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Zanzibar, Russia conduct talks on tourism, health, blue economy

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Mwinyi (pictured) has requested the government of Russia to assist Zanzibar in its various economic sectors including health, tourism and the blue economy.

Dr Mwinyi made the request at the State House when holding talks with Russian Ambassador to Tanzania, Andrey Avestisyan who visited the Isles.

He said that friendly relations between Russia and Zanzibar are rooted in history with many Tanzanian students in Russia for studies in various fields.

Zanzibar was strengthening health services with more health centres and dispensaries as well as training more specialists, with some of them being trained in Russia, he said.

He informed the envoy that Zanzibar has various investment opportunities in the tourism sector, urging him to canvas for more Russian tourists to visit Zanzibar.

Zanzibar is blessed with various attractions and areas that can be uplifted like the Stone Town, where conservation minded investors can do a business, he said.

In his remarks, Ambassador Avestisyan said that cooperation between the two countries dates several decades and that apart from sector-based cooperation, Russia is exploring areas to invest in Zanzibar.

When significant numbers of investors opt to invest in Zanzibar, the need to open a

“The Russian authorities are already working on how to collaborate with Zanzibar in strengthening the protection of marine resources

consular in the island will arise, and already the embassy has started raising the matter.

He was receptive to ideas on the blue economy, explaining that most Russians have some knowledge of ocean products. The Russian authorities are already working on how to collaborate with Zanzibar in strengthening the protection of marine resources, he said.

This will stimulate the development of fisheries, aquaculture and the pursuit of research activities, he stated, citing data with the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries showing that fishing activities romp in 55,000 tonnes on the islands' shores.

He projected more cooperation in the delivery of health services, with Russia providing specialists to help train local experts, citing health sector advancement as vital for medical tourism.

Diplomatic ties between Tanzania and Russia have existed since independence, with Russian, then known as the Soviet Union, being among the first countries to recognise the new authorities in Zanzibar following the January 12 revolution in 1964.

ACT digs in over plea bargain payouts query

By Guardian Reporter

ZITTO Kabwe, Leader of the opposition Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo), has demanded the resignation of Chief Justice Prof Ibrahim Hamis Juma and former Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) Judge Biswalo Mganga in relation to missing plea bargain payments made to the DPP's office.

He said in a statement yesterday that the two leading judicial officials should step aside to pave the way for an investigation on the issue to be conducted, as a way of protecting judicial integrity and maintaining public trust in the country's judiciary.

Zitto argued that the CJ and the newly appointed judge (Biswalo) "lack the integrity to continue holding their high offices and must be held accountable for their respective acts of omission and commission during the implementation of the controversial plea bargaining procedure".

The positions they are holding "are not tenable following the revelation by President Samia Suluhu Hassan of missing billions of shillings collected through plea bargaining," he noted.

Inaugurating the commission to review the criminal justice system and recommend what provisions can be changed, the president said on Wednesday that funds amounting to billions of shillings collected by the DPP's office under the plea bargaining procedure were missing.

The remarks contained allusions that the public funds were deposited in the offshore

“further evokes the painful experiences Tanzanians face as they navigate the criminal justice system in the country

accounts of a number of individuals, Zitto noted, adding that the CJ was in his present post when the matter surfaced.

He said that Judge Mganga, then DPP, was in charge of the procedure, similarly asserting: "Mganga's tenure as DPP was shrouded in questionable deeds that might amount to severe rights violations and corrupt practices."

Zitto elaborated in the statement: "As a party, ACT-Wazalendo provided a detailed analysis of the matter when the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) flagged it in his report on the financial year ending June 30, 2021. The audit showed that billions of shillings collected under the plea bargaining arrangement could not be accounted for."

ACT further argued that President Samia's affirmation reinforced the findings in the CAG's annual report such that the president's concerns on the management of the plea bargaining procedure "further evokes the painful experiences Tanzanians face as they navigate the criminal justice system in the country".

ACT-Wazalendo called for an independent and speedy investigation to unravel the truth of what happened in the plea bargain arrangement.

"Those found to have connived to siphon off the missing billions should be brought to book. Innocent individuals or organisations that lost money under the operation should also get their rights back," the statement added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa shares a light moment with Defence and National Service minister Innocent Bashungwa (R) and Festo Dugange, Deputy Minister State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), in the National Assembly chamber in Dodoma city yesterday. The Union legislature is currently in ordinary session. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

PM tells public to report, not share pupils' humiliation acts

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

THE government wants the public to report incidents of ethical breaches in schools and elsewhere to appropriate government officials instead of sharing them directly on social media.

This appeal was made by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa during his weekly direct questions session in the National Assembly, asserting that the sharing of such clips triggers anger and hatred on teachers.

Amongst them are innocent teachers working hard, tirelessly, in educating children regardless of the challenges they face, he stated, noting that respective authorities have already taken disciplinary measures against the headmaster of

“...during its inspections the committee noted that acts of humiliation in schools such as corporal punishments explain much of the truancy

the school where humiliating corporal punishment was caught on video clip.

In his remarks, he directed teachers and heads of primary and secondary schools to strictly adhere to guidelines in administering corporal punishments on pupils, seeking to relieve hard feelings one month after a disturbing incident was shared on social media.

A primary school pupil in Kyerwa District, Kagera Region was beaten by the school headmaster to the extent of losing consciousness, which irritated the public when shared on social media.

The premier was disappointed that the general public was given to view the incident on social media platforms, a video

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MPs: Science teachers shortages now critical

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

RECRUITMENT of teachers for science subjects in public secondary schools is now an emergency as the country faces serious shortages of such professionals, members of Parliament appealed yesterday.

Most public secondary schools lack teachers for Basic Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Geography and Biology subjects at ordinary level and even at high schools, they said, affirming that the



shortage explains the poor performance of pupils in science subjects regularly noticed in national examinations.

MPs raised this worry when contributing to discussion of an annual report by the parliamentary standing committee on Community Development and Social Services, for the January 2022 to January 2023 period.

Husna Juma Sekiboko (Special Seats) (pictured) said the government was

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MPs: Science teachers shortages now critical

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scarcely recruiting new science teachers since 2017 while the number of students taking such subjects has consistently increased.

Last year the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) received 30,000 applications from science teachers wishing to jobs and the ministry picked 5,000 teachers for secondary schools.

"The country is facing a severe shortage of science teachers especially in public secondary schools, in which case many students fail science subjects," she said, linking the need for experts in implementing development projects and facilitating a knowledgeable workforce for private sector development.

In recent years, a total of 165,948 teachers applied for various teaching posts and a total of 16,000 were recruited, she said.

Neema Mwandabila (Special Seats) advised the government to create a fund for recruiting science teachers each fiscal year for public secondary schools to produce scientists.

"Private secondary schools have been performing better than public ones because they have enough science teachers. It is high time the government recognises that without scientists real economic developments shall be hard to achieve," she said.

Tunza Malapo (Special Seats) said that most public secondary schools lack science teachers especially for Form One and Form Three.

"In some schools there are just two teachers who the subjects are supposed to be taught from form one, thus students learn Biology or Chemistry so that they can sit for form two exams," she explained.

"The same applies to form three students who lack teachers and facilities for learning but they sit for science exams in form four. The government must invest enough for the country's education system to meet required standards."

Stanislaus Nyongo (Maswa East), the Community Development and Social Services standing committee

chairman, said in January 2022 to January 2023 report that shortage of teachers in public schools caused massive failure of students in national exams.

"The committee therefore advises the government to prioritise recruitment of teachers in public schools for better results. However, learning facilities must also be improved," he said.

Current data with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology indicates that the country needed 19,216 Basic Mathematics teachers but so far just 5,537 teachers are on the job, implying a shortage of 71 percent of needed professionals.

This resulted in 83 percent of examinees in the Form Four national examinations in 2022 failing the subjects, he stated, elaborating that the country requires 16,334 Physics teachers in secondary schools but only 3,758 are posted, a shortage of 77 percent. This way, 82 percent of students who sat for the 2022 Form Four national exams failed the subject, he stated.

The demand for Chemistry teachers is pegged at 16,664 but just 6,074 teachers are employed, a deficit of 10,590 teachers or 64 percent. Thus 67 percent of students failed the subject in last years' Form Four exams, he said.

Similarly the demand for Biology teachers is 17,813 but only 5,795 are available, a 67 percent shortage resulting in 53 percent of students failing the subject in national exams.

Geography alternatively has 13,755 teachers to cater for public secondary schools while the demand is 18,181. The 4,000 teachers' shortage led to 45 percent of students who sat for the national exams in 2022 failing the subject,



The government must invest enough for the country's education system to meet required standards

PM tells public to report, not share pupils' humiliation acts

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clip that showed humiliation of children by a ferocious teacher.

The premier said when such things happen, be it in schools or in the streets they should not be shared on social media "because they are most likely to spur panic among community members."

Punishment on pupils must be administered in line with the Education Circular No 24 of 2002, he said, noting that the circular sets out how corporal punishment is meted out to pupils breaching discipline.

There was no reason for teachers to act contrary to the regulation, he said, reiterating that the circular directed, namely that the nature of offence committed for such punishment to be administered.

Gender is another matter to be considered and the pupil's health, while on the whole such punishment should not

exceed four strokes at any particular moment, he said.

Elaborating, he said that girl pupils can be struck on the palms and the punishment be administered by a woman teacher unless the school has no such teacher around.

Strokes, when administered, must be recorded in a punishment register, showing the name of the punished pupil, name of the teacher administering the punishment, the offence involved and number of strokes delivered, he stated.

The headmaster or headmistress should sign the punishment register book after the punishment, while the guidelines also provide that if a pupil refuses punishment he or she ought to be expelled.

The premier cautioned that appropriate disciplinary measures will be taken against teachers or headmasters failing to abide by provisions of the circular, whereupon the Speaker, Dr Tulia Ackson expressed worries that the government will defend informers when they highlight humiliating actions conducted by some teachers against pupils.

"If such incidents are to be reported by the public we should guarantee their safety and assurance of confidentiality as otherwise informers will be scared. Such cases may even go unreported," she said, underlining that this would worsen the danger that children face in schools.

Stanislaus Nyongo (Maswa East), chairman of the Community Development and Social Services standing committee report for January 2022 to January 2023, said that during its inspections the committee noted that acts of humiliation in schools such as corporal punishments explain much of the truancy.

Corporal punishments lead to mental fatigue and lack of interest in schooling, thus poor performance in exams. Gender protection desks in primary, secondary and high schools are also acutely needed, he added.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan has a word in Dodoma city yesterday with a delegation of South Korea's Sung Shin Rolling Stock Technology Limited led by its president, Gye Shul Park. The firm, which manufactures railway wagons, has promised to facilitate the assembling of such wagons in Tanzania. Photo: State House

Public awareness on FGM grows, govt says

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

THE government has said that public awareness on reporting female genital mutilation (FGM) cases has grown though more efforts are needed to end the brutal norm.

Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups told the press yesterday that changing of men's and boys' attitude towards FGM is working out though more education is needed to be extended to communities.

Gwajima was speaking in the event to inaugurate the commemoration week for fighting FGM which reaches its climax on February 6 every year.

"FGM has posed a lot of threat to women such as bleeding during

delivery, accelerating HIV/AIDS infections and psychological effects. The government is working with stakeholders in fighting FGM in the country," said Gwajima.

The minister called upon every member of the community to take full charge in fighting FGM for better future of girls.

The United Nations Council set February 6 of every year as the day for fighting female genital mutilation among member states for the purpose of discouraging the oppressive gender-based violence act. The commemorations target at abolishing FGM by involving men and boys into the frontline to fight norms and traditions that leads to FGM in the communities.

However, five regions have been cited as leaders of female genital mutilations (FGM) in the country as

the government calls for change of mindset among men and boys.

Addressing the press yesterday Asha Shame Assistant Director Children and Family Affairs Department in the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups said the country is facing the FGM problem by 10 percent.

She mentioned the five leading regions in FGM as Manyara region (58 percent), Dodoma (47 percent), Arusha (41 percent) Mara (32 percent) and Singida (31 percent).

This year's theme is 'Men and boys let's participate in fighting oppressive norms and traditions in fighting FGM'.

In this regard, the minister said that men need to change their attitude towards FGM rooted in tribal beliefs.

DMDP implements 213bn/- projects in Temeke municipality

By Guardian Correspondent

TEMEKE Municipal Council has said the Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Development Project (DMDP) has helped in solving various challenges facing the people by construction of tarmac roads, reducing floods, beefing up security and the availability of health services in time.

Addressing reporters here yesterday during his inspection visit of the projects in Temeke district that cost 213bn/-, Acting DMDP Coordinator, Adelhard Kweyamba said to a large extent the projects have helped the people with 96 kms of both tarmac and gravel roads.

"We have six markets that have been built, five of which are complete and one will be completed at the end of February this year.

"We have three bus stations two of which have been completed and the one - at Buza will be soon completed," said Kweyamba.

He noted that they have 15 kms of drainage trenches passing in residential areas in order to alleviate the effects of floods and a water collection receptacle near Kibasila Secondary School.

"When it used to rain, students of Kibasila Secondary School could not enter classes but the water receptacle has been designed in a way that water now flows to the ocean without interruption," he said.

He said in order to make sure the City is clean they have purchased 20 refuse trucks and 65 trash bins for the residents to put in trash for the trucks to collect for disposal at Pugu dump site.

He added that all projects implemented in Temeke District cost 213bn/- and have already paid out 197bn/-.

Kweyamba said there is a DMDP Phase II project soon to start and will increase more roads for the municipality.

He appealed to the people to make sure the projects are taken care of and report on any vandalism and acts of sabotage.

Marketing Manager for Temeke Municipality Anzameni Mandari said they are thankful for the projects as they have helped to get modern markets as the former ones were in very poor condition.



We have three bus stations two of which have been completed and the one - at Buza will be soon completed



Sarah Gordon-Gibson (L), the UN World Food Programme Representative in Tanzania, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday signing an MoU with Dr Rebbie Harawa, International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa. Under the pact the two agencies will work together in strengthening resilience of smallholder farmers in the country's semi-arid regions. The partnership will leverage on ICRISAT's research expertise and WFP smallholder support footprint in Tanzania, chiefly to expand existing soil and water conservation practices - including introducing drought-resistant yet nutritious crop varieties. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

Telephone: "IMMIGRATION"
THE OFFICE OF REGIONAL IMMIGRATION OFFICER,
P.O. Box 27, DAR ES SALAAM
TELEPHONE: +255 27 284778
30 January 2023

REF:TA/IMP/TO: VOL. 0/8

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

REF: ANKITA DINESHKUMAR SUTAR

The above-named person whose photograph attached is applying for Tanzanian Citizenship to the Minister for Home Affairs. Her Nationality at present is Indian and she is married to Shri Hasmukh Sachchida who is a Tanzanian working as businessman. She has been in Tanzania since the year 2020.

Anyone who has any reason as to why Tanzania Citizenship should not be granted to the applicant, should send a written and signed statement of facts to the Commissioner General of Immigration, P.O. BOX 1181 Dodoma.

For COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION



Wankyo Marando (R), Serengeti Breweries Ltd's Pilsner brand manager, shows journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday prizes for the winners of the firm's newly established eight-week promotion campaign dubbed "Kapu la Wana", as it was being launched. It is exclusively meant for consumers of the particular brand of the beer living in the Lake Victoria North and Victoria South zones. Looking on is Salim Mgufi, a Gaming Board of Tanzania inspector. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt reiterates pledge to promote public-private partnerships

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

THE government has reiterated that it will continue promoting and facilitating enhanced public-private partnerships so as to ensure that investment environments are successful and lures more investors.

Minister for Investment, Industry and Trade, Dr Ashatu Kijaji made the remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the opening of the Ministerial Public Private Dialogue (MPPD) themed: "Improvement of business and investment environments for economic development in Tanzania".

Dr Kijaji said for the country to attain its goals of improving investment environments, there must be a strong corporation of the two sectors.

"The global economic growth predictions for the year 2022 and 2023 are low contrary to the world

expectations, however we expect that our economy will grow well but this can only be achieved by cooperating with the private sector," she said.

Dr Kijaji said the government is implementing a number of laws including the Investment ACT, 2022 so as to facilitate transformation and improve performance of public institutions. "By doing so, we will witness greater performance of both sectors. We need to ensure that everyone realises his/her responsibilities which include also for investors submitting all the needed documents and details when seeking for registration," she stated.

According to her, if an investor or business person fails to fulfil his/her mandate of providing full and exact information concerning registration then complaints will never end and the government is the one that has

always been taking the blame.

She added that the government is there and has been working to support the private sector in various ways so as to ensure that it operates smoothly.

"We need to prioritize integrity and transparency in our work, implementing our responsibilities efficiently so as to reach where we aim to go," she added.

Ministry's deputy permanent Secretary, Ali Gugu, said that the government is conducting the business and investment registration digitally where traders and investors can access the services where they are.

Gugu said that some of the are the Online Business Systems (ORS) used by the Business Licensing and Registration (BRELA) for registering companies, GPEP used by government institutions to receive payments and Tanzania Electronic

Investors Window (TEIW) which is used by institutions fall under Tanzania Investment Centre umbrella.

Gugu said that before installation of the online systems, BRELA used to register 7,819 companies per year but now it registers 10,656 companies per year.

He said the TEIW system has eased transportation of goods from the Dar es Salaam port to the Tunduma border post from seven days to the current three days.

He added digital systems also help investors and businesses to get compliance certificates within three days from the previous 28 days.

The dialogue brought together stakeholders and officials from the public and private sector to discuss various challenges facing the investment area and come up with recommendations on how to address them.

'Rise in land conflicts stems from arbitrary plot sales and buying'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

RAHMA Kassim Ali, Zanzibar Minister for Lands and Settlements Development has said that the increase in land conflicts in the Indian Ocean archipelago is caused by some people buying land by not following the rules and procedures.

The minister made the remarks here recently shortly after presenting report on budget implementation from July to December 2022 to the Zanzibar House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Communications, Land and Energy at the ministry's headquarters in Maisara, Unguja.

She said: "Eighty percent of land disputes are due to the people's agreement to sell land to each other against the law, and those lawyers are the scourge, one plot is sold two or three times, it would be better if the sheriffs are involved to know if this plot has already been sold," minister Rahma said.

She explained that apart from the purchase of land that does not follow the law, the arbitrary construction that does not take into account the actual boundaries of the area in question and has contributed to the existence of these conflicts where her Ministry is currently planning to control the situation.

Rahma said the Ministry of Lands has already held various meetings with institutions related to the Ministry of Lands, including Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA) and the Ministry of Agriculture and came out with a resolution that all construction permits should be issued in one office to eliminate the present challenge.

Minister also said her institution of the Land Court has received 108 new cases of land disputes for the period from July to December 2022

where 107 cases were decided while 183 cases are ongoing in the court. Those cases are for Unguja and Pemba.

Permanent Secretary (PS) in the Ministry of Lands and Housing Development, Dr Mngereza Mzee Miraji, said the ministry planned to find development partners to implement various projects including land surveying, building affordable houses and land security.

"First, we had the responsibility of identifying partners, looking at how to build low-cost houses, land tenure security as well as where to start?" Dr Miraji said.

He also said that in solving the challenge of arbitrary construction, his ministry has already signed a contract with the Properties International Company from Mainland Tanzania to cooperate in the work of surveying and planning the city.

Chairman of Zanzibar House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Communications, Land and Energy, Yahya Rashid Abdalla praised the ministry for the way it is doing its work as well as advising the ministry to ensure that the use of land is in line with the relevant requirements.

The Ministry of Land and Housing Development for the period from July to September 2022 was estimated to collect a total of 1.168bn/- from various sources of income within its institutions where until December, 2022 a total of 700m/- has been collected which is an average of 60 percent of estimates.

In terms of spending for the period of July-December 2022, the ministry planned to spend a total of 2.956bn/- for regular work and salaries where until December 2022 the ministry has received a total of 2.718bn/- which is an average of 91.9 percent of the planned funds.



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
TANZANIA FERTILIZER REGULATORY AUTHORITY



PRE-QUALIFICATION No. TFRA/PQ/2022-2023/F/02
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF BULK FERTILIZER

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF BULK FERTILIZER FOR THE PERIOD OF MARCH 18, 2023 TO JUNE 30, 2024

1. Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA) established by Fertilizer Act, Cap 378 has been mandated to coordinate importation of fertilizer through the bulk procurement system by the Fertilizer (Bulk Procurement) Regulations GN. 49 of 2017.
2. TFRA now intends to Pre-qualify fertilizer dealers (Suppliers/Producers) for importation of fertilizer for the cropping seasons 2023/2024 to 2024/2025 under the Bulk Procurement System (BPS).
3. Tenders shall be invited on product basis and the estimated import quantity per annum is 570,167 MT. The products include DAP, UREA, CAN, SA and NPKs.
4. Pre-qualification will be conducted through Competitive Bidding (CB) procedures specified in the Fertilizer (Bulk Procurement) Regulations, GN. No. 49 of 2017 and Fertilizer Bulk Procurement System Guidelines and is open to all interested applicants.
5. A complete set of pre-qualification documents in English language can be collected by interested companies at TFRA offices or sent by mail after applying and receiving a control number to make online payment of a non-refundable fee of Five Hundred United States Dollar (USD 500) only to the TFRA account. Please consider all your transfer charges so that the amount to be received in the TFRA account is NOT less than USD 500 otherwise your payment will be rejected by the system.
6. Application for pre-qualification should be submitted by hand in sealed envelope, delivered to the address below or Electronically by EMAIL (pdf) using info@tfra.go.tz at or before 10:00 A.M. Local Time on Friday 3rd March, 2023 clearly marked "Pre-qualification No. TFRA/PQ/2022-2023/F/02 for Fertilizer Bulk Procurement".
7. Applications sent by email WILL BE ACCEPTED but TFRA will not be responsible for electronic document not delivered, lost or opened prematurely. For all Electronic submission, the applicant must send the original documents by hand or courier for record and reference purpose.
8. Applications will be evaluated and results be announced before Friday 17th March, 2023 for pre-qualified importers to participate in the tenders from March 18, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
9. Late applications, portion of applications and applications not accompanied with confirmation of payment for the pre-qualification documents shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
10. Applications should be addressed to;

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TANZANIA FERTILIZER REGULATORY AUTHORITY (TFRA)
MANDELA/KILIMO ROAD, PLOT NO. 15471, 1 KILIMO STREET,
KILIMO I COMPLEX, P. O. BOX 46238, DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA
TEL. +255 222 86 19 39, E-MAIL: info@tfra.go.tz copy to bps@tfra.go.tz
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – FRIDAY 0800 – 1500 HRS

Office hours Monday – Friday 0800 – 1500 hrs



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
TANZANIA FERTILIZER REGULATORY AUTHORITY



PUBLIC NOTICE

SUBMISSION OF IMPORTATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BULK PROCUREMENT OF DAP AND UREA FERTILIZERS

TFRA is inviting Agro-processors, Farmers' Co-operative Unions (FCUs), Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS), Village Community Banks (VICOPA), Savings & Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOS), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Fertilizer Traders and other stakeholders to submit importation requirements for DAP and Urea fertilizers which will be sold under the National Fertilizer Subsidy Program for the 2023/2024 cropping season. The requirements will be aggregated and imported through Fertilizer Bulk Procurement System (BPS) according to the Fertilizer (Bulk Procurement) Regulations of 2017.

Please submit your requirements with their subsequent bank guarantees (Requirement Submission Template and Bank Guarantee Format are available at www.tfra.go.tz.) in hard copy through TFRA offices or by email to info@tfra.go.tz and copy to bps@tfra.go.tz on or before **Friday 17th February, 2023 at 4:00 pm.**

Kindly note: The Original Bank Guarantee MUST be submitted in hard copy on or before the deadline of submission date.

TFRA upholds its commitment of partnering with all stakeholders in ensuring timely availability of quality fertilizer and fertilizer supplements to all farmers in Tanzania at affordable prices and friendly payment terms.

Dr. Stephan E. Ngailo
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For more information
Visit our office located at Plot No. 15471, 1 Kilimo Street, Kilimo I complex,
P.O. Box 46238, Dar es salaam, Tanzania or call +255222861939.

Govt shows desire to attract private investment in energy sector to meet rising demand

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government has expressed desire to attract private investment and financing in the energy sector to boost production and meet the rising demand of the country's growing economy.

Speaking during the 4th Tanzania Energy Cooperation Summit in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, Energy minister January Makamba said President Samia's decision to open up the country to investment was creating the need to boost energy generation further to meet the current and anticipated rise in demand.

Makamba said Tanzania is now highly calling out on private financing for the energy sector, that the business environment has improved significantly, and that the government is committed to providing a conducive environment for long-term partnerships.

"Tanzania has the resources and ability to scale renewable up but there needs to be better channeling of resources to more strategic fronts such as investing in research and development with active collaborations," he said.

Data from the Ministry of Energy show that, as of December 2022, Tanzania produced 1,777.05 megawatts of power.

This was less than the 5,760-megawatt target that the country wants to achieve by the end of its National Development Plan 2025. "We currently have a higher desire for capital, and we invite more from the private sector," he told the event participants, who included high-level representatives from the European Union, America, and Asia among others.

Organised by EnergyNet, the event seeks to tell the world that Tanzania is once again open for business.

He insisted that the energy sector was more 'capital-hungry' now than ever, saying this invites more private investment to fill the power supply gap in the country.

Commissioner for National Planning in the Ministry of Finance and Planning Dr Mursali Milanzi, stated that more resources were still required to meet the country's energy demand as outlined in the Development Vision 2025.

According to Dr Milanzi, the country requires at least 78 percent of private sector investment to meet its power generation target, taking into account the available capacity of public funding.

According to Makamba, Tanzania has an ambitious energy development plan with a focus on renewables and accelerated projects in gas and liquefied natural gas (LNG).



Energy minister January Makamba pictured in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday addressing a three-day meeting on investment in Tanzania's energy sector organised by EnergyNet. He made an impassioned plea to the international community to support the country by helping to boost its capacity to produce energy. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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Kairuki hospital to celebrate founder's anniversary in style

By Felister Peter

THE Dar es Salaam-based Hubert Kairuki Memorial Hospital will on Monday (Feb 6) commemorate the 24th anniversary of the founder of Kairuki Health and Education Network (KHEN), the late Prof Hubert Kairuki with the launch of its Green IVF, a facility founded to help women to pregnancy.

The launch of the Kairuki Hospital Green IVF (KHGIVF) at Bunju in the city will be graced by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi. The event will be attended by the Minister Health, directors of private and public doctors, government officials, gynaecologists, ministers and health stakeholders from across the country.

In an interview with this paper, HKMU Director Dr Asser Mchomvu said they have decided to celebrate the late Prof Kairuki's anniversary in different way by creating awareness to the people on the existence of the Green IVF which is among the few in Tanzania with the state-of-art reproductive technologies.

Dr Mchomvu said the goal of establishing the centre followed the increase in the number of women seeking IVF services within and outside the country.

He said the Green IVF is the only facility in the country that can save many Tanzanians who wish to have babies because over 70 percent of the patients who received the service at the Bunju centre got pregnant.

"There are three facilities in Dar es Salaam that provide IVF services, but they are not enough because the demand is high. We provide IVF services at an affordable cost of between 13m/- and 17m/-," Dr Mchomvu said, adding there are many benefits of doing IVF procedures in the country including saving money.

He added that in the past Tanzanians were looking for these services abroad in countries such as India, UK, Germany and South Africa. He said women seeking IVF services will now be able to save a lot of money that would be used to pay for air tickets and accommodation while in foreign countries.

He said establishment of the centre in Tanzania will also attract patients from neighbouring countries such as Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zambia and Malawi. He said offering services to patients including foreigners will boost government revenues in-terms of taxes.

Recalling the founders efforts to improve provision of health services in the country, Dr Mchomvu said the late Kairuki was the first Tanzanian to open a private hospital before he decided to introduce the Hubert Kairuki Memorial University(HKMU)—the first private health university.

He said the late Kairuki who was a gynaecologist thought of establishing the university to curtail the shortage of health workers. HKMU was fully registered by the Ministry of Health in December 1998, being the first private university to reach that stage in Tanzania.

"He resolved to establish the university because at that time, the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) was producing 80 doctors per year," said Dr Mchomvu, noting the university has now attracted a good number of local and international students.

He added that the KHEN founder was the kind of a person who never gives up and never stops trying - he did all possible to accomplish the targeted goals.

The Kairuki hospital with the 250 bed capacity serves as the main teaching hospital. The facility is a recipient of several awards of excellence in recognition of its outstanding performance in rendering high quality health services to Tanzanians.



JOB VACANCIES

MARKETING MANAGER

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title : Marketing Manager
Reporting to : PASS Trust Director of Business Development
Location : Head Office

The Job holder to provide expertise and services in marketing, especially promoting PASS Trust businesses, services, products, and brands. This includes but not limited to development of marketing strategies and plans; Coordinating PASS Trust marketing activities, promoting linkages to key stakeholders for business purposes, promote PASS's businesses that will lead to generation of new business leads; preparing and managing marketing budgets and analyze trends; and oversee marketing department employees.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MARKETING MANAGER WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

- Promote and position PASS Trust as a leading think-tank for facilitating access to financial and business development services for agribusiness entrepreneurs in Tanzania.
- In collaboration with the PASS Thematic Head, develop, optimize, implement, monitor, and track the results of communication strategies for the different thematic areas.
- Contribute to and support the Director of Business Development and the management team with the development and implementation of the broader organizational strategies and business plan.
- Coordinate internal communications ensuring important information is shared effectively across the organization. Devise innovation approaches to stimulate discussion, share knowledge and learnings about PASS project and promote cross-thematic collaboration.
- Develop and manage relations with stakeholders through activities designed to support the goals and objectives of the different thematic areas and the overall strategic direction of PASS.
- Organize and attend promotional events such as press conferences, exhibitions, tours, and visits.
- Build and protect PASS's corporate image and identity.
- Manage the PASS website and social media channels ensuring the appearance is visually appealing, the content is relevant, up-to-date and user friendly. Monitor and evaluate digital trends and propose ways of boosting engagement with online target audience. The same includes to create contents and grow search engine optimization for the PASS's website.
- Lead market research efforts to uncover the viability of current and existing products/services.
- Research, write and distribute press releases and briefings to targeted media.
- Monitor news media, share important highlights, and mentions of PASS's work and thematic trends and identify opportunities for PASS to engage with media practitioners and to share internally generated content with wider audience.
- Manage media relations effectively and ensure that activities that PASS engages in receive positive publicity in the media.
- Monitor current campaigns, ensuring their staff meets deadlines and complete necessary tasks on timely manner.
- Coordinate matters related to protocol and public relations.
- Respond to general queries for information.
- Produce marketing and promotional materials.
- Oversee and manage the production and dissemination of PASS publications including quarterly newsletter, public annual report, reviews, insights and updates and other project driven outputs.
- Coordinate and deliver effective events in collaboration with colleagues e.g., seminars colloquia on research topics, launches of new projects/initiatives and research reports, professional education, media briefings and stakeholder consultations.
- Conduct regular situation analysis and perception surveys of PASS audiences to establish the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of target recipients of PASS' regular communications.
- Analyze data to evaluate the success of marketing efforts and come up with new ideas to improve brand marketing and exposure.
- Promote positive community relations through events such as open days and involvement of PASS in community initiatives.
- Prepare and manage the communications budget.
- Performing other duties as advised by management from time to time.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree Marketing, Public Relations, Business Administration, or related discipline from a recognized University/institution.
- Possession of a master's degree, knowledge of Agricultural Financing and its related policies, procedures will be an added advantage.
- At least eight (8) years working experience in Marketing and Corporate Affairs, four (4) of which must be in a senior position.
- Computer literate.
- Strong interpersonal and organization skills.
- Skills in formulating and implementing marketing initiatives.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills with the ability to write documentation in a concise and focused style.
- Must be a team player, very self-motivated and able to manage and prioritize workload with minimum.
- Must be computer literate.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Understanding of traditional and emerging marketing channels
- Excellent communication skills
- Excellent linkages with the agriculture society, stakeholders, and the government
- Ability to think creatively and innovatively.
- Budget-management skills and proficiency
- Professional judgment and discretion that comes from years of experience in the field.
- Analytical skills to forecast and identify trends and challenges.
- Familiarity with the latest trends, technologies and methodologies in graphic design, web design, production, etc.

ZONAL MANAGER

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title : Zonal Manager
Reporting to : Business Development Manager
Location : Zonal offices

The job holder is responsible for overseeing the zonal key performance strategic goals that include zonal employees' supervision, developing and attaining Business growth goals, managing the PASS (Private Agricultural Support Sector) Trust Credit Guarantee portfolio risks, delivering customer experience and management of client account relationship with partner institutions within Their jurisdiction.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ZONAL MANAGER WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

- In close liaison with the PASS Trust Business Development Director, plan the Business operation program for the branch in accordance with overall PASS Annual business plan and ensure that key performance indicators are achieved.
- Proactively build and maintain effective working relationships with all agricultural/agro-business stakeholders in the respective Zone to develop the visibility and growth of PASS Trust business.
- Implementing PASS Trust strategy of acquiring and maintaining the credit guarantee portfolio and fulfilling clients' requests, proper maintenance, recovery solutions where necessary professionally.
- Ensure daily zonal operational activities are managed in an effective and efficient manner.
- Execute the zonal employee's supervision to ensure employees comply to the PASS Trust human resources policy.
- Review work performance of staff in the zonal office including their development, deployment, appraisal, training, and welfare in line with the PASS Trust objectives.
- Ensure that branch assets- office equipment, stationery etc. are in proper order. Pay specific attention to safety of vehicles ensuring strict control on movement of same through logbooks and it being used for official purpose only.
- Articulate business knowledge and ensure zonal teams advise clients on financial and economic trends that could affect their businesses and assisting clients to acquiring credit facilities from collaborating Banks.
- With assistance from Finance department, ensure that the accounts officer is maintaining proper books of accounts including basic accounting controls like daily verification of cash in hand, bank reconciliation statements, accounting of receipt/payments.
- Ensure that expenditures are incurred within limits of the sanctioned budget and within the approved limit. She/ He will ensure timely submission of various periodical reports-finance and accounting, operational results as required for monitoring and evaluation framework.
- Manage the budget under him/her which include recommendation of invoices for payments and proposals/quotes, preparation of budgets for the unit and give inputs to the overall Trust activity plans and budgets.
- Making pre-evaluations of proposals presented for support and assisting entrepreneurs in improving the proposals into Business Plan of acceptable standards. The utmost care must be

taken to ensure proper screening and analysis of application to control the level of default to a maximum of 5% per officer and for the branch and PASS in general.

- Identify entities, key stakeholders, and Partners in the Agri value chain with potential to bring impact in the agriculture sector.
- Ability to identify opportunities within the PASS Trust ecosystem. She/ He should ensure that, all necessary and relevant Trust records are kept and updated as required.
- Identification and preparation of solutions for solving bottlenecks in agricultural value chains e.g., production, market access, processing, appropriate mechanization etc.
- Liaise with relevant key local authorities in the respective zones to identify and promote investments in agriculture and agro business in the zone. This will include Chamber of commerce, training centers, MVIWATA, Agricultural officers, Traders, processors etc.
- Marketing of PASS products and services. Promoting and informing the role of PASS Trust to the agricultural sector, at meetings with potential clients, at visits to clients, participating in key stakeholders' forums and financial institutions etc.
- Monitor the performance of Loan portfolio, follow up with the partners financial institutions, tracking and identifying portfolio guarantee from partner financial institutions. Analysis and reporting classification of loan portfolio
- Supervise BDDs (Business Development Officer) to monitor performance of the clients to ensure that implementation of the investments is as proposed in the respective business plans and budgets. If not, remedial measures be taken promptly.
- Undertake supervisory role to support portfolio management and support services, including preparing reports and briefs, coordinating resources, maintaining documentation, and contributing to the implementation and monitoring of portfolio plans.
- Ensure that the branch activities adhere to approved PASS policies and procedures as given in government manuals, staff regulations, finance, and accounting manual etc.
- Creating business development plans and forecasting targets and growth projections from the available business pipeline
- Implementing an acquisition strategy focused on building and maintaining high quality with long-term relationships with customers.
- Liaising with colleagues to develop new business and marketing strategies to achieve the desired business key performing indicators.
- Attending events such as exhibitions and conferences that will provide constructive linkages to the agriculture stakeholders.
- Promote Intensive Green Growth to partners bank and in a working environment.
- Perform any other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the supervisor.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A business development specialist with good knowledge /Experience in Tanzanian agriculture and agribusiness development, in business planning, project analysis, evaluation and monitoring.
- A good academic background, minimum, bachelor's degree /postgraduate qualification in economics, agricultural economics, business administration, Finance, Accounts, Banking, or any similar related qualification backed up with extensive experience in business development/Sales.
- Knowledge in agricultural financing and experience in facilitation of lending to smallholder farmers including experience in negotiating with banks.
- Minimum 6 years' experience in business development, credit analysis and or relationship banking at managerial level.
- Adequate experience in agricultural supply chain interventions for enhancement of micro, small and medium scale agricultural development.
- Computer literacy with good analytics skills on excel.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title : Business Development Manager
Reporting to : Director Business Development
Location : Head Office

The job holder is responsible for developing business in support of the Business Development Manager, managing the credit guarantee risks, managing the PASS (Private Agricultural Support Sector) Trust Credit Guarantee portfolio risks, delivering customer experience and management of client account relationship with partner institutions.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

- Promoting the role of PASS Trust during the meetings with partner institutions, stakeholders, Potential clients etc., reaching them by distributing different promotion materials like handouts, posters etc.
- In close liaison with the Director Business Development, plan the Business operation program for PASS in accordance with overall PASS Business Strategy, annual business plan and ensure that the key performance indicators will be attained and or exceeded.
- Proactively build and maintain effective working relationship with all agricultural/ agri-business stakeholders in all areas of PASS operation to develop the visibility and growth for PASS business.
- Review business proposal received from branches, ensuring quality of business proposals presented to Director of Business Development for recommendation and approval.
- Managing Zones operations and setting on annual key performance indicators based on the annual strategies and budget, and ensure that, the target agreed is achieved. Ensure timely preparation and submission of all periodic reports to management, Board of Trustees, and other stakeholders.
- Follow up, Support and liaises with PASS Branches to ensure effective business growth and efficient relationships with bank officers at branch level, establish new business, business plans preparations and efficient submission of business plans to banks.
- Assist the branches in identification of demand for assistance and support from target groups in accessing finance from banks. This will cover SMEs in Primary and Secondary agriculture including agro-processing.
- Provide assistance to Zonal offices (branches) in identification of potential clients engaged in agriculture value chain with a challenge to access financing.
- Ensure timely submission of various periodical operation reports, operational results as required for the monitoring and evaluation framework.
- Assist branches in design and establishment of feasible models of activities at the smallholder farmer's levels, including diversification of crops, improvement of production practices etc.
- Making pre-evaluation of proposal presented for support and assisting entrepreneur in improving on proposals into business plans of acceptable standards.
- Making proposal for corporate clients in agribusiness looking for PASS Support to obtain credit facilities from collaborating banks.
- Identification and preparation of solution for solving bottlenecks in agriculture value chains e.g., production, market access, processing, appropriate, mechanization etc.
- Assist Agro- enterprises clients to obtain credit facilities from collaborating banks.
- Monitoring the performance of the clients in relation to respective business plans and budget.
- Planning, organizing, and managing the Trust's marketing events such as sponsorship/ donation, new product launches, outlet opening, annual report, press releases, announcing the Trust's Outreach and impact to community and other activities that the Trust supports to gain public attention through media.
- Cooperate with the Director of Business Development to implement and effective Quality assurance check on all work done by all branches. No work goes out of the office that has not been assessed and approved.
- Performing other duties as assigned by the management from time to time.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree in Business and similar disciplines, an advanced degree (MBA, M.Sc.) in Business is an added advantage.
- 7+ years' experience in business development, Agri - finance, agribusiness, relationship management, corporate strategy, financial analysis, business planning, agribusiness development, monitoring and evaluation at managerial level.
- 5+ years' experience in Credit risk management operation.
- Knowledge and experience in facilitation of lending to smallholders including experience in negotiating with financial institutions.
- A wide networking with agricultural stakeholders for strategic partnerships.
- Adequate experience in agricultural supply chain interventions for enhancement of small/medium scale agricultural development.
- Hands-on experience successfully supporting the evaluation, negotiation, and closing a variety of large and complex partnership transactions.
- Computer literacy with good analytics skills on excel.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title : Business Development Specialist Alternative Delivery
Reporting to : Business Development Manager (BDM)
Location : Head Office

The job holder is responsible for the development of business in conjunction with the Zonal Managers within the credit guarantee portfolio product, manage the credit digital guarantee product, manage the credit guarantee E-Agriculture portfolio risks and management of client account relationships with the partner institutions on E-Agriculture credit guarantee.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

- Follow up and liaising with partner institutions to ensure effective business growth and efficient relationships including, management of pending portfolio business plans, business plans approval and efficient submission of certificate guarantee to lending institutions.
- Follow up the E-Agriculture related business opportunities with partners institutions. Modified traditional guarantee, Linkage banking guarantee, lenders option guarantee and linking PASS guarantee with the financial institutions by verifying and assessing the clients and banks eligibility.
- Marketing of guaranteed products and services, Promoting and informing the role of PASS Trust to the agricultural sector, meetings with potential clients, arrange visits to clients, participate in key stakeholders' forums and financial institutions etc.
- Facilitate training to bank staff on PASS products and services in coordination with Director of Business Development on all E-Agriculture related credit guarantee.
- Monitor the performance of Loan portfolio, follow up with the partners financial institutions, tracking and identifying portfolio guarantee from partner financial institutions. Analysis and reporting classification of portfolio and digital loan portfolio.
- Promoting, cross selling and informing Customers/clients and other stake holders about role of PASS, its Products, and services.
- Liaise with relevant key local authorities to identify and promote investments in agriculture and Agro business. This will include the Chamber of commerce, Agricultural officers, Traders, processors etc.
- Undertake portfolio management and support services, including preparing reports and briefs, coordinating resources, maintaining documentation, and contributing to the implementation and monitoring of portfolio plans.
- Manage the credit digital guarantee product, linkages with the financial institutions and MNOs, support the digital guarantee product execution within the expected impact, monitor the product risk features and deliver the required reports within the timelines.
- Manage call Centre and ensure its profitable in attracting and retaining business relationship with the agriculture society.
- Creating business development plans and forecasting targets and growth projections from the available business pipeline.
- Identifying market opportunities through meetings, networking, and other channels towards sound relationship with partner institutions.
- Liaising with colleagues to develop new business and marketing strategies to achieve the desired business key performing indicators.
- Attending events such as exhibitions and conferences that will provide constructive linkages to the agriculture stakeholders.
- Promote Inclusive Green Growth (IGG) to partner institutions and the entire agriculture stakeholders.
- Perform any other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the supervisor.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A good academic background, minimum, bachelor's degree /postgraduate qualification in economics, agricultural economics, business administration, Finance, Accounts, Banking, or any similar related qualification backed up with extensive experience in business analysis, alternative business channel experience and the entire E-Agriculture related products.
- Knowledge in agricultural financing and experience in facilitation of lending to smallholders' farmers.
- Adequate experience in agricultural supply chain interventions for enhancement of small/medium scale agricultural development or related fields in support for E-Agriculture.
- Minimum 5 years' experience in business development, digital lending products and or relationship banking at senior level officer.
- Computer literacy with advanced excel and reporting experience.
- Basic components of business plan/appraisal (Financial and non-financials) and lending.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title : Business Development and Administration Officer
Reporting to : Zonal Manager
Location : Zonal Office

The job holder is responsible for developing business in support of the Zonal Manager, managing the credit guarantee risks, managing the zonal administration roles and managing client account relationships with the partner institutions.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICER WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

- Business Unit**
 - Promoting and informing about role of PASS (Private Agricultural Support Sector), at meetings with potential clients, at visits, in the office, through handouts, posters, advertising etc.
 - Developing a business plan or making pre-evaluations of proposals presented for support and assisting entrepreneurs in improving on proposals into Business Plans of acceptable standards.
 - Design and establishing of feasible models for activities at smallholder farmer levels, including diversification of crops, improvement of production practices.
 - Identification and preparations of solutions for bottlenecks in agriculture performance e.g., market access, processing, appropriate mechanization.
 - Liaise with relevant key local authorities to identify and promote investments in agriculture and agro business in the zone. This will include the Chamber of Commerce, Agricultural officers, traders, processors etc.
 - Assisting clients to obtaining credit facilities from collaborating Banks
 - Monitoring the performance of the clients in relation to respective business plans and budgets as the customer service champion for the branch.
 - Reviewing business plan
 - Reporting to the management on progress according to the agreed procedures
 - Managing the credit guarantee portfolio risks.

Finance Unit

- Responsible for controlling the fixed asset register, update, and managing the availability of the physical tags on the asset.
- To ensure petty cash is effectively managed, recorded, analyzed, and allocated to the correct cost centers. Petty cash payment should be properly authorized, and replenishment done regularly and should be balanced daily.
- To ensure that receipt is issued for cash received and banked intact, petty cash is always under lock and properly safeguarded.
- Responsible for banking transactions except signing of cheque and any other fund transfer documents regarding Private Agricultural Sector Support Trust bank accounts.

IGG (INCLUSIVE GREEN GROWTH), M & E Unit & Administration

- Shall assist in office administration and in Customer Contracts and credit Guarantees recording, M & E and Data quality capture of the branch.
- Shall execute all the IGG strategies as the champion of the zonal office.
- Shall execute office secretarial duties.
- Any other duties may be assigned from time to time.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A good academic background, minimum, bachelor's degree /postgraduate qualification in economics, agricultural economics, business administration, Finance, Accounts, Banking, or any similar related qualification backed up with extensive experience in business analysis.
- Knowledge of agricultural financing and experience in facilitation of lending to smallholders including experience in preparing business plans suitable for Lending.
- Adequate experience in agricultural supply chain interventions for enhancement of small/medium scale agricultural development.
- Minimum 3 years' experience in business development and or relationship banking at officer level.
- Computer literacy with good analytic skills on excel, secretarial certificate will be an added advantage.

HOW TO APPLY:

PASS Trust is an equal opportunity employer, and the positions are open to all. Qualified candidates should visit our website <https://www.pass.or.tz/vacancies> and submit a CV and cover letter on or before 12th February 2023. Also note that, as per PASS Trust commitment to Inclusive Green Growth (IGG) strategy to avoid printing of papers, we will only accept electronic applications and not physical applications. Women are strongly encouraged to apply. Only shortlisted will be contacted.

NGO convenes conference to discuss progress, opportunities and challenges facing country's women on technology

By Guardian Reporter

A youth and women empowerment organisation, the Launchpad Tanzania has convened a conference for stakeholders and women to discuss and exchange ideas on progress, opportunities and challenges on women and technology in Tanzania.

The conference scheduled for 7th March 2023, is earmarked to mark International Women's Day, which this year is celebrating the theme DigitALL - Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, Director of The Launch Pad Carol Ndosoi said the conference will take place in Dar es Salaam, featuring keynote addresses from respective ministries, panel discussions with stakeholders and development partners.

She said the conference will consist of a virtual and physical exhibition which will also spotlight organisations, innovative solutions

and products aimed at promoting women and technology in Tanzania and designed for and by women.

She named some partners in the conference as the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups and The Swedish embassy in Tanzania among others. "We welcome more development partners to partner with us to make this conference a success," she said.

The Launchpad Tanzania is an NGO established in 2018 with a mission to contribute to skills development, education reforms and digital inclusion targeting women and youth through capacity building and advocacy programmes.

The organisation has an arm specifically addressing digital inclusion called LP DIGITAL that is currently implementing several programmes i.e. Mitandao Na Sisi, Dijito na Mimi fellowship and Digital Tanzania.

Iringa Zone High Court all for out of court settlements

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

THE Iringa Zone of the High Court of Tanzania is set to make sure that resolving conflicts by out of court settlement rises from 30 to 50 per cent by the end of this year.

The step comes following the provision of education on out-of-court settlement of cases during the celebration to mark Law Week that began January 22 to 29 this year in Iringa Municipality.

The remarks were made by the Principal Judge of the High Court of Tanzania, Iringa Zone, Ilvin Mugeta on Wednesday at the apex of the Law Week celebration held at Iringa Judiciary square

Judge Mugeta said in order to attain that goal, resolutions of conflicts through settlement will depend on the readiness of the judges and magistrates on one side and conflicting parties on the other to participate in the discussions to resolve the conflicts.

He explained that the judiciary will continue empowering its officials and

stakeholders about conflict resolutions through settlements.

He called upon court arbitrators (Judges and Magistrates) as well as attorneys both state and private to show leadership in the issue in order to realise the intended goals.

"It is our belief that if we genuinely decide, we can speedily finalise cases through settlement at low cost," he stressed.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of Tanzania Law Society for Iringa region, Advocate Moses Ambindwile said out of court settlement of cases will help in reducing backlog of cases in courts as well as reducing costs. He added that private advocates were ready to work together with the judiciary in the issue.

Adv. Ambindwile said intense public education on the issue will reduce both time and cost of case proceedings that in part affect development activities.

Similarly, religious leaders who attended the event appealed to judicial officers to dispense justice, saying "God is always pro-justice."



Kishapu district commissioner Joseph Mkude (2nd-R) cuts the ribbon on Wednesday to launch documents for use in training school teachers on their responsibility on work ethics and the community's role in child protection. This was at the opening of the training for education stakeholders from Shinyanga, Simiyu and Tabora regions. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Country's power availability improving, TANESCO reports

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Electric Supply Company (TANESCO) has said the country's power availability continues to get better following the completion of repairs to its four generating plants and installation of another three all of which produce 290MW injected to the national power grid.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday, TANESCO's Managing Director, Maharage Chande said the plants whose installation/repair work has been completed includes one at Kinyerezi II that has begun to generate 45MW that has fed to the national grid since November 24 last year.

Chande said they have also finalised work on two at Ubungo III and that these have already started distributing 35 and

40MW fed to the national power grid since November 25 last year.

"Others plants repaired include one at Kidatu which has already started producing 50MW that was fed to the national power grid beginning November 30 last year.

"We have also finalised the installation of three generating plants at Kinyerezi I that injects 120MW to the national grid," said Chande.

He added that these are short term plans in alleviating the country's power shortages, adding that ongoing middle term plans are expected to be completed after a short time.

He said these include the trial of one plant at Ubungo III that is expected to be completed at the end of February this year.

He explained that they also expect the

last plant at Kinyerezi I to start producing 45MW to be fed to the national grid at the end of February this year.

He said despite the boosting of power generation, the power utility continues witnessing a huge increase of power consumption from six to 11 per cent per year, and that the increase was for the last two years and is attributed to the growth of economic activities.

He also said the recent off-season (vuli) rains were not sufficient as had been expected, adding that the company will continue making repairs to its plants that had not been repaired for a long time.

He further said, in order for the power situation to become more stable, the company continues with its Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project (JNHPP) on Rufiji River which is at 80.22 per cent complete.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR LICENCE UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received applications for Licences under the Converged Licensing Framework from the following applicants: -

S/N	NAME OF APPLICANT	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS / NATIONALITY	SHARES %
1.	Chrispis Company Limited	District Content Services Radio Broadcasting	1.Christina Joseph Lembae - Tanzanian 2.Obedi Leskari Melishoki - Tanzanian	60 10
2.	Martynet Limited	District Application Services	1.Pascal Charles Mkini-Tanzanian 2.Martin John Lyanga-Tanzanian	10 50

Pursuant to Section 8 Of Electronic and Postal Communications Act, Cap 306 Of The Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of licences to the applicants to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration when the Authority considers the applications.

Comments should be addressed to:

Director General
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
P. O Bo 474
14414 DAR ES SALAAM
Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2
Fax: +255 22 2412009
E-mail: dg@tcra.go.tz

LHRC praises president's efforts to further promote human rights

By Getrude Mbagu

THE Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) has hailed efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to promote human rights and access to justice in the country.

The centre says the recent move by President Samia to launch a special commission to assess the criminal justice system in the country, is a commendable decision which further puts Tanzania at a better place in respecting human rights.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday, LHRC executive director, Anna Henga said that stakeholders have received the decision with two hands as the situation is intense and many suspects are still denied their rights.

She said that with the current system, prosecutors and police have extra power against the offenders, something which should be addressed.

Henga said that apart from the ongoing reforms by the government to promote human rights, the criminal justice area has a huge challenge and lengthy pre-trial detention is mentioned as the biggest challenges facing remandees.

Other challenges in the criminal justice system identified in 2021

include: delays in investigations and constant adjournment of cases; overcrowding in detention facilities; loopholes in plea-bargaining; delays in taking accused persons to court; violations of rights of prisoners and remandees; lack of dedicated interventions and adequate resources for social re-integration of ex-offenders and remandees; and denial of bail for non-bailable offences.

However, she said with the formation of the commission, human rights activities have hope that many challenges will be unearthed and addressed.

"We thank this ongoing effort and commitment which the government is taking, the Head of State has proved that she is eager to improve access to justice and human rights at large, people are starving to access the services especially when they become suspects," she said.

Henga advised the commission to ensure that it set time to listen from various groups (public hearing) and take their opinions instead of sticking in the named legal bodies alone.

The centre has also urged the government to prioritize the review and amendment of several laws to further strengthen human rights

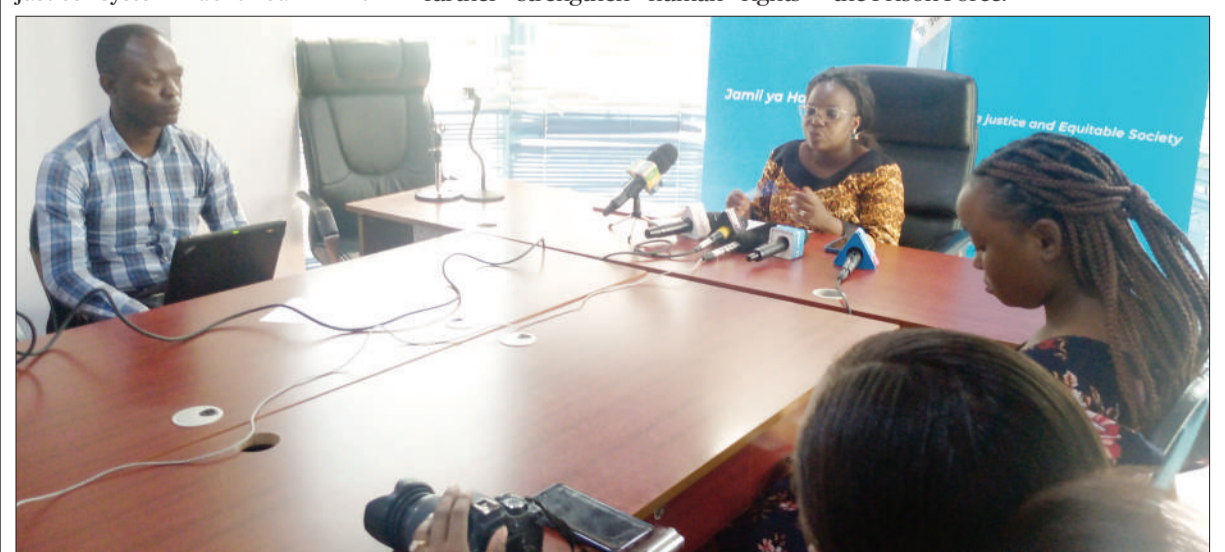
and access to justice.

The laws include Drugs Control Act, 2015 R.E 2019, Prevention and Combating of Corruption 2002, Economic and Organised Crime Control Act, Cap 200, Criminal Procedure Act, the Penal Code (Cap. 16), Cyber Crime Act, 2015, Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act 2008, Media Services Act, 2016, Law of the Child Act, 2009, Inquest Act Cap 24, Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2006, Firearms and Ammunition Cap 223, Police Force and Auxiliary Services Act Cap 322, Immigration Act, Witchcraft Act and many others.

On Tuesday, President Samia launched a special commission which will conduct an intensive assessment and later come up with recommendations to help improve provision of criminal justice in the country.

The commission, which is chaired by the Former Chief Justice (CJ) Mohamed Othman Chande, will work for four months (February 1, to May 30, 2023) probing on ethical conduct systems in various institutions that deal with criminal justice.

Priority institutions which will be probed by the commission include the Police Force, Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB), National Prosecutions Services, Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) and the Prison Force.



Legal and Human Rights Centre executive director Anna Henga briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the centre's recommendations to the presidential committee detailed to recommend to the government on how best to effect changes in the operations of criminal justice institutions and systems in Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Tanzania CookFund awards 3.21bn/- to 16 clean cooking energy enterprises

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA CookFund programme has issued a grant worth 3.2bn/-(Euros 1.3 million) to 16 clean cooking energy enterprises in the country aiming at supporting the firms to deliver affordable, safe and clean cooking solutions that benefit urban and rural areas in Tanzania.

The 16 grantees are the results of the first call for funding applications in September 2022 through the European Union (EU) funded CookFund Programme targeting

clean cooking technologies, mainly Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), Electric Pressure Cooker (EPC), improved charcoal stoves (ICS), briquettes and bioethanol.

The cheque presentation ceremony was held in Dar es Salaam in the middle of this week led by Energy Minister, January Makamba accompanied by the EU Ambassador Manfred Fanti, and Head of UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) Tanzania Peter Malika whose organization manages the CookFund.

Speaking during the event Makamba strongly urged the beneficiaries of the grant to ensure that they use the money according to the objectives of the programme so that the good results of the programme can reach many Tanzanians.

"It is good to know that this is not a loan but a grant that you get directly in the name of our country. So, it is good to make sure the end beneficiaries really benefit through this programme by delivering your energy products at a cheap price

so that they can get rid of the use of dirty energy," he insisted.

Commenting on the CookFund programme, he said it is one of the basic solutions for the country in fighting against the use of dirty energy because it guarantees the access of affordable clean energy to local citizens

Ambassador Manfred Fanti urged the award-winning enterprises to demonstrate that they can sell their clean cooking systems to many more new customers with a lower price through the financial support.

"The EU expects these grants to help consumer's access cheaper clean cooking systems and to encourage a higher number of people to abandon cooking techniques that are polluting and harmful for the environment".

"We hope to witness a multiplier effect in the future with less and less families using firewood or charcoal for cooking, allowing them to have a healthier life, free from smoke," he

said.

When expressing his thanks to the Government of Tanzania and EU, Peter Malika highlighted the wide impact of solid biomass energy use for cooking in urban areas and the importance of increasing investment in the clean cooking value chain to accelerate the transition to clean cooking practices. "It is important to note that the CookFund finances capital expenditures and working capital to build internal capacity of businesses involved in the production and distribution of clean cooking energy technologies, products and solutions," he mentioned.

"The awards announced today will cumulatively serve about 191,336 households in their respective areas and create 191 jobs over a period of three years, we are also expecting to launch a new call for proposals this month and hence more frequent disbursements."

The CookFund is a three-year

programme funded by the European Union (EU) under the Integrated Approach to Sustainable Clean Cooking Solutions Programme in Tanzania and the 11th European Development Fund (EDF), aiming at contributing to Tanzania's climate change commitment by increasing the share of the population with access to sustainable cooking solutions.

UNCDF is the CookFund manager and implementer. The Programme targets to address "undercapitalisation" on the part of private sector actors and "upfront costs affordability" challenge on the household end-users.

The CookFund programme contributes to the strategic priorities of the United Nations Cooperation Framework in Tanzania by supporting better access to clean energy and technology, sustainable management of natural resources and accelerating decent formal sector jobs.



National Housing Corporation director general Nehemiah Mchechu briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday on the corporation's performance in financial year 2021/2022 and projections for the current year. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Shigella urges newly sworn-in DCs to work diligently

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

GEITA regional commissioner Martine Shigella has asked newly sworn in district commissioners to work diligently in facilitating delivery of services to Wananchi.

The RC made the remarks during a swearing in ceremony of the newly appointed officials saying their appointment signifies the trust that President Samia Suluhu Hassan has for them.

He said in return to the trust which the president has given them, there is need for the newly appointed officials to address land conflicts, revenue losses and many

other challenges facing common Tanzanians.

"You should go and serve the people by working with them closely so that you do not let down the president," he said.

He said the new DCs have the role to ensure people read and understand the expenses and revenue reports which their districts get.




The CCM regional chairman, Niclous Kasendamila, said the role of the district commissioner is to serve the people to ensure the president's desire to the people is met.

Earlier, regional administrative

Secretary Prof Godius Kahyarara urged the new DCs to work hard in serving the people including implementing the CCM manifesto.

The DC for Bukombe Said Nkumba commended president Samia for appointing them saying this was a sign that they were capable. "Our positions are different from Members of Parliament because they are elected and we are appointed, this means the president has trust in us," he said.

The newly appointed DCs are Grace Kingalame (Nyang'hwale), Deusdendith Joseph Katwale (Chato) and Cronel Lucas Magembe (Geita).

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

IITA-TZ2023-CIP-003-NRS-MWANZA

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) on behalf of the International Potato Center International (CIP) is seeking a Research Associate

Background: CIP is a not-for-profit international agricultural research organization with a global mandate to conduct research on genetic resources of potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and other Andean roots and tubers, crop genetic enhancement and improvement, integrated crop management and sustainable management of natural resources.

Job Summary: Agribusiness Research Associate to support business planning and marketing for sweetpotato seed at the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), Ukiriguru Center, and commercial seed producers. The Agribusiness Research Associate will implement activities aimed at expanding the market for quality seed to ensure that seed production is self-sustaining. This work is undertaken as part of the Sweetpotato Component of the Program for Seed System Innovations for Vegetatively Propagated Crops in Africa (PROSSIVA) implemented by the International Potato Center (CIP) and TARI. The Program for Seed System Innovation of Vegetatively propagated crops (VPCs) in Africa (PROSSIVA) will develop and validate packages of innovations to strengthen functional VPC seed systems and will work with partners to catalyze their scaling in five target countries of sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The Sweetpotato Component aims to improve the crop's seed system through technological, marketing, and institutional innovations that deliver affordable quality seed of market-preferred varieties to actors in Tanzania in a timely manner. This will be implemented at the Lake Zone of Tanzania. The Agribusiness Research Associate will be based in Mwanza. This position will report to PROSSIVA's Principal Investigator for the Sweetpotato Component.

Duty Station: This is a Nationally Recruited Position, and the incumbent will be based in Mwanza, Tanzania.

Core Responsibilities:

- Work with key business oriented sweetpotato seed producers to develop strong value propositions for sweetpotato seed business.
- Train sweetpotato seed producers on entrepreneurship and business skills. This includes identifying potential markets to increase sales; and identifying market-preferred varieties and innovative marketing strategies.
- Guide the development and implementation of sweetpotato business plans for sweetpotato seed production at basic and quality declared seed (QDS) classes.
- Strengthen linkages within the sweetpotato seed value chain to facilitate business partnerships and attract investments.
- Provide technical backstopping to the sweetpotato seed producers' association.
- Validate TARI-led sustainable early generation seed (EGS) business models linked to the seed producer association.
- Develop journal articles and other communications materials.
- Any other deliverable related to developing sustainable business models for seed production assigned by the PI.

Qualification, Experience and Key Skills

- MSc in agri-business.
- Strong experience in establishing innovative public-private partnerships for increased sales in private seed industry.
- Experience with seed systems of roots, tubers and banana crops. Experience working on sweetpotato seed systems is an added advantage.
- Experience in leading a team in private industries to connect with farmers through contract farming.
- Knowledge on seed regulations and policies in Tanzania.
- Experience conducting effective competitive market research, quantitative and qualitative analysis; and implementation of best practices and processes.
- Experience in mapping value chain and analysis to identify potential business models and seed distribution channels.
- Sound knowledge of TARI and CIP's development and planning processes.
- A minimum of 5 years' experience working with large diverse teams.

General information:

The initial contract for the position is for two years: renewable subject to performance and availability of funds. The duty station for the position will be IITA in Dar es Salaam. This is a nationally recruited position and IITA offers a competitive remuneration package.

Applications: Applications including curriculum vitae, copies of certificates, telephone number, email address, and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Country Representative, IITA-Tanzania, Plot No. 25, Mwanze - Coca-Cola Road, Mikochoeni Industrial Area P.O. Box 34441, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania or by email to IITA-Tanzania@cgiar.org

Applicants are requested to please indicate the reference number for the position as indicated on the heading of the announcement in your application as well as on the subject of your email if sending by email. If sending by post or hand delivery, please indicate the reference number on your application as well as on the left-hand side of your envelope. **Please note that any applications without the reference indicated will be automatically disqualified.**

Closing date: Two weeks from the date of advertisement appearing in the newspaper. Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Invitation for BID

BID No. GIZ-SWSD/91170250/2023

As an international cooperation enterprise for sustainable development with worldwide operations, the federally owned Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supports the Tanzania Government on behalf of the Germany in achieving its development-policy objectives.

ProWaS (Programme for Water Security and Climate Resilience for urban areas in Tanzania) is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

The Programme's objective is to ensure sustainable improvement of the population's access to drinking water and sanitation services, as well as the management of water resources. In the current phase of the programme (2022 - 2025), will focus on three main areas: National Water Policy advise, Climate Resilience Water Supply and Sanitation and Climate Resilient Water Resources Management.

Requirement

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

SN	ITEMS	QUANTITY
01	Laptops	10
02	USB-C Hub (no Docking Station)	10
03	Monitors/Screens	10
04	Laptop cable locks (Noble/Kens)	10
05	Wireless Printers (Small - colored printers) (Large - Black & White)	4 1
06	Duty Phones	10
07	Laptop Cameras	10
08	Headset	10
09	Keyboard (inclusive Mouse)	10

Interested candidates should request for detailed tender documents from giz-tanzania@giz.de no later than date 17.02.2023 and submit offers by email no later than date 24.02.2023

We will answer your request during office hours from 8:00 to 15:00 hours local time, Monday to Friday, except public holidays.

Late Bids, Partial Bids, Bids not received, shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

GIZ is not obliged to follow any condition in nominating the supplier and has the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

This tender is intended solely for Tanzanian based companies.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

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

Planning commission could run on a range of project work schedules

THE National Assembly was lately informed that the government is in the process of reintroducing the national Planning Commission, which used to function as a quasi-autonomous unit within the Finance and Planning ministry from 2008 to 2018.

Those for the revival of the commission appear to be thinking in the same old direction of planning major thrusts of the national economy, where government finance ought to be directed, etc.

The planning aspect of economy has existed all the time since independence, only shelved from time to time as an autonomous unit.

What is more, it isn't the Treasury that is apparently working to restore the Planning Commission or planning department as it used to function earlier, until it was scrapped altogether ostensibly to curb avoidable government expenditure.

It could thus be argued that this idea is but yet another effort at re-growing public institutions affected by the government's waste-cutting measures, and for some reason it now looks justifiable.

It isn't difficult to see that this is an effort to create an institution supposedly charged with guiding what the government should be doing.

The critical point in postulating that a marginally independent think-tank be charged with 'dreaming' what the government ought to be going in each sector and then formalising its dreams into plans is that we need acknowledged experts to do the work.

It is thus an institution expected to supply ideas on what public authorities ought to do to move the country's economy forward.

But if the government has plenty on its hands already, and plenty more is happening each passing day, and it wasn't the result of a plan, what is it that it could?

At times there are initiatives tied to bolstering the role of traditional institutions, what some legislators have often said were charged with overseeing the National Vision, and many might say this isn't the case at present.

But that brings up the issue as to what situations need planning, as it started in 1964 after independence and it is being restored - a whole 59 years later.

Are the policy issues facing the government at present likely to be solved by the envisaged planning commission and, if not, what could it possibly contribute?

When the commission was last scrapped one suggestion was that no one needed a commission to think out the Julius Nyerere hydropower project or the standard gauge railway or even merely figure out the feasibility of such others as flyovers, or highways all over the country.

The basic requirement wasn't having a planning entity but cutting down presumed embezzlement and waste at high places, obtain far greater budgetary amounts for development expenditure, and then find some loan sources.

At present, as this vision of the use of government funds is still in place, there are areas where the commission can actually help the government. It is in constituting a database and follow-ups on numerous development projects promised either in the CCM Election Manifesto or in routine decision making, and need to be scheduled and implemented.

Projects relating to up to ten autonomous sectors under one or other specific ministry are being implemented in more than mainland Tanzania 150 districts.

It is, thus, likely that sequencing for a fair and reliable pace of implementation may do better with a well-equipped and well-staffed body. That would vastly ease the pressure on ministers and their deputies in answering questions in the national legislature.

Rankings were rather questionable, even if they were essentially sound

A pastime of sorts in the annual rituals of examination results where schools and even pupils were being ranked, to the glory of the specific institutions and communities around them, has this year been shelved. It is exposing differences in examination achievement and ranking in each subject and in overall scores, by regions, districts, schools and specific high performing pupils - and indeed the lowest performing by the same method. Those who are used to be praised have a sore thumb on the issue.

The Education sector minister has just declared in the legislature that differences in teaching and learning conditions rendered the rankings basically unfair, and hence their abandonment by the National Examination Council of Tanzania (NECTA).

The minister said the council was compelled to drop the rankings after receiving criticism over the erstwhile grading system from various stakeholders.

What was hard to understand, however, was why criticism would surface after 20 long years or more or issuing such rankings without fail.

It cannot be doubted that pupils' or students' ability and learning circumstances in determining best performers differ but, frankly, that is in the nature of all competition.

What validates the contest is that each examination centre is registered as equipped to handle exams, which presumes prior teaching and evaluation capacity in readiness for the national exam.

All other things remaining equal, this entitlement would appear adequate for comparison with other claimants offering educational services, thus rendering the contest valid.

Taken at a rough logical level, it would look fair for the minister's views

to be faulted - for instance, with some critics taking his remarks as suggesting that children from well-off families or backgrounds perform much better than the others.

Or, alternatively, schools in rural areas, the so-called ward secondary schools would usually hold the tail.

Yet, none of this is necessarily precisely the case. In other words, the reasons for poor performance are as complex just as high performance isn't just a matter of facilities; comparison might amount to aping. What was objectionable definitely was a sort of commercial use of the rankings as well as a moral advantage that certain types of schools are better anchored and are role models.

That may have been evidence-based, but it was minimally divisive having the possibility of undercutting the efforts of other players. Those whom accusing fingers often pointed at might thus understandably say it's all good riddance.

It can be surmised that the step taken are consonant with equity, that we need exam results and those who wish to point fingers at 'the good, the bad and the despicable' may do so at their own leisure and put their results on social media - while observing the law on dissemination of information as it stands.

While it is equitable not to victimise those who perform poorly by shouting it over the roof, it meanwhile also diminishes the pressure to perform better. There is institutional awareness of performance but it often becomes important only as a public issue, like taking children to secondary school.

It is ordinarily to be assumed that while every parent or guardian knows that it is important for children to attend school, that would mean little if the government or local authorities stand unconcerned. So, surely there are clear risks involved in scrapping comparisons, but it's hard to say whether that will necessarily kill off the pressure to perform commendably.



UN agency trains journalists to cover road crashes better. Should the US government?

By Jon Allsop

A few weeks ago, journalists from India, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Malaysia gathered in Kuala Lumpur for an event put on by the World Health Organisation. They were there to receive training to better cover a global public health crisis that often flies under the radar of the world's media: road deaths.

Among other pointers, the journalists were advised not to rely solely on police reports, which often seek to apportion individual blame for a given crash, and instead also interrogate the role of other factors - from the safety of the vehicle involved to the design of the road on which the crash took place.

With major crashes in the past, "our story will only be about that accident; we rarely talked about any policies, or subjects such as faulty roads," Gunjan Sharma, a reporter at India's biggest news agency, who attended the training, told me.

"When I met other journalists there from different countries, I realized that the issue is the same everywhere: that a subject like road safety is kind of neglected," Sharma said.

This WHO training was the first to come to my attention but it was not the first overall: they've been taking place for a decade or so, in conjunction with journalism trainers and, sometimes, outside groups including the International Centre for Journalists and the Pulitzer Centre on Crisis Reporting.

They run alongside a global action plan on road safety, led by the WHO and the United Nations, which rests on what is known as the "Safe System" approach.

This is but the idea, broadly speaking, that humans will always make mistakes, and that roads and vehicles should be designed with this in mind.

The global action plan explicitly names training journalists as one way of "strengthening advocacy and policy support" towards the creation of safer roads.

Matts-Ake Belin, who oversees the implementation of the global plan, told me recently that the world's media have an "extremely important" role to play in helping shift societies from a "traditional" paradigm, which places the individual responsibility of road users at its core, in the direction of a new one.

The WHO's trainings have focused on journalists from low- and middle-income countries - in Asia, but also in Africa and Latin America - because they collectively account

for more than ninety per cent of road deaths globally, despite only having sixty per cent of the world's vehicles, according to WHO data.

But road safety is a crisis in the US, too, especially compared to other rich countries: US road deaths have climbed in recent years, including during the Covid-19 pandemic, even as road use declined.

Pedestrians and cyclists have been particularly hard hit. In late November, the New York Times reported that fewer foreign-service officers in the US State Department died overseas last year than were killed by vehicles while walking or biking in DC.

And, as Meg Dalton reported for CJR in 2018, American journalism on road deaths - the preserve of local TV stations and under-resourced community papers as much as major national outlets - has also often fallen into the sorts of traps that the WHO has identified elsewhere in the world.

This is from an overreliance on police reports to an excessive focus on individual incidents over, say, trends in infrastructure and vehicle design, not least that of big cars and trucks.

One historical reason for this, Dalton reported: aggressive lobbying on the part of the automobile industry.

Angie Schmitt, the author of *Right of Way: Race, Class, and the Silent Epidemic of Pedestrian Deaths in America*, thinks that US media coverage of road safety has generally improved since she spoke with Dalton five years ago, but that much of it is still bad.

Not just the press, but the broader culture, "rationalises" deaths by concluding that the victim of a crash "did something wrong", Schmitt says, adding: "It's really much more complex than that."

"Since the introduction of the car in our societies," Belin told me, a recurring chant has been that around ninety per cent of crashes are caused by human error.

Sure enough, a similar statistic has often been bandied around in the US, not just in the media but also among officials.

A year ago this week, the federal Department of Transportation radically shifted its approach to road safety, at least rhetorically, inaugurating its own new national strategy premised on the same "Safe System" thinking embraced by the WHO.

The strategy outlined five principal objectives, from promoting safer speeds through better road design to improving post-crash care, and how they complement two other (President

Joe) Biden administration priorities: to fight climate change and ensure racial equity, given that Black and Indigenous Americans die on roads at disproportionate rates.

The new strategy, we learned, would be supported by funds from the bipartisan infrastructure bill that had recently passed through Congress.

"It's as if we were living through a war," Pete Buttigieg, Biden's transportation secretary, said of road-death rates in the US, adding: "We cannot accept that these fatalities are somehow an inevitable part of life in America."

What the strategy did not mention, unlike the WHO's global action plan, was any role for the press in changing American attitudes about what causes crashes.

I asked the Department of Transportation for clarifications on this, but did not hear back. The new strategy is not the first or final word on road safety thinking in the US, not least because state and local governments have their own powers in this area.

Still, the absence of a WHO-like media component to the strategy strikes me as indicative of a broader attitude towards the relationship between the press and power in America: that it should be one of church and state.

Officials, it seems to me, rarely seem to see journalists as partners in making better policy. And many journalists have traditionally balked at anything that might smack of complicity with the state.

When I put this theory to David Zipper, a visiting fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School and an influential writer on road safety, he wasn't quite sold.

He told me that journalism isn't inherently baked into the "Safe System" approach that formed the basis for the new federal strategy, even if one could argue that it should be.

Government-led, WHO-style trainings for journalists would be "controversial" in US road safety circles, Zipper said, noting that it was so in no small part because of a divide between an "old guard" that still focuses on the individual responsibility of road users and an "increasingly loud reformist voice" that advocates the "Safe System" approach and would likely embrace the idea of such trainings.

This divide, I noted to Zipper, sounds remarkably similar to one that would likely form around such an idea within the US journalism community.

"If the government were to sponsor journalism education programmes along these lines, I

almost think you could count the minutes until somebody calls it 'Orwellian'," Zipper said.

The federal government, of course, is not the only actor that could train journalists in this area: any number of US-based nonprofits, including those that have worked with the WHO to train overseas journalists, could do so, while other groups already offer some road safety resources for reporters.

But nor, it seems to me, should the very idea of government-sponsored training be taboo - particularly where its aim is to help journalists dig deeper, not to tell them what to report.

Sharma told me that Indian road safety officials sometimes do the latter, but added that the WHO training she attended was "completely different".

She said that, instead, the latter's aim was to endow a small number of journalists with policy expertise that they could then pass on to colleagues in their home countries.

Journalists can't make policy, but they play a crucial role in changing public perception and attitudes, convening debates that can end in policy changes.

At the very least, journalists can raise awareness. "We just hit a sixteen-year high in road deaths," Zipper told me, of the US, adding: "And Americans don't really notice it. They don't really know about it."

Before becoming involved with the WHO's global action plan, Belin was an official in Sweden, the country that, in the 1990s, was ground zero for "Vision Zero"

This is the notion that road deaths are not an unfortunate price that we pay for greater mobility but a social ill that must - and realistically can - be eradicated.

The idea has since gained international traction, including in the US, and is closely associated with the "Safe System" approach.

When "Vision Zero" took off, the Swedish media "went from blaming the victim to starting to discuss who can prevent this from happening," Belin said, with reporters pressuring resistant officials, for example, on the implementation of safety barriers on high-speed rural highways known colloquially as "death roads".

The barriers have since proven highly effective, Belin says, adding that road reform doesn't happen without "a very open discussion in the society".

"My experience in the implementation of Vision Zero is that the whole public discussion is good from a safety point of view," Belin further noted.

* CJR

Technology vital for food security in extreme weather patterns

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

As climate change affects key sectors such as agriculture, digital transformation is important for mitigation for the country to avoid plunging into food insecurity. For, agriculture and agro-processing are touted as potential for job creation and economic growth.

Climate and Covid-19 pandemic have created a more uncertain and volatile environment in the agricultural supply chains not only in Tanzania but elsewhere in the world. Digital technologies can help countries achieve resilience by enabling farmers to work more precisely, efficiently and sustainably.

Data-driven insights can improve decision-making and practices and hence help increase environmental performance while making farming jobs more attractive to the youth who shun farming, seeing it as dirty or lowly.

Digital technologies also have the potential to offer consumers greater transparency as to how their food is produced. They offer opportunities to renew business models in value chains by connecting producers and consumers in innovative ways.

Beyond farming, digital technologies are key for making rural communities more attractive, smart and sustainable as well as for reducing problems related to remoteness and improving access to services.

Research and innovation are important for facilitating and accelerating digital transformation in agriculture and rural areas for the benefit of individual citizens, communities and businesses.

The Tanga-based Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) park spent last December holiday season to offer a four-day



Primary school pupils showcase how digital technology can transform agriculture sector at a boot camp organized recently in Tanga city by STEM Park. Photos/ Cheji Bakari

scientific training to 80 pupils from four primary school based in the city, namely Kisosora, Nguvumali, Changa and Chumbageni.

The training was based on innovation for smart farming that lays the ground for digitalised and data-empowered agriculture for both urban and rural areas. This is important because backyard gardens in towns are increasingly becoming sources of horticultural produce for families.

The training also focused on strategic interventions meant to support uptake of digital technologies and the importance of investment in research and innovation which are crucial for assessment of socio-economic impacts of digitalisation.

Participants namely pupils and their teachers were trained practically through demonstration on how to improve ag-

riculture and increase crop production while mitigating the impact of climate changes.

Among the technologies emphasized is how to use digital tools in measuring moisture in the soil, proper use of electricity and utilization of available water resources in agricultural activities without depriving other water users of the precious.

Max George, STEM park manager said this was the first boot camp for primary school pupils since the park was established in Tanga and brought together pupils from government-owned primary schools with the aim of creating good working relations with the government.

"The training aimed at increasing participants' thinking capacity through scientific creativity based on physical work

simplified by science, technology, engineering and mathematics," he said.

"That is why our teaching methodology is designed to enable participants to come up with ideas that they turn into solutions which they finally demonstrate."

Batuli Msuya, a teacher at Kisosora primary school who was team leader for Zebra Group expressed gratitude after the training which she said imparted useful in both teachers and pupils.

Naetwe Kilango, Tanga City Community Development Officer who represented Tanga City Executive Director as guest of honour said the training was in line with Tanzania development vision as well as agenda 2030 on agriculture and agribusiness.

"These trainings not only make pupils brains but also challenge communities

who witness their demonstrations that solutions to our problems can be found by our children," she said.

She added that digital technologies increase yields and spur growth in the food and agriculture sector and also help towards Tanzania agribusiness target and agenda 2030 whereby e-commerce platforms are set to bridge the gap between farmers and retail markets.

Ernest Kiage, Chumbageni Ward Councilor said the training will help pupil who participated to grow in their general thinking as well as innovation for solution of problems facing agriculture sector.

He asked STEM park to empower the training beneficiaries to have their own nurseries of horticultural crops to help to develop the skills and knowledge they acquired there and inspire others in their communities.

"Having their own nurseries at home will make them always think positively and innovate other projects by using the skills you imparted in them," he said.

Jessica Kilimo, a standard six pupil at Changa primary school who was Tausi Group leader she was inspired to later own work in the agriculture value chain and agro-processing to improve productivity and earning through innovation, science and technology.

"It's fascinating to see that sensors can track, detect and evaluate quality of the farm or uptake of moisture from the soil in real time; they very useful in addressing challenges brought about by climate change as well as sustainability and tracking of food supply chain," she said.

The training was fully sponsored by STEM Park in collaboration with Jenga Hub.

By Telesphor Magobe

In December last year, a group of journalists from Dar es Salaam travelled about 250 kilometres to witness and learn how coral reefs are restored in areas damaged by climate change and dynamite fishing at Somanga North Village in Kilwa District, Lindi Region.

Coral reef transplantation took place on December 18 in an area called Mwamba Fisi, situated about three kilometres off the Indian Ocean coast at Somanga North Village.

Mwamba Fisi (or simply mwambani as called by the fishing community) is a one square kilometer coral reef area which is among the many fish habitats damaged by climate change and dynamite fishing, but the Somanga North fishing community has organised itself to restore coral reefs for present and future generations.

Three motorboats were hired for the purpose. One motorboat carried two Dar es Salaam University College of Education (DUCE) researchers, Dr Almas Mazigo and Dr Emiliana Mwita, and some members of Somanga North Coral Reef Restoration and Protection Group. In the motorboat there were also 240 small bricks on which to transplant the coral reefs.

Another motorboat carried a team of divers whose task was to dive to a spotted area with coral reefs, harvest some and put them in plastic basins and then

bring them to the motorboat in which they were transplanted on small bricks and relocated in the ocean ecosystem. The third motorboat carried journalists so that they could observe and take photos of the entire coral reef restoration process.

The two DUCE researchers, some Somanga North Coral Reef Restoration and Protection Group (several men and women) as well as one journalist participated in a coral reef transplantation process.

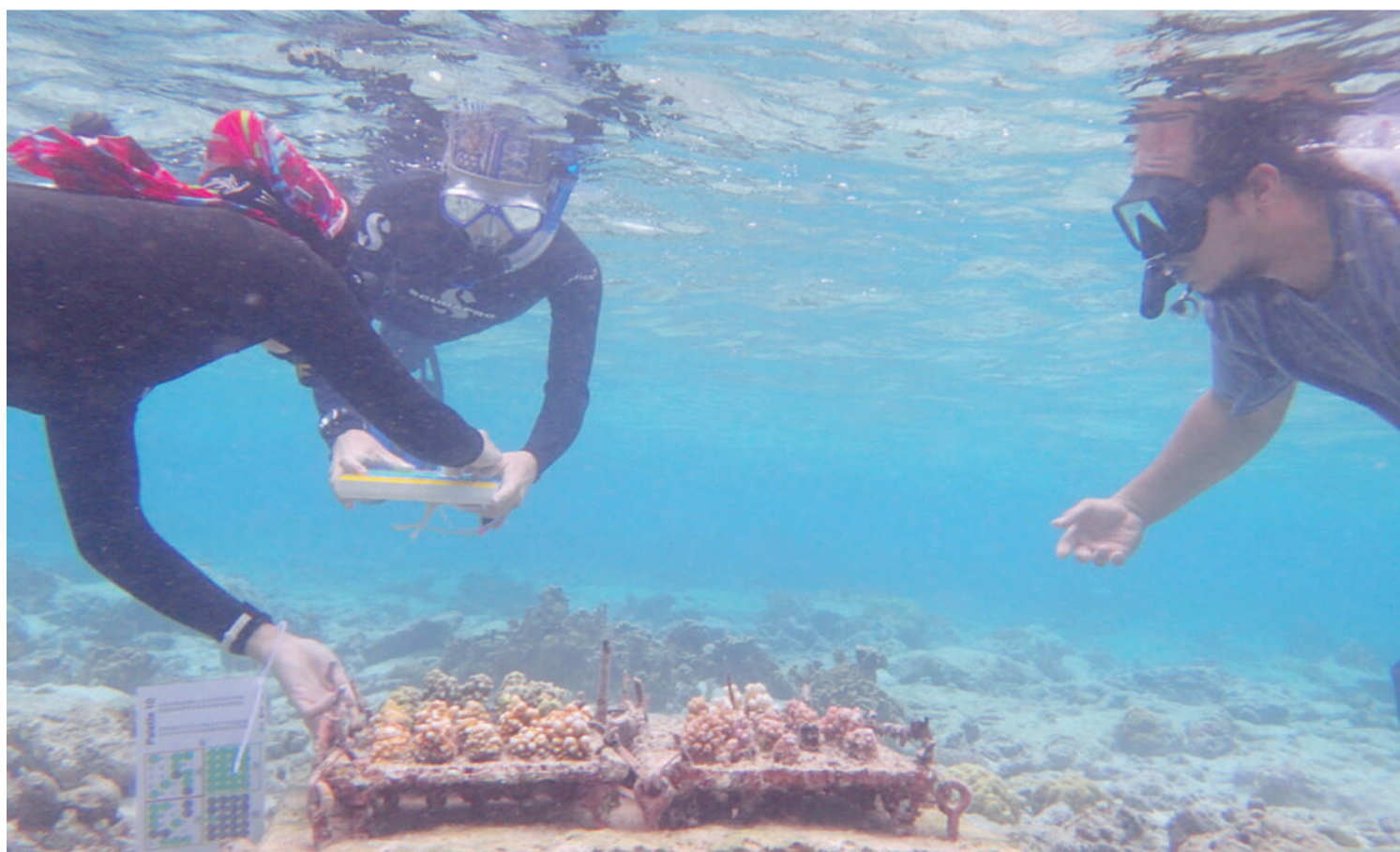
On each small brick, three pieces of coral reefs were transplanted within seven minutes "because when taken out of their natural habitat, coral reefs die after seven minutes," according to Somanga North Coral Reef Restoration and Protection Group Secretary Said Chande.

Each small brick had three holes in which to transplant the coral reefs - that is on that day 720 pieces of coral reefs were transplanted. Chande said by the end of December 720 more pieces of coral reefs would have been transplanted to make a total of 1,440 pieces of restored coral reefs in just one month.

"We still have many bricks because this exercise is on-going. What we are doing is our own initiative to mitigate climate change and dynamite fishing at community level. However, we appreciate that DUCE researchers have been supportive of us and we are grateful to them for that."

Both Dr Mazigo and Dr Mwita are involved in

Coral reef transplantation: Mitigating devastating impact of climate change



participatory research on coral reef restoration and protection in collaboration with a 20-member Somanga North Group, which comprises 13 women and 7 men (co-researchers). Besides coral reef restoration, the researchers are also involved in two other research projects, namely mangrove restoration and protection in Somanga North Village and in beach cleaning on Songo Songo Island.

DUCE researchers are studying the possibility of incorporating coral reef restoration and beach cleaning into school curricula so that more coastal schools and communities may be involved in coral reef restoration and protection and in the prevention of environmental pollution caused by waste mismanagement.

According to Dr Mazigo, DUCE researchers seek to help the fishing community design what it is doing and design it in a curriculum and because the community has the knowledge and the technology it is easier for them to become trainers and innovators and help others in their communities and in the coastal areas of the Indian Ocean.

"This is a pilot project focusing on capacity building after which there will be training of trainers in other parts where it is needed. While what is done is their own initiative, we just help them put what they know already in a more systematic and logical way," he said.

A participatory research is an approach to action research that focuses on participation

and action by members of the community affected by the research problem and by way of their participation they become co-researchers. Through this approach community members find their own solutions to pressing community issues and problems.

Meanwhile, Dr Mazigo advised journalists to write stories that inspire and bring new hope to people.

He advised the journalists in relation to the inspiring initiative taken by the Somanga North fishing community to restore and protect coral reefs by applying a rare coral reef restoration technology invented and applied in Somanga North Village.

"We plan to help the community file a patent on

their invention with the Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA) to protect the technology against intellectual property theft," he said.

"An inspiring community initiative like this one may not catch journalists' attention and get coverage. Yet, it is crucial to community members because it is them who know how much climate change and dynamite fishing affect them and now they have decided to do something about it."

He also related that one of the Somanga North coral reef restoration and protection group members, who was notorious for dynamite fishing, had converted and turned into a staunch supporter and active agent of coral reef restoration and protection. He is now a dedicated patrol team member against illegal fishing, which has to a considerable extent been kept at bay in the Somanga North community.

"This is what transformation really means. This man knows that dynamite fishing damages coral reefs, but he has been converted and now he is actively involved in the restoration and protection of coral reefs. To do this needs inspiration and to succeed in the process of transformation and sustain it you need to be supported by people who are around you. We normally don't have stories that inspire such kinds of people. So, you could have an engagement to address people's pressing issues and inspire them," advised Dr Mazigo.

Now is the right time to discard public-private partnerships and build a future that is public

By Océane Blavot, Rodolfo Bejarano and Mae Buenaventura

LAST month, we joined more than 1000 representatives from all sectors of civil society who came together in Santiago de Chile to debate the future of - and threats to - public services the world over.

Participants discussed the chronic underfunding which continues to drive economic inequality, injustice and austerity, and the neo-colonial policies that maintain the status quo.

Today those debates have resulted in the launch of "Our Future is Public: The Santiago Declaration for Public Services" - a momentous agreement signed by more than 200 organisations vowing to work to "transform our systems, valuing human rights and ecological sustainability over GDP growth and narrowly defined economic gains."

One of the most damaging initiatives that has deeply affected the delivery of public services and infrastructure projects on all continents is the rise of public-private partnerships, or PPPs.

They have long been promoted by institutions such as the World Bank as a silver bullet to close the so-called gap to finance investments in services and infrastructure. The premise is that the private sector can deliver these services more efficiently and to a higher standard than the public sector, despite extensive evidence to the contrary.

We lay the pitfalls of PPPs bare in our new report *History RePPeated II: Why public-private partnerships are not the solution* - the second in a series of investigations documenting the impacts of PPPs across Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe.

at the Santiago conference with some of the partners responsible for investigating and authoring the case studies, the report not only highlights negative impacts of PPPs, but sets out recommendations for how to better finance infrastructure and public services in the face of false solutions that have been proposed given the context of the current polycrisis.

These narratives wholly reflect red flags that are raised in the Santiago Declaration.

Through these investigations, we discovered failures on multiple levels in PPPs covering infrastructure such as roads and water supplies, as well as vital public services like healthcare and education.

From escalating costs for the stretched public sector to environmental and social impacts, we found time and again that communities had been ignored, displaced, and had their basic rights violated by thoughtless projects designed and implemented in the pursuit of profit.

A prime example is that of the the Melamchi Water Supply Project (MWSP) in Nepal. First announced nearly a quarter of a century ago, the project's aim was to deliver clean, reliable and affordable water to 1.5 million people in Kathmandu.

And yet, 24 years later, residents are still waiting, while communities at the Melamchi



Protesters in Mulhouse, France, warn of the dangers of privatisation. The sign reads 'when everything is privatised, we will be deprived of everything.' Credit: Neydt-Stock / Shutterstock.com

water source are facing scarcity of water and eroded livelihoods. Instead of safe, clean drinking water - an internationally recognised human right - they have witnessed an extraordinary revolving door of private companies and institutional funders, including the World Bank, who have each failed to deliver.

To add to the MWSP's colossal failure, 80 hectares of farmland have been lost to the project, a heavy blow to local residents, and up to 80 households have been forcibly displaced due to construction.

Who owns and controls our resources and public services became even more vitally important with the outbreak of the Covid pandemic in March 2020. Market-based models cannot be relied upon to deliver on human rights or the fight against inequalities as they are accountable only to their shareholders and not to their users.

This resulting focus on profit is overwhelmingly apparent in our case study from Liberia. Here, US firm Bridge International Academies (now NewGlobe) 'abandoned'

its students and teachers during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, shutting down schools and cutting teachers' salaries by 80-90 per cent, despite being paid by the government.

And yet, in 2021 the Liberian government indefinitely extended the project, effectively subsidising a US for-profit firm at a cost that is at least double government spending on public schools.

In Peru, the Expressway Yellow Line has emerged as one of the most controversial projects ever carried out. This toll road was supposed to ease congestion issues in the capital city Lima, but instead toll rates have been unreasonably increased on at least eight occasions.

This generated almost \$23 million for the private company involved and transpired with the complicity of public officials. Meanwhile, the Peruvian state suffered economic damages of US\$1.2 million due to under the table negotiations between public officials and the private company, which led to the incorrect implementation and improper modifi-

cations of the contract years after it was initially signed.

Today, questions regarding the project and conflicts surrounding its implementation remain, while Lima residents' expectations of quality road infrastructure to improve living conditions for those who have been most affected, continue to go unmet.

The human cost of the PPP projects showcased by *History RePPeated II* is self-evident, but they are far from the exception. Rather they serve to illustrate common failures with the PPP model that risk compromising fundamental human rights and that undermine the fight against climate change and inequalities.

Their continuing promotion is one of the many reasons why we support the Santiago Declaration. Together with all its signatories, we will strengthen resistance to PPPs with their focus on private-led interests and promote public-public or public-common partnerships for a future that is public.

The Santiago Declaration on Public Services, is a global manifesto signed by more than 300 organisations from around the world, and which was launched at the end of last week. The Declaration signals the start of an international movement to move away from the privatisation of public services and towards a future that is publicly funded and controlled. It is also the outcome of a 4-day conference during which several CSOs from around the world launched a report containing a series of investigations highlighting the failures of the PPP model in projects around the world, titled *History RePPeated II*.

Océane Blavot is Senior Campaign and Outreach Coordinator, Development Finance, European Network on Debt and Development; Rodolfo Bejarano is Economist and Analyst - New Financial Architecture, Latin American Network for Economic and Social Justice; Mae Buenaventura is Debt Justice Programme, Team Manager, Asian People's Movement on Debt and Development

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

Govt issues more than 2bn/- for construction of relatives' waiting lounges in 102 hospitals in 2023/24 financial year

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

THE government has allocated 2.04bn/- for the construction of relatives waiting lounge in 102 hospitals across the country in the financial year 2023/24.

Deputy Minister in the President Office Regional Administration and Local Government (TAMISEMI),

Dr Festo Dugange disclosed this yesterday, in Parliament in response to a question by Special Seat Member of Parliament-CCM Mariam Kisangi.

In the primary question, the legislator wanted to learn of the government plan to scale up the construction of such important places in various hospitals in the country.

Responding to the question,

Dr Dugange said the hospitals involved those finalizing construction of in patients wards.

He went on to reveal that the government has continued embarking on the construction of new hospitals in various councils which did not possess the facilities.

The deputy minister indicated further that a total of 127 hospitals were still

under construction.

"Most of the hospitals are facing a challenge of waiting lounges for the patients relatives who visit their sick patients in the health facilities.

In handling the challenge, the government has allocated 2.04bn/- for the construction of patients waiting areas in 102 hospitals which are finalizing the construction of its in-patients wards," he said.

In the supplementary question, the MP indicated that the problem faces major hospitals including Temeke, Mwananyamala among others, noting that the available areas were too small to cater for the existing demand.

She suggested that the government should expand such areas in the facilities.

She asserted that at Muhimbili National Hospital

there were many relatives who visit their patients but the hospital does not possess the important amenities.

"What is the government's position in eradicating the problem which has resulted in people being chased whenever they settle to wait to see their patients," she questioned.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Godwin Mollel responding

to the question noted that the government has allocated a budget for the execution of the facility in the financial year 2022/23, maintaining that by June the construction would have started.

Dr Mollel also said that there has been some improvement at MNH which has contributed to the problem, hinting that within three months' time the work will be completed.

TSC, World Vision provide training to help in enhancing teachers' ethics

By Guardian Reporter

TEACHERS Service Commission (TSC), in collaboration with World Vision Tanzania have organised training to various education stakeholders on teachers' responsibilities in regard to ethics and the administration of disciplinary procedures.

The training will focus on educating the community on the child's rights and upbringing and the responsibility of the parents/guardians in the protection of the child.

The three-day training seminar is taking place in Shinyanga.

Speaking at the opening of the training seminar, Kishapu District Commissioner Joseph Mkude said ethics decay in the community is a national agenda that needs joint efforts to protect a child against frequent violence from the society.

He explained that it dismays to see there are teachers who engage themselves in the acts that violate ethics especially to children while the community has trusted them and handed them the students for good upbringing.

He said some teachers engage in love relations with girl students while others mete out excessive corporal punishment to helpless children with parents despairing believing that their children's life dreams will not be realised this way.

He added that President Samia Suluhu Hassan's government has provided a lot of funds to improve schools' infrastructures including building more classes, teachers' houses in anticipation of better education for children.

"Despite these efforts, up to this month of February there are students who passed and qualified to join Form I have not reported to their respective schools.

"A few years ago we were saying there were shortages of classrooms,

but now that has changed, we have shortages of students in classes.

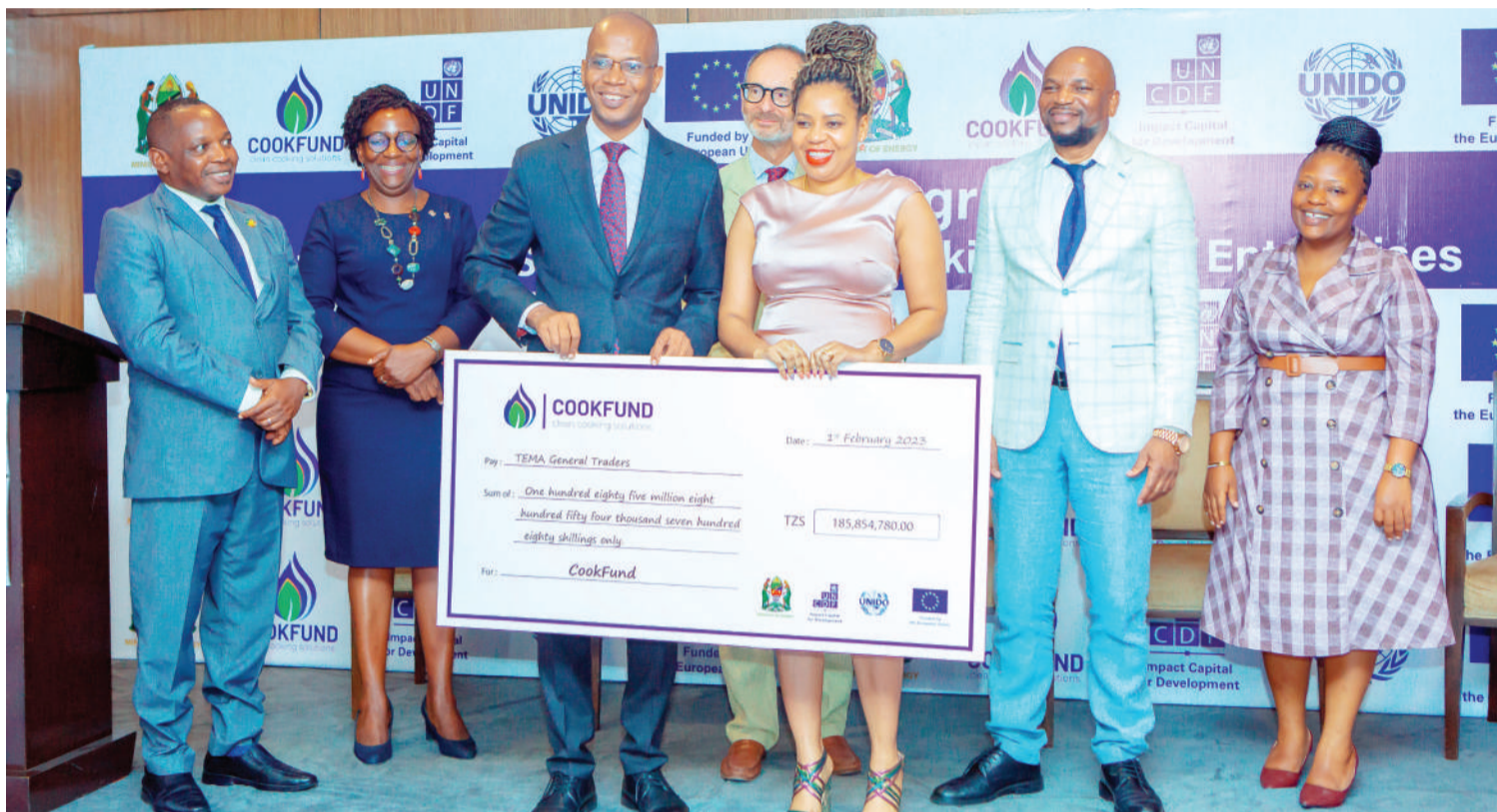
"We must tell teachers that they have the responsibility to make students like schools," he said.

TSC Director of Employment, Fatuma Muya said there are challenges regarding teachers violating teachers' work ethics that has brought disrepute to the teaching profession.

She said in addition to efforts TSC is taking including education on teachers' ethics, some of the teachers continue to violate work ethics whereby for the five-year period - 2016/17 to 2021/22 a total of 11,022 teachers were found to have violated various offences and disciplinary steps taken against them.

Muya said the offences included absenteeism, forgery of professional certificates, and sexual relationship with students and drinking at work place.

For her part, World Vision Tanzania Project Manager for Nzega Zone Jackline Kaihura said the NGO aims to make sure the life of a child is good and the world becomes safer for the child.



Energy minister January Makamba (3rd-L) pictured in Dar es Salaam earlier this week presenting a dummy cheque for 185.8m/- to Tema General Traders CEO Diana Tesha (3rd-R), whose firm is one of 16 clean cooking energy enterprises to have benefited from a Tanzania CookFund programme grant aimed at supporting firms in delivering affordable, quality clean cooking solutions that benefit low-income customers in rural areas and towns across Tanzania. The others include the EU Ambassador to Tanzania, Manfredo Fanti (C), and the Head of the UN Capital Development Fund in Tanzania, Peter Maliika (2nd-R). . Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Support for land use planning enables over 2000 women farmers to own land

By Guardian Reporter

ZAINAB Hamis Hussein walks through her farm in the semi-arid district of Ikungi, Singida in central Tanzania, carefully moving through a sea of yellow sunflowers.

The sunflowers are slightly bent over, the petals starting to wilt as she demonstrates that this is a sign her crop is almost ready for harvest.

Just a few months earlier, she couldn't call her farm her own, with limited options to register land under her name, placing her at risk of losing the land she farmed with her family for decades if her

husband passed away, or they became separated.

"I didn't even know that registering the land under both our names was a possibility, and like many other women, would have this fear, because I've seen many other women driven off their land and left with almost nothing," says Hussein.

In Tanzania, although women spend much of their time providing labour for household agricultural production, their control over the land use remains limited. According to research by the Tanzanian National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), 33 percent of women own agricultural land compared to 47 percent of men. Only

nine percent of women have sole ownership of land, and 25 percent have joint land ownership, whereas 30 percent of men have sole ownership and seven percent joint ownership. Furthermore, when women do own land, it's typically smaller than that owned by men, and have lower yields.

In an initiative that began in 2021 as part of the 3-year 'Realizing Gender Equality through Empowering Women and Adolescent Girls' programme, funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), UN Women supported the Ikungi District Council in the Singida region to issue land certificates - Certificates of Customary Rights of Occupancy (CCROs) - for women's sole or joint land ownership.

Now I have more decision-making power in terms of what we do with our land, what to cultivate, and how much we can sell

The program modernized the practice of land demarcation with a gender-responsive approach and advanced technology. It first equipped the Ikungi District with a digital land use management system (ILMIS and MAST) and IT infrastructure, required for more efficient data processing and the settlement of land disputes.

UN Women Tanzania further trained the district and village-level land governance institutions to undertake gender responsive CCROs issuance, and sensitized communities in the district on women's right to own land and the benefits of joint land ownership.

Today, 5,360 CCROs have been issued as a result of these interventions, with over 2,000 of these issued to women. The proportion of CCROs issued to women increased from 14 percent prior to the programme (2013-2020) to 41 percent after the programme (2021-2022), a three-fold increase.

With better technology, the land certificates were also issued faster, with more than 5,000 issued in just three months, compared to the past where it took four years to produce 1067 CCROs.

As one of the women who was able to obtain a land certificate, Zainab has joint ownership of her family's land, along with her husband.

"Now I have more decision-making power in terms of what we do with our land, what to cultivate, and how much we can sell. I am also considering using the land as collateral to be able to get a loan to further grow my farming business," she says.

The programme provided women farmers with financial and entrepreneurship training, and linked women farmers with agro-dealers.

After receiving training, Hussein also began exploring other techniques to increase her income, including the use of climate-resilient fertilizers and seeds, which saw her sunflower yields soar from 5 bags per year to an impressive 16 bags. She also made the decision to diversify, adding other crops to her farm, and as a recently appointed Chair of one of the Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS) in her region, she regularly uses the platform to advocate for women's land rights.

Many other women in the district have experienced similar successes. A 55-year-old sunflower and horticultural farmer, and mother of 8, Elizabeth Hamis Lala also received the CCRO under her name. "Now, I can access financial loan services using my land as collateral. This has made me more independent in my ability to plan for agricultural inputs on my land," she says.

The incidence of land disputes and land grabbing which threatened widows has also significantly decreased, with land dispute cases in the Ikungi district dropping from 40 cases per year in four targeted villages from 2019-2020 to five cases from 2021-2022.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF Information and Communication Technology and Electronic Items

REF ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-GE-0112

<p>BESIX Ballast Nedam Limited, executing Early Services for the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites experienced specialist Companies to express their interest for:</p> <p>- Information and Communication Technology Items, Electronics purchase</p> <p>The Republic of Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), the United Republic of Tanzania and/or Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), as well as other international oil companies are partaking in the implementation of the EACOP Project.</p> <p>The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania incl. a Jetty with Load Out Facility for Oil Tankers, near Tanga in Tanzania.</p> <p>BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS / SERVICES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supply office electronics - Printer/Copier/Scanner - ICT equipment/Items 	<p>MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Company profile with proof of sufficient financial and capable resources. - Company Tax Clearance Certificate - An experience list with relevant supply history / track record showing minimum of five (5) years' experience in procurement and selling of required ICT items as per international standards common in the Oil and Gas business or comparable market. - ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 - Compliance with petroleum (local Content) regulation of 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania. - Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response is highly recommended. - List of equipment with model/brand/web site link/technical sheets.
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Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to procurement@bbnlt.co.tz (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before **17th February 2023, 1800hrs** Tanzania Time.

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will be evaluated and if selected will be invited, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), to participate in the bidding process.

Note: Only pre-qualified companies will receive an invitation to submit their bid in furtherance of the Call for Tender process.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF Office Furnitures

REF ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-GE-0112

<p>BESIX Ballast Nedam Limited, executing Early Services for the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites experienced specialist Companies to express their interest for:</p> <p>- Office Furniture</p> <p>The Republic of Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), the United Republic of Tanzania and/or Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), as well as other international oil companies are partaking in the implementation of the EACOP Project.</p> <p>The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania incl. a Jetty with Load Out Facility for Oil Tankers, near Tanga in Tanzania.</p> <p>BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS / SERVICES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Office Furnitures - Office Table - Office Work stations - Metal File Cabinets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Office/Manager chairs - Wooden bookshelf/cabinets <p>MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Company profile with proof of sufficient financial and capable resources. - Company Tax Clearance Certificate - An experience list with relevant supply history / track record showing minimum of five (5) years' experience in execution similar materials sell of required Furnitures as per international standards common in the Oil and Gas business or comparable market. - ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 - Compliance with petroleum (local Content) regulation of 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania. - Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response is highly recommended. - List of furniture that are sold, Details with model/brand/web site link/technical specification (dimension/type of wood)
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Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to procurement@bbnlt.co.tz (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before **17th February 2023, 1800hrs** Tanzania Time.

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Insecurity in Nigeria's southern Kaduna: Will these elections change the scenario?

By Oluwatobi Enitan

TABITHA Siman, a survivor of an attack at her home, says life is not worth living after her twin daughters, husband, and co-wife were killed during an attack at her home.

Siman lives in southern Kaduna in Nigeria, where the impact of kidnapping in the region hit the headlines when bandits attacked a train heading for Abuja, killing eight and kidnapping 168. Many months later and after about USD 13 million in ransom money was paid, all were released. But the notorious rail incident is not an isolated incident. In the past year, Kaduna has seen more than 1800 deaths due to insecurity, with attacks being reported almost weekly.

Siman recalls her family were at home in Zango Katf Local Government in July 2021 when they received information that a nearby village had been raided.

Her husband and a friend rushed to warn their neighbours because the Agbak, the village under siege, was very close.

"We started hearing sporadic gunshots. I shouted at the top of my voice, calling everyone to scamper for safety. I shouted the Fulani were attacking."

She and her parents-in-law and one daughter were able to run to safety.

"Every other person we knew didn't make it out on time. Here they lie in state in their mass graves."

Insecurity, insurgency, and banditry are increasing concerns as the country returns to the polls next year for its seventh successive general election since it returned to democracy 23 years ago.

Analysts say rising insecurity in the country could impact its outcome - with Nigeria's security apparatus unable to guarantee security. Al Chukwuma Okoli writing in The Conversation, lists security as one of the five major challenges facing the next president. Other concerns are national cohesion, the economy, the university system and the fight against corruption.

"Nigeria is more divided and polarised than it's ever been. The cleavages and fault-lines of ethnocentrism, sectarianism, sectionalism, parochialism and religious extremism are pushing the country to the brink," Okoli writes.

He describes the state of national security as "apocalyptic".

"The receding Boko Haram insurgency in the north-east is being substituted by a nexus of banditry and terrorism in the north-west. The north-central is still grappling with the deadly farmer-herder crisis. For its part, the south-east is enmeshed in separatist violence and the associated criminal opportunism. There is an



Women pose outside a polling station during the 2019 Nigerian Elections. Analysts say security is one of the major issues Nigeria's future president will need to address. Photo: Commonwealth

upswing in gang and ritual brigandage in the south-west while south-south is still afflicted with militancy, piracy and oil theft."

Nigeria's insecurity has many antecedents, with many attacks, like the one affecting Siman, blamed on Fulani herders - who are seen as violent perpetrators, as climate change is believed to be behind their move to new migratory routes bringing them into conflict with settled farming communities. However, the Fulani are only one of several instigators of violence. According to the International Crisis Group, the insecurity has "escalated amid a boom in organised crime, including cattle rustling, kidnapping for ransom and village raids. Jihadist groups are now stepping in to take advantage of the security crisis."

John Campbell writing for The Council on Foreign Relations, notes that Kaduna is increasingly the epicentre of violence in Nigeria "with conflicts over water and land use escalating in the rural areas."

In the capital, Kaduna, there has been

prolonged political, ethnic and religious violence - some dating back to colonial times when Lord Frederick Lugard, the first governor-general of an amalgamated Nigeria, built the city and encouraged the Muslims to inhabit the north and the Christians the south.

Whatever the cause of the ongoing banditry, kidnappings and violence, it's uncertain whether the Nigerian security apparatus can keep it under control.

"The government needs put in place a robust and comprehensive security plan to deal with the risks to a smooth election process," analysts and academics Freedom Onuoha and Oluwale Ojewale write in The Conversation. "Security forces must plan for operations involving, for example, ground and air raids against armed groups in their strongholds. There is also a need for information and psychological operations to tackle the propaganda and disinformation put out by armed groups."

The International Crisis Group says a multipronged approach is needed. "Nigeria's fed-

eral authorities and state governments in the northwest should work more closely, not only to heal longstanding rifts within communities and curb violence but also to address the structural causes of insecurity in the region. International partners should lend their support and expertise as well."

Another attack survivor Jonathan Madaki, a schoolboy, remembers what happened on the morning of March 11, 2019, in an attack also blamed on Fulani, which left 73 people dead in Dagonoma Community, Kajuru Local Government Area.

On a Monday morning, they heard the sound of gunfire from a group they identified as Fulani. His mother told him to run; she went in one direction, and he and his sister in another.

"I was hit in the hand by a bullet, and I fell to the ground; despite being in pain, I appealed to my sister not to scream, and she did not scream. We stayed there for hours," Madaki said.

The siblings finally trekked to another village and were hospitalised; once discharged, a good Samaritan enrolled him in school.

For villagers in Southern Kaduna, who are predominantly farmers, keeping body and soul together has been difficult for years. Farmers often cannot harvest crops because almost all the villages have become an enclave for the attacks.

Villagers like Bala Musa have equally lost hope in the Government restoring peace to the affected communities.

Musa, a blacksmith and a farmer, says they often find themselves in the centre of the conflict, targeted by attackers and accused by the police and soldiers of collaborating with bandits. Musa says the police shot him because they were convinced the locals were concealing weapons and hiding Fulani men.

All presidential candidates for the 2023 elections have pledged to address insecurity, but based on published articles, their promises lack details of in-depth strategies. - Additional reporting Cecilia Russell

IPS UN Bureau Report



Invitation for BID

BID No. GIZ-SWSD/91170250/2023

As an international cooperation enterprise for sustainable development with worldwide operations, the federally owned Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supports the Tanzania Government on behalf of the German in achieving its development-policy objectives.

ProWaS (Programme for Water Security and Climate Resilience for urban areas in Tanzania) is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

The Programme's objective is to ensure sustainable improvement of the population's access to drinking water and sanitation services, as well as the management of water resources. In the current phase of the programme (2022 - 2025), will focus on three main areas: National Water Policy advise, Climate Resilience Water Supply and Sanitation and Climate Resilient Water Resources Management.

Requirement

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

SN	ITEMS	QUANTITY
01	Laptops	10
02	USB-C Hub (no Docking Station)	10
03	Monitors/Screens	10
04	Laptop cable locks (Noble/Kens)	10
05	Wireless Printers (Small - colored printers) (Large - Black & White)	4 1
06	Duty Phones	10
07	Laptop Cameras	10
08	Headset	10
09	Keyboard (inclusive Mouse)	10

Interested candidates should request for detailed tender documents from giz-tanzania@giz.de no later than date 17.02.2023 and submit offers by email no later than date 24.02.2023

We will answer your request during office hours from 8:00 to 15:00 hours local time, Monday to Friday, except public holidays.

Late Bids, Partial Bids, Bids not received, shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

GIZ is not obliged to follow any condition in nominating the supplier and has the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

This tender is intended solely for Tanzanian based companies.



Tabitha Siman recalls an attack in Kaduna, Nigeria, which left her twin daughter, husband and co-wife dead. Insecurity in Nigeria is a major issue and is high on the agenda during the upcoming elections. Credit: Oluwatobi Enitan/IPS

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
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KIBO STRUGGLES TO DISPOSE OF ITS COAL ASSETS IN AFRICA

By Guardian Correspondent

Agencies

Dual-listed renewable energy developer Kibo Energy has made notable progress on various projects since announcing its refocused renewable energy strategy in 2021, and expects to see several new revenue streams realise in the next 12 to 24 months.

However, the company has struggled to exit coal by disposing all of its assets, which are based in Southern and East Africa.

Kibo explains that its coal asset sales have progressed slowly, owing to funding for the construction of new coal mines not being readily available for buyers, especially for the thermal coal deposits.

Although thermal coal is in demand at the moment, it does not command a premium price, which makes such deposits less attractive for



Kibo CEO Louis Coetzee

exporters.

It also does not bode well that all the Kibo coal assets are situated in remote areas with little to no existing infrastructure, and are based far away from ports for export - more than 800 km, with no significant local coal market opportunities.

The company, nevertheless, remains committed to announcing a definitive term sheet related to the disposal of its coal assets.

Meanwhile, after determining the technical feasibility of the production of bio-coal from biomass, Kibo is assessing the commercial viability of this process under a variety of indus-

trial-scale applications. The company is undertaking both due diligence investigations and participating in advanced discussions on several projects.

Apart from potentially providing a sustainable fuel source for the 300 MW Mbeya biomass power project, in Tanzania, as well as the two remaining 300 MW projects in the Kibo portfolio, there is an opportunity to source and/or cultivate biomass to produce bio-coal at strategically placed biofuel production plants for various leading international companies in the manufacturing industry.

Kibo is working closely with these

manufacturers, a number of which are based in Southern Africa, to complete feasibility studies at identified operating plants. Kibo aims to help manufacturers lower their dependence on coal and opt for biofuel instead.

WASTE-TO-ENERGY

On the waste-to-energy front, Kibo has started with an optimisation and integration study into the production of synthetic oil from non-recyclable plastic waste at the plastic-to-syngas project, Sustineri, in South Africa. This will add an additional revenue stream to the project.

The decision to pursue the production of synthetic oil as part of Phase 1 of the project is expected to have a positive impact on the project's profitability and provides the company with the opportunity to generate revenue much earlier than initially anticipated. It also provides better de-risking for the project and the opportunity to build and commission a pyrolysis plant and related infrastructure earlier, thereby facilitating early revenue.

Kibo expects to conclude the technical part of the optimisation study by the end of the first quarter and reach financial close on the Sustineri project by the third quarter.

Likewise, Kibo expects to reach financial close during the second or third quarter on the UK-based Southport waste-to-energy project.

Other power projects in the company's UK-based Mast Energy Developments business are progressing to financial close and last approvals. It is only the Mbeya project where financial close can only be achieved in 2024.

Moreover, Kibo is planning to spin out its waste-to-energy and biofuel projects to be held in a new Aim-listed vehicle called Ultimate Sustainable Energy, which should list during the second quarter of the year.

The company still plans on entering the long-duration energy storage market, comprising battery energy storage systems, and will make announcements in this regard when appropriate.

Kibo CEO Louis Coetzee says the company is sufficiently funded through its existing financing facilities while it pursues various funding opportunities for projects, including equity, debt and project financing. "2023 promises to be an eventful year for Kibo and we look forward to providing the market with further updates in due course," he concludes.

NHC seeks 5trn/- for executing joint venture projects

By Correspondent James Kandoya

The National Housing Corporation (NHC) is out to raise 5trn/- for joint venture projects in the next five years.

NHC director general, Nehemiah Mchechu said that in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday when revealing the NHC performance and announcing the corporation's annual financial statements for financial 2021/2022.

He said that the targeted funds are expected to be raised from local and foreign investors.

He said currently, up to June 31, last year NHC has 5.04trn/- growing at 12 percent in period of three years commenced 2019.

He said the amount is equivalent to current total assets which involves all NHC's buildings and lands which has not yet been developed.

"Assume if we get, five investors, who can each invest USD200 million, I believe the company can easily mobilise fund," he said.

However, NHC capital has grown up to 3.4trn/- from 2.9trn/- in period between June 2019 and June 2022 respectively.

As a result, it has enabled NHC to pay 22bn/- taxes to the government for the year 2021/2022 and 750mn/- dividends for the year 2021/2022.

Mchechu said NHC revenue has grown to reach 257.47bn/- for the year 2021/2022 from 144.42bn/- in previous year.

Also revenue from tax rent increased to 90.76bn/- from 89.23bn/- in 2020/2021.

He said revenue from property sell (house) increased to 121.95bn/- in 2021/2022 from 29.33bn/- while revenue from build or construction services grew to 43.98bn/- in 2021/2022 from 25.60bn/- 2020/2021.

"Our future strategy is work out on eight priorities including developing and construct new projects such as Samia Housing schemes," he said.

He said the ultimate goal is to cut off demand for houses especially in urban where according to him, 3000 houses are needed.

Also, NHC plans to collect accrued rent debts amounting to 21bn/- from its tenants and 11bn/- debts from houses sold.

Indian firms file proposals to build industrial parks

By Beatrice Philemon

INDIAN-BASED companies have submitted six proposals to the India High Commission to Tanzania, to build industrial parks with high-quality infrastructure for the industrial purpose and attracting investments.

India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan, revealed this recently during the media briefing by saying that the proposed new industrial parks will be constructed in Dar es Salaam region and connected to the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and Dar es Salaam ports.

"Before they submitted their proposals, we met with Tanzanian government last year to discuss on how to can deepen our economic relationship in future including

the new proposals on the construction of Industrial parks," he said.

"When you have industrial parks in your country, you can attract more investors; help business owners in boosting productivity, reducing operational and overhead expenses."

He therefore hopes that Tanzanian government will help Indian companies to implement their plans/goals to strengthen the economic relations and consolidate business links between the two countries.

The constructed industrial parks will attract more investments, create jobs, boost exports and will offer modern infrastructure facilities for production of goods.

"Industrial park is a place where the required facilities and factory ac-

commodation are provided by the government to the investors to establish their industries there," he explained.

According to Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA)'s Director General, Charles Itembe, Tanzania is still looking for foreign investors from different countries across the world who can partner with the government to develop Special Economic Zones (SEZ) infrastructures in Dodoma, Ruvuma, Tanga, Kigoma, Bunda, Mtwara, Mbeya, Manyara, Bagamoyo and Kwara in Coast region.

"We are ready to partner with different companies from Tanzania and overseas to construct modern infrastructure in terms of roads, drainage systems, electrical installation, communication services, water connec-

tion and other services," he said.

The main goal is to attracting foreign direct investment, achieving higher exports, create job for Tanzanians and strengthen business links with other foreign countries.

Also if investors from India and other foreign countries will opt to do business in Tanzania or establish plants, EPZA will provide fully support to them with best incentives, he said.

He said assembly engineering is also another area for business and investment opportunities that is now available for investors from India and other foreign countries to partner with the government to develop special economic zones areas.

So far, he said, EPZA has allocated a total of 14,158.1



India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan

hectares of land in divided as Northern zone, Lake Zone and coastal zone.

Investor willing to partner with government through the projects, he noted, EPZA is well placed to offer a wide range of investor support services under one roof in the One Stop Service Center.

The Centre provides services such as provision of guidance

and comprehensive information about the establishment of SEZ investments in Tanzania, facilitates investors in obtaining factory space or serviced land in or outside the existing industrial/commercial parks, company registration process, administrative procedures in getting tax incentives as well as obtaining visas and work permits.

UAE 'not immune' to market turbulence, says property consultancy

DUBAI

Dubai will continue to attract strong demand from property investors and witness project launches this year, but the "momentum" in the market is expected to slow in the wake of global turbulences, according to Asteco.

Mortgage transactions and project launches, in particular, are forecast to see some declines in 2023 compared to last year, as more rate hikes are implemented, and investors' spending power is likely to weaken.

On the positive side, sales prices and rentals

rates will remain "elevated", while the market will continue to boost its supply stock, as developers complete ongoing projects.

In its report released on Monday, Asteco said around 47,700 apartments and villas will be added to the emirate's housing supply this year, up by 53.8 percent from the number of homes delivered in 2022.

The bulk of the units, around 40,000, will be apartments, while the remaining supply (7,700) will be residential villas.

"We will continue to see new project launches [this year] but the momentum

is expected to slow, as constrained global growth will impact the spending power of international investors," Asteco said.

"With more but smaller interest rate hikes expected in 2023, we anticipate a drop in mortgage transactions," HP Aengaar, CEO of Asteco, also noted in the report.

Overall, Asteco said the UAE's property market will continue to see "strong inward investment", thanks to the country's safe-haven status, advanced business reforms and visa-related initiatives.

"This will have a positive impact on the real estate market, although we

anticipate the excitement to subside and activity to slow in the wake of global turbulences, from which the UAE is ultimately not immune," Asteco said.

The consultancy firm also noted that the emirate and the rest of the UAE demonstrated an "impressive level" of resilience in the aftermath of the pandemic last year.

It said the economic recovery, coupled with higher oil prices and a revival in tourism and trade, led to a significant jump in inward investment and record transactions.

Last year, around 31,000 homes were delivered in Dubai, including 27,000

apartments and 4,000 villas.

The volume of units that came on stream last year was not only significant, but it was also "impressive given the global economic challenges and supply-chain disruptions", Asteco said.

Project launches in the emirate also accelerated towards the end of 2022, while average leasing rates in the apartment and villa segments continued to climb. The villa market recorded a 23 percent increase in annual rental growth, while rental rates for apartments and offices jumped by 19 percent, according to Asteco.



INTERVIEW

Outdated fares, delays in payments affect TEMESA operations

The Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) has been working tirelessly to provide efficient and effective electrical, mechanical, electronic services, reliable and safe ferry transport services and equipment hire services to government institutions and the general public. Earlier this week, THE GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT DANIEL SEMBERYA held an exclusive interview with the TEMESA CHIEF EXECUTIVE LAZARO KILAHALA in Dodoma on the achievements registered by and challenges facing his agency. Excerpts...

Question: Could tell us what have been the major responsibilities of the Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA)?

Answer: TEMESA's responsibilities and functions are wide/many. They can be put in two major groups: the first being the supervision and ensuring safe operation and maintenance of all government owned ferries across the country.

The second being to undertake an effective maintenance of government owned motor vehicles, motor cycles and plants.

Others are to undertake an effective maintenance of electrical, electronics/ICT's, air conditioning and refrigeration systems in all government buildings; operation and maintenance of traffic signals and street lights; hiring of transport for government VIPs.

Hiring of plants and equipment to government institutions and the public at large; provision of quality technical advice and consultancy services in engineering works and related services to government institutions and the public at large; provision of quality technical advice and consultancy services on new installations related to engineering works and services; and design and supervise new installations related to engineering works and service.

Q: Could you tell us what have been your achievements since your establishment?

A: There are so many achievements. But in brief I could say that, on the side of the ferries, the services have improved exorbitantly. The citizens especially those who live the other side of the rivers, lakes and oceans, can now easily reach different places.

Also, the numbers of ferries which are currently operating have reached 34, and seven ferries are still under construction as the numbers of passengers are on increase!



TEMESA'S Chief Executive Lazaro Kilahala insists on a point during an exclusive interview in Dodoma this week. Photo: TEMESA's Courtesy.

Again, on the side of ferries, we have continued to make more improvements, especially by installing systems that preside over the collections at Magogoni and Kigamboni, famously known as 'N-CARD'. And we still continue installing these kinds of systems to other places.

On the side of maintenance, in general TEMESA has succeeded to install electrical, electronics/ICTs, air conditioning and refrigeration systems in different places including government buildings; hospitals in Kilimanjaro, Chato zonal hospital in Geita region, among others.

Also TEMESA is installing the same systems in government buildings under construction at Mitumba in Dodoma; for example, the building that belongs to the Ministry of Works and Transport, among others.

TEMESA also operates and makes maintenance of traffic signals, street lights and installing CCTV cameras.

With regards, to consultancy, of course, TEMESA continues to provide quality technical advice and consultancy services on new installations related to engineering works and services; and design and supervise new installations related to engineering works and service on all government projects; including the ongoing projects at Mitumba.

Also, we have been making various major improvements on these technical services, including maintenance, repairing to our workshops which have been in existence since colonial time. We thank the government for continuing to support our efforts.

Q: TEMESA has been divided into zones instead of regions, could you tell us why have you taken these measures?

A: Previously ferries were supervised by a regional manager. You find a regional manager who is an overseer of the regional workshop and at the same time he is the supervisor of the all the ferries found in that region. We saw that kind of supervision had shortcoming; because the task of maintenance of government owned motor vehicles, motor cycles and plants was sufficient. And the supervision and ensuring safe operation and maintenance of gov-

ernment owned ferries in that region was even more headache.

So, we saw it wise to separate them. Currently the supervision of the ferries is under the Zonal Manager. Currently there are two zones, the Eastern Zone and the Western Zone.

So, each Zonal Manager has the primary responsibility of overseeing all the ferries operating in his/he region. And the regional manager where the ferries are will only give a helping hand to the Zonal Manager on issues that need his physical presence.

Thus, what we have done is to increase efficiency by removing responsibilities from the Regional Manager and establish the Zonal Manager only for that purpose.

On the operation of our workshops, they are still under the Regional Manager. However, we have the idea of promoting some regions to carry a given zone. This means heavy investments will be needed in that given region; in terms of equipments, workers, and buildings so that it becomes as a referral in that zone. But the process is still underway, what is being more promoted is the supervision of the ferries.

Q: Evaluation process to some properties close to the Kigamboni Ferry area is underway; how many people are going to be compensated? How much allocated for this exercise?

A: It is true that when you evacuate from the ferry at Kigamboni area, there are two roads, the one entering and exiting, there buildings and private businesses-we have nicked name that area as 'Kisambusa'.

It is true that our Agency has a plan of taking it, as per the minister's directives.

What we have so far done, is that we have communicated to the District authority so as to start the evaluation process as it is required by the law. What so far I know is that the evaluation process is currently going on. So, when they are over, we will be given the evaluation procedures and the value for compensation.

When we will be able to compensate and remove all the current ongoing activities on that area, our plan is to develop that area by extending our ser-

vices with the intention of removing the current queue, especially in the morning and in the evening.

Q: President Samia Suluhu Hassan promised to buy a new big ferry for Kigamboni. Is there any green light on the President's promise?

A: When the government promises it intended, and we as actors we administer to ensure it is fulfilled. It is true that the government promised to buy a new ferry and the budget was set aside for the construction of that ferry...

In the first place, the plan was to construct a giant ferry but from experience we have learned that a giant ferry spends much time when loading and unloading...therefore, the experience we have got is that if we have sea taxi, it can operate more quickly than a giant ferry...

Now, the government has decided to start constructing small two sea taxis. The process to buy those two sea taxis is at the evaluation stage of that tender. So, we hope the contract might be signed this month and the construction can begin possibly in March this year.

If these two sea taxis perform efficiently, then we will continue constructing sea taxis instead of a giant ferry.

Q: Few years ago, the government introduced the usage of electronic N-Card instead of normal paper tickets with the intention of collecting more money at the Magogoni ferry. However, it is said of recently the collections have dropped. Could tell us what the contributing factors to this drop?

A: The current collections is between 15 and 16 million shillings a day, while previously it was between 17 million and 18 million a day. The contributing factors for the drop among others are: The current status of our ferries. The Magogoni Ferry from time to time has been going out of order and as a result its offering of services has also been dwindling.

Another contributing factor for the drop of collections is because the number of ferries dropped from three to two after the MV Kazi was sent for major rehabilitations.

The current fare at the ferry which was introduced ten years ago is outdated compared to current real situation where things are on hiking. We are just waiting for the government to give us directives.

Currently an old person is paying 200/-; a child is charged 100/- and students don't pay anything.

Q: It is said that, 'in every perfection there is imperfection'. We have seen you are doing a lot of good things, but we are sure you have come across some challenges. Could tell us what have been your major challenges?

A: Challenges are there, but the major ones are only two. The first one as I have said is the dated fares which were introduced 10 years ago. They not supposed to exist. These fares are not correlating with the current running operation costs of the ferries.

TEMESA uses around 210,000 litres of diesel every month to run their ferries across the country. We don't have subsidy from the government.

On the side of our workshop, our clients who get our services, they are delaying to pay us. Some of these clients are some district councils, and ministries. We thank other government institutions who pay us timely.

The major challenge is that we need to buy spare parts. So, if we are not paid timely how are we going to buy them! If these two major challenges get solutions, then all other small challenges will be sorted out.

NEW DELHI

India's Adani group shares sank on Thursday after market turmoil forced the conglomerate to axe a crucial \$2.5 billion stock offer, deepening its market losses to more than \$100 billion and sparking worries about the potential systemic impact.

The withdrawal of Adani Enterprises' share sale marked a dramatic setback for Gautam Adani, the school dropout-turned-billionaire whose fortunes rose rapidly in recent years, but have fast dwindled due to a US-based short-seller's critical research report released on Jan. 24.

The events are an embarrassing turn for the billionaire who has forged partnerships with foreign players and marquee investors

in a global expansion of businesses that stretch from ports to mining to cement.

Adani late on Wednesday called off the share sale as a stocks rout sparked by short-seller Hindenburg's criticisms intensified, despite the offer being fully subscribed on Tuesday. In the fallout of the attack, Adani also lost his title as Asia's richest man.

The group's flagship firm - Adani Enterprises - plunged 10% after opening higher on Thursday. Other group companies - Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, Adani Total Gas, Adani Green Energy and Adani Transmission - fell 10% each, while Adani Power and Adani Wilmar dropped 5% each.

Adani has slipped in the ranking of the world's richest to 16th, as per Forbes' list, down

Adani's market losses snowball to \$100bn on shelved share sale

from third last week.

"The selling may intensify in the afternoon session, as we have seen before. Unless Adani is able to regain the confidence of institutional investors, stocks will be in freefall," said Avinash Gorakshakar, head of research at Mumbai-based Profitmart Securities.

Adani's plummeting stocks have raised concerns about the likelihood of a wider impact on India's financial system.

India's central bank has asked local banks for details of their exposure to the Adani group of companies, government and banking sources told Reuters



Indian billionaire Gautam Adani addresses delegates during the Bengal Global Business Summit in Kolkata

on Thursday. CLSA estimates that Indian banks were exposed to

debt in the fiscal year to March 2022.

Citigroup's wealth unit has stopped extending margin loans to its clients against securities of Adani group and decided to cut the loan-to-value ratio for credit against Adani securities to zero on Thursday, said a source.

In New Delhi, opposition lawmakers submitted notices in the Indian parliament, demanding discussion on the US short-seller's report. The Congress party's lawmaker, Manish Tewari, said he will demand a Joint Parliamentary Committee investigation into the matter, Reuters partner ANI

reported.

ADANI VS HINDENBURG

Hindenburg's report last week alleged an improper use of offshore tax havens and stock manipulation by the Adani group. It also raised concerns about high debt and the valuations of seven listed Adani companies.

The Adani group has denied the accusations, saying the short-seller's allegation of stock manipulation has "no basis" and stems from an ignorance of Indian law. The group has always made the necessary regulatory disclosures, it added.

Earlier this week, the Adani group said it had the complete support of investors, but investor confidence has tapered in recent days.

As shares plunged after the Hindenburg

report, Adani managed to secure the share sale subscriptions on Tuesday even though the stock's market price was below the issue's offer price. But on Wednesday, stocks plunged again.

In a late night announcement on Wednesday, Adani said he was withdrawing the share sale as the company's "stock price has fluctuated over the course of the day. Given these extraordinary circumstances, the company's board felt that going ahead with the issue will not be morally correct."

Early on Thursday, Adani said in a video address the "interest of my investors is paramount and everything is secondary. Hence, to insulate the investors from potential losses we have withdrawn" the share sale.

CONSTRUCTION

HOW TO MANAGE YOUR REAL ESTATE BUSINESS LIKE A PRO

By Dave Spooner

When it comes to investing in real estate, good management is the key to success. It's the difference between real estate being a daily stressor in your life or an avenue to financial freedom. But rental businesses have many moving parts, and it can be difficult to prioritize your landlord duties when you have other responsibilities, such as family or a day job.

Fortunately, it's possible to automate much of rental management. With the right tools and a few crucial management principles, you can run your real estate business like a pro. Here are seven tips for managing your rental real estate business:

1. Delegate responsibilities

Operating a rental business requires expertise in maintenance, accounting, tenant screening, legal, marketing and other areas. As a landlord, you can't know everything. And that's okay – even if you manage your properties independently, you should still leverage the expertise of others to fill in your knowledge gaps.

Delegating responsibilities to those with more experience and expertise than you is the most effective way to limit stress and make sure tasks are done right.

For example, if there's a problem with your property's infrastructure, appliances or utilities, you would call your maintenance contractor. Likewise, you can delegate staging and showing to a real estate agent, accounting to a tax professional and leasing to a leasing agent or employee.

New landlords often think that by avoiding hiring help, they can cut costs and make their business more financially sustainable. This is almost never the case – trying to complete tasks you're inexperienced at could lead to irreparable



Dave Spooner

damage to your properties and business.

2. Prioritize tenant needs

As a landlord, one of your jobs is to prioritize tasks. What is the most important thing to accomplish this week, this month or this year?

Time and time again, tenant needs top the list of priorities for most landlords. Think about it: If your tenants' needs aren't met, you'll quickly face complaints, poor reviews, vacancies or even legal repercussions. In fact, if you fail to maintain standards of habitability in your rentals, your tenants may even have the right to withhold rent or start making repairs themselves.

For this reason, tenant needs should be your number one priority. Focus on hiring expert maintenance personnel who can fix problems efficiently and ease tenant concerns. Additionally, make sure you have someone available at any hour to solve rent questions or payment issues, as these cause stress for renters.

3. Build an emergency fund

Many new landlords make this fatal mistake: They believe they

generate positive cash flow because their income exceeds their immediate monthly expenses. But unless you're regularly putting money away in an emergency fund, you don't actually have cash flow.

A proactive landlord recognizes the potential costs they might incur unexpectedly down the line: a sudden natural disaster, loss, accident or eviction. When the worst-case scenario happens, having an emergency fund will help eliminate pressure. You'll know you have resources available and a plan for getting back on track.

4. Digitise records

In 2023, there's no longer any reason to keep files and records exclusively on paper. Digital records are more secure, accessible and convenient – especially for busy landlords.

For example, digital leases allow the use of eSignatures, which can be tracked with extra security measures like encryption, timestamps and IP address recording.

Digital accounting lets you quickly compare finances across months or years, in addition to

easing the much-dreaded tax preparation process. You can even import your company's finances directly into tax form templates.

Finally, digital record keeping allows you to access a file you need from any device or location. Whether you're at home, in the office, on vacation or simply out on the go, you'll have access to any document you need to answer tenant or employee questions on the fly.

5. Automate your applicant pipeline

Whether you manage five properties or 50, automation is your friend. Automating most of your applicant pipeline can save you time and money during the leasing process.

For instance, by using listing syndication, you can write one listing and post it to multiple listing sites across the internet, increasing exposure while limiting the time you spend on the task. Similarly, most listing platforms allow you to set up automated email follow-ups or automated tour scheduling for renters interested in learning more about your property. Taking the time to set up these tools up front can save you hours in the future.

6. Invest in landlord insurance

Just like every landlord needs an emergency fund, landlords also need landlord insurance.

Landlord insurance protects you from property damage, liability and other losses (like income loss from evictions). Without the financial protection of landlord insurance, any unexpected tragedy could send your previously revenue-generating business scrambling for funds.

Purchasing landlord insurance is not only an investment in your business, but also a courtesy to your tenants and employees. If

funds are short, tenants still want to know that repairs will be made promptly, and employees still want their paychecks on time.

Few people will want to invest their livelihoods in your properties if you're uninsured. Getting insured is a simple way to protect everything you've built.

7. Use property management software

The single biggest thing you can do to ease your landlord management duties is to use property management software.

Property management software is your one-stop shop for everything related to rental management – tenant screening, online rent collection, leasing, listing, accounting, maintenance and more.

Investing in software to manage your rentals gives you access to a range of landlord tools and resources you can use to streamline processes like rent collection, leasing and tenant communication. You can also use your software to automate late fees, lease renewals and other repetitive tasks. If you don't already use property management software, doing so will be the best decision you make for your business.

Building a real estate empire is a management challenge, no matter your level of experience. The more properties you acquire, the more you'll have to rely on your teammates and tools. The tools and suggestions described here in this article are some of the most important steps you can take to manage your rentals like a seasoned pro.

Dave Spooner is a co-founder of Imnago, property management software designed to simplify life for small to mid-sized landlords. He has been involved in the real estate technology space since 2013, working to enhance the way landlords and tenants communicate.

Invasions disrupt Cape Town housing projects

CAPE TOWN

The City of Cape Town is pulling all the stops to halt threats of extortion, unlawful occupation and forceful community disruption of its housing units.

Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis recently revealed that 12 of the City's housing projects have been affected by the problem, with around 4 500 State-subsidised housing beneficiaries affected.

They include areas such as Gugulethu, Bardale 4C in Mfuleni, Sheffield Road in Philippi, Delft Eindhoven, Sir Lowry's Pass Village, Valhalla Park and Beacon Valley in Mitchell's Plain.

On Thursday 26 January, the City approved a R15 million "top up budget" for additional security for housing construction sites.

During a briefing of the provincial Parliament's Standing Committee on Human Settlements on Friday 27 January, Hill-Lewis also called for law enforcement agencies to clampdown on extortionists blocking City housing construction projects.

Hill-Lewis called on the South African Police Services (Saps), contractors, the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), and the public to assist in bringing perpetrators to book.

"Together we can clamp down on this practice by ensuring criminal charges are laid each time, that evidence is carefully gathered, and those responsible are brought to book. On Thursday, 26 January, the City approved a R15 million top up budget for additional security for housing construction sites," he said.

"Where completed units are invaded, the City will not hesitate to initiate eviction proceedings to reverse this injustice and theft from the rightful beneficiaries."

Hill-Lewis said extortion threats take various forms and local 'business forums' were behind these threats, especially in Philippi and Mfuleni.

He said in other instances, attempts by local subcontractors to muscle in on project work were behind disruptions.

"Intimidation tactics have become extremely violent in some cases, with four construction staff members shot and incidents of petrol bombing leading to the cancellation of two civil contracts worth R140 million at the City's Beacon Valley project. The community threats pertaining to ongoing work or housing units, and invasion attempts have been the main disruption in the case of the following projects: Morningstar; Rusthof in Strand; Belhar-Pentech and Mau Mau in Nyanga," he said.

Hill-Lewis said the City is exploring several ways to enhance on-site security at construction projects, including approaching the courts for interdicts, more stringent security specifications for construction contracts, and the use of municipal law enforcement resources in addition to private security.

In the past financial year, the City spent more than 97% of its funding on human settlements. "Criminality and gangsterism are among the biggest impediments to complete spends, as we can see with the impact of the cancellation of contracts already," said Hill-Lewis.

Some R2,8 billion in total has been allocated for human settlements over the next three years and "we will continue to do all in our power to safeguard the projects and protect our rightful beneficiaries" said the City's Mayco Member for Human Settlements, Malusi Boo.

Major projects under construction following holiday

BEIJING

While many people are still rejoicing in the family reunion during the Spring Festival, an array of major projects across the country have resumed construction.

Earlier on Saturday, machinery started roaring on a construction site of the Yulongdao refining and chemical project, undertaken by China Construction Industrial & Energy Engineering Group Co., Ltd., in Yantai, a coastal city of north China's Shandong Province.

"More than 420 workers have returned to their positions on the first working day after the Spring Festival holiday. Around 1,100 people will come back to work within a week," said Sheng Haitao, the project manager.

Sheng said that the project is a key one to promote the industrial upgrading of the province, and they will build 20 crude oil storage tanks, 12 refined oil storage tanks, and pipelines.

With an investment of over 120 billion



This aerial photo taken on Jan. 30, 2023 shows immersed tube E23 of Shenzhen-Zhongshan highway underwater tunnel and a vessel for its transport and installation at an immersed tube smart factory of CCCC Fourth Harbour Engineering Co., Ltd. on Niutou Island, Zhuhai, south China's Guangdong Province. (Photo by Xinhua)

yuan (about 17.78 billion U.S. dollars), the project is scheduled to be completed by June.

A corn deep-processing project in Shandong's Zhucheng City has also sped up construction after the holiday. The project was launched less than three months ago, and a 20-tonne storage and logistics workshop

has been built. The project is expected to bring annual operating revenue of 10.6 billion yuan after being put into operation, vigorously driving the development of upstream and downstream enterprises.

Shandong has made public that the number of major projects in infrastructure, energy, manufacturing, and other key sectors on the 2023 list has exceeded 500.

Construction workers in the Yubei District of southwest China's Chongqing Municipality are busy embedding pipes and pouring concrete for a new plant construction project of Chinese automaker Changan Automobile.

Wu Kezhi, the project director, said that a total of 6.3 billion yuan will be invested into the project, which is able to produce 280,000 new energy vehicles every year.

"Construction of the 400,000-square-meter modern factory only needs ten months due to the support of the local government and the upgrading of building equipment. More than 200 people still worked during the holiday, and the number of returning

workers has reached over 300," Wu added.

Chongqing plans to implement more than 1,100 major projects this year, with a total investment of 3 trillion yuan.

To promote enterprises' production and accelerate the construction of projects, as well as improve government services, Chongqing has sent cadres to major enterprises and projects, in an effort to strengthen communication to advance the projects.

In Shenzhen, a manufacturing and tech hub in southern China, a total of 266 new projects for 2023 were launched on Sunday, with a total investment of 329.53 billion yuan.

Among the projects, 20 are expected to pool more than 5 billion yuan of investment each, covering fields of information technology, intelligent cars, new energy, new materials, and artificial intelligence.

Singapore property market braces over high Chinese demand

SINGAPORE

Singapore's property market is bracing for surging demand from Chinese buyers as the world's second-largest economy reopens.

Real estate agencies in the city-state have seen more inquiries from mainland Chinese, with industry watcher OrangeTee & Tie noting a 10 percent to 15 percent increase in January since Beijing announced it was ending three years of global isolation. The border reopening has also seen a spike in queries about immigration to Singapore.

"I'm definitely seeing an uptick in interest among Chinese friends interested in moving to Singapore since the border opened," said Lily Li, who bought a 640 square feet (60 square meter) apartment at the end of last year for S\$1.3 million (\$989,000) including taxes. "I'm getting a ton of calls asking me about our experience, and people seeking advice on how to rent and buy property."

Chinese have been the largest foreign buyer group in Singapore since 2016 and made up 6.9% of foreign purchases of private apartments last year, the



highest proportion since before the pandemic, according to OrangeTee & Tie data. Christine Sun, the agency's senior vice president of research and analytics, potentially sees a more than 10 percent increase in the number of homes purchased by Chinese this

year, in tandem with rising supply.

Still, such demand is unlikely to fuel price rises in the city-state as the number of Chinese buyers is still small compared with locals. Home prices grew at the slowest pace in more than two years in the last quarter of 2022,

taking the annual gain to 8.6 percent.

China's reopening is also stoking greater migration interest, with the city-state among top destinations that wealthy Chinese are considering. Investment migration consultant Henley & Partners saw migration inquiries from Chinese nationals in China and Hong Kong jump 600 percent following the reopening announcement, compared with three weeks prior. Queries about Singapore residency were the fourth highest in 2022, after Portugal and Greece residency and Grenada citizenship, according to the firm.

WORLD

Nikki Haley, Trump's UN ex-ambassador, to take him on in 2024

WASHINGTON

FORMER South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley will kick off her campaign for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination this month, squaring off against her one-time boss, Donald Trump, two sources familiar with her plans said on Wednesday.

The move would make her just the second declared Republican candidate and could set the stage for a more combative phase of the campaign, potentially putting her in the sights of the pugnacious former US president.

Haley's campaign sent an email to supporters on Wednesday inviting them to a Feb 15 event in Charleston. There she will declare her candidacy, the sources said.

South Carolina is expected to host one of the first Republican nominating primaries in 2024 and will play an important role in picking the eventual candidate.

The daughter of two Indian immigrants who ran a successful clothing store in a rural part of the state, Haley has gained a reputation in the Republican Party as a solid conservative who has the ability to address issues of gender and race in a more credible fashion than many of her peers.

She has also pitched herself as a stalwart defender of American interests abroad, having served as US ambassador to the United Nations under Trump from 2017 to 2018. During that time, the United States pulled out of the Iran nuclear deal, which was inked under former Democratic President Barack Obama and was highly unpopular among Republicans.

One Haley associate said she chose to launch her campaign this early to try to grab voters' attention and shake up a race that had so far been dominated by Trump and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, who has not yet declared whether he will run.

Many key Republican donors and elected officials in South Carolina have been looking for alternatives to Trump amid concerns about his electability, according to conversations in recent weeks with more than a dozen party officials and strategists.

Several prominent Republicans, including Haley and US Senator Tim Scott, opted to skip a Trump campaign appearance in Columbia on Saturday, which was intended to showcase his support in the state.

Scott, often considered a presidential contender himself, will kick off a "listening tour focused on Faith in America" in



Former UN ambassador and former South Carolina governor Nikki Haley

Charleston a day after Haley's event, according to a campaign advisory. He will then swing through Iowa, another key early voting state.

READ MORE: Trump's fundraising for presidential bid sees modest start

Trump told reporters on Saturday that Haley had called him to say she was considering a run and that he told her "go by your heart if you want to run," according to multiple media reports.

Haley received national attention in 2015 when, as governor, she signed a bill into law removing the Confederate battle flag from the grounds of the South Carolina state capitol, following the murder of nine black churchgoers by white supremacist Dylann Roof.

If she were to win the nomination, Haley would be the first woman at the top of the Republican presidential ticket in history, as well as the party's first non-white nominee.

Among her major challenges will be nailing down a consistent message. Even in a field where most candidates have changed their mind about key issues multiple times, Haley is particularly chameleonic.

She has distanced herself from Trump several times, only to later soften her rhetoric, saying he has an important role to play in the Republican Party.

While she has criticized Republicans for baselessly casting doubt on the results of the 2020 presidential election, she campaigned on behalf of multiple candidates who supported Trump's false election fraud claims during the 2022 midterms.

Even as she has at times adopted a conciliatory message on racial issues, she often opts for a less measured tone. In November, she said at a campaign rally that Democratic Georgia Senator Raphael Warnock, a Black man born in Savannah, should be "deported."

South Carolina is historically the third state to host the Republican nominating contest, and it often plays an outsized role in the race. Haley, who governed the state from 2011 to 2017, is popular there, polls show.

Trump and DeSantis have both been active in the state.

While Haley comes into the race as an underdog - most national polls show her support in the single digits - she is used to running from behind, having gained a reputation in political circles for coming out on top in tough-to-win races.

A spokesperson for Haley declined to comment on Wednesday.

A spokesperson for Scott did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Agencies

Western Sahara: US Reiterates support for Morocco's autonomy plan

RABAT

MICHELE Sison, the US Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, and former American Ambassador to Haiti, has reiterated US' support for Morocco's Autonomy Plan, describing it as a "serious, credible and realistic solution" to the dispute over the Western Sahara.

Sison made the statement on the sidelines of a press briefing following her meeting in Rabat today with Morocco's Minister of Foreign Affairs Nasser Bourita.

Sison's meeting with Bourita focused on the US' support for the UN Secretary-Envoy General Staffan de Mistura's efforts in leading the UN political process in Western Sahara, Sison explained.

"We discussed our strong support for MINURSO's peace-keeping efforts and their critical role in maintaining the conditions for the UN-led peace process," Sison said.

The assistant secretary highlighted that the US' priority is to support a credible process that leads to a just and lasting solution to the Sahara dispute, which has the backing of the international community.

The US recognized Morocco's territorial integrity and sovereignty over Western Sahara in December 2020.

The recognition has further strengthened ties between the two countries in a wide range of sectors, including trade, security cooperation, among others.

During her visit, Sison also commended King Mohammed VI's efforts in supporting peace and security in the MENA region and around the world.

"We greatly appreciate the role of His Majesty King Mohammed VI in supporting peace and security in the Middle East and North Africa, and around the world," she said.

"This meeting was also an opportunity to discuss Morocco's recent election to the UN Human Rights Council and the importance of human rights." **Agencies**

US does not hide its goal to inflict strategic defeat to Russia in Ukraine – Russian envoy

MOSCOW

WASHINGTON does not hide the US' goal in Ukraine is to inflict a strategic defeat to Russia and to exhaust it, Russian Ambassador to the US Anatoly Antonov said on Russian TV Wednesday.



"The political circles in Washington do not hide the goal of their war on the Ukrainian territory, and my tongue did not slip - to inflict a strategic defeat to Russia, to exhaust and to wear down our country," he said.

The Russian envoy noted that the Americans seek to pit Russia's partners and allies against Moscow.

"They want to drive a wedge between us and former Soviet republics, they threaten them with sanctions, they persuade them that all cooperation with us must be stopped and all ties must be cut," he continued. "The Russophobes have decided to cut Russia's name from the political map of the world. These ideas are not propaganda slogans and not a figure of speech. This is indeed a real situation in our relations."

"The Russian-American relations are in sorry state. The Americans have effectively destroyed all that we have built in the recent years together. The degree of Russophobia and mistrust is off the charts," he concluded.

Somalia's neighbors to start new operations against al Shabaab

MOGADISHU

TOP leaders of Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya on Wednesday agreed to begin "search and destroy" operations to push al Shabaab militants out of neighboring Somalia.

The move follows an intensified offensive by Somalia's federal government against the al Qaeda-affiliated group over the past few months.

It has taken back control of several towns and villages in central Somalia with the help of US military, allied clan militias and forces belonging to Somali regional governments.

Kenya's President William Ruto, Djibouti's President Ismail Omer Guelleh and Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed met their Somali counterpart Hassan Sheikh Mohamud in Mogadishu to review measures to weaken al Shabaab.

"The summit ... agreed to jointly plan and organise a robust operational campaign at the frontline states level, of search and destroy on multiple frontlines aiming at key al Shabaab strongholds across south and central Somalia," they said in a joint statement. "The time sensitive campaign will prevent any future infiltrating elements in the region," the communique said, without providing any details about the operation.

Peace will not fall from the sky, Pope Francis tells Congolese

KINSHASA

heavy price of brutal death.

POPE Francis delivered a message of peace on Wednesday in the Democratic Republic of Congo as he met survivors and victims of the atrocities of the war in eastern DRC.

On Wednesday afternoon, the pontiff was confronted with a stark reality as he received emotional testimonies from victims of violence who have been fighting in North and South Kivu and Ituri since the late 1990s.

Men, women and even children, some who had their arms cut off took turns to testify about their suffering. They showed the Pope their injured body parts.

The survivors came to Kinshasa to tell Francis about their ordeal. Their bodies bear the impact of the violence in eastern DRC. In front of the Pope, they expressed what they need: to find peace and live in [their] community without having to pay the

Sexual slaves
Women narrated how they were made sexual slaves by rebels or armed groups, and many had seen their relatives killed or cut up in front of them.

According to Aimedia Wakarungulu, a former hostage of the rebels, the attackers forced their captives to eat human flesh of previously killed victims.

These survivors of the violence in eastern DRC then laid machetes, knives and other weapons before the Pope with the hope that they will never hear of war and violence in their provinces again.

Shocked by the violence

In response to these testimonies, the Pope confessed that "he is shocked by this humane violence". Francis denounced the fact that, according to him, the international media do not talk enough about what is happening in



Pope Francis blessing a child on Wednesday during a meeting with victims of the conflict in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo at the Apostolic Nunciature in Kinshasa. AFP

the DRC. The Pope said that "the violence has gone on long enough, and it must stop".

Francis began by "condemning the armed violence, the massacres and the bloody and illegal exploitation of Congo's wealth and the attempt to partition the country".

"The war is fuelled by internal and external forces for

profit and advantage," Francis said, describing the war as "partisan struggles where ethnic and territorial dynamics are intertwined".

In reference to the conflict with its neighbour Rwanda, Pope Francis urged "all those who live in the DRC to commit themselves to building a better future".

"Peace will not fall from the sky," he said.

He stated that "a new future will come about if the other, whether Tutsi or Hutu, is no longer an adversary or enemy, but a brother or sister". This was a clear reference to part played by the M23 rebels, a Tutsi-led group, in the conflict.

Agencies

THE Ministry of Commerce and the People's Bank of China recently jointly released a notice on further supporting foreign economic and trade enterprises in expanding the cross-border use of RMB to facilitate trade and investment.

The notice made deployment in supporting RMB settlement for trading in bulk commodities, supporting foreign investors to invest and reinvest in China with RMB, and expanding the use of RMB in overseas economic and trade cooperation zones, so as to nurture a sound environment for the cross-border use of RMB.

Market participants generally believe that RMB cross-border investment and financing, as well as settlement, are becoming more stable and convenient as China gains an

China expands cross-border use of RMB

increasingly closer economic relationship with the world.

To further improve the fundamental institutional system for the cross-border use of RMB helps promote a virtuous circulation of the currency in both onshore and offshore markets, and will enable Chinese and foreign market entities to launch more efficient cooperation for win-win outcomes.

Today's China is dubbed the "world factory" because it ranks first in the world in the production of 220 types of industrial products. It is also a "world market" that boasts 1.4 billion people and the world's largest middle-income group. Besides, the country re-

mains the biggest or most important trading partner for more than 120 countries and regions.

For many economies, RMB settlement will not only save conversion costs of foreign exchange but also

A message released by the Argentine Embassy in China on Jan. 9 excited Wang Shicheng, general manager of a foreign trade company in Shanghai. According to the message, Argentina's central bank announced to expand a currency swap deal with China, which included a special activation of 35 billion yuan to compensate operations on the foreign exchange market.

It is learned that Wang and his

Argentine partners used to settle in U.S. dollars. However, the high and frequent fluctuations in the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar against the Chinese yuan and the Argentine peso in recent years have put huge pressure on him and his partners.

Therefore, the Chinese businessman and his Argentine partners have always hoped to settle with RMB for their cross-border trade.

"At the fifth China International Import Expo held last November, we agreed to import 20 containers of wine from Argentine and French wineries. The further expansion of the use of RMB is definitely good news to us," Wang told People's

Daily.

According to the latest statistics released by China's State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE), RMB receipts and payments accounted for nearly 50 percent of the country's cross-border receipts and payments in 2022, up more than 20 percentage points from 2016.

Due to high inflation and tight monetary policy in major economies, the U.S. dollar index vaulted to a 20-year high last year while major currencies, including the euro, yen, and British pound plunged to new lows in the past 20 to 30 years, said SAFE spokesperson Wang Chunying.

The increasing ratio of the use of RMB in cross-border settlement will help reduce currency mismatch risks in cross-border trade, Wang added.

According to Liu Cheng, an associate professor at China's Nankai University, cross-border RMB settlements related to real economy have kept growing rapidly in recent years, with bulk commodities and cross-border e-commerce sectors emerging as new areas of growth. Two-way cross-border investment activities were dynamic, Liu added.

As the exchange rate of the RMB maintains general stability and bidirectional volatility, the internal demand of market entities for using RMB to avoid exchange rate risks is gradually growing, Liu told People's Daily. **People's Daily**

Algeria is one of most plausible candidates to join BRICS – Lavrov

MOSCOW

ALGERIA is one of the leading candidates to join BRICS, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said in an interview with RT Arabic that was published on the ministry's website on Wednesday.

Lavrov (pictured) said several countries had officially asked to join the group comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

"The number of these requests - more than five - exceeds the number of the original members of BRICS. We agreed at the most recent events of the five countries that took place last year and were chaired by China that it's necessary to develop shared approaches toward these requests. As the first step, we will agree on the criteria, parameters and conditions for accepting new members to our group. Algeria, with all its qualities, is one of the leaders among the candidates," the minister said.

In 2006, Brazil, Russia, India and China established the BRIC group. The Republic of South Africa joined it in 2011, turning it into BRICS. South Africa assumed the presidency of the BRICS group on January 1.

Diplomatic sources in the South African capital told TASS that BRICS will hold talks in the next few months on its potential expansion. Algeria, Argentina and Iran have already applied to join BRICS, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Egypt have announced they are interested in gaining membership in this group.



Draft WHO pandemic deal pushes for equity to avoid COVID 'failure' repeat

LONDON / GENEVA

GOVERNMENTS may have to reserve drugs and vaccines for the World Health Organization to distribute in poorer countries to avoid a repeat of the "catastrophic failure" during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to an early draft of a global pandemic agreement.

One of the most concrete proposals in the draft accord reviewed by Reuters on Wednesday includes a measure to reserve 20 percent of any tests, vaccines or treatments developed for use in poorer countries.

The draft also looks set to continue a long-running argument by calling for intellectual property rights to be waived during pandemics, which advocates say would allow for wider access to life-saving drugs and vaccines more quickly.

The pharmaceutical industry is against the move.

The draft also retains earlier provisions that could see pharmaceutical companies made to release details of any public contracts for vaccines and treatments during such global health emergencies.

The agreement, which is commonly known as the pandemic treaty, has been drawn up by WHO member states and will now go through a lengthy negotiating process before being finalized.

Talks on the draft treaty will begin on Feb 27 and are set to continue to



A health worker prepares a dose of Pfizer COVID-19 coronavirus vaccine at a health center in Jakarta on Feb 1, 2023. (PHOTO / AFP)

2024. Member states have agreed that the treaty will be legally binding for those who sign up, but it is not yet clear how that will be enforced.

The draft was released to member states and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on Wednesday. It contains a number of measures to ensure the world's response to the next pandemic is not only more robust, but more equitable.

"It is a once-in-a-generation chance to make a paradigm shift in the protection and improvement of the health of the world's people," WHO spokesperson Fadelia Chaib said of the accord.

The draft begins by saying it is being drawn up "in recognition of the catastrophic failure of the international community in showing solidarity and equity in response to the

coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic".

However, there will be "heat and opposition" in the negotiations ahead, particularly around the intellectual property provisions, said James Love, director of the NGO Knowledge Ecology International.

African leaders agree on operational strategy to fight al-Shabab in Somalia

MOGADISHU

FOUR African leaders on Wednesday resolved to jointly plan a decisive operational strategy against al-Shabab and mobilize regional support for timely, decisive operations against the extremists in Somalia.

Presidents Hassan Sheikh Mohamud of Somalia, William Ruto of Kenya, Djibouti's Ismail Omar Guelleh and Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali said well-equipped security personnel is in a better position to fight the al-Shabab extremists.

In a communique issued in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, after a day-long summit, the leaders said that they have decided to establish a joint operations mechanism that coordinates the operations' holistic capabilities and multipliers to deter and defeat the enemy.

They appealed to the international community to repeal the existing United Nations arms embargo in Somalia, allowing the Somali government to better equip its military in the fight against terrorism.

They said that Somalia had shown the ability to manage arms proliferation within their borders and lauded the advancement made in developing capabilities in managing weapons and ammunition regimes and endorsed Somalia's quest to completely lift the arms embargo by the end of 2023.

The UN Security Council imposed an open-ended arms embargo on Somalia in January 1992 before it was partially amended in February 2007 to allow arms supplies to Somali government forces.

The leaders welcomed the request by the Somali government to obtain both lethal and non-lethal support to equip the newly-generated Somali National Army (SNA) units and to enhance the firepower capabilities of current SNA operational units.

"The summit agrees to make the final push for joint operations in the areas that remain under the terrorists to completely liberate the whole of Somalia from al-Shabab to facilitate the drawdown of ATMIS (African Union Transition Mission in Somalia) troops and the gradual handover of security responsibilities to the Somali security forces," it said.

The leaders emphasized the need to consolidate and build upon the existing Somali Transition Plan (STP)/troop-contributing countries (TCC) efforts in Somali and agreed to jointly plan and organize a robust operational campaign at the frontline states level targeting key strategic al-Shabab strongholds across the south and central Somalia.

The presidents mainly from the frontline states said time-sensitive campaigns will prevent any future infiltrating elements into the wider region. President Mohamud who took power in May 2022 has launched a major offensive against the Shabab militants that has seen parts of Somalia liberated from the terrorists.

Funeral service held for Tyre Nichols amid outcry over police brutality in US

WASHINGTON

A FUNERAL service for Tyre Nichols, who died last month after being beaten by police officers, was held in Memphis, in the southeastern U.S. state of Tennessee, on Wednesday afternoon.

Nichols, a 29-year-old African American man, was pronounced dead in hospital on Jan. 10, three days after a traffic stop by Memphis police. Footage released by Memphis authorities last week showed officers brutally punching and kicking Nichols even when he was subdued.

U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris told Nichols' family at the funeral service on Wednesday that Americans "mourn with you" while calling for police reform. American civil rights figure Al Sharpton delivered the eulogy for Nichols, saying that they will continue to fight for justice and "won't stop until we hold you accountable and change the system."

Five Memphis police officers involved in the death of Nichols were fired after an internal investigation and are facing criminal charges, including second-degree murder.

The Memphis Police Department's so-called SCORPION unit, to which the fired officers belonged, has been permanently deactivated. The fallout has also reached other agencies, including the Memphis Fire Department, which fired three emergency medical technicians.

Two additional Memphis police officers have recently been relieved of duty. "My brother was robbed of his life, his passions, and his talents, but not his light," Keyana Dixon, a sister of Nichols, said on Wednesday. "I see the world showing him love and fighting for his justice," Dixon said through tears. "But all I want is my baby brother back."

The death of Nichols came nearly three years after the police murder of African American man George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Floyd, 46, died on May 25, 2020, after an encounter with Minneapolis police, during which white officer Derek Chauvin knelt on his neck for more than nine minutes while making an arrest with other colleagues.

The police killing of Floyd sparked outrage and protests across the United States in the summer of 2020 against police brutality and systemic racism. Police killed 1,186 people in the United States last year, according to Mapping Police Violence. African Americans were 26 percent of those killed by police in 2022 despite accounting for only 13 percent of the population.



Five Memphis police officers involved in the death of Nichols were fired after an internal investigation and are facing criminal charges, including second-

China, US need to explore right way of interaction

SINCE Chinese President Xi Jinping had a meeting with his U.S. counterpart Joe Biden in Bali, Indonesia last year, Chinese and American diplomatic and national security teams, as well as financial and trade teams have maintained close contact to follow up on the major issues the two leaders discussed and implement the important common understandings they came to.

The international society hopes that the two major countries can make joint efforts to find the right way of interaction so as to serve as an anchor of stability in the fast-changing world and play a major role in promoting global economic recovery after the pandemic, tackling climate change and solving regional hotspot issues.

In recent years, the U.S. hasn't let go of its obsession with treating China as a so-called strategic competitor, which not only traps China-U.S. relations, but also makes world peace and development unstable.

Stephen Roach, a senior fellow at Yale University, recently warned that the two countries' "ability to tackle these enormous and important global issues will be severely constrained" if they remain conflicted.

What the U.S. side should understand is that there is competition in the world at any time, but competition should be to learn from each other, catch up with each other, and make progress together, not "If you lose and I win; You die and I live." Blind anti-China approaches will not work.

Xi said that it would be problematic if two major countries like China and the U.S. do not have overarching principled common understandings. Only with principles can there be a direction, and only with a direction can the two sides properly handle differences and expand cooperation.

During the meeting between Xi and Biden, the two presidents agreed on the importance of working out the guiding principles for China-U.S. relations, and further explored the topic with constructive discussions.

The Chinese side proposed that China and the U.S. should respect each other, coexist in peace and pursue win-win cooperation, and work together to ensure that China-U.S. relations move forward on the right course without losing



direction or speed, still less having a collision.

Mutual respect is an important experience drawn from past exchanges between the two sides, as well as a pre-condition of the China-U.S. relations getting back to the right track.

China and the U.S. are two major countries with different histories, cultures, social systems and development paths. There have been differences in the past, and there will be more in the future. But such differences should not become an obstacle to developing China-U.S. relations.

China respects the social system of the U.S., and always hopes that the U.S. will stay open and confident, keep growing and make progress. Likewise, the U.S. should respect China's development path.

The leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and China's socialist system have the support of 1.4 billion people. They are the fundamental guarantee for China's development and stability.

It is vital to recognize and respect such differences if China and the U.S. are to get along. Neither side should try to remold the other in one's own image, or seek to change or even subvert the other's system.

The U.S. must prevent its ideological prejudices from blinding its China policy, and take concrete actions to fulfill its promise that the U.S. respects China's system, and does not seek to change it.

It is the two sides' mutual and fundamental interest to prevent conflict and confrontation and achieve peaceful coexistence. China remains committed to an independent foreign policy of peace and to its foreign policy goals of upholding world peace and promoting common development.

Some in the U.S., who can't get rid of the Cold War mentality, take China as an imaginary enemy when they see its development steps. The U.S. side should remove such a major barrier impeding the peaceful

coexistence between China and the U.S. as soon as possible.

Observing the basic norms of international relations and the three Sino-U.S. joint communiqués is vitally important for the two sides to manage differences and disagreements and prevent confrontation and conflict; indeed, it is the most important guardrail and safety net for China-U.S. relations.

Once the two countries conflict or confront, be it in the form of cold war, hot war, trade war, or tech war, it will eventually damage the interests of China, the U.S. and the rest of the world.

The Taiwan question is at the very core of China's core interests. It is the bedrock of the political foundation of China-U.S. relations, and the first red line that must not be crossed in China-U.S. relations.

The U.S. should abandon its obsession with containing China. It should put its pledge into action that the U.S. does not seek a new Cold War, does not seek to revitalize alliances against China, does not support "Taiwan independence," does not support "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan", and has no intention to have a conflict with China.

Win-win cooperation is the true narrative of China-U.S. relations in the past half a century, and should remain the goal that the two countries both pursue.

China and the U.S. have extensive common interests in bilateral and multilateral fields, and they can and should cooperate in many areas. Their cooperation list should be extended, not cut down.

According to China's General Administration of Customs, the total trade between China and the U.S. reached a record high of 5.05 trillion yuan (\$748.5 billion) in 2022. It fully demonstrates that what the Chinese and American people desire is cooperation driven by win-win outcomes, though some people in the U.S. are addicted to "decou-

pling from China."

During the Bali meeting, Biden said the U.S. side has no intention to seek "decoupling" from China or to halt China's economic development. The U.S. should do what it has promised and stop politicizing and weaponizing economic and trade ties as well as exchanges in science and technology.

The international society is expecting China and the U.S. to jointly cope with global challenges.

Former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Henry Paulson recently said in an article on Foreign Affairs that "without a stable relationship between the U.S. and China, where cooperation on shared interests is possible, the world will be a very dangerous and less prosperous place."

Exploring the right way to get along with each other is a common expectation of the people in the two countries and the rest of the world as well.

The two sides need to have a sense of responsibility for history, for the world and for the people, define their interaction with dialogue and win-win cooperation rather than confrontation and zero-sum competition, and bring their relationship to the track of healthy and stable growth to the benefit of the two countries and the world as a whole. **People's Daily**

Wheelchair tennis players to participate in BNP Paribas World Cup Qualifiers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIAN wheelchair tennis player Lucy Shirima leaves for Nigeria today to battle it out in this year's edition of BNP Paribas World Cup Africa Qualifiers. Wheelchair Tanzania Tennis (WTT) secretary-general Riziki Suleiman said the country will be represented by two players, Lucy, and Rehema Suleiman.

Suleiman, who also doubles as the national wheelchair tennis team's coach, said Lucy will compete in a senior warm-up tournament slated for tomorrow.

The tactician revealed he and Rehema will leave for Nigeria on Monday as Rehema and teammate Lucy is expected to be in action on Wednesday.

The WTT official said Tanzania's quota for participants in the tournament is six players but, due to financial challenges the association is facing, it has failed to raise money to send all six players.

Suleiman pointed out that he and the two players are going to Nigeria on International Tennis Federation (ITF) funding.

The coach explained that WTT failed to raise money for Lucy's accommodation in Nigeria and, according to him, it took the intervention of the Nigeria Wheelchair Tennis



Female wheelchair tennis players take part in training at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) courts recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Association that pledged to offer accommodation for the player.

Suleiman noted: "Tanzania's quota in the BNP Paribas World Cup Africa Qualifiers is six players, three are sponsored by ITF but, due to financial difficulties, we have failed to raise money for the other three players."

The coach revealed: "As per the nature of wheelchair tennis players, it would have been difficult for them to travel to Nigeria without someone to help and guide them, so, I will accompany them."

"Before taking part in the BNP

Paribas World Cup Africa Qualifiers, there will be a warm-up competition for senior ladies on Saturday, Lucy will compete in it."

"We did not have money for her to have an early trip to Nigeria, we thank our Nigerian counterparts who have promised to provide accommodation for her until Monday when ITF will take over the responsibility," he said.

The players who missed the Nigeria trip due to a lack of finances are Pendo James, Albert Chuli, Voster Isaiah, and Jumanne Nassoro. This year's edi-

tion of the BNP Paribas World Cup will be held in Portugal in May. The last year's edition was held in Turkey and saw Tanzania field Chuli in the men's category while Rehema, Lucy Julius, and Pendo Zengo represented the country in the women's category.

Tanzania's wheelchair tennis team competed in the World Team BNP Paribas showdown which was held in Italy in 2017 and the former's side has also competed in many regional events and performed well.



Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) president Tuma Dandi.

National Paralympic Championships set for next month

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THIS year's edition of the National Paralympic Championships will be held in April, Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) announced.

Tuma Dandi, TPC president, said preparations for the championships have started, adding that he and fellow officials are confident that the showdown will be extremely successful.

Dandi, however, could not issue the dates for the championships and venue, saying the information will be made public once all logistics are solved.

"This year we will also have the National Paralympic Championship, preparations have already started and communication sent to all regions of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar," he said.

This is the second year in a row

that TPC is organizing the National Paralympic Championships, last year the showdown was held at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam and attracted more than 100 athletes.

Dar es Salaam emerged as the overall winner of the championships sponsored by Toyota Tanzania, Gold Star Paint, and the National Sports Council.

Last year's championships also saw students from Pugu Boys Secondary School and Jangwani Secondary School, as well as pupils from Salvation Army Primary School, take part.

In the men's 1500m race, Shukuru Khalfan was the winner having clocked 5:25.22.

Naaman Hekima also based in Dar es Salaam came second after clocking 5:25.27 while Manyara's Nasri Juma took third place having posted 5:49.01.

Athletics squad now begins preparations for World Cross Country Championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's national athletics squad's coach Dennis Malle has stated he is confident his athletes will hold sway in the 2023 World Athletics Cross-Country Championships that will take place in Bathurst, Australia on February 18.

The seven athletes entered the residential camp in Arusha yesterday and Malle said the morale among the athletes is very high.

According to Malle, the athletes' experience gives him confidence they will lay their hands on medals in the championships.

Tanzania's athletes will head for Australia four days before the World Athletics Cross-Country Championships.

Malle stated: "All athletes have reported for camp and started train-

ing today (yesterday), although they have only trained for a day the morale among them gives me confidence that they will do well in the showdown."

"The other thing which gives me confidence is that the team is made up of five experienced athletes who have competed in many local and international events," he said.

The athletes participating in training in the camp are Inyasi Sulle, Fabian Nelson, Mathayo Sombi, Josephat Gisemo, and Herman Sulle.

Damian Christian is the national junior athlete while John Nahhay is a reserve athlete.

The athletes making the national team were selected in trials conducted by Arusha Athletics Association.

The showdown involved athletes from Dar es Salaam, Manyara, Kilimanjaro, Dodoma, Singida, and Tanga.



Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM)'s Tanga Chairman Rajab Abdulrahman (3rd L) hands over 30m/- to Mkwakwani Stadium's manager Nassor Makau for purchasing a generator for newly installed floodlights at the facility. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT CHEJI BAKARI

Mkwakwani Stadium to host night matches

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

THE Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) has handed over 30m/- to Tanga's Mkwakwani Stadium management for purchasing a generator for the newly installed floodlights at the venue.

The installation of floodlights at Mkwakwani Stadium was jointly implemented by Azam Media Limited and Mkwakwani Stadium management.

According to the mutual agreement between the two parties, a large part of the construc-

tion was carried out by Azam Media Limited and the remaining will be implemented by the stadium's management.

The stadium is owned by CCM's Tanga District branch but since the completion of the project three months, floodlights were not switched on due to various reasons including the absence of a standby generator.

The Tanga's CCM Chairman, Rajab Abdulrahman, had on Wednesday handed over the 30m/- to Mkwakwani Stadium management for purchasing the

standby generator.

Abdulrahman disclosed: "Today we are officially switching on these floodlights to enable NBC Premier League's outfits to play at night, now prominent sides like Yanga and Simba SC will play at night here."

He further explained that Tanga's African Sports and rivals Coastal Union will play a friendly match tomorrow to launch the floodlights.

The occasion, Abdulrahman pointed out, will moreover mark CCM's 46th anniversary, with

Zanzibar's Second Vice President Suleiman Abdullah set to grace the event.

Mkwakwani Stadium's manager Nassor Makau thanked the CCM's regional leadership for the move and expressed optimism the floodlights will not only make NBC Premier League matches and other competitions' fixtures competitive but also stimulate Tanga's nightlife.

He also said that the purchasing of a standby generator has quashed rumours about the functioning of floodlights.

Tokyo Olympic bribery scandal rolls on; company apologizes

TOKYO

A JAPANESE company embroiled in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic corruption scandal said yesterday it would strengthen oversight to prevent further wrongdoing.

Kadokawa "seriously betrayed public trust," company president Takeshi Natsuno said. He bowed deeply with two other executives to show remorse in a news conference.

Tsuguhiko Kadokawa, the son of the

founder, was arrested in September on suspicion of bribing Haruyuki Takahashi, a member of the Tokyo Olympic organizing committee, with 69 million yen (\$480,000).

Kadokawa Group was chosen as an Olympic sponsor and published the Games program and guidebooks.

Takahashi is a former executive at the Japanese advertising company Dentsu, which played a key role in 2013 in landing the Olympics for Tokyo, and then became the Tokyo

Games marketing arm.

Takahashi was arrested and released from jail after being held for about four months. Japanese media say he is denying the corruption charges.

He also faces bribery allegations in connection with several companies tied to the Tokyo Olympics: Aoki Holdings, a clothing company that dressed Japan's Olympic team; Daiko Advertising Inc., ADK Marketing Solutions, and Sun Arrow, which produced the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic mascots named Miraitowa

and Someity.

Any trials are likely to be slow moving as the Japanese court process tends to be drawn out, and more than a dozen people are involved.

Prosecutors say Takahashi acted in ways to favor the companies with sponsorships and other benefits related to the Olympics in return for the bribes.

Prosecutors say, besides the bribery scandal, a separate probe is ongoing into bid-rigging and the choice of venues for Olympic test events.

The sprawling corruption allegations surrounding Tokyo have caused the bid by the northern Japanese city of Sapporo for the 2030 Winter Games to be placed "on hold."

Sapporo was considered the favorite for 2030, partially because of Japan's reliability and heavy spending to hold the delayed Tokyo Games.

The Switzerland-based International Olympic Committee is reported to have Salt Lake City as the lone candidate to hold the 2030 Games.

Chelsea's scattergun spending is no guarantee of success

LONDON

CHELSEA'S record-breaking last-minute swoop to sign Enzo Fernandez took the Blues' spending in the first year of the club's new ownership to a staggering figure of more than £500 million (\$616 million).

The Premier League giants splashed out 121 million euros for the Argentina midfielder, breaking the previous British transfer record -- Jack Grealish's £100-million move to Manchester City.

Fernandez was Chelsea's eighth signing of the January window, with the spending overseen by Todd Boehly's consortium sending shockwaves around the football world.

Less than a year ago there were fears that Chelsea could run out of cash due to sanctions slapped on then owner Roman Abramovich following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Abramovich was described by the UK government as part of Russian President Vladimir Putin's inner circle.

A special licence allowed the club to continue operating and despite an expedited sales process Chelsea fetched £2.5 billion -- a record for a football club. The consortium fronted by Boehly and private equity group Clearlake Capital promised a further £1.75 billion of investment in infrastructure and the playing squad.

But nobody saw spending in the transfer market that has obliterated the single-season record for any club across the globe.

- Scattergun strategy -

A lack of instant return on investment on the pitch and Boehly's decision to name himself as the club's interim sporting director has led to mockery of the American billionaire.

Chelsea sit 10th in the Premier League table, 10 points adrift of the top four places that secure a ticket for next season's Champions League, and are already out of both domestic cup competitions.

Former Manchester United captain Gary Neville described Boehly's approach to the transfer market as similar to a fan playing the popular video game "Football Manager".

Chelsea's strategy does appear scattergun at best.

In the summer transfer window nearly £100 million was splashed on experienced players Raheem Sterling, Kalidou Koulibaly and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, all of whom have struggled to make a positive impact. **AFP**

Dani Alves offers to turn in passport, wear tracking device

MADRID

BRAZILIAN soccer player Dani Alves has agreed to turn in his passport and wear a tracking device if he is set free pending the sexual assault investigation against him, his lawyers said in an appeal filed to a Spanish court this week.

Alves was provisionally detained in January after being accused of sexually assaulting a woman at a nightclub on Dec. 30. A judge ordered the veteran player to be jailed without bail after analyzing the initial probe by authorities and hearing testimony from Alves, the alleged victim and a witness.

Alves has denied any wrongdoing.

In the appeal obtained by The Associated Press on Wednesday, Alves offered to report to the court and to authorities as often as required, including daily, and to not leave Spain. He would not get within 500 meters (yards) of the accuser or her home or work place, and would not communicate with her in any matter. The appeal said he would agree to wear a device allowing authorities to constantly monitor his whereabouts to make sure he complied with his obligations.

The appeal said Alves would pay bail in the amount established by the judge, in addition to giving up his travel documents to authorities. The judge had denied Alves bail in part because he was deemed a flight risk.

Alves' lawyers, which includes the same one who worked for Lionel Messi in his tax fraud case, claimed that the accusations alone made by the alleged victim were not enough to prompt his detention without bail.

They said there were inconsistencies in her testimony, including when she said she was scared of Alves and his friends at the nightclub even though security cameras showed that she and her friends were in a "festive" way.

They also point to images that showed that the accuser was not forced into the bathroom where she claimed to have been assaulted.

Alves initially denied having sex with her but later admitted to a consensual sexual encounter.

The lawyers said in the appeal that he initially denied that he had sex with her because he wanted to protect his wife and children.

The accuser has reportedly relinquished her right to seek financial compensation from Alves if he is eventually found guilty.

AP

Europe looks on helplessly at 'wild' spending by Premier League clubs

LONDON

ANOTHER transfer window of record-breaking spending in the Premier League has led to more soul-searching around Europe, as clubs on the continent are unable to stop the drain of talent to England.

Chelsea have stolen most of the headlines with their eye-watering purchase of Argentina midfielder Enzo Fernandez from Benfica for an English record of 121 million euros (\$132m).

But he was just one of seven players to move to Stamford Bridge from clubs elsewhere in Europe, and Chelsea were not the only ones spending big.

Of the top 20 January transfers according to specialist site Transfermarkt, only two did not involve Premier League clubs -- one was Marseille selling Brazil midfielder Gerson back to Flamengo, and the other was the French side buying Portuguese striker Vitorino from Braga in a 32 million-euro deal.

There were no major moves involving any of the continent's powerhouses, with not even



Enzo Fernandez

Paris Saint-Germain getting out their chequebook -- they failed in an attempt to sign Hakim Ziyech on loan from Chelsea.

The spending of the London outfit under new American owner Todd Boehly's consortium was watched particularly closely by Borussia Dortmund, who will be their opponents in the last 16 of the Champions League this month.

"It is very wild, you just have to say that. They are running in their own race," Dortmund sport-

ing director Sebastian Kehl told Sky Germany.

The Premier League's financial dominance is fuelled by domestic and international television revenues which are far higher than in any of the other so-called Big Five European leagues, in Spain, Italy, Germany and France.

Eleven of the top 20 revenue-generating clubs in the world last year are from the Premier League, according to Deloitte's latest Football Money League.

The rest now struggle

to keep up, and La Liga has also accused Premier League sides of being "doped" because of phenomenally wealthy shareholders putting in additional money to then spend on new players. "Essentially they are 'doping' the club. They are injecting money not generated by the club, for it to spend, which puts the viability of the club at risk if the shareholder leaves," claimed Javier Gomez, La Liga's corporate director general, in a video defending their own stringent

financial rules with Spain's top flight.

"In our opinion that is cheating because it drags down the rest of the leagues."

- Is there still hope? -

Gomez said La Liga would continue to demand new financial rules be applied by UEFA, whose own Financial Fair Play regulations have not been able to halt the increasing polarisation in top-level European football.

Others have highlighted the increasing spending power of more modest English clubs.

Take Bournemouth, who had never played in England's top flight before 2015 and whose stadium has a capacity of little over 11,000.

In January they signed Dango Ouattara from French side Lorient in a 27 million-euro deal and then added Illia Zabarnyi, an outstanding defensive prospect at Dynamo Kyiv, for a similar fee.

They were not the Cherries' only signings either.

"While Europe is wondering about the dangers of the Super League, we need to acknowledge that there is already a super league and it makes

the rules," said an editorial in Italy's Corriere dello Sport.

"The real strength of the Premier League is the spending capacity of the little clubs: Bournemouth, who are fighting for safety, have the resources and audacity to ask Roma for (Nicolo) Zaniolo before flippantly knocking at Sassuolo's door for (Hamed) Traore and unloading 30 million euros."

So is there still hope for the rest of Europe?

They will keep producing more outstanding players and there is no guarantee Premier League teams will sweep the European trophies this season.

After all, they did not win any last year, when Real Madrid beat Liverpool in the Champions League final.

"I don't think this will end the competitiveness of European competitions," insisted Real's former Chelsea coach, Carlo Ancelotti.

"Last year the Champions League was not won by an English side, nor the Europa League... (but) it's true internally the Premier League will be more competitive and entertaining."

AFP

Saudi Arabia to host 2027 Asian Cup, World Cup next?

MANAMA

SAUDI Arabia was confirmed as host of football's 2027 Asian Cup on Wednesday, an expected prelude for a World Cup bid as the oil-rich kingdom spends big on sports in an attempt to improve its image.

The three-time winners' successful bid, a formality after their sole rivals India withdrew, was rubber-stamped at the Asian Football Confederation Congress in Bahrain, held just weeks after Gulf neighbours Qatar hosted the first World Cup in the Middle East.

"We are excited to deliver the greatest tournament in the competition's history," the kingdom's sports minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki Al-Faisal said after the announcement.

"The kingdom is transforming before our eyes and we are filled with excitement for what it will look like in 2027."

Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, has held talks with Egypt and Greece about a joint World Cup bid for 2030, officials said last year.

The conservative country has thrown hundreds of millions of dollars at deals including Al Nassr's signing of Cristiano Ronaldo, Formula One in Jeddah and the lucrative LIV tour that has divided golf.

The Gulf monarchy is often accused of "sportswashing" - using sport to shield criticism of its human rights record. On Wednesday, a report by Reprieve and the European Saudi Organisation for Human Rights said executions had soared under the



Asian Football Confederation president Sheikh Salman bin Ebrahim al-Khalifah (left) presents a plaque to Saudi Arabia's Minister of Sports and Youth Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki Al-Faisal (centre) after the Kingdom was named as host of the 2027 AFC Asian Cup during the Asian Football Confederation's Congress in Manama on Wednesday. (AFP)

current leadership.

Speaking to AFP at the AFC Congress, Prince Abdulaziz stressed that there was no World Cup bid on the table, but added: "Everything is possible."

"As you can see, hosting events in Saudi Arabia is big. And it's part of our 2030 vision," he said, referring to the Vision 2030 development project to modernise the oil-dependent economy.

"Anything that will come our way that we see feasible for the vision and the strategy that we have we'll definitely try to pursue."

He added: "Now we are focusing on 2027 because we still have to build infrastructure and so on to meet the requirements of the Asian Cup. And hopefully after that we'll see what comes up."

The Asian Cup adds to Saudi Arabia's growing portfolio of major events including the 2034 Asian Games and even the 2029 Asian Winter

Games on artificial snow. Saudi is also bidding to host the 2026 Women's Asian Cup.

"I'm sure Saudi Arabia will host a fantastic Asian Cup," FIFA president Gianni Infantino said at the Manama congress.

No dates were announced for the 2023 edition of the Asian Cup, which will be hosted by reigning champions Qatar after China withdrew because of the Covid cri-

sis.

But AFC president Sheikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa, who was elected unopposed to a fresh four-year term, told reporters it seemed likely to happen in January 2024.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia would not object to Russia joining the Asian Football Confederation, its sports minister told AFP on Wednesday, as Russian officials search

for ways to return to international competition.

Russian officials dangled the possibility of a move to Asia in December, following Russia's ban from international competition by European body UEFA over the invasion of Ukraine.

Although the Russian Football Union later called for a working group on resuming ties with UEFA, Russian Football Union chief Alexander Dyukov did not rule out seeking AFC membership at a later stage.

Speaking at the AFC Congress in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia's Sports Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki Al-Faisal said he didn't see a problem with Russia shifting allegiances to Asia.

"If FIFA and the AFC allow it and there's a benefit for Asia then I don't think there's a problem with that," he told AFP.

Joining the AFC would mean that Russia would play World Cup qualifiers against Asian teams and that its club sides would take part in Asian competitions.

AFC president Sheikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa said there

had been no formal approach about Russia's membership.

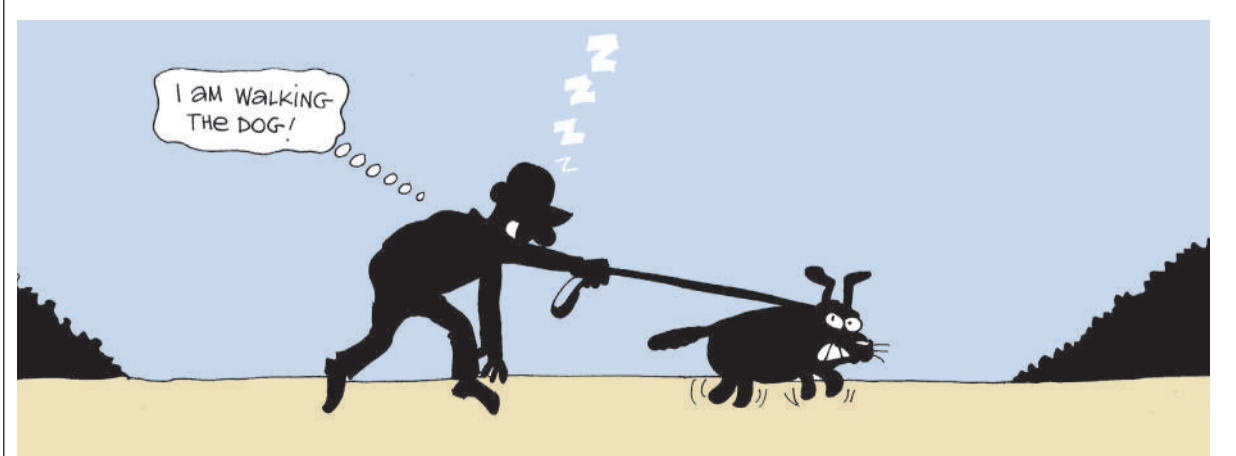
"If we get something official for the AFC in this regard, then this is another issue, but I will not anticipate events and talk about something that did not happen in the first place," he told media.

"We have a good relationship with the Russian federation and with the rest of the European federations, and we are always in contact with the federations on all occasions. We want the best interests of the game as we seek to keep politics away from football." Last week, Russian and Belarusian athletes -- sidelined from most Olympic sports since the invasion -- were invited to compete at this year's postponed Asian Games, scheduled to be held in China.

The International Olympic Committee also said that allowing Russians and Belarusians to compete at the Paris 2024 Olympics should be "further explored", ignoring a Ukrainian threat to boycott.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Europe looks on helplessly at 'wild' spending by Premier League clubs

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Simba SC hosts Singida Big Stars in massive top-four clash



Simba SC attacker, Kibu Denis (R), challenges Singida Big Stars FC's winger Deus Kaseke as the clubs took on each other in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League match that was played in Singida in November last year and ended in a 1-1 draw. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

important game in a busy schedule.

Hussein revealed: "As players we know we have a tough schedule this month, we want to make sure we use the game against Singida to win and increase morale within the squad."

The full-back said: "The first game against Singida ended in a draw, there were weaknesses that we are working on in training and we will also improve on the strength that we showed in previous games."

"We are asking the fans to show up in large numbers, we need them to increase enthusiasm," Hussein added.

As for Singida Big Stars, they head into the game full of confidence, considering they got the better of Azam FC away in their last outing and impressively managed to limit their opponents to just one shot on target in the entire match.

Having conceded 15 goals in 21 matches, Singida Big Stars boast the third-best defensive record in the division this term, meaning Simba SC will have to be at their best to get past the visitors' solid backline.

If they can avoid defeat, Singida Big Stars will move to third position, overtaking Azam FC.

Singida Big Stars head coach, Hans van der Pluijm, has no injury concerns ahead of this match and should be able to choose from a full-strength squad.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC and Singida Big Stars will clash at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam tonight in a massive NBC Premier League top-four fixture.

Simba SC will go into the game whilst positioned second and six points off top-placed Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, in the title race.

Singida Big Stars are sitting fourth in the standings and seven points behind Simba SC.

With just nine rounds of matches to go, Simba SC can ill-afford to drop any more points but the club's head coach, Roberto Oliveira, and his men will be confident of extending their winning streak at home.

In this season's NBC Premier League, the Msimbazi Reds have only lost one of their 21 matches this term - sealing 15 wins and five draws in the

process.

They head into today's clash on a 17-game unbeaten streak across all competitions - winning each of their previous four encounters.

Their last league defeat came in a league clash against Azam FC in Dar es Salaam in October.

It is also worth noting

that Simba SC has conceded a measly 12 league goals this season, keeping a whopping 11 clean sheets along the way.

Simba SC has no fresh concerns to report from their win over Coastal Union last weekend, and striker Moses Phiri should return after his recent

knockout the goal-getter picked in a match against Kagera Sugar, but it remains to be seen if he is fit enough to start here.

Ahead of the crucial assignment, Simba SC's assistant captain Mohamed Hussein sat down with the media at Simba SC's Bunju training center to preview what he termed as a very

5 EATV FRIDAY

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15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SLEKET
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)

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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 Prisons plots Mtibwa Sugar's downfall in Premier League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA Prisons will host Mtibwa Sugar in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League duel at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya today, as the former battles to survive relegation to next season's Championship League.

It will be the first competitive game for Tanzania Prisons' head coach Mohamed Abdallah that has recently made his way back to the club.

Abdallah has taken the reigns from Kenyan Patrick Odhiambo after the former had steered Zanzibar's Mlandege FC to lift the 2023 Mapinduzi Cup tournament's title with a 2-1 win over Singida Big Stars in the final in January.

The Mbeya outfit has signed a one-year contract with Abdallah, who started work immediately, to bring the series of poor results the club has posted to an end.

In the previous five top-flight games, Prisons have lost three consecutive matches after winning two in a row.

They welcome Mtibwa Sugar which has not tasted a win in the past five consecutive games.

Prisons parted ways with their previous head coach Odhiambo after experiencing a series of poor results which had the outfit placed in the relegation zone.

Prisons' assistant coach Shaban Mtupa dispelled the outfit's fans' fear that it may be relegated at the end of this season.

Mtupa, who temporarily operated as the outfit's head coach, said that the outfit is strong and ready for the rest of the season.

The tactician said the outfit believes it will do well and stay in the Premier League next season.

Prisons survived relegation last season after winning the club's playoff matches against Championship League outfit, JKT Tanzania.

Mtupa noted: "Our prayers are ready, we have developed morale and good plans to ensure that we win our remaining games this season."

The gaffer revealed: "The technical bench is pleased with the effort as every player is showing commitment."

Mtupa pointed out: "We admit that the Premier League has become more competitive this season but that does not stop us from realizing what we intend to do."

The gaffer noted: "All our fans need is to continue to pray for us and cheer us every time we show up in our duties to seek three points."

Tanzania Prisons has collected 21 points to stay 12th in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League, winning five games, drawing six, and losing 10 matches while Mtibwa Sugar has collected 25 points from six wins, seven draws, and eight losses.

Arusha to organize youths basketball competition next month

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

MORE than 150 young basketball players will be gathering in Arusha in March as the city gets to organize a special basketball league for young children, a sporting event that comes up in the city during the first week of the month.

The basketball tournament is to be known as 'Pamoja D League' and is going to feature U-18, U-16, U-14, U-12, and U-10 youngsters from all over Arusha Urban District and surrounding areas.

The youths basketball league will be mostly staged on weekends to allow the participants, most of them being pupils and students, to attend classes during weekdays.

Meanwhile, the third season of basketball training for youths in Arusha is tipping off at the Ngarenaro Sports Complex, involving 70 primary and secondary school students.

Organized by Pamoja Basketball, the program has taken aboard pupils and students from mostly the Ngarenaro and Mwangaza primary schools that share the same grounds.



Dar es Salaam's Vjana basketball outfit's players take part in training at the Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park's courts recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Also in the program is the neighbouring Ngarenaro Secondary School, with a few other students coming from Levulosi and

Kaloleni primary schools.

"We are opening the new year of training programs," the programs' coordinator,

Masanja Mjaba, said.

Mjaba pointed out: "However pupils attending classes that sit for examinations such as Standards Four and Seven are usually absent most of the time because they are fully involved in studies, though some manage to make it during weekends when the number rises to nearly 150 youths," the coordinator said.

Mjaba, the head coach in the program, disclosed that this is the third season in the series.

The coordinator noted: "We now have strong teams of young basketball players and the district girls' team managed to emerge victorious during the Jakaya Kikwete Youth Park tournament held in Dar es Salaam in the U-14 category of the competition."

Mjaba revealed at the moment Arusha has more than 150 qualified young basketball players.

In another development, Arusha City is organizing a special basketball camp/clinic specifically for girls, known as 'Her Time to Shine!'

The camp is one of the Pamoja Basketball programs, seeking to incubate qualified girls in the district for future national and international sporting events.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

