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Drug busters grab 423.5kgs cannabis skunk in city raids

By Getrude Mbago

THE Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) has impounded a total of 423.54 kilogrammes of high-potency cannabis (skunk) in a recent operation conducted in border regions and along the city shoreline.

Aretas Lyimo, the DCEA commissioner general, told journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday that law enforcers spotted an informal factory in Kawe area on the northern reaches of Kinondoni District, Dar es Salaam Region, producing 'skunk biscuits,' intoxicating cannabis biscuits harmful to users.

The high-strength cannabis is associated with early onset of psychosis, by experiencing delusions, a characteristic mental health challenge, he stated, noting that 16 suspects were arrested in connection with the drugs, with six of them hauled to court.

A big chunk of 158.54 kgs of skunk was found in Kigamboni and Kawe areas in bags with clothing ready for loading on smuggling boats, with 265kgs found hidden in boxes with agro-produce like apples enroute to the city from the Southern Highlands regions, he stated.

The skunk-based products are exported via illegal routes and a portion sold in seashore hideouts, he asserted, noting that skunk biscuits are an innovation by drug traffickers' influence on more people, hooking them to drugs.

Special operations are periodically organized to protect young people from being addicted to drugs, he said, affirming that there are many dishonest people adding cannabis to food products like honey, tea leaves, biscuits or cakes.

The public needs to inform the relevant authorities where they suspect such mischief being conducted in the neighbourhood, he stated, emphasizing that traffickers invent new ways to promote cannabis use by infusing intoxicants in take away food products.

"We are very keen on this and let me declare war on them, that the authorities will not sleep

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan speaks in a presidential panel at the African Investment Forum in Marrakech, Morocco, yesterday. She is with Comoro President Azali Assoumani (L) and Rwandan Prime Minister Édouard Ngirente. Photo: State House

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Simba aiming to rebound from Dar derby loss as they host Namungo

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Can Mourinho lead Roma all the way to another European final?

Samia projects her govt's pillars in key AfDB panel

Connectivity is critical on our continent. I once attended a conference in Senegal, and I had first to go to Paris and then fly back to Africa. That's a problem

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan said yesterday that the various interventions by her government to transform the agriculture sector are meant to increase its contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product from the current 4.6 percent to 10 percent in 2030.

She was participating in a presidential panel in the ongoing Africa Investment Forum (AIF) organised by the African

Development Bank (AfDB) and other multilateral financial institutions.

Themed 'Unlocking Africa's Value Chains,' the forum is seen as a multi-stakeholder platform focusing on continental deal making, facilitating connections between project sponsors, policy makers and investors, organisers said.

To transform the agriculture sector the government has come up with the Building a Better Tomorrow (BBT) youth initiative for agribusiness, aimed at pro-

moting youth engagement in modern agro-sector activity for sustainable and improved livelihoods, she said.

By engaging youth and women in the programme, they directly take up agricultural activities such as fish farming, professional agriculture, beekeeping, livestock rearing and agro-processing, she elaborated.

The program is about modernisation and commercialisation of ag-based productive activity, demanding heavy investments in mechanisation, irrigation, agro-processing and digital platforms taking up numerous youth groups, the resident affirmed.

Digital platforms under BBT assist in accessing agricultural extension services, marketing and enabling smallholder

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REPOA, stakeholders seek change, inclusion

By Felister Peter

THE government is investing into research on structural transformation to attain upper-middle ranking from the current lower middle income status.

This observation was made in Dar es Salaam yesterday before participants at the 27th annual research workshop for the economic research outfit, REPOA, themed: 'Galvanising sustainable and inclusive growth through structural trans-

formation.'

The two-day workshop was organized in collaboration with the Bank of Tanzania, Gatsby Africa plus the Planning and Investment ministry in the President's Office.

Prof Joyce Ndalichako, the Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability state minister in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), standing in for Vice President Dr Philip Mpango, said that despite initiatives to accelerate eco-

nomical growth, there are segments of the population that have been left out.

The reform process is not felt there due to various social, economic and natural factors, she stated, emphasizing the need for an inclusive economy.

A number of successes have been achieved in structural transformation, with higher economic diversification in industrial and service sectors, with contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increasing compared to the dormant agricultural sector.

The government seeks to attain an agricultural sector growth rate of 10 percent by 2030 via irrigation methods enabling commercial farming and the youth agro-sector initiative 'Building a

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'Key development plans lag, struggle'

Kagera borders Rwanda, Uganda and Burundi, it has fertile soils, five cattle ranches and gets rainfall in two prolonged periods each year

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

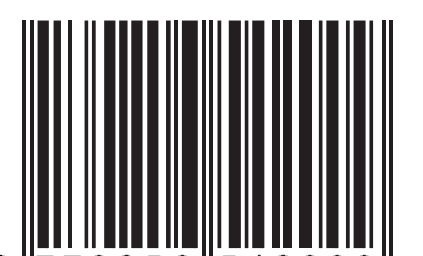
LEGISLATORS yesterday raised concern on major development projects stalling across the country due to improper management, calling for steps to revive them.

Neema Lugangira (Special Seats, Kagera) demanded that the newly tabled National Development Plan and the proposed budget outlook for 2024/25 dwell on reviving stalled development projects countrywide.

The two plans have not explained strategies to revive projects and cut the poverty rate in regions which lag behind economically, she said citing Kagera as facing poverty. It has no fish market or factory for processing fish despite its long lakeshore stretch, she stated.

"The regional referral hospital is also in

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Drug busters grab 423.5kgs cannabis skunk in city raids

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until all the culprits are caught," he vowed, expressing the wish to broaden public awareness, especially in schools, on the effects of illicit drugs on society.

He referred to arrests in Arusha of sellers of cannabis infused biscuits, later dragged to court and sentenced to 30 years in jail, noting similarly that researches affirm that most illicit drugs victims start at

school level.

One reason is lacking early education about the side effects of illicit drugs, he stated, exclaiming that the war against drugs was a tall challenge which DCEA in collaboration with other law enforcers are strengthening efforts to fight it.

"This includes launching more crackdowns on the cultivation of cannabis, destroying farms as well as bringing suspects before the court," he added.

'Key development plans lag, struggle'

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dire need of renovation to reflect its elevation and the large population it serves," she said, elaborating that Kagera region has no residential university, shows poor investment in the health sector and lacks strategies to sort out the problem of stunting in children.

"Kagera borders Rwanda, Uganda and Burundi, it has fertile soils, five cattle ranches and gets rainfall in two prolonged periods each year," she stated, claiming that the region has been forgotten in the plan.

Mwita Getere (Bunda) said Mara region also has stalled projects such as the milk processing factory and the Moshi- Musoma railway line.

The region also faces water shortages, most schools struggle with desk shortage and teachers houses.

He similarly remarked that upwards of 80 percent of the country's income is generated within the city of Dar es Salaam but it has poor infrastructure, exposed by periodic floods whenever it rains.

The renovation of the Msimbazi seasonal stream and sea water inlet is necessary as it causes floods, a project that has stalled for over 20 years, he said.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, the Planning and Investment minister in the President's Office, needs to ensure that the plan includes clear measures addressing floods in various cities across the country, he added.

REPOA, stakeholders seek change, inclusion

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Better Tomorrow' (BBT), the minister said.

Part of structural transformation is noticed in massive interventions and investments made in sectors like health, education and infrastructure, with more health facilities, increased availability of drugs and medical equipment which the Medical Stores Department (MSD) says it had reached 80 per cent by the end of last financial year.

Access to clean and safe water has also been improved through increased budgetary allocations, with the number of people accessing the service in urban areas attaining 86.5 percent in April 2022 from 34 percent in 2015. In rural areas, the number rose from 47 percent in 2015 to 74 percent by April 2022, the remarks indicated.

Lawrence Mafuru, the National Planning Commission executive secretary, said that to attain successful structural transformation the government focuses on sectors that employ the majority of the population, especially agriculture.

"Improving the agriculture sector would bring relevant results. We want to make the sector more productive. To ensure sustainable economic growth, we need to be aware of climate change and come up with mitigation measures," he further noted.

The government needs to also invest in transportation infrastructure for market reach within and outside the country, he stated, while Andrew Dabaleni, the Africa Region chief economist at the World Bank,

said for the country to achieve structural transformation and accelerate growth it has to ensure inclusive growth.

He, however, stressed the need for the country to invest in the digital economy and tap opportunities in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Dr Donald Mmari, the REPOA executive director, said the workshop seeks to examine foundational priorities of Tanzania's current development vision ending 2025.

It seeks to focus on a changing regional and global economy to provoke and promote policy dialogues along with research on how to accelerate structural transformation of the economy and improve its outcomes in terms of inclusive, competitive and productivity-led economic growth, he explained.

The dialogue was structured to include important elements that derive from structural transformation and enhancing productivity capacities, he said.

It also examined strategies for effective participation in the regional and global value chains and improving public-private partnerships in accelerating structural transformation, he asserted.

Samweli Kilua, the country director for Gatsby Africa, said the gathering provides an opportunity for researchers to focus on transforming sectors with high potential and labour intensive sectors such as tourism and manufacturing.

The discussion will provide targeted assistance helping to drive rapid growth that is competitive, inclusive and resilient, he added.



Tanzania People's Defence Forces Chief of Staff Maj Gen Marco Gaguti (L) presents a souvenir to Brig Gen Simon Ndour, a representative of the Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in the Central Africa Republic (MINUSCA) at a recent ceremony to award 507 Tanzania peacekeepers for impactful peacekeeping in the CAR. Photo courtesy of TPDF

Samia projects her gov't's pillars in key AfDB panel

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farmers to access credit plus extension services, she stated, expressing gratitude for the continental leader for the provision of substantive support.

A growing section of the youth is now engaged in the productive initiative, she stated, telling the delegates that as a mother she decided on some of the issues as a private agenda for education and health.

By recognizing the role that education and health play in economic growth, she decided to intensively work on the two sectors, she stated, affirming that in health, the priority now is to ensure quality

health services to the people.

The provision of medical consulting services, availability of drugs, medical equipment and care providers at village levels need to be assured, she specified.

"I thought of embracing health for everybody; I am engaging everyone through the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) programme. We thought these are the important issues for the betterment and for the growth of our youth."

In education, the government is providing free education despite challenges that contribute to some children dropping out of formal education, she said, pointing at

the decision to give the students a second chance.

This is especially so for girls now allowed to go back to school after giving birth, she stated, similarly pointing at special science schools for girls.

"We have noted the gap in science subjects as girls are not well involved. As we talk of the fourth industrial revolution we need to have an employable workforce. We have established vocational training centres across the country where youth are being trained," the president intoned.

She also emphasised the urgent need to close connectivity gaps in Africa to fast-track economic

growth, acknowledging the critical role of the private sector in the growth of the continent's economies. Governments need to embrace private enterprises, she emphasised.

She said roads, railways and waterways will be critical in moving goods and people across the continent, outlining the government's efforts to improve connections within the east, central and southern Africa extended area.

"Connectivity is critical on our continent. I once attended a conference in Senegal, and I had first to go to Paris and then fly back to Africa. That's a problem," she added.



Ilemela constituency legislator Dr Angelina Mabula poses a supplementary question in the National Assembly as the legislative body continued with its ordinary sessions in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Worst floods in decades kill 29 in Somalia, hit towns across E.Africa

MOGADISHU

THE worst flooding to hit Somalia in decades has killed 29 people and forced more than 300,000 to flee their homes, the National Disaster Management Agency said on Wednesday, following heavy rains that have inundated towns across East Africa.

Authorities have scrambled to rescue thousands of stranded people from the floodwater, which comes on the heels of the region's worst drought in 40 years.

"What is going on today is the worst for decades. It is worse than even the 1997 floods," said Hassan

Isse, managing director of the Somali Disaster Management Agency (SOMDA).

The death toll and numbers of people displaced were likely to rise further, Isse said, because many people were trapped by floodwaters.

"I do not remember such floods in my life," said Mohamed Farah, a local elder in Baidoa city, in southwest Somalia. "People keep on evacuating looking for high ground."

At least 2,400 people have been cut off in Luuq town, where the Jubba River burst its banks, the United Nations has said.

"Luuq is surrounded by the river

and floods are threatening us. People keep fleeing out of the town. Some are still trapped. Our shops have been washed away," said Ahmed Nur, a trader in Luuq.

Floods in neighbouring Kenya have killed at least 15 people and submerged a bridge in Uganda, cutting off a road linking Kampala to oilfields in the northwest, the Kenya Red Cross and Uganda's road authority said.

The regional deluge was caused by the combined effect of two weather phenomena, El Niño and the Indian Ocean Dipole, said Nazanine Moshiri, a climate analyst at the International Crisis Group.

El Niño and the Indian Ocean Dipole are climate patterns that impact ocean surface temperatures and cause above-average rainfall.

Paris Peace Forum out to address climate change, AI regulation, global cooperation

PARIS

THE Paris Peace Forum, taking place this week, will launch a "call to action" regarding the melting ice caps and will delve into the regulation of artificial intelligence.

The program also includes a humanitarian conference on Gaza, although details of this "humanitarian conference" scheduled for Thursday morning have not been disclosed, and it is expected to receive significant media attention.

French President Emmanuel Macron, along with Barbadian Prime Minister Mia Mottley and several African

leaders, will assess the progress of the "Paris Pact for People and the Planet" launched in June. This pact aims to provide substantial funding to combat poverty and climate change and is in preparation for COP28 scheduled for early December in Dubai.

The focus of the forum, according to an advisor, will be to demonstrate that despite geopolitical tensions, cooperation on major issues is still possible. Regardless of the crises occurring, the advisor emphasized that "the ice continues to melt."

The "One Planet - Polar Summit" will be a highlight of this edition, concluding on Friday with President Macron

and Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre. An "Appeal of Paris on the Poles and Glaciers" will be launched to address the "collapse" of "all ice surfaces on a global scale." This phenomenon is accelerating and will have "absolutely major impacts" in terms of coastal town submersion and access to clean water, as noted by the Elysée. States affected by glacier loss, such as Nepal and Kyrgyzstan, will participate, as will China and India. However, Russia will not participate due to the conflict in Ukraine, even though it is a major Arctic actor. The Elysée asserts that this will not be an obstacle to cooperation between other countries.



Government officials, Russian Embassy staff and development stakeholders pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday following proceedings at the opening ceremony of a two-day forum for international alumni of Russian universities. Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister Dr Pindi Chana used the opportunity to invite Russian firms to invest in Tanzania, assuring them of conducive conditions. Photo: Carlos Banda

Dr Chana calls on Russian financiers to invest in Tanzania's strategic areas

By Carlos Banda

MINISTER for Constitution and Legal Affairs, Dr Pindi Chana has called on Russian companies and investors to come and invest in various potential and productive areas, assuring them that the Tanzanian government has created a conducive environment.

Ambassador Dr Chana made the call yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking during the opening of a two-day forum for international alumni of Russian universities.

Dr Chana said that the Tanzanian government has put in a conducive environment, removing various obstacles to facilitate smooth investment operations, noting that Tanzania still needs a lot of investors in the areas of health, education, agriculture, mining and many others potential areas where supporting infrastructure have been constructed.

She said President Samia Suluhu Hassan has worked hard to ensure that there is a conducive investment environment, something which shows how the country is committed to serving investors.

The minister also said that Tanzania and Russia are soon expected to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) meant to facilitate exchange of prisoners/criminals, fight cross-border crimes and strengthen peace and security.

"With regards to security, Tanzania is among the safest countries in Africa. So we assure investors and guests of peaceful stay and investment operations," she added.

Andrey Avetisyan, Russian ambassador to Tanzania said that it is designed to promote the strengthening and expansion of the Russian linguistic, Russian cultural and educational space abroad.

He said the foreign graduates of Soviet and Russian universities forum is the first to be conducted in Africa with an aim to stimulate provision of quality education and health services.

The envoy underlined that Russia is committed and will continue strengthening its relations with Tanzania and other African countries for mutual development.

Dr Bilinith Mahenge, chairman of Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) said that

as many areas have been improved, investors are now enjoying smooth services provided in one stop facilitation centres.

"We need more investment in the area of education and health, I witnessed how Russia has invested heavily in the health sector, they are producing high quality medical tools," he said.

He said that the government has invested heavily in constructing supporting infrastructure such as roads, water and power to support operations in investment areas.

He also said that Tanzania has a market of over 60 million people, a situation which guarantees investors a reliable market of their products.

Dr Yona Kimori, one of the alumni said: "I completed masters in mechanical engineering in Russia in the 1990s and the skills which I got there has greatly helped me to bring a lot of positive changes in the areas where I have worked."

The forum has been organised collaboratively by the Russian Cultural Centre in the country, Rossotrudnichestvo and International Institute of Education and Development bringing together participants from various countries in Africa representing the educational and healthcare systems.

Regional prosecution offices allocated public prosecutors in a matter of three months

By Francis Kajubi

ALMOST 50 regional public prosecution offices have been established and allocated with public prosecutors in the just three months since the submission of the criminal justice system report to President Samia Suluhu Hassan as a way of putting a limit to the police force of getting involved in the prosecution processes.

Retired judge Othman Chande, Presidential Commission (currently the Committee) Chairman for Criminal Justice System told diplomats yesterday in Dar es Salaam during the presentation of the committee's findings and recommendation on the criminal justice system that the police force should not be part of prosecutors.

He said that in the committee's report presented to the president on 15th July this year, it had recommended that the police force should carry on with the arrest and criminal investigations leaving the prosecution role in the hands of attorneys from the director of public prosecution (DPP).

"Since the submission of the report to the president the DPP office has opened 50 new offices in different regions of the country," said Chande.

According to him, 18 institutions that are linked to criminals are in the ongoing process of revisiting their codes of conduct and operations towards criminality.

He told the ambassadors and high commissioners that the committee would like to see the police force transformed to a police service and it should change its ways of operations to detecting and preventing crimes instead of just concentrating on combating crime.

"The implementation of the reforms recommended in the report is categorized into short term, medium and long term implementa-

tion; The committee recommends that among other issues, the absence of the National Criminal Justice Policy and creation of a national bureau of investigations should be addressed immediately in the short term if possible," said Chande.

He asserted that the current way of arresting suspects on notice by district and regional commissioners should be banned. However, the powers of the director of public prosecution to re-arrest victims who have been released on bail should be revisited.

"The committee is of the view that the death penalty and life sentence should be redefined in terms of duration;

We recommend that the government should establish a victim compensation fund to cover victims especially those involved in sexual harassment and gender violence," he asserted.

Ambassador Samwel Shelukindo, permanent secretary in the ministry of Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation said that the report is now a basic tool the government is focusing at harmonizing the judicial system operations.

Dr Ahmada El Badaoui Mohamed, Dean of diplomats' corps commended the government for showing a political will in addressing challenges related to criminal justice.

"We do hope that recommendations will be worked out on the way forward to attracting equality and justice," he said.

On his part, Anthony Walya, deputy Zambia High Commissioner to Tanzania said that justice to all is an important pillar that governments should observe towards realization of human rights.

Application has been made to this company for the issue of duplicate of the above numbered policy, the original having been reported as lost or misplaced. Notice is hereby given that unless objection is lodged to the contrary at the office of the company within thirty days from the date of this notice, duplicate policy will be issued, which will be sole evidence of the contact.

Application has been made to this company for the issue of duplicate of the above numbered policy, the original having been reported as lost or misplaced. Notice is hereby given that unless objection is lodged to the contrary at the office of the company within thirty days from the date of this notice, duplicate policy will be issued, which will be sole evidence of the contact.



IN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
IN THE RESIDENT MAGISTRATE COURT OF MBEYA
AT MBEYA
SMALL CLAIM CASE NO. 08/2023

CRDB BANK PLC..... CLAIMANT

VERSUS

YONNA JUSTIN IKERA..... RESPONDENT

TO: YONNA JUSTIN IKERA

WHEREVER YOU ARE.

Take note that, Claimant file small claim against you on **25/09/2023** in the Resident Magistrates Court of Mbeya at Mbeya and assigned to **Hon P.D. Ntumo PRM** the same matter schedule for mention on **22/11/2023** at **8:00 Morning**.

Understand that, if you fail to appear on that day, the matter will be heard ex-parte and the decision will be made ex-parte.

Issued on 03rd day of November 2023.

Order accordingly.



RESIDENT MAGISTRATE
MBEYA
.....
PRINCIPAL RESIDENT MAGISTRATE
MBEYA

217703901



Plot 4B, Nyerere Road, P.O Box 911, Dar es Salaam
Telephone: +255 22 2860047/9, Fax: 2 8 64041, E-mail: info@tolgases.co.tz

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD.



The Board of Directors, Management and staff of TOL Gases Limited is delighted to announce the appointment of Mr. Harry M. Kitilya as its Chair of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Kitilya is a former Commissioner General of Tanzania Revenue Authority up until 2013. prior to TRA, he was the Director of Finance at National Chemical Industries where he worked for 15 years. He was also a Lecturer and a pioneer at the University of Dar es Salaam (faculty of Commerce and Management now the Business School).

Mr. Kitilya's deep experience in matters of governance, corporate leadership gained from his diverse experience from various Board Memberships such as Tax Appeals Board of Tanzania, UN Committee of Experts in International Cooperation in Tax Matters, joint Finance Commission of Tanzania and Export Processing Zone Authority among others will be invaluable to TOL Gases in this our growth phase.

The Board, Management, staff and the entire fraternity of TOL Gases Ltd wishes Mr. Kitilya every success.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD.

Directors: H. Kitilya - Chairman (Tanzanian), T. Kinabo - (Tanzanian), J. Massawe - (Tanzanian), L. Kitoka (Tanzanian) S. Selestine - TR - URT (Tanzanian), Prof. A. Temu - (Tanzanian), Eng. J. Machange - (Tanzanian)

217704501

TIC pledges to work on investors' complaints over multiple charges

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) has pledged to work on investors' complaints following an influx of fees charged by government institutions.

Dr Binilith Mahenge, TIC board chairperson made the pledge yesterday during his visit to various industries in Dar es Salaam.

Dr Mahenge said there is a need for an assessment of the charged levies.

Industrial owners told Dr Mahenge that the fees are charged by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), Occupational Safety and Health Agency (OSHA), National Environmental Management Council (NEMC), Fire and Rescue Service and the Weigh and Measure Agency (WMA).

Dr Mahenge also promised to connect Tanzanian manufacturers with international markets through the Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade).

"We will link you with TanTrade because they are the ones who know the markets. The only thing you need to do is to produce quality goods that meet the required standards."

The Director of AKBERALIS Hardware and Electric Ltd, Hussein Alibhai said although the government is doing a good thing to monitor investors' activities including inspections, responsibilities of many institutions look the same.

"Some responsibilities of NEMC and OSHA look the same; officials from both institutions may come to inspect the industry on the same day, the thing that is inconvenient to investors," he said, calling upon the government to work on the matter.

He said their factory is still small and needs to grow by having modern technology to produce more wealth thus creating more job opportunities for young Tanzanians.

"The government should help us to grow and get modern technology that will enable us to sell more and contribute to the growth of the national income, if the situation remains the same, it will be difficult for us to grow," he said.

"We will link you with TanTrade because they are the ones who know the markets. The only thing you need to do is to produce quality goods that meet the required standards."



Australia's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Luke Williams (2nd-R) has a word with Tai Tanzania's head of administration and project manager, Debora Maboya (L), at yesterday's launch in Dar es Salaam of FIDI. This is an animated story meant to spread awareness on, and otherwise address, discrimination faced by children with autism. Right is Australia's Honorary Consul to Tanzania, Anna Rabin. Photo: Carlos Banda

Australian envoy to NGOs: Combat stigmatisation of PwDs

By Getrude Mbagu

NON-GOVERNMENTAL organisations have been urged to strengthen efforts and implement initiatives that will help address discrimination and stigmatization against people with disabilities in the society.

The Australian High Commissioner to Tanzania, Luke Williams, made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch of the FIDI - an animated

story created by Tai Tanzania with the support of the Australian government, about a boy living with autism with an aim to educate the public on the importance of loving and supporting PwDs.

"All societies have people who suffer from disabilities including those with autism, these are facing a lot of challenges, and these effects are not only confined to the individual but the whole family, so more efforts are needed to make these groups

of people live peacefully. I am so impressed that there are initiatives underway by Tai Tanzania to address the existing myths and strengthen support to the group," he said.

He added: "All people have the right to live and to be loved. And yet, autistic people are often subject to stigma and discrimination in Tanzania, and across the world. This animation is an excellent initiative raising awareness about autism among members of the public in order to create a society that

values others."

Debora Maboya, Tai Tanzania Head of Administration and Project Manager, said the content of the story is designed purposely to raise awareness in the public about autism.

"We dedicated ourselves to create this animation about autism in order to show the challenges faced by children with such disabilities. We were aspiring to raise awareness in the society as well as advocate for change so that people can become

supportive to autistic children. By showing support, autistic children can showcase their potential and ultimately contribute to the society's development," said Debora.

She also stated that currently, more than 2,000 students across seven schools in Dar es Salaam have engaged with the animation, held discussions and shared their reflections, citing that the organization looks forward to distributing the animation online and more widely across Tanzania in

the coming months.

Josephine Sanga, a mother of a child with autism shared how she was segregated by some members of the society with some branding her with offensive nicknames against her and her child, which prompted her to tell other community members that autism is a normal disease and that people should learn to accommodate and live with children with such disability.

She added that by confronting the members of her community and making them aware they were able to understand what autism was and how they can be able to live alongside children having such a disability.

Founder and Executive Director of Lukiza Autism Foundation Hilda Nkabe commended Tai Tanzania for the animation explaining that the initiative will help educate young children, youth and the public about the importance of cherishing and supporting children found to be diagnosed with disabilities instead of discriminating against them.

"The animation is perfect for young children because they can learn quickly while enjoying the entertainment at the same time. It clearly highlights the potential gifts and talents that autistic children possess thus sending a message to the society that instead of alienating these children we should focus on grooming their talents and help them grow and succeed," she said.

The animation, FIDI, has been developed by Tai Tanzania partnership with the Gabriella Children Rehabilitation Centre using real-life insights from people with autism as well as their families and friends and has been funded by the Australian government.





Advertisement

BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below goods/service package at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

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

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

No.	Reference no.	Description of services to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-23-10-01	TAILING STORAGE FACILITY (TSF) CELL 4 LIFT 6 CLADDING & BUTTRESSING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Contractor specialised in earthworks, must have proven experience with tailing storage facilities cladding and buttressing, Civil CRB Certificate, minimum class 5 (five). ii. Experience working with similar works in last 3 years. iii. Competence in tailing storage facilities lifting and fully conversant with the risks and control measures of working in Mining industry. iv. List of equipment's - Resource list - specifying quantities - List of all tools and tackles (with detailed specifications of important equipment). v. Team with multi discipline members (Mainly - Supervisors / Safety officer / QA&QC officer / Multi skilled) should have sound Knowledge of Mine Health & Safety acts.

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

- Full company profile.
- Company registration documents i.e., Certificate of incorporation, Tax Clearance Certificate, etc.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, and affiliated registration.
- Time frame to complete the project. (Including site mobilization stage).
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgment of submission from the Mining Commissioner
- Brela detailed search certificate i.e statement indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.


Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest 1800hrs on the **16th November 2023**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote the above Reference number and description on your Expression of interest submission.

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

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

For and on behalf of **BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**

217705701



SHDEPHA + NETWORK FOR PLHA
KAHAMA BRANCH, P.O. BOX 564 KAHAMA
Email: www.shdepha.org

Tender Title: Invitation for Tender on Provision of Mid-Media Service.
Tender No. SHDEPHA+ /KHM/2023-14/HQ/14
Date of solicitation: 09th November 2023.
Closing date and time: 22nd November 2023, Time 10:00 am
Question and clarifications: Due date 21st November 2023.

INVITATION FOR TENDER ADVERTISEMENT ON PROVISION OF MID-MEDIA SERVICE

INTRODUCTION
Service, Health and Development for people living with HIV/AIDS (SHDEPHA+) is a national non-governmental organization, registered on 21 November 1994 with registration number SO 8216, to mobilize resources to help people living with HIV/AIDS and to fight the spread of the disease. Although originally focusing on people living with HIV/AIDS, over the years SHDEPHA+ has expanded beyond HIV/AIDS and related issues to other development interventions and now covers both infected and affected by HIV/AIDS with over 65 branches countrywide. Each branch of SHDEPHA+ works independently, developing, managing, and implementing its projects, though all branches share one constitution and registration.

SHDEPHA + has set aside funds towards the cost of supplying various Goods, and other services and intends to Pre-qualify interested companies for the provision of and supply of various Goods and services for a period of 1 year, Across 11 Regions of its implementation (Shinyanga, Mwanza, Geita, Mbeya, Rukwa, Katavi, Singida, Simiyu, Tabora, Morogoro, and Arusha).

REQUIREMENTS.
Specifically, the activity will cover the following issues:

- Demand creation through public announcements (PSA, Mid-Media, and SBC printout)
- TB symptom screening
- Collection of sputum samples and referral services among TB-presumptive
- On-site TB testing using the Mobile Van.
- Treatment initiation with the help of regional and respective district TB services teams.
- Integration of HIV testing services and screening of TB-Gender-related cases as well as referral for further services

All interested bidders should download the Terms of Reference (ToR) through the SHDEPHA+ website www.shdepha.org with the subject line **"Mid media activity"** before **22nd November 2023**.

Interested applicants may obtain (Questions and clarifications) by contacting the procuring department through Email: at procurement@shdepha.org with the subject line **"Request for Clarification"** before **21st November 2023**.

Eligibility
To be considered for the award, vendors must currently be legally operating in Tanzania, and the quotation must include all of the following information:

- Ability to meet or exceed the requirements/technical specifications outlined in the TOR
- Ability to deliver the items/services specified no later than the date(s) required.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Price.
- Eligibility criteria.
- Financial capability.
- Experience.
- Performance period.

Submission instructions:
The following information is to be included by a vendor in the proposal:

- Current company profile.
- Copies of registration, certificate, and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TIN certificates, Tax clearance certificate, and any industry-relevant license or certificate.
- Evidence of similar assignments, and at least two (2) names and addresses of clients served.
- Current Audited financial statement - for 2022.
- Payment terms.
- All quotes must be in Tanzanian Shillings.

All interested bidders who wish to answer this RFQ should submit their proposals physically in SEALED envelope (without the name of the applicant on top of the envelope) to SHDEPHA+ KAHAMA Head office before **22nd November 2023 at 10.00 a.m.**

The Procurement Committee
Service Health and Development for Living Positively with HIV/Aids,
P.O.Box 564,
Kahama - Shinyanga.

SHDEPHA+ will open all bids on **Wednesday 22nd November 2023 at 11.00 a.m.** in the presence of Bidder's representatives who choose to attend. The Bidders' representatives who are present shall sign a register evidencing their attendance.



Selemani Bishagazi (L) from Community Voice Centre, a CSO based in Dar es Salaam's Kipunguni ward, pictured on Monday making remarks at a meeting called to discuss ways to combat gender-based violence. It was in preparation for the commemoration of this year's edition of the "16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence" crusade - Nov 25 through Dec 10. The days are a time to reflect on violence against women and take action to end it. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Biteko calls upon EWURA workers to consider national interests when executing their duties

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Energy Minister Dr Doto Biteko has asked executives and employees of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) to prioritise national interests when executing their duties.

Dr Biteko made the call yesterday in Dodoma when opening the 2nd meeting of the authority's workers that was attended by various leaders including the Tanzania Union of Government and Health Employees (TUGHE) Secretary General, Rugemalira Rutatinwa and representative of the ministry's Permanent Secretary Ziana Mlawa.

Dr Biteko urged EWURA employees to serve Tanzanians with better

energy and water services. "Tanzanians have confidence in you; you must adhere to your work ethics and ensure professionalism and creativity to keep up with the world's technological development. You must execute your duties in a friendly manner for Tanzanians to continue getting quality services at a reasonable cost," said Dr Biteko.

He asked the employees to avoid engaging in corruption at workplaces and ensure no bureaucracy in serving people. He urged them to watch one another, a move that will curb corruption.

The Deputy Premier emphasized the employees to be responsible in carrying out their duties by ensuring that service providers operate in a productive and economic manner by

protecting the interests of consumers. He also challenged EWURA to make sure that Tanzanians living in the peripherals access the services similar to those in urban places.

He commended EWURA for reviewing the costs of oil imports which he said were high and were leading to increased transportation and production costs.

"Oil import costs were too high for no reason: I instructed you to review them and here you are with the revised costs. I am happy that they have come down, thus reducing the burden to consumers," said Dr Biteko.

He also directed TUGHE to inform Tanzanians on the various efforts made by the sixth phase government regarding civil servants which includes promotion of employees

who were not promoted for a long time.

Director General of EWURA, Dr James Andilile said the authority continues to carry out its duties for purposes of ensuring reliable energy and water services. He said the authority is responsible for ensuring Tanzanians get the services at affordable prices. He commended the Deputy Premier for cooperating with them by issuing guidelines that have contributed in increasing efficiency of EWURA as it continues to serve Tanzanians.

The EWURA staff council meeting in Dodoma aimed to discuss various issues including implementation of the authority's budget for the 2022/2023 financial year and its audited reports for the same year.

Zambian leader wants urgent action to curb hunger, malnutrition in Africa

LUSAKA

AFRICAN Leaders for Nutrition (ALN) has joined two crucial forums for advancing policy dialogue on agriculture and nutrition in Africa.

ALN is a platform for high-level political engagement to advance nutrition in Africa.

ALN representatives attended the commemoration the 14th Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security (ADFN) and 19th Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP).

These platforms are crucial forums for advancing policy dialogue on agriculture and nutrition in Africa. The African Union Commission and its economic development agency AUDA-NEPAD jointly convened the 19th CAADP event to emphasize the interconnectedness of agriculture, nutrition, and trade.

Hosted by the government of Zambia from the 30th of October to the 2nd of November 2023 in Lusaka Zambia, the two events were held under the theme: "Accelerating the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement in the context of CAADP Commitments for Safer and Healthier Diets". This builds on the African Union's 2023 Year Theme - "Accelerating the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AFCFTA)".

Zambian Vice-President Mutale Nalumango called for urgent action to address hunger and malnutrition in Africa to help advance the continent's socio-economic transformation.

"Human Capital investment starts with good nutrition," Vice President Nalumango said.

The AU's Commissioner of Agriculture, Josepha Sacko, highlighted the prevalence of hunger on the continent, saying around 280 million people, or one out of five people, face hunger on the continent.

She advocated for a non-conventional approach to address inefficiencies in the food system to provide access to nutritious and safe food for all. Noting that food

businesses account for 75 percent of inter-Africa trade, she said adopting a single market under the African Continental Free Trade Area will boost trade, alleviate poverty, and improve nutritious food supplies.

Further reiterating the nexus between trade and nutrition, Ambassador Minata Samate Cessouma, African Union Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development, said: "The African Continental Free Trade Area agreement is a game-changer for the continent, offering the opportunity to promote economic growth, boost intra-African trade, and improve food security and nutrition."

Similar sentiments were shared by the African Union Special Envoy on Food Systems, Dr Ibrahim Mayaki. He advocated for farmers producing about 80 percent of the food in Africa to be at the centre of an 'agriculture revolution' to reduce the continent's current food import bill of about 60 billion dollars annually.

He stressed: "We need to re-think our approach to long-term planning. To plan for the long-term, we need to plan in the short-term; that is why the short-term goal of regional integration is crucial - many of our long-term goals depend highly on that".

African Leaders for Nutrition co-hosted one of the sub-themes on financing agri-food and nutrition on the 1st of November to explore the role of the private sector in financing and advancing agri-food and nutrition initiatives in Africa. This aligns with the African Development Bank's drive to make private sector development one of its key priorities for reducing poverty and supporting sustainable growth on the continent through improved investment.

In his opening remarks at the side event, African Leaders for Nutrition Coordinator George Ouma said, "We need a paradigm shift that opens space and opportunities for actors within the food and nutrition security ecosystem. We need the private sector to drive that change through innovations, investment, and strategic partnerships."



Public Announcement on Recruitment Scams related to jobs for Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML)



The Management of **Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML)** regrets to inform the general public that from time-to-time it has received reports of fraudulent recruitment scams perpetrated by individuals claiming to be human resources officials of GGML.

Some of these scammers have registered their cellphone numbers in the names of actual company officials and others in the name of the company. Also, some of the scammers have set up websites and masquerade as GGML recruitment agencies.

GGML understands that several members of the public have been deceived by these scammers into believing that there are various job opportunities at GGML by using internet links, emails and posting fraudulent job adverts of vacancies, then calling applicants and soliciting money to be considered for the jobs.

The Management of Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) condemns all the acts of fraudulent recruitment scammers and would like to request all Tanzanians and the general public to take necessary precautions to avoid being scammed by these fraudulent individuals.

GGML management does not recognize these unscrupulous individuals and is not involved in any way with them and their acts of deceit. Currently (2023) GGML does not use any agency in the recruitment process especially for national employees, therefore the public is hereby asked to be careful with individuals introducing themselves as GGML recruitment agents as they might be scammers.

GGML is a proud 'Equal Opportunity Employer' and its recruitment and selection processes are purely based on clear selection criteria as advertised and performance on interviews and other relevant assessments. Job applicants are not required at any point during or

after recruitment process to pay any monies to secure a job position or facilitate any process.

All GGML job adverts request applicants to apply online through its Recruitment Portal, via specific links provided in respective job adverts. The company does not receive job applications through emails, by post, or any other means other than the online Recruitment Portal.

All GGML job adverts are posted on the company website at www.geitamine.com and the parent company (AngloGold Ashanti) website at www.anglogoldashanti.com

GGML Management hereby requests Tanzanians and the general public to report to the nearest Police Station any suspicious activities related to employment scams.

GGML Management also requests Tanzanians and the general public to report immediately to the GGML Management when they suspect any fraudulent employment activity. Reports can be sent through the Security department (Investigation Unit) by calling **+255-28-216-01-40, Ext 1559 (rates apply)** or use our Speak Up channels by sending an SMS to **+27-73-573-8075 (SMS rates apply)** or emailing speakupAGA@ethics-line.com or use the internet at www.tip-offs.com

Issued by the Management of Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML).

**TAKE PRECAUTION
DO NOT GET
SCAMMED**



TERM OF REFERENCE (TOR)

CAMFED Tanzania is seeking the services of a consultant to conduct a Baseline Survey to Determine the Pedagogy/ Methodology used in the Teaching of Mathematics, English and Science in Targeted Secondary Schools in Tanzania

1. Background

1.1. CAMFED Tanzania

CAMFED is a pan-African movement revolutionising how girls' education is delivered. Through a gold-standard system of accountability to the young people and communities we serve, we have created a model that radically improves girls' prospects of becoming independent, influential women in thirty three CAMFED partner districts in Tanzania where we work. Our impact increases exponentially through the Association of young women educated with CAMFED's support. Together, we multiply the number of girls in school, and accelerate their transition to post-school opportunities, livelihoods, and leadership.

1.2. Youth-led Life Skills Programme

CAMFED is implementing a systems transformation strategy focused on the integration of its Youth-led Program into the education systems in Tanzania. The Program aims to address low levels of completion and learning for girls at secondary school through life skills and social support whilst building a sustainable structure for their post-school opportunities, and a powerful pipeline of young women education leaders, however boys also benefit from the Youth-led Life Skills Program.

The Program also aligns with the National Skills Development Strategy 2015-2025 as it provides skills for youth employability and self-employment through non-formal and formal skills development, and the Tanzania Development Vision 2025, which describes a nation of citizens with a positive mind set and a culture which cherishes human development through hard work, professionalism, entrepreneurship, creativity, innovativeness, and ingenuity.

The Program is delivered by youth who were supported by CAMFED to complete secondary school and then return to their local schools voluntarily, in the CAMFED partner districts. They deliver a life skills program using the My Better World Book, a guideline developed in consultation with students, teachers, the young women, and other key stakeholders. The Program targets new Form one students, and they complete after 18 months, when they are in Form two.

These youths use a participatory, student-centred pedagogy to deliver a self-development Program. Evidence of the effectiveness of the Program, as part of a holistic intervention to improve girls' outcomes, has been evidenced through large-scale, FCDO (DFID) funded, quasi-experimental evaluations, independently conducted in the period 2013-2017.

The Program supports students, including marginalised students, to overcome low academic self-esteem, building their confidence and skills to engage in the classroom and learn at the right level. Beyond the classroom, the youths create an important home-school link, following up with children who drop out of school and working with communities to keep vulnerable girls safe from exploitation, including early pregnancy and early marriage.

1.3 Learner-centred / Students-centred teaching

Learner-centred teaching is an innovative concept of education aimed at cultivating students' ability to solve practical life problems. It is a paradigm shift from teacher-centred teaching where the teacher is the main source of knowledge and learners are regarded as passive recipients of knowledge. According to the curriculum in Tanzania, the teaching and learning methodology includes the following methods: classroom-based problem solving and inquiry, demonstration, posing problems as well as solving those set by the teacher, practice of technical or laboratory skills, debates, group discussions, and analysing case studies. These teaching and learning methods are learner centred and customarily engage students' active participation during learning. It is the responsibility of the teacher to ensure students learning is facilitated successfully.

The progress of implementation of learner centred teaching indicates that teachers encounter various challenges in the course. The implementation of the curriculum showed that classroom teaching, learning, and assessment remained traditional in many schools contrary to the demands of competence-based curriculum. Also, lack of orientation to teachers on the reformed curriculum and poorly resourced learning environment are among the problems encountered in the implementation process.

Another recent research revealed that teachers' perceptions and practices of the learner centred teaching in various stages of the lesson development displayed application of the mixed practices in classrooms, both teacher-centred teaching and learner-centred teaching. The research also discovered that teachers lack deep knowledge of various learner centred teaching practices applied in the classrooms.

2. Purpose of the Consultancy

CAMFED in collaboration with MoEST seeks to engage a qualified consultant to establish a baseline on the pedagogy / methodology of teaching

The sampling of schools will be drawn from thirty-two councils in nine regions in Tanzania; Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Pwani, Morogoro, Iringa, Singida, Tabora, Shinyanga and Mwanza where Youth-led Life Skills Program is implemented. In addition, schools from three councils of Chamwino (Dodoma), Malinyi (Morogoro) and Morogoro Municipal (Morogoro) will be sampled purposefully to participate in the baseline because the Youth-led Life Skills Program has never been implemented in these councils before.

Specifically, the research will explore:

- Knowledge, attitude, and practices of students-centred teaching practices among secondary school Mathematics, English and Science Teachers in Tanzania
- Factors affecting application of students-centred teaching practices among secondary schools Mathematics, English and Science teachers in Tanzania.
- Support needed by secondary school Mathematics, English and Science teachers in Tanzania to enhance their students-centred teaching practices.

3. Key responsibilities and deliverables

Sn	Responsibilities	Deliverables
1	Inception Phase Conduct detailed desk review about teaching practices in secondary schools in Tanzania to inform and or validate survey methodology. Assessment methodology, sampling strategy, stakeholders to be reached etc. will also be detailed in the inception report.	An inception report
2	To conduct inception meetings with CAMFED, MoEST and other key education sector stakeholders in Tanzania.	
3	Conduct data collection using agreed research methodologies and produce a report.	Draft survey report Final report in English with main recommendations enhancing students-centred teaching practices in Tanzania. All annexes should be attached. Dataset and data tables (excel or SPSS download) with raw data in soft copy.
4	Present research findings and recommendations to CAMFED and key education sector stakeholders	Presentation (PowerPoint with key findings and recommendations)

4. Reporting Relationships

The consultant will report to the CAMFED National Director and will work with other CAMFED Monitoring and Evaluation members both in Tanzania and UK together with the technical committee under MoEST.

5. Timeframe and Resources.

The consultant will work for a period of 20 days to 30 days. CAMFED will ensure the availability of necessary resources to conduct this research, including link with MoEST and technical working team for support and collaboration.

6. Qualifications.

- An advanced degree with at least five years of work experience at national or international levels in fields relevant to education economics and/or education research.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the Education sector and curriculum in Tanzania
- Previous experience of conducting similar research
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, including for relationship-building purposes.
- Demonstrated ability to work well as part of a team and to forge and manage partnerships with internal and external stakeholders.
- Good knowledge of statistical analysis software packages (e.g., Stata or SPSS)
- Ability to produce well written, analytical reports in plain English.
- Good presentation skills

7. Selection criteria

- Consultants will be evaluated based on the following criteria.
- Relevance and strength of the consultant's qualifications and experience in conducting similar educational research.
 - Proposed research design and methodology, including data collection and analysis strategies.
 - Clarity and effectiveness of the consultant's communication and reporting skills
 - Demonstrated ability to meet project timelines and deliver high-quality outputs.
 - Reasonable and affordable fee rates.

8. Confidentiality

All information shared with the consultant during this engagement is confidential and should not be disclosed to third parties without explicit permission from CAMFED.

9. Application

- Qualified candidates should send the followings:
- A cover letter detailing the consultant's relevant experience and qualifications.
 - An up-to-date CV
 - Two samples of previous consultancy assignments (one short document and one presentation)
 - Detailed technical and financial proposal which will include a breakdown of fees according to deliverables and all fieldwork costs and delivery.

If interested, please send your application to this email; kdamian@camfed.org, and copy camfedtzprocurement@camfed.org by November 17th, 2023

Education agency starts childhood schooling programme in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

CAMBRIDGE, the world's largest provider of international education programmes has launched its first early year's education programme, which will help support early childhood schooling in Tanzania in children as young as three.

The new play-based programme, which has been developed following a successful roll out in India, has been expertly designed to give children aged 3 to 6 the best start in life, helping them meet key early milestones and thrive in and out of school.

Cambridge Early Years will form the first stage in the Cambridge Pathway, a high-quality and joined-up path for educational success for children aged 3 to 19.

Multiple studies confirm that education during early years is crucial. Research from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) International Early Learning and Child Well-being Study shows that, among other benefits, a high-quality early childhood education and care (ECEC), compared to an average one, can double the growth in children's verbal comprehension.

The decision to expand its education pathway will see Cambridge help schools in Tanzania and around the world strengthen their early year's education provision, something it believes will reap dividends for parents and teachers as children progress through their school careers.

Rod Smith, Group Managing Director for International Education

at Cambridge commented: "We all know that the early years of a child's life are crucial to their development."

"Research shows that the better we support children at this stage, the more positive impact we can have on their future. Our new Cambridge Early Years programme draws on Cambridge's unrivalled expertise in high-quality education to help schools in Tanzania give children as many exciting and stimulating learning experiences as possible - making the most of this key phase of brain development and getting children off to a good start in life," he said.

According to him, the Cambridge Early Years programme draws on Cambridge's worldwide research on curriculum principles from high-performing education systems, as well as analysis of best practice in early year's education and the characteristics that have most impact.

The research resulted in 12 key principles that underpin the programme. The principles were developed in collaboration with world-class scholars, researchers and practitioners in early year's education. The importance of play-based learning, and the need to move children gradually towards more formal teaching in readiness for primary education, are two of the principles that guided the development of every element of the programme. The principles ensure that children not only acquire knowledge from a young age but also the essential skills to navigate and adapt to a rapidly changing world.

The Cambridge Early Years programme provides a flexible structure to support each child's progress and can be adapted to the needs of different schools in Tanzania, providing a bespoke teaching package.

Specially created classroom resources and assessments will help teachers understand each child's progress while fostering their all-round development far beyond the classroom.

Juan Visser, Regional Director, Sub-Saharan Africa for International Education at Cambridge, added: "We know that good early year's education can benefit a child's whole academic career and so I'm thrilled that we are adding this new stage to the Cambridge Pathway - it's what schools have been asking for. Our Cambridge Early Years programme brings together the best approaches from around the world with extensive teacher support. We want to help schools in Tanzania support children's long-term development and help them be ready for the world."

Cambridge's research with schools around the world found that early year's provision can be fragmented, drawn from a mix of different resources, curricula, assessment and training. This can make it hard to understand how children are progressing or to determine what approaches have the best impact on their development.

By ensuring all the different elements work well together, Cambridge helps schools give their learners a comprehensive and high-quality early year's education.



Godwell ole Meing'ataki (2nd-R), Assistant Commissioner for Conservation and commanding officer for Ruaha National Park, pictured on Tuesday exchanging greetings with Iringa Prison chief warden Senior Superintendent of Prisons Daniel Mwakapili to whom he was presenting mattresses for use by inmates at the facility. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

Focus more on male child protection for gender equality, Phumzile tells feminists

By Guardian Reporter

SOUTH African ex-Vice President Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka has asked feminists to focus on educating about the protection of the male child for the future of justice and gender equality, urging parents to end the patriarchy system in their families.

Phumzile made the call yesterday in Dar es Salaam when addressing the ongoing four-day 15th Gender Festival, which is in line with celebrating 30 years of Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) and Transformative Feminist Movement.

She said that there is a need for men's platforms in the country to express what concerns them but also to concentrate and take measures against gender violence, those who oppose discrimination against women and those who reject child marriage.

The former South African leader

said that in the process of rejecting oppression of any kind, the issue of the protection of the male child must also be considered in order to develop agendas to liberate him.

"Human rights activists do not allow any kind of cruelty starting from rejecting the patriarchy starting from the family level," Phumzile said, adding: "There is a need for policy and law changes but also for society to change."

She said the patriarchy is not friendly to women and even men and has been promoting discrimination, so it is important for men and boys to be among the movements against it because the century needs men who have solidarity with their partners.

"This gender festival should also be used to involve men."

Gemma Akilimali, TGNP Board Chairperson said that despite the network celebrating 15 years of gender equality, the challenges are

still many and solidarity with the government is needed more now than where they came from.

She said in the four-day festival they will come out with general resolutions because there is a contribution of TGNP in various movements.

Lilian Liundi, TGNP executive director said Gender Festival is a platform to bring voices together with the aim of discussing together and planning sustainable strategies.

"This festival is the 15th since its inception, it has been able to have 2000 to 5000 participants, for one festival it has reached more than 35000 people," said Lilian.

She said that the festival has brought people together in the African region and they have continued to stand on the foundations of their founders.

She also stated that TGNP is built on solid foundations of justice and eliminating oppressive systems.

KAIZEN enhances TEMDO's culture, production capacity

By Correspondent James Kandoya

KAIZEN, a Japanese business management concept, has improved the culture and production capacity of the Tanzania Engineering and Manufacturing Design Organization (TEMDO) since the factory started practicing it in 2021.

Dr Richard Masika, the TEMDO Board chairman briefed a team of journalists, representatives from the Japanese Embassy in Tanzania and Japan International Development Cooperation toured the factory in Arusha region recently.

He said that Kaizen has improved the factory operation through triple down effects and made a big impact.

"We feel very honoured through a significant tour to see the success of the Japanese philosophy-Kaizen in the government owned entity," he said, adding: "We look forward to the expansion of Kaizen in our activities within the communities."

JICA Chief Representative Ara Hitoshi said that continuous improvement is a very important component.

He said that engagement was very important to improve the

environment and what to consider and to improve productivity.

"I'm convinced that TEMDO is ready to continue. We can work together over a number of years," he said, noting that Kaizen does not need high investment therefore factories, schools or communities can practice it in their day-to-day activities.

"It is our hope that the collaboration shown will be sustained for the mutual benefits of two sides," he said.

Prof Fredrick Kahimba, TEMDO director general said that the factory has a vision of becoming the best developer and provider of quality and competitive plants, equipment and technical services in the Region (East and Central Africa).

Prof Kahimba said Kaizen has brought a number of advantages to the factory operations.

He mentioned some of them as high quality, low cost, right delivery, more safety work, moral and environment issues.

He said that before Kaizen was introduced, there was no labelling and machines were not arranged in serial order that could optimize

time. He added that when Kaizen philosophy came in, machines were arranged in the process of order.

According to Prof Kahimba, some of the products manufactured by the institution include drip stands, patient beds, patient storage cabinets, waste incinerators and mortuary cabinets.

He said TEMDO is among few government entities that for three years now their reforms have made them operate by creating sustainable sources of revenues without depending on the government coffers.

Kaizen is a Japanese business philosophy that concerns the processes that continuously improve operations and involve all employees.

Kaizen reduces waste and errors in your processes. With fewer errors, you use fewer resources conducting inspections or correcting mistakes.

One of the key principles of Kaizen is that employees have a stake in the organization.

All these translate to cost savings, and can turn potential losses into profits.



Richard Kayombo (L), Tanzania Revenue Authority's Taxpayer Education and Communications director, briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the "special week" (Nov 18 through 24) the agency has set aside for "congratulating taxpayers on their willingness to pay their taxes on time". Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

College in new drive to promote local tourism

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

MOSHI-based Udzungwa Mountains College Trust (UMCTO) has embarked into promoting Tanzania's culture and domestic tourism through field-oriented learning.

To start with, the college has started taking students to various tourism destinations in Tanzania and nearby Marangu area in Moshi Rural, Kilimanjaro Region so that they see with their eyes on the region and the country's treasures on tourism heritages.

Edgardo Welelo, UMCTO's founder and director said: "We decided to take students into various villages in Marangu area including the Kinukamori waterfalls, underground tunnels

and Mamba-Makundi Blacksmiths."

"Apart from promoting domestic tourism, UMCTO also takes our students to learn different behaviours of wild animals, birds that are found at Mkomazi and Arusha national parks which has more than 450 kinds of birds of different origin," Welelo said here over the weekend.

He said: "UMCTO is a field-oriented college and we normally take our students to visit different national parks for field training apart from promoting local tourism."

The tourism expert said Tanzania National Parks have always depended on foreign tourists, something which isn't sustainable, advising Tanzanians to visit the country's tourist sites for

sustainable tourism. Nickson Mbise, one of the UMCTO students encouraged Tanzanians to cultivate a culture of visiting the country's tourist treasures.

Tanzania has 22 national parks, many of which form the core of a much larger protected ecosystem, have been set aside to preserve the country's rich natural heritage and to provide secure breeding grounds where its fauna and flora can thrive, safe from the conflicting interests of a growing human population.

The country's national parks includes-Serengeti, Lake Manyara, Tarangire, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Katavi, Mahale, Kitulo, Saanane, Burigi-Chato, Rubondo, Ruaha, Gombe, Kigosi, Saadani, Mikumi, Udzungwa, and Nyerere

AU expresses deep concern over sustained financing of activities by terrorist in Africa

ADDIS ABABA

THE African Union (AU) Commission on Tuesday expressed deep concern over sustained financing of terrorist activities in Africa.

The statement was made by the AU Peace and Security Council in a communique issued following its recent meeting on counter-terrorism in Africa.

"The council notes with deep concern sustained financing of terrorism activities, particularly the growing linkages between terrorism and transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, illicit exploitation and trade of

mineral and natural resource, as well as illicit financial flows with debilitating impact on the national economies of the member states," the communique read.

It further expressed concern over the growing threat to peace, security and stability in Africa posed by the spread of terrorism and violent extremism throughout the continent, which is undermining the AU's efforts to silence the guns in Africa by 2030.

It said peace and security threats in Africa are derailing the progress toward the realization of the aspirations of Africa's development blueprint Agenda 2063 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The council also "condemned in the strongest terms all acts of terrorism and violent extremism committed in the continent by whomsoever, wherever, which cannot be justified under whatever circumstances."

It reiterated the determination of the AU to rid Africa of terrorism and violent extremism. It further called on all member states to refrain from inciting, instigating, organizing, facilitating, participating in financing or encouraging terrorist activities. The council encouraged AU member countries to take necessary measures to ensure that their respective territories are not used as terrorist sanctuaries.



NOTICE FOR ASSETS DISPOSAL ON PURCHASING OF VARIOUS BANK ASSETS.

A. ELEVEN (11) MOTOR VEHICLES LOCATED AT DAR ES SALAAM (ADA ESTATE), ZANZIBAR (KISIWANI), MWANZA (ZONAL OFFICE) & DODOMA (ZONAL OFFICE) AND VEHICLE ACCESSORIES (BUMPERS) LOCATED AT DAR ES SALAAM (ADA ESTATE).

CRDB Bank PLC (the Bank) is an African bank and a leading financial services provider in Tanzania with a current presence in Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi, East Africa. The Bank owns various assets, one of these assets is **Motor vehicles and accessories as per the below list;**

I. MOTOR VEHICLES					
S/N	Model	Registration Number	YOM	Chassis number	Location
1	Toyota Rav4	T396 CME	2013	JTMBFREV105016890	Dar es salaam (Ada Estate)
2	Toyota Rav4	T903 CRM	2012	JTEEB71J007017027	Dar es salaam (Ada Estate)
3	Toyota Rav4	Z318 EZ	2013	JTMBFREV405017421	Zanzibar (Kisiwani)
4	Toyota Landcruiser Hard top	T618 CBS	2011	JTERB71J600063035	Dodoma (Zonal Office)
5	Toyota Landcruiser Hard top	T965 ARQ	2007	JTERB71J600040211	Dar es salaam (Ada Estate)
6	Toyota Landcruiser Hard top	T525 CEA	2011	JTERB71J900063983	Dar es salaam (Ada Estate)
7	Nissan Hardbody D/ Cabin Pick up	T518 AXC	2008	ADNJ860000E002964	Dar es salaam (Ada Estate)
8	Toyota Landcruiser Hard top	T330DEF	2014	JTERB71J000078923	Dar es salaam (Ada Estate)
9	Toyota Landcruiser Hard top	T380ARY	2007	JTERB71J500040569	Mwanza (Zonal Office)
10	TATA Bus	T857 BJL	2009	MAT38906790R00284	Dar es salaam (Ada Estate)
11	Suzuki Jimmy	T238 DKG	2015	JS3JB43VXG4103850	Dar es salaam (Ada Estate)

II. VEHICLE ACCESSORIES- BUMPERS					
S/N	Model	YOM	Accessory Types	Quantity	Location
1	Toyota Hilux pick Up D/Cabin, 2GD	GUNI25	Toyota Genuine front Bumpers	10	Dar Es Salaam, Ada Estate
2	Toyota Landcruiser Hard top, 76Series	HZJ76R	Toyota Genuine front Bumpers	5	Dar Es Salaam, Ada Estate

B. FIVE (5) BANK PLOTS LOCATED AT KARATU- MANYARA, MSIJUTE (DANGOTE AREA- MTWARA, NANYAMBA - MTWARA, CHAKE CHAKE LUSHOTO - TANGA, MKWAJUNI MANGAKA - NANYUMBU- MTWARA.

The Bank owns title to various landed properties in the country, one of those being plots as per the below list;

S/n	Plot No	Location
1	Plot No. 963 Block F (2,149	Karatu - Manyara
2	Plot No. 88 Block A Mtwara (3,755)	Msijute (Dangote area Mtwara)
3	Plot No. 38 Block A (2,120)	Nanyamba
4	Plot No. 97 Block E (2,708)	Chake Chake Lushoto Tanga
5	Plot No. 139 Block A (2,191)	Mkwajuni Mangaka -Nanyumbu

The Bank intends to sell the above mentioned to any interested buyer under the following conditions:

- The sale of the assets will be conducted in line with the Bank's Procurement Policy. The selection will be done based on the highest evaluated bidder.
- All interested bidders are requested to visit the mentioned assets located area. The site visit can only be done on weekdays during normal working hours **(0900 hours to 1500 hours) from November 2nd, 2023, to November 16th, 2023.**
- The successful bidder must pay a deposit of 100% not later than five (5) working days after being awarded. In the event of failure to do so, the award will be cancelled and given to the second bidder.
- The purchaser will be liable for all taxes relating to this purchase.
- The deadline for submission of the proposals shall be before 1500 hours local time on November 16th, 2023. All bids/quotations should be encrypted and will be opened in public on the same date at 1500 hours, online presence of buyers are advised via the link available on the bank's website.
- All bids must be submitted in electronic form. The bids should be submitted in PDF format only (encryption is advised). Tenders should be sent to tenders@crdbbank.co.tz. The tender must be addressed to the Secretary of the Management Tender Committee, CRDB Head Office, Plot No. 25 & 26 Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road and Plot No. 21 Barack Obama Drive, P.O. Box 268, Dar es Salaam.
- Opening of the submitted bids/quotes will be done at CRDB HQ 6th floor-Procurement Office together with an online option via a link available on the bank's website.
- For further information, please contact us the office of the secretary of the CRDB Bank PLC Tender Management Committee, which is located on the 6th floor of the CRDB Head Office, along Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road, and is open from 08:00 to 16:00 Monday through Friday, excluding public holidays. You can also visit our email address info@crdbbank.co.tz for any inquiries.

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER, 2023

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Picture emerging on rules as UHC finally being rolled out

ONLY days after the National Assembly endorsed the universal health coverage proposition, the picture is getting increasingly clear on what precisely is expected in the legislative shift.

At least two aspects come to the fore, namely, the problem of child insurance earlier and the fact that there will be different packages in UHC - and thus differential coverage for healthcare.

It comes up that the development focuses on universality but it is an improvement on the iCHF (improved Community Health Fund) by extending the latter's reach and thus improving its use.

In scattered remarks either in speeches or in various forms of interviews, a number of senior state officials have explained that the child insurance facility was being sought by families already aware that the children in question had a condition calling for fairly continuous medical care.

This is what upstaged the facility as it did not meet the criteria for insurance as such, as this demands that there are numerous people on the list and just a portion of them can be in poor health at any particular time. This way the healthy enable financing treatment of the sick in a routine, sustainable way.

This is what leads to the enlargement of insurance cover to include virtually everybody, also suggesting that all children become part of such a fund.

Therefore, when a few of them or even a significant portion of them are sick on any given day and funds are collected at a collective level, we end up with a collective insurance policy or coverage bill.

One problem that would remain would be one of design in that the coverage and the funding it is able to collect ought to subsidise the issuing of drugs and, in a way, the hiring of more medical staff - and not insurance per se. In view of the clear inability to control misuses of powers when treatment as a whole is filed for payment, dispute on its accuracy and the period in which the demanding institution would have to wait, it is vital that the insurance

dimension, even when it is cast on a wider range, is limited in its application.

For instance, it could relate to treatment at the referral level, like regional hospitals for non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

For the rest, which means at the dispensary, health centre and district hospital level, the universal contributions need to subsidise availability of drugs - which is at present uncertain.

This would make patients more entitled to basic needs when they reach hospitals, not that hospitals would write bills to X or Y or decide if the patient is one of 15 million people to be assisted. Such criteria would likely be unworkable.

Referral hospital bills, especially on NCDs, are likely to be covered using the usual formula patterned on the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) and private health insurance arrangements that companies enter into with private hospitals.

That done, there wouldn't be negative interaction between private hospitals and public health authorities in the manner in which this streak of distaste is often visible - for instance, in relation to the presence of pharmacies near hospitals.

It would imply that what is now called universal health coverage is adapted and becomes wide-ranging free medical care at lower levels of medication, not exactly 'insurance'.

The financing for what is now seen as universal coverage is meanwhile equivocal on how it is done, and in that sense legislators have given the state authorities legroom to organise themselves more effectively on the matter.

It is not because all the MPs' queries were answered to satisfaction but only that they sought feelings of various quarters, not just top government authorities but also the likes of the country's development partners and clerics.

This freedom to act obliges the government to come up with something more practicable, universal for the most part, if with visible safeguards are put into play.

MPs' wish for localised production lacking usable bearings to realise it

WITH threats of accessibility of foreign exchange ever present despite some softening in the past month or two, legislators are brainstorming on ways to use locally available resources in making a large number of products that are now imported.

What perhaps is difficult in comprehending the situation is that demand for localised production is made in a simple or matter of fact way with little examination of why this hasn't happened since the onset of economic reforms.

Some people could decide to date that as far back as 1985, with others going over to 1996 and even more so by the start of the new century; no localisation is taking place.

Yet it needs no investigation to figure out that the "devil" lies in the s prices such that for nearly all products we may wish to produce at the local level, it is always cheaper to obtain them from outside.

We had a vegetable oils firm in Mwanza city, right on the south-eastern shores of Lake Victoria, but it is long in ruins and the market was taken over first by similar items made in a neighbouring country, and increasingly even further afield.

Much the same applies for edible oil being cheaper if it comes from Malaysia, sugar being cheaper when it comes from Brazil, textiles being cheaper if imported from China, etc.

There has not been serious enough effort on the part of our business groups and think-tanks if one takes average concerns in economic discussion for over two decades,

where the primary concern has been protection of local firms from imports.

This concern is gradually being eroded with a fuller implementation of the East African Customs Union protocol and the East African Common Market addendum, even before raising the spectre of the African Continental Free Trade Area lately.

With newer business groups taking up business opportunities on a reciprocal basis in neighbouring countries, protection as an issue fades away.

MPs seek a boost in local production to preserve the foreign exchange stock that we have or do regularly replenish, especially localising the production of produce needed at each moment, whose raw materials are readily available.

That is also the wider map of agro-sector plans especially for irrigation farming, likely to take care of the gaps now filled with imports.

However, it is not that incoming manufacturing investors target just the local market, but sub-regional and wider regional markets as well, assuming that negative factors are diminished.

With the government making strenuous efforts to "loosen" the business atmosphere with regard to taxes and other regulatory controls, industries will be coming up even for those basic commodities.

It remains to be seen, though, how much of that will be local investments. Some more established industrialists may gradually sell out, moving to real estate where the competition is less intense and the value of land is always appreciating.

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By Parker Klein

ONE: You try to do more and don't decide what to focus on. When people make enough money to meet their needs, they just find new things to need and new lifestyles to aspire to.

The real problem isn't our limited time. The real problem is that we've unwittingly inherited, and feel pressured to live by, a troublesome set of ideas about how to use our limited time - all of which are pretty much guaranteed to make things worse.

Since hard choices are unavoidable, what matters is learning to make them consciously, deciding what to focus on and what to neglect, rather than letting them get made by default.

Warren Buffet's advice: make a list of the top 25 things you want out of life and then arrange them in order, from the most important to the least. The top five should be those around which you organise your time.

The remaining 20 should be actively avoided at all costs - because they're the ambitions insufficiently important to you. They distract you from the core of your life that matters the most. What are your top priorities?

Two: You focus on the future. Instead of simply living our lives as they unfold in time, it becomes difficult not to value each moment primarily according to its usefulness for some future goal, or for some future oasis of relaxation you hope to reach once your tasks are finally "out of the way".

It wrenches us out of the present, leading to a life spent leaning into the future, worrying about whether things will work out, experiencing everything in terms of some later, hoped-for benefit, so that peace of mind never quite arrives.

To steal from Nietzsche: "We labour at our daily work more ardently and thoughtlessly than is necessary to sustain our life because to us it is even more necessary not to have leisure time to stop and think. Haste is universal because everyone is in flight from himself."

How are you feeling at this moment? What do you need to do right now?

Three: You ignore your limitations. There is no time management technique that's half as effective as just facing the way things truly are.

Once you become convinced that something you've been attempting is impossible, it's a lot harder to keep on berating yourself for failing.

A limit-embracing attitude to time means organising your days with the understanding that you definitely won't have time for

Nine time management mistakes you are making

everything you want to do, or that other people want you to do - and so, at the very least, you can stop beating yourself up for failing.

Technically, it's irrational to feel troubled by an overwhelming to-do list. You'll do what you can, you won't do what you can't, and the tyrannical inner voice insisting that you must do everything is simply mistaken.

When there is too much to do, the only route to psychological freedom is to let go of the limit-denying fantasy of getting it all done and instead focus on doing a few things that count.

It's not an incremental improvement but a change in perspective that reframes everything.

Once you no longer need to convince yourself that you'll do everything that needs doing, you're free to focus on doing a few things that count. What limitation have you been avoiding and how can you accept it?

Four: You seek out pleasure and experiences. Stuffing your life with pleasurable activities often proves less satisfying than you would expect.

The more wonderful experiences you succeed in having, the more additional wonderful experiences you start to feel you could have, or ought to have, on top of all those you've already had - with the result that the feeling of existential overwhelm gets worse.

For existential overwhelm, what's required is the will to resist the urge to consume more and more experiences, since that strategy can only lead to the feeling of having even more experiences left to consume.

You get to focus on fully enjoying the tiny slice of experiences you actually do have time for - and the freer you are to choose, in each moment, what counts the most. What experiences can you let go of?

Five: You don't prioritise yourself. If you don't save a bit of your time for you, now, out of every week, there is no moment in the future when you'll magically be done with everything and have loads of free time.

Pay yourself (time) first. Spending at least some of your leisure time wastefully, focused solely on the pleasure of the experience, is the only way not to waste it - to be truly at leisure, rather than convert my engaged in future-focused self-improvement.

To rest for the sake of rest entails first accepting the fact that this is it: that your days aren't progressing towards a future starts with perfectly invulnerable happiness, and that to approach them with such an assumption is systematically to drain our four thousand weeks of their value.

We might seek to incorporate into our daily lives more things we do for their own sake alone - to spend some of our time on activities in which the only thing we're trying to get from them is the doing itself.

In order to be a source of true fulfilment, a good hobby probably should feel a little embarrassing: that's a sign that you're doing it for its own sake, rather than for some socially sanctioned outcome. What activity do you want to do to enjoy the present?

Six: You are easily distracted. The ancient Greeks say distraction as a systematic inner failure to use one's time on what one claimed to value the most. What you pay attention to will define, for you, what reality is.

Your experience of being alive consists of nothing other than the sum of everything to which you pay attention. When you pay attention to something you don't especially value, it's not an exaggeration to say that you're paying with your life.

To have any meaningful experience, you must be able to focus on it, at least a bit. Can you have an experience you don't experience?

Because the attention economy is designed to prioritise whatever is most compelling - instead of whatever is most true, or most useful - it systematically distorts the picture of the world we carry in our heads at all times.

It's not simply that our devices distract us from more important matters. It's that they change how we are defining "important matters" in the first place. What do you value the most? What do you want to stop doing?

Seven: You need to keep up with everyone. As the world gets faster and faster, we come to believe that our happiness, or our financial survival, depends on our being able to work and move and make things happen at superhuman speed.

We grow anxious about not keeping up - so to quell the anxiety, to try to achieve the feeling that our lives are under control, we move faster.

Speed addiction tends to be

socially celebrated. Your friends are more likely to praise you for being "driven". Patience is the least fashionably but perhaps most consequential superpower.

In a world headed for hurry, the capacity to resist the urge to hurry - to allow things to take the time they take - is a way to do the work that counts, and derive satisfaction from the doing itself, instead of deferring all your fulfilment to the future.

We're made so uneasy by the experience of allowing reality to unfold at its own speed that when we're faced with a problem, it feels better to race towards a resolution, really, so long as we can tell ourselves that we're "dealing with" the situation, thereby maintaining the feeling of being in control.

What activities have you been rushing? How can you be more patient?

Eight: You try to do too much. Embrace radical incrementalism: focus on making small progress consistently.

The most productive and successful academics made writing a smaller part of their daily routine than the others, so that it was much more feasible to keep going with it day after day. Ask yourself what goal you can break down into a consistent habit.

Nine: You don't allow yourself to do one thing at a time. Carl Jung has aptly put it: "The individual path is the one you make for yourself, which I had never prescribed, which you do not know in advance, and which simply comes into being itself when you put one foot in front of the other."

"Quietly do the next and most necessary thing. So long as you think you don't yet know what that is, you still have too much money to spend in useless speculation. But if you do with conviction the next and most necessary thing, you are always doing something meaningful and intended by fate."

The next and most necessary thing is all that any of us can ever aspire to do in any moment. And we must do it despite not having any objective way to be sure what the right course of action even is.

Working within the limits of your moment in history, and your finite time and talents, you actually have got around to doing - and made life more luminous for the rest of us by doing - whatever magnificent task or weird little thing it was that you came here for.

*medium.com

Parent-teacher meetings hugely important for academic success

THANKS to guidelines on education management, parents and teachers get an opportunity to meet twice a year, once in each term. Some are for the entire school and others target classes. All of these meetings are meant to achieve academic improvement.

Like in other meetings, in parent-teacher meetings, the one who convenes for the meeting is the one who prepares the agenda and get opinions from attendants who in this case are the parents.

Normally, the academic office in collaboration with the head of school prepares the agenda to be put before the parents. Based on experience, teachers are always with plans which they believe can work. Teachers often communicate such plans to parents in the parent-teacher meetings.

Ordinarily, teachers expect parents to accept the plans and work on the same. But in most cases, things go differently as parents do not embrace such plans. They often reject some ideas and introduce some adjustments which are not feasible.

For example, when some parents are asked to allow their children to stay in school for extra hours or join the system that make them boarders, parents often reject such proposals. But it is the same parents who urge teachers to finish syllabuses on time and produce good results.

The pressure is intensified when focusing candidate classes in which syllabus must be covered early to allow intensive revision. Due to need of producing good results, some schools have put into place some arrangements whereby candidate classes, especially standard seven, stay at school so that they can get additional training.

For some parents, depending on financial status, they prefer their children to stay at school while others are against that agenda due to lack of enough finances to foot the bills that come with the same. After the disagreements, it is normally decided that those who are able should implement the proposal and those who are not able to skip. The consequence is that the result for the two groups cannot be the



CLASSROOM MATTERS

By
Thomas Lyimo

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same.

For most parents, affordability is more important than quality. This is what leaves teachers who are always

driven by ideas of urgency of change in dilemma. But the parent-teacher meetings give teachers a glimpse of future challenges and how they

should go about them due to the following benefits resulting from interaction of the meetings.

One is getting ideas from

parents. It is hard to decide anything without information. Parent-teacher meetings enables teachers to have views of parents on how they expect things to move. Views of parents show their readiness or reluctance to accept certain proposals. It is very important to know the stand of your partner in business so as to enhance profitability. In the teaching profession, the stance of parents gives teachers a message on how they can go successfully in the quest to eradicate ignorance.

Second is opportunity for teachers to advise parents. It is not all parents who are highly educated that they can understand each and everything easily. Some parents need to hear from teachers on how their children can excel academically. Therefore, parent-teacher meetings give an opportunity to teachers as leaders of education in a school to advise parents accordingly.

Third is creating a rapport between teachers and parents. Parent-teacher meetings provide an opportunity for teachers and parents to have one stand which enhances co-

operation. When teachers and parents believe in the same idea and they move together, the possibility of succeeding is increased. Parents and teachers need to talk the same language so that learners can perform well.

Fourth is opportunity for socialization. The parent-teacher meetings enable teachers and parents to socialize. Human beings are social beings; therefore, whenever they meet, the need to understand one another emerges. Life opportunities are many and through parent-teacher meetings both parties can be aware of some opportunities for growth in life not only for the learners but also themselves.

Educational development, like other kinds of development, faces challenges. One of the challenges is when some parents are more interested in affordability than in quality. Education is not like other businesses where you can make a profit out of a loss. Once insufficient knowledge is placed into the mind of an individual, it is not an easy task to undo the damage. Effective teaching demands parent-teacher meetings.

PPPs fiscal hoax is a blank financial silver bullet

By Jomo Kwame Sundaram

PUBLIC-PRIVATE partnerships (PPPs) for infrastructure and service provision are both costly and risky. Worse, PPPs typically fail to ensure universal, let alone fair access to public amenities.

Public-private partnerships?

PPPs usually involve long-term contractual arrangements in which private businesses provide infrastructure and services traditionally provided by governments. In recent years, PPPs have built or run hospitals, schools, prisons, roads, airports, railways, water and sanitation.

Risk-sharing between public and private sectors has long been widespread. In recent years, more than two dozen different types of PPPs have been identified. Such variations reflect differences in deals between governments and commercial partners.

Most international financial institutions (IFIs) advise governments to guarantee profits for their private partners. The IFIs continue to urge governments to 'de-risk' commercial providers to attract their investments.

Private investor preferences for specific types of PPPs may vary over time and with circumstances, often reflecting changing needs and priorities. As no one type fits all, changing circumstances and preferences have increased the variety of PPPs.

PPP problems

PPPs are far more complex than suggested by their cheerleaders' narratives. Their negative impacts on infrastructure and public service delivery have been highlighted again by a Eurodad-led report. Public expenses rise as governments bear private costs and risks.

Following World Bank and other IFI advice, national authorities attract commercial financial investments by appealing to private greed. PPPs have been used to 'de-risk' such investment, by using their terms to ensure profits for private investors.

The report also exposed PPPs' negative impacts for democratic governance. PPP arrangements typically lack transparency, and rarely involve prior consultation with affected communities. Thus, they have been more prone to corruption and abuse.

While private partners are guaranteed profits, their PPPs may still fail. In recent years, PPPs' fiscal and other costs kept mounting as their shortfalls grew



despite their rising profitability. As such problems grow, criticisms and dissent have risen.

Why PPPs fail?

PPPs have increasingly been touted as the magic solution to many problems, particularly financial constraints, poor management and delivery. PPPs have become popular among elites in the global South, where their 'middle classes' were enticed by the promise of better services and 'trickle-down'.

The private sector is supposedly more efficient and better able to deliver public amenities including energy, education, health, water and sanitation. But better value for money has rarely ensued, as many studies show. Instead, the converse is more typical.

A 2020 study by the European Federation of Public Service Unions and Eurodad identified eight major reasons why PPPs in Europe have not improved outcomes.

First, PPPs rarely raised additional funds. Instead, they have typically incurred more public debt in the form of government guarantees, rather than direct borrowing. But such additional

public debt has often been obscured from the public.

Second, private commercial loans generally cost much more than government borrowings. Third, public authorities, especially central governments, still bear ultimate responsibility, especially in the event of project failure.

Fourth, PPPs have rarely delivered better 'value for money' than reasonably managed public projects. Fifth, seeming PPP efficiency gains have been largely due to risky cost-cutting, e.g., in public infrastructure or healthcare provision.

Sixth, PPPs distort public policy priorities, typically requiring even more cost-cutting. Seventh, PPPs have rarely delivered both 'on-time' and 'on-budget'. Eighth, PPP deals are typically opaque, rather than transparent, often involving abuses and corruption.

From early 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic exposed the long-term adverse effects of earlier austerity and underfunding of public health. More recently, inflation, stagnation and more extreme weather have exposed other vulnerabilities and their causes.

What can be done?

As the world faces multiple and interconnected crises, PPPs offer bogus, even dangerous solutions. Eurodad has made policy recommendations to national governments and development finance institutions (DFIs) to improve infrastructure and public service financing.

Stop promoting PPPs. The World Bank, IMF, regional development banks and DFIs should all end the promotion of PPPs, especially for social services. Access to health, education, water and sanitation should not depend on capacity to pay.

Fiscal and other major PPP risks should be publicly acknowledged. Governments should be warned of PPPs' generally poor outcomes, and of the pros and cons of various financing arrangements. DFIs should all more effectively finance national plans for sustainable and equitable development.

Countries should be helped to find the best financing means to deliver responsible, transparent, gender-sensitive, environmentally and fiscally sustainable public infrastructure and social services consistent with national

and multilateral obligations.

Informed public consultations should always precede any infrastructure and public service provision agreement by PPPs. These should include ensuring the rights of all affected communities, including those to fair remedy or compensation.

Exercise rigorous and transparent government regulation, especially for public spending, PPP contract values, project impacts, and long-term fiscal implications. The public interest must always prevail over commercial ones.

DFIs should only finance projects serving the public interest. Appropriate, publicly funded public services should be promoted, with transparent contracts for and accountable reporting on social service and infrastructure project delivery.

PPPs have often proved to be budgetary frauds, exacerbating, rather than reducing national fiscal deficits. Far from being the financial silver bullet they have been touted as, PPPs have proven to be blanks, making much noise, but with little real benefit.

IPS

“When the sun rises in the morning, I see the light but I don't feel like I'm having a bright day. I think about how different these days are from our past days”.

These are the words of Sharifa, 48, an Afghan mother of five as she recounts her life story wrought by the Taliban when they regained power two years ago. Tears streamed down her face as she narrated her story in the two-room house of her family in the Dasht e Barchi Qala area, far from the capital city Kabul.

Sharifa lost her job as a cleaner because Afghan women were no longer allowed to work under the Taliban. Her two young girls had to stop school for the same reason.

“Will we have a future?” she asked. “We live in a country where all women and girls are deprived of all their legal rights, and we don't know what will happen tomorrow”, her final concern is, “we are worried about the future of our children”.

To Sharifa and millions of Afghan women, the return of the Taliban, the extremist Islamic group that took over power in August 2021 portended nothing but misery for them.

“I think about the future, on the outside I may seem alive, but inside I feel dead”, she says, with tears streaming down her face.

For the past five years, the family led a quite peaceful and happy life without worries in the Dasht e Barchi Qala area in Afghanistan. Sharifa describes her husband as a kind and compassionate person.

After she lost her job, her husband became the sole breadwinner for the family of seven. It became necessary therefore, for their eldest son who had dropped out of school due to lack of money to work and bring in supplementary income.

Sharifa's own education was cut short at the tenth grade due to the demands of raising a family. Given that situation, she was determined to do all in her power to provide adequate education to her five children - two boys and three daughters.

“I was a mother who, with all the problems and challenges in life, wanted all my children to have a higher education so that they could serve their country and family in the future”.

But all her hopes came crushing when the Taliban took power. It became clear that female students above the sixth grade could no longer continue their education. Women were also asked to stay home and cease working. Only the university was not banned.

But the saddest part for Sharifa was the loss of her daughter, the eldest of

Afghan women call out to the world amidst tears and grief



Afghan women carry stories of sorrow and resilience. Credit: Learning Together

her children. At 24, she had completed 12th grade, and despite of the prohibition placed on girls' education, was still plowing ahead with great determination to go the university.

Little did she know that the enemies of girls' education were lurking around the corner. A bomb blast hit the Kaj educational centre in Kabul at precisely the time she was busy writing the university entrance examination. The educational centre held 500 students, 320 of them girls.

The blast had devastating consequences. Fifty female students were

killed and 130 injured. Among the dead was Sharifa's daughter.

“When I heard that the educational center was attacked, I was shocked, and rushed to the scene bare-footed to look for my daughter”, she said.

Dozens of families lost their loved ones that day but to their consternation, when they arrived at the scene, the dead and the wounded had already been transferred to hospitals. The Taliban had barred people from entering the centre except for ambulances.

The ISIS took responsibility for the attack, which was condemned widely

around the world. Taliban officials also strongly condemned the attack and promised that the perpetrators would be punished, but nothing has been done since.

Sharifa says that the day she received her daughter's body for burial, was the bitterest and most painful day because all her wishes were also buried with her daughter.

“From that day until today, I only breath, but I don't feel alive”, she says.

In the midst of the grief however, Sharifa continues to demand for women's rights and calls for support from

the international community and the UN, to stop the Taliban from oppressing Afghan women.

“The women of Afghanistan have the right to play an active role in their society, in all different sectors, social, cultural, economic, and political fields”, Sharifa demands.

The author is an Afghanistan-based female journalist, trained with Finnish support before the Taliban take-over. Her identity is withheld for security reasons

Demography key to unlocking sustainable future for Asia and the Pacific

By Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana and Natalia

Kanem

ASIA and the Pacific is an economic powerhouse, fuelled by its vibrant and diverse population. Comprising 60 per cent of the world's population, this region is bursting with both a wealth of experience and untapped potential.

Exciting advancements have been made here, in education; health care, including sexual and reproductive health; jobs, and sustainable development. Yet there is a catch: this progress has not been evenly distributed. In fact, inequity pervades the region, especially within individual countries.

Women still lose their lives during childbirth at alarming rates, and in many countries we have seen limited progress in reducing maternal mortality in the past decade. In several countries, less than 30 per cent of women of reproductive age use contraception. Unemployment rates among young women remain high, reaching up to 25 per cent in some places.

Women are still struggling for a seat at the political table, with less than a quarter of national parliamentary seats being occupied by women in 35 countries across the region. Progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment has been sluggish, creating a roadblock to sustainable development.

The region is particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change and environmental degradation, with disasters claiming 2 million lives since 1970. Financial losses from these calamities add up to \$924 billion every year, eating up nearly 3 per cent of the region's GDP. Humanity's environmental footprint has expanded dramatically. The region's greenhouse gas emissions have



Pedestrian crossing at an intersection in Tokyo. Credit: Unsplash/Ryoji Iwata

risen by 54 per cent since 1990, largely due to the energy and agricultural sectors.

Population ageing is another mega-trend affecting this part of the world. More people are enjoying longer and healthier lives, and in this new reality we need policies that adapt to these shifts and invest in every stage of life. Rather than perceiving older persons as a drain on resources, we should recognize them as individuals with human rights who make important contributions to society in various ways all the time.

The same applies to persons with disabilities, migrants and other groups who

have much to contribute, yet too often face stigma and discrimination. Let us build societies for people of all abilities and ages.

Over 60 per cent of the population in the Asia Pacific region has access to the internet, and this has turbocharged development across many sectors. Nevertheless, these technological advances bring new challenges, from the digital divide between the haves and the have-nots, to privacy violations and a disturbing rise in technology-facilitated gender-based violence.

While it is important that we celebrate the region's many achievements, we must

simultaneously confront its population and development challenges. We have a unique opportunity to do so as we mark 60 years since the first Asian and Pacific Population Conference and 30 years since the International Conference on Population and Development - two important milestones on the path towards sustainable progress.

At the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as countries seek to accelerate action towards our global goals, we urgently need comprehensive, forward-thinking, intergenerational approaches to harness the opportunities of

population dynamics for sustainable development. To be effective, such approaches must be based on individual human rights and rooted in evidence and data.

Innovative solutions, financing and political commitment through inclusive partnerships are our path forward. Let us ensure young and older persons have a voice in decision-making and in designing solutions. Let us tap into the goldmine of shared knowledge and proven methods we have built over the past few decades.

Investing in people, through improved health, education and training, while providing social protection for all to retain development gains, lays the foundation for inclusive, just and sustainable societies. It is also our route to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference taking place this week is the perfect launchpad for collective action. Governments, civil society, young people and others can come together and make a real difference, building on their collective investments and successes to date. Together, we can protect people and the planet and ensure prosperity for all, now and in the future.

Let us refocus our actions to ensure human rights and choices for everyone, driving us closer to peace and a sustainable future for this generation and those that follow.

Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana is UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); Natalia Kanem is UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

IPS UN Bureau

FSDAi commits \$3million to Carbon Value Exchange



NAIROBI

FSD Africa Investments (FSDAi) has invested US\$3 million in Carbon Value Exchange (Cavex), a digital market and payments platform set to revolutionise the voluntary carbon market by allowing small producers of carbon credits such as farmers and small businesses to sell direct to corporate buyers.

The platform aims to channel over US\$500 million in carbon financing to small-scale green projects by 2030.

The platform was presented to King Charles at a tech and innovation showcase during the monarch's state visit to Kenya last week alongside BURN, the clean cook-stove company, which is one of the first companies to join the platform.

The Cavex platform uses cutting-edge technology to remotely capture real time data on the projects' activities and calculate how much carbon is being displaced or removed as a result. This means buyers will have full transparency around the credits they are buying and can have confidence that the information they are being given is accurate.

The technology minimises the time and cost required for projects to validate and transact their carbon credits which until now has meant only larger renewable projects such as wind or solar farms, or businesses could afford to join schemes that allow them to trade carbon credits with buyers. Crucially, proceeds from the sale of carbon credits on Cavex will flow directly to the companies, people and communities running the projects using digital finance—mobile wallets, thereby increasing end to end transparency. By aiming to return 90% of transaction proceeds to project participants through digital finance, Cavex will play a pivotal role in amplifying small-scale, high-quality carbon projects and expanding market access for carbon offset projects across sub-Saharan Africa and eventually the Global South.

FSDAi's investment is part of a seed funding raise of US\$6 million by Cavex which will fund the next stage of its development to commercial viability. This includes early-stage convertible grant support from FSD Africa's Digital Innovation team (amongst other co-

grantors) for the platform's core development by 4R Digital Ltd, the team which has incubated Cavex from concept to the current stage of investment.

FSDAi's investment in Cavex complements its existing portfolio that enables capital allocation to Africa's green economic growth by backing existing asset managers and venture builders (examples include Africa Climate Ventures, Nithio, Persistent Energy, InfraCredit, Spark Energy and Catalyst Fund).

FSDAi makes investments in support of innovative financial instruments, facilities and intermediaries that can accelerate the role of finance in Africa's green economic growth. It is funded by UK International Development and works alongside FSD Africa, bringing different financing tools to play to incubate (FSD Africa) and pave the way for FSDAi early investment.

One of FSDAi's distinctive features is its mandate to take significant investment risk. FSDAi fills an important funding gap by assuming the commercial risk of novel financial solutions that neither development finance institutions nor private investors are prepared to take.

Anne-Marie Chidzero, CIO, FSD Africa Investments, said: "Cavex is a marketplace platform that can radically expand the reach and impact of the voluntary carbon market across Africa through its use of digital technology and mobile money. This technology will allow rural and urban, micro to large businesses to sell their credits to large off-takers in the global North through the aggregation features of the exchange. This means that small and rural producers can participate and benefit from Africa's great potential to be an exporter of carbon credits."

Nick Hughes, CEO and Co-Founder, Cavex, said: "This investment will help us prove how digital technology can open-up climate finance for many people, communities and projects that are displacing or removing carbon. Cavex has the potential to scale in the way mobile money scaled 15 years ago when Kenya and M-PESA spearheaded a global wave of digital finance. More widely, Africa has a huge role to play in the evolution of carbon markets and in this context, it is critical that we find ways to distribute climate finance more equitably and in a way that has real socio-economic impact."

“This investment will help us prove how digital technology can open-up climate finance for many people, communities and projects that are displacing or removing carbon. Cavex has the potential to scale in the way mobile money scaled 15 years ago when Kenya and M-PESA spearheaded a global wave of digital finance. More widely



GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - TANZANIA

Statement of Work

Purpose: To conduct an assessment to identify requirements for transforming Dodoma region from paper-based supply chain management systems to paperless electronic and integrated systems through digitization.

Provider(s): TBD

Period of Performance: 3 Weeks

Place of Performance: Dodoma, Tanzania

Background.

The government of Tanzania (GoT) through sector ministries has been investing in improving health commodities availability by implementing several digital solutions to strengthen health commodity management. Some of these investments included implementation of an electronic Logistics Management Information System (eLMIS) used by health facilities for routine reporting and ordering of health commodities. The GoT also invested in electronic medical records such as the Government Health Operations Management Information System (GoTHOMIS) used at primary health care (PHC) level and AfyaCare used at regional referral level. Similarly, the implementation of the Pharmacy Module Database (PMD) and the Care and Treatment Centre (CTC2) covers the HIV/AIDS clinical business processes. Epicor10 is an enterprise resource planning (ERP) used at the medical stores department (MSD) and the facility financial and accounting reporting system (FFARS) is used by all health facilities to manage health commodities funds. All these initiatives were intended to increase efficiency, accessibility and visibility of clinical and logistics data. Furthermore, the government in collaboration with stakeholders has been working on facilitating data exchange of these health systems through implementation of interoperability layers like Muungano gateway (MG) and the Health Information Mediator (HIM).

Whilst the vision for real-time data is dependent on getting quality data from the electronic medical records (EMRs) at the health facilities at all levels; this has not been the case. There are several challenges that need to be addressed such as missing modules for vertical programs, complete integration between systems; infrastructure challenges such as lack of Local Area Network (LAN) at some facilities, computing devices and unstable electricity; and user related challenges such as change and adoption, inadequate staffing and computer skills. The current implementation of GoTHOMIS at Primary Health Care (PHC) level and AfyaCare at RRH is partially completed, there is inconsistent use of standardised business processes for respective health facility level; uncoordinated implementation plans due to resource limitation on ICT infrastructure, finances, and human resource; and most importantly limited oversight and governance of digital health implementation at the granular level. These limitations have hindered longitudinal data flow and visibility of health supply chain data.

Objectives

The objectives of this needs assessment are to:

1. Document current state of digitalization work done in Dodoma through desk review
2. Conduct a situational analysis and needs assessment related to:
 - i. modular requirements including a business process analysis of the current functional status of the following electronic medical records (EMRs) AfyaCare and GoTHOMIS in supporting health commodity management and visibility at the health facilities.
 - ii. infrastructure requirements at all health facilities (Local Area Network, computing devices, electricity, and internet availability for each facility)
 - iii. User requirements (change and adoption, staffing and computer skills)

Activities to be conducted.

The consultant will undertake the following activities:

1. Conduct desk review of key previous assessments done in Dodoma region including reviewing implementation status of the report's recommendations to date (by the review date) to establish a baseline. Review relevant strategic documents and policies such as the digital health strategy 2019-2014, PHC Digital Transformation roadmap, HSSP V and reports and any reports deemed relevant for the exercise. The desk review to include current modules including AfyaCare and GoTHOMIS, existing documents of infrastructure requirements and user requirements. The review should also include documented governance arrangements for the EMRs.
2. Present the finding of the desk review to the technical team and accommodate any feedback.
3. Informed by the desk review, and feedback from the technical team feedback, develop data collection tools with identified data sources in collaboration with MoH established technical team, gather information on but not limited to the four thematic areas:
 - i. Governance,
 - ii. Functional status of the EMR to support supply chain business process at the facility level,
 - iii. Availability and capacity of workforce, including training needs.
 - iv. Existing infrastructure needs (Computers and connectivity devices, electricity and internet connection).
4. Identify the current gaps and challenges hindering the inclusion and operationalization of Vertical Program business processes like CTC into GoTHOMIS and AfyaCare.
5. To assess the requirements of integrating the EMRs with eLMIS, DHIS2 and other relevant digital solutions for the supply chain
6. Lead and coordinate the assessment activity for the selected health facilities in Dodoma region.
7. Present findings from the assessment to the technical team/oversight team
8. Develop a costed implementation plan to enable digitization of health supply chains for Dodoma region.
9. Consultations with key stakeholders including Ministry of Health, PORALG, RAS Dodoma, and other supply chain stakeholders.
10. Identify the key stakeholders and align their roles and responsibilities in supporting the costed implementation plan.

Assessment coverage

All Health Facilities in Dodoma region

Deliverables

The consultant will deliver the following:

- 1) Activity/Project plan detailing all tasks to be performed and timelines.
- 2) Data collection tool agreed with MOH.
- 3) A comprehensive needs assessment report which includes a roadmap showing roles and responsibilities of different supply chain stakeholders' commitment to support the costed implementation plan.
- 4) A PowerPoint presentation of the needs assessment report to the Ministry of Health and supply chain stakeholders

Qualifications and Attributes required

The applicant for this consultancy should possess the following minimum qualifications and can provide documentation supporting capabilities and past experience:

1. Demonstrated Technical Capabilities
 - a. A qualified professional with a demonstrated track record in developing health facility level digital health solutions
 - b. Experience in developing data collection tools, leading assessments and analysis.
 - c. Prior knowledge and working with electronic medical records (EMRs) systems and their functionality to support health supply chain data management. Experience in working with GoTHOMIS and AfyaCare will be an added advantage
 - d. Experience and understanding of Tanzania's Health Enterprise Architecture and governance structures supporting health supply chain
 - e. Extensive experience working in Tanzania will be an added advantage.
 - f. Extensive experience working with the MoH and PORALG, Development Partner and other supply chain stakeholders will be an added advantage.
2. Demonstrated Project Management and Communications Capabilities
 - a. Strong experience managing projects of this scope and size, including meeting deadlines and managing risks.
 - b. Demonstrate experience leading and supporting similar projects/assessments
 - c. Experience in planning and executing communications efforts in support of projects of this scope and size
 - d. Be able to participate and lead in-person workshop(s) to review materials, as needed.
 - e. Excellent verbal and written English and Swahili
 - f. Conducting assessments and detailed analysis
 - g. A B.Sc. Degree in computer science discipline will be an added advantage

Proposal Submission and Timelines

- a. All submissions have to be sent to alfred.mchau@tz-ghsc.com with cc to hubert.assenga@tz-ghsc.com, james.bagoka@tz-ghsc.com and phillip.kamutenga@tz-ghsc.com
- b. Bid submissions have to be submitted by 21st November 2023.
- c. All quotes have to be valid for a period of 60 calendar days.
- d. All cost proposals should be broken down by the number of position descriptions/types, hours, hourly rates, and deliverables.
- e. The work is expected to start once the contract is signed by the contractor.
- f. The duration of the contract is expected to be 21 workdays. All work should be completed within the contract duration.
- g. Work is expected to commence in first week of December 2023.
- h. All proposals should be priced/quoted according to days and deliverables.
- i. All proposals should include references and contacts of which the bidder performed a similar work
- j. Examples of past work are required and should be shown when needed

Selection Criteria

- a. Past experience proven 5+ (years) in the conducting similar assessments in the country
- b. Experience working with MoH and PORALG
- c. References checks
- d. Quality of proposal
- e. Pricing

USAID Global Health Supply Chain Program
Technical Assistance - Tanzania

Plot No. 498, Unit 301 | Haile Selassie Road, Masaki | P.O. Box 9263 | Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



Thursday 9 November 2023

Agriculture credits growth rate hits historic 55.5pc

By Guardian Reporter

Crops farmers, fishermen, livestock keepers, processors and marketers have continued to win the hearts of lenders, after the sector's credits recorded the historical growth of 55.5 percent during the year ending September.

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) monthly economic review for October release yesterday shows the share of credit to agriculture to total credits has also increased to 10.4 percent at the end of September 2023, from 8.2 percent by September last year.

This indicated that in each 1,000/- issued by banks as loan to the economy, 100/- is issued to agricultural activity.

BoT says the strong growth of credits to the sector, which accounts for 25 percent of exports earnings and nearly a third of the GDP, is backed by policy measures taken to promote cost-effective credit intermediation, coupled with ongoing interventions by the government to support the sector.

This trend is continuing to end the long term myth by lending institutions, which were considering agriculture sector as riskier to finance.

The BoT report shows since April this year, the credit growth to agriculture has been maintained to above 35 percent, the strongest growth to be attained than all other economic activities, including personal loans, which accounts for nearly 40 percent of total banks loans.

The growth of credits to agriculture is also more than double of the growth of banks credits extended to economic activities, which was 19.5 percent during the year ended in September, according to



Primary farming and fishing remain the main source of income for 9.5 million Tanzanians. File photo

central bank computations.

Currently, agriculture lending by banks and financial institutions are extended through two channels, first being secure lending, and the second channel is through guarantee scheme by the government, through the ministry of finance, whereby small holder farmers are guaranteed up to 50 percent of funds borrowed.

Tanzania Agriculture Develop-

ment Bank (TADB), which specifically established to finance agriculture sector, has partnered 16 financial institutions to extend credits to farmers, fishermen and livestock keepers, which has helped to reach 1.7 million farmers countrywide.

The bank and partnering institution has so far extended its reach to beneficiaries in 27 regions and 127 districts, with a total disbursement

of 228.2bn/- at the end of September this year.

The bank's Ag. Director of Credit and Business, Afia Sigge, said earlier this week that in the third Quarter of this Year, a total of 61.8bn/- were issued as loans in the crop, livestock and fishing sectors in the country, reaching 1.7 million farmers in 27 regions and 124 districts of Tanzania.

Of the 61bn/- was disbursed to

farmers, she said 40.2bn/- disbursed for the purchase of inputs and costs of agricultural operations. 19bn/- borrowed for the cost of construction of agricultural projects.

According to Sigge, a total of 1.2bn/- were borrowed from irrigation projects, while 1.19bn/- borrowed for the purpose of purchasing livestock, modern agricultural materials and warehouse construction.

However, analysis of agriculture lending portfolio by commercial banks have shown that at least 80 percent of lending is benefiting large agriculture projects and crops buyers, while the remaining share is directed to small holder farmers, whom are accounting for 70 percent of agricultural activities in Tanzania.

According to FSD Tanzania, farmers need appropriate and affordable loans so that they can invest in buying quality seeds, fertilizer, and pesticides to boost harvests, and possibly build production infrastructure, such as Agri-processing facilities to add value to the crops they produce.

This would greatly improve the ability of farmers to earn more and increase their contribution to the economy.

FinScope Tanzania 2023 confirms that primary farming and fishing remain the main source of income for

9.5 million Tanzanians - that's almost 30 cent of adults.

"Most FSPs offer short-term loans, but these cannot cover investment in production infrastructure which requires mid to long-term loan finance. Farmers, and the economy, would benefit enormously from loans that could cover the purchase of mechanised equipment, provide working capital, and potentially finance the building of small Agri-processing plants," says FSD Tanzania.

To support the sector, in May this year, the World Bank approved \$300 million Tanzania Food Systems Resilience Program (TFSRP) to enable at least 300,000 Tanzanian farmers, nearly half of them women, to adopt resilience-enhancing technologies and practices to increase their productivity, while facilitating access to assets and services for up to 1.8 million more farmers.

The programme is aimed at supporting the implementation of three result areas under the government's wider Agriculture Sector Development Program II (ASDP II).

These include improved service delivery in research, extension, and seeds; developing resilient rural infrastructure; and strengthening fiscal performance to enable delivery on priority investment areas.

EPZA stresses need to extend AGOA contract

By Guardian Reporter

The Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) has accentuated the need for the extension of African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) as essential component for Tanzania's and continent's economic development and prosperity.

AGOA is a trade agreement that provides duty-free access to the US market for special categories of products from eligible African countries. It has been credited with boosting economic growth and creating jobs in Africa.

The trade agreement is due to expire in September 2025, and discussions are currently underway for its possible renewal.

The EPZA Acting Finance Director John Mwakasege made the remarks during the meeting with Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) president and Chief Executive Officer Florizelle Liser accompanied by a group of delegates for the renewal of AGOA contract.

"The government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan has put friendly investment environment to woo global investors to create new jobs, boost foreign exchange earnings and introduce new technology," he said, noting therefore that the extension of AGOA trade agreement will guarantee investors huge and reliable markets.

CCA is a trade association focusing on strengthening commercial relationships between the United States and the African continent.

The CCA is a nonprofit, membership-based organisation established in 1993 to promote business and investment between the United States and the nations of Africa.

It works closely with governments, multilateral groups and

businesses to improve the continent's trade and investment climate and to raise Africa's profile in the U.S. business community.

He said the CCA president and CEO is eager to see that the AGOA agreement is extended so that will provide guarantee markets to the products produced from their investment in Africa.

He said the tour is intended to know how Tanzania and the rest of Africa are benefitting from AGOA agreement to continue persuading the US government to extend the contract.

The extension of the AGOA contract will stimulate the ongoing investment in the continent that depends largely on the AGOA market.

The CCA president and CEO was informed on the EPZA duties and obligations to serve investors in their day to-day operations like providing export and processing zones (EPZ) licences, to reserve areas for establishing infrastructures for industrial development.

Mwakasege commended the CCA president and CEO for making swift efforts to ensure that the AGOA contract is extended to benefit investors and economies in Africa.

The Executive Director of the Confederation of Tanzanian Industries (CTI), Leodegar Tenga said during the meeting that CTI is working closely with EPZA to ensure that their members benefit from AGOA market.

He urged the CCA president and CEO to continue persuading the US government to extend the AGOA agreement so that African countries continue to reap immense benefits.

The CCA delegation made tour at the Tooku Garment Limited whose products are sold in the US market and provide jobs to over 3,500 people.



Tanzania Commercial Bank CEO Sabasaba Moshingi

TCB net profit rises nearly three times

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania Commercial Bank's cumulative net profit jumped nearly three times to 15.1bn/- during the first nine months of this year, of which 7.3bn/- was recorded during

the third quarter.

This has also increased the basic earnings per share to 1,931/- at the end of September this year, compared to 181/- recorded during nine months of last year.

Unaudited financial state-

ments for the third quarter show the increase of profitability resulted from the growth of interest income, non-interest incomes and other operating income, the decline of both impairment losses on loans and advances

as well as bad debt written off.

According to the statement, net interest income grew to 74.7bn/- during the first nine months of this year, of which 29.4bn/- was recorded during the third quarter, compared to 68.1bn/- recorded during the first three quarters of last year.

Non-interest income

also increased to 30.6bn/- compared to 26.8bn/- respectively due to growth of foreign currency dealing and transaction gains, fees and commission. Cumulative fees and commission amounted to 17.5bn/- for nine months of this year, compared to 13.7bn/- recorded during similar period of last year.

The statement shows operating income increased to 19.9bn/- during the first three quarters of this year, of which 9bn/- was recorded during the third quarter, from 10.6bn/- recorded during nine months of last year.

The bank also managed to increase full-fledged branches to 52 at the end of September this year, compared to 48 during the end of September last year. The bank's total assets grew to 1.38trn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared to 1.32trn/- during the second quarter, due to increase in lending to various sectors of the economy, balance with banks and other financial institutions, investment in government debt instruments, balance with Bank of Tanzania (BoT) and cash.

Cash increased to 63.3bn/- during the third quarter of this year, compared to 53.6bn/- during the second quarter while balance with the central

bank jumped to 89.7bn/- compared to 13.6bn/- respectively. The investment in government debt instruments also increased to 146.5bn/- compared to 143.2bn/- respectively, while balance with other banks and financial institutions gained to 112.4bn/- during the third quarter, from 99.3bn/- during the second quarter.

The bank's lending to various sector of the economy amounted to 898.89bn/- during the third quarter, compared to 837.1bn/- during the second quarter, while other assets went up to 47.2bn/- compared to 41.7bn/- respectively.

The bank also maintained lower Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) below the regulatory benchmark as during the third quarter, the rate was 3.32 percent, lower than 3.46 percent during the second quarter.

The bank's total liabilities amounted to 1.25trn/- during the third quarter compared to 1.23trn/- during the second quarter due to increase of customer deposits, special deposits and payment orders/transfer payables.

Customer deposits went up to 910bn/- during the third quarter, compared to 870.9bn/- during the second quarter, while special deposits amounted to 16.1bn/- compared to 7.2bn/- respectively.

The statements shows the bank's capital also grew to 133.1bn/- during the third quarter, compared to 123.3/- recorded during the second quarter, following the growth of profit account, other capital account and retained earnings.

EFFECTIVE COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CRUCIAL FOR BANKS – PART 2

By Kelvin Mkwawa

Customer experience is very critical in the banking industry. One of the major aspects of ensuring excellence in customer service is the management of customer complaints. Customer complaints are part of the business life of any bank and complaints management is very important for banks.

Last week I shared that, banks need to understand that customers have a right to register/report their complaints if they are not satisfied with the services or products provided by a bank.

Therefore, banks should have complaints management systems in place to ensure that customers have access to all platforms to raise their complaints and that complaints are handled efficiently and effectively. Banks can minimize instances of customer complaints and grievances through proper service delivery and a review mechanism system that ensures prompt redress of customer complaints.

The complaint management system should help banks quickly identify shortcomings in services and product features. In addition, complaints help banks detect flaws in their products and



Kelvin Mkwawa,

services hence improving quality.

Every complaint received should be looked at as an opportunity to show customers that their time and opinions are valuable. Last week I shared why it is crucial for banks to have an efficient and effective complaints management system; it improves accountability and

enhances good governance. This week I will share how banks can develop an effective and efficient complaints management system.

In general, the complaints management system goes through two different stages; the first stage is the gathering of information. Once a customer files/registers a complaint, the complaint must be forwarded to the appropriate team that has expertise in that area of complaint. For example, if a customer complains about card issues, the complaint should be sent to the card services team for further review and resolution.

The second stage is, examining the soundness of the complaint. Identifying and examining the problem (complaint) as perceived by the customer is very critical towards ensuring excellent customer service.

More importantly, complaints should be resolved at the level of daily interactions between customer and bank personnel since the success of retaining customers and preserving loyalty towards the bank brand rest on the social interactions between customers and bank staff. So how can banks ensure they have an effective

complaint management system?

First by ensuring that contact personnel are well trained and equipped with the necessary tools to listen to customers effectively. The second crucial element to have an effective complaint management system is undoubtedly complaints settlement time.

The more the contact personnel of a bank react promptly to complaints, the more the customer is satisfied and the relationship easily restored. Banks should set up a competitive settlement time for resolving all complaints and guarantee customers a solution to their complaints within the agreed time. The third element to have an effective complaint management system is a classification of complaints. All complaints are not equally important, easily settled, or simply funded hence, banks need to classify complaints to manage them better.

The classification of complaints will enable banks to channel appropriate resources to each complaint to ensure it is dealt with effectively. The fourth element of having effective complaint management is following up on complaints.

This element is very crucial as the success of complaints management depends heavily on follow-up practices by bank staff. There are many ways to follow up banks can use: a phone call or customized letter after the complaint is registered and after the resolution to find out whether or not a customer is satisfied.

To summarize, we have seen that banks should look at complaints as another chance to improve the quality of their service and win again the customer's trust. It is worth noting that customers with problems and who complain remain more loyal than those who remain silent about their dissatisfaction.

One of the major aspects of ensuring excellence in customer service is the management of customer complaints. In the last two weeks, I shared why it is crucial for banks to have an efficient and effective complaint management system and how banks can set one up.

Kelvin Mkwawa, MBA is the Seasoned Banker. He can be reached through Email address: Kelvin.e.mkwawa@gmail.com

Domestic resources mobilisation is vital in financing climate mitigation



By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

Developing countries including Tanzania need to mobilize their own domestic resources to finance to mitigate the effects of climate change, instead of depending on foreign funds.

This is among of the findings of the newly launched report titled 'Domestic resource mobilization in Tanzania's extractive sector for climate financing' conducted by Abel Kinyondo Associate Professor of Economics with the University of Dar es Salaam.

Supported by Policy Forum and Tax Justice Network Africa, the study finds out that extractive sector obligation results from both the industry's enormous carbon footprint, ability to spur innovation and shifting to greener technologies.

"The extractive sector can directly provide funds to help efforts for carbon capture, sustainable business practices, and renewable energy by actively participating in climate financing," Prof Kinyondo said during the study findings presentation held in Dodoma.

Tanzania, like most developing countries, is highly affected by climate change, but when it comes into mitigations, the country is heavily dependence on external funding.

The majority of the study interviewees believe that since the extractive sector is a big polluter,



Khamis Hamza Khamis, Deputy Minister of state in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment)

climate action should be its obligation.

"Funding is claimed to be globally available, but in reality it is inaccessible and expensive," Prof Kinyondo said.

The global investments required in achieving the agreement's goals are ranging from US\$3trn to US\$6trn per year until

2030, according to estimates.

But, the current funding is US\$630 billion annually, with debts being the primary sources.

"Funding is not enough, never forthcoming, leads to more debt burden. This calls for the need to strengthen domestic resources mobilization in Tanzania," he said.

However, Tanzania's domestic resources mobilization is seriously undermined by illicit financial flows.

According to Prof. Kinyondo, Tanzania loses around US\$1.5 billion annually due to IFFs through misrepresenting of transactions invoices, falsifying a product to misrepresent quality, manipulation of goods and services transfer value, issuance of multiple invoices for the same transaction.

Giving an example of IFFs, the study notes, AngloGold Ashanti, sold gold worth US\$1.549 billion between 2001 and 2007, but only paid US\$144.4 million in taxes.

This implies that the fiscal regime in Tanzania is not robust enough to prevent IFFs in extractive sector.

Resolute Gold Mine in Nzega, was selling its gold at US\$530 per ounce at a time when the market price for gold was as high as US\$1,200 per ounce, according to the study.

The company claimed to have been selling gold at that low price because they had hedged it at a lower price.

At that time, they had exported gold that was worth US\$3.5 billion and had paid corporate tax only once in its 15 years of existence.

Prof. Kinyondo said that it will cost Tanzania around US\$14.3 billion to fully implement the Nationally Determined Contribution obligations by 2025, of which US\$9.2 billion required for climate change adaptation and US\$5.1 bil-

lion for mitigations, but large share of this financing is foreign-dependence.

Professor Kinyondo said that Tanzania is among of 10 Sub-Saharan Africa countries with the highest frequency of natural disasters.

Also, the majority of the interviewees of the research project have suggested for the introduction of a specific tax, which will be fair.

They have further urged the government to institute carbon pricing mechanisms, incentives for renewable energy and energy efficiency, green taxes, community social responsibility [CSR] and/or royalties for climate action.

Professor Kinyondo suggests that in order to boost resources mobilization in the extractive sector for climate financing, the government has to stop awarding harmful tax incentives to the extractive sector.

Furthermore, the government needs to enter into more favourable and beneficial bilateral investment treaties.

It should ring-fence some of the revenues from extractive sector to finance climate adaptation and resilience.

And encourage companies to invest in climate action in the mine host communities through CSR.

Prof. Kinyondo said that the main objective of the report was to generate evidence on how tax can be an effective tool for climate financing in resource-rich Tanzania.

The guest of honour during the launch of the report, the Deputy Minister Vice President's Office, Union and Environment, Khamis Hamza Khamis, said "DMR is very crucial in mitigating climate change and hence attain the 2063 African agenda."

However, he has urged the civil organisations to ensure the funds they get are directed to support government's environment campaigns. Including planting and nurturing of trees, conserving and preserving water sources.

Khamis further noted that since 80 percent of environment destruction is mainly caused by human activities, he has therefore urged civil societies and other stakeholders to educate the citizens on how to preserve and protect their environment.

For her part, Policy Officer, Tax and Natural resource

Governance from Tax Justice Network Africa, Mukupa Nsenduluka said that Policy Forum and Tax Justice Network, with the support of the African Climate Foundation, have, over the past 12 months, been implementing a project that seeks to explore the connections between tax justice and the climate crisis in Africa.

"We believe that Africa is resource-rich and has the resources needed to finance its own development," he said.

She said meaningful climate financing in Africa can only be achieved if we have adequate financing for it - and the only sustainable way to realise this is through domestic resources.

She further detailed that that work was being implemented in two countries - Tanzania and Mozambique.

"In both countries, we are seeking to explore how tax as a DRM tool can be used for climate financing in Resource-rich countries like Mozambique.

This project is a first attempt at making the connection between on domestic resource mobilization, tax justice and climate financing, and we hope to continue this dialogue and engagement beyond this report launch.

Domestic revenue mobilisation from the extractive sector is key to Africa's response to the climate crisis, financing structural economic transformation, and achieving Africa's Agenda 2063.

The goal of a research is for CSOs and citizens in Tanzania and Africa to be empowered with the knowledge required to advocate that there can be no meaningful climate action without tax justice because Africa needs all the resources it can mobilize to respond to the climate crisis but also transition and adapt our energy systems to cleaner sources.

For his part, Senior Program Coordinator Policy and Advocacy, Restless Development Badru Juma Rajabu, noted "Reshaping the current tax architecture is essential for financing and achieving the SDGs."

The International Monetary Fund also found that Tanzania's effective mining corporate income tax rate is much lower than the statutory tax rate because of the effect of tax incentives, reductions in tax rates and other provisions in the tax code.

Letshego Faidika posts 1.3bn/- pre-tax profit in Q3

By Guardian Reporter

LETSHEGO Faidika Bank Limited in Tanzania has posted its quarterly financials reflecting its first set of profits since the regional brand merged its operations in June 2023.

For the quarter ended 30th September 2023 the bank profit before tax has increased by 234 percent to 1.3bn/-, compared to a loss of 981m/- for the same period in 2022.

Letshego Faidika's previous quarter ending June 2023 profit before tax saw a loss of 464m/-.

The achievement for the new bank shows a positive financial turnaround within just one quarter.

Baraka Munisi, bank's chief executive officer (CEO) commented: "We are delighted with the positive turnaround in

our profit before tax in the short term. Having merged our two subsidiaries into one focused and more unified operation in Tanzania, we now seek to leverage the benefits in greater operational efficiencies and synchronized momentum towards long term sustainable stakeholder returns."

Munisi added following the merger with Faidika Microfinance at end June 2023, the unified bank's total assets grew by 213 percent to 108bn/- compared to 34bn/- in second quarter of 2023 and net loans increased 465 percent in the same period to 72.7bn/- compared to 12.8bn/- in the second quarter of 2023.

He said that during the same period, the third quarter ending on September 30, 2023, the bank's deposits increased by nine percent compared to the previous quarter.

Munisi highlighted that, following the merger with Faidika



Letshego Faidika Bank CEO Baraka Munisi

Microfinance at the end of June 2023, the combined bank's total assets grew by 213 percent in the quarter to 108bn/- (compared to 34bn/- in the second quarter, 2

2023), and net loans increased by 465 percent in the same period to 72.7bn/- (compared to 12.8bn/- in second quarter 2023).

He said during the same pe-

riod, the third quarter ending on September 30, 2023, the bank's deposits increased by nine (9) percent compared to the

previous quarter.

"Following the growth of loan book and efficiency in collections and recovery strategies, the bank's non-performing loan ratio improved from 44 percent to 18 percent quarter on quarter, earning assets to total assets improved to 72 percent from 59 percent quarter on quarter. The ratio of cost to income improved to 83 percent from 176 percent in the previous quarter," said Munisi.

Munisi affirmed Letshego Faidika Bank's ambition to become one of Tanzania's leading mid-tier banks over the next three to five-year period.

"I'm optimistic and inspired about the future of Letshego Faidika Bank as we remain committed to balancing sustainable performance with strong world-class governance

frameworks, delivering tangible value for customers and all our stakeholders. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our employees, customers, shareholders, the Central Bank of Tanzania, the Fair Competition Commission, the government and our strategic business partners for their ongoing partnership and support."

He said the Letshego Faidika Bank remains committed to building business resilience to navigate inherent emerging market challenges and ensure that they continue to improve the lives of customers and members of the communities through simple, affordable and appropriate products and services.

Zimbabwe makes foray into gold-backed CBDC

By Lewis McLellan

Zimbabwe has turned to the gold standard in the hope of buttressing the beleaguered Zimbabwean dollar, first issuing gold coins and later digital tokens that it hopes to see used as a means of payment.

In June 2022, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe introduced the Mosi-oa-Tunya gold coin, which can be purchased from the bank in domestic currency or a variety of offshore ones. The central bank guarantees that holders can sell the coins (after a 180-day vesting period) for the prevailing London Bullion Market Association spot price in dollars, or at a 20% mark-up in Zimbabwean dollars.

It is likely to be the wealthiest in society that are able to access the gold coins (even in small denominations) so, if the Zimbabwean dollar cheapens, this policy will exacerbate inequality.

The gold coins are issued as a store of value and, since the central bank undertakes to redeem them in dollars, it effectively provides a peg

to the US dollar. The orthodox economist's position would most likely be to recommend a simple dollar peg, but Zimbabwe struggles to keep enough dollars in its circulation and reserves for this to be viable.

There is only one way for Zimbabwe to acquire more dollars: purchasing in the foreign exchange market. Gold, by contrast, can be obtained domestically by increasing mining operations.

However, the RBZ will have to maintain sufficient dollar reserves to fulfil its promise to buy back coins for dollars, although it no doubt hopes that the 20% premium it offers those who wish to redeem their coins for Zimbabwean dollars will encourage people to accept local currency.

While gold coins might be a means of distributing a non-dollar-denominated store of value throughout the economy, the RBZ's aim is for them to form the basis of a medium of exchange as well.

Obviously a troy ounce of gold is not a practical unit for day-to-day purchases. The bank is releasing smaller denominations

but, more importantly, it has released digital tokens (denominated in gold milligrams), which represent ownership of gold coins held in the vault.

The RBZ says that these tokens can be used for payments, with tokens available for purchase via banks, which will create dedicated e-gold wallets and cards to facilitate person-to-person or person-to-business payments, both online and offline. This is, in effect, a gold-backed central bank digital currency. The economics of gold as a defence against inflation are somewhat heterodox but not absurd. Introducing a CBDC is a complex business, however.

Questions around implementation abound. Not only will the central bank have to retain the currency reserves to ensure that it can redeem the coins and tokens, it will also have to maintain the gold reserves backing the tokens.

While central bank issued, Zimbabwe's gold token is more akin to a stablecoin - a token with a price pegged to a real asset. The robustness of



that peg rests on the market's assessment of the token's convertibility into the underlying asset - in this case, a gold coin.

Tokens representing gold ownership are nothing new. The stability of gold combined with the convenience of a digital payments system is an attractive concept, but its success requires trust. Generating that trust requires transparent, independently conducted audits. Without these, the market for secondary trading in digital gold tokens will, in the presence of stress, become disconnected from the market for the physical coins.

There will also be

questions about how effectively they fulfil their role as a means of payment. Do Zimbabwean merchants (those who accept digital payments) universally accept these tokens?

The bank has delegated all matters of usability - online versus offline payments, scalability, security, acceptance, user experience - to commercial banks, which are tasked with distributing the tokens. That's all very well - most of those functions are probably best handled by the private sector in any case - but what is the bank's methodology for ensuring these services are provided in a uniform,

high-quality fashion?

The RBZ has said that the token settlement system is working on the bank's existing systems, but it may look at blockchain ledgers in the future. Precisely what it aims to achieve by doing so is not yet clear.

While an interesting experiment in addressing inflation without redollarising the economy, a gold-backed CBDC cannot be more than a curiosity without a careful implementation process and robust, independent verification of reserves. Hopefully the RBZ can deliver.

Lewis McLellan is Editor of the Digital Monetary Institute, OMFIF.

Indian banks outperforming global peers in digitalisation maturity score: Deloitte survey

MUMBAI

Indian banks are outperforming their global peers in digital maturity score compared to the global average, per Deloitte India's survey-based report "Digital Banking Maturity (DBM)".

They also have the opportunity and potential to rise further and become "Digital Champions", the report said.

The survey covered 304 banks in 41 countries, including key economies, such as the US, China, India, the UK, and Brazil. The top 10 percent performers were recognised as "Digital champions", followed by "Digital smart followers," "Digital adopters," and "Digital latecomers," respectively.

Indian banks scored three per cent higher than the global average in mobile banking, and one per cent higher in internet banking. They bagged the titles of "Digital smart followers" and "Digital adopters", the report said.

"Indian banks displayed noteworthy performance in the survey, surpassing the global average in several key customer journeys. Being at the forefront of digital transformation, Indian banks are well placed compared with the global average," Deloitte India said.

The 1,208 functionalities scored were split almost equally between internet banking features and mobile bank king features. The survey covered 304 banks in 41 countries, including key economies, such as the US, China, India, the UK, and Brazil.

Compared with "Digital champions", Indian banks have significant opportunity to increase their digital maturity, particularly in two customer journeys - day-to-day banking (while UPI is a unique and globally recognised lever, the delta is more about Personal Financial Management and Beyond Banking) and expanding relationships, suggested Deloitte India.

Within these two customer journeys, the most relevant sub-steps offering significant potential for value creation are personal financial management, beyond banking, ecosystem and account aggregation, and account and product management.

For instance, at the time of the survey, a notable 25 per cent of the Indian banks offered the functionality for customers to set their financial goals, while 57 per cent of digital champions did so.

"Digital Champions" enjoy a lead in their digital transformation endeavours across customer journeys and provide a compelling user interface to customers. On an average, they showed 0.1 per cent higher return on assets and 1.5 per cent higher return on equity compared with their peers.

BANKING & FINANCE

IMF: ECB must keep rates at 4pc through 2024

FRANKFURT

Rapid wage growth in the euro zone could keep inflation elevated longer and the European Central Bank should hold interest rates at or near record highs through next year to extinguish price pressures, the International Monetary Fund said on Wednesday.

The ECB broke a streak of ten straight rate hikes last month, fuelling market expectations that its next move will be a cut, possibly as soon as April, with a total of 90 basis points of reductions priced in by the close of next year.

Pushing back on early rate cut bets, Alfred Kammer, the head of the IMF's European Department, argued that the ECB's

deposit rate should stay close to its record high 4percent level through all of next year.

"Monetary policy is appropriately tight and needs to remain so in 2024," Kammer told a news conference. "For all intents and purposes, (the deposit rate) should be held at that level or close to that level throughout 2024."

Kammer warned the ECB against cutting rates too soon because that would require even more costly policy tightening later on.

"It is less costly to be too tight rather than to be too loose," Kammer said. "What we also want to avoid is premature celebrations."

Inflation soared to over 10 percent a year ago



but has been on a steady downward path since, even if the "last mile" of disinflation is seen the toughest and could still take two years to get from around 3percent to 2 percent.

While the IMF sees

price growth back at target in 2025, an exceptionally tight labour market could push this date back to 2026, it warned.

Unemployment is already at a record low and whatever slack is left in the labour market could

be less than now calculated, pushing up wage inflation, which would then impact consumer prices.

Real wages also have some way to go catch up with inflation and this could also keep up the price pressure, the

IMF said.

"Risks remain skewed toward more persistent inflation," the IMF said in a report. "Under adverse assumptions, this could delay reaching inflation targets to 2026."

Kammer added that the conflict in Gaza had pushed up global energy costs, which creates further upside risk for prices.

However, overall economic growth in the current quarter is somewhat weaker than projected, which could limit price pressures.

Still, growth is broadly in line with expectations and a "soft landing" is still the IMF's main scenario rather than a deeper recession, Kammer added.

WORLD

160 children killed per day in Gaza, says WHO

GENEVA

OVER 11,000 people, or some 0.5 percent of the total population in the Gaza Strip, have reportedly been killed in the region, with an average of 160 children dying per day there, an official from the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday.

So far, 16 health workers have been killed on duty, and the WHO is working to support health workers in Gaza and once again pleading for their safety, WHO spokesperson Christian Lindmeier told a press briefing here.

Lindmeier said 102 attacks against healthcare had been recorded in Gaza, 121 in the West Bank, and 25 in Israel. At the moment, 14 hospitals in Gaza were not functioning, due to the lack of fuel or the damages.

Noting Tuesday marks one month since Hamas' surprise attack on Israel on Oct 7, the WHO official said that people in Israel were frightened and worried about more than 200 hostages, reiterating the call for the immediate release of all the hostages, many of whom need urgent medical attention.



A Palestinian man cries while holding a dead child who was found under the rubble of a destroyed building following Israeli airstrikes in Nusseirat refugee camp, central Gaza Strip on Oct 31, 2023. AP

had entered Gaza since Oct 21, but none of them contained fuel due to the ban by the Israeli authorities.

Alessandra Vellucci, director of the UN Information Service in Geneva, told the briefing that more than 1.5 million people in Gaza had been displaced, with nearly half of them taking shelter in UN facilities.

Jens Laerke, spokesperson for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, told reporters that a total of 561 trucks

had entered Gaza since Oct 21, but none of them contained fuel due to the ban by the Israeli authorities.

Alessandra Vellucci, director of the UN Information Service in Geneva, told the briefing that more than 1.5 million people in Gaza had been displaced, with nearly half of them taking shelter in UN facilities.

Xinhua

G7 backing sought for Gaza cease-fire

TOKYO

JAPANESE scholars advised the Group of Seven member states to call for an immediate cease-fire in the ongoing Israel-Palestine conflict at the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Tokyo, although they have low expectations for the G7 members to find common ground on the issue.

The two-day Tokyo meeting, chaired by Japanese Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa, started on Tuesday.

It is the second G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Japan this year, following the previous one in April in Karuizawa, Nagano prefecture. United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken, along with the foreign ministers of the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy and Canada, and a representative of the European Union, attended the meeting.

Participants are expected to exchange views on a range of topics, with the Israel-Palestine conflict as a key item on the agenda, Japanese public broadcaster NHK reported.

"G7 member states should call for an immediate humanitarian cease-fire in the current Israeli-Palestinian crisis," said Ukeru Magasaki, co-representative of the Association for Inheriting and Propagating the Murayama Statement, a Japanese civic group dedicated to upholding the 1995 Murayama Statement that admits Japan's wartime mistakes.

"However, until now, the US,



Palestinian children flee from Israeli bombardment in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip on Nov 6, 2023. AFP

the UK, Germany, France, Italy and Canada have emphasized solidarity with Israel against the Hamas attack. Nevertheless, the world overwhelmingly calls for a humanitarian cease-fire. Emphasizing solidarity with Israel by these countries could lead to G7 distancing itself from the world," said Magasaki.

On Monday, Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, and Lana Nusseibeh, permanent representative of the United Arab Emirates to the UN, jointly delivered a statement on the situation in Gaza.

They said the UAE and China express grave concern at the continued attacks by Israel on civilian facilities in the Gaza Strip. They also called for an urgent humanitarian cease-fire.

Zhai Jun, special envoy of the Chinese government on the Middle East issue, met with US Ambassador to China Nicholas Burns on Tuesday. They exchanged views on the current Palestine-Israel conflict and the situation in the Middle East, among other issues.

A spokesperson for Japan's foreign ministry said it was expected that the G7 countries have different positions, Reuters reported.

Establishing system

Satoshi Tomisaka, a professor at the Institute of World Studies at Takushoku University in Tokyo, said a system should be established to ensure a temporary cease-fire and the basic well-being of the people in Gaza.

"In regard to the Israeli-Pales-

tinian conflict, many conscientious people from around the world are deeply dismayed by Israel's inhumane bombings, targeting of hospitals, refugee camps, schools and even ambulance convoys. They are particularly saddened by the extensive loss of life in Gaza," said Kumiko Haba, professor emerita at Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo.

More than 10,000 Palestinians, including over 4,000 children, have been killed in Gaza in the ongoing conflict, according to the Palestinian health ministry in Gaza.

Israeli forces retaliated against Hamas after the militant group launched a cross-border attack on Israel on Oct 7.

"While it would be desirable for the G7 to call for a halt to Is-

rael's airstrikes and ground operations, it appears challenging, especially since the US is currently engaged in negotiations with Israel," said Haba, who is also president of the Asia-Pacific regional division of the International Studies Association.

"Japan, being reliant on energy resources such as oil and gas from the Middle East, should also take a more proactive stance in advocating for a cease-fire," Haba added.

"At present, there is little hope for a humanitarian cease-fire. However, if the fighting continues to escalate, the flames of war will spread throughout the Middle East, and if Iran joins the conflict, the threat of a world war cannot be denied," said Kazuyuki Hamada, an international political scientist and a former parliamentary vice-minister for foreign affairs of Japan.

"The most effective shortcut to avert a crisis would be for the US, Israel's largest backer, to offer Israel an early cease-fire and barter for funds and technology for energy development," he said.

During the meeting, the foreign ministers are also expected to exchange views on the situation in Ukraine and the Asia-Pacific region.

G7 support for Ukraine in its conflict with Russia will not be affected by the intensifying Middle East conflict, Japan said on Tuesday, as the group's foreign ministers prepared to hold virtual talks with Kyiv during the meeting, Reuters reported.

Agencies

After war, Israel will 'retain complete freedom of action' in Gaza Strip, says defence minister

TEL AVIV

ISRAELI Defence Minister Yoav Gallant has declared that Israel will retain "complete freedom of action to respond to any situation in the Gaza Strip" once the ongoing

war ends, CNN reported on Tuesday.

Speaking at the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, Gallant emphasised "at the end of this 'campaign,' Hamas, as a military organisation or governing body in Gaza, will cease to exist," CNN reported citing Ynet news website.

"There will be no security threat to

Israel from Gaza, and Israel will retain complete freedom of action, to respond to any situation in the Gaza Strip that poses any kind of threat," Gallant can be heard saying on the Ynet recording.

These statements align with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's recent remarks that Israel

would have overall security responsibility in Gaza for an indefinite period following the war.

However, the Israeli government has not provided detailed plans for governing Gaza should Hamas be eliminated.

The situation in Gaza post-war remains uncertain, with concerns

about how Israel plans to manage it.

The latest violence has caused more than 1,400 deaths in Israel and at least 10,022 in Gaza as of November 6, according to authorities on both sides.

ANI

France scuttles Russia's participation in UNESCO General Conference session

MOSCOW

FRANCE has scuttled Russia's participation in the 42nd session of the UNESCO General Conference by not issuing visas to members of the Russian delegation, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova (pictured) said on Tuesday.



"We have to draw attention to France's blatant disregard of its obligation to grant visas to Russian delegates who were supposed to take part in the work of UNESCO steering bodies.

Such behaviour has become systemic. As a result, Alexander Alimov, deputy head of the delegation and director of the Russian foreign ministry's multilateral humanitarian cooperation and cultural ties department, as well as a member of the Russian commission on the UNESCO affairs in charge of information and communication issues cannot attend meetings of the 42nd session of the UNESCO General Conference, which opened in Paris on November 7," she said.

According to Zakharova, the commission's executive secretary, Tatiana Dovgalenko, failed to attend a meeting of national commissions of the UNESCO member states ahead of the General Conference due to delays in getting her visa. "These episodes are examples of a range of similar blatant cases. In recent months, a number of Russian representatives have been barred from participating in the organization's international events in Paris without any explanation," she stressed.

"We consider Paris' violation of the provisions of this document (agreements between France and UNESCO regarding the UNESCO's headquarters and the privileges and immunities of the Organization on French territory - TASS) as arbitrary and a disregard of the norms of international law. We call on UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay to intervene in this situation and take concrete measures to make France fulfill its obligations," Zakharova added.

EAM Jaishankar hosts G20 ambassadors at Yashobhoomi convention centre

NEW DELHI

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar hosted the ambassadors of G20 members, guest countries and international organisations here in the national capital on Tuesday.

The event was held at the Yashobhoomi convention centre, and Jaishankar said that he was "delighted" to host the ambassadors and also expressed his gratitude towards them for their "whole-hearted support" during India's presidency.

"Delighted to host Ambassadors of G20 members, guest countries and international organisations at Yashobhoomi convention centre today. Thanked them for their whole-hearted support during our Presidency," posted Jaishankar on X.

The External Affairs Minister also said that the state-of-the-art Yashobhoomi convention and expo centre, like India's G20 presidency, showcases the "capabilities of Bharat," adding that was sure it will serve as an excellent venue for prestigious international events in the future.

"Like our G20 Presidency, this state-of-the-art convention and expo centre reflects the capabilities of Bharat. Confident it will be a great venue for prestigious international events in the times to come," the EAM's post added.

Yashobhoomi Centre, built with PM's vision of having a world-class infrastructure, is among the world's largest MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions) facilities.

Following a successful G20 Summit, India passed the ceremonial gavel of the G20 presidency to Brazil on September 10.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed unwavering faith in Brazil for leading the Group of Twenty (G20) presidency with dedication and vision and has also assured all possible cooperation from Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva thanked India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts in conducting the G20 Summit and set forth three priorities under his country's presidency of the grouping. These, the Brazilian President said, include social inclusion, the fight against hunger, energy transition, sustainable development and the reform of global governance institutions.

While Indonesia held the G20 presidency last year, Brazil will hold the presidency after India.

ANI

CIIE to bring new development, opportunities, exchanges

THE second "Jinbo" China-Europe freight train carrying exhibits to the sixth China International Import Expo (CIIE) arrived in Shanghai, China from the German port city of Duisburg on Oct. 29. The first "Jinbo" train of this year arrived in Shanghai on Oct. 11.

"Jinbo" is short for CIIE in Chinese. Since the first "Jinbo" China-Europe freight train was launched in 2021, a new channel has been opened for European enterprises participating in the CIIE. This year, three "Jinbo" trains were planned, which were expected to carry 210 twenty-foot equivalent units of exhibits with total worth of over 350 million yuan (\$4792 million).

As a signature project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the China-Europe freight service

reaches 217 cities in 25 European countries and regions. It had made a total of 78,000 train trips as of the end of September. The close collaboration between the service and the CIIE further enlarges the "CIIE effect" and makes global trade more unimpeded. It is a witness to China's efforts to share opportunities and strive for common development with the rest of the world.

In recent years, thanks to the deepening cooperation between China and Europe, the number of China-Europe freight trains has steadily increased. European chemical products, machinery equipment, powdered milk, cosmetics, and other goods are transported to various destina-

tions along the China-Europe rail routes from Duisburg and Hamburg in Germany and Malaszewicz in Poland. In Duisburg alone, there are over 100 Chinese logistics and e-commerce companies.

On Sept. 21, the first "Jinbo" train for the sixth CIIE departed from Duisburg, carrying exhibits with a value exceeding 16 million euros (\$17.16 million). Among these exhibits were nearly 270 types of products from French cosmetics giant L'Oréal.

"The 'Jinbo' train is very convenient. Previously, our goods had to be transferred before they were shipped to Shanghai. Now, the goods can go directly to Shanghai, and the customs

clearance is also very fast," said Fabrice Megarbane, president of L'Oréal North Asia Zone and CEO of L'Oréal China.

As a six-time exhibitor at the CIIE, L'Oréal has made a new record in the number of products showcased this year.

"The goods transported through the 'Jinbo' train are not only exhibition items but also products that will soon be sold," said Megarbane, adding that L'Oréal needs to be well-prepared for the approaching "Double 11" online shopping festival in China.

He emphasized that the seamless connection between the China-Europe freight service and the CIIE ensures fast trans-

portation and good sales. L'Oréal hopes that more goods would be transported to China through China-Europe freight trains, and looks forward to bringing more debut products and cutting-edge technologies to the Chinese market.

Portuguese household cleaning brand Mootaa attended the CIIE with most of its exhibits shipped from Madrid, Spain via the China-Europe freight train.

"The advantage in time efficiency was our primary consideration for choosing the China-Europe freight train. Compared to maritime transport, the China-Europe freight service cuts the transportation time by half, which can help us quickly build

the supply chain, improve inventory turnover efficiency and save operating costs," said Zhou Jun, president of Mootaa Greater China.

The "Jinbo" trains have covered a distance of over 11,000 kilometers, passing through countries such as Poland, Belarus, Russia, and Kazakhstan, with approximately 60 drivers from multiple countries participating in the service.

"Since 2021, we have been collaborating with Chinese companies to provide dedicated train services for the 'Jinbo' train," said Frank Schulze, managing director of DB Cargo Transasia. He further added that railway transportation is highly environmentally

friendly, reducing 95 percent of carbon dioxide emissions compared to air transport and 80 percent compared to trucks."

On Oct. 6th, the first "Jinbo" train of this year entered China via Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and went through customs procedures upon arrival at the Alashankou port. The customs, railway, and other departments at the port opened a 24-hour green channel for the train.

After the train arrived in Shanghai, the Shanghai Railway Station and other relevant authorities set up dedicated windows for customs declaration, providing companies with advice on classification and taxation, and implementing paperless customs clearance to ensure the swift inspection and release of goods.

People's Daily

WHO: Tuberculosis recovering from COVID knock, off target

LONDON

THE global fight against tuberculosis (TB), badly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, is beginning to recover but remains a long way off target, according to a World Health Organization report.

During the first two years of the pandemic, there were around 4 million "missing" TB patients per year, meaning people who developed TB but who were not diagnosed or treated.

That gap narrowed to around 3.1 million in 2022, the UN agency's annual report estimated, back to the pre-pandemic level of 2019.

However, a lack of funding and focus continues to stymie efforts to end what has been described as the "pandemic of the poor". TB, an infectious disease which usually attacks

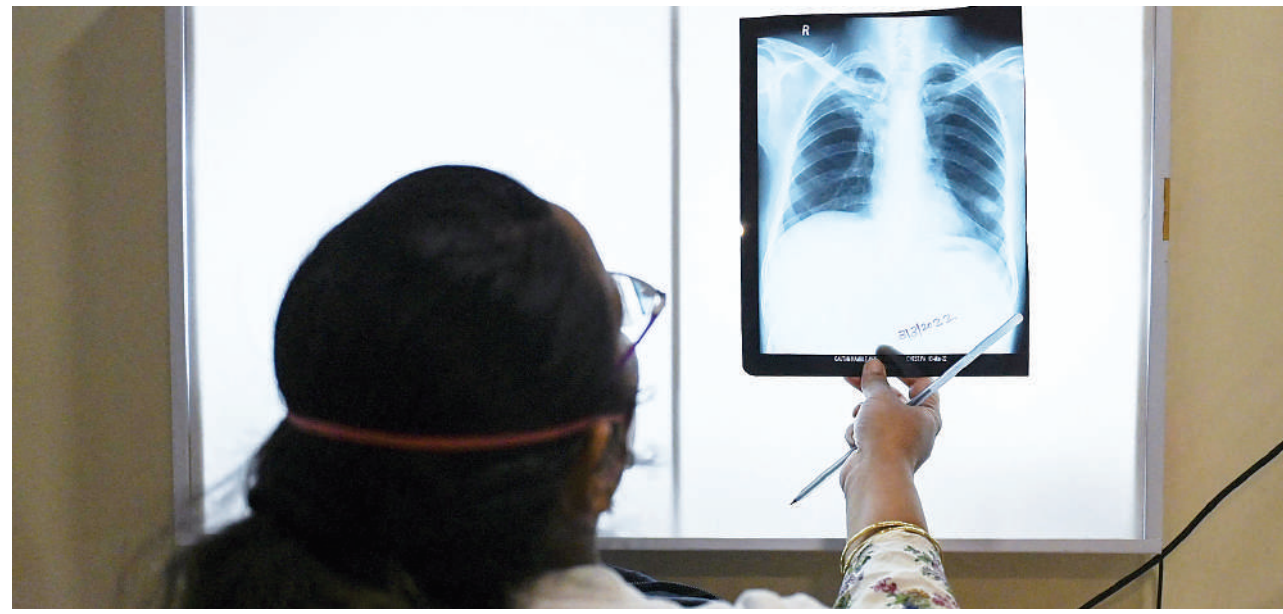
the lungs, is both preventable and curable.

In total, an estimated 10.6 million people fell ill with TB in 2022, up from 10.3 million in 2021. But 7.5 million were diagnosed - meaning they could access suitable treatment - the highest figure since monitoring began in 1995, the WHO said.

TB-related deaths also fell slightly, from 1.4 million in 2021 to 1.3 million in 2022. The disease remains just behind COVID-19 as the world's deadliest infectious illness, with India, Indonesia and the Philippines particularly badly affected by TB.

The multi-drug resistant form of the illness is also still a significant public health threat, the WHO said, with only about two in five able to obtain the treatment they need.

But WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said there



In this file photo dated March 22, 2022, a doctor checks Gautam Kamble's chest x-rays, who is diagnosed with tuberculosis, during a routine consultation at the Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) clinic, which treats people with drug-resistant tuberculosis, in Mumbai. AFP

was hope after millennia of suffering, with progress made on diagnostics, drugs, and the first new vaccine for 100 years in the final stage of trials.

"We have an opportunity... to

write the final chapter in the story of TB," he said in an emailed statement.

However the agency acknowledged that this would need "all hands on deck" with a slew of

targets missed in the 2015-2022 period, including on funding, diagnosis rates and reducing fatalities.

A UN-high level meeting in September set new targets for the 2023-2027 period.

Agencies

Gaza conflict: China calls for immediate cessation of hostilities

UNITED NATIONS

CHINA on Tuesday called on the parties to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to immediately cease hostilities.

Since the outbreak of the new round of conflict, Palestinians in Gaza have languished amid indiscriminate bombardment.

They are not spared even in hospitals, schools, refugee camps, and UN facilities. In UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' words, the people in Gaza face an avalanche of human suffering, said Geng Shuang, China's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations.

It must be made clear, once again, that all violence and attacks against civilians should be condemned, and any violation of international law rejected.

The indiscriminate use of force is unacceptable. Civilian facilities, such as hospitals, schools and refugee camps, should not, and must not become military operation targets. The safety of UN staff and humanitarian and medical workers must be guaranteed, he told a



Geng Shuang, China's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, speaks at a UN Security Council meeting at the UN headquarters in New York, on March 14, 2023. XINHUA

plenary meeting of the Fourth Committee of the UN General Assembly on Israeli practices and settlement activities in occupied territories.

"China calls on the parties to the conflict to respond to the international community's overwhelming call for a cease-fire, immediately cease hostilities, disengage, and make every effort to pre-

vent further escalation," he said. "We call on Israel, as the occupying power, to fulfill its obligations under international law, expeditiously restore the basic subsistence supplies to Gaza, secure local communications, ensure unobstructed delivery of humanitarian aid, and stop its collective punishment of the people of Gaza."

China firmly rejects the forced displacement and the forcible relocation of the Palestinian population, and calls for the immediate lifting of the evacuation order for northern Gaza, he added.

As the secretary-general has said, the situation today did not happen in a vacuum. The fact behind the conflict in Gaza is that the Palestinian living space has been squeezed to the limit by more than half a century of Israeli occupation, said Geng.

The continued expansion of settlement activities, which encroaches on Palestinian land, appropriates Palestinian resources, and violates the Palestinians' right to self-determination, has made an independent, sovereign and contiguous Palestinian state even more elusive. The escalating violence, the deteriorating humanitarian situation, and the spreading despair are a constant reminder that the status quo in the occupied Palestinian territory is unsustainable, he said.

Israel must stop violating Security Council Resolution 2334, cease all settlement activities, stop expelling Pal-

estinians, stop the intensifying settler violence, and return to the right track of the two-state solution as soon as possible, he said.

The international community must face up to the root causes of the problem and must no longer use piecemeal crisis management in place of a comprehensive and just solution, or offset political and security deficits with limited economic and humanitarian measures, he said.

China calls on the United Nations and the Security Council to take responsible and meaningful action to support the Palestinian people in the restoration and exercise of their inalienable rights. As president of the Security Council for November, China will continue to maintain close communication with all parties concerned, play a constructive role in promoting the cessation of hostilities, protecting civilians, and averting a greater humanitarian catastrophe, so as to make unremitting efforts toward a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the Palestinian question, he said.

Xinhua

LONDON

UK PM Sunak sets out pre-poll agenda in King's Speech

BRITAIN'S government set out its plans to tackle crime, boost growth and water down climate change measures on Tuesday, an unashamedly political agenda that could be Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's first and last King's Speech before an election.

In an agenda written by the government but delivered by King Charles to lawmakers packed into parliament's ornate House of Lords, Sunak signaled his intent to draw a dividing line with the opposition Labour Party before the vote expected next year.

With Labour running way ahead in the opinion polls, Sunak's team is hoping that his agenda will close the gap by reducing what he says is the burden of Britain's climate change targets on households and by toughening sentences for violent offenders.

There was little new in the King's Speech, more a collection of what Sunak has worked on since becoming prime minister last year on a pledge to bring stability after two leaders of his Conservative party were forced from power in a matter of weeks.

"My government will, in all respects, seek to make long-term decisions in the interests of future generations," Charles, wearing the Imperial State Crown and Robe of State, told a hushed audience of lawmakers in the upper house of parliament.

It was the first time Charles had made the speech as king - though he stood in for his mother Queen Elizabeth months before her death last year - in a ceremony marked by pomp and pageantry which also attracted a loud, if small, anti-monarchy protest outside parliament.



Britain's King Charles III speaks during the State Opening of Parliament at the Palace of Westminster in London, Nov 7, 2023. POOL

Arriving at parliament from Buckingham Palace in a grand carriage procession, he then led a ceremony, with some of its traditions traced back to the 16th century, that delivers the government's agenda in line with Britain's unusual constitutional division of executive powers.

Election campaign

The largely domestic focus of the plans Charles read out suggested Britain has already entered campaign season, with Labour, even before the speech was made, saying the Conservatives offered "only gimmicks, division and more of the same".

Addressing parliament at the opening of its new session, Labour leader Keir Starmer accused the Conservatives of using the speech to try to save their "own skin", describing it as a day "when it became crystal clear that the change Britain needs is from Tory (Conservative) decline to Labour renewal".

In the King's Speech, the government signaled it would move ahead with the Sentencing Bill that will bring forward tougher jail sentences for the most serious offenders, and repeated its pledge to boost economic growth and reduce inflation.

But, in a possible sign that calls from some Conservative lawmakers to offer voters tax cuts will go unheeded, the king said: "My ministers will address inflation and the drivers of low growth over demands for greater spending or borrowing."

Reading some of the government's climate policies might have jarred with Charles, who has campaigned on environmental issues for more than 50 years. The government has already moved to delay a ban on sales of new petrol cars, but officials have repeatedly said ministers were not giving up on the overall targets, just being more "pragmatic" in how they get there. Sunak confirmed in an introduction to the speech he would bring in legislation to hold North Sea oil and gas licensing rounds annually - something Labour has ruled out - to help "the country to transition to net zero by 2050 without adding undue burdens on households".

That was one of only two new bills expected to be presented to the House of Commons this week, with the remainder being legislative plans rolled over from the previous parliament.

Sunak's government plans to phase out tobacco sales to young people in England and, in an attempt to win over younger vot-

ers, press ahead with reforms to the housing market, outlawing no-fault evictions for renters.

But Sunak faces an uphill struggle to win back voters, with Labour holding an around 20-point lead in the polls. His party is mired in allegations of sex scandals, under scrutiny over its actions during the COVID-19 pandemic and deeply divided over its strategy before the next election.

He is hopeful his agenda can turn things around.

"We have turned the corner over the last year and put the country on a better path," Sunak said in his introduction.

"But these immediate priorities are not the limit of our ambition. They are just the foundations of our plan to build a better future for our children and grandchildren, and deliver the change the country needs." Agencies

EU scientists: This year virtually certain to be warmest in 125,000 years

BRUSSELS

THIS year is "virtually certain" to be the warmest in 125,000 years, European Union scientists said on Wednesday, after data showed last month was the world's hottest October in that period.

Last month smashed through the previous October temperature record, from 2019, by a massive margin, the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) said.

"The record was broken by 0.4 C, which is a huge margin," said C3S Deputy Director Samantha Burgess, who described the October temperature anomaly as "very extreme".

The heat is a result of continued greenhouse gas emissions from human activity, combined with the emergence this year of the El Nino weather pattern, which warms the surface waters in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

Globally, the average surface air temperature in October was 1.7 C warmer than the same month in 1850-1900, which Copernicus defines as the pre-industrial period.

The record-breaking October means 2023 is now "virtually certain" to be the warmest year recorded, C3S said in a statement. The previous record was 2016 - another El Nino year.

Copernicus' dataset goes back to 1940. "When we combine our data with the IPCC, then we can say that this is the warmest year for the last 125,000 years," Burgess said.

The longer-term data from UN climate

science panel IPCC includes readings from sources such as ice cores, tree rings and coral deposits.

The only other time before October a month breached the temperature record by such a large margin was in September 2023.

"September really, really surprised us. So after last month, it's hard to determine whether we're in a new climate state. But now records keep tumbling and they're surprising me less than they did a month ago," Burgess said.

Michael Mann, a climate scientist at University of Pennsylvania, said: "Most El Nino years are now record-breakers, because the extra global warmth of El Nino adds to the steady ramp of human-caused warming."

Climate change is fuelling increasingly destructive extremes. This year, that included floods that killed thousands of people in Libya, severe heatwaves in South America, and Canada's worst wildfire season on record.

"We must not let the devastating floods, wildfires, storms, and heatwaves seen this year become the new normal," said Piers Forster, climate scientist at University of Leeds.

"By rapidly reducing greenhouse gas emissions over the next decade, we can halve the rate of warming," he added.

Despite countries setting increasingly ambitious targets to gradually cut emissions, so far that has not happened. Global CO2 emissions hit a record high in 2022.



Children cool themselves in a fountain of the central Syntagma square in front of the Greek parliament during a hot day in Athens, July 14, 2023. AP



Fei Toto (Courtesy of TFF)

Feisal Salum, Aishi Manula recalled to Taifa Stars squad

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM midfielder Feisal 'Feitoto' Salum and Simba goalkeeper Aishi Manula have been recalled to the Tanzania squad for November's 2026 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers matches.

Feitoto last featured for Taifa Stars against Uganda during the March internationals but missed out on the June, September and October squads. He is one of five Azam players named in the squad by head coach Adel Amrouche, with Lusajo Mwaikenda, Abdulhamis Suleiman, Sospeter Bajana and Edward Manyama also included. First-choice goalkeeper Manula has been recalled after playing for Simba in his first competitive match last weekend. He had been out with an injury since early April.

The biggest story, however, is the inclusion of Ladaki Chasambi, who gets a call-up for the first time following his impressive recent form with Mtibwa Sugar.

The 19-year-old midfielder has scored one goal and assisted a further three in eight NBC Premier League matches this season and will be looking to impress during this international break in order to be on the plane to Ivory Coast in January.

Other new names in the squad include Sweden-based goalkeeper Kwesi Kawawa, striker Charles M'mombwa of Australian top-flight league club Macarthur FC and Prisons' youngster Edwin Balua.

Tanzania will attempt to qualify for the World Cup finals for the first time and they were drawn in Group E.

They will face Morocco, Zambia, Niger, Eritrea, and Congo in Group E. The group winner will qualify for the World Cup final tournament in the USA, Canada and Mexico.

Taifa Stars will open their World Cup qualifying campaign with an away fixture against Niger on November 18 followed by a home game with Morocco three days later.

The Niger game will be played in Morocco due to a lack of standard venues in the former country.

Goalkeepers: Beno Kakolanya (Singida Fountain Gate), Aishi Manula (Simba SC), Aboutwalib Mshery (Young Africans), Kwesi Kawawa (Karlslunden, Sweden), Metacha Mnata (Young Africans).

Defenders: Dickson Job (Young Africans), Bakari Mwamnyeto (Young Africans), Ibrahim Hamad (Young Africans), Lusajo Mwaikenda (Azam FC), Nickson Kibabage (Young Africans), Haji Mnoga (Aldershot Town, United Kingdom), Abdi Banda (Richards Bay, South Africa), Edward Manyama (Azam FC), Novatus Miroshi (Shakhtar Donetsk, Ukraine), Edwin Balua (Tanzania Prisons), Abdulmalik Zakaria (Namungo FC), Omary Mvungi (FC Nantes, France).

Midfielders: Ibrahim Joshua (Tusker FC, Kenya), Mzamiru Yassin (Simba SC), Sospeter Bajana (Azam FC), Baraka Majogoro (Chippa United, South Africa), Feisal Salum (Azam FC), Mudathir Yahya (Young Africans), Morice Abraham (FK Spartak, Serbia), Himid Mao (Tala'ea El Gaiish, Egypt), Ladaki Chasambi (Mtibwa Sugar).

Forwards: Mbwana Samatta (PAOK FC, Greece), Simon Msuva (JS Kabylie, Algeria), John Bocco (Simba SC), Kibu Denis (Simba SC), Abdul Suleiman (Azam FC), Ben Starkie (Basford United, United Kingdom), Matteo Anthony (Mtibwa Sugar), Charles M'mombwa (Macarthur, Australia), Clement Mzize (Young Africans).

Derby horror shockwaves in Simba SC ranks push unattended 'reorganisation'

By Correspondent John Kimbute

WHAT to a range of the fan base and soccer observers generally looks like an overreaction, the fallout from the derby 1-5 horror result to Young Africans SC has put the more ambitious city side on an unattended soul searching and efforts at reorganisation.

It isn't clear how much tactical analysis was done on the issue and then the decision to part with Roberto Oliveira being reached, but then as it was accompanied by furious witch-hunting, it seemed rational tactical analysis isn't what basically informed the move. It was an effort to assuage club anger, shame.

The issue is how far this precipitated alteration of the technical bench, and seemingly the squad itself as days pass, shall alter the side into a stronger side than it was earlier.

A lot will depend on what tactical lessons the group in power there or advising the club's honorary president will have learnt, and indeed precisely what informs the move to see the back of the Brazilian tactician, if they actually focused on a specific weakness, not just overall responsibility for the macabre result. No one can say that tactical options used by the coach played no part there.

Things that are now making their way into social media and talking shops around the city point to the same suspicions the leadership raised to take action on the coach, an assistant coach and five players.

Pundits were playing a quiz on how the Premier League



Robertinho (Agencies)

Board will present the best coach for October to the now disgraced head coach, as Robertinho was picked best coach for the month on November 3 only to be sacked four days later.

That rarely happens and they were wondering what procedures will be followed in delivering that accolade to him or what to say.

Surprisingly, when the decision to sack the coach was relayed on social media, one prominent soccer talk show was on air, fielding banned Jangwani Street mobiliser Haji Manara on carpet interview.

When the flash was beamed his reaction was by and large

normal, asserting that there was nothing surprising about it, that they tend to be hasty individuals, etc.

The issue is whether it would not have happened in an identical manner at the rival club side, as once a coach was released from his duties ahead of a derby, when he declared that Yanga had few chances on that encounter!

What was a bit more intriguing was the manner it was being circled that the veteran goalie had actually lobbied to be between the posts and either the coach agreed or there was pressure by the leadership to accede to that request.

On the day of the match, it did not appear that his presence was disturbing for anyone, and indeed some would say his mere presence was likely to generate the confidence the players may rightly need, that they are in safe, tested hands. While that is entirely valid as a likely mood in the squad or club side, it shows the maddening inability to trust Ali Salum, a goalie obtaining excellent results with the best in Africa, to date.

Still at the end of the match, it did not take any ingenuity to realise that he ought to have featured in some premier league matches to test his reflexes, not quite his match fitness physically in the first place.

This belated realisation and the clear admission that it was an error - though pundits have some good work parrying off criticism of the goalie meeting with a bad moment - it was hard to actually stay the blame.

And as poetry likes it, saying that the coach erred or the club leaders did not do the right

thing to support his wish to play would not have quenched club thirst, with the fan base, unlike a full blown conspiracy precisely why he wanted to play!

Nothing will ever be set out clearly if there was indeed wrongdoing at the big match, and it would be surprising if it can go as far as five players while one would be enough. For one thing, sabotaging the club is a life-risking activity for anyone who knows the passion that accompanies defeat or victory in the city centre derby, in which case sharing such plans with four or five people makes no sense at all, quite simply.

For that loose end of 'evidence and arrests', all talk of conspiracy merits to be disregarded with the contempt it deserves, for spanning a loose plot where half the club's players on the pitch were intent on sabotage, absolute bunk.

Whatever will be the outcome of those disputes when it comes to the players, it is obvious that the leadership is taking acute dissent with visible weaknesses, which unavoidably will make the side stronger. It alters that concert built around the now disgraced tactician, backed by praises near and far, as to being one of the ten best teams in Africa.

Suddenly the Jangwani Street side, which appeared to be more in need of a fresh coat of paint than their archrivals was acting a model team, far better than their rivals and implicitly better than Al Ahly as well. It will take the group stage of the CAF Champions League for the picture to be redressed a bit, as at present the Jangwani Street side is on cloud line, all their arguments are right.

Victor Wembanyama's NBA education is underway. The French teen is passing the early tests

BY TIM REYNOLDS

HERE's some of what San Antonio's Victor Wembanyama has experienced so far in the NBA: Scoring 38 points in a game, playing in a back-to-back for the first time, being part of two 40-point losses, wasting a huge lead and losing, overcoming a huge deficit and winning.

It's been an education. And by all accounts, the French rookie who stands nearly 7-foot-4 is passing the tests.

Wembanyama's numbers so far - 19.4 points, 8.4 rebounds and 2.6 blocks per game. The last player to have such averages over the first seven games of his career was Shaquille O'Neal in 1992. Back then, the consensus was O'Neal was one of a kind. The refrains are familiar today.

"We've never seen anything like this," Indiana coach Rick Carlisle said.

It's a different game now, but it's hard to argue what Carlisle is saying when factoring in the inside-outside game that Wembanyama possesses. There's never been a rookie who averaged so many points and rebounds along with one 3-pointer made per game. Larry Bird was the closest; it's a small sample size, but Wembanyama is making nearly two 3s per contest so far.

The league is raving about the kid who goes by Wemby, and has been from the moment he got drafted - long before that night, really. That hasn't changed, nor has Wembanyama's humble approach.

"Every night is a challenge," Wembanyama said. "I've still got a lot to prove to my teammates and my coach."

His coach might disagree. Gregg Popovich - the Hall of Famer, the winningest coach in NBA history and someone who just happened to sign a five-year extension shortly after Wembanyama came to the Spurs - makes no effort to downplay his new star's enormous potential.

"The first thing I would say is that his parents did a very good job," Popovich said. "He's one of the most mature 19-year-olds I've ever been around. His character is incredible. His view of the world is mature. He understands who he is, he feels comfortable in his own skin. He knows that all the hype that has been pretty thick, everywhere, is something to be ignored. He realizes he has work to do. Talent is talent, but

he's going to channel that and figure out exactly what his game should be."

The lessons have come fast and furious in the first two weeks.

Actually, go back a little. Pre-season games are largely forgettable in the NBA, but Wembanyama made the Spurs' exhibitions must-see TV. They were spectacles; Golden State guard Stephen Curry - who is only about a foot shorter than Wembanyama - added to the circus of it all by trying to jump center in the Warriors' exhibition against the Spurs. Shockingly, Wembanyama won that tip, but that night was a reminder of the spotlight that will shine every time San Antonio plays for the foreseeable future.

"The guy's going to be great," said Los Angeles Lakers star LeBron James, who entered the league with great fanfare as the highly touted No. 1 pick in 2003 - and watched Wembanyama deal with the same otherworldly expectations 20 years later.

"He's already damn good right now and I think every game, every opportunity he's on the floor, he's going to continue to get better and better and see the nuances of the game and ways he can play and ways he can exploit the competition. So, he's going to be great."

If he needed a coming-out party, Wembanyama probably had one last week with a pair of wins in Phoenix.

On Oct. 31, the Spurs rallied from 20 points down to beat the Suns 115-114 after trailing for 47-1/2 of the 48 minutes; two

nights later, Wembanyama had 38 points and 10 rebounds and the Spurs beat the Suns again, 132-121.

"He's going to be a force in this league for a long time," Suns forward Kevin Durant said. "Once he continues to get experience under his belt, he's just going to get even better."

There have been rough nights as well. The Spurs lost to the Los Angeles Clippers by 40 last week, then lost to Indiana by 41 on Monday night. They became just the second team in NBA history to have two 40-point losses in the first seven games of the season; the other was the 2017-18 Suns, who went on to be the league's worst team that year.

The Spurs have decidedly higher aspirations and so does Wembanyama. Popovich has never been one for false or effusive praise, but already raves about Wembanyama's coachability, his relationships with teammates, his outlook on life and calls him "a very special young man."

"He just comes to work every day, just like every other player," Popovich said. "You have a system and he's got to learn it. He's got to learn the league. He's never played against any of these guys or with any of these guys on our team. It's just a process. There's no formula. You just try not to skip any steps. Luckily, he's an intelligent, coachable young man and he'll eventually get there. He will be a great player. But he's got some learning to do first, just like any other player."



San Antonio Spurs center Victor Wembanyama (1) goes around Indiana Pacers guard Tyrese Haliburton (0) during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Monday, Nov. 6, 2023. AP

Barcelona victory 'important for Ukrainian football', says Shakhtar's Pusic

HAMBURG

SHAKHTAR Donetsk coach Marino Pusic said his side's shock 1-0 Champions League victory over Barcelona in Hamburg on Tuesday was "important for Ukrainian football".

Shakhtar have played home games away from their Donbass Arena in Donetsk, now occupied by Russia, since 2014.

But playing the match hundreds of miles away in Germany did not prevent Danylo Sikan securing a famous victory over Barcelona with his dipping header in the 40th minute.

"Unfortunately, because of the situation in the country, you can call this a home game but for us it is a tremendous part -- the travelling, and sometimes we need one or two days extra to recover of course," said Pusic.

"It is not so easy... It is important also for Ukrainian football to represent the country in Europe like we did tonight."

Barcelona still lead Group H ahead of second-placed Porto, who beat Royal Antwerp 2-0, on head-to-head record, but missed the chance to wrap up qualification for the last 16 with two games to spare.

"After two years without qualifying for the last 16, today is a missed opportunity," said Barca coach Xavi Hernandez.

Shakhtar, on six points, gave their knockout stage hopes a boost, but also put themselves in pole position to at least finish third ahead of Antwerp and move into the Europa League.

"If we achieve that (last 16), it would be fantastic. If not then to stay in Europe would also be a great achievement, amazing achievement even, for this club under those circumstances," added Pusic.

After failing to progress from the group stage for two seasons running, Barcelona had won their first three matches this term.

However Shakhtar held their own from the start.

Barcelona missed big chances in the first match in October but this time Pusic's team shut down their uninspired visitors, who produced just one shot on target.

Shakhtar forced Marc-Andre ter Stegen into the first save of the game, with the German goalkeeper denying Mykola Matviyenko at the near post after he got in behind Joao Cancelo.

Ilkay Gundogan and Raphinha lashed over from distance as Barca created no danger, with veteran striker Robert Lewandowski woefully disconnected on his return to Germany.

The former Bayern Munich forward has not scored in any of his last six appearances for Barca, amounting to his worst run of goalscoring form for over a decade.

- Sliced open -

The hosts took the lead a few minutes before half-time, easily slicing the visitors open when Giorgi Gocholeishvili took advantage of Barcelona left-back Marcos Alonso being a long way out of position.

The full-back crossed for Sikan, who beat Andreas Christensen in the air and headed beyond the reach of Ter Stegen.

Ter Stegen saved from Gocholeishvili early in the second half as Shakhtar continued as they left off.

Just before the hour Xavi took action, sending on speedsters Alejandro Balde and Lamine Yamal, as well as Pedri, looking to shake up his team's lifeless display.

Barcelona were better but not bright enough, as Shakhtar goalkeeper Dmytro Riznyk enjoyed a quiet night.

Shakhtar's latest young Brazilian winger, Newton, scored a stunning second in the final stages but it was chalked off for offside -- it would have been a superb way to crown a glorious night for Pusic's men.

Barcelona had seven minutes of added time to work with but could not find a breakthrough, with Felix unsuccessfully appealing for a penalty after he was clipped on the edge of the box.

The Ukrainian champions, third, celebrated joyously at full-time and now sit only three points behind Barcelona, who host Porto in their next Champions League match on November 28.

"We do things step by step and we stay humble," said Pusic, who was proud of his team's defensive effort.

"We like to attack and we had several good moments tonight, but game organisation comes first.

"If you concede easily at this level there is not a high chance you will win."

Barcelona midfielder Oriol Romeu said his team had to look in the mirror after their disappointing display.

"Every defeat is a warning," he told Movistar. "We have to be self-critical and see what we did wrong, to correct it quickly."

AFP

Can Mourinho lead Roma all the way to another European final?

ROME

OFF the pace in Serie A, Roma may once again be relying on Jose Mourinho to lead them on a long European run in order to save their season.

Mourinho is into his third campaign in charge in the Italian capital and has already led Roma to victory in the inaugural Europa Conference League and then to a Europa League final which they lost on penalties to Sevilla.

Yet in Serie A they continue to lag behind, having finished sixth in each of the Portuguese coach's two campaigns so far.

They are currently seventh, 11 games into this season, and that is only after a dramatic comeback to beat Lecce 2-1 at the Stadio Olimpico last weekend, with Sardar Azmoun and Romelu Lu-



Jose Mourinho won the Europa Conference League in his first campaign with Roma, and then led them to the Europa League final last season. (Agencies)

kaku both scoring stoppage-time goals.

Roma are 11 points adrift of the leaders, Mourinho's old side Inter, and four points behind Napoli in fourth, with a derby showdown against Lazio to come this

Sunday.

It is possible, then, that they may require Europa League success if they are to make it into next season's Champions League, which is the stage where they and Mourinho really want to be.

Handed a kind draw, Roma have a 100 percent record so far in Group G, having beaten Sheriff Tiraspol 2-1 in Moldova and Swiss side Servette 4-0 at home before a 2-0 defeat of Slavia Prague last time out.

They now travel to the Czech capital to face Slavia again on Thursday, knowing a win will secure their place in the knockout phase again.

Lukaku's form has been key for Roma this season, both domestically and in Europe, with the Belgian striker having scored nine times in 12 games since joining on loan from Chelsea at the end of his most recent spell at Inter.

He has notably netted in every Europa League game so far and Roma's chances of reaching a third European final in as many seasons under Mourinho may hinge on Lukaku staying fit and firing.

"He scores everywhere and in every competition: when he is in your side, you have more chance to win," Mourinho said

after the win over Slavia a fortnight ago.

Roma are not the only team who can clinch a place in the knockout phase this week -- Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool will advance if they can make it four wins out of four in Group E when they visit Toulouse, having beaten the French side 5-1 at home last time out.

German Bundesliga leaders Bayer Leverkusen also have maximum points and so could wrap up a berth in the knockout stages with a win over Qarabag in Azerbaijan.

Flying under the guidance of Xabi Alonso, Leverkusen are unbeaten in all competitions this season and have won their last 10 games, with Nigerian striker Victor Boniface already into double figures for goals.

He netted six times in last season's Europa League for Belgian side Union Saint-Gilloise before making the move to Germany in July.

AFP

Man City, Leipzig into Champions League last 16 as Shakhtar stun Barcelona

LONDON

HOLDERS Manchester City and RB Leipzig became the first teams to reach the last 16 of this season's Champions League on Tuesday while Danylo Sikan's goal allowed Shakhtar Donetsk to claim a stunning win over Barcelona.

Pep Guardiola's reigning champions have eased into the knockout phase with a perfect record, a 3-0 win over Young Boys making it four wins out of four in Group G.

Erling Haaland followed his brace in Bern two weeks ago with another two goals against the Swiss side, with the Norwegian striker opening the scoring from the penalty spot midway through the first half.

Phil Foden got their second in first-half stoppage time and Haaland struck again soon after the interval for his 15th goal of the campaign.

Young Boys were then reduced to 10 men as Sandro Lauper was sent off, and City saw out a 10th successive home victory in the competition.

"People say 'yeah, the group stage, it is easy', but you have to do it. In life, you have to do it when people expect you to do it," Guardiola told TNT Sports.

Leipzig joined City in securing progress from Group G thanks to their 2-1 victory at Red Star Belgrade.

Xavi Simons gave the German side an early lead with a lovely finish into the far corner, and Lois Openda made it 2-0 in the rain in Belgrade with his 10th goal this season.

Former European Cup winners Red Star pulled one back through a Benjamin Henrichs own goal but they are now left to fight it out with Young Boys for a place in the Europa League knockout phase.

Barcelona could have booked their last-16 ticket with a win over Shakhtar but instead the Ukrainian club kept their own hopes alive with a famous 1-0 victory



Erling Haaland of Manchester City scores their third. (Agencies)

in Hamburg.

Sikan, the 22-year-old forward, headed in the only goal of the Group H game late in the first half and Shakhtar held on.

"It feels very sweet," smiled coach Marino Pusic, whose Shakhtar team are playing European home games this season in Germany amid the ongoing war in Ukraine.

"I am tremendously proud of my players and all the people in the club, working very hard to support me in this, what we achieved tonight."

- Pepe becomes oldest-ever scorer -

Barcelona coach Xavi Hernandez admitted his team were "in a bit of a footballing rut", and they were joined at the top of the section on nine points by Porto, who beat Royal Antwerp 2-0 in Portugal.

Brazilian forward Evanilson opened the scoring with a first-half penalty and Antwerp had Jurgen Ekkelenkamp sent off early in the second half.

Porto wrapped up the win in stoppage time when veteran defender Pepe headed in to become, at the age of 40 years and 254 days old, the oldest player ever to score a Champions League goal.

The record had previ-

ously been held by Francesco Totti, who last scored in the competition for Roma aged 38.

- PSG, Newcastle beaten -

Paris Saint-Germain and Newcastle United's hopes of qualifying from Group F remain in the balance after both lost on the road.

PSG went down 2-1 away to AC Milan despite Milan Skriniar giving the French side an early lead at San Siro.

It took Milan just three minutes to draw level when Rafael Leao finished in acrobatic fashion, and Olivier Giroud headed in the winner five minutes after half-time.

Borussia Dortmund

are top of the group after beating Newcastle 2-0 in Germany, with Niclas Füllkrug and Julian Brandt scoring the goals, one in each half.

"When you concede four goals in this stadium three days ago, it feels good to hold a very good English team to nil -- and the two goals will do us good," Brandt told Amazon Prime as Dortmund bounced back from Saturday's 4-0 thrashing by Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga.

- Atletico hit six -

Atletico Madrid top Group E after crushing 10-man Celtic 6-0 in Spain to record their biggest win in the modern Champions League.

Antoine Griez-

mann grabbed an early opener and Celtic then had Daizen Maeda sent off midway through the first half.

Alvaro Morata made it 2-0 in first-half stoppage time and Griezmann made it three on the hour mark.

Samuel Lino got the fourth with a stunning strike, Morata lashed in the fifth for his second, and Saul Niguez completed the scoring.

Lazio beat Feyenoord 1-0 in the same section thanks to Ciro Immobile's 200th goal for the club.

Meanwhile, Manchester City defender John Stones face a lengthy spell on the sidelines after suffering an injury

in Tuesday's 3-0 win against Young Boys.

City boss Pep Guardiola said the England centre-back is likely to be out for a substantial period following his half-time substitution at the Etihad Stadium.

Stones had already missed the first 10 games of the campaign with a hip injury sustained in pre-season before returning to action in October.

Asked if Stones would be out for a long time, Guardiola said: "Yeah, I think he will be out a while. I feel so sorry for him."

Stones' injury is a blow for Premier League leaders City, who face key matches against Liverpool and Tottenham after the November international break.

Adding to Guardiola's injury woes was the sight of Manuel Akanji suffering a back problem during the pre-match warm-up, with Kyle Walker a last-minute replacement for the Swiss defender.

The saving grace for City is their victory over Young Boys sealed qualification for the Champions League last 16, allowing Guardiola to rest players for their remaining two group matches.

"Manu had a problem in the back. Unfortunately John, he felt (injured) again," Guardiola said.

"It is a big loss for us. He is so important for what he does. He will recover, the season is long. He will be back stronger."

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Can Mourinho lead Roma all the way to another European final?

PAGE 19

Simba aiming to rebound from Derby loss as they host Namungo



Dani Cadena

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA are back at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium this evening to meet with Namungo in the NBC Premier League with the Msimbazi Reds looking to get back on track just days after suffering a humiliating derby loss to Young Africans.

They will no doubt be looking at this fixture as one that could help salvage something out of a dark period for the club.

Their 5-1 defeat at the weekend cost head coach Robert Oliveira his job.

The team is now under caretaker coach Daniel Cadena who was part of Robertinho's technical staff as a goalkeeper coach.

Speaking ahead of the game, Cadena said Simba have a desire to restart as they attempt to recover from their derby loss.

"It is not the best moment for us now. We need to work and forget everything and prepare for the next game. I am a man who is here to work, the goalkeepers know, the players know. They told me they will give 100%. The focus is on the upcoming game because we want to win. We need to clean

the negative around us," he said.

Meanwhile, after eight league matches, Namungo have only managed one, losing four times and drawing the rest.

Only a better goal difference separates them from the four teams in the relegation zone.

In addition, Namungo do not have a good head-to-head record against Simba in their last eight league fixtures.

They are yet to win

against Simba, suffering five defeats and drawn three games.

Last season, they succumbed to a 1-0 loss at Benjamin Mkapa before battling for a 1-1 draw in the reverse fixture at Majaliwa Stadium.

In spite of their poor record against Simba, head coach Dennis Kitambi, who is leading the team for the third game was upbeat ahead of the match.

Kitambi, who was once Simba assistant coach, declared they will deploy the

same tactics used by Al Ahly and Young Africans.

"If you look at the previous matches played by Simba, it was 5-1, 1-1, 2-2, 2-1. They have conceded a goal in each game.

"So our preparations started from there. In a game like this, you must have a positive attitude. Find out what can give you an advantage," he said.

"The advantage we have and I emphasized to the players is that Simba concede goals. We must go into

this game believing we can score and take this opportunity to attack them.

"The other thing is that sometimes you don't need to be very creative. Look at what your predecessors have done. Al Ahly and Yanga have given us a template of how to play against Simba. I can't have a headache when the template has been handed to us. We will pass through the same channels."

EATV THURSDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Movie
13:55 Dondoo za Michezo
14:00 Movie
14:30 Ujenzi (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Ubongo Kids
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo za Michezo
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kaili Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 TOP 10
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1

TOP 10
It is a list of the hottest Bongo Flava music videos that are loved by the viewers

eastafrika RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Twende Paris campaign launched in Dar

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) has launched a campaign named 'Twende Paris' which is aimed at motivating young people to embrace sports.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam when TOC and the French embassy in the country signed the agreement, Henry Tandau, who is vice-president of the committee, said the first phase of the campaign will benefit three regions.

During the event, the French embassy was represented by Ettien Pellausy, who is the officer responsible for Culture and Relations.

Tandau named the regions to be involved as Coast, Mbeya and Singida and it will involve athletics, volleyball and football for both boys and girls.

Tandau failed short of disclosing the dates of the tournaments, saying there are some logistics that are being solved, but said it will be this year.

"As part of the Paris 2024 Olympics legacy, the French government has agreed to fund sporting activities which will increase the hype of the Olympics and make many locals embrace and love the Olympics.

"In the first phase, we will start with three regions where students will compete in volleyball, football and athletics. In the second phase, which will be next year, we will reach many other regions which will include Zanzibar," he said.

He said before the games, there will be a workshop for sports officers from the involved regions.

Tandau said the finals will be held in the Singida Region and as part of motivating the students, winners will be given medals, trophies and cash prizes.

He added that in individual sports (athletics) the top winners (both boys and girls) will get 300,000/- each, runners-up will take home 200,000/- each while third winners will get 100,000/- each.

In team sports (football and volleyball), both boys and girls winners will get 1,000,000/-, runners-up will get 750,000/- and third winners will get 500,000/-.

TOC annual general meeting scheduled for next month

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) annual general meeting will be held early next month in Dodoma, it has been disclosed.

TOC vice-president Henry Tandau said the annual general meeting will be held on December 9 at a venue to be announced later.

He said prior to the TOC annual general meeting there will be a two-day seminar for secretary generals of national sports associations.

Tandau said the annual general meeting will, among other things, discuss activities that were undertaken in the just-ended year and plans for next year.

"Our general meeting will be held next month on December 9 in Dodoma and before that, for the first time from December 6-7 we will have a seminar for secretary



Henry Tandau

generals of national sports associations. The seminar will be strictly for secretary generals of national sports associations. We will not accept representatives," he said.

The TOC vice-president also disclosed that the Ath-

letes Commission annual general meeting will be held next week in Kibaha, Coast Region. He added that the meeting will, among other things, discuss on performances of local athletes at both local and international events.

"The Athletes Commission annual general meeting will be held on November 18 in Kibaha, Coast Region. We encourage all members of the commission to attend the meeting. It's good for them as they will discuss many impor-

tant things," he said.

Meanwhile, Tandau said TOC is looking at modalities to sponsor boxer Yusufu Chagalawe to prepare for the 2024 Paris Olympics, saying the boxer has the potential to qualify for the coming Olympics.

"Chagalawe (Yusufu) is a good boxer. He is still young and he has the potential to compete at the coming Paris Olympics, the only challenge is that he lacks resources and a good and well-qualified trainer. As the Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC), we are looking at how we can help him. We will do our best to help him so that at the next qualifiers, which will be held in Italy in February next year, he can do well," he said.

Other athletes who are on TOC scholarship to prepare for the coming Paris Olympics are swimmer Hilal Hilal, athletes Gabriel Geay, Felix Simbu and Failuna Matanga and Judoka Andrew Mlungu.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

MY WIFE THOUGHT OUR KIDS WERE SPOILED...

...UNTIL WHEN I TOLD HER THAT MOST KIDS SMELL THAT WAY!

