



### CONFLICTS



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### COOPERATION



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## Water supply, sanitation gets 700bn/- new support

By Guardian Reporter

NEW International Development Association (IDA) credit facility for \$309.9m (over 700bn/-) towards water supply and sanitation has been inked.

Nathan Belete (pictured), the World Bank country director for Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, said in a statement yesterday that project facilities envisaged under the new loans will bring clean and safe water supply to upwards of ten million people and take improved sanitation services to cover nine million people.

The loan facility consists in a new \$300m and \$4.9m grant based funding for the energy sector management assistance programme (ESMAP), directed at the sustainable rural water supply and sanitation program (SRWSSP).

The grant will support the program's expansion from 86 districts in 17 regions to 137 districts in 25 regions countrywide, the statement indicated, noting that it will enable up to 1,850 primary schools and

# Food prices likely to fall as irrigation, input use widens

## Govt cautions on price hikes during festivals

By Felister Peter

PRICES of essential commodities will drop in the coming year following keynote agro-sector interventions in the past budget, with allocations rising from 200bn/- in the previous year to 900bn/-.

Exaud Kigahe, Investment, Industry and Trade deputy minister, said at a press conference yesterday that efforts are ongoing to enhance food production systems, linking the rise in food staple prices to drought and high demand in neighbouring countries.

The main staple foods affected by delayed rains are maize, beans, rice, sweet potatoes and wheat, he said, outlining the price situation in the country's food markets.

Despite the relative price increase, the price level is bearable compared to prices of similar food stuffs in other countries in the region, he said, noting that the price of rice this month rose from 2,200/- to 3,500/- per kg, from 2,000/- and up to 3,200/- last month.

Regions with lower rice prices are Katavi and Ruvuma, highest price regions are Arusha, Manyara, Kagera and Rukwa, he said, citing current market statistics.

Prices of beans have declined by 60/- per kilogram from November levels, with Katavi leading with the lowest prices. Beans are sold

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Upcountry-bound passengers at Dar es Salaam railway station boarding new coaches before the train left for Kigoma in the morning yesterday, after the coaches were recently delivered from South Korea. Photo: Correspondent James Kandoya

## TRC hauls 1,500 to Kigoma in 22-meter-gauge wagons

By Correspondent James Kandoya

A TOTAL of 1500 upcountry-bound passengers yesterday left Dar es Salaam for Kigoma aboard 22 passenger wagons procured recently for the meter gauge railway.

Masanja Kadogosa, Director General of the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC), said at an event to flag off the departing train at the main station in Dar es Salaam that with the new wagons TRC will gain in efficiency.

The resumption of the Dar es Salaam/Kigoma route using the newly procured wagons was preceded by a test drive of 400 kilometres and then approved by the Land Transport Authority (LATRA), he said.

There are 21 wagons being used, with 20 wagons carrying passengers and one wagon

designed as a restaurant, he said, noting that the meter gauge network now has 16 wagons on the northern route (from six earlier) and the central line 20 wagons, from 14 earlier.

He assured would be travellers on the Dar es Salaam-Moshi route and onward to Arusha that there are enough wagons to carry all those preferring rail transport to both destinations.

Mid last year, TRC pactured with Hyundai Rotem, a South Korean corporation to buy 17 electric locomotives, 10 sets of electric trains (electric multiple unit-EMU), and one electric locomotive simulator for \$295.7m, with delivery expected in three years.

An electric multiple unit or EMU is a multiple-unit train consisting of self-propelled carriages using electricity as the

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## Govt readies legal action on chick burning investor

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

A POULTRY farmer in Kilimanjaro Region who burned 50,000 chicks on account of lack of market faces legal action because the government says the act was in contravention of the law.

Prof Hezron Nonga, the director of livestock services and fisheries said on Wednesday that what the investor did was in violation of the 2010 law on Livestock development, as together with the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act of 1986

"Chicks are placed under hot furnaces, they cry, and are burned down nevertheless," he said, citing the 2010 law but an online presentation says the 2010 Act incorporates the 1986 Act in its usage.

He said the government would take action

against the poultry farmer, as the issue surfaced amid discussion on the situation in the sector at a poultry sector stakeholders' meeting in Dodoma at midweek.

A top ministerial official appealed to investors in day old chicks to adhere to national and international standards of quality, as the meeting dwelt on the supply of chicks in the market, chicken feed prices and availability. Producers were preoccupied with the price fall for chicken in the market.

Participants examined ways to reduce chicken production costs for empowering small poultry keepers to remain in the market. High production costs for chicken feed were also examined, with a view to finding a price reduction formula to assist

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### OFFICE CLOSURE NOTICE

DERM group wishes to inform its esteemed clients and business partners that our corporate offices at Derm Plaza 14th & 15th Floor New Bagamoyo Road, Makumbusho; will be closed during the festive season with effect from Saturday, 17th December 2022.

Business will resume on 9th January 2023 in our New Offices at Skycity Mall 8th floor, University Road Dar es salaam.

This closure will not affect our site operations in Arusha, Dar es salaam, Dodoma, Geita, Mtwara, Pemba, Rukwa, Ruvuma, Songwe, Tanga, and Zanzibar.

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# Govt readies legal action on chick burning investor

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Complaints on the issuance of permits for importing chicks were also addressed, with the director underlining that the ministry has been telling those who are complaining that "these chicks are allowed, as they had been paid for before the banning order."

He said many poultry keepers, especially those breeding for meat were leaving the business, in which case those breeding for meat basically import their chicks to keep to the price margins in selling the chicken, he said  
"They have either closed down their businesses or reduced the number of poultry they had been keeping. If he was keeping 2,000 chickens, he is now keeping only 200 at a time," he said.

Asked why they have stopped poultry keeping, he said: "this has been contributed by high prices of chicken feed which in the past it was sold at 65,000/- to 70,000/-

per 50 kg bag but now the price is 90,000/- to 95,000/- per 50 kg bag."

Upwards of 500 chicken consume one bag of chicken feed a day, hence this poultry keeper has no profit margin when other costs like vaccination are taken into account, he stated.

Feed prices apart, chicken prices have gone down considerably as in the past in Dar es Salaam a meat chicken was sold at 7,000/- 8,000/- but now the price has dropped to as low as 4,000/-," he specified.

The incident where 50,000 chickens and eggs were deliberately destroyed by using fire in Kilimanjaro Region arose from poor local market prices due to overwhelming presence of imported chicks.

The Kilimanjaro poultry farmer at issue (name withheld), said he took the step due to the chicken market situation. The market has not been good as many poultry keepers have been incurring losses after investing a lot of money and time, he added.

# TRC hauls 1,500 to Kigoma in 22-meter-gauge wagons

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motive power.

Late September 2020, TRC and SSST Co, of South Korea signed an accord for the procurement of 59 passenger carriages, while early February this year, CRRC International Co. Ltd, a Chinese rolling stock manufacturer, secured a 12-month contract worth \$127.2m

(over 300bn/-) to supply cargo wagons, where TRC will receive 1,430 wagons a year later.

The construction of the 426-kilometre Morogoro-Makutupora section of the standard gauge railway was slightly beyond 90 percent, he said, while work is being tidied up for the Dar es Salaam-Morogoro section.

# Water supply, sanitation gets 700bn/- new support

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Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) as a specialized agency, to make services to rural areas more focused and sustainable.

Key stakeholders in the project are the Ministry of Water in close coordination with RUWASA, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Health and the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), he elaborated.

Ruth Kennedy-Walker, a senior water supply and sanitation specialist with the global lender, said that the speed and magnitude of results that have been achieved by the parent programmer had to with the establishment of RUWASA.

"This institutional reform has provided the needed focus on service delivery and sustainability of water supply, leading to improved staffing capacity, improved processes and guidance for service delivery and improved availability and accuracy of real-time data

on access and sustainability, she explained.

Additional financing supports the government's ambitious water sector development program (WSDP) phase three, launched mid this year to run to 2025. It has specific targets including connecting 9.7m people to new water supply and 3.8m people to rehabilitated water points, apart from providing basic water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure.

This is intended to cover 1,500 health centres and 2,800 primary schools through rehabilitation, and 2,000 health units plus 1,000 primary schools through new infrastructure, she said.

The third phase of WSDP is designed to reach 95 per cent of the target population through behavior change campaigns, in addition to ensuring all primary schools are supported with emergency sanitary materials. They are critical for school retention of adolescent girls, she emphasised.

# Food prices likely to fall as irrigation, input use widens

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at the highest prices in Manyara, Dar es Salaam and Tabora regions, he said.

Maize is sold at 750/- to 1860/- per kg compared to 1,000/- last month, with prices lower in Njombe, Iringa and Ruvuma, with a kilogram of wheat fetching from 2,000/- to 2,500/- this month.

Regions with highest wheat prices are Songwe, Manyara and Rukwa, with edible oil like sunflower currently being sold at 4,500/- to 7,750/- per litre, 'korie' and 'safi' cooking oil sold at 5,000/- to 7600/- per litre. Prices are higher in Iringa, Manyara and Dodoma regions, he said.

Grain exports to the Democratic

Republic of Congo (DRC), Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Kenya have risen with drought in the past year. Overall inflation stands at 4.9 percent compared to Kenya's 7.38 percent, Uganda at 10.6 percent and Rwanda at 21.7 percent, he pointed out.

He also pointed at dishonest traders hiking prices of essential commodities during the festive season, noting that the government is monitoring the prices and intend to take stringent actions against traders violating fair competition regulations.

"We are going to control traders through issuance of indicative prices as well as making sure all the businesses are conducted at formal markets," he added.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan speaks with some of business community and investors at the US Convention Centre in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday as part of the African-American leaders' conference. Photo: State House

# Tanzania pushes for AU wide donkey trade ban

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA now wants all African countries to ban trade for donkey meat and skin to protect the animal key for transport in rural areas from extinction.

Speaking at a panel discussion in the Pan African Donkey Conference 2022 held recently in Dar es Salaam city, the Director of Veterinary Services at the Ministry for Livestock and Fishery Prof Hezron Nonga said that it was time to take part in stopping the trade.

The conference deliberated under a theme "Donkey in Africa now and in the future" brought together experts and government leaders from around Africa to share knowledge and discuss the need to better protect donkeys in the African continent

He called on member states to borrow a leaf from the ivory trade

that killed dozens of elephants in the continent but was strongly declared illegal business and abolished for the interests of future generations.

Prof Nonga said despite the fact that the trade put donkeys at risk of disappearing, most African countries have no plans at all to control it, a situation that according to him needs joint efforts.

"Countries should together take action to protect the small population for the benefit of future generations. This should go concurrently with increasing awareness to communities taking care of the animals. The business should be halted immediately," he said. "All 54 countries should come together and take it as a special agenda that we all don't want the business of donkey anymore in the continent, and I'm sure it will stop," he added.

The director further said that

since the buyers of donkey skins are one and well known, the African countries should meet with the buyers and declare that they don't want the business anymore.

Dr Otieno Mtula, Regional Campaign & Advocacy Manager said that integrated approach was very important adding that each stakeholder should take part to put in place a good action plan.

He said most countries in the region have no framework agreements insisting that it was time to ensure all the matters are put in place to control the business in the region.

Dr Mtula said while doing that, they also must have clear evidence based policy & regulations, putting more research to drive the agenda. Also harmonized efforts.

Edith Kablesime-Uganda Wildlife Campaign Manager at World Animal Protection-Africa said lack

of awareness to communities who take care of the animals is still a challenge adding that they must have communicating strategies.

On January 22 this year, the Tanzanian government announced a ten year ban on donkey slaughter following concerns about the country's waning donkey population.

In a budget speech to Parliament, the Minister for Livestock and Fishery Mashimba Ndaki noted that Tanzania's current donkey population is estimated at 650,0001 but recognized the risk of donkeys becoming extinct.

A report by The Donkey Sanctuary published in May 2022 highlighted the increasing evidence of criminal involvement in the donkey skin trade, with online traders selling donkey skins alongside wildlife items such as ivory, rhino horn and drugs.



Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister Mary Masanja addresses residents about wanton invasion of Msitu wa Kuni forest in Mvomero district, Morogoro region during the visit of the sectoral ministers committee yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Happy Shayo

# Former Gambia VP calls on Africa to respect gender equality to develop

By Guardian Correspondent, Arumeru

FORMER Gambia Vice President, Fatoumatta Tambajang has said if Africa wants to develop, it must respect gender equality that will unite efforts by both genders and ultimately eradicate abject poverty afflicting the continent.

Tambajang was addressing more than 500 from various African countries youth in a video conference who are here attending a youth forum dubbed - You Lead 2022 Summit - organised by the Centre for Development and Good Governance (MS TC DC).

"We must decide today, when we discriminate one another we reduce our efforts, we differ in only our natural structures, everyone should be fully involved in various community, economic, education and business opportunities. "The Europeans are ahead of us because of only one small issue, as in their countries both men and women get equal opportunities and that is why they are doing well," she said.

She added that what costs us in Africa is the failure to manage education for every one instead we

live through self-centeredness that contributes to classes of the "haves" and "have-nots" hence failing to eradicate, leave alone reduce poverty in the continent.

She said in many African countries streets are filled with aimless children, they become a burden for many to fully participate in economic growth.

"We fail to understand that the youth are tomorrow's nation, we produce them but we deny their rights and opportunities thereby causing them to live in the streets," she added.

She called upon the youth to make sure they fully participate in the government system to attain experience of the administration that will help them to lead their countries.

She also called on the youth to work hard, instead of idling about and get satisfied by small things.

The former Gambia Vice President said she got married at a small age but fought hard to stand by her goals until she became Vice president and reared her children well to become good trusted leaders.

# Canada allocates \$450m for sustainable gender equality

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

THE Canadian Government has allocated USD 450 million for bringing about equality as an enabling sustainable way, as well as for the Women Voice in Leadership (WVL) Project to assist internal women rights institutions in 30 developing countries including Tanzania.

This was revealed by the head of development operations in the Canadian High Commission, Brownyn Cruden in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday.

Cruden was addressing a meeting of anti-sex corruption network members held at TGNP grounds at Mabibo, in Dar es Salaam.

Cruden explained that out of the USD 450 million, USD 300 million is for the equality fund aimed at sustainable enablement.

"USD 150 million is for our favourite WVL project, aimed at assisting local women rights institutions," said Cruden.

She said Canada is pleased to be among few world countries to endorse its foreign gender equality

policy. "We know the community becomes more successful when women rights are respected and women valued and empowered," she said.

She explained that her country was also assisting projects at both community and national level to eradicate gender based violence (GBV), mobilising women and assisting them to acquire needed skills.

For her part, the Chairperson of Women Fund Tanzania (WFT) Board of Directors, Prof Ruth Meena, said sex corruption is humiliating and kills, and that the entire community should participate in the fight.

She appealed to PCCB to make sure sex corruption is given special attention in looking for the solution thereon, and should not be mixed with other kinds of corruption.

For his part, PCCB Director for Public education, Joseph Mwaiselo called on community to report incidents of sex corruption to the nearest PCCB offices.

By Guardian Reporter

# TEMESA given 22.9bn/- to refurbish ferries

THE Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) has allocated 22.9bn/- for major refurbishment of its 14 ferries as well as revamping the infrastructures thereof in 11 areas countrywide that will cost 4.1bn/-.

This was revealed yesterday in Pangani, Tanga Region at a short event to receive MV Tanga ferry that was under major regular

refurbishment since June this year by Dar es Salaam Merchant Group as contractors.

Speaking at the event, Tanga Regional Commissioner, Omar Mgumba who was official guest, praised the government for enabling the project and added that the completion of the ferry's refurbishment will improve transport of goods and passengers

for the people in the area."

"The refurbished ferry will improve communication and transport in the area, thereby increase the pace of economic development among the people," RC Mgumba said.

For his part, TEMESA Chief Executive Officer, Lazaro Kilahala said in FY 2022/23, TEMESA, through Works and Transport

ministry is implementing various ferry construction and refurbishment projects and infrastructures thereof.

"The refurbishment of MV Tanga has cost 1.1bn/- (including VAT) and that in the current Financial Year the government is refurbishing 14 ferries including MV. TANGA.

"Others are MV. MISUNGWI, MV MUSOMA, MV SABASABA, MV KAZI, MV NYERERE, MV KITUNDA, and MV KILOMBERO II," he said.

He named other government ferries under refurbishment as

including MV RUHUHU, MV OLD RUVUVU, MV MAGOGONI, MV UJENZI, MV KOME II, and MV MARA.

Pangani Member of parliament, Juma Aweso thanked the government for enabling the refurbishment of the ferry and praised TEMESA and the Ministry for supervising of the refurbishment.

For his part, Works and Transport Ministry Permanent Secretary, Ludovick Nduhiye, speaking on challenges facing TEMESA, asked the government to address the issue

of rising ferry fares as the fares are old, they have been in place for over ten years now.

"We are liaising with our stakeholders, members of the public to see how we can raise the fares," he said.

The TEMESA boss thanked the government to empower the Agency with funds to implement its projects and pledged to perform the duties professionally.

MVTANGA has a capacity to carry 100 passengers, 6 vehicles and 6 tonnes of cargo.



Kilimanjaro regional commissioner, Nurdin Babu (C) cuts a ribbon to inaugurate the completion of ginger processing plant refurbishment at Mamba Miamba in Same district on Wednesday. The plant is owned jointly by PSSF and Mamba Miamba ginger growers. Looking on are officials from PSSF and RC's office. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## VP Dr Philip Mpango calls upon TTU to address internal wrangles

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango has called on the Tanzania Teachers Union (TTU) to solve internal wrangles, saying the government cannot tolerate self-centered actions aimed at rocking the union.

In a speech read on his behalf by the Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office, (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability), Prof Joyce Ndalichako, the vice president said the union is fragmented and some leaders are serving their own interest.

He expressed dismay that teachers who serve as 'societal mirror' are engaged at actions that do not auger well for the noble profession.

Prof Ndalichako represented the VP to officiate the opening of TTU's two days annual congress where he called on the union to use the congress to solve the existing differences.

"I wish to make it clear that the government cannot allow such wrangles kill the good spirit among teachers" the vice president said in the statement.

He also warned teachers on the increasing cases of moral

decadence among them, saying in some cases teachers have engaged in corporal punishment, teenage pregnancies, among others.

Dr Mpango said the government is ready to swiftly take punitive measures on teachers found guilty of such practices.

He said it is absurd that teachers who can help talk to students about such challenges since some parents cannot, are the once involved in such vices.

The VP also warned teachers about examination leakage, saying the practice only help in producing incompetent workforce. He argued that while some teachers engage in the malpractice with the intention of showing good performance, it is completely unacceptable.

He called on the police and the prevention and combating of corruption bureau to strongly investigate such cases whenever they arise and ensure culprits are brought to book.

On the other hand, Dr Mpango acknowledges that the government was aware of challenges facing teachers and has started working on how to improve the situation.

Prof Ndalichako in her own statement praised the union for the good work it is doing in defending

teachers' rights. She however also echoed the VP's stance on wrangles within the union.

She said teachers is a big force charged with the responsibility to shape the country by producing the required workforce and experts. "As a fellow teacher I would not like to see anything that scuttle our union interests and we should work hard to solve the challenges" she said.

She said there are always amicable ways of solving differences, adding that her office is open for any grieved parties to seek solutions to problems they face.

She termed TTU as one of the biggest trade unions in the country that is worth emulating as it is doing greater things.

Earlier, TTU's Acting President, Dinah Mathamani applauded the government for the god things it is doing to teachers, noting that promotions that stalled sometimes back have been implemented.

She also said the government has been ready for dialogue with teachers once contentious matters arise. "Let us continue with the good relations aimed at improving education sector" she said.

Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM)'s deputy Secretary General, Christina Mndeme noted that the ruling party appreciates the good work teachers in the country are doing.

She called on them to help in the fight against any form of violence to children, women and the voiceless.

## Prime minister tasks RCs, DCs to ensure they have sufficient fertiliser agents

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called on Regional Commissioners countrywide to make sure there is enough number of fertiliser agents in their areas so that the exercise to send the farm input to farmers is successfully implemented.

The PM made the remarks Wednesday when addressing residents of Majimoto Ward, Mlele Ward, Katavi Region during his inspection visit.

He said President Samia Suluhu Hassan has provided 150bn/- towards fertiliser subsidy, adding: "I want to tell you that this government subsidy is for farmers, take the fertiliser to farmers, and do it professionally."

He added that Katavi region which has 10 agents for selling fertiliser has been allocated 4,956 tonnes of the input and already 3,977 tonnes has arrived in the region.

He also called on farmers to continue with their farming activities, especially during this period of rains as fertiliser is readily available.

Meanwhile, Majaliwa has given two weeks to the Mlele District Commissioner, Filbert Sanga and his Executive Director, Catherine Mashalla to make sure the new Majimoto Ward health centre starts operations.

The PM said many of its buildings have been completed, including the outpatients; building, hence Mlele council officials are required to send medical equipment so that by December 27 this year it starts serving patients.

Work on the health centre began January 2021 and was expected to be completed February next year at a cost of 423.8m/- . Majaliwa also praised residents of Mpimbwe District for their good work on environmental conservation that has seen rivers that had dried up to start flowing with water.

### DEV RECOVERIES LIMITED

#### NOTICE OF SALE BY TENDER PROCESS

ALL THAT LANDED PROPERTIES LOCATED AT UNGUJA under the appointment letter dated 02<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 in favor of Equity Bank Tanzania Limited, Head Office, Golden Jubilee Tower, Dar es Salaam instructing us to advertise the sale by Tender Process of the properties listed/Described below.

- Property located at Chukwani Area, Western B, District, urban West region of Unguja with SALE DEED NO 456.28008 VOL II OF BOOK A-2, BORROWERS/CUSTOMER NAME: ELECTROTHERMAL SUPPLIES AND SERVICES LIMITED, GUARANTORS NAME: JUMA ALI HAMAD.
- Property Located at Miembeni, Urban, West Region of Unguja with CERTIFICATE OF LAND TRANSFER BY SALE, APPLICATION NO 02357 BORROWERS/ CUSTOMER NAME: ELECTROTHERMAL SUPPLIES AND SERVICES LIMITED, GUARANTORS NAME: JUMA ALI HAMAD.
- Property Located at Chukwani Area, Western B, District, Urban, West Region of Unguja with SALE DEED NO 408 OF 2008 VOL II OF BOOK A-2 BORROWERS/ CUSTOMER NAME: ELECTROTHERMAL SUPPLIES AND SERVICES LIMITED, GUARANTORS NAME: JUMA ALI HAMAD.

#### TERMS AND CONDITION OF THE TENDER:

- INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED to submit bids for the purchase of the property in a sealed envelope clearly marked "BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF ANY OF THE AFOREMENTIONED PROPERTY" indicating the offer for the property with full address of the bidder shown and the same should be submitted so as to reach the undersigned on the address below before 16:30 hours 06<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at the office mentioned below. Bidders are invited to attend during the event if they wish so.
- Bidders should note that the information supplied herein is without liability to the Seller as to its correctness independent valuation and inspection of the property is highly recommended.
- The Seller shall not be bound to accept the highest bid or any bid at all.
- The Property is sold in condition as it is.
- The successful bidder shall be bound to make 25% down payment of the price within 4 days of the date of the award and the remaining balance shall be paid within 14 days or as the successful bidder agreed with the bank for the payment arrangement. In event the balance is not paid within 14 days or as the successful bidder agreed with the bank for payment arrangement, the Seller shall forfeit the down payment and the next highest bidder shall be award the option to purchase.
- Members of the Public and/or bidders who are desirous of viewing and/or inspecting the property may do so subject to the appointment and prior consent of the Seller agent on the following contacts below: 0712390460/0788438640
- Bids mentioned in paragraph 2 hereinabove should be addressed to the address below:

MANAGING DIRECTOR  
DEV RECOVERIES LIMITED  
NIC LIFE HOUSE, 4TH FLOOR, WING C,  
SOKOINE DRIVE/OHIO STREET  
PO BOX 6707  
DAR ES SALAAM

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DRC DANISH  
REFUGEE  
COUNCIL

## TENDER NOTICE

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) intends to enter into Purchase Agreements (PAs) for period of 12 months for the following retendering Lots

- RFP-PA-004-DRC-2023-2024 FLIGHT TICKETING
- ITB-PA-005-DRC-TZA-2023-2024 VEHICLE SERVICING
- ITB-PA-002-DRC-TZA-2023-2024 ASSET AND EQUIPMENT
- ITB-PA-001-DRC-TZA-2023-2024 CORE RELIEF ITEMS

Therefore, Danish refugee Council is re-tendering for the above purchase agreements, and all interested bidders must abide to the following instructions before applying.

- Do not make any alteration to the unit prices
- Do not use correction fluid when you do an error. Use a new sheet.
- Do not convert the ITB documents to Word or Excel
- Pay attention to where you must sign, stamp, and put the date.
- Do not forget to attach the required documents such as Annex A.1, Annex A.2.

Tender and contract award acknowledgement certificate, Supplier profile and registration form, DRC general condition of contract, Company profile, DRC supplier code of conduct after completing all sections in full, sign, stamp, put the date.

The Purchase agreements may result into one or multiple DRC purchase Orders during the period of twelve months (January,2023 to January,2024) of the Purchase agreement.

Therefore, the Danish Refugee Council in Kibondo requests the suppliers to submit their prices for the above goods or services.

The bidding documents can be collected at the Danish Refugee Council Office in Kibondo from 16th December,2022 during the working days and hours. 8:00 Am to 16:30 Pm in the following address: Old IRC Road Area, Kibondo. You can call on: +255625482649 or through email sadock.kabuko@drc.ngo to receive the soft copy by email.

The closing date for the submission of the bids is 29th December 2022 at 16:30Hrs The ITB will be opened in a public session on 30th December 2022 at 10:00 AM at DRC Kibondo Office, PO Box 177 Kibondo by the DRC Tender Opening Committee

You can return your bid form through RF0.TZA@DRC.NGO OR DIRECT TO THE DRC OFFICE otherwise is void

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## Stakeholders urge for strong policies to sensitise diaspora to take part in economic dev

By Getrude Mbago

SCIENCE, Technology and Innovation (STI) stakeholders have stressed on the need for the country to formulate strong policies and laws so as to sensitize Tanzanians in diaspora to engage and contribute heavily in the country's social and economic development.

Speaking during the opening of the three-day Science, Technology and Innovation Forum in Dar es Salaam yesterday, President of the Tanzania Academy of Sciences (TAAS), Prof Yunus Mgaya said Tanzanians in diaspora were playing a big role in supporting the country's development and they still have huge opportunity to contribute more.

He said that the forum is aimed to mobilize domestic and diaspora stakeholders to support the transformation of the education and STI sectors for accelerated Tanzanian development and achievement of UN Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Prof Mgaya noted that one of the objectives of the Third Five-Year National Development Plan (FYDP III) is to strengthen capacity building in the areas of science, technology and innovation to enhance competitiveness and productivity in all sectors especially the productive, manufacturing and services sectors to enable Tanzanians to benefit from the opportunities available within the country.

He however commended the government for commencing an initiative to network local academia and academic diaspora to create more science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) scholarships, research networks and net international funding in all this. "This will increase

the quality and competitiveness of Tanzania scientists, STI human resource capacity and strengthen research output," he noted.

Mwanaidi Sinare Maajar, former High Commissioner of Tanzania in the United Kingdom (UK) said there is a need to create and strengthen partnership and collaboration between domestic and diaspora stakeholders by having stable policies and favourable regulatory regime.

She also said that a national dialogue on diaspora engagement and partnership is required to hear diaspora voices and thus create a roadmap to achieving the goal.

"The government has said that it was in process to come up with a policy on diaspora so as to enable the country to tap into the ability, experience and resources availed by our diaspora as many other countries were doing to promote development," she said.

She noted that statistics show that in 202, they injected in the country over \$569.5 million up from the \$400 million of 2020 due to various initiatives taken by the government to sensitize the group through various activities.

Prof Faustin Kamzora from the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) said that countries such as China, India, Israel, Turkey and many others have strong strategies to ensure that they greatly tap the potential of Diasporas and that Tanzania has to fetch from them.

"We have seen efforts of the government in this area, but more coordinated efforts in collaboration with the private sector, academia are required so as to achieve the intended goals," he added.

Dr Jabhera Matogoro from the University of Dodoma (UDOM) spoke on the importance of utilizing digital transformation to stimulate economic and social development.

## CRDB Bank and IFC agree on six cooperation areas

By Guardian Reporter

CRDB Bank Plc and the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC) have agreed on six specific areas of cooperation in their joint effort to foster sustainable financial inclusion in Tanzania and beyond.

This is the message that senior executives of the two institutions agreed during their meeting in Washington on the sidelines of the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit.

During the meeting, CRDB Bank Group's delegation was led by its Board Chairman, Dr Ally Laay, Vice chairperson, Prof Neema Mori and Group CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela while IFC was represented by its director and global head of financial institutions group, Tomasz Telma.

IFC is a long term and strategic partner for CRDB Bank Plc and has played a key role in supporting the bank's strategy since 2014.

"IFC has played a key role in the success of CRDB Bank during the past eight years and in the successful implementation of our five-year strategy which expires this year," said Nsekela in a statement that was available to the media in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday.

He said the meeting in Washington sought to bring top leaders of the two institutions together to deliberate on areas of collaboration and support.

"We therefore agreed to cooperate in issues pertaining to financing of undertakings for women and youth; in huge infrastructure financing in Tanzania, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and in supporting future cross-border business when CRDB Bank embarks on its expansion strategy to East and Southern Africa," Nsekela said.

The two institutions, he said, also agreed to cooperate on funding support on environmental projects, capacity building and in agribusiness.

In his remarks during the meeting, Telma detailed IFC's experience in financing projects in Tanzania and noted that the country has great

potential.

He detailed the IFC's relationship with CRDB Bank, and commended the bank for performing well during the years.

Telma said since IFC and CRDB Bank have been working together for several years, he was optimistic that the discussions would open new opportunities for further cooperation between two institutions.

In his presentation during the meeting, Nsekela detailed that CRDB Bank Plc - which has a balance sheet of Sh10.9 trillion and a capital of Sh1.4 trillion - boasts of an expanded alternative delivery channels and its investment in the right people to provide financial services to all customers and support the economic transformation of its markets.

With over 25,000 CRDB Wakala, SimBanking as well as depository and forex ATMs among other alternative banking platforms, 93 percent of CRDB Bank's transactions were being completed outside the branch.

As a result, CRDB Bank's net profit jumped to Sh268 billion in 2021 from only Sh36 billion in 2017 while the cumulative net profit for the first nine months of the current calendar year stood at Sh257 billion.

The lender held Sh7.672 trillion in customers' deposits as of the third quarter of 2022, up from Sh4.326 trillion that was registered at the end of 2017. Similarly, CRDB Bank Plc had loaned a total of Sh6.244 billion as of September 30, 2022, up from Sh2.894 trillion at the end of 2017.

While Return on Equity has improved significantly during the past five years, the bank has also managed to contain both the level of Non-Performing Loans and Cost to Income ratios to levels that meet regulatory requirements.

With preparations of the next five-year strategy - which will cover the period from 2023 to 2027 - being at advanced stages, Nsekela exuded confidence that the next five years will witness another period of growth across all the key performance parameters for the lender.



Muheza district residents in Tanga region carry the casket bearing the body of former Police Sergeant Ayubu Selemani for burial at Kwemuyu village yesterday. Sergeant Ayubu died in Morogoro region at his workplace after being hit by a motorcycle. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

## RC allays fear on unavailability of fertiliser

By Guardian Correspondent, Ruvuma

RUVUMA Regional Commissioner Col Laban Thomas has allayed fears on the unavailability of fertiliser, saying the region has enough farm input as fertilizer is the lifeline of the southern highlands region.

Speaking to the people in Mbinga District Col Thomas said that the challenge is the electronic system that is being handled and

the citizens will get subsidized fertiliser that has been given by the government to reduce the high cost of fertiliser that existed before this system.

RC Thomas however said that he met with the Committee formed from the Ministry of Agriculture in Ruvuma region with the aim of evaluating the monitoring of subsidised fertiliser. "I instruct the District Commissioners to monitor

the distribution of fertiliser and ensure that they reach the people, if there is anyone hiding fertiliser, action should be taken", stressed Col Thomas.

On the availability of fertiliser in Mbinga, District Commissioners Aziza Mangosongo said that in Mbinga District Council alone so far there are more than 2600 tonnes of fertiliser and that on December 14 the District has received 1200

tonnes of subsidised fertiliser.

He said the district hopes to use the primary Agriculture Marketing Co-operative Society (AMCOS) to deliver fertiliser to the people to reduce the inconvenience of distance.

Ruvuma region for four consecutive years has been the national food basket by leading in the production of food crops in the country. The Southern Highlands zone comprises five regions of Njombe, Mbeya, Rukwa, Ruvuma and Songwe.



Head of Vodacom Tanzania's sales and distribution department, George Lugata, explains how the company's customers will now be able to buy various products through the Online shopping and then the products delivered to their homes during the launch of the new and first service in the country. The event was held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## NGO seeks for stakeholders, govt support in reducing infant and maternal mortality rates

By Correspondent Mary Kadoka

HELP Other People to Excel (HOPE) Tanzania Foundation director Lightness Bayo, has appealed to stakeholders and the government to support her initiatives towards reducing infant and maternal mortality rates in the country.

Addressing a press conference in Dar es Salaam recently, Bayo commended President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her efforts in the fight against violence to women and girls.

She is the winner of the '2022

Activist defending girls, women and child from abuse' category offered by the WILDLIFE institution.

According to Bayo, the foundation has constructed a dispensary at Lake Eyasi, but it has few surgical equipment to serve pregnant women experiencing complications during delivery.

"Initiatives have been done to build the Lake Eyasi dispensary with a few theatre equipment; I hereby ask stakeholders to support us with equipment like ultrasound and baby incubator machines so that we can save the lives of mothers

and children," she said.

She said: "My all-time mission has been to ensure safer reproductive health. I am appealing to the government and stakeholders to support us with surgical equipment to guarantee the safety of expectant mothers."

Bayo stressed that with the equipment and medical expertise support, the goal to reduce maternal and child mortality rate will be achieved.

Her other plan is to ensure that 600 students who postponed studies due to lack of fees continue with their studies as private

candidates. She said those who will fail the qualifying test will be equipped with life skills to enable them to employ themselves.

The organization is literally based in Karatu District, Arusha Region along the Eyasi valley. For thirteen years it has served more than 8000 patients.

She however noted that it is challenging to work with people from the Hadzabe and Watogwa tribes because of their traditional beliefs.

The country's infant mortality rate in 2021 was 36.983 deaths per 1000 live births, a 3.67 percent decline from 2020. The infant mortality rate in 2020 was 38.391 deaths per 1000 live births, a 3.54 percent decline from 2019.

## Mastery of 3Rs still a challenge to pre-primary, standard one pupils

By Correspondent Devota Mwachang'a

MASTERY of reading, writing and arithmetic (3Rs) has been cited as among areas confronting pre-primary and standard one pupils in public schools due to lack of competent teachers.

A study conducted by Cambridge Education Tanzania has shown that a good number of learners in primary school in the country are struggling to master the 3Rs, something which needs more innovative efforts to address the gap.

It was conducted in Tanga Region as part of the implementation of Shule Bora Programme which is executed in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and the President's Office - Regional Administrative and Local Government.

Shule Bora Programme

coordinator, Thomas Aikaruwa said teachers in pre-primary and primary school need to improve literacy and numeracy skills to ensure that all pupils are mastering 3Rs skills. "Robust initiatives are needed to ensure that we have enough competent teachers and support them to improve pupils' mastery of 3Rs.

He said that Cambridge Education Tanzania is planning to support identification of champion teachers on Reading, Writing and Arithmetic (3Rs) to participate and share skills with other young teachers.

Speaking during the awareness meeting for Shule Bora Programme which held in Korogwe District - Tanga recently and brought together editors, reporters and education stakeholders from Tanga, Aikaruwa said the identification of teachers will be done through community of learning (CoL) sessions, and raising

the percentage of standard two pupils reaching basic benchmarks for oral reading fluency (3Rs).

Tanga regional education officer, Niwaho Mkisi admitted that the region should meet the criteria of Education Programme for Results II (EPforR II) to get funds which include increasing the performance of standard seven, addressing 3Rs skills challenge among students and reducing truancy in schools.

"Our region is not doing well academically despite our efforts, so we are unable to get funds from the central government as we failed to meet the criteria that are checked due to success. In order to achieve the required performance criteria the region should increase the performance of pupils," she said.

Programme communication manager from Cambridge Education Tanzania, Raymond Kanyambo said the project covers the national scope of EPforR II by supporting nine regions to meet DLRs Cambridge Education.



Director of human resources at Absa Bank Tanzania, Patrick Foya (L) hands over 37 desks worth 10m/- to the principal of Uhuru Mchanganyiko primary school, Sezaria Kiwango in Dar es Salaam yesterday to help needy students. Others from right are Gerezani Ward education officer, Mary Ruta and Absa sales officer, Jacqueline Asley. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Adhere to standards, Kigahe appeals to local manufactures

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE government has appealed to manufacturers to adhere to quality standards that would enable them to access local and foreign markets for their products.

This was said yesterday in Dar es Salaam by the Deputy Minister for Investment Industry and Trade, Exaud Kigahe, during 3rd National Quality Awards ceremony that was organised by Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

"Deputy Minister Kigahe maintained that the government intends to have a sustainable playing field that would enable businesses to prosper.

"Quality infrastructures is one of important areas that need to contribute to the development of industrial sector, the use of standards, quality management and calibration would help to protect market and products services at international level," he said.

He said the government through the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade saw the importance of launching a national quality awards contest where TBS and Tanzania

Private Sector Foundation were tasked to coordinate.

"The awards are part of the government's plans in improving services and products which are manufactured locally through standards uses for public and private companies to ensure that they meet national, zonal and international requirements," he said.

Kigahe congratulated all winners urging them to be ready to participate and become winners in the EAC and SADC quality awards to be held in near future.

He also urged the standards watchdog to find and encourage more producers, particularly Small and Medium Entrepreneurs to take part in the national quality award contest for the coming year.

"You have to educate and sensitize them and see how they can participate in the important initiative which aims at supporting industrial growth," he said.

He congratulated the management of Tanzania Bureau of Standards and Tanzania Private Sector Foundation for their collaboration and making sure that the contest is held as scheduled.

Speaking earlier, the TBS Director General Dr Athuman Ngenya, said the awards was introduced to help producers adhere to standards matters during production hence compete in local and regional markets.

The awards aim to recognise and appreciate organizations and individuals who are contributing to quality advancement in all sectors of SADC, by having measurement and quality systems, procedures and processes that are in line with local, regional and international practices and which use quality advancement to support national and regional economic development and growth.

A total of 9 companies emerged winners under five categories namely best company of the year, best product of the year, best service provider of the year, best exporter of the year and an individual award in quality related matters. Trophies and some cash were provided by the organisers to the winners.

Speaking on behalf of others a winner identified as Peter Mareale, the Director of CAPS Limited thanked the government for organising the event and value standard related matters. He asked more state companies to take part in the contest so as to encourage and increase the number of participants hence improve economy of the country.

## Tanzania nickel producer to list in New York

By Guardian Reporter

LIFEZONE Metals, which plans to mine nickel in Tanzania with a low carbon footprint, will list in New York in a deal with blank-check acquisition firm GoGreen Investments, the companies has said.

Lifezone Metals, valued by the special purpose acquisition company (SPAC) deal at around \$1 billion, owns the Kabanga Nickel mine and refinery project, backed in January by global miner BHP.

Indonesia currently accounts for around 40% of the world's supply of nickel, with much of it controlled by Chinese companies. Finding alternative sources of battery metals is a priority for the United States

The SPAC is a sign of investor appetite for producers of resources needed to power the energy transition.

The Kabanga refinery will use hydrometallurgical technology developed by Lifezone that employs

water-based solutions to separate metal from waste rock more efficiently than the traditional energy-intensive smelting process of heating ore at extremely high temperatures.

"This is really providing two key solutions: a critical new source of battery metals in Kabanga, in partnership with BHP, and clean, ESG-friendly processing technology," said Lifezone Metals CEO Chris Showalter.

Kabanga, which Lifezone aims to bring into production in 2026, has a 44 million tonnes resource containing nickel, as well as copper and cobalt.

The mine was previously owned by Barrick Gold and Glencore until Tanzanian President John Magufuli's administration revoked their retention licence in 2018.

BHP has agreed to double its 8.9% investment in Kabanga Nickel, and has an option to further increase its stake to 60.7%.

Lifezone Metals, advised on this deal by RBC Capital Markets, should start trading on the New York Stock

Exchange in the second quarter of 2023 under the ticker LZM. Investors have committed more than \$70 million to the company through a private investment in public equity (PIPE).

"When I look at where capital has been deployed so far, there has been ample capital raised for electric vehicles, and for batteries, but very little capital raised for the supply chain, and that means clean metals," said John Dowd, CEO of GoGreen Investments.

The refinery plan is a win for Tanzania which, like many resource-rich African countries, wants to add more value to its minerals domestically. The Tanzanian government has a 16% stake in Kabanga Nickel's Tanzania subsidiary Tembo Nickel. "We believe Tembo Nickel will be a key vehicle supporting Tanzania's status as an emerging leader in the clean energy transition," said Tanzania's minister of minerals Doto Biteko.



TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

ISO 9001:2015 Certified

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### RENEWAL OF LICENSES FOR MANUFACTURERS OF EXCISABLE GOODS/DENATURED SPIRITS

Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) wishes to remind all manufacturers of excisable goods or denatured spirits that, licenses issued to manufacture excisable goods or denatured spirits under the provisions of Section 8 and 16 of the Excise (Management & Tariff) Act, CAP 147, expire every 31st December of the year. Thus, the licenses issued for the year 2022 are due to expire on 31st December 2022. In view of that, Manufacturers are reminded to make early applications to the TRA Office for renewal of their licenses for the year 2023 to avoid inconveniences after expiry of their current licenses.

#### Licensing Conditions;

- Every application for a license shall be made to the TRA Office through form ITX258.01. E available on our website ([www.tra.go.tz](http://www.tra.go.tz)) and all TRA offices in the country.
- A separate application shall be required in respect of each factory in which excisable goods are to be manufactured and each class of excisable goods to be manufactured.
- A license shall be issued for a particular person and shall be in respect of the factory and class of excisable goods specified in the license and shall not be allowed to be used by another factory, person or other class of excisable goods.
- Cigarettes, cigars and manufactured tobacco, shall be regarded as one class of excisable goods.
- A holder of license shall not be allowed to transfer his license, factory or manufacture another class of excisable goods in a licensed factory without application and approval of the Commissioner General.
- A license shall be granted upon submission of a proof of payment of a license fee of Three Hundred Thousand Shillings (300,000/=) as prescribed in Regulation 4 of the Excise (Management & Tariff) (Licensing and Administration of Manufacturers of Excisable Goods & Denatured Spirits) Regulations, 2020.

It should be noted that, according to the provisions of Section 8 and 16 of the Excise (Management and Tariff) Act, Cap. 147, manufacturing excisable goods or denaturing spirits without a valid excise license constitute an offence liable to fine or imprisonment or both fine and imprisonment. TRA shall carry out vigilant inspections to identify manufacturers operating without valid excise licenses and take appropriate actions.

"Together We Build Our Nation"

Issued by the:  
Director for Taxpayer Services and Education  
12th December, 2022

## Dodoma resident goes away with motorcycle in NMB Bank campaign

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

A Kizota resident in Dodoma city, Salumu Jumanne has emerged one of the lucky customers after winning a new motorcycle in the ongoing NMB Bank's 'MastaBata Kote-Kote' reward campaign.

Speaking during the handing over event, manager of NMB Kambarage branch Emiliana Wilson said the winner was found in a special draw conducted last week as part of the bank's drive to promote digital payments.

Emiliana said usage of NMB Mastercard in various transactions is the only secret to Salumu's victory.

According to her, the bank has so far issued a total of 100m/- to 300 winners as well as two motorcycles in the five phases.

"Anyone can emerge a winner in this promotion as long as he/she uses the Mastercard to conduct transactions, there are some who win cash prizes ranging from 100,000/-, motorcycles

plus a jackpot, which will be a luxurious trip for 14 people in Dubai early next year," she said.

Meanwhile, in yesterday's draw, Shamsanga Samu from Kimara in Dar es Salaam emerged the winner of a new motorcycle with Sia Rajab from Msasani in Dar es Salaam being among 75 winners of 100,000/- cash prize.

Erick Emmanuel, NMB senior manager, finance and empowerment urged Tanzanians to utilise the ongoing campaign by conducting more transactions.

Emmanuel said that the previous phases have recorded outstanding achievements with winners coming from all corners of the country.

Speaking soon after receiving the prize, Salumu commended NMB bank saying that this is a great surprise to him.

"I advise others to continue using NMB MasterCard and get ready for the surprises, I thank NMB bank for coming with this campaign, the motorcycle will help me boost my income," he explained.



NMB Bank Kambarage branch manager, Emiliana Wilson (L) hands over a motorcycle registration card to 'Mastabata Kotekote' fourth draw motorcycle winner, Salumu Jumanne (C) at an event held at the NMB Bank Kambarage branch in Dodoma yesterday. Right is the bank's senior manager for card operations and finance, Erick Emmanuel. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Z'bar govt plans to embark on great transformation in education system

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar government intends to make great transformation in the education system and that is why it has formed a task force for the education transformation which had finished its work and presented report thereof to the Minister for Education and Vocational Education, Lela Muhammed Mussa.

Reading the report's summary at a special meeting to present the report, the task force Chairman Ahmada Rai said the report has raised various challenges that hinder the development of education in the Isles.

He said the challenges include a big shortage of teaching infrastructures in the education system and congestion of students in classes that impact on their education.

Rai said other challenges are lack of experience in the supervision of teachers, bad distribution of employment and that there are many teachers than the requirement in arts subjects and languages by more than 77 per cent or more than 150 extra teachers in that area while there is an acute shortage of science teachers by 57 per cent.

He said the lack of an institution to oversee teachers training in Zanzibar has greatly

contributed to getting unqualified teachers.

He noted that another problem they saw is in the transfer of teachers without considering the needs of various schools, many are transferred without notice, and poor benefits making many of them lack the motivation to work.

Rai further said lack of headmasters at schools with the expertise to lead their schools has also contributed to the poor education system in the Isles.

He added that poor results in national examinations reflect that students do not get the expected knowledge or skills as many students completing STD VII have no basic skills in both language and Maths and only about 30 per cent get proper skills on languages and 40 per cent in Maths, according to research.

He further said more than 80 per cent of students finishing Form IV get Division IV passes or zero and less than 20 per cent get Division I to III, hence only a handful of students finishing Form IV are able to continue with higher education.

However, he said, the task force's recommendations have addressed the challenges and have issued 280 recommendations including the amendments to both policies and laws.

## Verify registration of your simcards, TCRA reminds telecommunication services users

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) has urged users of telecommunication services to use the year-end festivities to re-check registration of their simcards, to protect themselves from online crime.

Sadath Kalolo, Head of Tele-Traffic Management at TCRA's telecommunications and internet services made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking in one of the televised programmes.

Kalolo stressed that, the exercise of verifying mobile phone lines aims to help citizens, especially users of telecommunications and internet services to be safe whenever they use communication services.

"When you verify your lines, it makes you safe as compared to someone who hasn't registered his/her simcard," he stressed.

The official said that when someone

wants to verify simcard, he/she just dial \*106 (then follow the instructions given in the menu with five types of instructions—one, two, three, four and five).

According to Kalolo, in the exercise one needs to check if the line registration has been done correctly, to check if you recognize all the registered lines using your national identification number and to formalise the numbers you own by identifying the main number and additional numbers.

He added that, once the phone user finds out the presence of foreign numbers in the check menu list, he/she should delete them immediately, by contacting the Internet service provider he uses through the number 100, or visiting the service provider's store or the agent of his Internet service provider.

He said that the simcard verification started in December this year and will continue until January 30, 2023, stressing that once the awareness campaign is completed, simcard users whose phone

numbers have not been verified will be closed as per law that requires every user of telecommunication services should register his/her line through biometrics.

Regarding users who were registered with other people's identifications for various reasons including not meeting the age criteria or missing a citizenship ID number, and thus being registered by parents, guardians, siblings, relatives and friends, TCRA directed them to make sure they get a citizenship ID number from National Identification Authority (NIDA) and register those lines with their identities because registering someone else is a crime except for a user under 18 years of age.

The authority also emphasized that young people who have already reached the age of 18 and registered their mobile phone lines with their parents or guardians should also renew the registration by obtaining the citizenship identification number, then renew the registration using the identification number.



KCB BANK

Press Release, December 14, 2022

### KCB Group Plc Completes Acquisition of DRC based Trust Merchant Bank (TMB)

KCB Group Plc has announced the completion of Trust Merchant Bank SA (TMB) after receiving all the regulatory approvals. The Group now owns 85% stake in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) based lender.

KCB Group obtained the regulatory green light in Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Congo and COMESA Competition Commission, setting the stage for the Group to acquire the 85% of the shares in TMB.

KCB Group CEO Paul Russo said the transaction will positively contribute towards KCB's increased scale of operations by establishing its presence in new markets and providing income diversification from a geographical perspective.

Further, the Transaction will enable KCB to accelerate its market presence in the DRC in the near term by leveraging on TMB's 18-year operational history, vast branch network, valuable local customer relationships and deep knowledge of local business dynamics. In addition to the core banking business of TMB, the existence of an insurance subsidiary Afrissur SA will provide opportunity for KCB to diversify its offerings in DRC's insurance sector. This Transaction will provide KCB a strategic foundation to capitalize on cross-border trade from the Indian to the Atlantic Oceans.

Through KCB's expertise and experience, this presents a good opportunity for KCB to provide to the existing customers of TMB and new customers to be acquired as a result of the Transaction, enhanced banking products that is expected to grow and embed KCB's brand in the DRC market and beyond.

"We have found a partner with a proven and trusted history of serving and supporting customers, businesses, and communities. Combining our common legacies and our complementary footprints will strengthen our ability to serve our communities and regional customers and provide solutions that make a difference in people's lives. The acquisition extends our reach by providing customers access to a larger banking network and an expanded array of services. Our shared banking philosophies will provide significant long-term value for our shareholders, employees, and customers. I am incredibly excited about this opportunity and look forward to welcoming new customers and team members to the KCB family," said Mr. Russo.

KCB Group will operate TMB with its current brand and will enhance the current business operating model with the capabilities KCB has built over time in systems and processes. This will build on the strengths of TMB and enable TMB to deliver significant incremental value by being part of KCB.

"We see significant business opportunities from this acquisition arising from delivering innovative financial services to customers, growing linkages between customers in our region and realizing operational efficiencies which will deliver tangible value to key stakeholders" said Mr Russo.

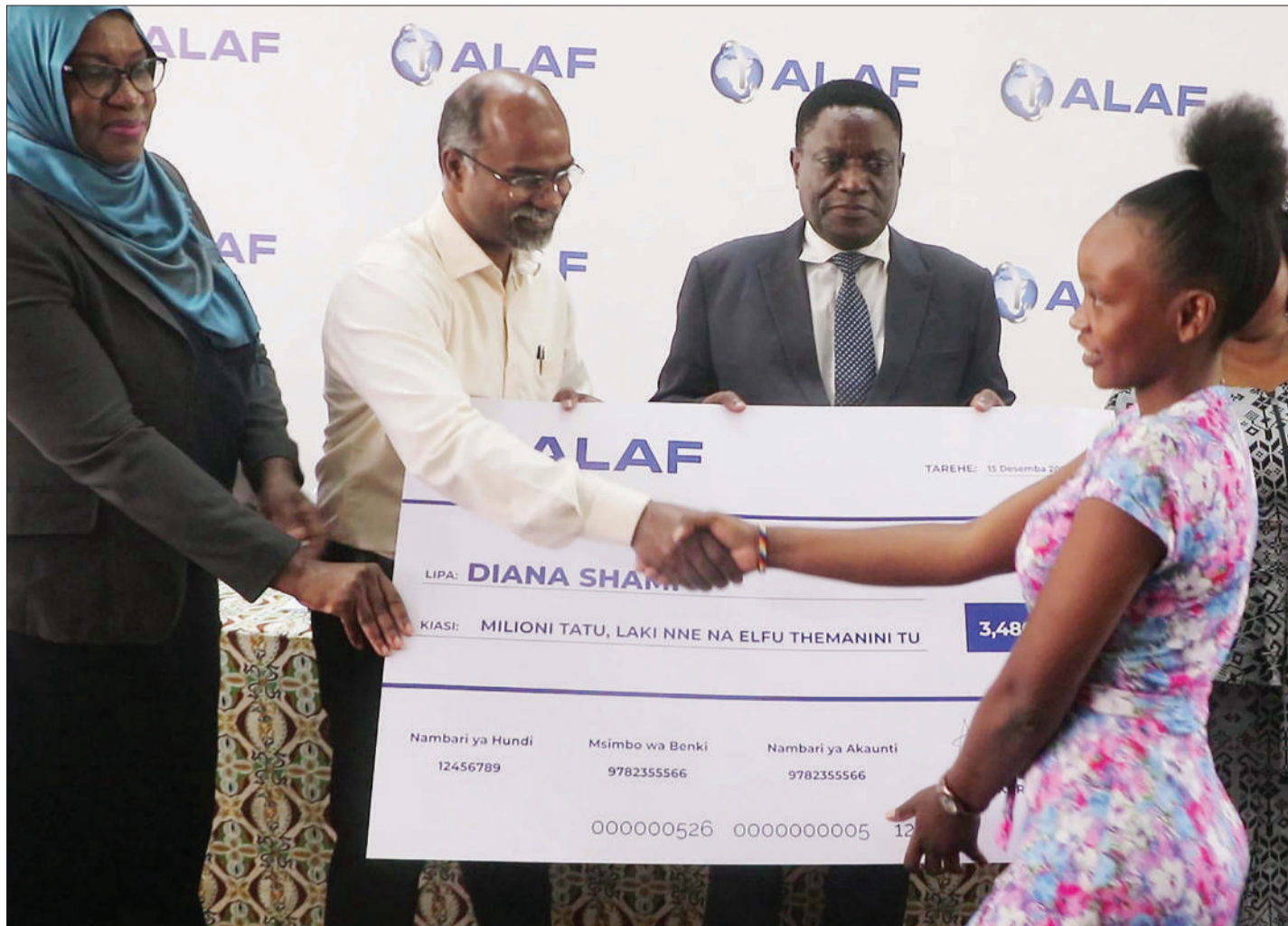
In the nine months ending September 2022, KCB Group Plc's net profit rose 21.4% to KShs.30.6 billion on the back of sustained growth from both Net interest and non-funded income lines. This was a jump from KShs.25.2 billion reported for the same period last year.

TMB is one of DRC's largest banks, with US\$1.7 billion in total assets and a strong offering in Retail, SME, Corporate and Digital banking channels. TMB's bank branch network of 109 branches is supported by a substantial agency banking network, alongside a representative office in Belgium. In the DRC, the Bank commands an 11 percent market share as measured by total assets and is home to more than one in five banks accounts in the country.

#### About KCB Group PLC

KCB Group Plc is East Africa's largest commercial Bank that was established in 1896. The Group is headquartered in Kenya, with the country serving as the lead market with two banking subsidiaries namely KCB Bank Kenya and National Bank of Kenya. Over the years, the Bank has grown and spread its wings into Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Ethiopia (Rep). Today KCB has the largest branch network in the region with 498 branches, 1,172 ATMs and over 29,810 merchants and agents offering banking services on a 24/7 basis in East Africa. Additionally, KCB Group owns KCB Bancassurance Intermediary Limited, KCB Capital Limited, KCB Foundation and Kencom House Limited as non-banking businesses. This is complemented by mobile banking and internet banking services with 24-hour contact center services for our customers to get in touch with the Bank. KCB has a vast network of correspondent relationships totaling over 200 banks across the globe, and our customers are assured of a seamless facilitation of their international trade requirements wherever they are.

For further information, please contact Christina Manyenye, Head of Marketing & Corporate Affairs; email: [cmanyenye@tz.kcbbankgroup.com](mailto:cmanyenye@tz.kcbbankgroup.com); Phone number +255 754 275 621



ALAF Limited general manager, Paul Raj (2nd L) hands over a dummy cheque worth 3,480,000/- to Diana Shami, one of the beneficiaries of the scholarships for selected students pursuing Masters in Kiswahili at the University of Dar es Salaam. Others are the University of Dar es Salaam deputy Vice Chancellor, Academics Prof. Bonaventure Rutinwa (2nd R) and ALAF Limited external affairs manager, Hawa Bayumi. The hand over ceremony was held at the varsity conference hall where three beneficiaries received the scholarships. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## ALAF supports UDSM's Kiswahili programme

By Francis Kajubi

ALUMINUM Africa Tanzania Limited (ALAF) has extended over 10m/- in sponsorship of three students at the University of Dar es Salaam to pursue Masters' degree in Kiswahili language.

The competitive, merit-based scholarship valid for the 2022/23 academic year is under the Institute of Kiswahili Studies at the university.

The scholarship covers tuition fee, accommodation, research costs, and stipend for a programme known as Master of Art in Kiswahili by coursework and dissertation.

Speaking at an event to announce the winners' names of the scholarship that was put on public for application earlier August this year, Prof Bonaventure Rutinwa deputy vice chancellor academic, said that Kiswahili promotion is a country's strategic plan and the programme complements this mission.

"This is the second phase of our partnership since 2019. It is the university's plea that ALAF considers increasing the number of students picked for this programme as reports show that the majority of applicants are interested in learning Kiswahili at Masters and PhD levels," said Rutinwa.

Dr Ramadhani Kadalla Head department of literature, communication and publishing, named the three winners as Diana Shami, Rahma Mlaguzi and Elpidius Fulgence.

According to him, in promotion of Kiswahili studies for foreigners and students from abroad, the university had since the past two years introduced a uniform tuition fee for both locals and foreigners interested in pursuing a Kiswahili degree.

"Between 2019 and 2021 a total of nine beneficiaries have been supported to pursue their Masters degree through this programme. We are encouraging students from the region and across the world to come to UDSM and learn Kiswahili at higher levels," said Dr Kadalla.

ALAF general manager Paul Raj commended the long standing partnership of his company and UDSM that has led to aspiring experts in Kiswahili language.

"At ALAF we understand the importance of Kiswahili in accelerating the economy across the region, the continent and the world over. We therefore remain committed towards enabling its growth through the scholarship as well as the annual SAFAL-Cornel Kiswahili literature awards," said Raj.

He said the roofing material manufacturer is further looking to reiterate its commitment towards the initiative and will consider everything possible to make it benefit many students in future.

ALAF is one of the largest manufacturers of roofing materials in the country with the current production of roofing iron sheets estimated at 90,000 tonnes a year.

Government owns 24 per cent shares of ALAF Limited while the rest 76 per cent is owned by Safal Group Ltd.

## Rhino died of serious gastric ulcers, not shot as publicised

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE Female Rhino from Serengeti National Park which recently died in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, is said to have been suffering from serious stomach complications and was not killed as being insinuated in social media platforms.

Officials at the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) revealed here that the Serengeti Rhino was about to be lifted onto a care taking facility for medical attention, but died before being moved into the recuperating cage built at the crater base.

They reckon that this should somehow help to clarify speculations, currently going viral on social media platforms, claiming that the Rhino was shot down by rangers who took off with its horn.

The NCAA Commissioner of Conservation, Dr Freddy Manongi dismisses the speculations as mere politics, by people not happy with ongoing relocation exercise in the Conservation Area.

Christened Susan, the Rhino who died aged 8 years, had trekked all the way from Serengeti, down to Kakesio area, in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, looking weak and weary.

It seems the animal had not eaten for a long period of time which means either the gastric problems or starvation might have driven it to succumb to death.

The Assistant Conservation Commissioner at Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Elibariki Bajuta explains that, the first time that the Rhino Susan meandered into Kakesio, they relayed reports to the Tanzania National Parks.

The Rhino was captured and taken back to Serengeti on the first day of December 2022.

However, for some reasons, or following own instincts, the animal trekked back to Ngorongoro, upon which the authorities were compelled to take different measures.

"Together with the Tanzania National Parks, we asked permission from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, to have Susan moved into the Ngorongoro Crater and be placed inside the special enclosure formerly belonging to Fausta, the oldest Rhinoceros."

But due to her illness, fatigue and hunger, the Female Rhino succumbed to death just as the steps to have her moved into the special pen in the caldera were being taken.

The pictures making rounds in social media and other online news platforms, showing the mutilated dead Rhino's carcass, are said to have been taken during post-mortem dissection.

"Wildlife experts and Veterinary officers from Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI), Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and the Ngorongoro Conservation were present during the autopsy which was performed on open grounds," explains Bajuta.

He adds that during the exercise many people turned up to watch and some took photos using smartphones and shared it with speculations that rangers killed the Rhino.



**Wildlife experts and Veterinary officers from TAWIRI, TANAPA and the Ngorongoro Conservation were present during the autopsy which was performed on open grounds**

This announcement has been approved by the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA)



### NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE LIMITED ("NBC")

(Incorporated in Tanzania under the Companies Act. (Cap 212), Act No 12 of 2002 of the Laws of Tanzania as a limited liability company (certificate of incorporation number 32700)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### NBC TWIGA BOND: PUBLIC OFFER RESULTS AND ALLOCATION ANNOUNCEMENT

National Bank of Commerce Limited ("NBC" or "Issuer") hereby announces that the Capital Markets and Securities Authority ("CMSA"), in the exercise of its powers under the Capital Markets and Securities Act (Chapter 79 of the Laws of Tanzania) on 31 October 2022 approved the issuance of NBC Twiga Bond worth TZS 30 billion being the 1st tranche of NBC's TZS 300 billion Medium Term Note Programme.

#### STATUS OF THE PUBLIC OFFER

NBC Twiga Bond's offer opened on 7 November 2022 and closed on 6 December 2022. Following the closing date, NBC is pleased to announce that it received applications for Notes worth Tanzania Shillings 38.9, which is 130 percent of the issued amount of Tanzanian Shillings 30 billion.

#### APPROVAL TO INCREASE THE GREENSHOE OPTION AMOUNT

NBC received approval from CMSA to issue Tanzania Shillings 30 billion with a green shoe option of an additional Tanzania Shillings 20 billion. Following receiving applications worth Tanzanian Shillings 38,911,200,000, representing a subscription level of 130%, NBC will accept all bids received for the Twiga Bond.

#### RESULTS OF THE PUBLIC OFFER

A summary of the key result statistics of the offer (the "Offer") are set out below:

Issuer	National Bank of Commerce Limited
Description	Medium-Term Note Programme
Tenor	Five years
Status	Senior, unsecured, fixed-rate notes
Tranche Number	01
Series Number	NBC-TB/FXD01/2022/05*
Issue Date	14 Disemba 2022
Total Revised Amount Offered (TZS)	30,000,000,000 (na ongezeko la shilingi 8,911,200,000)
Total Bids Received (TZS)	38,911,200,000
Performance rate (%)	130%
The total amount accepted (TZS)	38,911,200,000
Interest rate	10.0% per annum
Issue price	Par
Minimum denomination	TZS 500,000 (with integral multiples of TZS 100,000)
Use of proceeds	The net proceeds from the NBC Twiga Bond will be used to lend to retail, small and medium-sized businesses, agricultural activities, businesses whose products and services directly impact women and youth, and local and multinational corporations.

#### ALLOCATION POLICY

Given the subscription level of 130%, NBC has:

- Decided to exercise the Greenshoe option, making the amount available for allocation sum up to TZS 38,911,200,000, and
- accepted all valid applications received. Applicants will therefore receive 100% allocation.

#### CLARIFICATIONS

In need of any further clarifications, applicants are advised to consult their stockbroker or NBC (email: nbctwigabonds@nbc.co.tz or +255 800 711 177) regarding your application.

#### SALIENT DATES

Please see below the salient dates following the offer close:

DESCRIPTION	DATE
Notification Date (via email/telephone)	4:00 PM on Monday, 19 December 2022
Payment Date (for qualified institutional investors only)	2:00 PM on Tuesday, 14 December 2022
Issue Date	Tuesday, 14 December 2022
CDS Account upload date	On or before Monday, 19 December 2022
Listing date	Tuesday 20 December 2022

#### APPRECIATION

The management of National Bank of Commerce Limited wishes to thank all entities that made this landmark bond issuance possible. These include the Board and Management of the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA); the Board and Management of the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE); NBC's Lead Transaction Advisor and Sponsoring Broker, Tanzania Securities Limited & Optima Corporate Finance; Legal Advisors Lawhill & Co. Advocates; Reporting Accountants, Deloitte & Touche; Registrar and Fiscal/Calculating/Paying/Transfer Agent, CSD & Registry Company Limited.

#### Issued by:

The Managing Director, National Bank of Commerce Limited,  
NBC House, Azikiwe Street/Sokoine Drive,  
P. O. Box 1863, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

DATE: 14 December 2022

Disclaimer: This announcement has been issued with the approval of the Capital Markets and Securities Authority pursuant to the Capital Markets and Securities (Advertisements) Regulations, G.N. No. 15 of 1997.

## Tanzania prepared well for this year's Universal Health coverage ceremonies

TANZANIA joined other countries around the world in marking the International Universal Health Coverage Day (UHC Day), which in our case there is already a lot to talk about, if not to celebrate. On a day to focus on universal health care, the proof that the day is of intense relevance to us is the fact that we are in the midst of discussion on the same subject. That means we are focused on precisely what the day is all about, as without doubt not all countries are engrossed in the same effort.

Activists in the United Nations system especially the World Health Organisation (WHO) have this year worked to map out the theme 'Build the world we want: A healthy future for all.' It is a day decided on 12th December 2012 by the United Nations General Assembly, endorsing a resolution urging countries to accelerate progress toward universal health coverage. The basic idea is that everyone and in all places should have access to quality, affordable health care. Five years later, on 12th December 2017, the United Nations proclaimed 12 December as International Universal Health Coverage Day, to reinforce commitment to the earlier resolution.

A United Nations chronicler says that international days are occasions to educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems, and to celebrate and reinforce achievements of humanity. As a matter of fact the existence of international days predates the establishment of the United Nations, but the UN has embraced them as a powerful advocacy tool. In that case the marking of this Day increases the resolve to pursue the country's universal health coverage policy to a workable conclusion; it emboldens the will.

The chronicler says the UHC Day aims to raise awareness of the need for strong and resilient health systems enabling universal health coverage, by working with a whole series of partners. While this parameter is an essential element of the global dialogue on the issue, it must be noted that multi-stakeholder initiatives are more feasible with pandemics, for instance HIV/AIDS and lately the Covid-19 global calamity. When it comes to non-communicable diseases, the intermingling ends.

So this commemoration had distinctive components at an international and local levels specifically, where internationally we have plenty to celebrate together in relation to global commitment to fight HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in particular, as well as adequate supplies of COVID-19 vaccines.

This isn't what we can share out at the non-communicable disease level, where the spirit of marking this Day can only serve as the background to reliving such promise at the local level. It is up to the government and stakeholders to find workable tax formulas; where the sums don't add up, deduct the most expensive but least expensive needs.

We can for instance take promise from global communication reminders that UHC advocates raise their voices to share the stories of the millions of people still waiting for health service access adequately, on some complicated diseases. We can definitely champion what we have achieved so far, especially in the building of health facilities all over the country. To adapt the chronicler's formulation, we urge unions and government officials to reach workable settlements for reasonably well provided universal health care access. It is the highest they can aim for at present.

## Winning serial country's' quality tourism sector prizes good start

ONCE again, a standards organisation with the European Union has marked out the country's tourism sector for noticeable accolades, as the Quality Choice Diamond Prize for 2022 issued by the European Society for Quality Research (ESQR) has lately been handed to Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA). ESQR CEO Michael Harris told a gala dinner and award giving ceremony at a unique spot in Brussels, the meeting centre of European executives of all shades and colours. This is the third prize ESQR has issued to TANAPA in as many years.

Checking out in global online entries leaves no doubt that ESQR is a credible organisation, and thus the prizes it offers are to be taken seriously. As it is also the case with periodic awards in the banking sector, a good number of such prizes are directed at companies or organisations that are fairly youthful on the global scene and are making genuine efforts at stamping their presence in the market. The prizes help to bring attention of sector stakeholders to a newcomer, or relatively well established firm, that on the whole it is helpful if they take notice of that enterprise.

Needless to say, the conservation agency was awarded by ESQR in its annual recognition of top companies, public administrations and organisations which excel in their services or products, pushing the limits of quality with innovations. ESQR said award winning entities were recognized for their hard work and commitment to quality, in the presence of scores of international business representatives. Prized firms are selected by ESQR from ESQR polls, consumer opinion and market research, confirming TANAPAS

rise in the pre-pandemic and post-pandemic quality endeavour and rising international recognition for this.

In 2020, TANAPA bagged ESQR's best practice gold award and in 2021 it obtained the quality achievement platinum prize. The quality choice diamond accolade has now followed, with its management upbeat that efforts to conserve the vast wildness for flora and fauna in 22 national parks is being recognized. To conservation per se is tied customized tourism services, innovation and experience, that the world is now recognising. It is easy to fall back in complete satisfaction.

That is decidedly not what TANAPA ought to do at the moment, as there is still a higher prize to obtain, and that will not be delivered by a standards body as such, but real travelers. The conservation agency plans to climb from nearly two million tourist arrivals at present to five million, anywhere starting from 2025. Chances are that it will take more than 'The Royal Tour' and quality recognition to win as many travelers in a world market that is mired in uncertainty, to say the very least.

TANAPA and other conservation agencies can take a leaf from railway transport and housing or construction firms by seeking out the participation of foreign stakeholders in its large number of assets and attractions. For TANAPA as a single organisation to market 22 national parks is next to impossible to attain optimal mention of each of them where it matters. Marketing the Ngorongoro Crater isn't the same as marketing the Serengeti, before one proceeds to Katavi or Saadani. If foreign travel firms obtain leaseholds and TANAPA retain a regulatory function, visitations could skyrocket.

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## Africa's perfect energy cocktail for power sufficiency

By June Njoroge

FOR Africa to become energy sufficient, it needs to explore all its options to cater to the needs of its 1.3B people.

One of the major roadblocks that have thwarted economic productivity and growth in Africa has been gaping energy deficits.

Another of Africa's paradoxes, that whilst the continent is endowed with numerous abundant resources for power generation, it has barely benefited from this advantage. Over 640 million Africans have no access to energy, corresponding to an electricity access rate for African countries at just over 40 per cent. This is the lowest in the world, according to the African Development Bank (AfDB).

Additionally, 900 Africans million lack access to clean cooking facilities. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), only 28 per cent of health facilities in Sub-Saharan Africa have access to affordable and reliable power.

A report by the AfDB indicates that insufficient energy access manifests itself in innumerable ways. It handicaps the operations of hospitals, compromises educational attainment and drives up the cost of doing business on the continent. Conversely, energy access for all is one of the key drivers of inclusive growth as it unlocks economic potential and creates jobs both in rural and urban areas.

The crisis has further been aggravated by the Russian-Ukraine conflict, which has disrupted global energy supply chains and Africa has not been left unscathed.

Inarguably energy is at the core of Africa's development to drive industrialization and upgrade critical sectors such as health, education, infrastructure and manufacturing. African countries have been striving to address this 'energy trilemma', exploring all options to find balance between security, affordability and sustainability; whilst seeking to build a sustainable market across the continent.

Just how can Africa rise up to seal these massive deficits and become energy sufficient in order to steer economic growth?

Being extremely vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, Africa has come under pressure to make a green transition by fully adopting renewable sources. Fossil fuels including oil, coal, and natural gas still supply about 80% of the world's energy. So how can Africa with its massive energy gap just flip a switch and unplug fossil fuels as a key energy source? Undoubtedly, gas needs to be part of Africa's just energy transition to ensure that its 54 economies are not jeopardized at the expense of energy sustainability.

For Africa to become energy sufficient, it needs to explore all its options to cater to the needs of its 1.3B people. The AU adopted the 'African Common Position on Energy Access and Just Transition,' during the 41st Ordinary Session of the Executive Council. This is a comprehensive approach that charts Africa's short, medium, and long-term energy development pathways to accelerate universal energy access and transition without compromising its development imperatives.

In addition, it stipulates that Africa will continue to deploy all forms of its abundant energy resources, including renewables and non-renewables energy to address demand. Natural gas, green and low carbon hydrogen and nuclear energy, will therefore be expected to play a crucial role in expanding modern energy access in the short to medium term. In the long-term, the uptake of renewables will be enhanced for low carbon and climate resilient trajectory. Into the bargain, AfDB prioritizes renewable energy but acknowledges that fossil fuels will remain an important part of the overall energy mix, as is the case with several developed economies. In response the Bank is financing state of the art technology to minimize emissions.

A key ongoing initiative that has been attempting to seal this gap, is the AfDB's 'Light up Africa,' listed among the strategic priority areas of its 'High 5s' initiative, to help the continent achieve universal electricity access by 2025. Power Africa which collaborates with African governments and the private sector is another critical initiative. It aims to expand access to electricity to health facilities across the region. It's an American initiative that was launched in 2013 by the then incumbent US President Barack Obama in Tanzania. It aims to support economic growth and development by increasing access to reliable, affordable and sustainable power in Africa.

The Power Africa Off-Grid Project has awarded US\$3,070,650 in grant funding, to electrify more than 250 health facilities in ten countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. In October 2021, Power Africa transferred US\$500,000 of Maternal Child Health funding, to electrify seven large health facilities in Uganda and Malawi using solar energy installations. During the 2021 UN High-level Dialogue on Energy, Power Africa joined more than a dozen organizations to launch a Multilateral Energy Compact for Health Facility Electrification; with a goal to electrify 25,000 health facilities with clean and reliable power solutions by 2025.

To boot, the World Bank project dubbed, 'Lighting Africa Programme', which is part of the Bank's 'Sustainable Energy for All' initiative, a mandate to bring energy to the planet by 2030; has seen 32 million Africans gain access to energy, often through off-

grid solar products. Similarly, the bank has supported solar projects and programmes in other countries in West Africa and the Sahel region including Burkina Faso, Togo, Guinea, CAR, Sierra Leone, Niger, Mali, Mauritania, Chad, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, and Senegal among others.

During the recent Africa Energy Week (AEW) held under the theme, 'Exploring and Investing in Africa's Energy Future while Driving an Enabling Environment' in South Africa, Team Energy Africa launched the Africa Energy Market Dashboard. The chief objective of the dashboard is to provide energy financiers and developers with access to how African energy investments are being utilized.

The New Deal on Energy for Africa by AfDB, is built on five inter-related and mutually reinforcing principles which include, raising aspirations to solve Africa's energy challenges; mobilizing domestic and international capital for innovative financing in Africa's energy sector; supporting African governments in strengthening energy policy, regulation and sector governance; establishing a transformative partnership on energy for Africa and increasing the Bank's investments in energy and climate financing.

Attaining Africa's energy sufficiency via non-renewables

Harnessing the power of non-renewables is one path that Africa should continue to pursue in order to attain energy security and realize its developmental goals. The ongoing Russia-Ukraine war has put African oil and gas on the global map. The conflict has disrupted energy supply chains across the world and in tandem they have been seeking alternative sources of energy. Europe has especially borne the brunt of its reliance on Russian gas, and has been keen to break this dependence.

Consequently, oil and gas producing countries have come under EU's radar. Stalled gas projects have been reopened and the once so-called 'risky' investments have been flowing, to facilitate gas production to seal the gaps in the global energy market. New pipelines are being developed, whilst some ageing ones are being revamped to export oil and gas. Italy signed a US\$4 billion gas deal with Algeria in July, a month after Egypt reached an agreement with the European Union and Israel to boost sales of LNG. Angola also has signed a gas deal with Italy.

According to a recent Rystad Energy report, African nations are well placed to scale up their exports in gas supplies to Europe. Moreover, it indicates that Africa is likely to reach peak gas production capacity by 2030; at 470Bcm, 75% of Russia's 2022 production capacity. Africa's oil and natural gas-producing countries such as Mozambique, Nigeria, Libya, Egypt, Cameroon, DRC, Angola, Namibia,

Algeria, Ghana, Gabon, Mozambique, Equatorial Guinea among others; have an invaluable window of opportunity, to contribute largely to the global energy landscape. Given that Africa is already in possession of existing pipelines connected with the wider European gas grid, across the Mediterranean, the traditional oil and gas suppliers in the continent have an upper hand in tapping into European markets, and well poised to scale up their exports. Pipeline exports to Europe from Africa run through Algeria into Spain and from Libya into Italy.

Some key ongoing projects include the Greater Tortue Ahmeyim (GTA) LNG project offshore Mauritania and Senegal whose production is set for 2023, with the GTA LNG cargo targeted for 2024. Between 2014 and 2017, an estimated 15 trillion cubic feet of gas were found in the waters of the two West African nations. The region is a future hub of world LNG production. The figures indicate that production can continue for at least thirty years. Mozambique is bound to become a major LNG exporter. Eni an Italian firm established a platform in the Indian Ocean offshore, away from the violence in Cabo Delgado, making it the first floating facility in the deep waters off Africa, with gas liquefaction capacity of 3.4 million tons per year. According to Africa Energy, the platform is already operational.

The proposed construction of the Nigeria-Morocco Gas Pipeline (NMGPP) touted as vital for the economic integration of both the West and North Africa, is on course. Both heads of state of Morocco and Nigeria, renewed their commitment to proceed with the construction.

The project is a regional onshore and offshore gas pipeline which is projected to transport natural gas resources along the Atlantic Coast, traversing the maritime areas of 15 West and North African countries, and crossing over to Europe. The 5,660-kilometer-long pipeline will ferry Nigerian gas to every West African coastline, ending at Tangiers in Morocco and Cadiz in Spain. It's an extension of the already existing West African Gas Pipeline (WAGP), which has been pumping gas from Nigeria to Ghana, Benin and Togo since 2010.

The construction of three multinational oil and gas pipeline systems measuring over 6,500km, is an effort to revolutionize energy access by boosting oil and gas supply. The network will be shared by Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Chad, DRC and Angola. Into the bargain, the network is projected to comprise of at least three refineries and gas-fired power plants, liquefied natural gas terminals and storage depots. The East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), is another planned 1,443 km pipeline that is expected to be built between oil fields in western Uganda, to the port of Tanga in Tanzania.



# Man who defeated mental health breakdown demystifies stigma

By Correspondent Abdallah Bakari, Mtwara

**A**HMAID Rashid stunned his friends when he recovered from what is mostly viewed here as the end of the road for a victim-mental health breakdown. When the 37-year-old arrived at his former work station with his motorcycle ready to resume work, his fellow bodaboda riders couldn't believe their eyes.

The husband and father of two who is resident of Reli Street in Mtwara-Mikindani Municipality had been working as a bodaboda rider at Villa Park stage since January 2012 with his colleagues.

All was well until April 2013 when he suffered a psychosis which saw his life turn upside-down within minutes. Because this mental health problem causes patients to perceive or interpret things differently from those around them, his friends and relatives knew that it was over for him as some many here link such complicated conditions to witchcraft.

Speaking in an interview recently, he said his predicament started one evening when he felt severe headache then started to see things as being done differently and tried to correct them while in reality all was well.

"I shouted several times to stop people around



**Ahmad Rashid (second right) suffered a mental condition but sought help, recovered and rejoined his fellow bodaboda operators at Villa Park centre in Mtwara-Mikindani municipality. Photo/Abdallah Bakari**

me from doing things the wrong way", he recalled.

"In one incident, I beat my wife in an attempt to stop her from doing something dangerous (while there was no such thing) then a group of people came and stopped me."

He narrated that most of these people who held him were familiar with him and he could not understand why they were defending someone who was doing something dangerous instead of him.

"Some of them beat me in the process of restraining me; I felt pain and whenever I tried to complain nobody seemed to care as I was violent," he said.

"So, I was enduring two severe pains: one from the headache and another from beatings. They took ropes and tied my hands and legs so tight that I can't even shake myself."

He was then left to sleep with ropes around his body that night until next

morning as his pleas to be released or ropes loosened fell on deaf ears.

For, he had poured hot water on his wife who fled for her dear life and left him in the hands of relatives who did not care about his pleas. They just didn't see him harm someone else.

Because many believed that there was someone's hand in his condition, the next course of action that morning was to rush him to a witchdoctor in the neighboring Mkangala village.

"When I arrived at the witchdoctor's with my ropes, he ordered that I be freed and when that was done he started treating me," he said.

"But after some hours of taking the medicine, I saw things being done the wrong way even in a faster pace and to rescue the situation, I started beating up everyone including the healer himself."

He recalled that it was

known that he was violent; a group of people came and contained him violently.

"This containment was worse than the first at home as they beat me up until I sustained injuries all over my body. They took ropes and the healer ordered that I be tied on a big tree and they did just that," he said.

"Nobody came to see me under the tree for several days except the healer. After realizing that there was no relief, my mother came for me and the witchdoctor allowed me to leave."

He said with ropes on hand and legs he was taken to Ligula Referral Hospital where ropes were removed and he was given an injection which induced a very good sleep after days of sleeplessness.

"When I woke up, I found myself in a room with a closed door; I tried to break the window by hand but I failed," he recalled.

"Later a doctor came and gave me another injection

and other medicines which gave me huge relief and the next morning I started feeling normal mentally except the pain from injuries I sustained in the beatings."

Rashid said that he continued with the subscribed medications and he now feels fine and his wife and children have rejoined and community members trust him again.

His only concern is misconceptions about mental health which delay treatment for many. He is now an ambassador who encourages people with mental health issues to come out and seek help in medical facilities and not traditional healers.

"If they sent me directly to hospital the moment my behaviour changed, I would not have gone through the harassment of causing pain to others and my own mistreatment," he said.

Abdul Namanolo, Villa Park bodaboda centre chairman said that members have become more aware of mental health challenges due to what their colleague Rashid went through, adding that they were stunned that he fully recovered and resumed work.

Robert Lilungulu, in-charge of Ligula Mental Health Care Unit admitted to have treated Rashid who he is still monitoring, adding it is not an isolated case as there are many patients who have been treated there and fully recovered.

"From July 2021 TO June 2022 there were 735

reported cases OUT of whom 332 were males and 403 females and 100 psychosis patients have recovered and rejoined their families," he said.

Acting Mtwara Regional Medical Officer Dr Frank Omollo said that in three years, data collected through Out Patient Department (OPD) reporting system indicate the declining of the problem in the region from 5,867 cases in 2019 to 3,038 in 2021.

He added that 6,725 patients were reported under major mental illnesses (psychosis) and the rest 6,265 were under minor mental illnesses (neurosis) out of 12,990 total cases reported in 2019/2021.

"Out of 6,725 patents with psychosis 3,156 were male and 3,569 were female while of neurosis cases 2,551 were males and 3,714 were female. The figures give us a clear picture on how mental illnesses are a serious problem in our area," he said.

Dr Goodluck Tumaini, National Coordinator for Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in the Ministry of Health, services for mental health disorders should be delivered close to communities as numbers go up.

"The ministry is looking for possible ways to deliver mental health services at community level; currently services are offered from district hospitals and above," he said.

Tanzania is one of the

countries battling mental burden exacerbated by the fact that this is a neglected subject because of stigma around it driven largely by misinformation.

To break the silence induced by the stigma, in October this year Tanzania held the first-ever national mental health dialogue in Dar es Salaam in commemoration of the World Mental Health Day 2022.

Also, the country is set to implement the Framework to Implement the Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan in the World Health Organization (WHO) African Region to ascertain the actual burden in the country.

According to WHO's World Mental Health Report launched in June this year, in 2019, one in eight people globally had a mental disorder, making approximately 970 million people. Additionally, one in 100 deaths globally resulted from suicides, with is more than 50 per cent of the cases occurring before 50 years.

Suicide is the fourth most prominent cause of mortality among 15 to 29-year-olds. Childhood sexual abuse and bullying contributed considerably to the loss of active life due to mental health. People with mental illness are susceptible to widespread stigma and misinformation, and may lose life 10 to 20 years earlier than the general population.

# Unsustainable infrastructure threatens biodiversity

MONTREAL

**C**reated in 2016, the Mexican Caribbean Biosphere Reserve (MCBR) hosts 1900 species of animals and plants and contains half of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System, the second largest in the world after Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

This ecosystem is under pressure from the construction of two of the seven routes of the Maya Train (TM), the Mexican government's flagship megaproject, whose construction, which began in 2020, alters the environment of the Maya Forest, the largest tropical rainforest in Latin America after the Amazon.

This is recognized in two technical reports obtained in Mexico by IPS through public information requests, which state that, although the project is outside the marine area itself, it is located within its zone of influence.

Regarding the 257-km section 4, a document from October 2021 acknowledges the impact on two high priority hydrological regions.

And with respect to the impact on the 110-km section 5, another document dated from May 2022 states that "there is no previous study or information on the monitoring and sampling sites. The presence and state of the fauna that inhabit the trees are unknown."

The MCBR administration recognizes impacts on two priority marine re-

gions and on the coastline of the southeastern state of Quintana Roo, which is protected by the reserve.

For this reason, the MCBR refused to issue a technical opinion on section 5 due to lack of "sufficient information and elements" and, for T4, issued an opinion that demanded the presentation of additional data and prevention, management, and oversight measures.

Despite the impact that the railroad will have in the region, the government's National Fund for Tourism Development (Fonatur) did not request reports from at least four other nature reserves.

Fonatur will be in charge of the TM, which will run for some 1,500 kilometers, with 21 stations and 14 stops, through five states in southern and southeastern Mexico.

The case of the railway exemplifies the contradictions between the attempt to protect nature and the development of infrastructure that sabotages that aim, a theme present at the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which began on Dec. 7 in the Canadian city of Montreal and is due to end on Dec. 19.

Moreover, the railway's cost of some 15 billion dollars is classified as forming part of the harmful subsidies to biodiversity, which total 542 billion dollars a year globally. The investment needed for the conservation and sustainable use of nature is estimated at 967 billion



**Francis Ogwal (L) of Uganda and Basile van Havre (C) of Canada, co-chairs of the group responsible for drafting the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, explain the status of negotiations at the Palais des Congrès in Montreal on Dec. 14, 2022. Discussions are entering the final stretch to approve the new biodiversity protection targets. CREDIT: Emilio Godoy/IPS**

dollars a year.

In the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, which is due to be adopted at the summit, one of the main 21 measures being negotiated is called in UN jargon 30x30: the protection of 30 percent of the planet's marine and terrestrial areas through conservation measures by 2030, in an attempt to halt the loss of biodiversity on the planet.

The plan has attracted support from more than 100 countries but has awakened distrust among indigenous peoples, who have suffered from the imposition of natural protected areas without due information and consultation.

The summit, which has brought together some 15,000 people representing governments, non-governmental organizations, academia, international organizations and companies, will also discuss the post-2020 global framework, financing for conservation and guidelines on digital sequencing of genetic material, degraded ecosystems, protected areas, endangered species,

the role of corporations and gender equality.

The 196 States Parties to the CBD, in force since 1993 and whose slogan at this year's COP is "Ecological civilization. Building a shared future for all life on earth", have not yet agreed in Montreal on the percentage of the oceans that should be protected and whether it should include waters under international jurisdiction.

The global framework is to succeed the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, adopted in 2010 in that Japanese city during the CBD COP10 and due to be met by 2020, which have failed. Target II stipulated the protection of 17 percent of terrestrial areas and inland waters and 10 percent of marine and coastal areas.

Manuel Pulgar Vidal of Peru, WWF global leader of Climate and Energy, who is attending COP15, said the problem lies in the regulation of protected areas.

"Nations such as Colombia, Ecuador and Chile have strengthened the system of natural areas. But in general

the systems are weak and need to be reinforced, and money, staff and regulations are needed," he told IPS.

Mexico has 185 protected areas, covering almost 91 million hectares -19 percent of the national territory-, six of which are marine areas, encompassing 69 million hectares. Despite their importance, the Mexican government dedicated less than one dollar per hectare to their protection in 2022.

In addition, management plans have not been updated to cover works such as the Maya Train.

Colombia, meanwhile, protects 15 percent of its territory in 1,483 protected areas covering 35.5 million hectares, including 12 million hectares in marine areas.

Chile, for its part, has 106 protected areas covering 15 million hectares of land - 20 percent of the total surface area - and 105 million hectares in the sea, in 22 of the conservation areas.

Among the 49 governments that make up the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for Nature and People, aimed at promoting

30x30, are 10 Latin American countries: Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru.

Of the 586 commitments that organizations, companies and individuals have already made voluntarily at COP15, held at the Palais des Congrès in Montreal, only 93 deal with marine, coastal and freshwater ecosystems, while 294 address terrestrial ecosystem conservation and restoration; 185 involve alliances and partnerships; and climate change adaptation and emission reductions are the focus of 155.

Aleksandar Rankovic of the international NGO Avaaz said the key challenge goes beyond a specific protection figure.

"The hows are not in the debate. It's up to each country how it will implement it. It's left to each country to decide what's appropriate. There is little openness on how to achieve the goals," the activist from the U.S.-based organization dedicated to citizen activism on issues of global interest, such

as biodiversity, told IPS.

Only eight percent of the world's oceans are protected and only seven percent are protected from fishing activities. Avaaz calls for the care of 50 percent of marine and terrestrial areas, with the direct participation of indigenous peoples.

The protection of marine areas is tied to other international instruments, such as the Global Ocean Treaty, which nations have been negotiating since 2018 within the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and which aims to protect 30 percent of these ecosystems by 2030.

Pulgar Vidal, for his part, called for the approval of the 30x30 scheme. "Implementing these initiatives takes time. And you need an international financing mechanism," he stressed.

In Rankovic's view, a strong global framework is needed. "The issue is broader, because fisheries are not well regulated. Without this, marine areas will be part of a weak program," he warned.

COP15 has also coincided with the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the 4th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, both components of the CBD and part of its architecture for preserving biodiversity.

# COP15: Impact of mega infrastructure projects on biodiversity stay off-radar

Montreal

As the COP entered its crucial second week, negotiations are intensifying now. A slew of new contact groups - meeting mostly behind closed doors - are discussing the minutest details of the Global Biodiversity Framework and the contentious issues within or around it, such as Digital Sequencing Information, Access, and Benefit Sharing. The core aim of all these groups is to talk and resolve all issues and produce a draft treaty that will be acceptable to all parties.

In this flurry of activities, however, there's an elephant in the room that no one wants to see: The impact of mega infrastructural projects on biodiversity. Leading the table of these most impacting mega projects is the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of China - the president of COP15.

## BRI: A Mammoth Project Like No Other

China launched BRI in 2013, intending to revive and strengthen its trade links with the rest of the world. Today, it's a mammoth project involving several regions of Asia, Africa and Europe with plans to construct roads, railways, ports, and, more recently, health, digital, and space projects, building physical and economic links, enhancing trade and interconnectivity. It is, however, not a single Chinese government initiative but consists of many different projects in multiple countries, financed through multiple avenues, including Chinese and international banks and investment funds.

According to a 2019 paper published by the Center for Economics and Business Research (CEBR), the BRI was likely to boost world GDP by \$7.1 trillion annually within the next two decades. The Information Office of the Chinese government also reports that BRI has created more than 244,000 jobs for locals abroad.

However, a vast majority of BRI projects require the use of Chinese companies, labour, and raw materials, meaning the GDP gains from BRI will go to the Chinese 'locals,' not to the locals of the countries in which China has invested.

## An Ambition Vehicle or a Debt Trap

Today, at least sixty-four countries fall within its ambit, and the number is increasing. The terrestrial route of BRI aims to cut across Central Asia, Russia, India, Pakistan and Europe, and the maritime route runs along the coast of Asia, East Africa, and Europe.

However, many of these small countries saw themselves falling into mounting debts. The first is Sri Lanka which recently plunged into a financial crisis from debts owed to China for highways, ports, airports, and a coal power plant. Sri Lanka owes China lenders over \$7.4 billion - 20% of its total foreign debt. Other countries following the footsteps of Sri Lanka are Kyrgyzstan and Montenegro; while Kyrgyzstan owes 40% of its foreign debt, including \$1.8 billion to Chinese lenders, the European Union (EU) refused to pay off a \$1 billion Chinese loan for the BRI but has offered help on other infrastructure projects.

The financial crisis put aside, the implication of the BRI on the region's biodiversity is



Activists at COP15 believe that keeping infrastructure off the radar is a problem and have expressed concern about the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of China which impacts on biodiversity hotspots and indigenous communities. Credit: Stella Paul/IPS

huge as it includes many different environmentally important areas such as protected areas, key landscapes, Global 200 Ecoregions (a list of ecoregions identified by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) as priorities for conservation), and biodiversity hotspots that cover the distribution range of flagship species. In fact, the study found that 32% of the total area of all protected areas in countries crossed by BRI corridors were potentially affected by the project. There are also areas that are important for delivering ecosystem services that provide social and economic benefits to people.

According to a geospatial study done by WWF, which examined the environmental impacts of BRI, the initiative will affect 1,700 biodiversity hotspots, threaten 265 species, and potentially introduce hundreds of alien species that threaten these fragile ecosystems.

The BRI corridors also overlap with 1,739 Important Bird Areas or Key Biodiversity Areas and 46 biodiversity hotspots or Global 200 Ecoregions. This is in addition to the range of 265 IUCN threatened species, including 39 critically endangered species and 81 endangered species - including saiga antelopes, tigers and giant pandas.

According to Allie Constantine, Gender and Indigenous rights Advisor to Global Forest Coalition, there is still no impact assessment on how the BRI affects women, and China has not released data on gender and the BRI. However, given that China has signed and ratified most UN human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Elimination of

all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Goal 5 being "Gender Equality"), the country is obliged to report on gender impacts of BRI projects it operates.

While China's 14th Five-Year plan discusses women's equality and gender rights, there is no indication of how China will implement or enforce this within the BRI.

"However, even without this data, we can still make certain inferences regarding gendered impacts," says Constantine, who recently conducted a study on the impact of BRI on women and indigenous peoples in Southeast Asia.

The study reveals that BRI's expansion through important ecological corridors, including Chinese-backed hydropower projects built along the Mekong River that cause changes in river flow, directly puts specific communities and fragile ecosystems at risk. In turn, this impacts fish migrations and creates a further loss of livelihoods for downstream communities in Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam that rely on the river for sustenance.

It also says that specific BRI projects often negatively affect indigenous and forest communities. For example, the Indigenous Mah Meri community in Malaysia is frequently harmed by government processes, including the development of BRI ports in Mah Meri territories. Although Malaysia supports the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), it frequently acts against Indigenous land and human rights, Constantine's study reveals.

## Greening or Greenwashing

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, China has been intensifying "Green BRI" efforts, including research on how to make BRI projects more environmentally sound. For example, in 2021, the Chinese ministries of Foreign Commerce and Ecology and Environment released "Green Development Guidelines." China has also committed to ending coal-fired power plants and investing in renewable energy sources.

Speaking to IPS, Li Shuo, Global Policy Advisor at Greenpeace East Asia, said that within China, there is a growing concern over the country's investment overseas, especially in high-carbon projects such as coal plants.

"It's a little hard to say if BRI is a good thing or a bad thing for the local economy or local environment. You have to look at it on a case-by-case basis," says Shuo. "But there is a clear recognition that some of the BRI projects are quite problematic from an environmental point of view. I think there is a realization from the Chinese side as well, and that is why a year ago, there was this Chinese commitment to not fund coal-fired power projects. The announcement was made in September 2021 in the UN General Assembly."

Shuo, however, says that there is still no such recognition or public debate when it comes to biodiversity.

"There is a recognition that China should not invest in high-carbon projects, so there is a slow transition, but on the other hand, where biodiversity is feeding into all these,

I think you are in need of more recognition on the Chinese side on the biodiversity implications of the BRI projects. I think climate recognition is slowly getting there but not necessarily on biodiversity. And if you think about it, a lot of the infrastructural projects will have a negative footprint," Shuo says.

Observers at COP15, however, are saying that with many destructive projects under the BRI, such as large dams built along the Mekong River, which also threaten biodiversity, forests, and forest communities - simply defunding coal and investing in other potentially harmful projects is not the solution.

## Exclusion of Infrastructure in GBF

Infrastructure has not been included in the current biodiversity draft framework. On Dec 8, at a side event of the ongoing COP15, Amy Fraenkel, Executive Secretary, Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), expressed alarm that infrastructure is not addressed in the GBF.

Highlighting that migratory species must be able to reach new habitats, she noted the CMS tackles threats posed to these species by infrastructure. She also called on governments and investors to consider whether there is a real need for new infrastructure developments and to look into alternatives, including "no new infrastructure" options.

Simone Lovera of the Global Forest Coalition has been more vocal in her criticism of BRI, the exclusion of infrastructure in the biodiversity framework and China's silence on the initiative's impact on biodiversity. She especially spoke out on how the current financing mechanism - already a contentious issue at COP15 could further fail if mega projects like BRI were continued to be ignored.

"It doesn't make any sense to just close the financing gap; even US\$100 billion dollars per year, we have 1.3 trillion US dollars that are going to destructive activities. Sadly, China's own Belt and Road Initiative is an example of initiatives that are still financing very harmful projects. They are trying to green it up, but they are not doing any gender analysis, and a lot of BRI activities are actually very harmful on the ground. So first and foremost, the thing China should do is look at its own Belt and Road Initiative and make sure that that is aligned. On the one hand, they claim to have ecological civilization at home, but they export the destruction to other countries," Lovera told IPS News.

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

# New report shows need for greater action if Africa is to hit SDG, Agenda 2063 targets

By Special Correspondent

The coronavirus pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and climate change have all hampered Africa's progress toward meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With 2030 less than 8 years away, most African countries are struggling to meet the SDG targets. Without renewed efforts, nearly 492 million Africans will be left in extreme poverty with at least 350 million still in that condition in 2050.

The African Union Commission (AUC), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) jointly released a status report on the SDGs during the African Economic Conference 2022 taking place currently in Mauritius.

Building Back Better from the Coronavirus Disease, While Advancing the Full Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development evaluates Africa's progress towards the SDGs and the African Union's Agenda 2063 in the context of the triple crises of COVID-19, climate change, and the war in Ukraine. All three have hampered the continent's performance toward both sets of targets.

"Africa can no longer wait on the margins, and the time is now for the continent to rechart its development path and own its development agenda", said Ms Ahunna Ezia-konwa, Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa, UNDP.

The 2022 Africa SDGs report gives an in-depth analysis of five SDGs: Goal 4 (Quality Education), Goal 5 (Gender Equality), Goal 14 (Life Below Water), Goal 15 (Life on Land) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

## Some highlights of the report SDG 4: Quality Education

Africa has made slow progress in the provision of quality educa-

tion for all. Despite considerable improvement in school enrolment, 288 million school-age children are not enrolled in school, especially in countries affected by conflict. According to the report, increased funding for education infrastructure is needed, especially at the pre-primary and primary education levels. Other areas in need of investing are the training of teachers, and digital connectivity.

## SDG 5: Gender Equality

The report indicates shows slow progress across Africa towards gender inclusivity and recommends the enforcement of legal frameworks to protect women and girls against discrimination, domestic violence, child marriage and female genital mutilation. For instance, despite women comprising a significant proportion of Africa's labour force, only 29.8% of managerial positions across the continent, excluding North Africa, were held by women in 2022, up modestly from 29.3% in 2015.

## SDG 14: Life Below Water

Organic and chemical pollutants from human activities continue to endanger Africa's marine ecosystem. The report calls for enhanced institutional capacity to enforce laws and regulations for the sustainable use of marine resources. Life under water is an important source of livelihood for many African countries, especially its small island developing states (SIDS).

## SDG 15: Life on Land

The report finds that loss of forest cover, biodiversity and land degradation remains high and widespread in Africa owing to deforestation for farming and grazing, and climate change. Land degradation affects 46% of Africa's land and 65% of the population, costing the region US\$9.3 billion annually. More public and private partnerships are critical to mobilise and channel funding to scale up sustainable management

of land, forests and biodiversity towards a green and resilient recovery.

## SDG17: Partnerships

The continent has made halting progress on this benchmark, according to the report. Africa's domestic revenue generation and foreign direct investment inflows continue to lag behind other regions. Debt management remains a persistent challenge for African governments, and debt servicing reduces already scarce capital resources. In 2020, Africa lost about \$89 billion to illicit financial flows (IFFs).

The report offers several recommendations. These include strengthening domestic resource mobilisation and curbing illicit financial flows. It also proposes seeking support from international actors to roll out innovative financial instruments such as green and blue bonds, and debt-for-climate swaps.

"We have to do more as a continent for better results. Knowing the challenges we have, it is important that we look inward and find a way to implement home-grown initiatives to tackle challenges. The partnership between AfDB, ECA, AUC and UNDP is a good platform that presents the challenges for our countries to tackle", said Vincent O. Nmehielle, Secretary General of the African Development Bank Group.

To get back on track, Africa needs to foster its domestic resource mobilisation and savings, as well as boost its Information and Communication Technology infrastructure to drive achievement of the SDGs and the Agenda 2063.

"I am hopeful that the findings and recommendations of the 2022 Africa SDGs Report will help member states to take urgent action to accelerate attainment of the SDGs and the agenda 2063," said Dr Hanan Morsy, Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist of ECA.



D.LIGHT TANZANIA LIMITED

## PROVISION FOR LEGAL COUNSEL SERVICES d.light-Legal-2022-01

D.light is a global leader and pioneer in delivering affordable solar-powered solutions designed for the two billion people in the developing world without access to reliable energy. D.light provides distributed solar energy solutions for households and small businesses that are transforming the way people all over the world use and pay for energy.

### Detailed Scope of the work

d.light Tanzania Limited (Company) requires a Contractor to provide legal counsel services to and on behalf of the Company. Contractor shall provide legal services as per the below scope area and shall clearly indicate the services that they have the capability to perform.

### Employment & Labour Matters (Quote Retainer Fee to Cover 1 - 3)

- Legal advice on Labor related matters, support in the preparation of documents related to labor cases - Disciplinary hearings, Termination Procedures, etc.
- Legal Advice on restructuring when applicable.
- Review and draft Collective Bargaining Agreements.
- Review and draft employment and outsourced agents' contracts.
- Application for work permits/resident permits both at the Ministry of Labor and Immigration, when applicable.

### Commercial Services

- Preparing and overseeing changes in company that is appointment and resignation of directors, change of address, change of name upon formal more instructions from client
- Legal representation during negotiations.
- Preparations of trust documents (declaration of trust and power of attorney and transfer form) when required.
- Rendering brief opinions on matters pertaining to the company.
- Consultations by telephone, email, fax or visiting our offices on legal issues in line with all of the above-mentioned issues.
- Filing of annual returns (BRELA or ministry as per the company registration).
- Attending organization meetings as company Secretary of the company or as shall be instructed.
- Upon request from the client, representing a client in a government agency example police.
- Review all agreements which the client has entered with consultants and/or third parties.
- Engagement for Litigation services at High Court of Tanzania (Commercial Division).
- Engagement for Litigation services at High Court of Tanzania (Main Registry and appropriate districts registries).
- Engagement for Litigation Services and DLHT.

### Other Services:

- General overview of taxation and tax compliance within the Tanzania Laws and Regulations.
- Legal advice, analysis and interpretation of amendments bills affecting the company operations.
- General Overview of investment opportunities, Laws, procedure and incentives available under Tanzania i.e., Tanzania investment Centre.
- Various permits/licenses needed for trading and or operating a business.
- General opinion on Property Laws and Procedure especially on Ownership of Law as Non-Tanzania or Foreign Company.
- General opinion on financial institutions including Bank, Insurance & Stock Exchange.
- General opinion on Various matters as shall be requested by client.

### Employment Litigation (fee to be quoted separately in TZS):

- Commission for Mediation and Arbitration (CMA) - Engagement for Litigation Services at CMA
- High Court of Tanzania (Labor Division) - Engagement for Litigation Services at High Court of Tanzania.
- Court of Appeal of Tanzania - Engagement for Litigation Services at the High Court of Tanzania.

### Deliverables for the contractor:

- Contractor shall work diligently on Company's requests and shall keep Company informed on the progress of all matters and provide any correspondence done on the Company's behalf.
- Contractor shall provide advisory services to Company for litigation cases to enable informed and appropriate decisions.
- Contractor shall respond promptly on engagement.
- Contractor shall keep all Company information confidential and shall only disclose any Company information upon written approval from Company.

### Operational Requirements:

- Certificate of incorporation/registration
- TIN Certificate
- Valid Tax Compliance Certificate
- Company Profile
- Contractor Organogram clearly indicating the key contact person for this work.
- CV and professional certificates for the main contact person(s)
- Minimum 5 years of experience in the delivery of expertise in local employment law in Tanzania.
- Evident experience reviewing personnel and operations program manuals to contextualize specific Tanzanian legal operating requirements, such as adherence to labour laws, rules, and general practices.
- Evident experience with local labour contract templates to ensure adherence to employment and statutory benefits.
- Legal office representation in Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mwanza, Mbeya & Dodoma.
- Legal fees quoted should be in TZS, include all associated costs and expenses.

### Contractor Performance Measurement:

Contractor's performance shall be measured monthly using the key performance indicators and parameters outlined below:

1. Timeliness of service.
2. Billing accuracy.

### Payment Terms:

Payment will be made within 30 days after the invoice submission.  
The prices quoted will be negotiable.

### Cost of preparation of Quotation:

d.light shall not be responsible for any costs associated with a service provider's preparation and submission of a quotation, regardless of the outcome or the manner of conducting the selection process.

### Conflict of Interest:

d.light requires every prospective service provider to avoid and prevent conflict of interest, by disclosing to d.light if you, or any of your affiliates or personnel, were involved in the preparation of the requirements, design, specifications, cost estimates, and other information used in this tender. Bidders shall strictly avoid conflicts with other assignments or their own interests, and act without consideration for future work. Bidders found to have a conflict of interests shall be disqualified.

### Currency of Quotation:

Quotations shall be quoted in Tanzanian Shillings.

### Price variation:

No price variation due to escalation, inflation, fluctuation in exchange rates, or any other market factors shall be accepted at any time during the validity of the quotation after the quotation has been received.

All Legal proposals MUST be submitted through email to tender- tz@dlight.com by 09<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 17:00 Hours.

Only those shortlisted will be contacted for further screening and consideration.

Legal proposals received after the deadline 09<sup>th</sup> January 2023 will not be considered.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Questions about the content of this tender should be submitted to:  
d.light TZ Limited, 57 Haile Selassie Road, P.O. Box 1378 Uzunguni - Arusha or by emailing [tender-tz@dlight.com](mailto:tender-tz@dlight.com)  
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Borderlands and bloodbaths: The case of Congo and Ukraine

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

During November, soldiers of the March 23 Movement (M23) have been approaching Goma in the eastern territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), close to the Rwandan border. About 180,000 people are now leaving Goma, a city with a million inhabitants. Many stakeholders are involved in the conflict and there is an apparent danger that the overall carnage that affected the Congolese eastern border areas fifteen years ago will resume. At the same time, war is raging in Ukraine, which name likely comes from the old Slavic term for borderland.

Disputed border areas have often been hotbeds for horrific and widespread wars. World War I began with border conflicts between the Austro-Hungarian Empire and Serbia, while World War II was ignited through German allegations of Czech and Polish mistreatment of Germans living on their side of the border. Tensions are constantly brewing along borders between India and Pakistan, Israel and Palestine, Ethiopia and Sudan, Armenia and Azerbaijan - just to mention a few border conflicts present all over the world.

Throughout history, borderlands have suffered from looting, massacres and ethnic violence, generally triggered off by incursions from neighbouring countries, causing chaos and destruction. Borderlands are generally speaking a result of clearly defined borders between European nations, established after the Westphalian Peace Agreements in 1648, ending the Thirty Years' War, a conflagration between religious factions that devastated Germany, killing 30 per cent of its population.

Before mid-17th century, European borders were quite diffuse. A royal realm had its heartland, a centre from which it could expand through wars, treaties and negotiations. In medieval Europe the more or less undefined areas between different sovereignties were called



marks, or marches, words deriving from an Indo-European term meaning edge. A mark/march often served as a buffer zone, more or less independently governed by a marquis/margrave.

As a result of the Westphalian Peace, national borders became demarcated by border markings and lines drawn upon maps. Such boundaries were eventually introduced to the rest of the world. In Africa, border demarcations became common after the Berlin Conference, 1884-1885, when leaders of fourteen European nations and the United States agreed upon a "partitioning" of Africa, establishing rules for amicably dividing resources among Western nations. Notably missing was any representative from Africa.

One of the proclaimed aims

of the Berlin Conference was to bring "civilization" to Africa, in the form of free trade and Christianity. Accordingly could King Leopold II of Belgium, by playing the part of a beneficent monarch, succeed in convincing his counterparts that he would personally bring order, faith and prosperity to the heart of Africa. Congo was thus formally recognized as Leopold's personal possession. An extraordinarily rich territory, with ivory, minerals, palm oil, timber and rubber, was used by Leopold to increase his personal wealth. Missionary stations and trade routes were established, while slave labour extracted the natural resources. If production targets were not met, the autochthonous population risked severe punishment, ranging from having

their families held hostage in concentration camps, to torture, the severing of a hand, and eventual execution.

Between 1900 and 1930, European colonial powers completed cartographic surveys of African territories. However, surveys focused solely on land control while disregarding the impact recently established borders might have on the well-being of the original population. Local communities suffered limitations to their daily activities and nomadic practices. Traditional life, administrative structures, and economic safety were negatively affected. Furthermore, colonial rule tended to instigate conflicts. Imposed borders gradually set off hostile relations among borderland dwellers and eventually enabled post-inde-

pendent governments and political elites to use such divisions for political means.

The sheer size of the territory, which eventually became the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), made its governance extremely challenging. This vast nation is about the same size as Western Europe and has 10,500 kilometres of external borders. In the middle of the country is an almost impenetrable and vast jungle area. Border control is largely non-existent, providing neighbouring countries with an opportunity to exert influence into remote peripheries. For many Congolese, it is easier to reach the capital of a neighbouring state than travelling to the capital city, Kinshasa.

As in other areas of the world, people on both sides of Congolese borders exchange goods, spouses, languages and customs. Nevertheless, in spite of all this mixture and exchange, most people living along borders generally continue to be aware of their roots in different cultural settings. Even if they might share a lingua franca, several of them tend to maintain their original language and specific customs. Border communities thus find themselves in a precarious balance, which might be upheld for centuries but also runs the risk of becoming swiftly overturned by armed attacks from national armies, warlords, or hordes of bandits and uprooted former soldiers, as well as massive influxes of refugees.

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Like in central Africa, Ukraine border conflicts have at several occasions triggered massacres and bloody chaos. For more than 500 years, Ukraine was divided and ruled by a variety of external powers, including the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Ottoman Empire, the Cossack Hetmanate, Poland, the Tsardom of Russia, the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany

From the beginning of the last century to 1921, millions fled Ukraine, including more than 2 million Jews. Ukrainians were killed en masse by Austrians, Poles and warring political factions, while approximately 110,000 Jews were murdered during so called pogroms. Worse was yet to come when Nazi invaders within the same areas murdered approximately 1.7 million Jews. In Nazi-occupied Ukraine, 5.7 million locals died between 1941 and 1945. And now, during Russia's aggressive invasion, the suffering and slaughter of innocents have been resumed.

The curse of borders, between nations and people, continues to haunt us. To safeguard the future - for our earth and children - we have to learn that general well-being depends on collaboration between nations and peoples, regardless of ethnicity, gender, and ideologies. Wars, like Russia's ruthless attack on a sovereign nation and the central African mayhem, are crimes against humanity and must be stopped through peaceful solutions. Time is running out and cannot be wasted on armed conquests and bloodshed.

Between 500,000 and 1 million Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus were in Rwanda killed during well-planned attacks, ordered by an interim government. This genocide ended when the Tutsi commanded Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) gained control and took over the Rwandan Government, making approximately two million Hutus fleeing across the border into neighbouring Zaire. Estimates of the number of Hutu civilians killed in subsequent revenge massacres by the RPF range from 25,000 to 100,000.

Rwandan incursions into Zaire occurred after years of Congolese internal strife, dictatorship and economic decline. Zaire, as the country was called at the time, was in 1994 a dying State. In many ar-

ests, increasingly corrupt state authorities had in all but name collapsed, with infighting militias, warlords, and rebel groups wielding local power. International response to the Rwandan genocide had been lame and limited, though this time international opinion reacted immediately. Massive relief support was directed to refugees in eastern Zaire. In the meantime, several, heavily armed Rwandan gnomes, genocide perpetrators, organized themselves among Hutu refugees. In their attacks on Banyamulenge, a Tutsi minority who for centuries had been living in Congo, the gnomes were often joined by local militia. Banyamulenge were resented by several Congolese agriculturists, who suspected them of planning to take over their land. Currently it is the rebel group M23, which is the main aggressor. The rebel group was in 2012, according to the UN, created and commanded by the Rwandan army. The Rwandan Government did in 2013 officially cease its support to M23; its members surrendered and were transferred to a refugee camp in Uganda. However, M23 reappeared in 2017, evidently with renewed Rwandan support. The Congolese mayhem is just one example of what might happen in border areas when control and peaceful interaction between neighbours collapse under the pressure of foreign interventions and enter a bloody, anarchic chaos.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 399 00--

A crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions. Clues include 'Tanzania's statesman' and 'printed publication'. Solutions include 'SWINE' and 'Tanzania'.

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI. A radio schedule for Monday through Sunday, listing various programs and their start times.

# CARGO VOLUME AT TANZANIA PORTS GREW UP BY 14.9-PCT

By Guardian Reporter

**T**HE volume of cargo handled by Tanzania ports has increased by 14.9 percent in the financial year that ended June 2022 compared to the preceding year that ended June 2021.

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) statistics in its Consolidated Zonal Economic Performance report states that "Cargo volume handled by the country's lake ports has also increased from 17.9 million tonnes in the financial year that ended June 2021 to 19.8 million tonnes in the year that ended June 2022."

The increase is linked with decrease of Covid-19 pandemic while trade grew. In the report, the Port of Dar es Salaam leads by handling 17.85 million tonnes of cargo, followed by Tanga port that handled 942,000 tonnes.

"The increase of cargo handled by the two ports shows the revival in the global chain by the supply of cargo and improvement of infrastructures at the Port of Dar es Salaam," says the BOT report in part. The port of Mtwara, on the other hand received more improvement



to its infrastructure and the volume of cargo handled increased significantly - to 592,400 tonnes by the year ending June 2022 from 177,400 tonnes in 2020/21.

According to BoT, the situation is attributed to the increase of coal and cashew nuts exports.

TPA Director General, Plasduce Mbossa said recently that ports op-

erations have strengthened due to the government's efforts to mobilise for investment by putting in place a good investment climate.

Mbossa said this is in addi-

tion to the revival of economic activities including agriculture, industry, mining and increase in the country's investments.

Recent TPA statistics shows that Congo DRC is the biggest customer of the Port of Dar es Salaam, followed by Zambia.

The statistics also showed the volume of cargo significantly increased this year. The Port of Kigoma handled more than 179,500 tonnes of cargo, while the Port of Mwanza handled 139,500 tonnes.

Senior Lecturer in Economics at the University of Dar es Salaam, Dr Wilhelm Ngasamiaku said the good performance of the Port of Dar es Salaam has a great contribution to the country's economic growth.

"In some countries, the ports sector contributes to about half of their GDPs. By comparing our ports with similar ports of other countries worldwide, we can see whether there is room for improvement, and we can improve our ports even more," he said.

## Puma Energy to roll out solar power solutions across Africa

By Guardian Reporter

PUMA Energy has committed an initial investment of \$33million to roll out solar power solutions to its customers in the continent, starting with Tanzania, Botswana, Ghana, Malawi, Namibia, and Zambia.

This investment is part of the energy company's pledge to achieve 30 percent of its Africa EBITDA from clean energy and transition fuels as highlighted in its 2022 Sustainability Report and ESG Strategy.

Puma Energy currently has 184 solar power generation projects operational across its network and is on track to hit its target of opening 200 solar projects in 2022. Puma Energy has nearly 2000 retail sites in its network and has assessed how many are suitable for solar installation. The 184 sites now operating across the company's retail network represent 39 percent of the 467 company-owned and leased stations where solar installations are commercially and technically feasible.

Sophonie Babo, Head of Strategy and Business Development for Puma Energy said: "The 200 solar projects we are delivering is just the start of a broader strategy to contribute to the energy transition in Africa.

"Many of our commercial and industrial customers are looking to reduce their carbon emissions. By installing solar on our own assets, we have demonstrated our ability to offer to our customers solar solutions. Our aim is to help them hybridise their energy sources and reduce emissions across their operations."

In its ESG Strategy, published in July 2022, Puma Energy set a target of installing 200 solar projects across its global network by the end of the year. Once operational, the solar projects will have a combined capacity of 6.6 MWp and are expected to generate 9,311 MWh of renewable electricity per year.

The aim of the solar generation initiative is not only to reduce Puma Energy's greenhouse gas emissions on the sites and depots it owns, but also to reduce the emissions of the local dealers who operate many of the retail sites in Puma Energy's network. The expertise Puma Energy has developed by installing solar at its own retail sites now allows the company to offer its commercial and industrial customers solar generation packages and other low carbon energy solutions alongside the fuels it has traditionally supplied.

Puma Energy is a leading global energy business, safely providing energy across six continents. Its downstream business segments include fuels, aviation, lubricants, LPG and bitumen. It has 1,998 retail sites, a network of bitumen terminals and is present at 108 airports. Its purpose is energising communities to help drive growth and prosperity by sustainably serving customers' needs in high potential countries around the world.

As at 9 December 2022 Puma Energy has 184 operational solar at sites in: Ghana, Malawi, Botswana, Namibia, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Puerto Rico, Guatemala and Papua New Guinea. Further solar projects are being installed at Puma Energy retail sites in Botswana, Malawi and Tanzania.

Puma Energy defines transition fuels as lower carbon alternatives to traditional fuels. They are a crucial step of the energy transition in emerging markets, where the need to promote economic development and reduce carbon emissions are both priorities.

# Emirates Skywards and Aeroplan kick-off joint loyalty partnership

DUBAI

EMIRATES and Air Canada have expanded their partnership to offer frequent flyer members joint loyalty programme benefits. Emirates Skywards members can now earn and redeem Miles on all flights operated by Air Canada - accessing a network of more than 220 destinations worldwide. Aeroplan members will also benefit from earning and redeeming Points on all flights operated by Emirates - with access to more than 130 destinations across six continents, via the airline's home and hub, Dubai.

The agreement was signed recently by Dr Nejb Ben Khedher, Divisional Senior Vice President Emirates Skywards, and Mark Youssef Nasr, Senior Vice President, Product, Marketing, e-Commerce, Air Canada and President, Aeroplan, at the Emirates Group Headquarters in Dubai.

The carriers activated their codeshare partnership earlier this year providing customers with seamless connectivity across North America, Asia, the Middle East and Africa. Emirates customers can now book flights to/from Canadian points beyond Toronto, including Calgary, Edmonton, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa and Vancouver.

Commenting on the partnership, Dr Nejb Ben Khedher, Divisional Senior Vice President Emirates Skywards, had this to say: "We're very pleased to be enhancing our partnership with Air Canada and officially kicking off our joint loyalty programme offering. Together, close to 40 million frequent flyer members will be able to earn and redeem Miles across a joint network of more than 350 destinations and enjoy selected benefits, such as lounge access. We look forward to opening new horizons for our loyal members and to also welcoming Aeroplan customers on-board Emirates with our award-winning products and exceptional services."

Meanwhile, Mark Youssef Nasr, Senior Vice President, Product, Marketing, e-Commerce, Air Canada and President, Aeroplan added: "The two most recognized loyalty programmes in their respective regions are coming together to offer something truly great. Whether it's connecting friends and family from Canada's rich immigrant diaspora or it's helping travellers explore some of the world's most exciting destinations, there's some-



thing for everyone. We're proud to partner with Emirates and Skywards as Aeroplan continues to deliver on its member promise: travel more and travel better."

The new agreement will enable Emirates Skywards members to earn Miles on all eligible Air Canada flights. Skywards members will also be able to redeem Miles for reward tickets across Air Canada's network. Flight rewards will start from 8,000 Miles for a one-way reward ticket in Economy Class and 16,000 Miles for a one-way reward ticket in Business Class.

Aeroplan members will be able to earn Aeroplan Points on all eligible Emirates operated flights based on the fare type purchased, as well as redeem Aeroplan Points on Emirates flights.

Aeroplan members will be able to redeem Points for flights on Emirates Economy Class and Business Class, starting at 15,000 Points one-way with no carrier surcharges, as well as the ability to combine with Aeroplan's extensive network of airline partners on a single ticket to create countless reward possibilities. The ability to redeem Aeroplan Points for flights in Emirates First Class will be introduced in early 2023.

Emirates Skywards Platinum and Gold members travelling in Economy Class with Air Canada

or Emirates will also enjoy complimentary access to Air Canada's Maple Leaf Lounges and Air Canada Café in Toronto Pearson along with one guest.

In Dubai, Aeroplan Elite 50K, 75K and Super Elite members travelling in Economy Class with Emirates will enjoy complimentary access to the Emirates Business Class Lounge along with one guest.

Air Canada's customers also benefit from seamless access to Emirates' extensive network via Dubai, unlocking a significant number of destinations, including Addis Ababa and Dar es Salaam in Africa. Colombo, Dhaka, Karachi and Lahore in the Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asian cities such as Bangkok, Hanoi, Phuket, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore; Middle Eastern cities Jeddah and Muscat.

Recognized for its industry leading initiatives and



One of the Africa's Puma Energy sites installed solar power panels

# RECORD LOW KARIBA DAM LEVELS SEE ZIMBABWE, ZAMBIA FACING DRASTIC POWER CUTS

By Zeenat Hansrod

**Z**IMBABWE and Zambia both rely on lake Kariba – the world’s biggest dam – for the bulk of their hydro-electric supply. The record-low water level at present means electricity supplies in both countries will be heavily rationed.

Zambia will start power cuts from Thursday 15 December which are expected to last six hours at a stretch.

Energy minister, Peter Kapala, told the Zambian Parliament that it may only affect residential areas.

Zimbabwe, on the other hand, is already facing 19 hours load shedding daily with devastating effects on all aspects of life in the country. Electricity is turned back on between approximately midnight and 5 AM.

“Kariba generates almost half of our power needs, which is why a reduction in its generation capacity immediately registers throughout our economy and in our lives,” wrote Zimbabwe’s President Emmerson Mnangagwa in his weekly column in the State-controlled Sunday Mail newspaper.



Mail newspaper.

Hospitals are sometimes left without water because pumps are inoperative.

Small businesses have been badly hit. Charles Svidzi, a 59-year-old barber said he was forced to close his shop as he depends on electric hair clippers and there are no customers at night.

Kariba’s water level has been decreasing steadily because of droughts and low inflows from the Zambezi River and its tributaries.

Kariba Dam is the largest man-made one in the world, providing the bulk of electricity consumed in both Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The level of usable water in Kariba, tapped by both Zambia and Zimbabwe, stood at 2.68 per cent on 7 December 2022, according to the Zambezi River Authority (ZRA), which manages water supply for the two countries.

ZRA is responsible for the allocation of water used by Zimbabwe’s Kariba South and Zambia’s Kariba North Power Stations.

On 25 November, ZRA wrote to the Zimbabwe Power Company that the Kariba South hydropower station had used more than its 2022 water allocation.

“The Zambezi River Authority is left with no choice but to firmly guide that ... generation activities at the South Bank Power Station are wholly suspended henceforth until January 2023 when a further review of the substantive hydrological outlook at Kariba will be undertaken,” the letter read.

Zimbabwe’s Energy Minister, Soda Zhemu, said that the power plant would not shut down completely but would “continue to generate but at a reduced

capacity”. The government said it will increase power imports from South Africa, Zambia and Mozambique.

Harare announced that it will increase its coal production and has decided “to rehabilitate Hwange power station with around US \$310 million”.

“This should teach us a lesson; we cannot be sentimental about coal while our industries die from power shortages, and when no support to clean energy transition is coming from those most to blame for destroying the global climate.

“We have abundant coal; it must be harnessed to meet our energy needs,” said President Mnangagwa.

He also announced plans to “step up investments”, with the private sector, in solar energy.

“We have enough sunshine; we have enough land for solar farms,” he added.

Power cuts in Zimbabwe are due to last until, at least, early January 2023 whilst the Zambian government said they would last “until the water levels improve”.

## Chair of California reparations committee demands a ‘Bureau of African American Affairs’

By Paul Farrell

THE chair of California’s Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans has hit out at reports that the group plans to recommend that \$225,000 will be handed out to each person applying for the program.

In a series of interviews on December 13, Kamilah V. Moore said that the figure presented to the committee by an economic research team represents the state of California’s ‘maximum culpability’ for housing discrimination.

It only applies to people who were impacted by housing discrimination between 1933 and 1977, and not just black people.

Moore said: ‘In reality, that number would be minimized when you take into account the fact that the task force decided in March that the community of eligibility would be lineage based rather than race based.’

She added: ‘When you really look at who was really impacted by housing discrimination during that particular time period it most likely won’t be all black folks.’

In a separate interview on Spectrum News, Moore pointed out the need for a Bureau of African American affairs in order to handle the payments, pointing to the success of the Bureau of Indian Affairs record of handling similar issues for Native Americans.

Kamilah Moore said in an interview on Tuesday that the maximum payment only applies to those impacted by housing discrimination in California between 1933 and 1977

Kamilah Moore said in an interview on Tuesday that the maximum payment only applies to those impacted by housing discrimination in California between 1933 and 1977

The group will meet Wednesday and Thursday for their final public meetings.

California Governor Gavin Newsom (pictured in November) signed legislation in 2020 launching the largest slavery reparations program in the country’s history

California Governor Gavin Newsom signed legislation in 2020 launching the largest slavery reparations program in the country’s history

The Reparations Task Force will congregate this week after being formed by California Governor Gavin Newsom’s signing of a bill in 2020.

Among the questions that are expected to be addressed are when prospective recipients’ ‘harm’ started, and how the ‘form of payment’ can properly align with the ‘estimates of damage.’

The official agenda’s release comes just days after estimates indicated that California descendants of slaves and those impacted by racial setbacks could see upwards of \$220,000 per person.

According to the New York Times, the focus is to address ‘housing discrimination’ in the state which occurred between 1933 and 1977. As many as 2.5 million black Californians could receive payments.



Exim Bank Tanzania Mwanza branch Manager Edwin Polle (L) handing over reflector jackets to a senior official of Mwanza region motorcycle drivers Ally Abdulmajid as part of the bank’s effort to support road safety in the region. Looking on is the Assistant Superintendent of the Police Force in the region ASP Sunday Ibrahim (Centre) and other officials from the bank. The handover ceremony was held at the bank’s branch in Mwanza yesterday.

## Westlands apartment rents the highest in Nairobi

NAIROBI

WESTLANDS has the highest monthly rents for apartments in Nairobi amid high demand from middle-income Kenyans and expatriates, offering property developers lucrative returns.

A report by real estate and investment firm, JLL Africa shows the monthly rent for one and two-bedroom apartments in the suburb range between Sh65,000 and Sh110,000.

Three-bedroom apartments in the area rent for between Sh70,000 and Sh140,000.

The rents in the enclave can be more expensive by up to Sh30,000 compared to other areas such as Kilimani, Kileleshwa, Parklands and Muthaiga.

The high rents in Westlands highlight demand for the units by highly-paid working class and entrepreneurs in an area that boasts close proximity to Nairobi’s CBD, the United Nations complex in Gigiri and a host of blue chip firms that have set base in Westlands.

Property owners have adjusted rent prices to match the demand and also mirror inflation that has led to the cost of building the houses and also



providing other amenities.

Developer builds Sh539m Kisumu beach apartments

“Apartments in neighbourhoods such as Kilimani, Kileleshwa, Lavington and Westlands have seen strong rental growth,” JLL Africa says in the report.

One and two-bedroom apartments in Kilimani and Kileleshwa are priced from Sh60,000 to Sh80,000 while similar units in Lavington range from Sh65,000 to Sh85,000.

Three-bedroom apartments in Kili-

mani and Kileleshwa rent for between Sh70,000 and Sh130,000 while similar units in Lavington start from Sh75,000 and reach highs of Sh140,000.

In Parklands and Muthaiga, the rent for three-bedroom apartments is set from Sh75,000 to Sh130,000.

The attractiveness of Westlands has been further boosted by the construction of the Nairobi Expressway which gives motorists an opportunity to beat traffic jams to the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

The high rent prices in the popular

suburbs have prompted the demolition of stand-alone houses that were built decades ago which are being replaced with apartments as developers respond to demand.

People living close to the big cities pay a premium in rent prices because of the proximity to jobs and diverse social and economic facilities including top hospitals and restaurants.

Construction of supermarkets, banks and entertainment joints in the suburbs has further attracted people who have now been spared from relying on the CBD for the services.

But while rental charges have been on the uptick, the selling prices of apartments in the posh estates have stagnated due to oversupply.

“The high-end apartment market in Nairobi is grappling with static unit sales prices performance, attributable to an excess supply of apartments in Kilimani, Lavington, Parklands and Kileleshwa, which is placing downward pressure on values,” the report says.

“Applying co-living principles could make apartments more affordable per resident while driving up occupancy and unit pricing.” Co-living refers to sharing some features like the lounge.

## CONSTRUCTION


 The Guardian  
**PROPERTY WATCH**  
 DISCOVER INFORM INSPIRE

# NEW INITIATIVE PUTS CITIES AT FRONTLINE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

By Wagdy Sawahel

**A** Unique multi-level governance initiative that taps the research, innovation and engagement capacity of universities to help cities cope with climate change has been welcomed. However, some African experts say its success will depend on sufficient investment in universities, while some Asian experts say the project could be hampered by politics at local levels.

The Sustainable Urban Resilience for the next Generation (SURGe) initiative, the first of its kind aimed at strengthening cities' resilience to climate change, especially in vulnerable communities, was launched at the 27th session of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP27) hosted at the Egyptian Red Sea city of Sharm El-Sheikh on 20 November.

A joint COP27 presidency-United Nations-Habitat initiative, it puts cities "at the frontline of climate change".

On the one hand, cities are generating planet-warming emissions. On the other, they are engines of climate action and at the forefront of delivering solutions.

"That is why we need effective multi-level governance to transform cities to be healthy, sustainable, just, inclusive, low-emission and resilient urban systems for a better urban future for all," according to information released by the SURGe initiative following its launch.

Professor Edgar Pieterse, the South African Research Chair in Urban Policy and director of the African Centre for Cities at the University of Cape Town in South Africa, said SURGe is significant because most African governments have not yet recognised that they need to invest in growing the capabilities of their universities.

He said universities can play a key role in working with city governments and civic organisations to advance a radical transformation in infrastructure technology, design and operationalisation in order to simultaneously address environmental crises (climate and biodiversity) and multidimensional inequality that erodes the capabilities of citizens.

"I hope the SURGe initiative is able to unlock the necessary resources at the scale of the challenges we face. I am encouraged by the wide institutional reach it has but hope it does not proceed as a well-intentioned convening forum unable to mobilise the necessary resources to translate ambition into action," Pieterse told University World News.

Cities are home to 55% of the global population - a figure that is expected to grow to 68% by 2050. In addition, urban areas account for about three-quarters of urban-related carbon dioxide emissions. About 70% of cities worldwide are already dealing with the effects of climate change.

"There is growing international awareness that the climate battle will be won or lost in cities," according to a statement on the SURGe website.

The statement says that greenhouse gas emissions in cities could be reduced by almost 90% by 2050 with technically feasible and available measures, potentially supporting 87 million jobs in 2030 and generating a global economic dividend of US\$24 trillion.

However, technological and process innovations do not reach all cities, due to significant research and action gaps. Local governments often lack technical and human resources to address climate issues, in particular in the Global South, according to the initiative.

Extreme weather impacts on urban services, housing, infrastructure, livelihoods, urban ecosystems and cultural practices, as well as the health and well-being of city residents.

Therefore, the initiative will track buildings and housing practices, urban water systems, urban mobility, urban waste and consumption, and urban energy, all of which will be supported by partnerships and collaborations with organisations, including universities in Africa, Asia, Europe and the United States.

Universities participating in SURGe include Cairo University in Egypt, Kenyatta University in Kenya, the National University of Malaysia, the University of Agriculture Faisalabad in Pakistan as well as the University of Oxford (earth sciences) in the United Kingdom, the



University of Southern Denmark and the New Polytechnic University of Turin in Italy, along with New York University, the University of Pennsylvania and Kennesaw State University in the United States.

Estimates of the world's fastest growing cities vary depending on which cities are included. For example, whether they are cities of 100,000 or more, 300,000 or more, and whether the focus is on percentage growth of the population or population growth in absolute numbers. Lists of the former bring up smaller cities while lists of the latter tend to be composed of very large cities or 'megacities'.

Thus an International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) list of the fastest growing cities by population growth rate from 2000 to 2020 (among cities with 300,000+ inhabitants in 2018) is topped by Doha Industrial Area, Qatar; Xiongan, China; Rugganj, Bangladesh; Gwagwalada, Nigeria; and Miluo, China.

However, their list, on the same webpage, of the fastest growing cities by annual increment in population from 2000-20 is topped by: Delhi, India; Shanghai, China; Dhaka, Bangladesh; Beijing, China; and Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

According to a World Economic Forum/Business Insider report, the world's 15 fastest growing cities from 2020 to 2035 (of those that had at least 300,000 inhabitants in 2018) are all expected to be in Africa. By 2050, it is estimated that 50% of the African continent's population will be classified as urban, making it four times the size of Europe's urban population.

Samir Khalaf Abd-El-Aal, a research professor at the Biotechnology Research Institute in Egypt, told University World News: "SURGe is extremely important for the hot-spot cities and settlements that are highly vulnerable to climate change in the Global South, especially in Africa and Asia."

According to him, these areas and their cities lack technical and human resources and suffer from weak technological capabilities to support context-specific innovative solutions to tackle the socio-economic challenges that come with urbanisation.

Also welcoming the initiative, Oumar Sylla, the director of the Regional Office for Africa at the Kenya-based United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), told University World News: "There is urgency to build resilient and sustainable cities in Africa, taking into consideration the climate emergency."

## Role of universities

Sylla said that universities can do a lot to bridge knowledge gaps in the connection between cities and climate change: for example, regarding the importance of urban planning and improvement of informal settlements; on the question of climate financing (carbon sequestration for cities and non-public funding); and in relation to governance elements, especially the role of local governments.

"Research innovation will be critical for the African continent in the coming months in addressing climate-related challenges in cities which are rapidly expanding. Data to inform decision-makers will be critical," Sylla noted.



**However, the biggest challenge that African universities face is resources (financial, equipment and infrastructure), open access to datasets and academic publications, an enabling regulatory environment that can unleash talent and expertise in Africa, and leadership that can appreciate the scope and scale of the systemic transformation required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals**

"Capacity development will be the key in addressing climate-related challenges," he said, adding that training and the creation of expertise will be important for Africa.

"We need to adapt the curriculum of universities, connect urban planners with climate experts, and nurture the benefits of IT and other innovative technology. We need to establish peer learning systems among universities and research institutions in Africa," Sylla said.

For Sylla, the brain drain means that more incentives to do research in Africa and to serve the continent, especially for those specialising in local government and administration, are also necessary.

According to Pieterse, universities need to play a role through inter- and transdisciplinary research to ensure that policy-makers have the best evidence and data to understand how complex interrelated developmental pressures manifest in specific contexts of cities.

There was also a need for the deployment of sustainable infrastructure and place-making modalities with an eye on city-wide innovation along with the training of people needed to operationalise a new paradigm for sustainable and just urban development.

"However, the biggest challenge that African universities face is resources (financial, equipment and infrastructure), open access to datasets and academic publications, an enabling regulatory environment that can unleash talent and expertise in Africa, and leadership that can appreciate the scope and scale of the systemic transformation required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals," Pieterse said.

Pieterse recommended the establishment of a Pan-African Urban Sustainability Challenge Fund capitalised at US\$1 billion to accelerate urban innovations

anchored in universities, but executed through mission-driven partnerships with city-level stakeholders.

"The experimentation and learning that arise from such well-funded projects over five to 10 years can be aggregated as a knowledge commons for all African universities and inform a much more ambitious teaching and training effort to produce the hundreds of thousands of urban system integrators that we will need to design and run our cities differently over the next few decades," he said.

Asian experts warn of corruption, interference

Asian development communication specialists and urban development economists consulted by University World News welcomed the UN-Habitat SURGe initiative, but warned that excessive political interference in local government structures and corruption in the real estate development sector could become a barrier.

"Good environmental governance should be based on facts, data analysis and the 'right' understanding," said Dr Priyanur Dharmapiya, former executive director of the Sustainable Development and Sufficiency Economy Studies Center at the National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA) in Bangkok.

She said NIDA is currently working with local communities - both private sectors and residential communities - towards developing a smart city.

"Within that circle, we can start to explore together deliverable solutions in our cities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. Academic institutions have major roles in creating the right understanding on climate changes and facilitating dialogue towards good environmental governance for the community," said Dharmapiya, a development economist.

In an interview with University World News, grassroots community development and communication specialist Professor Biplab Loha Chowdhury of Visva-Bharati (University Institute of National Importance) at Shantiniketan in India's West Bengal state, offered as a model his university's role in developing a sustainable city in tune with the rich local culture.

He said when an urban community is developed, the "seed community culture" (origination culture) of the area needs to remain vibrant to provide a space for a "continuous shift of people".

He said Visva-Bharati, since its establishment in 1921 by the famous Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore, had played a role in developing the adjoining Bolpur city, transforming the area from a rural settlement into a vibrant city "without nullifying [the] freshness of rural expressions".

"That Bolpur is a town with good tree cover is due to its adopting the annual tree planting praxis arising from Visva-Bharati's annual 'Briksha-Ropana' event," he said.

The town market is highly dependent on the inflow of money from university employees and development activities, he said.

"Visva-Bharati, instead of a mechanical contribution, has made the town grow organically with it. For students, research scholars and teachers of the university, the town is the centre for several studies in planning, architecture,

culture, media and social problems. Many such studies helped plan for the town," Loha Chowdhury said.

## Local government

On the role of local governments in SURGe, Professor Ma Theresa Rivera, a university research fellow in development communications based in Mindanao, Philippines, said local governments in her country tended to follow the policies set forth by the national government. Thus, every time presidents and governors change, the Local Government Units (LGU) have to re-orient policies to suit their political masters.

In order to support the SURGe initiatives, she said there would be a need for networks "of local governments, in partnership with non-governmental organisations, local academic communities, local environmental support groups and large, small and medium-sized companies", the latter helping to fund local projects.

"However, resistance to this idea would also be coming from the local government officials themselves since the initiatives put forth involve multi-level government actions. Most local governments are understaffed and are handling several projects and activities across several services," Rivera said. "LGUs need to be given this as a national agenda before they can comply, as the system of bureaucracy is widely entrenched".

Such entrenched national political controls are also a concern for Dr Sugath Senarath, mindful communication specialist and the head of the Department of Mass Communications at the University of Colombo in Sri Lanka.

"[The] university can educate them [local councils] on good governance and especially good environmental governance. In this regard universities can organise short workshops at university premises and outside the campus (as well as) online meetings," he told University World News.

"[But] in Sri Lanka these kinds of programmes need to be combined with political parties/leaders because the [local government] administration is highly politicised and these projects need to be implemented through their support."

Senarath said his department is planning to offer weekend courses on political communication to political leaders. Thus, while universities could work closely with local governments in sharing their knowledge and experiences, there are some limitations in Sri Lanka.

## A 'highly politicised' space

"Sri Lankan [governing] administrations are highly politicised and mostly people are divided by party politics. When this kind of project starts there is a risk of the project being politicised. [In addition], government universities are struggling with financial problems and they need financial assistance from outside sources. But that would risk projects being [hijacked] by donor agendas."

"SURGe's aim to tie up with local governments to step up urban resilience is a step in the right direction [and] they must be supported with resources and expertise to find nature-based solutions," said Jayasri Priyalal, regional director of UNI Global Union's Asia and Pacific Regional Office based in Singapore.

However, he warned that the initiative would face resistance from vested commercial interests in Asian cities.

"There will be resistance from the powerful lobby groups who are into real estate business, who are putting up high-rise apartments to increase their returns on investments and assets," warned Priyalal.

"They work hand in hand with corrupt systems and have access to concessionary finance to double up profits. They are all part of the problem and far away from finding sustainable solutions to transform cities into livable habitats."

While the global unions could support the SURGe initiative, Priyalal said it was "high time" that the world moved out of the "Take, Make and Waste" linear economic model towards a sustainable circular economic model "based on returns on ethics, instead of returns on equity".

## WORLD

## Rising climate costs to challenge countries, companies in 2023

IN a year marked by yet more climate-linked floods, hurricanes and droughts, governments and companies were forced to look more closely at the financial risks and their exposure to liability.

Nowhere was this more apparent than at the UN climate conference in Egypt, where countries reached a landmark agreement to set up a fund to help poor countries cope with climate-fueled disaster costs.

Egypt's COP27 talks did little, however, to address the cause of those disasters - the ever-rising levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

That kind of slow progress in tackling climate change made vulnerable countries determined to get the so-called Loss and Damage fund approved - after yet another year of extreme weather disasters including record heatwaves from the United States, glaciers collapsing in India and Europe, and unending drought pushing millions toward famine in East Africa.

Insurers were feeling the pain, as the year delivered three of the decade's costliest disasters - "dystopian" flooding that delivered \$40 billion in damages to Pakistan, a series of deadly summer heatwaves that collectively caused more than \$10 billion in losses for Europe, and Hurricane Ian tearing across Florida and South Carolina to the cost of \$100 billion, according to risk modeling firm RMS.

The Loss and Damage fund also marked a diplomatic coup by poor na-

tions, after decades of US and European resistance over fears it could open them to legal liability for their historical emissions. But countries agreed the fund would pull from existing financial institutions rather than rich nations, assuaging those liability concerns - for now.

### Why it matters

As watchdog groups called out companies for failing to disclose how climate change might threaten them financially, investors faced increasing pressure both for going too far to address climate risks and for not going far enough.

"It's the wild west in terms of what companies should do. And there are some that are greenwashing, yes," said Katharine Hayhoe, a Canadian climatologist and chief scientist at the Nature Conservancy. But some making a sincere effort are "getting pushback from the purity culture, people saying that anything but perfection isn't worth it."

Even Hayhoe and others warning about the dangers of climate change didn't escape censure, with some activists laying into them for flying to conferences or eating meat.

At some point, people started throwing soup and paint and gluing themselves to things.

"I get it," Hayhoe said. "It's a psychological reaction to the genuine fear that people feel when they start to understand the magnitude of this problem."

Others sought to take their grievances



In this picture taken on Sept 27, 2022, internally displaced flood-affected people wade through a flooded area in Dadu district of Sindh province. (RIZWAN TABASSUM / AFP)

to court. As of today, there are 2,176 climate-related lawsuits in play across the world, including 654 filed in US courtrooms, according to the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University.

And scientists and economists are making further advances in calculating exactly how much a country's activity may have contributed to climate change - and to specific disasters. This line of argument, referred to as "climate attribution science," made its way into more courtrooms.

"So far it's been a battle of the experts on paper," said Sabin Center's executive director, Michael Burger. "What we have not yet seen is an actual trial" presenting evidence toward attributing a certain percent of obligation to a climate-polluting company or country.

But it's just a matter of time, experts say.

### What does it mean for 2023?

With the new year, expect more public anxiety as climate change continues to escalate - and more worry among companies and governments over liability and risk.

Companies and investors will face pressure to climate-proof their supply chains and operations.

Court rooms will see more climate cases filed, he said - focused both on challenging national governments to increase their climate policy ambitions and on holding corporations accountable for their emissions or deceptive practices.

At the end of the year, countries will meet again at the next UN climate summit, COP28, in Dubai. And they will be under extra pressure to see that emissions are cut in half by 2030 and to net-zero by 2050 - the only path to holding global warming to within 1.5 degrees Celsius.

"An increasing number of powerful actors are coming to terms with the fact that we can't keep sticking our heads in the sand," Burger said.

## US to answer for Ukraine's terrorist actions against Russian civilians - diplomat

MOSCOW

WASHINGTON will not be able to evade responsibility for Kiev's terrorist actions, including for aiming rockets at Russian targets, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said at a briefing yesterday.



"Washington, which has practically become a party to the conflict, will not be able to evade complicity in the terror unleashed by the Kiev regime against Russian civilians and absolve itself of responsibility for the deaths and destruction caused by American weapons on American tip-off," she said.

The diplomat drew attention to the fact that the shelling of civilian objects on the territory of the Russian Federation was carried out on direct orders from Kiev "with the approval of the United States, which is directly involved in the aiming of artillery and missile systems and provides satellite intelligence to the Ukrainian armed forces."

"American journalists openly write that the Pentagon has greenlit drone strikes on Russian territory," Zakharova pointed out. "Inspired by this support, Ukrainian politicians are already declaring their intention to strike critical infrastructure near Moscow."

## East Africa's bloc backs S. Sudan to secure funding for climate change mitigation

JUBA

EAST AFRICA'S bloc, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), on Wednesday completed training for several South Sudanese officials aimed at building their capacities to secure funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

The GCF is a global platform to respond to climate change by investing in low-emission and climate-resilient development.

Philip Omondi, project manager for the Strengthening the Resilience of the IGAD region to the adverse Impacts of Climate Change through effective Adaptation and Mitigation Actions (RICCAMA), said the training will boost the capacity of South Sudan to lobby for funds from the climate kitty established under the 2015 Paris Agreement.

"We are here in South Sudan basically to build the capacity of ministerial staff, sectoral heads on how to develop bankable project proposals; we have climate funds through the climate kitty where developed countries are giving developing countries 100 billion U.S. dollars per month, according to the Paris Agreement of 2015," Omondi said at the closing of the three-day training in the South Sudanese capital of Juba.

The RICCAMA project is implemented within the framework of an existing financing agreement between the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) Secretariat of the OACPS, and the European Union (EU) for the implementation of the Intra-ACP Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) program.

The project's overall objective is to increase the resilience of the IGAD region to the adverse impacts of climate change and contribute to the achievement of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, in particular, Goal 13.

To achieve the project goal, IGAD seeks to support the building of regional and national capacities for securing funding from the GCF, adaptation funds, and other sources for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The regional bloc also seeks to support document adaptation best practices, sharing knowledge resources across countries and facilitating technology and skills transfer. He said countries such as South Sudan have been finding it extremely difficult to access funds from the GCF.

"We believe that after the training, they will be now able to write proposals to attract this funding to their country," said Omondi, adding that the RICCAMA project aims to boost every IGAD member country's capacity to be able to develop two bankable project proposals by the end of the project.

Some 20 participants from the agriculture, energy, environment and other ministries attended the training.

Xinhua



**To achieve the project goal, IGAD seeks to support the building of regional and national capacities for securing funding from the GCF, adaptation funds, and other sources for climate change mitigation**

## Australia takes aim at Apple, Microsoft over child protection online

SYDNEY

AN Australian regulator, after using new powers to make the tech giants share information about their methods, accused Apple Inc and Microsoft Corp not doing enough to stop child exploitation content on their platforms.

The e-Safety Commissioner, an office set up to protect internet users, said that after sending legal demands for information to some of the world's biggest internet firms, the responses showed Apple and Microsoft did not proactively screen for child abuse material in their storage services, iCloud and OneDrive.

The two firms also confirmed they did not use any technology to detect live-streaming of child sexual abuse on video services Skype and Microsoft Teams, which are owned by Microsoft, and FaceTime, which is owned by Apple, the commissioner said in a report published on Thursday.

A Microsoft spokesman said the company was com-



Workers communicate at the Yanbu Aramco Sinopec Refining Company (YASREF) in Yanbu, Saudi Arabia, Nov. 27, 2022. Xinhua

mitted to combatting proliferation of abuse material but "as threats to children's safety continue to evolve and bad actors become more sophisticated in their tactics, we continue to challenge ourselves to adapt our response".

Apple was not immediately available for comment.

The disclosure confirms gaps in the child protection measures of some of the world's biggest tech firms, building public pressure on them to do more, according

to the commissioner. Meta Platforms Inc, which owns Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, and Snapchat owner Snap Inc also got demands for information.

The responses overall were "alarming" and raised con-

cerns of "clearly inadequate and inconsistent use of widely available technology to detect child abuse material and grooming", commissioner Julie Inman Grant said in a statement.

Microsoft and Apple "do not even attempt to proactively detect previously confirmed child abuse material" on their storage services, although a Microsoft-developed detection product is used by law enforcement agencies.

An Apple announcement a week ago that it would stop scanning iCloud accounts for child abuse, following pressure from privacy advocates, was "a major step backwards from their responsibilities to help keep children safe" Inman Grant said.

The failure of both firms to detect live-streamed abuse amounted to "some of the biggest and richest technology companies in the world turning a blind eye and failing to take appropriate steps to protect the most vulnerable from the most predatory", she added.

Agencies

## Chinese business delegations go overseas for economic, trade activities

CHINESE provincial governments are sending business delegations overseas for economic and trade activities, through charter and shared flights, to promote economic recovery and get rid of the impacts from COVID-19.

Recently, a trade delegation consisting of 59 foreign trade enterprises from southeast China's Fujian province attended the ISPO Munich, a leading international trade show for the sports business in Germany, and made over \$300 million of intended deals.

Suzhou of Jiangsu province in east China chartered planes to send business delegations to Japan, hoping to sign deals of over \$140 million.

On Dec. 4, Zhejiang province launched an action plan to send 10,000 foreign trade enterprises overseas to attend exhibitions and visit clients before the end of 2023, so as to help them gain more opportunities.

"In just two days, we have met 110 clients and reached intended deals of around \$43 million," said Min Enguang, sales manager of Brilsta, a high-tech enterprise specializing in the research and development and sales of food raw materials, at the Health Ingredients (Hi) Europe, a leading nutritional ingredients event held in Paris.

Brilsta is a beneficiary of the action plan launched by Zhejiang province,

and many other Zhejiang companies also attended the event in Paris.

As one of the three major drivers of China's economic growth, foreign trade is of vital importance.

The spreading COVID-19 pandemic and the complex and volatile international situation have to some extent hindered the communication between Chinese foreign trade companies and their overseas clients in the past three years.

As China constantly optimizes its COVID-19 control measures, to advance economic development has become a consensus among all regions across the country.

An official with the commerce department of south China's Guang-

dong province said that government-organized charter flights and other measures could help enterprises gain wider information about the overseas market.

"By offering ideas for enterprises and connecting them to the overseas market, the government has conveyed a clear signal of helping them expand business in foreign countries," the official said.

As a matter of fact, the Chinese government has rolled out a series of policies this year to stabilize the foreign trade sector.

In April, the country stepped up export tax rebates to support foreign trade, and a month later, it issued 13 policies to help foreign trade compa-

nies navigate the trough.

A meeting of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee proposed this month to boost opening up at a higher level and to further attract and make good use of foreign investment.

These measures have effectively stabilized and vitalized China's foreign trade, and expanded the country's advantages in the sector.

While Chinese enterprises are going overseas, foreign investors are also showing their confidence in the Chinese market.

In the first three quarters this year, foreign direct investment into the Chinese mainland, in actual use, topped the 1-trillion-yuan mark, up

15.6 percent year on year.

This year, BMW Brilliance, a joint venture between BMW and China's Brilliance Auto, put into use its Plant Lydia in northeast China's Liaoning province, which is BMW's third car assembly facility in China. Carl Zeiss AG, a leading manufacturer of optical systems and optoelectronics from Germany started building a new production base in Suzhou. Besides, German multinational chemical company BASF put into use the first plants of its Verbund site in Zhanjiang, Guangdong province, with a total investment of about 10 billion euros (about \$9.93 billion).

People's Daily



## Russia's embassy warns US against sending Patriot missile systems to Kiev

WASHINGTON

IF the United States sends its Patriot missile systems to Kiev, that would be another provocative step that may lead to unpredictable consequences, the Russian embassy in Washington warned in a statement on Wednesday.

"An information campaign has been launched in the US about alleged preparations for sending cutting-edge air defense systems to Kiev," the Russian diplomats said. "If this [information] is confirmed, we will witness yet another provocative step by the [US] administration that may lead to unpredictable consequences," they warned.

"Continued deliveries of arms will only strengthen the [Ukrainian President Vladimir] Zelensky regime's and push it to new crimes against civilians in Donbass, the Kherson and the Zaporozhye regions," the embassy emphasized.

According to the Russian diplomats, "Even without delivery of the Patriot systems, the United States is increasingly drawn into the conflict in the post-Soviet republic." "The weapons flow is growing, the training of servicemen is expanding. The Ukrainian army is being supplied with intelligence data. Sending American military specialists to the combat zone is discussed more and more often. In addition, U.S. citizens participate in the confrontation as mercenaries," they stressed.

"Washington's strategy causes enormous damage not only to the Russian-American relations, but also creates additional risks for global security. It is the United States that is responsible for the prolongation and escalation of the Ukrainian conflict," the Russian embassy concluded.

Washington is finalizing plans to send Ukraine a Patriot missile defense system, CNN reported earlier, citing people familiar with the matter. Pentagon Spokesman Patrick Ryder declined to confirm the CNN report on December 13. US National Security Council Coordinator for Strategic Communications John Kirby said on Wednesday that the US administration could not confirm media reports about potential deliveries of these missile systems to Kiev.

In his turn, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov warned on Wednesday that Patriot missile defense systems would be regarded as legitimate targets by the Russian Armed Forces, should Washington supply them to Kiev.

## EU leaders head for tussle over rescue plans for industry

BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN Union leaders will argue on Thursday over how to prop up their countries' industries, which have been whacked by soaring energy prices since the outbreak of conflict in Ukraine and now face the threat of subsidy-fuelled US competition.

Poorer EU countries want a coordinated response to the US Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) - \$430 billion worth of tax breaks for green energy - because they lack the deep pockets of richer member states like Germany to underpin their industries.

The tug-of-war among 27 leaders in Brussels will be inconclusive, diplomats said.

Still, it will mean that the EU ends 2022 struggling to stay united after a year of closing ranks to support Ukraine and pressuring Russia with far-reaching and unprecedented economic sanctions.

EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen proposed ahead of the summit to loosen state aid rules in renewable energy and clean-tech to shield European industry.

"There is a risk that the Inflation Reduction Act can lead to unfair competition," she said in a speech. "We need to give our answer, our European IRA."

However, the EU is split between traditionally "dirigiste" countries that want to see the creation of a joint "sovereignty fund" to ensure a level playing field across the bloc and wealthier states that line up behind free market principles.

"Some governments have deep pockets and extensive possibilities to support their industry through

national schemes, others have not," said one senior EU diplomat. "We don't want a national subsidy race among member states ... but there have to be carefully drafted limits."

While this dilemma is likely to be parked for another summit in February or March, the leaders may agree on Thursday on a ninth package of EU sanctions against Moscow.

This has been held up by disagreement over whether or how to offer exemptions for an EU ban on Russia fertilizer exports.

Some say these restrictions pose a food security threat to developing countries, while others argue that relaxing them would only open loopholes for Russian oligarchs who own fertilizer businesses to dodge EU sanctions against them.

Officials said the leaders are not expected to hold in-depth talks on the EU's struggle to agree on a natural gas price cap, but rather leave the negotiations to energy ministers who will meet on Monday for the third time.

Sky-high bills have hit European citizens and forced industries to close since Russia cut off most of its gas supplies to Europe.

A draft of the summit conclusions said leaders would call for more gas deals urgently to replace Russian fuel, including through joint gas buying among EU countries.

Overshadowing the summit will be a corruption scandal that emerged in the EU parliament over the past week.

Belgian prosecutors charged Eva Kaili, a Greek member, and three others for accepting bribes from World Cup host Qatar in a bid to influence EU policymaking.

## Colombia gets \$55m for peace from UN multi-donor fund

BOGOTA

A United Nations multi-donor fund will donate a record \$55 million to help establish peace in Colombia in 2023, with programs focused on rural reform, protecting social leaders, and supporting conflict victims, officials and ambassadors said on Wednesday.

The fund, established in 2016 to support the peace agreement signed between the Colombian State with the now-demobilized Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrillas, has invested \$181 million dollars so far.

Countries supporting the fund include Norway, Chile, South Korea and Britain, among others. "From the United Nations and with the support of all these countries, we will remain committed to Colombians to support them on the road to peace, with building truth and the search for reconciliation," UN resident coordinator in Colombia Mireia Villar Forner said in a press conference.

Colombia's leftist President Gustavo Petro has pledged to fully implement the peace accord which ended the FARC's involvement in the country's internal armed conflict, which has run for nearly six decades and saw at least 450,000 killed between 1985 and 2018 alone.

Although some 13,000 FARC members laid down their arms to return to civilian life and form a political party, some FARC factions did not accept the agreement, while others later returned to arms, alleging that terms of the peace deal were not met.

Petro, himself a former member of the demobilized M-19 guerrilla movement, wants to establish total peace in Colombia, including with the dissident FARC groups and guerrillas of the leftist National Liberation Army (ELN), as well as with criminal gangs involved in drug trafficking, such as the Clan del Golfo.

The resources will be invested effectively and transparently, said Colombia's high commissioner for peace, Danilo Rueda.

Colombia's budget for 2023 is set at 405.6 trillion pesos (\$84.6 billion) and will see a marked emphasis on social projects aimed at establishing peace, said Mauricio Lizcano, the director of the presidency's administrative department.

## UN Economic and Social Council adopts resolution to remove Iran from women's commission

UNITED NATIONS

THE United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on Wednesday adopted a resolution on the removal of Iran's membership in the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

The draft resolution, introduced by the United States, obtained 29 votes "in favor" while eight ECOSOC members including China voted against it and 16 countries abstained.

The resolution voices concern over Iran "administering policies flagrantly contrary to the human rights of women and girls and to the mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women," and "decides to remove with immediate effect" Iran from membership in the commission for the remainder of its 2022-2026 term.

Speaking before the voting, Geng Shuang, China's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, stressed that the draft resolution "has no basis in law at all," noting ECOSOC rules of procedure contain no provisions on removing membership in the Commission on the Status of Women.

Removing the membership of a member state that has been democratically elected into the commission by ECOSOC would set a very dangerous precedent, he said.

The draft resolution is completely imposed on delegations. The sponsor has refused to engage in dialogue or consultations or to reflect the views of member states. Its practice totally runs counter to fairness, democracy, open-



Photo taken on Sept. 14, 2020 shows the outside view of the United Nations headquarters in New York, the United States. Xinhua

ness and transparency, Geng said, adding that the resolution does not help solve any problem.

In the resolution, there is no mentioning of Iranian women's huge sufferings caused by the sponsor's indiscriminate unilateral sanctions against Iran, he said. "This is nothing but naked bullying, hypocrisy and double standard."

China believes that the Iranian government and its people can properly handle their domestic affairs. As an active advocate for and supporter of human rights and women's advancement, China has always adhered to

true multiculturalism, to international law and multilateral rules, to constructive dialogue and communication on an equal footing based on respect for the sovereignty and national conditions of all countries, Geng said.

He pointed out that addressing human rights and women's issues by means of removing Iran from the commission would only set a dangerous precedent, send out the wrong message and bring about negative consequences.

China calls on ECOSOC members to jointly safeguard multiculturalism,

oppose unilateral acts, stand for dialogue and cooperation and reject division and confrontation, Geng said.

The Commission on the Status of Women is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. A functional commission of ECOSOC, it was established in June 1946.

Xinhua

## Tea gifts from China at COP15-2 mirror country's progress in biodiversity

ON the "Zhejiang Day" sub-event held at the China Pavilion of the second part of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15-2) in Montreal on Dec. 9, small cans of black tea attracted attention from the representatives attending the conference.

These tea cans were gifts brought by Chinese representatives. On the red cans, it was printed "Official Collection of COP15" in Chinese, as well as "Haishu Longguan" that indicated the tea's place of origin - Longguan township of Haishu district, Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang province.

The COP15-2 came just days after China's traditional tea-making techniques and associated social practices were officially added to the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage for Humanity by the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The tea in the red cans, picked in April this year, was a local specialty of Longguan township. It is a top prize winner at the Zhejiang Agricultural Fair.

Yu Ting, the party head of Longguan township, said the philosophy of carbon reduction was embedded in all production procedures of the tea, from planting to picking and from processing to transportation. He called the tea "an outcome of the biodiversity protection of Longguan township."

The tea was grown in a 66.7-hectare plantation on Siming Mountain in Longguan township. The plantation, which also grows green tea and white tea, is active and busy all year.

Yang Jinliang, owner of the plantation, told People's Daily that the plantation is a beneficiary of the sound ecology and also contributes to further improving the ecology.

Under the guidance of local authorities, Yang and other tea farmers have been striving to reach the carbon reduction goals in all industrial chains of tea production. Today, car-



Women pick tea in a tea plantation in Longguan township, Haishu district, Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang province. (Photo by Zhang Haohua/People's Daily Online)

bon emissions by the plantation in tea planting, processing, transportation, consumption, and waste gas treatment are monitored online.

Yang has also joined the making of Chinese carbon labelling standards for tea products. "In the future, the labelling will not only improve products' added value but also enhance people's awareness of purchasing low-carbon agricultural and sideline products," he said.

The Guideline for Biodiversity-friendly Township Planning was published at COP15-2, in both Chinese and English. The guideline was compiled by the government of Haishu district and mirrored the experience in biodiversity protection gained by the district over the years.

The guideline proposed to include biodiversity conservation in township planning in a systematic, eco-friendly, economic, and inclusive manner and provided eight steps to implement biodiversity protection, such as establishing planning teams, evaluating resources, developing partnerships, and collecting ecological information. It covered four aspects of planning, including developing

eco-based industries, advocating close-to-nature lifestyles, restoring authentic ecology, and carrying out inclusive treatment.

The guideline drew experience of Longguan in building a biodiversity-friendly township. At the end of 2021, Haishu district launched China's first pilot project of the construction of biodiversity-friendly township, which attempted to integrate biodiversity conservation into rural governance, production, and people's daily lives.

Guided by the vision of biodiversity protection, Longguan replanned the construction of a local mountain road to maximally reduce the transport project's damage to local forests.

It moved over 100 rare plants to the botanical garden of Ningbo and ensured minimum intrusion into the living space of plants and animals when building plank roads and observation decks.

The township also set up some 20 small protection bases for ferns, *Isoetes sinensis* Palmers, and other plants, and built over 300 artificial bird nests and "insect hotels."

Longguan township, covering an area of 73 square kilometers, now boasts a forest coverage of 85 percent and 25 plant and animal spe-

cies under first- and second-class national protection.

From the perspective of global development, townships are an important part of biodiversity construction, said Yu Wei, one of the makers of the guideline and the executive director of the research center for carbon neutrality and green development at China Jiliang University.

He said the biggest highlight of the guideline is that it offers a standard that guides townships to incorporate biodiversity into their planning, which is a key issue in the construction of biodiversity-friendly townships.

"It sheds light on the sustainable development of townships around the world," he added.

People's Daily

# Golfers meet in Kilombero for 2022 Uhuru tournament



Roberto Oliveira

## Coach Oliveira now confident Vipers will have a shout in CAF Champions League group stage

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi and Agencies

UGANDA Premier League champions Vipers FC's head coach Roberto Oliveira has expressed confidence in his squad that has a great chance to reach the last eight of the CAF Champions League, after the group draw of the championship was arranged.

The business end of the TotalEnergies CAF Champions League 2022-2023 group stages draw took place on Monday.

Vipers SC will participate for the first time in the stage, being organized in Group C with Simba SC (Tanzania), Horoya AC (Guinea) and Raja Casablanca (Morocco).

Coach Roberto Oliveira is aware of the kind of opposition his side will face but he remains unfazed and oozing with confidence that Vipers SC will put up a fight despite this being their first appearance at such a level.

"We have been pitted against good opponents, big teams but Vipers SC is equally a good team. Overcoming a team like TP Mazembe was not a chance. We respect the teams in our group but they must as well respect us," he said.

The Brazilian gaffer says he will now take time to prepare for the games and make assessment of every opponent before facing them.

"We will take step by step. Right now we are still focused on finishing the first round of the League and then start to plan for Champions League. We have now and February next year to prepare well and be able to compete," he said.

Vipers SC became only the second Ugandan club to reach the Group

stages of the CAF Champions League, joining KCCA FC, who achieved the feat in 2017.

"I am preparing my team and we have enough time to do that. I believe we will qualify to the next stage and I always like big and competitive games, whether inside or outside here (Uganda) because we get enough time to express our worthy."

"My players are ready to fight in such games. There has been an in-growth in the confidence of my players and now they walk with pride to be in the major championships of this continent."

"We have time to prepare the team to qualify for the next stage. I am happy with my team for doing well in the league and I believe they will keep doing the same in the group stage and fight for the team to reach the next stage," said Oliveira.

Vipers SC will start the CAF Champions League campaign for the quarter-finals from the group stage, by playing against Raja Casablanca away (Morocco), before returning home to Uganda to face AC Horoya of Guinea.

Game three for the Ugandan giants will witness their return to the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam against Simba SC of Tanzania, before the teams play game four at St. Marykitende in Kampala.

Game five for Vipers SC will be against Raja Casablanca and finally they will travel to Guinea to face AC Horoya for their last game.

Having played 12 games in the Ugandan Premier League, The Vipers have won seven games, three draws and lost two games collecting 24 points from a possible 36 out of 15 teams.



The participants of the Uhuru Golf Tournament pose for a group picture during the event organized by the Kilombero Sugar Golf Club in Morogoro recently to celebrate 61 years of Independence. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Guardian Correspondent

**T**HIRTY golfers from Dar es Salaam and Morogoro participated in the Uhuru Day tournament organized by the Kilombero Sugar Golf Club in Morogoro recently to celebrate 61 years of Independence.

Speaking during the opening of the event, the Kilombero Golf Club chairman, Fakihi Fadhili, said the purpose of the tournament was to bring together golfers across the country, compete and have fun in the quest to enhance golf as a distinct sport and which has few players.

He added that the tournament will help golfers meet and network further.

Meanwhile, the Kilombero Golf captain, Pierre Redinger, shared a couple of ground rules that golfers needed to abide to, interestingly the first rule was to have fun!

The Kilombero Sugar Golf course, which is located within

the Kilombero Sugar Company Estate, has 18 holes and tournament was carried in a stroke play method.

In an interview held during the event, Morris Komba, a seasoned golfer from Kilombero Golf Club, shared a bit of history of the Kilombero Golf Club, saying it was founded on 2002 by David Haworth (the then managing director for Kilombero Sugar Company) under the captainship of Gerrie Odendaal (the then field manager for Kilombero Sugar Company) and currently the club has a total of 35 players.

He further mentioned that Kilombero Golf Club has been engaging in other tournaments and have been hosting golfers from Morogoro, Kilimanjaro and Dar es Salaam and from many other places.

On the other side, Vicky Elias, national golf team player, said she was very happy to participate in the Uhuru Golf Tournament organized by Kilombero Golf Club and said the golf

course was in a very good condition, hence very easy to use.

"I'm used to Par 72 golf course but here it is Par 62 which make it a lot easier to play," she said.

She urged parents to support their children to enroll in golf play, especially girls, adding that golf fraternity needs to groom and prepare juniors to take part in national team later on.

Vicky emphasized that she is personally willing to help train juniors and she has been doing that for some time now.

Dickson Sika, secretary of Tanzania Golf Union (TGU), said that he was very happy to participate in the Uhuru Golf Tournament and he mentioned that it was his second time to play at the Kilombero golf course.

He commended the efforts taken by Kilombero Golf Club to prepare the tournament, especially on the Independence Day.

Relating golf with Independence, he said: "Although majority of people are not aware, but golf is closely associated

with independence and a good number of freedom fighters did play golf, for instance Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and Mwalimu Julius Nyerere."

He further insisted: "There is the need for the government to consider lowering or removing tax on golf gears to enable price to go down so as to encourage many people to join and play golf which for now it is perceived to be a sport for rich people, partly due to high cost of golf gears."

The tournament culminated with a dinner event where golfers received different prizes for various categories.

The overall prize was handled to Seif Mcharo, the women title was handled to Vicky Elias, Division C title went to Nathaniel Gwelle and Buruhadini Qusai emerged as the winner for the junior division.

The Uhuru Golf Tournament was proudly sponsored by Kilombero Sugar Company, Unitrans Africa, Garda World and Manson Mines Logistics (MML).



Some of the activists fighting against sexual corruption in Tanzania dance music before starting their national meeting to set strategies to fight the corruption in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: SABATO KASIKA

## Harry and Meghan now vent their grievances in final Netflix episodes

LONDON

PRINCE Harry and his wife, Meghan, vented their grievances against the British monarchy on Thursday in the second half of their Netflix documentary series, with Harry describing the royal press machine – including leaking and planting stories in newspapers – as a "dirty game."

Harry, 38, also said there was a "wedge" created between himself and his older brother and heir to the throne, Prince William, around the time Harry and Meghan decided to step away from royal duties and move away from the U.K. to start a new life.

He cited the example of a joint statement palace officials issued on behalf of him and William to "squash" a story about William bullying the couple out of the family. He said it was issued without his consent.

"I couldn't believe it. No one had asked me permission to put my name to a statement like that," Harry told

the Netflix series. "They were happy to lie to protect my brother and yet for three years, they were never willing to tell the truth to protect us."

Elsewhere in the series, Meghan and Harry both reiterated their complaints that British royal officials did not help them by rejecting inaccurate, negative reports about them.

"What clicked in my head was, 'It's never going to stop,'" Meghan said. "Every rumor, every negative thing, every lie and everything I knew wasn't true, and that the palace knew wasn't true and internally they knew wasn't true, was being allowed to fester."

Harry added: "There was no other option at this point. I said that we need to get out of here."

Meghan's lawyer, Jenny Afia, claimed in the series that she has seen evidence of "negative briefing from the palace" against the couple "to suit other people's agendas." She did not elaborate what evidence she saw.

AP

## Mgunda remains optimistic heading to CAF Champions League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC interim head coach Juma Mgunda has admitted the difficulty after properly evaluating the Africa Champions League group stage schedule, following the draw that took place earlier this week in Cairo, Egypt.

However, Mgunda, who has set a record as the first Tanzanian coach to guide Simba SC from the preliminary stages to the group stage by beating Nyassa Big Bullet (Malawi) and Primeiro De Agosto (Angola), has said he is ready to face anyone in the competition.

He has said that he realizes that it is a tough test for him because he will be leading the team for the first time in the group stage, but he has emphasized that he has no doubts about doing well

because he has many players with international experience.

"This is my first time participating in the group stage, but that doesn't worry me because most of my players have experience playing in the stage. I will make sure we prepare well with the help of the leadership, so that we can do well," he said.

"We have been arranged in a difficult group. I know there are some fans who believe it is an easy group, but let me just tell you that there is no weak team, especially in this tournament. We have all reached this stage due to the quality we have shown, so I have received our group with open arms."

"I know the fans are thirsty to see their team performing well and reaching the next stage, but I am asking the fans and members to be together with

their team, because this is the time to show that, to enable the players to fight with all their heart," said Mgunda.

Meanwhile, Zambian forward Moses Phiri has said that Simba SC has a great chance to reach the quarter-finals of the African Champions League this season 2022/23 only if they prepare well and respect opponents.

The ever-scoring striker, who was registered by Simba SC, said that all teams they have been arranged with in Group C are good and have very competitive squads, but he has emphasized that even Simba have a good squad capable of beating any team.

"Yes, it is true that our group is a tough one, but on our side we have good expectations of breaking through and advancing to the quarter-final stage. That

is the goal of Simba in every season to reach that stage and move forward.

"The teams that are in our group are all good and have goals to move forward, but we are not a weak side in this championship and we will make sure that we fight for the team so that we can succeed to qualify for next stage," said Phiri.

Simba will start the campaign to seek a place to reach the quarter-final stage away by playing Horoya AC between February 10 -11, then they will play at home at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium against Raja Casablanca between February 17-18.

The last time Simba ended up in the quarter-finals of the CAF Champions League were defeated by Kaizer Chief of South Africa by a 4-3 goal aggregate in the 2020/2021 season.

## Morocco makes another World Cup statement despite loss

AL KHOR, Qatar

YASSINE Bounou stretched out his arm with everything he had, desperately trying to get something, anything, in the way of the ball. It was no use.

France substitute Randal Kolo Muani had come on only seconds earlier and with his first touch assured the defending champions of a second straight World Cup final, putting an end to Morocco's proud fight once and for all.

France ended up winning 2-0 and will face Argentina for the title on Sunday.

But it wasn't until that moment, in the 79th minute of an enthralling semifinal match at Al Bayt Stadium on Wednesday, that the two-time champions could breathe easily.

"My players gave everything," Morocco coach Walid Regragui said. "They've gone as far as they could. It's difficult for them to take now. They wanted to rewrite the history books, but you can't win a World Cup with miracles, you have to do it with hard work and that's what we are going to do, keep working."

The team that has provided the most improbable story of this year's World Cup got off to a terrible start. Morocco lost two players from its starting lineup and conceded a goal to an opposition player for the first time in the tournament - all by the 21st minute.

The sea of red shirts in the stands still dominated the atmosphere, overpowering the massively outnumbered France supporters even after Theo Hernandez scored in the fifth minute.

As inspiring as Morocco has been in becoming the first African nation to reach the World Cup semifinals, the fans who have cheered them all the way have felt fundamental to an unforgettable journey.

The tone had been set even before kickoff as the now familiar deafening whistles greeted France's players as they emerged for their pre-match warm-up. It got even louder as the French national anthem was played, coming close to drowning out the stadium's loudspeaker system.

When Morocco's anthem played, the noise reached yet new levels.

The theme of Morocco's run has been that anything is possible. Not even the prospect of facing the defending champions and superstar forward Kylian Mbappe could quell the sense of anticipation.

Yet Morocco's plans were in disarray before the game even started. Central defender Nayef Aguerd was pulled out of the team after the warm-up session and was replaced by Achraf Dari. Romain Saiss, another central defender and the team's captain, only lasted a little while longer. He was substituted after 21 minutes, giving way for Selim Amallah.

AP

## World Cup run temporarily masks Argentina's inflation misery

BUENOS AIRES

ARGENTINA's economy may be sinking but the entire country is buoyant, basking in the elation of its football team led by iconic captain Lionel Messi reaching the World Cup final.

The dream of landing Argentina's third world title, 36 years after the last one, seems -- at least for now -- to have let Argentines forget their woes.

That number three seems significant today, and not just because Messi and his teammates seek to put a third championship star on the team's blue and white jersey.

Sporting glory arrives at a time when many people believe the inflation that has wreaked havoc on the South American nation's economy will reach a barely believable triple digits for 2022.

Last Thursday, the INDEC statistics institute published the price index for November, around six percent, suggesting inflation, which already stood at 88 percent over the last 12 months, is not decelerating.

Argentina has had double-figure inflation for decades.

But there is a genuine feeling that soccer success -- and that Messi magic -- can alleviate the pain of millions in a country where the poverty level is over 40 percent.

Before the tournament in Qatar began, Argentina's Labor Minister Kelly Olmos was even asked whether lowering inflation was more important than winning the World Cup.

"We must constantly work against inflation, but one month won't make a huge difference," she said.

"On the other hand, from a morale point of view, given what it means for all Argentines, we want Argentina to be champions," Olmos added. "The Argentine people really deserve some joy."

Predictably, that provoked a barrage of criticism.

- 'A relief' -

And yet Argentines crowd around television screens in droves to watch the team's matches, whether in bars, homes, even a Buenos Aires 'fan zone.'

Most of these fans could never dream of affording a ticket to Qatar in a country where the average wage is a meagre 66,500 pesos (\$390).

"People are well aware of the problems" but football and the economic situation "are on parallel paths, they don't meet," Lucrecia Presdiger, a 38-year-old hospital worker, told AFP after Argentina's quarter-final victory over the Netherlands.

AFP

# France end Morocco World Cup dream to set up Argentina final

AL KHOR, Qatar

FRANCE ended Morocco's World Cup dream as goals from Theo Hernandez and Randal Kolo Muani gave the holders a 2-0 win in their semi-final clash to set up a showdown on Sunday with Lionel Messi's Argentina. It appeared that France might make short work of their opponents when Hernandez scored inside five minutes at Al Bayt Stadium on Wednesday, despite having a hostile crowd against them.

Morocco, the first African or Arab team ever to reach the last four at a World Cup, dug deep despite injury problems only to concede a late second as substitute Kolo Muani scored moments after coming on.

France, who have reached a fourth World Cup final in seven editions, are hoping to become the first team since Brazil 60 years ago to retain the trophy when they take on Argentina at Lusail Stadium at the

weekend.

"There is lots of emotion and lots of pride in the dressing room," said coach Didier Deschamps, whose side were congratulated at the stadium by French President Emmanuel Macron.

"It was an important step but there is still a last one to go."

The final will be billed as a showdown between Messi and his Paris Saint-Germain teammate Kylian Mbappe, but this match was not about Mbappe's individual brilliance.

France's victory was a team effort against a Moroccan side who will now face Croatia in Saturday's third-place play-off.

"We gave our all, that is the most important thing. The boys fought right to the end," said coach Walid Regragui.

"We wanted to win the match but we came up against a strong team who know what they are doing and who wait for you to make a mistake, which we did at the start of the match."



Morocco's goalkeeper Yassine Bounou cuts off an attack of France's Kylian Mbappe during the World Cup semifinal soccer match between France and Morocco at the Al Bayt Stadium in Al Khor, Qatar, Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2022. (AP Photo)

Morocco had reached the semi-finals after beating Belgium in the group stage and then knocking out Spain and Portugal.

But facing the holders was another matter, and Regragui's plans were hindered by a series of injuries.

Having missed the quarter-final, centre-back Nayef Aguerd was recalled only to withdraw at the last minute, with Achraf Dari step-

ping in. Fellow defender and captain Romain Saiss had to abandon his teammates after just 21 minutes.

Two of France's starters in the quarter-final win over England, Adrien Rabiot and Dayot Upamecano, were missing due to illness.

France were met by deafening whistles when in possession from the huge Moroccan support but they silenced the

crowd with the early opener, Hernandez netting with an acrobatic volley at the back post after Mbappe's shot was deflected.

It was also just the second goal conceded by Morocco in Qatar and the first scored by an opposition player.

- Injuries pile up - The excellent Azeddine Ounahi forced a fine save from Hugo Lloris soon afterwards but there was a feeling that

the evening could quickly turn into a rude reality check for Morocco.

When Saiss let a simple forward ball bounce over his head, Olivier Giroud broke away but his shot hit the post.

When Saiss came off Regragui abandoned his back three and matched France's 4-3-3.

Morocco finished the half strongly and nearly drew level when, following a corner, defender Jawad El Yamiq saw his overhead kick tipped onto the post by Lloris.

The Atlas Lions then also lost Bayern Munich left-back Noussair Mazraoui at half-time.

Deschamps took off Giroud and replaced him with Marcus Thuram -- son of Lilian -- midway through the second half as Mbappe moved inside.

Kolo Muani then came on for Ousmane Dembele, and with 11 minutes remaining he scored with his first touch, tapping in after another Mbappe shot had been deflected.

AFP

## Chaotic World Cup yields final for the ages: Argentina vs. France

By Henry Bushnell

THE 2022 World Cup began amid controversy with chaos. It began here at the Al Bayt Stadium with a night all about Qatar, then quickly turned upside down. It pushed Argentina to the brink after less than 48 hours, and soon discarded Belgium and Germany. It continued, all the way to the semifinals, with Morocco and Croatia -- and that, on Tuesday and Wednesday, at the feet of two giants, is where it ended.

That's where chaos gave way to order.

And that's where cute, inspiring underdog tales gave way to a clash of the titans.

It will be Argentina versus France, Lionel Messi versus Kylian Mbappé, after the French held off Morocco on Wednesday. It will be a dream final in a futuristic from-scratch city at a cavernous stadium rising out of the desert. It all still feels a bit strange and cringey, a bit uncomfortable and morally complicated, but my goodness, it will be overflowing with sumptuous narratives. It seems almost incapable of disappointing.

It will be a battle of continents and vibes and generations. Either a torch will be passed, from a GOAT to the first potential challenger for his throne; or the GOAT will be christened. Mbappé, who has accomplished more before the age of 24 than perhaps anybody since Pelé, is well on his way to "all the records," as French teammates and coaches have said, but Argentina can put them on hold.

The 23-year-old French prince didn't score in Wednesday's semifinal, but in mo-

ments, in strings of mere seconds, he showed why he is so feared. He powered past Moroccan defenders without the ball. He also collected it, pushed it past them, and toggled on his turbo jets. He even channeled Messi's sorcerous dribbling to set up France's second goal.

For all the inevitable talk about individuals, though, about arguably the most two talented soccer players on the planet, this will be team against team, unit against unit, sharp young coach against sharp World Cup-winning coach.

"There is not only Messi in that team, eh," French striker Olivier Giroud said Wednesday. "They've got great players who work for the team also."

Four years ago, when these two teams met in the Round of 16, it was only Messi -- which of course is an exaggeration, but surrounding him was an Argentine mess. The French remember that game; head coach Didier Deschamps remembers how Messi surprisingly played as something of a striker; Giroud remembers how N'Golo Kanté, the always-everywhere French midfielder, "was all the game, on [Messi's] back."

But "four years ago, things were different, of course," Deschamps said. Four years later, Messi is rejuvenated and redeployed in a more suitable role.

"Messi has been in scintillating form since the beginning of the tournament," Deschamps said.

"Any team with Messi in it is a totally different proposition," said French attacker Antoine Griezmann -- who, along with teammates, has



Sunday's World Cup final between Argentina and France is a clash of the titans of global soccer. (Graphic by Stefan Milic/Yahoo Sports)

been following Argentina throughout the tournament.

"I mean, he's an incredible player," Giroud said. "But we're not gonna let him enjoy the best night he can have. We want to win this game, we want to win another World Cup. And we'll try everything to stop him."

And while they don't have Kante, nor Paul Pogba, nor a host of 2018-present regulars who've been felled by injury, they have a near-ideal blend of kids and vets. They have Aurelien Tchouameni, a majestic, multi-talented midfielder playing somewhat in

place of Kante. And they have 2018 winners to help guide him and the other World Cup first-timers.

Griezmann remembers crying four years ago after taking down Belgium in those semis. "And I think now, I'm more focused," he said Wednesday after these semis. "I'm already focusing on the final on Sunday. I'm trying to keep my feet on the ground."

What they also might have, unfortunately, is a spreading virus. Adrien Rabiot and Dayot Upamecano, starters in midfield and defense

respectively, missed the game against Morocco while battling flu-like symptoms. Deschamps hinted that Kingsley Coman was also feeling unwell.

"We are taking all the precautions, we're trying to make sure that it doesn't spread," he said. Rabiot stayed back at the team hotel rather than traveling to Wednesday's game. "But viruses, of course, are infectious," he added.

France, though, has sufficient depth to weather an outbreak. Argentina has plenty too. Together, they have all the ingredients to con-

coct a final for the ages, the most memorable of the 21st century.

The tournament as a whole has been memorable, too. The controversy has not and will not disappear; it will taint the legacy of the event. But the soccer, in a vacuum, has thrilled. It presented drama at every stage; it offered up Saudi Arabia and Iran, Japan and Costa Rica, Tunisia and South Korea and Australia. Upsets galore.

Now it will end as it always does, with either Argentina or France, one of the six nations who've won the tournament twice. It will end with a gargantuan audience and with history, either a title for Messi or a second in succession for France, who'd become the first back-to-back champions since Pelé's Brazil in 1962. It will be wonderfully complex and impossibly magnificent, and yet, at the same time, simple.

"Both teams are playing a better team than they've played so far in the tournament," Deschamps said. "It will be up to key players to make a difference. Maybe a team who makes fewer mistakes. ... Whoever manages to do that will win the match."

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Messi has chance to match Maradona as Argentina reach World Cup final

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12:00 Mpera Mpera  
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14:30 Bongo Hits  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELECT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 SKONGA  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Friday Night Live  
23:00 Kurasa (r)  
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

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06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planef Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 Friday Night Live

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# Transfer merry-go-round swings back officially



Said Ntibazonkiza

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE transfer merry-go-round swings back into action today as teams across the NBC Premier League, Championship, First League and Women's Premier League get the chance to buy, sell and loan players once again in a bid to freshen up their squads.

During this period, clubs are allowed to buy and sell players across Tanzania and beyond. Loan deals are also able to be completed during the month-long window.

Transfer deadline day will occur on January 15, next year with the window slamming shut at 11:59 pm.

Several clubs have already agreed deals in anticipation of the opening. Singida Big Stars have captured Tanzanian international Nickson Kibabage from Mtibwa Sugar.

Traditionally a difficult time to make big moves, but the best in the business still always find a way to make themselves better by opening

the cheque book.

The likes of Azam, Simba and Young Africans could all be in the hunt for new signings as they aim to increase their squad depth in the title campaign.

Simba will look to boost their attacking options and title chances. They have confirmed they are on the

lookout for strikers following Dejan Georgejevic's premature exit.

They didn't manage to get Caesar Manzoki in the last transfer window and are reportedly back-hunting for his service. The Central African Republic striker is currently on the books of Chinese Super League side

Dalian.

Geita Gold attacking midfielder Said Ntibazonkiza has lit up the NBC Premier League once again this season and has now become a 'top target' for Simba, according to media reports.

League leaders Young Africans might want to dip into the market to provide

cover for Fiston Mayele, meaning they could explore loaning out Heritier Makambo, who is out of favour at Jangwani.

Speculation is rife that Young Africans will try to land the signature of Ugandan international Bobosi Byaruhanga, mainly to bolster their squad for the CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage.

The Azam hierarchy has kept their cards close to their chests over whether they are actively pursuing their targets for the mini-transfer window.

With a number of players not getting playing time at Chamazi, several clubs have requested to acquire their services on loan. Ibrahim Ajib is one such player being linked with a move to Polisi Tanzania to reunite with Mwinyi Zahera.

George Mpole will head into the window as a free agent after his divorce with Geita Gold. However, the last season's top scorer is linked with a deal to Lupopo of DR Congo.

And then there is Mudathir Yahya, who is available on a free transfer since he left Azam in August.

There is also the likely prospect of accounting for injuries, with clubs potentially in the market for losing key players through long-term absences.

Clubs can also start negotiating with players who will be free agents at the end of the season, with some big names able to agree moves from January.

## Huge game at the foot of the table as Ruvu host Ihefu

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

STRUGGLING Ruvu Shooting host newly promoted Ihefu in a crucial NBC Premier League match at Chamazi in the afternoon. This is a massive game for both teams in terms of relegation and building momentum.

The hosts begin the day in 15th place on 11 points while the visitors are in 14th place on 11 points, making this a key fixture in the battle against the drop.

Ruvu Shooting come into the match under new coach Mbwana Makata, who replaced Boniface Mkwasa last week. He began his reign with a morale boosting 4-1 victory over Ndanda in the Federation Cup round of 64 match on Saturday.

The win against Ndanda means Ruvu Shooting have one victory in their last 11 games in all competitions and have recorded just four wins from their 16 matches this season.

They head into this clash on a four-game losing streak in the league, having fallen to Dodoma Jiji, Singida Big Stars, Simba and Azam.

To walk away with maximum points, coach Makata will have to make sure his defence is tightened up and cut down on individual mistakes that have cost them in previous games.

They have conceded a combined total of eight goals across their previous four league games and found the back of the net themselves only once.

Zanzibari striker Abalkassim Hamis has four goals in 14 appearances this term and he will be one of the main threats for Ihefu's goal aided by former Simba wingback Rashid Juma.

Ihefu will make the trip to Mlandizi on the back of a 9-0 home victory over Stand in the Federation Cup on the weekend. There is no doubt that they will bring the spirit of winning the fixture against Stand even though it was not in a NBC Premier League game.

The Mbarali side has lost each of their last five away league games at Singida Big Stars, Azam, Geita Gold, Simba and Kagera Sugar. They have lost seven of their eight away NBC Premier League fixtures this season, with the only draw coming at Mbeya City.

In head-to-head stats, Ruvu Shooting and Ihefu have met in three league matches since the 2020/21 season. Ihefu have recorded two wins while Ruvu have won one game.

When the teams met earlier this season, at Highlands Estates Stadium in August, Ruvu Shooting claimed a 1-0 away win thanks to a goal from Ally Bilal.

## Recharged Kagera Sugar dare in-form Azam

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM FC will go in search of their ninth consecutive NBC Premier League victory when they face hosts Kagera Sugar at the Kaitaba Stadium in the evening, kick-off at 7 PM.

As of now, Azam are three points behind leaders Young Africans (Yanga) in the table, although a goals difference overhaul of ten goals must happen in this game in order to get ahead of the defending champions, meaning winning 11-0 is a must.

This is, of course, unlikely, so Azam are merely hoping to win nine games in a row instead to close the gap and put pressure on Young Africans and third-placed Simba who will be in action tomorrow and Sunday.

The ice cream makers have been in formidable form this season, as not only have they recorded eight straight league wins, they have been impressive on their travels of late, winning all their last three away games.

Congolese forward Idris Mbombo has been Azam's

top scorer in the NBC Premier League, scoring six goals in ten league appearances.

Azam's attacking options are a nice headache to coach Kally Ongala, who can also call upon Prince Dube, Abdulhamis Suleiman 'Soptu' and Rodgers Kola.

Kagera Sugar are currently in seventh place in the NBC Premier League table, six points adrift of fourth-placed Singida Big Stars and a massive fourteen points shy of today's opponents.

They come into this game on the back of three successive wins - dispatching Tanzania Prisons (0-1), Mtibwa Sugar (1-0) and most recently Ihefu (2-0).

They have claimed sixteen points from eight home matches this season, though they are unbeaten in their last two games as hosts.

Head coach Mecky Mexime, who has only lost once since he took over from Francis Baraza, will be desperate for his side to put in another positive display, with the opportunity to move up to sixth in the table at stake if they

can pull off a triumph.

Said Kipao is set to retain his place between the sticks ahead of Ramadhan Chalamanda, while Abdallah Mfuko, Datus Peter, David Luhende and Laurent Alfred are all expected to continue in the back four.

Up front, the emergence of Meshack Abraham who scored in the last three games for Kagera Sugar has added a selection dilemma to Mexime who has to decide who to start among Anuary Jabir, Yusuph Mhulu, Khamis Kiiza and Mbaraka Yusuph.

In head-to-head stats, Kagera Sugar and Azam have met in twenty five league matches since the 2009/10 season. The Chamazi side has claimed 15 wins compared to five for their Bukoba counterparts, while five matches have been drawn.

Kagera Sugar have won just three of their 12 home matches in the rivalry, suffering six defeats in the process. When the teams met earlier this season, at Chamazi Complex in August, Azam came from behind to claim a 2-1 home victory.



Kagera Sugar coach Mecky Mexime

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

DO YOU KNOW THE SONG... 'DON'T CRY FOR ME ARGENTINA'?

