Again, we'll see if these challengers can hold on to all of their key pieces in the next couple of months, but Bayern's choice to raid Ajax instead of a domestic rival (as has happened countless times through the years) was certainly unique and helpful.

Bayern indeed finished 10th in 1975 after three straight Bundesliga titles. They finished 10th again in 1992 on the heels of seven straight top-two finishes (with five titles). Another run of three straight titles ended in 2002. A run of four straight top-tvos ended in 2007, and the club won only ("only") two of the next six titles.

Streaks end. Even though Bayern have become the first club among Europe's Big Five leagues to win 10 straight league titles and will undoubtedly be one of the continent's better teams again this coming year, there's just enough uncertainty on the horizon to create at least a little bit of doubt at the thought of an 11th straight crown.

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

The biggest questions around  
**Bayern Munich this summer**

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## Mayele overtakes Mpole in NBC Premier League golden boot race

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

FISTON Mayele's brace in Yanga's 3-0 win over Coastal Union in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday night has seen him overtake Geita Gold FC striker George Mpole in the race for the NBC Premier League golden boot prize.

Mayele has now scored 16 goals in the Premier League this season and recorded his second brace of the season.

The Congolese forward was directly involved in all goals that helped Yanga confirm their 28th Premier League title triumph with three games remaining.

He has now scored 19 goals and executed four assists in 32 appearances across all competitions for Yanga.

On Monday, Mpole also got on the scoresheet when he bagged the second goal in Geita Gold FC's 2-0 win over Dodoma Jiji FC at Nyanakumbi Stadium to take his tally to 15 strikes as the campaign enters the homestretch whilst witnessing the attacker in a neck-and-neck battle with Mayele.

The golden boot is handed out to the Premier League player who scores the most goals over the 30-game regular season.

John Bocco won the award last term, netting 16 times for Simba SC as they finished champions for a fourth consecutive time.

Players finishing with the same amount of goals at the end of the campaign is nothing new, with Simon Msuva and Abdulrahman Mussa both bagging 14 goals in the 2015/16 season.

And if this happens this season, the prize is simply shared between the players. Earlier last month, Mayele was quizzed on his desire to win the prize in his debut season and he admitted that helping his team win as a collective unit was more important.

The Congolese international said: "I'm happy when the team wins, that's the most important thing, the golden boot charge is still on, I prioritize team success over individual targets."

"As a player, I have set targets, team's success comes first then personal goals. We have won, it gives us the confidence to push on in the remaining games."

Namungo FC's Relians Lusajo sits third with 10 strikes, so he is realistically out of the running unless something incredible happens in the remaining three games as the Lindi-based club battles for a top-three finish that would guarantee it a CAF Confederation Cup ticket next season.

Azam FC's Zambian import Rodgers Kola is fourth with nine goals. He missed Azam FC's last game against Mbeya Kwanza FC on Wednesday having traveled back home for the burial of his father who passed away last week. None of Kola's nine goals have come via the penalty spot.



One of the founders and directors of The Pink Tie Foundation dealing with child advocacy issues, particularly fighting for a male child's rights, Lillian Mwachia (C), dances with street children at Mzazi Mmoja ground in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the celebration of the Day of the African Child. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

**5 EATV FRIDAY**

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 Mpera Mpera  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 NIRVANA (r)  
14:30 Bongo Hits  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zole Kuntu  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 SKONGA  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Friday Night Live  
23:00 Kurasa (r)  
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

**Friday Night Live** is where EATV and EA Radio combine to bring you an explosion of Friday Night entertainment. The base gets louder, the fun gets addictive and the guest list is exclusive! Its a party on TV. Whatever happens on TV, stays on TV.

**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**



Tanzania senior women's cricket team batter, Neema Justine, takes a shot during the 2022 Kwibuka T20 tournament's tie pitting the squad against Nigeria that took place in Kigali, Rwanda on Wednesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

## Tanzania women's squad wallops Nigeria in 2022 Kwibuka T20 cricket tournament

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA's senior women's cricket squad has kept on holding sway in the 2022 Kwibuka T20 tournament after cruising to a seven-wicket victory over Nigeria's women's side in a tie that took place in Kigali on Wednesday.

Nigeria women's team chose to bat once they won the toss, notching 62 runs all out in 19.5 overs of the clash which took place at Gahanga International Cricket Stadium.

The middle-order batter, Esther Sandy, was the only cricketer with a two-digit figure in the squad that had trouble facing a ferocious Tanzania women's team bowling unit led by the in-form Tabu Omary.

The batting side had to deal with a setback right in the early stages after its cricketers Asika Omony and Favour Eseigbe that opened the innings were dismissed in quick succession.

Asika was one run short of a two-digit score, whereas fellow opening batter, Favour, made her way back much earlier managing four runs from seven balls.

The West African nation's side's efforts to amass an imposing score were again dealt a blow, following the quick dismissal of three other dependable performers.

Skipper Blessing Etim, who came on at number three, and Salome Sunday could only notch a run apiece, and Abigail Igbojie ended four runs short of a two-digit score.

Esther later took the crease to encouragingly push her side's total with her 25-ball 16 that included a four.

The performer's spell ultimately came to an end after 18.5 overs as she was run out by Tanzania women's squad's Nasra Nassoro from the same bowler's bowling, leaving the former's squad score at 59 runs.

Low-order batter, Chinyenum George, chipped in with six runs, seeking to keep her team in the chase for a better score.

A total of 10 extras that included nine wides and one no-ball given away by the Tanzania women's team somewhat improved the Nigeria women's squad's total.

Tabu continued her stellar performance for Tanzania women's squad, in which she finished her bowling spell with two wickets giving away seven runs in four overs.

Tatu Bakari and Saum Godfrey chipped in with one wicket apiece, with the former conceding nine runs in four overs, whereas the latter gave away eight runs in three overs.

With a modest target of 63 runs in their sight, Tanzania women's squad cricketers hardly wasted time, reaching it for the loss of three wickets in 12.2 overs.

Opener Fatuma Omary continued to put solid batting performance for the squad as she nailed 33 runs to help the squad get down to a successful chase.

Fatuma, also the squad's skipper, nailed four fours in her stint to boost her pursuit of the showdown's best batter award.

A quick dismissal of Saum that had opened the innings with Fatuma did little to prevent the Tanzania women's squad from cruising to the victory, thanks to a solid showing by top-order batters, Neema Justine, and Hudaa Mrisho.

Neema chipped in with a 20-ball 12, and Hudaa as well ended with a two-digit figure having notched 11 runs not out.

Hudaa partnered with Nasra that ended with one run not out to make certain of the side's win.

Nigeria women's squad bowling unit members, Favour, Rachael Samson, and Chinyenum took one wicket each in their futile attempt to frustrate Tanzania women's squad chase.

In other ties that took place the same day, hosts Rwanda women's squad bounced back with a six-wicket win over Botswana women's squad, with the former's opener, Gisele Ishimwe, lifting the Player of the Match's prize for her impressive batting performance.

Uganda women's side beat Germany women's squad by 167 runs at IPRC cricket ground, Kenya women's squad commanded 102-run win over Brazil women's team at the same ground.

## Yanga confident on signing Aziz Ki, Simba SC completes Moses Phiri deal

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans, alias 'Yanga', are confident of signing Ivory Coast's ASEC Mimosas attacking midfielder, Stephane Aziz Ki, who is also a target for Yanga's age-old rivals Simba SC.

The Burkina Faso international recently suggested that Yanga is the club that had shown the most interest and confirmed that the long-awaited decision on his future will be known soon.

Yanga's Registration Committee's vice-chairman, Hersi Said, believes they will win the battle to sign Aziz Ki on a free transfer from ASEC Mimosas.

He disclosed the plan to the press following Yanga's 3-0 victory over Coastal Union in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday that sealed the NBC Premier League title for the former.

The official that is also the Investment Director of GSM Group, Yanga's sponsors, said: "Aziz Ki is an ASEC Mimosas player and Yanga needs him, I can assure you if Yanga needs someone we don't fail."

The extremely confident Said boasted of the signing amidst the euphoria of witnessing his outfit winning its first top-flight title in four years.

Aziz Ki registered 12 goals across all competitions for the Ivorian giants this season including one against Simba SC in the CAF Confederation Cup group stage in late March this year.

His performance in the CAF Confederation Cup caught the attention of the big three, Simba SC, Yanga, and Azam FC sparking a long transfer saga that is about to end.

The arrival of Aziz Ki will not have any impact on the club's transfer plans, with the likes of Kaizer Chiefs forward Lazarous Kambole, and Ugandan fullback Mustapha Kizza also being targeted.

Ghanaian midfielder Bernard Morrison has also been mooted as the Jangwani Street squad's potential transfer target.

Meanwhile, Simba SC announced their first signing of the incoming transfer window on Wednesday evening as Zambian forward Moses Phiri signed a two-year contract with the Msimbazi Reds from Zanaco FC.

He will link up with Zambian compatriots Rally Bwalya and Clatous Chota Chama.

Phiri is Simba's first signing as the club is desperate to improve after failing to defend both the Premier League and Federation Cup titles.

Last season Phiri scored 14 goals for Zanaco FC in the Zambian Premier League to end as the number two top scorer behind Ricky Banda who netted 16 goals.

Phiri won the 2020/21 Zambian Super Division golden boot with 17 goals helping Zanaco FC qualify for continental football.

His signing will officially break up the established front three of John Bocco, Meddie Kagere, and Chris Mugalu with the latter two likely to leave as free agents with the expiration of their contracts at the end of this sea-



Yanga's Registration Committee's vice-chairman, Hersi Said.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

