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# Rare earth minerals firms sign 1.5trn/- project pacts

## India ready to take up more of local avocado

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

AVOCADO farmers' assurance of a reliable market for the crop in India is even greater as the Asian country is urging local exporters to get more of the crop, the diplomatic mission has indicated.

Binaya Srikanta Pradhan, the Indian High Commissioner said yesterday that the country was ready to import as much avocado as is available since the demand in India is higher for the produce compared to other African countries that cultivate the crop.

He made the remarks at a stakeholders' meeting for trade in crops organised by the Mbeya Region branch of the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA).

Indian importers were increasing the import volume for Tanzania's avocado produce, making India's market opening up an opportunity for Tanzania farmers and agribusiness operations, he said.

The envoy urged that farmers produce plenty of high quality avocado as there is a reliable market in India, in the wake of the



President Samia Suluhu Hassan looks on as Treasury Registrar Nehemiah Mchechu (2nd-L) represents the Tanzanian government and Phillip Hoskins (2nd-R), CEO of Australia's Evolution Energy Minerals Mining Company, represents his firm, in signing a shareholders agreement between their respective parties at Chamwino State House in Dodoma Region yesterday. With them are Michael Bourgnoin (R) and Heavenlight Kavishe. Photo: State House

By Getrude Mbago

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday witnessed the signing of joint venture agreements for extraction of graphite and rare earth minerals, with initial investments totaling \$666m (1.56trn/).

The Chamwino State House event has the government obtaining 51 percent of economic benefits (proceeds), on the basis of the sealed pact with three major Australian firms.

Peak Resources Ltd signed to develop the Ngualla Rare Earth minerals project in Songwe Region, with Evolution Energy Minerals Ltd signing for graphite extraction in Ruangwa District in Lindi Region.

EcoGraf is to develop the Epanko Graphite Extraction Project in Morogoro Region.

In her speech, President Samia commended the negotiating team of both sides by reaching this point and assured them that Tanzania will continue to be a great place for investment.

The president said the agreements enable Tanzania to commence production of world-class rare earth minerals that will support global decarbonisation, pointing out that in Chilalo village, Songwe Region, there are a total of 67m tonnes of confirmed reserves whose 5.4 percent content is graphite minerals that will be extracted for 18 years.

There are also 63m tonnes with 7.6 percent ore being graphite minerals in Epanko village

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...the government seeks to ensure that farmers benefit from economic opportunities that come up

gradual setting up of an enabling import environment.

In other remarks, the envoy said India was ready to assist Tanzania in its efforts to improve the health sector, by sponsoring scholarships for medical students as well in building health centres and dispensaries.

Eric Sichinga, the regional TCCIA chairman, said entrepreneurs should grab the opportunity by cultivating strategic crops including avocado, rice and beans, as the chamber was identifying market opportunities for such crops. All they have to do is to adhere to the quality of produce, he stated.

Benno Malisa, the Mbeya district commissioner, said the government seeks to ensure that farmers benefit from economic opportunities that come up.

Dr Ibrahim Kadigi, a lecturer at the Mbeya University of Science and Technology (MUST) appealed to the envoy to select students who performed well in the subjects to study in India.

Elizabeth Mwakatobe, a businesswoman and some other participants said they were ready to grab the stated opportunities to sell their products to Indian importers.

## MPs demand boost in rural roads funds

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

BUDGET allocations for the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) need to be significantly increased to enable a wider network of rural roads as better transport permits crop diversification, boosting economic growth.

This observation was heard among lawmakers contributing to debate on estimates of the Regional Administration and Local Governments (PO-RALG) ministry in the President's Office yesterday.

Boniventura Kiswaga (Magu) said that building major rural roads at tarmac level will stimulate development and reduce the time people spend in transport, as well as cost margins.

Most of the country's rural roads

network is poor, thus improvement is needed to enable connectivity and mobility, thus improved access to health facilities, schools, markets and better village life.

"It is important that we construct roads to connect districts and regions. Many rural roads become impassable during the rainy season, which affects economic activities," Good roads stimulate economic development," he said, urging that the government allocates sufficient funds for TARURA.

Lekaita Kisau (Kiteto) said while good roads facilitate transportation of goods and people the government has been allocating limited funds for the agency, thus derailing implementation of road

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## World Bank signs 157bn/- southern circuit projects

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

WORLD Bank credit via a natural resources agency has been inked eight projects for roads, airstrips and other infrastructure in national parks, game and forest reserves in the southern tourism circuit.

Mohammed Mchengerwa, the Natural Resources and Tourism minister, graced the signing of the project agreements here yesterday. Projected at a total cost of 157.3bn/- the projects will be executed under the Resilient Natural Resource Management for Tourism and Growth (REGROW).

It is one among key natural resources projects funded by the global lender, where the minister said the project has been lagging behind of late, but with the inking of the new funding schedule the works will be rushed forward.

They will be completed in time to compensate for the lost days, he said, elated that in the first agreement, four airstrips, roads and trails will be built in Ruaha, Mikumi, Nyerere and Udzungwa national parks plus the Kilombero Natural Forest Reserve.

This will facilitate tourism, transport and ease accessibility, while building

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The supplement will be published on 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.

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## Rare earth minerals firms sign 1.5trn/- project pacts

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in Morogoro Region, also slated for 18 years extraction, while in Ngualla village, a total of 18.5m tonnes of reserves have 4.8 percent of rare earth minerals, with extraction slated for 20 years, she stated.

The minerals are listed as critical and strategic as they are key to producing car batteries and other electronic devices. These minerals are placing Tanzania on top and attracting investors to invest in the country, she said.

Local entrepreneurs need to get prepared to serve the projects with procurement of materials, logistics, security services, catering, residential facilities and other needs.

Efforts taken by the government bring the mining sector to grow at a fast pace, such that by 2025 the sector will be contributing over 10 percent in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), she said, praising small-scale miners for their massive contribution in recent years.

Earlier, Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, the chairman of Special Presidential Government Negotiations Team (SPNT), said operating the projects will be carried out under the newly established joint venture companies.

The Ngualla Project, to be built at a cost of \$439m will have Peak Resources Limited engaging Mamba Minerals Corporation for extraction of minerals and Mamba Refinery Corporation for refining the minerals.

The government has a 16 percent stake of non-diluted shares in the two other firms where the value of raw sales of the minerals is projected at \$1.86bn where the investor will get \$389m (913bn/-) or 47 percent and the government will get \$437 (1trn/-) or 53 percent

in economic benefits, the negotiator explained.

Evolution Energy, operating graphite extraction in Chilalo in Ruangwa District is engaging Kudu Graphite Limited, with the government holding 16 percent shares in the project.

Initial investments cost \$100m, where the government will get 51 percent of the economic benefits, he stated, noting that in the third project, EcoGraf will develop Epanko graphite in Mahenge, in joint venture with Duma TanzGraphite Ltd.

"The project's initial investment is \$127.7 million and the government will get 51 percent of the economic benefits from the project," he said.

Agreements signed include the framework agreement on economic benefit sharing, the shareholders' agreement and the memorandum and articles of association.

Phil Hoskins, Evolution Energy CEO said the project is anticipated to produce an average 55,000 tonnes of graphite annually for 10 years, with hundreds of jobs created.

Andrew Spinks, his EcoGraf Ltd counterpart, said the Epanko Graphite project will be pegged at 60,000 tonnes, rising yearly.

Russell Scrimshaw, executive chairman of Peak Resources said: "This has been a long journey to developing this world class project but finally we have reached an agreement ready to take up the project."

He was delighted and vowed to implement it well, leaving a positive mark to the surrounding communities. The project represents an exciting opportunity for Tanzania to play an important global role in the supply of strategically important rare earth elements, he added.

## World Bank signs 157bn/- southern circuit projects

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tourism centres, camp gates, hostels and rangers posts will be done in the second part of the project schedule, along with publishing information portals, he said.

REGROW projects entail improving the way protected areas and their ecosystems are managed in the southern tourism circuit and adjacent highlands, creating opportunities to improve livelihoods and economic initiative for the local communities in the areas.

More than 20,000 households close to priority protected areas stand to benefit from the project, along with farmers in the Great Ruaha river basin, being supported with more efficient irrigation and cropping methods.

Enhanced tourism gains are projected, as limited infrastructure in the southern circuit like airstrips, visitor services and logistical

facilities have usually been major obstacles in directing tourists to destinations in the zone.

REGROW projects, designed for the southern circuit, covers Nyerere and Ruaha national parks in the country, the largest but dwarfed in visitations by far and away by the smaller Serengeti national park in the northern circuit.

The southern circuit is home to attractive but less trodden destinations such as Katavi, Kitulo, Mahale, Mikumi and Udzungwa mountain range national parks, whose improvement and greater access is pivotal in rebuilding the future of the Tanzania tourism industry, experts say.

Most tourists flock to the northern circuit, featuring Mount Kilimanjaro, the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Conservation Area, while the southern circuit has a wider span of parks, vast flora and fauna species, virgin landscape and terrains less trodden.

## Govt to embark on producing quality cows to be sold to livestock keepers

By Correspondent Vitus Audax, Mwanza

THE Livestock and Fisheries ministry is soon to start producing cows with great ability to produce milk and meat to be sold to livestock keepers at subsidized prices.

It says the government's goal is to boost the country's livestock sector through modern livestock keeping practices.

It says the aim of the government is to produce better cows breeds that will eventually remove the cattle used by herders in the country without benefits and adds that in the plan, the government has already kept 500 cows at Mabuki Livestock Training Agency under the supervision of youth who have been empowered by the government to lift up the sector.

Abdalah Ulega, Livestock and Fisheries minister made the remarks yesterday following the visit by the Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango in Mwanza Region, saying the government had plans to boost the livestock sector using eight cows breeding centres in various areas

countrywide designed to help herders do away with challenges they face owing to the effects of climate change.

Ulega said the government has set aside eight farms that will help to teach herders commercial livestock keeping in order to have better cattle breeds that will also help in getting quality meat for sale at foreign markets.

He also said that the government was in the process of improving fodder farms and disseminating technology in various areas within and outside the African continent to help other countries boost their livestock sectors.

"In regard to Mwanza Region, we have already put in place sheds valued at 32m/- for cattle keeping and each shed has the capacity to keep 100 cows that have been fattened," he said.

Mwanza Regional Commissioner Adam Malima said the government in the region was ready to make sure the livestock sector continues to benefit Tanzanians and the youth in general in collaboration with various stakeholders in the region.



India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan (R), exchanges ideas in Mbeya city at the weekend with some members of the business community who attended a Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture meeting called to discuss business opportunities. Photo: Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga

By Guardian Reporter

## AfDB, EU, France loans to support development projects in Tanzania

TANZANIA, the African Development Bank (AfDB), and the French Development Agency (AFD) have signed agreements for two development project loans worth \$300 million.

The funds will finance the construction of the 87.8-megawatt Kakono Hydropower Plant located in Kagera region in the northern part of Tanzania. The project also received a grant of EURO 36 million from the European Union.

Tanzania is dependent on hydropower and thermal power plants—mainly gas-fired—for its electricity supply. However, it has considerable untapped renewable energy potential to meet its rapid growth while taking a low-carbon path.

A coalition of development partners are financing the Kakono Hydropower Project, intended to increase renewable generation capacity and reduce hydrological risk via a dam located on a new watershed that is less affected by droughts. The signing ceremony took place on the 15th of March 2023 in Dar es Salaam.

The Kakono hydropower plant is the result of close collaboration between the African Development Bank, Agence Française de Développement, and the European

Union. These institutions are co-financing this project with a \$161.47 million African Development Bank soft loan, a EURO 110 million soft loan from French Development Agency, and EURO 36 million grant from the European Union.

The Kakono Hydropower Project which will be implemented by Tanzania's Electric Supply Company (TANESCO), will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 216,065 metric tons per year, and comply with the best international environmental and social standards.

The project will serve 4 million people and increase the service coverage rate by around 7% of the population. It is expected to have a major impact on the economic development of this rapidly growing zone, which lies at the heart of the Great Lakes region. This project will boost industrialization and spur economic growth in Tanzania and the neighboring countries and will strengthen Tanzania's leading position within the East African Community.

Alongside construction of the

new hydropower plant, there will also be associated infrastructure built, including the upgrading of the existing Kyaka substation and a new 39-kilometer 220-kilovolt transmission line, and capacity building support for TANESCO.

Following the ceremony participants expressed their support for the project.

African Development Bank country manager for Tanzania Patricia Laverley observed that when completed, the Kakono Hydropower Plant would serve approximately four million people, small-medium enterprises, and mining companies in the northwestern part of the country.

She added: "The construction of the new power plant will help to improve TANESCO's financial sustainability arising from the decommissioning of the diesel-based power plants in the Kagera region. The economic benefits derived from the supply of affordable power will be immense. We can expect to see marked improvement in the quality of life for people in the Kagera region and in Tanzania more broadly. These

tremendous gains will contribute to building a more competitive economy in Tanzania, under the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan."

Ambassador Nabil Hajlaoui said: "We have heard President Samia Suluhu Hassan's message. She aims to generate 5 gigawatt of electricity by 2025. France is ready to be part of this journey by investing in power generation and transmission projects to meet the rapidly growing electricity demand, while reducing the carbon intensity of its energy mix."

AFD country director Celine Robert noted: "We are delighted with the signing of this project, which is fully in line with international climate objectives and AFD's strong commitments in that regard. This investment will have a major impact on economic development and on population well-being as the infrastructure will answer the power needs of 3 to 4 million people. This signing represents an important milestone and confirms that the cooperation between Government and AFD is deepening."



Iringa Regional Police Commander Allan Bukumbi pictured at the weekend showing journalists breathalysers, devices police commonly use in discerning the amount of alcohol a motorist has taken and which he said would now be used on motorists as well as police officers on duty across the region. Photo: Correspondent Francis Godwin

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projects.

Citing Kiteto District in Manyara Region he said it has a road network of 1,290 kilometers and was receiving 2.8bn/- yearly, asking that the amount be raised to 5bn/- to build more roads.

Simon Lusengekile (Busega) said TARURA was doing good work with roads but lacked funds to build bridges, noting that some villages in the constituency cannot be reached unless bridges are built.

He asked the government to allocate 900m/- next fiscal year

## MPs demand boost in rural roads funds

for construction of Lutubiga bridge, connecting Lutubiga and Mwasamba villages.

"Pupils sometimes attend classes in another school as they cannot cross to their school in the next village," he said.

Neema Mgaya (Special Seats) said the 800bn/- allocation for TARURA is not enough as most rural roads are in poor state, hindering the transportation of food and cash crops from farms to markets.

"Njombe Region is among the major food producers in the

country, but its roads are poor. Traders struggle to take harvested crops to markets in Dar es Salaam and elsewhere," she said, noting that roads are impassable during rains.

Abdallah Chaurembo (Mbagala) said his constituency has a poor road network resulting in traffic congestion, urging more funds through TARURA to revamp roads especially connecting Mbagala with Mkuranga in Coast Region.

The 24bn/- allocated for this financial year is too small to cater

for the number of roads and bridges that need to be built, he stated.

Ally Makoa (Kondoa) underscored the need to build revamp the road connecting Kondoa District in Dodoma Region with Manyara Region to tarmac level, to stimulate trading and improve people's livelihoods to alleviate poverty.

Prof Patrick Ndakidemi (Moshi Rural), urged district authorities to make sure tenders are awarded to qualified contractors. Most roads built by local authorities re below standard, he added.





Halima Mdee (Special Seats) contributes to debate in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. She called on the government to take appropriate action against all those who have defaulted on the repayment of loans issued by district councils. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

# Committee urges govt to take tough legal measures against people who are yet to repay district council loans

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

CHAIRPERSON of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Local Authorities Accounts Committee (LAAC), Halima Mdee (Special Seats–Opposition) yesterday urged the government to take stringent legal measures against people who have failed to repay loans for district councils.

She also suggested for the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) to conduct forensic audits at district councils on the 188bn/- payable loans that were issued under the governments' special loaning program for special groups–women, youth and the disabled.

She said various CAG reports have indicated loss of funds for five years consecutively, especially those issued as loans to empower women, youth and the disabled. Last year, 47.1bn/- were issued and not reimbursed while in the previous financial years, more than 100bn/- was disbursed.

"The government has incurred a loss of over 188bn/- in five years; Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government), Angela Kairuki issued 14 specific directives to regional and district authorities, but she has not ordered them to ensure the lost funds are returned," said Mdee.

The MP said the government should show seriousness on the matter and ensure that the funds are recovered. She expressed worries that officials might continue disbursing the funds after three months' temporary suspension announced recently by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa.

The Premier suspended issuance of the empowerment funds for three months from April to June 30th this year, saying the government is working on new modalities for provision of the loans.

She said: "I want the government and the minister to provide explanations and give instructions over the loss of these funds. The minister should give specific budgetary instructions to avoid similar incidents in future."

Mdee noted that according to regulations governing issuance of the loans; the funds are not lost but have been wasted by unfaithful officials. She said all those involved should be arrested and arraigned with economic sabotage charges.

She said President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been working tirelessly to improve the welfare of Tanzania ns, but some dishonest people embezzle public funds. She said with a limited budget, most district councils depend on funds from the central government for their daily operations.

She said it is easier for the government to make follow-up on the funds because responsible officers are clearly mentioned by the law. They include the village executives, local government leaders, ward executive officers, community development officers and district executive directors.

On March 20th this year, President Samia said the government is working on a new modality of disbursing loans to women following reports that 88 percent of the money disbursed through the existing arrangement has not been recovered.

Samia said: "We will have to look carefully at this area and put in place a new system so that this money can be recovered and more women, youth and people with disabilities can benefit from it."

In 2018, the Local Government Financial Act of 1982, CAP 290, Section 37A, was amended to mandate local councils to set aside ten percent of revenue from their own sources as no-interest empowerment loans to groups of women, youth and people with disabilities.

Under the law, councils are required to set aside eight per cent of their revenue for loans for women and youth (four percent each) and two percent for people with disabilities as part of wider efforts to empower the groups and alleviate poverty.

# Government receives cold-chain equipment worth 5bn/- to facilitate storage of vaccines

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government has received cold-chain equipment worth 5bn/- to facilitate storage of vaccines and strengthen cold chain-systems in mainland and Zanzibar.

The equipment have been donated by the government of Japan through the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) (3.2bn/-) Vodacom Tanzania Plc (650m/-) and Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) (2bn/-).

Speaking at a ceremony to receive the equipment, Minister for Health Ummy Mwalimu said the equipment which are modern will facilitate storage of 10 vaccines in 13 regions.

"This equipment we have received will improve our cold-chain system in the country but also help in drug availability in regional hospitals," she said.

The minister said the equipment will expand Tanzania's capacity to

store vaccines and other related materials but also address the challenges caused by reliable electricity as some of the new equipment are solar connected while others can remain cold for as long as five days.

UNICEF country representative Shalini Bahuguna said through the Japanese assistance, UNICEF was able to procure, distribute, install, and commission 390 cold-chain equipment for 18 regional, 130 district vaccine stores and 240 dispensaries.

UNICEF further trained 125 technicians (103 males and 22 females) on preventive maintenance and repair of the equipment and 5,012 health care workers on the operation, routine maintenance and troubleshooting.

"Tanzania has demonstrated its ability to fight the COVID-19 pandemic by fully vaccinating 99-percent of eligible population (53percent of total population) by

March 2023 and being among few African countries close to achieving the global COVID-19 vaccination milestones," she said.

She said UNICEF is committed to continue collaboration with Tanzania to respond to public health emergencies, as well as protecting children of Tanzania from vaccine preventable diseases.

Japanese ambassador to Tanzania Yashushi Misawa said his country supports Tanzania's programme to strengthen cold chain system development under the "Last One Mile Support".

He said last year Japan issued \$30 million in grant aid to enhance Covid-19 in Latin America, Caribbean and Africa adding that Tanzania will receive \$1.4 million in the programme. "In this project we have fridges which have been distributed to vaccine centres in the country, it is my hope that these will go a long way in supporting our efforts," he said.

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1	OSIPPA FRANCIS CHANHA	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - ODBA	J.A.B. RECOVERIES	02-05-2023
2	MADIAN JUMA MISHO	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - ODBA	HOLLINDESS & REISHERS LTD	02-05-2023
3	SAGA ABUALLAH LASER	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - TEBETA	J.A.B. RECOVERIES	02-05-2023
4	THOMAS SIDI LIMBU	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - TABATA	IMPACT AUCTION MART	02-05-2023
5	JACQUELINE TESHA AS AN ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE CHENDECK KIMBA JAMBUN	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - TABATA INVERVED	J.A.B. RECOVERIES	02-05-2023
6	JACQUELINE TESHA AS AN ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE CHENDECK KIMBA JAMBUN	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - TABATA INVERVED	J.A.B. RECOVERIES	02-05-2023
7	PATRIKUS KONDAMU JULIUS	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - MIBABWA	LEGEND AUCTION MART	02-05-2023
8	ROBERTUS BRAMBU MILEDI	HOUSE	RESIDENTIAL LICENSE - MIBABWA	LEGEND AUCTION MART	02-05-2023
9	FENSO BETY CHANHA	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - MIBABWA	LEGEND AUCTION MART	02-05-2023
10	ARAH MUSA MUYILI	HOUSE	RESIDENTIAL LICENSE - MIBABWA	DUMANO CREDIT RECOVERY CO. LTD.	02-05-2023
11	NADHENYARA MUMBARAGA	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - MIBABWA	DUMANO CREDIT RECOVERY CO. LTD.	02-05-2023
12	SAGA JUMA TAMBELE	HOUSE	RESIDENTIAL LICENSE - MIBABWA	J.A.B. RECOVERIES	02-05-2023
13	CHARLES MIBABWA	HOUSE	OPPORTUNITY - MIBABWA	LEGEND AUCTION MART	02-05-2023

All auctions shall be held at the appropriate location on the time and day on which they shall be broadcast through brochures and advertising vehicles subject to permission from the relevant agencies of the Government.

**AUCTION TERMS:**

- 25% of the price reached will be paid instantly and the remaining 75% will be paid within fourteen days. (14).
- By failing to do so it will result in the auction being repeated and the money paid not being returned.
- The costs of transferring the owner and changing ownership are up to the buyer.
- The guarantee will be sold as is.

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF POST-MOOC ASSESSMENT AND SELECTION OF CANDIDATES SERVICES IN TANZANIA REFERENCE NO. 000000206

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Ltd, an Oil and Gas company, invites experienced and reputable companies or organizations to express their interest in the provision of post-MOOC assessment and selection candidates Services in Tanzania to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:**  
As part of East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Ltd commitment to promoting national content and the participation of Tanzanian Nationals in the Oil & Gas value chain, EACOP has embarked on a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform where candidates will complete several courses as part of the screening process for the best candidates. It will be followed by interviews conducted by EACOP with support from an external recruitment service provider.

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Ltd is thus seeking the services of an external service provider to support the assessment and selection of candidates for the program in relation to the below activities:  
Candidate eligibility checks.

- Screening candidates for eligibility (nationality, age, etc).
- Conducting technical assessments (oral or written).
- Conducting psychometric and aptitude tests.
- Vetting of candidates' academic qualifications.
- Conducting background checks / character references.

**Interview process**

- Contacting candidates.
- Guiding candidates through the assessment process.
- Organize presentational testing to confirm EACOP MOOC results.
- Scheduling face to face interviews.
- Booking venues for the interviews.
- Submitting a recruitment report of the entire recruitment process at each stage.
- Providing feedback and information to candidates undergoing assessment and selection.

While in execution of its assignments the external service provider shall:

- Demonstrate the highest profession standards and exercise all due care, skills and competence so as to provide the services to the satisfaction of EACOP.
- Comply with all relevant policies of EACOP and international best practice and relevant national laws, including but not limited to national laws on discrimination (gender, ethnic or tribal discrimination).
- Prepare and submit all relevant reports.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**  
**Companies or organizations expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:**

- Proof of registration with relevant authorities including Business License.
- Proof of experience of providing similar services to related projects or companies including recommendation letters from three current clients.
- Proposed experienced and qualified personnel.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Proof of registration or an approved application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017.
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.

Companies which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com), (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00 hours** East African Time (EAT) on or before **27/04/2023**. Email object shall be: **000000206 (EOI-reference number mentioned in the header)** Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.

**Note:** The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.

## ORYX ENERGIES DEALERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

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# TTCL and Huawei ink 37billion/- pact

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Telecommunications Limited (TTCL) has signed a 37.3bn/- deal with China-based Huawei International Company for the extension of the National ICT Broadband Backbone (NICTBB) in the country.

The project is aimed at extending the network in some 23 districts, covering a total of 1,520 kilometres, intensifying internet access in the country.

Speaking before the signing ceremony, TTCL's executive director, Peter Ulanga noted that the project is to be undertaken within six months is another step in support of the government's efforts to increase use of information and communication technology in the country.

He said the management is committed to ensure the project is completed within the scheduled time, promising close monitoring and cooperation with the contractor.

Ulanga observed that upon completion, the project will help end communication challenges that have existed in the district, noting that some have complete no access to communication.

The districts which will benefit will include Mboge and Msalala in Shinyanga region, Kilindi, Mombi, Muheza and Pangani (Tanga), Ngara (Kagera), Mwanza district council and Hai district (Kilimanjaro), Karatu district council, Longido and Mbulu (Arusha).

Others are Kibiti district (Coast), Mtama district council, Ruangwa and Nachingwea (Lindi), Newala district council (Mtwara), Mbinga district council and Ludewa district (Ruvuma) as well Vwawa district council and Ijeje district.

"The NICTBB is going to end

challenges by providing strong and faster, strong and stable internet services to people," he said.

According to the director, broadband will also increase use of the internet in the districts and help improve both social and economic services.

He expressed hope that upon completion of the project, it will provide opportunities for the ministries and both public and private institutions to take services closer to their clients since NICTBB will have the ability to offer faster delivery services.

Speaking after witnessing the signing ceremony, Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology, Nape Nnauye noted that the government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan is committed to ensure Tanzania has modern communication technology.

He said the ministry also acknowledges the public expectation to be reached with information and communication systems as indicated in the 202-2025 ruling party manifesto.

"The move to connect all districts in the country with NICTBB is in line with the plans to make Tanzania a communication hub in the region" said the minister.

The minister added that all the regions in the country have been connected with broadband and it has also reached border posts of neighbouring countries, making Tanzania an important country with East and Southern Africa.

Huawei Tanzania managing director, Damon Zhang, said the company's commitment to partner with TTCL is a result of their realisation that infrastructure is of paramount importance in the development of the communications sector in the country.

# Prison break fugitive Thabo Bester back in S. African jail

PRETORIA

A fugitive rapist and murderer who left a burnt corpse in his cell during a daring jailbreak has returned to prison in South Africa after fleeing to Tanzania, officials said last Thursday.

The case has embarrassed authorities and sparked fresh outrage over the competence of South Africa's police and criminal justice system.

Dubbed the "Facebook rapist", Thabo Bester -- who was sentenced to life in prison for rape, robbery and murder in 2012 -- lured victims on the social media platform before raping and robbing them. He killed at least one victim.

He escaped from a privately-run prison in Bloemfontein almost a year ago -- but police said they only found out last month.

In May 2022, the charred body of a man was found in Bester's cell, leading prison authorities to believe at first that he had set himself on fire.

DNA evidence later revealed the body belonged to someone else, and police launched a murder investigation late last month.

Bester was arrested last Friday by Tanzanian police along with a woman with whom he is reportedly romantically involved, and a Mozambican accomplice.

They were caught in the town of Arusha, while they were said to be making their way to the Kenyan border.

Bester and the woman, a celebrity doctor and social media influencer, were flown back by specially chartered plane which landed in Lanseria airport north of Johannesburg in the early hours of Thursday morning.

"We can confirm that these fugitives have been returned to South Africa", Justice Minister Ronald Lamola told a press conference in Cape Town.

Bester was taken to the Kgosi Mampuru II correctional facility in Pretoria, Lamola said, thanking the Tanzanian government.

Bester will be kept under 24-hour surveillance and guarded by "highly trained" officers, according to the justice ministry.

His alleged lover and accomplice was under arrest pending a court appearance later on Thursday, he said.

She faces charges of murder, violation of bodies, fraud, and aiding and abetting the escape of a prisoner, according to the police.

Four others have been recently arrested in connection with the escape plot, including the celebrity doctor's father.

The father, who allegedly aided Bester's prison break, was earlier this week charged with murder in connection with the man found dead in Bester's cell.

Bester's case resurfaced in October last year when local investigative news organisation GroundUp reported on the mystery surrounding his death.

In March, the outlet reported damning evidence suggesting the deputy minister of correctional services had been informed by a prison warden about Bester's escape as early as June 2022 -- yet nothing was done.

South African authorities, following mounting pressure from the public after details of his escape were uncovered, began efforts to apprehend him in late March.

The correctional services ministry announced last month that it would not renew its contract with G4S, the British multinational private security company which ran the private prison Bester escaped from.

The prison has been taken over by South African authorities pending the outcome of the ongoing investigations.

The London-headquartered security company was also summoned to parliament by a committee looking into the case.

President Cyril Ramaphosa was "disturbed" by the escape, his spokesman said on Wednesday.

AGENCIES



Student Shose Edwin (L) presents her group's project, which emerged overall winner to judges and trainers during ICT training in ICT jointly organised at the weekend by Vodacom Tanzania Plc and Tanzania Data Lab (dLab) for 65 female students through the Code Like a Girl programme at the College of Information and Communication Technologies (CoICT) campus of the University of Dar es Salaam. The programme has been in place since 2018 and more than 1,700 girls have benefited from courses including coding, alongside being encouraged to study Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Govt dishes out 1.88billion/- loans for 85 youth projects

By Guardian Reporter

THE government, through Youth Development Fund has dishied out loans valued at 1.88bn/- for 85 youth projects in the farming, industrial and business sectors in 28 local councils.

This was disclosed on Sunday by the Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa at the launching of the Youth Education and Economic Empowerment Project '2Jijiri' via KCB Foundation and German International Development Corporation (GIZ) held at Julius Nyerere International Conference

Centre, Dar es Salaam.

"The issue of youth empowerment is essential for economic growth, as this stems from the fact that the youth is a dependable labour force and are the country's majority population group.

"Hence, our development so much depends on the youth, as many of them with skills are a stimulus in speeding up sustainable development," he said.

He said the government will continue involving all stakeholders including financial institutions, international organisation and the private sector in building up

a skilled labour force that will fully participate in the national development.

Majaliwa noted that since the start of the national programme for enhancing skills, the government has been providing training opportunities aimed at being employed or self-employment to 118,415 youth in apprenticeship, work experience, fish farming and other marine life and modern block farming.

He called on the youth to continue coming up in big numbers and grab opportunities in various projects.

For his part, the Minister of state

in the PM Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities, Prof Joyce Ndalichako said the project was important as it directly touches the youth who are among the pillars for the national development.

KCB Bank Managing Director, Cosmas Kimario said the aim of the '2Jijiri' project established in 2000 is to boost employment for the youth in the country.

"Through the project, a total of 1,780 youth have benefited and for this year we expect to reach out to about 5,000 youth," he said.



Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) director general Hamza Johari (2nd-R) pictured yesterday presenting office equipment and supplies to a representative of the Mtwara Regional Police Commander. The items were extended as a gesture of support to Mtwara Airport Police Station. Looking on are TCAA senior official Teophory Mbilinyi (R) and the airport's Police Officer Commanding Station, Inspector Morgan Mlungwana. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Chissano lauds Tanzania for preserving Africa's liberation movements' records

By Guardian Reporter

FORMER Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano has showered praise on Tanzania for continuing preserving important records regarding liberation struggle of various African countries including Mozambique.

Chissano showered the praise on Saturday when he visited the Africa Liberation Heritage Programme centre in Dar es Salaam.

"I comment on the good job done at this centre for the great efforts in preserving African liberation struggle records since 1965," he said.

He added that Tanzania's

contribution towards African liberation will never be forgotten owing to its genuine vows under Mwalimu Julius Nyerere's leadership who was always at the forefront in seeing many African countries were liberated, including Mozambique, Angola, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

The former Mozambican President explained that Tanzania made a good decision to host various liberation groups which were unable to conduct their liberation activities in their own countries.

"When it attained its

independence in 1061, all African liberation movements came to Tanzania, which was their headquarters," he said and added that Mwalimu Nyerere was a leader who was easily accessed to at all times and that FRELIMO freedom fighters received training whilst in Tanzania which was a good teacher for them.

Earlier, while receiving the former Mozambican president, the Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports, Pindi Chana explained that his visit at the African liberation heritage centre provides history regarding the boosting of relations between Tanzania and Mozambique.

"We are so much delighted to be visited by our elder African statesman, Joaquim Chissano, and I am glad to welcome the delegation to this area, we wholeheartedly welcome you, Tanzania and Mozambique are blood brothers," said Dr Chana.

She also praised the former Mozambican leader for continuing to use the Kiswahili language saying that her ministry was conducting various strategies to advertise the language within and outside Africa owing to its being a liberation weapon.

During his visit at the historical centre was also participated by various officials from the Ministry led by the Permanent Secretary Saidi Yakubu, Mozambican High Commissioner to Tanzania, and representatives from Tanzania People's defence forces (TPDF).



# E. African leaders call for immediate ceasefire as fighting rages in Sudan

By Guardian Reporter

EAST African leaders have called on for an immediate end to the ongoing fighting in Sudan, urging the two parties to the conflict to provide a safe corridor for humanitarian assistance in Khartoum, Sudan's capital, and other affected towns.

The Kenyan President William Ruto said the leaders from the regional bloc, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), held an emergency virtual session on Sunday where they called for an immediate cessation of hostilities between the parties to the conflict in Sudan.

Those in the emergency session were President William Ruto of Kenya, Salva Kiir of South Sudan, Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, Ismail Omar Guelleh of Djibouti, and Hassan Sheikh Mohamud of Somalia.

"President William Ruto asked IGAD leaders to take a firm position on the crisis to restore peace in the country," the presidency said in a statement issued in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya.

The leaders resolved to send presidents Kiir, Ruto and Guelleh at the earliest possible time to reconcile the conflicting groups.

The leaders also asked the two parties to the conflict in Sudan to provide a safe corridor for humanitarian assistance in Khartoum, Sudan's capital, and other affected towns.

Violent clashes erupted on

Saturday between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Khartoum and other cities, where the two sides traded accusations of initiating the conflict.

Clashes in Sudan's capital Khartoum raged for a third day yesterday, raising the death toll to 97, said the Sudanese doctors' union in a statement. Hundreds of civilians were wounded in the violence, the statement added.

The tension between the two military forces has escalated since April 12 in the Merowe region in northern Sudan, after the RSF moved military vehicles to a location near the military air base there, a move that the army considered illegal.

Deep differences have emerged between the Sudanese army and the RSF, particularly regarding the latter's integration into the army as stipulated in a framework agreement signed between military and civilian leaders on Dec. 5, 2022.



**President William Ruto asked IGAD leaders to take a firm position on the crisis to restore peace in the country**



Tanzania Education Authority project manager Masozi Nyirenda (2nd-R) presents Form Six leaving certificates to students of Iringa Region's Isimila Secondary School at the school's premises at the weekend. Third right is the school's principal, Frank Mahenge, and right is board chairperson Dr Nasra Habib. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

# Mbeya police holding resident for alleged murder of step child

By Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga,

Mbeya

POLICE in Mbeya region is holding Zawadi Nzunje (30), resident of Igalako Village, Mbarali District, in the region for the alleged murder of his step child, Meshack Mlawa after she allegedly hit him with a heavy object on the head and fled to unknown destination.

Mbeya Regional Police Commander, Benjamin Kuzaga yesterday confirmed the incident,

saying that earlier, on April 2 this year the suspect disappeared from his home with the child and on April 4 occurrence was reported at Igurusi Police Station.

He explained that following the incident, the police mounted a hunt for the suspect and were able to apprehend her and initial investigations showed that the cause of the incident was a conflict pitting the suspect and his wife that created hatred and anger against the child, hence he planned to kill the child as a revenge for an ex-wife.

"We were able to arrest the suspect in Igurusi area donning Muslim gear and entered a mosque for prayers pretending his was a Muslim," said RPC Kuzaga.

He advised married couples to resolve their differences by involving close relatives or religious leaders.

Meanwhile, the police, in the period beginning April 1 to April 11 this year, mounted crackdowns and patrols in various areas of Mbeya Region and were able to net 44 suspects of various crimes, 541 men and three women.

Among those arrested included suspects of murder, armed robberies, house breaking and stealing, cattle rustlers and illicit drugs trafficking.

RPC Kuzaga explained two suspects are detained for armed robbery incidents at Mt. Msangamwelu area along Mbeya-Mkwajuni road in Chunya District.

He said they allegedly committed the crime on March 23 in the evening with four other people wielding various weapons.

"They placed logs along the road and stopped two vehicles that were carrying various goods for traders, and robbed them of some of the goods valued at 11m/- including mobile phones and fled to the unknown, but two of them have been arrested," he said.

# Government commits to arresting all incidents of violence against children

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

DR Doroth Gwajima, minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups has expressed the government's commitment to control all incidents of violence against children.

Dr Gwajima made the remarks recently in Dar es Salaam when speaking to children during the SOS Children Village Day which was organised by SOS International.

"I urge all students to concentrate on their studies as the government is facilitating a proper learning environment," she said.

She said that children have the right to be protected and given equal access to education accordingly, adding that the government is working tirelessly to make sure children are registered and are given free access to education.

According to Dr Gwajima, the government is working on modality to improve the database for all children who live in difficult situations, so that they can be rescued from facing street violence.

"We strongly commend the SOS Children Village for their initiatives in taking care of children and assisting them from their childhood to adolescent age, this is an exemplary initiative," the minister said.

Emmanuel Mwendu, alternative care coordinator for SOS Village said that the event was meant to gather together children and make them have fun with others and the

minister.

He said the community is supposed to see the necessity of having proper upbringing for their children in order to have a better society.

He added that through their project, SOS has so far supported 200 children who lived in difficult circumstances.

Mwende requested the government should provide physiological education to both parents and children basically on how to have proper morals and to get rid from violence. Parenting awareness should also be provided to society abroad.

Severina Buja, one of the beneficiaries for SOS Organisation said she has been assisted by the Organization from her childhood to where she is now, she hailed the government and SOS Organisation for taking care of her and other children who are supported within.



**I urge all students to concentrate on their studies as the government is facilitating a proper learning environment**



Emmanuel Kakuyu (in sunglasses), representative of Dubai-based DP World Foundation in Tanzania, presents foodstuffs for Ramadhan-time iftar to Sheikh Msafiri Njalambaha of Mbeya city's Al Jumaa Mosque at the weekend for use by the 1,000 or so Muslim faithful linked to the mosque. Photo: Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

# 612-km tarmac roads to link up all Morogoro districts

THE TANZANIA ROADS Agency (TANROADS) in Morogoro region has said that the 612.14-km new roads whose implementation is soon to start will open up Morogoro region by linking all the districts at tarmac level.

Morogoro region TANROADS manager, Alinanuswe Lazeck gave the remarks here on Sunday in a statement regarding the ongoing strategic road projects and those

which will start soon.

He explained that tenders for the new projects have already been announced and were in the final stages for signing.

Lazeck said the projects, include the Ubena Zomozi-Ngerengere (11.6km), Ifakara-Mbingu (62.5km), Mbingu-Chita JKT (37.5km), Ifakara-Lupiro-Mahenge Lupiro-Malinyi-

Kilosa kwa Mpepo-Londo-Lumecha and Malinyi JKT-Malinyi (422.54), and Bigwa-Mvuha (78), as well as bridges on Ruvu and Mvuha rivers.

"When completed, all these roads will boost the incomes of the people of Morogoro Region and spur its development since they are strategic roads," explained Lazeck.

He thanked the phase VI

government for allocating funds for the construction of the infrastructures.

He also said the implementation of the 66.9km Kidatu-Ifakara road at tarmac level was now 78 per cent complete and costs 105bn/-.

"The construction of this road is going on well and so far contractors have completed 43km of tarmac

with other works still going on, and all the bridges have been completed at 88 per cent," he said.

He noted that the construction of the road and the bridge along it is being done by Reynolds Construction Company, a Nigerian firm supervised by TECU and is expected to be completed in October this year.

He further said the government has provided 1.9bn/- for the improvement of the Mikumi Weigh Bridge along Morogoro-Iringa (TANZAM) highway and the Michese weigh bridge along Dar es Salaam-Morogoro highway by installing a modern weigh in motion bridge system that will weigh vehicles while in motion.



## Women victims of eating wildlife meat in Babati, admit risks perception

By Marc Nkwame, Babati

"We used to do it mostly out of ignorance but now we have learned our lessons," they stated. Many happen to be residents of the various villages bordering Kwakuchinja Wildlife Corridor in Manyara region.

But the now born again conservators said the truth dawned on them following a series of training sessions targeting to create awareness on the importance of conservation and the dangers entailed in the consumption of wild game meat.

Some of the women who spoke to journalists in Babati District include Petronila Gobbi, Lydia Josephat, Asia Amiri, Margaret Mandoa, Matilda Daniel and Luciana Martin, among others.

But those that underwent training were 60 women, among them 30 from Ngolei Village and 30 others from Sangaiwe Village.

The training was conducted by the Community Support Initiative Tanzania (COSITA), in conjunction with TRAFFIC with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The training aimed at dissuading local women from accepting wild meat from their sons, husbands, relatives or directly from sellers.

As long as the local women don't allow illegally hunted meat in their kitchens, the racket will cease in the precincts.

"We had already started to experience the negative impact of wild meat consumption," they said, adding that their families have been suffering a number of diseases including skin ulcers, mouth infections and stomach disorders with children being more

susceptible.

After the training they realized that many of the infections could have been caused by the consumption of wild meat.

"Peddlers would simply turn up at your doorstep selling game meat cheaply, sometimes more than two kilograms of the stuff would cost less than 1000/-," they said.

Plus the dealers would convince them that wild meat was healthier and had medicinal properties.

But it was difficult to tell for sure which type of animal the flesh was taken from which means the villagers just consumed anything that was presented to them.

They were relishing the fact that the meat was cheaper compared to what was being sold in local butcheries.

Another realization is that there is always a tough price to pay when you fall into the wrong side of the law.

Lydia Josephat is a widow; it is her son who brought the wild game meat to her house. When the operation against illegal wildlife hunters and their game meat clients was launched, Lydia was forced to flee from her home in Babati and take refuge at her relatives' residence in Arusha City.

But they tracked Lydia there, took her back to Manyara where she was arraigned in court, spent over four months in custody and had to be bailed out at 2.5 million.

To raise the money, many of the family farming plots had to be auctioned. It was a tough lesson and now the ladies have learned it the hard way. "We would rather eat vegetables than fall for cheap wild meat," they told reporters from the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) that visited the area recently.

## Student teachers in higher learning institutions advised to sharpen their knowledge and skills

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

STUDENT teachers in higher learning institutions have been advised to sharpen their knowledge, skills and competencies in order to create a conducive learning environment that will facilitate the development of their students once they graduate.

University of Dar es Salaam's acting deputy vice chancellor- research, Prof Nelson Boniface made the call yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking during the programme for Awards Ceremony of winners of the first Teaching skills Competition that was organised by University of Dar es Salaam School of Education (SoED), Tin Ka Ping Foundation and Zhejiang Normal University.

Prof Boniface said that students in teachers college need to engage in different tournaments or training that will help them polish their skills and give them confidence before presenting themselves to the students.

"It's really important to engage in different competitions that will help them grow and develop their skills, knowledge, and competencies to improve their teaching performance before presenting themselves to the students", he noted.

The Core Mission of the SoED is to educate, train, induct and develop high-quality graduate teachers for the education sector in the country and mission is responding to the UDSM Vision 2061 which focuses on making the University the leading Centre of Intellectual Wealth spearheading Tanzania's and Africa's Quest for Sustainable and Equitable Development, he said.

"We know that the country has reached a stage that it seriously needs highly competent teachers who can deliver creatively and competently in different education contexts and It is high time we need to rethink of better ways on how we prepare our graduates because in recent years there have been complaints from employers and other stakeholders about the ability of our graduates to perform their duties professionally while employers wonder that many graduates have good examination grades but they lack competences

required in delivery of work," noted Boniface.

Dr Eilleen Xu from SINO Africa Joint Centre for Educational Research said that the cultivation of teaching skills has been one of the main focus of pre-service teacher education programs across the world. In China, teaching skills competition is a common practice for student teachers in teacher education colleges, at schools, almost in every learning institutions, which aims to showcase students' teachers teaching skills, identify the problems and improve their skills in the teaching and learning process, and it has been proved to be very effective in preparing quality teachers to thrive in 21st century.

Currently Tanzania is undergoing major reforms in the education sector, from policy to curriculum, and TCPD, and the key to success is teachers. Teaching skills competition might be an entry point to bring all the relevant stakeholders together as an alliance to contribute to the quality of teacher education, she noted.

SoED Dean Dr Eugenia Kafanabo said that engaging student teachers by practicing what they have learnt can foster their capability to apply or use the set of related knowledge, skills, and abilities required to successfully perform "critical work functions" or tasks in teaching and learning context.

This can be viewed in terms of behavioural competence (soft skills) of how something is done and functional competence, the ability to perform some technical tasks such as teaching.

"We had 105 student's teachers who participated in the competition and only twenty nine of them were able to win, and so we still have a long way to nurture our student teachers so they can be the best out other and help to give needed knowledge to our children.

One of the winners from the competition, Justa Sanga, a third year student at UDSM studying early child education I believe the practice of engaging student teachers into practice in the process of learning, invites the new educational view of encouraging competence-based learning for long life professional engagement.



Bishop Dunstan Maboya officiates at a 'marriage revival' event at a Dar es Salaam church at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Bishop Mgeta says church will continue in implementing initiatives to fulfil its vision

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

BISHOP Rose Mgeta of the Mikocheni B, Assemblies of God Church (Mountain of Fire) has said that they will continue implementing initiatives to fulfill the vision of the late Reverend Dr Getrude Rwakatare which includes conducting marriage revival seminars every year.

The late Dr Getrude Rwakatare introduced marriage revival seminars in 2000 as part of her strategy to instill sustainable love among couples and thus bring

harmony and peace in marriages.

Bishop Mgeta made the remarks in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during a marriage revival seminar held at the church premises in Mikocheni B.

Other Bishops who were present at the seminar were Dastan Maboya, Richard Hananja and Daniel Mgogo.

Bishop Mgeta said through marriage revivals seminars they have managed to re-unite a number of broken relationships where most are confirmed during testimonies at the church.

She said she is happy to see the son and daughter of the late Dr Rwakatare are at the forefront

to implement all the visions of the founder of Mountain of Fire Church.

Daughter of the late Dr Rwakatare, Dr Rose Rwakatare who is CCM Parent Wing Chairperson for Morogoro, said the event which is conducted every year has been helpful to many people.

She said the late Reverend woman of God, Rwakatare introduced the event in 2000 to try to rescue some marriages and inspire people to love each other.

"Dr Rwakatare believed that having a strong and happy marriage is possible because even the bible tells us to love each other and find

peace with others so we promise that this event will never stop," said Dr Rose.

"This event helps to remind couples about things that they should avoid to make their marriage happier forever. They should stop domestic violence and treat each other fairly and by doing so their marriage will last long," she said.

Bishop Daniel Mgogo, said that he has been producing various bible teachings in his social media but for about six month he was not in the county.

"I was in the United States (US) for the last six month doing God's job and when I came back I received many messages from people asking why my social media accounts are dormant and that is where I came to realize that my teachings help people a lot," he said.



Water minister Jumaa Aweso (2nd-R) accompanied by Korogwe district commissioner Jokate Mwegelo (4th-R) at the weekend during an inspection tour of a part of the district facing an acute shortage of the precious liquid. Photo: Correspondent Oscar Assenga

## Embezzlers of KCBL funds won't be spared, states Coops registrar

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

THE Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Dr Benson Ndiege, has said all those who embezzled funds in the Kilimanjaro Cooperative Bank Limited (KCBL) will not be spared, adding that state organs are taking steps to have the money returned.

Dr Ndiege added that the bank's nose-dive was contributed by some of its unfaithful officials while praising the present ones for being

able to score gains after its loss making period.

He said the bank was about to be closed owing to lack of faithful officials.

Dr Ndiege made the remarks here at the weekend at a short ceremony as he addressed reporters.

"In FY 2021/22 KCBL made 25 per cent profit from 8bn/- to 11bn/-, but still, officials who had contributed the loss through embezzlement will be dealt with, including requiring them to repay embezzled money to

shareholders," said Dr Ndiege.

Speaking on the Bank's recovery, its Manager, Godfrey Ng'urah said in 2022 the Bank was able to increase its capital from 2,7bn/- to 4.4bn/-.

"Loans to customers increased by 59 per cent, reaching 7.5bn/- compared to 4.7bn/- for 2021, depositors savings increased by 7 per cent from 5.4bn/- in 2021 to 5.8bn/- in 2022, and untaxed income increased by 25 per cent from 1.5bn/- from 1.2bn/- in 2021,"

he said.

He added that trust among customers has returned and there has been an increase of customers' transactions from 15,000 in 2021 to 21,000 in 2022.

In regard to the Bank's profits, some KBCL customers, including Sembe Bwambo said as for now the bank has started to have a promising direction and called on farmers to continue buying shares.

"In this bank, you have seen the power of both cooperatives and the government, hence we should all pray that in every sector that experienced embezzlement, the government must take steps to ensure shareholders do not lose their money and despair," he added.



# KEPI invites Tanzanian researchers, students to conduct research on endangered creatures

By Beatrice Philemon

KILIMANJARO Field and Class of Environment Protection Initiative (KEPI) invites Tanzanian researchers, students from higher learning institutions and local communities to conduct research on creatures that are critically endangered of extinction in areas where they are.

Dr Elibahati Kimario, Moshi Municipal Council, Senior Technician said yesterday that the research competition is open to all people around the world including Tanzania.

The obtained data will be used to publish a book which will be written by different people around the world including Tanzania dubbed: 'Living things are in danger of extinction in the world and how to be preserved for the future generations'.

"People can carry out research on animals, birds, insects, trees and other species that are critically endangered of extinction including other species that have disappeared to help Tanzania have proper data about it and provide recommendations on what measures should be done to preserve them and protect the places where they live," he said.

The book will be distributed in various environmental Protection Agencies that include national and international organizations so that they can be aware of what has occurred and take immediate action to protect them.

Other includes research institutes, people around the world, the obtained funds will be used for tree planting campaigns in various areas across the world to prevent climate change and save those creatures.

He called on Tanzanians in all areas where they are to use this opportunity, all research will be peer reviewed and winners will be notified personally via email or in accordance with the contact they sent to KEPI.

The completion was officially opened January 19th this year, timeframe for data collection is May 19th this year and the deadline for submission is June 2, 2023,' he said.

He called on Tanzanians including other people around the world to submit their research or articles and other information required via kepi202061@yahoo.com or ellykimario35@gmail.com

Highlighting on what is required while submitting their research/article, he said people are invited to send their article/research

including 1-5 colour pictures and write recommendations on what measures should be taken to protect the earth and creatures that are critically endangered of extinction in areas where they are.

Also research or articles that will be submitted to KEPI should specify your personal data such as your full name: three names and your title, your country, email address, WhatsApp number, one personal photo and the additional information required during the application," he said.

Also participants will be required to fill a special form for certificate of participation.

"To start with, the first winner will get USD 100, 2nd winner will receive USD 70, 3rd winner USD 50 and fourth- ten winners will get USD 30 each, but if the organization gets donors to support this competition the amount will increase," he said.

"We have decided to introduce this competition after identifying that due to climate change causes, many creatures face challenges for survival and pose challenges to plants and animals," he said.

So far many creatures that include animals, plants, birds, trees and insects have died while others moved from their original places/habitat and live in other places where they can survive or in safest places to live," he said.

He called on environmental organizations around the world, NGOs, public and private organizations to support this completion in -terms of prizes for winners of competition, certificate for participants and other issues.

"As Tanzanians and other people around the world it is our responsibility to think about the future generation," he said.

He named the book competition management team are Sir. Peeyush Pandit, Founder International Internship University (IUU), Dr Elibahati Kimario, KEPI's Principal and Director, Prof. Pradipta Mandal, Founder - Global Educator's Forum, Global Metaverse community and Global Community for Education 2030, Prof. Dr Queen Elizabeth Afolalu, founder/director of Yes you can, youth mentor and entrepreneur.

Others include Prof. Nada Ratkovic, President- International internship University (IUU) Research centre, Sir. Martin Masaki, Bachelor of Science with education, masters of arts in co-operative and community development and facilitator in environment and Yoshua Kimario, Youth representative.



Exim Bank Tanzania executives including Nelson Kishanda (C), Treasury and Global Markets head, pictured in Tanga District at the weekend presenting foodstuffs for Ramadhan-time iftar to needy families. With him include Tanga district commissioner Hashim Mgandilwa (3rd-L) and Tanga regional sheikh, Alhaj Juma Luwuchu (L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Iringa Police holding villager for allegedly molesting child

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

POLICE in Iringa region are holding a resident of Nzihi village in Kalenga Division, Amani Martin popularly known as Kasisi (47) for allegedly molesting his one year and ten months old child.

Regional Police Commander, ACP Allan Bukumbi said the incident

happened on March 28, 2023 around 13:00hrs in Nzihi Ward, Iringa district.

He said that the method used by the accused is to hold the child by force and do that cruel act to him while they were in the field after the child's mother left to collect firewood and left the child with his father.

"A woman known as Magreth Kaguo (29), a resident of Nzihi, discovered that her one-year-old and ten-month-old son had been sodomised by his biological father," he explained.

ACP Bukumbi has said that the essence of the incident is still being investigated and the suspect has been arrested and he will be sent

to court soon after the investigation is completed. The Police force is calling on Iringa region residents to cooperate with the force in providing early information on such incidents at all times.

Meanwhile, RPC Bukumbi thanked the citizens for celebrating Easter calmly without causing chaos.

# Pope Francis appoints Rugambwa coadjutor Archbishop of Tabora

By Correspondent James Kandoya

POPE Francis has appointed Archbishop Protase Rugambwa, former secretary of the Dicastery for Evangelisation, in the Section for First Evangelisation and the new particular churches, as coadjutor Archbishop of Tabora.

A statement from the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) circulated to the media and signed by its Secretary General Dr Charles Kitima archbishop Rugambwa confirmed to the Guardian and thanked for his fruitful services

The statement said that in 2008 was consecrated Bishop of Kigoma, where he served until he was transferred to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples in 2012.

On November 17, six year ago, Archbishop Protase Rugambwa was appointed secretary of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples He

had previously served as the congregation's adjunct secretary and president of the Pontifical Mission Societies.

His appointment made Archbishop Rugambwa, 57 by then, second in the congregation, behind Cardinal Fernando Filoni, who was 71.

Archbishop Rugambwa was born in Bunena, Tanzania, in 1960. He studied at Kibosho Senior Seminary and St. Charles Lwanga Segerea Senior Seminary, and was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Rulenge in 1990.

He served as a parochial vicar, a teacher at a minor seminary, and a hospital chaplain. He obtained a doctorate in pastoral theology from the Pontifical Lateran University in 1998, and then served as vocations director and vicar general of his diocese.

Archbishop Paul Ruzoka is currently leading the Tabora archdiocese



Service comes the way of Bank of Africa Tanzania executive director Adam Mihayo (R) at iftar the bank hosted for its customers in Zanzibar at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# TOSCI destroys 356 tonnes of seeds which do not meet quality standards

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute has destroyed 356 tonnes of seeds which do not meet quality standards in various regions in a move aimed at combating counterfeit seeds in the year 2020/22.

Dr George Swela, TOSCI director general said yesterday that the seeds have been destroyed because they have failed to reach market standards which includes

germination ability.

Dr Swela named the kind of seeds which were destroyed in the just ended year as vegetables (7 tonnes), 289 tonnes of maize and 219 tonnes (sesame).

During the same period, the institute destroyed one ton of rice, 12 tonnes of millet and six tons of sunflower while in 2022 the institute destroyed 58 tonnes of various crops.

Dr Swela said despite destroying the seeds, seven cases are ongoing at various courts in the country against those who imported the

seeds into the country.

He said in 2021 a total of five cases were brought before various courts in regions of Ruvuma, Songwe and Mbeya.

He said however that Tosci conducts inspections when they find out that there are seeds whose dates are expired adding that usually they direct owners to destroy and the institute destroys on behalf when they fail to do so.

He said the institute has also put in place strategies to conduct abrupt inspections in warehouses to address counterfeits which

when planted can lead to weak crops and cause losses to the famers.

He said Tosci has been conducting awareness campaigns to business people before they begin to engage in seed importation businesses including selling seeds which have Tosci label in line with the seeds Act, 2003.

He called upon business people to ensure that they get training and get registered, including having the necessary documentation to make farmers benefit from their businesses.

He said Tosci is an important link between farmers, business people and importers to ensure seeds that enter the country are of high quality for national interests.



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## Changing economic clusters in East Africa not surprising

IMPRESSIONS being projected at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the movement of East African economies in the next half decade to be exact will definitely cast a long shadow in business planning but scarcely alter anything in a fundamental way. Countries compete at different levels and size of economy is just one measure, where it is intimately linked to budget levels and income per capita, and more acutely economic organisation and competitive capacity. GDP isn't all.

For instance while Kenya's current GDP is put at \$118bn, compared to \$85bn for Tanzania, and thus a \$33bn gap in GDP, the difference in population is 10m more for Tanzania (or 11m if one mentally updates last year's census figures standing at 67.7m people). This disadvantage comes up in budgeting, that Tanzania's total budget sums routinely come to around 60 percent of the total budget there, which indicates similar budgetary patterns as the GDP is 40 percent more compared to us.

Population growth has usually been comparable between the two sides, and while IMF projections need to be respected, it is well worth trying to figure out the well springs of that projected advantage. It is uncertain if Tanzania is really starting to encroach solid spheres of net advantage for Kenya, like a modernised crop sector and export capacity. Kenya is now moving into oil exports, levelling up with gas advantage here, and has been able to make use of mineral resources from here as well, by a sharper sense of markets. Yes, minerals have given Tanzania the ladder it needs to climb.

As a matter of fact, these projections of the IMF could themselves be overtaken if there was sharp enough resoluteness for economic reform. Two sectors tell the story, that if all the 350 or so public economic entities were each to get a 60 per cent or 70 per cent purchaser of their shares and the rest of the shares be put on the stock exchange, the country would rapidly cut down the growth of the foreign debt and in a short while start collecting amazing levels of taxes. It could then finance social services, science and technology more intensely, while the market expands.

The other sphere is agriculture, where the issues being discussed relate to irrigation infrastructure and even getting diploma and degree holders into farming. Still the real challenge is to restore agro-sector growth levels existing at the time of national independence up to the mid-1960s, at 13.5 per cent. The collapse of this growth rate was simultaneous with the Arusha Declaration, early 1967 where the rate fell to 3.0 per cent until the end of the first phase presidency. It rose to 3.5 percent during the second phase and in seven years of the third phase to early 2003, it was 3.0 again.

We sometimes hear the rate is 4.5 per cent but often we hear a lesser figure, as credit movement in the agricultural sector is wanting. Our solutions are focused on empowerment funds for unpayable loans, which boost the morale of client sections of the population. We don't alter basic limitations of needing high prices in order to produce, and offloading produce into a saturated market of poor people which can scarcely absorb new products.

## Indeed, ensuring clean waters for people and nature is crucial

THROUGHOUT history, people have settled close to rivers, lakes and coastlines. Rivers and streams brought clean water and took away waste. As human settlements grew, so did their use of clean water and discharge of polluted water. From the 18th century onwards

With sewage systems, wastewater treatment facilities and the regulation of pollutants from industry and agriculture, Africa has a long way in reducing emissions to water bodies. Nevertheless, water pollution continues to be a problem, with over-exploitation, physical alterations and climate change continuing to affect the quality and the availability of water.

Africa and Tanzania is no exception freshwater use comes from rivers and groundwater. Like any other vital resource or living organism, water can come under pressure. This can happen when demand for water exceeds its supply or when pollution reduces its quality. Despite some positive developments achieved through regional cooperation, a range of pressures from historic and current human activities could cause irreversible damage to marine ecosystems.

In Africa, the contamination problem is mainly caused by synthetic chemicals and heavy metals originating from human activities both on land and at sea.

Coastal and maritime activities, such as fishing, shipping, tourism, aquaculture and the extraction of oil and gas, cause multiple pressures on the marine environment, including pollution. Marine litter is present in all marine ecosystems, with plastics, metals, cardboard and other waste accumulating on shorelines, the seabed and surface waters. Ships and offshore activities also cause underwater noise pollution, which

can negatively affect marine life.

Tanzania's existing infrastructure requires maintenance and new pressures require substantial investments, including adapting to climate change, providing improved wastewater facilities and tackling new concerns, such as medicines or the so called mobile chemicals in wastewater.

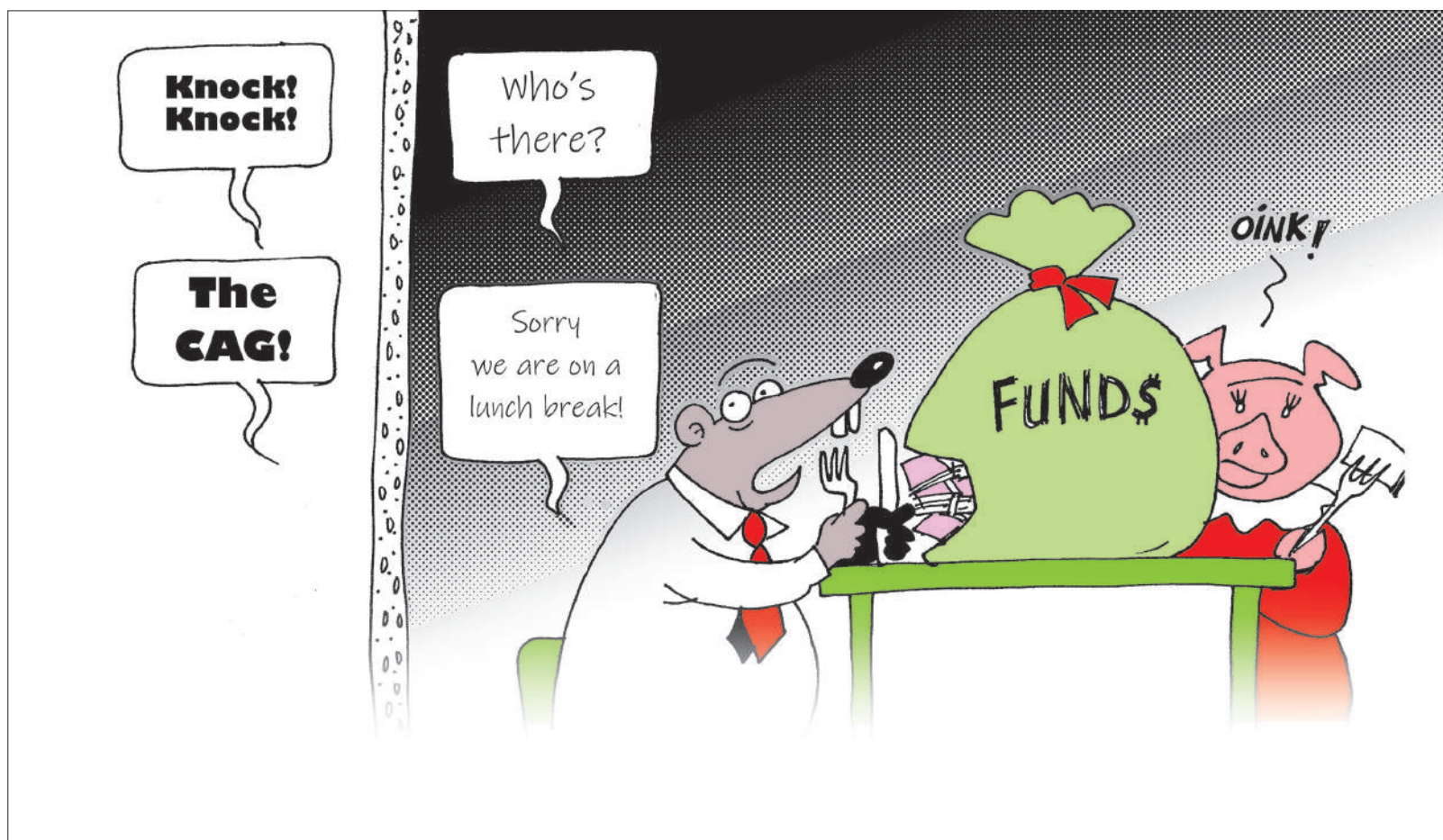
In addition to point source pollution from industry and wastewater treatment plants, water bodies also suffer from diffuse pollution, for example from transport, agriculture, forestry and rural dwellings. Pollutants that are first released to air and soil often also end up in water bodies.

Intensive agriculture relies on fertilisers to increase crop yields. These fertilisers often work by introducing nitrogen, phosphorus and other chemicals into the soil. Nitrogen is a chemical element abundant in nature and is essential for plant growth.

However, some of the nitrogen intended for crops is not taken up by plants. The amount of fertiliser applied may be more than the plant can absorb or it may not be applied during the plant's growing period. This excess nitrogen finds its way into water bodies and there it boosts the growth of certain water plants and algae. This extra growth depletes the oxygen in the water, rendering it uninhabitable for other animal and plant species.

Pesticides used in agriculture aim to protect crops from invasive pests, ensuring crop growth. However, these effects can occur beyond the intended target, harming other species and reducing biodiversity. Often, these chemicals end up in water bodies.

Plastics have become integral to almost every aspect of our lives, and the issue of plastics entering our waterways, lakes and seas is dramatic.



## Four biggest losers of 2023 Nigerian General Election

By Michael Owoko

PRESIDENT Buhari might have missed the opportunity to etch his name in gold over his failure to provide a secure and enabling environment for free, fair and credible elections.

The biggest losers are President Muhammadu Buhari; INEC Chairman, Professor Mahmood Yakubu; President-elect Bola Ahmed Tinubu; and Nigeria as a political entity. Except for Bola Tinubu who carries the burden of legitimacy arising from the flawed process and the total miniature votes garnered, the others will live with the scars and collective guilt slammed on the country by the ethical deficit in the delivery process of the elections.

The real losers of 2023 Nigerian general elections are not the electorates who were deprived of their rights to freely choose candidates of their choice nor the first-timer youths who were disappointed by the Nigerian state, nor the candidates who lost as declared by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

The biggest losers are President Muhammadu Buhari; INEC Chairman, Professor Mahmood Yakubu; President-elect Bola Ahmed Tinubu; and Nigeria as a political entity. Except for Bola Tinubu who carries the burden of legitimacy arising from the flawed process and the total miniature votes garnered, the others will live with the scars and collective guilt slammed on the country by the ethical deficit in the delivery process of the elections.

With general disenchantment over the conduct of the 2023 Nigerian general elections by over 145,000 national and foreign observers deployed across the country, INEC failed to leave a split opinion on its capacity to conduct free, fair and credible elections, which is a development that will hunt Mahmood Yakubu, Muhammadu Buhari and Nigeria for a long time to come. The exercise was not only a horrendous phenomenon on the psyche of Nigerians but a fleeting nightmare.

A consensus negative opinion on the flawed elections by observer groups from the European Union, African Union, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Commonwealth, The International Republican Institute (IRI), National Democratic Institute (NDI), Joint Election Observation Mission (JEOM), four former African presidents, and Transition Monitoring Group (TMG), is an affirmation of global skepticism about Nigeria's reputation. They all concluded that the electoral process lacked transparency, which encouraged manipulations and undermined voters' confidence.

This trust deficit was also highlighted by Chatham House when it declared that INEC had learnt nothing from its past failures. Specifically, it said, "The INEC's performance and

controversies over these results mean that the electoral reforms and lessons declared to have been learned were not fully applied and, as an electoral body, it was significantly less prepared than it claimed."

As a consequence of these opinions, President Buhari might have missed the opportunity to etch his name in gold over his failure to provide a secure and enabling environment for free, fair and credible elections. As Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, he failed to optimally use his offices, including through the effective deployment of the police, army, DSS, and other security agencies, to protect voters during the elections.

Nigerians were mortified by horrendous images of election violations, and no rationalisation could justify such criminal acts. An election where about 27 persons were killed nationwide over violence, ballot snatching, thuggery, voter suppression, ethnic bigotry, use of tribal gods and deities, even in the presence of security operatives in some instances, can only be a national shame.

Besides, whatever is left of Buhari's legacy might have been further weakened by the naira redesign and currency swap policy, which brought untold hardship to citizens during period of the elections. Perhaps, the intention of the policy was to eliminate monetary inducement and vote buying, unfortunately, Buhari and the Central Bank Governor, Godwin Emefiele, were outwitted by politicians through the use of extra-constitutional and procedural means to contrive and achieve sinister objectives.

Without prejudice to the outcomes of the current litigation, going forward, Bola Tinubu should activate his social capital to open up channels to influential groups and personalities in the country, including his political rivals, in the effort to legitimise his presidency, and achieve unity through formation of all-inclusive government.

For the INEC Chairman, Mahmood Yakubu, there might be no second opportunity to redeem his character. With a budget of over N305 billion and other sundry support, he had no reason to have failed. Yakubu gave assurances at both local and international events, including at the Chatham House, of his Commission's preparedness, pledging that with the use of technology, including the Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS), results would be transmitted in real-time to INEC's Result Viewing Portal (IReV).

These assertions receded into irrelevance when INEC failed to comply with the Electoral Act and its own guidelines. The Electoral Act, 2022, requires INEC to upload the results of elections of polling units on to its portal as stipulated in Section 60 (5) and Clause 38 of the INEC

Regulations and Guidelines.

Specifically, Clause 38 of the INEC Regulations and Guidelines for the Conduct of Elections, 2022 states: "Upon completion of all the Polling Unit voting and results, procedures, the Presiding Officer shall: (i) Electronically transmit or transfer the result of the Polling Unit direct to the collation system as prescribed by the commission. (ii) Use BVAS to upload a scan of ESSA to INEC Result Viewing Portal (IReV), as prescribed by the commission. (iii) Take the BVAS and the original copy of each of the forms in tamper-evident envelope to the Registration Area/Ward Collation Officer, in the company of security agents. The polling agents may accompany the Presiding Officer to the RA/Ward Collation Centre."

With non-compliance and deviation from these regulatory provisions, INEC opened the electoral process to manipulation, resulting in the lack of justice and fulfilment for voters.

These violations have exposed the gaps in the capacity of Mahmood Yakubu to deliver on a significant national assignment. This might cast aspersions on his reputation and capabilities. Indeed, this election is a minus for his reputation, as no government or serious organisation would wish to consider him for such important responsibilities in the future.

Unfortunately, the President-elect, Bola Tinubu, is a product of INEC's flawed process, and this has triggered a legitimacy challenge that is further fueled by the lean number of votes secured at the election, relative to total votes cast. Tinubu polled 8.87 million votes (the least by any presidential candidate since 1999), representing 36.61% of total votes, and 10.08% of all eligible voters. Out of approximately 93 million registered voters, only about 25 million, representing 28.63%, actually turned out to vote.

Implicitly, Bola Tinubu was not only elected by a minority of voters when viewed against 25 million persons that voted. And in a country of over 200 million people, skepticism resulting from INEC's multiple irregularities are unhelpful to his presidency. Perhaps, this accounts for the absence of national pomp and celebration that would have heralded his victory.

Without prejudice to the outcomes of the current litigation, going forward, Bola Tinubu should activate his social capital to open up channels to influential groups and personalities in the country, including his political rivals, in the effort to legitimise his presidency, and achieve unity through formation of all-inclusive government.

It is hoped that Nigeria will not allow a repeat of this ugly experience. It is time to make political offices unattractive to discourage desperation, which is the underpinning motive for all these electoral atrocities. The electoral body

should be reformed and repositioned with people of integrity as drivers aimed at restoring electoral integrity.

INEC's performance has also rubbed off on Nigeria's image as a corrupt country. Through the foreign observers, perceptions of the international community about Nigeria as a corrupt country might have worsened on account of their opinions over the lack of transparency and operational failures that characterised INEC's performance.

In the 2022 Transparency International's (TI) Corruption Perception Index (CPI), Nigeria was ranked 150 out of 180 countries, and also placed as second most corrupt country in West Africa. By INEC's standard and performance, it has unwittingly further confirmed Nigeria as a corrupt country, and deepened global negative impressions.

Nigeria lost the opportunity to demonstrate before the world its preparedness to be a leading light in Africa and world affairs, using the elections as a spring board to exhibit its leadership potentials and capacity. Hopes for these attainments have, however, been frustrated and shattered by INEC.

Besides, with the world's attention on Nigeria, as connoted by presence of foreign observers, the country should have used the elections as a public relations tool to strengthen the country's image through the conduct of free, fair and credible polls under a transparent atmosphere. This would have left foreign observers rattled about Nigeria's new values and ethical orientation.

It was an event Nigeria should have used to shore-up its dwindling reputation. It is more effective than image-laundering programmes whereby huge amounts of money in foreign currencies are budgeted for public relations and reputation management. With a good image, Nigerians' dignity and respect would be restored, and this would have largely put an end to discrimination at border posts in foreign countries.

This experience should serve as a lesson on the need to be transparent in the conduct of future elections. Former American president, Jimmy Carter, who was in Nigeria in the past to observe elections, vowed never to observe elections in Nigeria again after his ugly experience of the brazen violation of the electoral process. He was upset with the impunity with which politicians used thuggery to deprive electorates from freely voting for candidates of their choice.

It is hoped that Nigeria will not allow a repeat of this ugly experience. It is time to make political offices unattractive to discourage desperation, which is the underpinning motive for all these electoral atrocities. The electoral body should be reformed and repositioned with people of integrity as drivers aimed at restoring electoral integrity.



# Tanzania registers improvements in Rule of Law Index 2022

By Theosphore Magobe

**L**AST week, we briefly looked at Amnesty International (AI) Report 2022/23, which surveyed 156 countries across the world. AI pointed an accusing finger at government forces and armed groups for violations of international humanitarian law and human rights abuses, in some cases amounting to war crimes and crimes against humanity.

AI found out that certain patterns of behaviour by states had undermined international human rights instruments, such as inconsistent or inadequate implementation of human rights obligations, inconsistent international responses to human rights violations and failure to contribute adequate financial resources to international human rights mechanisms.

We then concluded that as global citizens, we have the obligation to ensure human rights everywhere are respected and protected to enable us live in dignity.

Today, I invite you to briefly look at the World Justice Project (WJP)'s Rule of Law Index 2022 which reflects the perspectives and experiences of more than 154,000 people and 3,600 legal practitioners and other experts in 140 countries and jurisdictions.

In this WJP Rule of Law Index 2022, Tanzania ranks 12th of the 34 surveyed countries in sub-Saharan Africa and in the global rank it moves two positions up from 100th the year before to



98th position last year of the 140 surveyed countries.

In the rule of law around the world by income, Tanzania ranks 17th of the 38 surveyed lower middle-income economies across the world. Income groups used in this year's ranking report are based on the World Bank's 2022 fiscal year income group classifications. For the 2022 fiscal year, lower middle-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of between \$1,046 and \$4,095.

In last year's ranking Tanzania ranked 100th, which was one position higher than the previous year of the

128 surveyed countries. In sub-Saharan Africa, Tanzania ranked 12th of the 33 surveyed countries. In the rule of law around the world by income, Tanzania ranked 17th of 35 surveyed lower middle-income countries.

The WJP defines the rule of law as a durable system of laws, institutions, norms, and community commitment that delivers the following four universal principles: (1) accountability, (2) just law (a law which is clear, publicised, stable, applied evenly and ensures human rights as well as property, contract and procedural rights), (3) open government (in which the law is adopted, administered, adjudicated and enforced fairly and efficiently) and (4) accessible and impartial justice.

The WJP Rule of Law Index 2022 offers new data organised into eight factors that encompass the concept of rule of law. Those factors are constraints on government power, absence of corruption, open government, fundamental rights, order and security, regulatory enforcement, civil justice and criminal justice. They are further disaggregated into 44 sub-factors.

As regards constraints on government power, what was measured was the extent to which those who govern were bound by law. This comprises

the means, both constitutional and institutional by which the powers of the government and its officials and agents are limited and held accountable under the law. It also includes non-governmental checks on the government's power, such as free and independent media.

With regard to civil justice, what was measured was whether ordinary people could resolve their grievances peacefully and effectively through the civil justice system. It measured whether civil justice systems were accessible and affordable as well as free of discrimination, corruption, and improper influence by public officials. Another area, which was measured was whether court proceedings were conducted without unreasonable delays and whether decisions were enforced effectively, including the accessibility, impartiality and effectiveness of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

The WJP 2022 report shows that effective rule of law reduces corruption, combats poverty and disease, and protects people from injustices large and small. "It is the foundation for communities of justice, opportunity, and peace—underpinning development, accountable government and respect for fundamental rights."

Furthermore, the report suggests that although traditionally, the rule of law has been viewed as the domain of lawyers and judges, everyday issues of safety, rights, justice, and governance affect us all, thus making everyone a stakeholder in the rule of law.

Dr Alejandro Ponce who is WJP Chief Research Officer in the preface of the report, says there is still much work to be done to strengthen the rule of law worldwide and prevent the arbitrary exercise of power.

This year's report can inform Tanzania and other countries about areas that need improvement to make the enforcement of the rule of law effective. Looking at the two reports (of 2021 and 2022) Tanzania has improved in the rule of law and can still do better than that. So, let us keep the fire burning and ensure we continue climbing the ladder of development in various sectors of the economy.

Today's proverb: "Those who make the best use of their time have none to spare."

**The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at [tma-gobe@gmail.com](mailto:tma-gobe@gmail.com)**

## Slave trade statues: Painful memorial not for faint-hearted persons

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

**I**N 2015, commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade had a particular significance at United Nations Headquarters in New York where six years of work to establish a permanent memorial to honour the victims completed.

Designed by Rodney Leon, an American architect of Haitian descent who was chosen in 2013 as the winner of an international competition which attracted a total of 310 entries from 83 countries, 'The Ark of Return' honours the memories of the estimated 15 million men, women and children who were victims of the largest forced migration in history.

Here in Tanzania, there was a main slave trade route which has remained as a landmark of the notorious trade that formed long caravan of captured Africans from the interior at Bagamoyo in Coast Region from where they were transported to Zanzibar on the Indian Ocean and beyond.

Along the main road leading towards Msata in the west of Bagamoyo town, one catches a glimpse of statues at Fukayosi Village near the junction to Saadani National Park about 45 Kilometers away from Dar es Salaam.

I visited the place recently and witnessed for myself the statues that were made during colonial period of the British administration of the then Tanganyika territory.

The seven statues are more conspicuous in an open space and look like real human beings when viewed from a distance, and were designed as walking in a single line on a raised cemented ground just like ancient slave trade caravan routes traversed the bushy pathway.

This is the actual pathway used by slaves during Arab dominion of the trade along the Eastern coast of Africa from the interior destined to Bagamoyo and beyond.

Looking at the structures, it's more painful for words judging from the horrific incidences which occurred over 160 years ago, as slaves were fixed with wooden hallmarks tied round their necks with both hands handcuffed like criminals to prevent them from escaping.

Right from the scene, it clearly shows the cruelty of Arab traders and their collaborators abroad. For, these defenseless captives were forced to carry ivories and other heavy goods and traversed long distances from the interior to Bagamoyo where they were put on dhows to other destinations.



"I have never seen anything like it before", I told colleagues who were equally grief-stricken as if we were at a funeral of a close relative or friend.

Millions of Africans were captured by slave hunters in the interior and had to go through unexplainable pain after being chained together and forced to walk over hundreds of kilometers to be sold to masters in Asia and Arabian Peninsula. On the other side, slaves from West Africa ended up in the Caribbean and North America where masters used them as free labour in their fields and at home.

Other hunters contacted traditional chiefs in their dominions and ultimately forced their people to carry heavy ivory and other products from them and undergo the long journeys walking on foot all along without considering the difficulties encountered on their way.

According to one village official Hamisi Bakari, several people of all walks of life pay regular visits to the area to see for

themselves how Africans felt the pangs of solitude and forced to walk long distances and were paid nothing in return.

"The scene has become a tourist site and is currently being preserved by the village administration in collaboration with the Department of Culture and Sports of Bagamoyo District Council," he said.

East and Central Africa region was one of the main areas where the slave hunters and traders, most of them Arabs made their shady deals. They caught their victims in areas that are present-day Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania.

The narrations from the historical books show that those who were overwhelmed by heavy loads died on their way and left to be eaten by carrion animals. The scene at Fukayosi village remains as a landmark of slavery and slave trade legacy.

It should be remembered that it was

the British government that passed a resolution in Lancaster House which led to the abolition of slave trade in 1837. However, the malpractice went on secretly for several years even after the official colonization of African continent which began in 1885.

Slaves from Central and East Africa were brought to the coast and shipped to Zanzibar and many were sold further to the Arab countries, Persia, and India, Mauritania and Reunion islands.

The significance of constructing the statues was to remind the forthcoming generations that this was the route through which African slaves passed along from the mainland Tanzania to the coast of Bagamoyo awaiting their shipment abroad.

For any visitor to Bagamoyo, there are several tourist and historical sites for studies worth visiting, which include the little covered caravan routes for slave traders, the Kaole ruins, German Boma

which used to be the State House of the then German East Africa Company built in 1887.

Others are slave market which was the biggest along East African Coast, A school which dates back to the late 19th century and was the first multiracial school by then, the Bagamoyo port where one can watch boat builders at work and big fish market

Caravan Serai was the special area where the slaves reached from the central route of slave trade before being transported to Zanzibar which was the main slave market in East Africa.

Caravan Serai is where the name Bagamoyo, originally Bwagamoyo was born. Slaves who arrived safely to the destination point were told by their captors to put down loads they carried and cool down or relax their hearts, 'bwaga moyo' and rest while waiting for dhows to Zanzibar.



# Detoxifying security: Recommendations for G7 summit on nuclear weapons

By Anna Ikeda

THE current war in Ukraine has shown that nuclear deterrence is deeply flawed. It relies on the assumption of “rational actors” in power and credibility of threats, which we know are far from reality, especially in times of conflicts.

Beyond their potential use, nuclear weapons continue to threaten us through their mere presence. For instance, resources spent on those weapons hinder the advancement towards achieving the SDGs and building the post-pandemic world. Therefore, they tangibly affect other priority areas to be addressed at the G7 summit.

Thus, this year’s G7 summit presents an opportunity to seriously rethink our understanding of security and international peace.

The 2022 SGI Peace Proposal, authored by our international president Daisaku Ikeda, urges that we must “detoxify” ourselves from current nuclear-dependent security doctrines. Based on this, I offer some recommendations on controlling nuclear weapons:

## Adopt a no first use policy

To reduce current tensions and create a way toward resolving the Ukraine crisis, the nuclear-weapon states must urgently initiate action to reduce nuclear risks. With nuclear arsenals in a continuing state of high alert, there is a considerably heightened risk of unintentional nuclear weapon use.

For this reason, SGI has renewed its commitment to advocate for the principle of No First Use to be universalized as the security policy of all states possessing nuclear weapons as well as nuclear-dependent states.

We believe that adopting the doctrine of No First Use by nuclear-armed states would signifi-



Anna Ikeda. Credit: Soka University of America Photography. Credit: IPS

cantly stabilize the global security climate and help create a much needed space for bilateral and multilateral dialogue toward ending the conflict.

A No First Use policy would also operationalize the recent statement by the G20 leaders that the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is inadmissible, as well as the statement by the P-5 countries in January 2022 that “a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought.”

Certainly, such declaratory policy must be accompanied by changes in

actual postures and policies, such as taking all nuclear forces off hair-triggered alert, in order to build mutual trust.

Overall, No First Use would be a critical step toward reducing the role of nuclear weapons in national security and serve as an impetus to advance nuclear disarmament. We therefore urge G7 leaders to seize the opportunity to discuss and announce strategies of risk reduction, de-escalation, and disarmament, particularly by declaring the policy of No First Use.

Engage productively in multilateral disarmament discussions and take bold leadership

It is critically important that G7 leaders take bold leadership and renew their commitment to fulfill obligations for disarmament stipulated under Article VI of the NPT.

Equally important would be to further explore the complementarity between the NPT and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). We especially hope Japan will fulfill its commitment as a bridge-builder by engaging productively in the TPNW discussions, recognizing that, despite divergent approaches, all countries share grave concerns about the potential use of nuclear weapons.

We strongly urge G7 countries to work cooperatively with the TPNW States Parties by committing to attend meetings of states parties to the treaty in the future.

**Commit to work towards the elimination of nuclear weapons**

It is often said that a world without nuclear weapons is the “ultimate goal.” However, we have to be sure this goal is achieved before nuclear weapons destroy our world. There have been some calls by experts to set the year 2045 as the absolute deadline for the elimination of nuclear weapons. At the Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders could possibly agree on setting such a timeline and determine to begin negotiations accordingly.

## Support disarmament and non-proliferation education initiatives

Lastly, we call on G7 leaders to demonstrate their support for educational initiatives at every level. We strongly hope that they set an example by visiting the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and meeting the atomic bomb survivors, to directly hear from them, and learn from their experiences.

To shift the current security paradigm, we must transform the way people think about peace and security, and challenge the dominant narrative that nuclear weapons keep us safe. We need to raise the public’s awareness that the surest way to avoid a nuclear war is by eliminating these catastrophic weapons.

A 2009 nuclear abolition proposal by the SGI president states that, if we are to put the era of nuclear terror behind us, we must confront the ways of thinking that justify nuclear weapons; the readiness to annihilate others when they are seen as a threat or as a hindrance to the realization of our objectives.

For this reason, we ask for the G7 leaders’ commitment to make available the opportunity for everyone, especially but not limited to young people, to learn about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons.

We welcome Prime Minister Kishida’s initiative for the Hiroshima Action Plan, and establishing a “Youth Leader Fund for a world without nuclear weapons.” We hope Japan will exercise its leadership to affirm that the purpose of such initiatives is not to provide only the education about disarmament, but education for disarmament.

To close, the current tensions and uncertainties in the global security climate elevates, not undermines, the value and role of dialogue and diplomacy. Forums like the G7 and the United Nations serve more important functions than ever.

*Anna Ikeda is representative to the United Nations of Soka Gakkai International (SGI), and the program coordinator for disarmament of the SGI Office for UN Affairs, where her work focuses on nuclear abolition and stopping killer robots. This is a slightly shortened transcript of her paper presented to the conference on ‘Advancing Security and Sustainability at the G7 Hiroshima Summit’ at Soka University, Tokyo on March 29, 2023.*

IPS UN Bureau

# Superbugs among top ten threats to whole cycle of life

By Baher Kamal

RESEARCH after research, world’s scientists renew their loud alerts against the high dangers of human-driven ‘superbugs’ - bacterias and pathogens that no longer respond to antimicrobials, making infections harder to treat and increasing the risk of disease spread, severe illness and death.

The pressure of giant industrial sectors appear to be heavier than the needed political will to reduce the dangerous impacts of the excessive use of those drugs which are widely employed to prevent and treat infections in humans, aquaculture, livestock, and crop production.

Antibiotics are perhaps the most familiar ones, but there are many others, including numerous antivirals, antifungals and antiparasitic agents that have been largely used and misused to treat diseases but that end up spreading them.

They are known as ‘superbugs’ resulting from their increasing resistance to those medicines. And they are antimicrobial resistant germs which are found in people, animals, food, plants and the environment (in water, soil and air).

“They can spread from person to per-

son or between people and animals, including from food of animal origin,” as further explained by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Such an increasing abuse of antimicrobials and other microbial stressors (e.g. the presence of heavy metals and other pollutants) creates favourable conditions for microorganisms to develop resistance.

## The big threat

They represent one of the most complex threats to global health, and food safety and security. Much so that the World Health Organization (WHO) lists Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) among the top 10 threats for global health.

The emergence and spread of drug-resistant pathogens that have acquired new resistance mechanisms, leading to antimicrobial resistance, continues to threaten the ability to treat common infections, WHO explains.

Alarming advance of multi-resistant bacterias

“Especially alarming” is the rapid global spread of multi- and pan-resistant bacterias that cause infections that are not treatable with existing antimicrobial medicines such as antibiotics.



“The clinical pipeline of new antimicrobials is dry.” In 2019 WHO identified 32 antibiotics in clinical development that address its list of priority pathogens, of which only six were classified as innovative.

Moreover, estimates suggest that by 2050 up to 10 million additional direct deaths could occur annually. That is on par with the 2020 rate of global deaths from cancer.

Additionally, in the next decade, AMR could result in a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) shortfall of at least 3.4 trillion US dollars annually and push 24 million more people into extreme poverty.

Antibiotics, increasingly ineffective According to the World Health Organization, the lack of access to quality antimicrobials remains a major issue. Antibiotic shortages are affecting countries of all levels of development and especially in health-care systems.

“Antibiotics are becoming increasingly ineffective as drug-resistance spreads globally leading to more difficult to treat infections and death.”

## New antibiotics urgently needed

New antibacterials are urgently needed - for example, to treat carbapenem-resistant gram-negative bacterial infections as identified in the WHO priority pathogen list.

“However, if people do not change the way antibiotics are used now, these new antibiotics will suffer the same fate as the current ones and become ineffective.”

Meanwhile, FAO reports, “the situation is expected to worsen as global demand for food increases,” adding that it is therefore paramount that the agrifood systems are progressively transformed to reduce the need for antimicrobials.

## What drives antimicrobials?

As mentioned above, such a threat is primarily driven by the excessive application of antimicrobials, the international body adds. In fact, currently, more than 70% of antimicrobials sold worldwide are used in animals for human consumption.

While AMR occurs naturally over time, usually through genetic changes, FAO reports that their main drivers include: misuse and overuse of antimicrobials in human health and agriculture; lack of access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene for both humans and animals; poor infection and disease prevention and control in healthcare facilities and farms; poor access to quality, affordable medicines, vaccines and diagnostics and weak enforcement of legislation.

Who influences the spread of superbugs? According to UN reports, three economic sector value chains profoundly influence AMR’s development and spread:

**Pharmaceuticals and other chemicals manufacturing**

Agriculture and food including terrestrial animal production, aquaculture, food crops or those providing inputs such as feed, textiles, ornamental plants, biofuels, and other agricultural commodities.

Healthcare delivery in hospitals, medical facilities, community healthcare facilities and in pharmacies where a range of chemicals and disinfectants are used.

## Other major consequences

Another leading specialised body, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) warned

in its February 2023 report: Bracing for Superbugs about the need to curtail pollution created by the pharmaceuticals, agricultural and healthcare sectors.

The study focuses on the environmental dimensions of AMR, reporting that the pharmaceutical, agricultural and healthcare sectors are key drivers of AMR development and spread in the environment, together with pollutants from poor sanitation, sewage and municipal waste systems.

Inger Andersen, the UNEP Executive Director, explained that the triple planetary crisis - climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss - has contributed to this.

“Pollution of air, soil, and waterways undermines the human right to a clean and healthy environment. The same drivers that cause environmental degradation are worsening the antimicrobial resistance problem. The impacts of antimicrobial resistance could destroy our health and food systems,” she warned.

Climate, biodiversity, pollution and nature loss

According to UNEP, global attention to AMR has mainly focused on human health and agriculture sectors, but there is growing evidence that the environment plays a key role in the development, transmission and spread of AMR and is a key part of the solution to tackle AMR.

In fact, AMR is closely linked to the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity and nature loss, and pollution and waste, driven by human activity, unsustainable consumption and production patterns.

The world leading environmental body explains the following: Climate crisis and AMR are two of the greatest and most complex threats the world currently faces. Both have been worsened by, and can be mitigated by, human action.

Higher temperatures can be associated with increases in AMR infections, and extreme weather patterns can contribute to the emergence and spread of AMR.

Antimicrobial impacts on microbial biodiversity may affect the cycles of carbon and methane, which are directly involved in regulating Earth’s climate.

Biodiversity loss: Land-use changes and climate change alter soils’ microbial diversity in recent decades, and microbes inhabiting natural environments are sources of pharmaceutical discovery.

Municipal solid waste landfills and open dumps are prone to wildlife and feral animal interaction and can contribute to the spread of AMR.

Pollution: Biological and chemical pollution sources contribute to AMR development, transmission, and spread.

**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 18:10-21:00HRS 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 KIPIMA JOTO 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 KADOGO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMUJAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI	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**



# Zambia's youth-led organisation stands out for supporting vulnerable senior citizens

NDOLA, Zambia

There are several youth-led organisations in Zambia working to address various challenges facing young people in the country. It, however, is not every day that one comes across a youth-led organization that runs a program offering direct support to senior citizens in need alongside youth-centered interventions.

It is for this reason that Youth Changing The Mindsets Organization (YCMO), a non-profit entity that operates in Ndola, the capital of Zambia's Copperbelt Province, has been winning accolades.

This organization provides food and clothing and in some instances shelter to poor and vulnerable senior citizens in Chipulukusu, a sprawling low-income residential area in the eastern part of Ndola.

Young people from the YCMO have also been undertaking repair works on the homes of senior citizens to make them more habitable.

Since its establishment in June 2022, the YCMO has reached out to more than 50 vulnerable elderly persons in the aforementioned area and offered both material and psychosocial support.

"Many of the items given out to senior citizens come from well-wishers who include youths from Chipulukusu, local business entities, and private individuals," said Comfort Mwansa, the YCMO executive director.

Mwansa, 22, said the YCMO



Members of Youth Changing The Mindset Organisation visiting senior citizen Theresa Kunda (C) in Ndola, Copperbelt Province, Zambia.

youth members felt compelled to start a food distribution program targeting vulnerable senior citizens in Chipulukusu because no one came through to address

the situation. "Our goal is to provide monthly food packs for at least 50 elderly persons. These are senior citizens that are not in any gainful employment and have

no capacity to fend for themselves."

"Reaching out to the poor does not require you to have a lot of money; you can help those in need using the little you

have. We cannot help everyone, but everyone can help someone," Mwansa asserted.

Theresa Kunda, one of the beneficiaries of the food distribution pro-

gram, lauded the youth from the YCMO for not only providing her with meals but also supporting her emotionally during difficult times.

Kunda, 82, whose hus-

band recently passed away, was particularly grateful to the youth for being kind to the elderly and offering unwavering support to her and her family. "The support

has often been timely and on point," she said after receiving a food pack consisting of bread and a bottle of fruit juice from the YCMO team that went to console her.

Luckson Chisenga, Ndola deputy mayor, observed that the YCMO's work has helped alleviate suffering among the aged in Chipulukusu and surrounding areas.

Chisenga called on the youth in Zambia to emulate their counterparts in Chipulukusu and ensure that they take care of senior citizens in their communities. "The older generation took care of us and sacrificed a lot to make our lives better. It is our turn to ensure that they have a dignified life."

Chisenga further explored the business community and private individuals in Ndola and beyond to partner with the YCMO so that more vulnerable senior citizens can be reached.

Aside from providing support to the elderly, the YCMO helps secure wheelchairs for persons with disabilities in need of such support. The organization also facilitates skills training for younger women from low-income households to be financially independent.

## Africa needs more help with climate change, debt and food crises

WASHINGTON

AFRICA is struggling with the triple shock of rising debt burdens, an ongoing food crisis and climate change fallout and needs more help from international institutions and wealthy nations to cope, African finance ministers have said.

Developing African economies were only beginning to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic when Russia's invasion of Ukraine provoked capital market turmoil and an inflation acceleration that sent food prices soaring.

The continent, meanwhile, was already struggling with extreme weather events, including drought, flooding and cyclones, aggravated by climate change.

"African countries are really victims. They really aren't responsible for these devastating effects (of climate change)," Comoros Finance Minister Mzee Abdou Mohamed Chanfiou said in a news conference alongside two of his African counterparts during the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank spring meetings in Washington. The trio were speaking on behalf of the continent's finance ministers.

"Even if the IMF, the World Bank and our regional institutions have put in place emergency funds, these funds don't really seem sufficient to respond to this."

The IMF created the Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST) last year to help channel excess IMF Special Drawing Rights reserves from wealthier countries to poor and vulnerable middle-income nations.

The trust aims to provide long-term concessional financing for needs such as climate change adaptation and the transition to

cleaner energy sources.

Rwanda, Barbados, Costa Rica, Bangladesh and Jamaica have already reached agreements for loan programs from the facility, and 44 others have expressed interest.

The three African finance ministers urged wealthy countries to step forward to honor their pledges to fund the trust.

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said on Friday that the IMF had already received \$40 billion in pledges for the RST. She added that more pledges had been received on Friday, "meaning that there is a very good likelihood that we can build it even further in terms of financial strength."

The African finance ministers, meanwhile, called for a G20-backed framework aimed at helping countries restructure burdensome debt to go further.

Two African countries - Zambia and Ghana - have already defaulted on their sovereign debt since the start of the pandemic. But while they've signed onto the initiative, it has so far failed to provide relief.

While Africa needs more support to deal with food shortages and high food prices caused by weather phenomena and the war in Ukraine, the ministers said African governments also had their role play.

Sierra Leone Finance Minister Sheku A.F. Bangura, speaking in the same news conference on Saturday, said Africa must leverage its agricultural sector to boost domestic production and reduce its vulnerability to import disruptions.

"The crisis we have is a permanent one," he said. "We need a much stronger and consolidated approach."



Climate change destroys Africa's beauty

## EAC and UNHCR ink MoU on new cooperation in addressing refugee, asylum seekers issues in region

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at renewing and strengthening cooperation in addressing issues on refugee and asylum seekers in need of international protection, across the region.

The MoU was signed at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania by the EAC Secretary General, Dr Peter Mathuki and the UNHCR Regional Director for the East, Horn and Great Lakes Regions, Clementine Nkweta-Salami and will among other things, promote the rights of East Africans to seek and enjoy asylum for persons in need of international protection in accordance with

international refugee law and uphold the non-derogable principle of non-refoulement within the region.

The partnership further seeks to support EAC Partner States to create conditions conducive for comprehensive solutions to displacement including: voluntary repatriation and sustainable reintegration.

Dr Mathuki reiterated EAC's commitment to advancing comprehensive regional solutions to forced displacement situations impacting the region.

"The MoU seeks to leverage the EAC Summit of Heads of State and refugee management experts in the pursuit of harmonized management of refugee affairs by the Partner States informed by the best practices of international refugee law," he stated.

The MoU is a follow-up to another

one that was signed between the two organizations in 2010. It provides a framework for collaborating on freedom of movement as enshrined in the EAC Common Market Protocol; strengthening protection and programming for refugee and IDP children and mainstreaming the eradication of statelessness among protection and solutions initiatives for forcibly displaced.

Nkweta-Salami said that UNHCR would cooperate with the EAC in the promotion and protection of human rights for the forcibly displaced persons in East Africa, including through appropriate collaboration with Partner States National Human Rights Commission and other human rights bodies.

"Through this collaboration, we will prioritize addressing the mixed movements of refugees and mi-

grants in the region, in accordance with the EAC framework, binding international and national refugee law and the protection of persons with special needs," she noted.

She further stated that the UNHCR is committed to supporting the EAC in capacity building on humanitarian issues, early warning, and peace-building mechanisms.

The EAC Refugee Management Policy has already been developed and agreed upon by Partner States with the next step being its tabling and approval by the Sectoral Council on Interstate Security before adoption by the Council of Ministers as per the East African Community rules and regulations.

"This will bring on board several state and non-state actors in the area of refugee management," Dr Mathuki added.



# Vulnerable countries need action on loss and damage today and not at COPs to come

By Busani Bafana

IN March 2023, more than 600 people died in Malawi after Tropical Cyclone Freddy dumped heavy rain, flooding the southern part of the country, displacing over half a million people, and damaging property and livelihoods.

The Malawi disaster is a stark example of "loss and damage" - the negative impacts of human-caused climate change that is affecting many parts of Africa.

Last November, COP 27 achieved a historic agreement to establish a dedicated Fund for damage, and the growing negative impacts of climate change highlight the urgency of financial support to address loss and damage for vulnerable countries.

Malawi, like many developing countries, neither has the capability nor the capacity to defend itself against climate change events such as floods and droughts that are increasingly experienced across the African continent.

The need for climate action in tackling loss and damage is articulated in Article 8 of the Paris Agreement, which recognizes the "importance of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage" associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

Loss and damage have taken centre stage in all UN climate discussions for more than 30 years, championed by the Pacific island state of Vanuatu, itself threatened by climate change. Recently Va-



There is an urgency for the loss and damage fund to become a reality as many developing countries are impacted due to climate change. Credit: Busani Bafana/IPS

nuatu led a global campaign for the International Court of Justice to give an advisory opinion on states' legal obligation for climate action and making them liable for climate failures.

Nearly 200 countries meeting at the annual Conference of the Parties to the IPCC in Sharm El Sheikh last November agreed to establish a "loss and damage" fund to help poor countries, many suffering adverse weather events. The establishment of the Fund comes after spirited resistance by developed countries on taking responsibility for causing climate change through their historic carbon emissions.

Africa has suffered the brunt

of climate change impacts even though it contributes a minuscule amount to global carbon emissions. From tropical cyclones in Malawi, Mozambique and Madagascar, flooding in Nigeria, Uganda and South Africa to devastating drought in the Horn of Africa.

Pakistan's climate minister Sherry Rehman, whose country was hit by heavy floods, that killed more than 1,000 people and damaged property worth billions of dollars, described the decision to establish the Loss and Damage fund as a "down payment on climate justice".

However, climate justice may be denied than delayed for many vulnerable countries like Pakistan and

Malawi, given divisions on the operationalization of the new funding arrangements for Loss and Damage and the associated fund - key issues that formed the agenda of the first meeting of the Transitional Committee.

The Transitional Committee established at COP27 comprises 10 members from developed countries and 14 members from developing countries. It met in Luxor, Egypt from 26-29 March 2023 to 'present recommendations on the institutional arrangements, modalities, structure, governance, and terms of reference for the Loss and Damage fund'.

Furthermore, the Committee discussed the elements of the new funding arrangements; and identified and expanded sources of funding. In addition, the coordination and complementarity with existing funding arrangements on climate change formed the agenda of the meeting.

While the initial meeting has been described as successful, there were no agreements on the key questions as to who will finance the fund and who qualifies for the funding under the fund. However, Mohamed Nasr, Egypt's lead climate negotiator, told an online media briefing that there was agree-

ment on a road map to establish the fund, at least by COP28, to be held in the United Arab Emirates in November 2023. Nasr was optimistic, stating:

"Will it be created? I hope so and assume so, and this is what we are working towards."

Nasr further explained that there was a movement forward in the understanding of how to deal with these contentious issues by the next Meeting of the Transitional Committee. Not much to go with but Nasr noted that:

"By the next meeting, there will be another stocktake of what we agreed to do ... I hope it will deliver in UAE"

The Transitional Committee should tackle three issues on Loss and Damage funding key before COP28, which include what type of fund, the boundaries of the fund and where the money will come from, experts from the World Resources Institute (WRI) argue in a commentary.

"The fund and funding arrangements need to ensure their ability to help vulnerable countries which are experiencing the brunt of climate impacts," Preeti Bhandari and five other authors in an insight paper on finance.

"They must consider the continuum between loss and damage and adaptation and how funding can also enhance future adaptive capacity," the experts said, noting that loss and damage was intrinsically linked to adaptation, with increased adaptation leading to less loss and damage.

Asked if the meeting had a clear understanding and achieved what it had set to do, Nasr said:

"I would say it partially happened because the meeting has a lot of different topics for decision. What we want to achieve is already agreed upon among the parties, be it on funding arrangement, be it on complementarity, be it on the resources of the Fund ... we moved forward on the understanding of how we are going to deal with them between now and the next Transitional Committee meeting."

## Counting loss and damage

Loss and Damage, according to the climate talks, refers to costs being incurred from climate-fuelled impacts such as droughts, floods, extreme heat, rising sea levels and cyclones.

UN chief António Guterres described loss and damage as a "fundamental question of climate justice, international solidarity and trust" during the 2022 UN General Assembly, stating that "polluters must pay" because "vulnerable countries need meaningful action".

Scientist and director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Saleemul Huq, says the agreement to set up the Loss And Damage Fund was a major breakthrough for the vulnerable developing countries who had been demanding it for many years highlighting that Parties to the UNFCCC have now agreed to find ways to provide funding to the victims of human-induced climate change who are suffering losses and damages.

Huq is confident that if all countries proceed in good faith, the Fund - which is based on shared responsibility and voluntary contributions - could become formalized and operational at COP28 in Dubai in November 2023.

"We will need to find innovative sources of funding for Loss and Damage such as making the polluting companies (not countries) pay from the exorbitant profits they are making from their pollution," Huq said to IPS.

Research by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) shows a big financial gap for adaptation. The 2022 Adaptation Gap Report indicates that international adaptation finance flows to developing countries are five to ten times below estimated needs and will need over USD 300 billion per year by 2030.

## IPS UN Bureau Report

### THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 412 00--

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

3 letters LEO, LIE, IRA, ELF, OFF, IRE, OAS, NIL  
 4 letters NASA, MINE, AOG, ALEE, RILE, NAME  
 GAOL, AREA, OSLO, PELT  
 5 letters FRAME, RAZOR, GINZO, MLIMA, SCAPE  
 SONDE, AZTEC, CRANE, EENSY  
 6 letters MWANZA, ZEALOT, ENABLE, ADNATE  
 7 letters MATTINS, ECHELON,  
 8 letters

CLUES: Across  
 1. Current President of Kenya  
 5. lovable  
 8. chamber used for heating  
 9. Agricultural seed Agency  
 10. earthy 12. Good shepherd  
 13. primordial god of light  
 15. reformed Esperanto  
 16. her motto is "union, work, justice"  
 20. the creation of beautiful things  
 22. a picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning  
 24. something related to a bride  
 25. form of address for a man in a Spanish-Speaking regions  
 26. to go toward the middle of something 28. one who works for a gas company 30. organ of sight  
 31. winch

Down:  
 1. Capital city of Italy  
 2. a fleshy extension at the back of the soft palate which hangs above the throat  
 3. orange-brown  
 4. vague rumor  
 5. travelled in a canoe  
 6. to utilize  
 7. high  
 11. snakebird  
 14. a deep angry sound  
 16. talk at length  
 17. even now  
 18. complete joy  
 19. Edema  
 21. an Indian peasant farmer  
 23. historic city in Brazil  
 27. to leave something out 29. support

WORD-FIT SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

By Magezi: 0755429240 | telixmagezi@gmail.com

# RADIO One 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 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM MATANGAZO 09.10 AM BRAND TALK 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.00 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DANIKU 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM MATANGAZO 09.10 AM BRAND TALK 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.00 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHZO 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.00 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.00 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWS PAPER REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 09.00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11.00 AM MTA WA MAGOMA 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS CHAGUO LAO 15.00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHZO 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS MIDUNDO 18.00 HRS BONGO TEN 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.15 HRS CHEMISHA BONGO 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23.00 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01.00 - 05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11.00 HRS TOP 20 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 18.00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MBAJU ZANGU 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS RAFIKI I 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS RAFIKI II 01.00 - 05.00 MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



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## Africa's 'golden age' in battery commodities market

By Simone Liedtke

The battery commodities market is experiencing a golden age of growth and development, spurred by rapid technological advances and the growing demand for batteries to support cleaner mobility and the roll-out of variable renewables generators.

Global battery demand is forecast to grow by some 1,615 GWh, or 384.5 percent, over the next eight years, according to statistics aggregator Statista.

This anticipated upsurge in demand for lithium-ion and other batteries is largely attributed to the rise of electric vehicles (EVs), which are expected to progressively replace internal combustion engine passenger cars.

Unlike more established commodity markets, such as gold and platinum, the battery market is still relatively immature, creating a "golden opportunity" for Africa's mining sector to meet the growing gap in the market, says engineering consultancy Erudite founder and CEO Johann de Bruin.

Research institute Trade & Industrial Policy Strategies senior economist Gaylor Montmasson-Clair agrees, stating that, considering the forecasts, "it is pretty clear that we are looking at a growth factor by anywhere between five and seven by 2030".

He adds that the demand is primarily driven by markets like the US, China and Europe, and that "there will be growth everywhere".

However, considering that the bulk of the demand today and going forward will be in the mobility space, or EVs, Montmasson-Clair says this provides an opportunity for countries such as South Africa to tap into the opportunities

the market provides through the minerals endowment, and the manufacturing of batteries, "notably for the automotive industry, but not only".

"There is an opportunity for us to shift from mining to beneficiation by processing minerals locally to produce battery minerals for components such as cathodes, anodes, separators and electrodes. [There] are already some local companies involved in this (in manganese and vanadium, for instance)," he comments.

He adds: "It's important to recognise that beneficiation can only take us so far. The price sensitivity (to individual mineral prices) of batteries is low, and the increasing price of minerals has a small impact on the overall cost of the final product. Nonetheless, it's crucial for us to maximise the benefits of our minerals through beneficiation."

Another way to enter the battery market, he adds, is through the assembly industry, which he says is "vibrant in South Africa".

He explains that various companies in the country already assemble lithium-ion batteries, and while they currently import battery cells from China, everything else is sourced locally. He highlights that industry needs to connect the battery value chain to South Africa's automotive value chain.

"We need a partnership with the automotive OEMs to successfully build the lithium-ion battery value chain in South Africa, and the local automotive OEMs need the local battery to maintain their access to markets (particularly the EU).

"As the automotive industry in Africa continues to grow, it's essential to maintain market access by producing locally and staying connected to the



A graphite mine in Tanzania. The government is projecting earnings amounting 4.8trn/- from graphite mining. File Photo

larger market," he comments.

For example, to access the European market as a South African product, Montmasson-Clair says producers must abide by rules of origin, which require them to meet certain local-content levels of production.

"If we only manufacture the vehicle without producing the batteries, we will not meet these requirements. Thus, it is imperative that we begin producing the necessary components to maintain access to the European market. This presents a significant opportunity for us to expand our capabilities and expand our automotive value chains," he elaborates.

However, he notes that achieving this goal will require continued collaboration with regional partners, some of whom are located outside South Africa, though he emphasises that "partnership with the automotive industry is paramount".

"By working together to increase our production capabilities, we can make a bigger impact on the market."

Further, speaking during a panel discussion in February, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) acting executive secretary Antonio Pedro said that the shift to renewable-energy sources was a "resource-intensive path that requires greater production of a variety of minerals that are central to decarbonisation".

Africa is home to many such minerals, with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), for example, producing over 70 percent of the world's cobalt. The DRC and Zambia together supply 10 percent of global copper, while Mozambique and South Africa hold significant reserves of graphite, platinum-group metals, lithium and others.

"We have clear opportunities not only from the global green mineral boom but also from our domestic achieve-

ments, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area, to facilitate the development of regional value chains for these green economy products," Pedro said, noting that several innovative financing mechanisms had been developed to support initiatives such as the battery and EV value chains.

"In the last two decades, we have seen that, without the right enabling policies and incentives, commodity supercycles come and go, leaving our countries dependent on resource extraction," said Pedro. He deplored the fact that about 70 percent of the region's exports were unprocessed commodities, a situation that could change with the right policies that prioritised industrialisation and value addition in mining and other resource sectors.

Mining companies are facing the challenge of achieving a balance between supply and demand in a growing market

that is still undergoing stabilisation.

To achieve this balance, they must significantly boost the production of critical commodities such as lithium, manganese, cobalt, nickel, and graphite to fulfil the current demand. Additionally, mining companies need to establish projects that can respond adequately to the market's evolving demands.

Despite the potential rewards, mining projects still require substantial capital investments and extended periods to reach maturity.

They also demand extensive experience and expertise and, as a result, countries seeking to capitalise on this opportunity must develop the necessary skills and knowledge that are specific to this intricate industry.

Aside from external expertise and technical skills, De Bruin notes that African countries will need additional support in the form of private-

sector funding, State oversight, a skilled and trained local workforce, and intercontinental expertise from the best in the industry to help navigate complex industry standards and regulations.

"A diverse range of new mining projects have become viable because of the rapidly growing demand for battery commodities worldwide, which has resulted in increased profit potential. Projects that were previously unfeasible are now appealing to countries looking to grow their global economic reach, making this the opportune time to begin investing in the sector."

However, African countries needed to own such projects and commit investment and appropriate funding for research on battery technology, University of Lubumbashi's Jean-Marie Kanda said during the same panel discussion as Pedro.

ECA senior economist Jean Luc Matsaki Namegabe, meanwhile, told participants that the DRC presented an opportunity for the development of electric batteries and vehicles that was "not to be missed" because it would move Africa up the value addition ladder, with Africa the only region that did not currently manufacture electric batteries.

Montmasson-Clair underscores the need for supportive policies that will attract investment, highlighting the need to assist and support companies that require capital or financing to expand.

He also highlights the critical need for testing and certification capabilities, especially for mobility purposes. Currently, he explains, companies often must ship their products to Europe or the US to get certified, "which is not practical, and very costly and time consuming".

By Guardian Reporter

## CRDB Bank extends bancassurance services to agents across the country

CRDB Bank Plc has announced the extension of its bancassurance services to its agents spread across the country as part of promoting the growth of inclusive insurance.

This is happening when the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) listed bank is commemorating its one decade anniversary since the launch of its agency banking "CRDB Wakala".

This move has impressed the deputy commissioner of Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) Khadija Said, who said is going to help the government in achieving the target of increasing insurance coverage from currently 15 percent of the population to 50 percent by 2030.

"I recognize that CRDB Bank is the pioneer of agency banking in Tanzania's banking sector with a total of 25,000 agents spread across the country. Through this number, it is evident that will stimulate the increase of insurance services to the population," she said, while calling for agents to follow all guidelines given.

The deputy commissioner has therefore congratulated CRDB Bank Plc for this revolution in the country's financial sector over the last ten years of CRDB Wakala, noting that it has greatly contributed to expand financial services to Tanzanians.

She also congratulated CRDB Bank for improving its services through CRDB Wakala, whereby customers



TIRA deputy commissioner Khadija Said (3rd L) cuts ribbon to launch "10 na Kitu" campaign as part of commemorating ten years of CRDB Wakala. She is with CRDB Director of Retail Banking, Bonaventura Paul (2nd L), Head of CRDB Wakala, Ericky Willy (3rd R), Head of CRDB Al Barakah, Rashid Rashid (R), CRDB Bank's East Zonal manager Badru Idd (2nd R), and TIRA official Zakaria Muyengi. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

can now access 95 percent of services through agents including accounts opening, specifically Al Barakah, which is sharia compliancy.

"I congratulate for launching "10 na kitu" campaign, which is going to raise financial literacy awareness, especially services offered by CRDB Wakala, and specifically bancassurance. I call upon all agents to participate this awareness programme," she said.

Explaining on the "10 na kitu", which is literary means "ten and beyond" the director of retail banking Bonaventura Paul said apart from commemorating ten years of CRDB Wakala, the campaign is targeting to raise awareness among the bank's agents to increase services offering, as part of promoting financial inclusion.

"Each month, we will be offering prizes to CRDB Wakala who will record may transactions such as accounts opening. We have total of 40 motorbikes, 5 bajaj for regular winners and a brand new Alphard car for our grand winner," he said.

During the last ten years, CRDB Wakala has greatly contributed to the increase of banking services to Tanzanians.

The director said the bank's data shows CRDB Wakala is providing services to more than three million people each month and 40 percent of the customers are bank's accounts holders and others are non-CRDB Bank customers.

Apart from such achievements, the bank's operation information shows more than 100 transactions valued 50trn/- have been recorded on CRDB Wakala and more than 35,000 jobs have been created among Tanzanians.

CRDB Bank is among of the leading banks in East Africa through offering banking services to small, medium and large, including personal banking, treasury services, bancassurance, business loans, agriculture financing and small businesses empowerment.



# Digital Marketing: AI - The digital advantage

By Alley Mtatya

“I am challenging you to think Artificial Intelligence (AI), then think what next.”

Just when you thought things could not go any further. Well! We are at the peak of a Marketing revolution.

Few articles back, if you recall I wrote a piece on Behavioral Economics and its influence on Digital Marketing.

In short, AI is here and it is digitally studying our habits and behaviors online. Then simplifying things by bringing information straight to your face (digital device) of what it is that you need or might want.

“An estimated 4,000 products that Amazon sells within a minute. An estimated 50% are presented to customers through its personalized (AD) recommendation engine. When you visit the Amazon website, their algorithm selects a variety of products from the more than 353 million items in stock and arranges them for you (the client) according to what the engine predicts you will want at that precise time”, Harvard Business Review.

One can give praise to Amazon's rich data and industry leading personalized recommendation engine. Amazon now holds more than 40% of the United States E-Commerce market with its closest competitor Walmart with 7%. If you dig deeper on what really controls these product behavior dynamics? It is nothing but numbers and graphs.

**What data graphs can do for you**

Learn how people work, play, socialize, transact, travel or any other activity.

Amazon and Google use data graphs that

match the customer usage behavior while on the platform to understand the connection, relationships and inter-relationships. The concept was derived from a Social Psychologist by the name of Stanley Milgram and for the past 20 years it has helped organizations analyze their structure and working dynamics.

When Facebook came along it then popularized this digital social graph around the year 2007. The graph was integrated into Facebook's site's information flow and programmed to analyze connections and relationships.

“It's a psychology of a topic, well atleast now you know how you connected with old friends”

Leading technology companies are making use of data graphs to personalize product recommendations, update products, optimize their adverts to customers etc. Successful companies that may have applied a similar approach range from Netflix's movie graph, Spotify music graph, Ubers mobility graph, LinkedIn's professional graph and so forth.

These data-graphs leverage on a constant information flow of customer engagement data with added support from algorithms to outperform their competition. Understanding and implementing such technology can help companies learn from best practices of data-graphs to gain a competitive advantage.

**Understanding data-graphs**

In order to understand data-graphs you must understand “data network effects.”

When data is generated from a user through their engagement with a certain product or service that data flows across many networks. There is



Alley Mtatya (pictured) is the founder of Eyeland Advertising and Analytics based in Dar es Salaam

also the “direct network effect” were by companies such as Facebook or LinkedIn use. Data network does not apply here but instead the value of the service grows as additional users join, data network is not needed to increase the number of users. The continued engagement of current users on these social sites generates a broader and deeper information flow veering into a deeper dive.

Through direct network effect it allows the plugged algorithm to work more effectively.

A good example of data network effects is Google. Google has an annual search rate of about 2 trillion. The more the searches the more it helps improve the search engine. Which then generates better and better search results for any user. This is what is referred to as Data in Motion.

It is merely impossible to draw a data graph it requires data in motion. Technology is deployed to gather, analyze and interpret. However algorithms can be inserted or changed by people, “Data Scientists” based on the constant improvement of data to get more precise results.

In short, most companies' data of their customers is stored or recorded independently in various functional or non-functional databases. In order to gain that advantage, companies must convert that data to interactional data that can be analyzed by algorithms. Which can then provide customer insights. Which can then also deliver a personalized experience to every customer.

To compete with these digital giants, one needs to ask themselves. Are we (as a business) developing machine readable graphs in order to identify patterns of preference for our customers?

“For any business, the only way to stay in competition is to adopt an innovative strategy”, and allow that innovation to constantly evolve.

To be relevant in the market, innovation can help you reach the mass segment while keeping your brand relevant in today's and tomorrow's market.

# How Bolt is supporting corporates, enterprises for Tanzanian market

By Guardian Reporter

Ensuring the growth and development of any economy or business relies heavily on the efficiency of transportation.

It serves as a crucial indicator of growth potential and plays a significant role in our daily lives.

By enabling the movement of people, goods, services, and other materials, transportation allows for access to necessary services and activities, such as commuting to work or school, conducting business transactions, as well as travelling.

In Tanzania, the transportation infrastructure is yet to be sufficient in addressing the country's growth, hence stalling the necessary expansion of the commerce sector and the economy, thereby impacting the country's attractiveness for foreign direct investments. Poor road infrastructure, limited public transportation options, and high transportation costs due to increased fuel costs, are some of the challenges faced in the market.

With these factors, also come increased business overheads for many corporations as well as small and medium sized enterprises.

Consequently, numerous businesses end up redirecting their essential transportation and logistics funds to other departments, exacerbating the obstacles to their growth in an economy that is already contracting.

It is in this context that Bolt Business, a solution-based offering that allows the management of all travel-related processes and logistics for an organisation, comes to support businesses by providing a platform that offers fast, convenient, and affordable business rides.

Speaking on the service, Milu Kipimo, Country Manager for Bolt Business in Tanzania & Tunisia, said “The Bolt Business service was launched to provide a simple, centralised portal for companies of any size to manage and pay for corporate travel. Since its launch, the platform has facilitated hundreds of thousands of trips for top corporate offices, as well as small and medium-sized businesses across Tanzania. Our commitment to improving mobility in Tanzania is reflected in the Bolt Business offering, which offers an affordable and convenient transportation option to

ease mobility concerns for companies. Our ultimate goal is to make transportation more accessible and hassle-free for businesses of all sizes.”

Bolt Business offers the ability to control, manage, and pay for all business-related work trips, all from a single account. From SMEs to multinational organisations, Bolt Business' innovative and distinct services improve mobility for businesses and customers alike with a bonus of reduction in travel costs.

Data has shown that with Bolt Business, companies can spend up to 25 percent less on business trips when compared to regular taxi rides.

The Bolt Business service offers several benefits to companies, including increased productivity whereby employees who have access to Bolt Business can easily request rides through the app, which eliminates the stress and worries associated with work-related travel.

This allows them to remain focused on their work and even work while on the go. For those running late, they can request a motorbike to escape traffic and arrive at their destination on time.

Hassle-free travel arrangements for clients, guests, partners, and vendors: With the Ride Booker, companies can easily make travel arrangements for their clients, guests, partners, and vendors. They can choose the vehicle type that fits their budget and the passenger will receive an SMS with journey details.

Cost savings and improved employee retention: Bolt Business has helped companies reduce travel costs by up to 25%, even for larger teams. Additionally, by providing employees with safe, reliable, and efficient travel, it has proven to boost employee retention.

The company has also simplified ride tracking and payment management where employers can easily track employee trips and manage payments through the Bolt Business dashboard. This eliminates the hassle of filling out expense reports and allows companies to manage all business travel in one convenient portal.

The business service offering has also made tremendous strides since its launch. Bolt Business recorded significant growth in 2022, growing eight times more compared to the previous year, and currently serves about 1000 companies across Tanzania.



Data show that with Bolt Business, companies can spend up to 25 percent less on business trips compared to regular taxi rides. File Photo

CURRENT NEWS

# Insect farming startup gets \$175mn for expansion

PARIS

Insect farming startup Ynsect SAS has secured more funding as it expands globally and looks to prioritize higher-value food for pets and humans.

The French company closed a €160 million (\$175 million) financing round, bringing the total amount raised so far to about \$625 million.

It's shifting away from animal feed – such as mealworms fed to fish – to high-margin pet food and food ingredients to boost profit amid soaring energy, raw materials and debt costs.

“We are really focused today on where the value, the revenue are the highest,” and where the climate and biodiversity footprints are best, Ynsect co-founder Antoine Hubert said in an interview. “Animal feed is a good market, but it takes more time to make a positive financial and economic impact.”

Insects have emerged as a sustainable protein, helped by regulatory approvals in Europe, but bugs still remain a niche market and pricier food in the West. Securing financing has also been difficult for startups and new technologies amid increased invest-

ment scrutiny and more limited funding.

Hubert reiterated the challenges the sector faces, saying investors are thinking harder about where to put their money.

“It's positive to see in this tough environment, to find support and people who believe in what you are doing,” he said.

He didn't name the investors in the most recent round because Ynsect is currently discussing a second tranche of the funding, to be concluded this year. Previous backers have included Astanor Ventures, Bpifrance and Iron Man movie actor Robert Downey Jr.

Ynsect, which operates farms in France, the Netherlands and the US, is also expanding in Mexico, while eyeing a possible entry into Asia.

The company has secured about \$175 million in supply contracts and is in the process of negotiating customer deals worth about \$1 billion.

It's seeking to follow an “asset-light,” less capital-intensive business model with a combination of joint ventures and licensing agreements. The strategy shift will lead to the global workforce of 360 people being reduced by about 20%, though the company



still plans to hire roughly 40 people for new positions.

Ynsect, which announced agreements in December to build insect ingredient production sites in the United States and

Mexico, has signed sales deals for 180 million euros over three years and is in talks for an additional 1 billion euros, of which more than half is for pet food.

Ynsect says it aims to help contribute to

reinventing the global food system, while also focusing on sustainability.

“We are excited to examine potential opportunities with the North America leader in flour milling. This exploration marks the start of potential collaborations between two key players within the global food industry,” says the company CEO.

Ynsect is strategically expanding their business across all continents to establish local relations with wheat chains and limit CO2 emissions, water consumption and biodiversity impact across farming activities. The company has adopted a circular economy model for its new vertical farms to create value chains that are fully compliant with the Paris COP21 agreements.

In its latest round of fund raising in 2020 Ynsect brought in more than 315 million euros, of which about 175 million euros was capital and the rest in debt and subsidies.

Farmed bugs, such as mealworms, are ground down to produce proteins for aquaculture, livestock, pet food, fertilisers and human nutrition. They are considered more environmentally friendly proteins because they require less land and water than crops and emit fewer greenhouse gases.



# Plans to form National Co-operative Bank hot up

By Correspondent James Lanka,

Moshi

PLANS to establish the National Co-operative Bank in Tanzania have got a big impetus following the great success achieved by the Kilimanjaro Co-operative Bank Limited (KCBL) which is the basis for the establishment of the projected national bank.

Speaking in Moshi recently, the KCBL General Manager Godfrey Ng'urah said that one of the bank's successes was the increase in customers and shareholders of the bank last

year. "In fulfilling the mission of the establishment of the National Co-operative Bank, KCBL has been entrusted to be the basis for the establishment of the bank whereby we have continued to prepare ourselves towards the establishment of the national bank", he said.

"In ensuring that we build respect for the guarantee given to us, the Board and management of KCBL worked round the clock something which led to the great achievements which ensures the establishment of the national cooperative financial institution", he

noted. He mentioned the achievements as including the increase in the number of accounts in the bank from 15,000 in 2021 to 21,000 in 2022.

"Shareholders' capital's worth also increased during that period, from 2.7bn/- to 4.4bn/-; customer loans portfolio increased by 59 percent from 4.7bn/- in 2021 to 7.5bn/-", he said, adding, delinquent loans dropped from 3.2 percent in 2021 to 2.3 percent in 2022.

Mr Ng'urah continued to say that the bank's customer deposits increased by 7 percent from 5.5bn/- in 2021 reaching

5.9bn/- in 2022. He continued to say, "The bank's gross income has increased from 1.2m/- in 2021 to 1.5bn/-, while the bank's profit after tax increased from 293mn/- in 2021 to 327mn/- in 2022, which is equal to the increase of 12 percent".

Ng'urah attributed to the great achievements to the innovations made and which continue to be made by the bank's board in collaboration with the management team of the institution, including that of identifying and later on introducing new products, many of which have been an attraction for potential new

clients. "In 2022, we continued to strengthen the availability of our services through digital means through KCBL Visa, Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) and our bank's agents, the structures that enable customers to access our services wherever they are in the country", he said.

"In 2022 we also expanded the scope of our services by introducing foreign currency exchange services, credit services for contractors, entrepreneurs and women's groups", he added.

Ng'urah went on to say that in the financial year 2022, the

bank also developed the Core Banking System (CBS) service which he said aimed at improving customer services including serving all cooperatives in the country through digital service.

Speaking at the event, the Registrar of Cooperatives in the country, Dr Benson Ndiege, congratulated the management of KCBL for the success, which he said was a big step towards the establishment of the projected national cooperative bank later this year.

"Our hope is that the National Co-operative Bank will be established by June, this year, with the KCBL's great

achievements we heard here, we have no doubts that the government's desire to establish the national bank will be achieved", he said.

He said, "In the process of establishing a National Co-operative Bank, KCBL is collaborating with the Government through the Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC), CRDB Bank and Savings and Credit Cooperative Union League of Tanzania (SCCULT); in this context, the success of KCBL is a very big step in the establishment of this bank which will be important for the development of the Nation".

## What to watch in China's GDP data

BEIJING

China's economy likely picked up in the first quarter as Covid Zero was abandoned, though key data this week are still expected to show some signs of unevenness that may call into question how sustainable the recovery is.

People filled restaurants and shopping malls again after the Covid curbs were lifted and a wave of infections passed, boosting spending and other activity. Construction also improved as the government increased investment in infrastructure, a usually reliable source of growth.

Factory output growth last month may have lagged, though, as business confidence remained shaky. Inflation last month was also muted, an indication of subdued domestic demand.

Gross domestic product data and other figures, including those for March industrial production, retail sales and unemployment, are expected to be released Tuesday at 10 a.m. local time. Here's what to watch:

**GDP Growth**  
Gross domestic product likely grew 4 percent in the January-to-March period from a year prior, according to the median

estimate in a Bloomberg survey of economists. That's a faster pace than the last three months of 2022, when the economy expanded 2.9 percent.

But it would still be slower than the official annual growth target of around 5 percent, potentially fueling debate about whether more stimulus is needed.

Officials have taken a pro-growth stance on the economy this year, though they've so far avoided aggressive easing measures such as cutting policy interest rates – instead relying on adding cash into the financial system to encourage lending.

Infrastructure investment, meanwhile, has been front-loaded so as to have an early impact on growth.

The People's Bank of China kept the rate on its one-year policy loans unchanged on Monday, though some economists have suggested a reduction could happen in the coming months.

The central bank vowed in a Friday statement to step up support for the economy, saying that the recovery's foundation is "not solid yet." It added that credit growth will remain "reasonable."

**Consumer Spending**  
Chinese authorities



Chinese authorities have bet on a rebound in consumption driving the economic recovery this year

have bet on a rebound in consumption driving the economic recovery this year.

Economists are projecting that retail sales rose 7.5 percent in March, though the base of comparison is

low since March last year is when the major financial and industrial hub Shanghai went into lockdown. Still, a big increase would push first-quarter retail sales up to 3.7 percent. Sales contracted 0.2 percent year-

on-year for all of 2022.

Car sales – the single biggest spending item counted in retail sales – is an important factor to watch in determining momentum. Such sales were a bright spot in 2022, but car shipments have slumped this year as some of the tax breaks for purchases ended. Price wars between major automakers also kept buyers waiting for better deals.

Sales of passenger cars plummeted nearly 20 percent in January and February. Growth turned positive in March, though was still anemic at 0.3 percent.

The sustainability of the consumption rebound also hinges on how well the job market is improving. The urban unemployment rate is projected to have been 5.5 percent in March, slightly lower than February's 5.6 percent.

**Industrial Production**  
Industrial output likely picked up a bit in March. Economists estimate output grew 4.4% last month from a year prior, according to the Bloomberg survey. That's stronger than the 2.4% growth seen in the first two months of 2023 – likely a reflection of the increase in infrastructure investment, as well as the unexpectedly strong jump in export growth last month that suggested factory operations are normalizing.

Demand, though, remains uncertain. Bloomberg News recently reported that China is set to release this month a plan asking its steelmakers to keep this year's output from exceeding 2022 levels, as tepid demand has forced mills to lower prices of the material.

**Investment Strength**  
Loan growth and government bond issuances have been strong to start off 2023. That's expected to have boosted investment in the first quarter – particularly in infrastructure spending, a big focus so far this year.

Fixed-asset investment figures should provide some clues about how efficient existing liquidity support has been. Should manufacturing investment growth accelerate, that would also ease some concerns about how willing private businesses are to expand production.

Economists predict fixed-asset investment rose 5.7 percent in the first quarter, indicating a pickup in March, since investment rose 5.5 percent in the January-February period.

There are still questions about confidence among households and corporations, which are piling more into savings as caution prevails. That's sparked concerns about whether the cheap liquidity released by authorities has been effective at fueling productivity.

**Property Weakness**  
Recent figures have shown a rebound in home sales and prices, though some developers remain pessimistic about the outlook for the housing market.

Economists expect property investment shrunk 4.7 percent in the first quarter, narrower than the 5.7 percent drop in the first two months of the year.

Trends are increasingly diverging between big and small cities, with lower-tier towns still struggling. Buyers are also more interested in existing homes due to lingering concerns on the delivery of new housing.

All that bode ill for land sales, a key source of income of China's debt-laden local governments.

## Dar port reaps as Mombasa handling hits 5-year low

NAIROBI

The volume of cargo handled by Mombasa port has dipped for the first time in five years with players pointing to rising competition from Dar es Salaam.

Total cargo throughput at the port shrunk to 33.74 million metric tonnes last year from 34.76 million tonnes the year before, data collated by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics suggests.

The 2.93 percent year-on-year drop pushed the volumes to the lowest levels since 2018 when it stood at 30.92 million tonnes.

The fall comes at a time businesses have complained of road tolls, multiple border charges, heavy traffic and road conditions as major cost drivers along the Northern Corridor, prompting them to consider the Central Corridor.

The northern corridor stretches about 1,700km from the Mombasa port through Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) while the Central Corridor is estimated at 1,300km beginning at the Port of Dar es Salaam into Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and eastern DRC.

Shippers Council of Eastern Africa (SCEA), the lobby representing importers and exporters of goods, says traders in Uganda and Rwanda have been gradually increasing volumes through Dar es Salaam.

"Currently, there is competition between northern and central corridors," SCEA chief executive Gilbert Langat, who also chairs Mombasa Port and Northern Corridor Community Charter, told the Business Daily by phone on March 24.

"The share of Mombasa Port of goods to Uganda and Rwanda has already shrunk from 75 to 80 percent in previous years to 63 percent in the last quarter of 2022. That means central corridor (Dar es Salaam) is now doing about 37 percent [of regional cargo volumes] from about a fifth previously."

The KNBS data, sourced from the Kenya Ports Authority, indicate total throughput at Mombasa, the largest port in eastern Africa, was last year pulled down by a drop



Traders in Uganda and Rwanda have been gradually increasing volumes of goods shipped through Dar es Salaam Port. File photo

in volumes of imports. The port handled 26.57 million tonnes of imported cargo, a 4.04 percent contraction compared with 27.69 million tonnes in the prior year, according to the provisional official statistics.

The volume of export cargo through Mombasa, however, increased 5.85 per-

cent year-on-year to 4.77 million tonnes.

Mr Langat expressed fears that the lingering political tension in Kenya could further trim throughput at the Mombasa port this year, boosting business for relatively smaller Dar es Salaam whose capacity is estimated at 14.1 million tonnes of dry cargo and 6.0 million tonnes of bulk

liquid cargo.

Kenya's veteran Opposition Leader Raila Odinga, who lost in a closely-contested poll to President William Ruto last August, has threatened to go back to the streets after the holy month of Ramadhan, which will culminate in Eid al-Fitr celebrations around March 23. In threatening to resume anti-government protests even as parliamentary bipartisan talks go on, Mr Odinga has cited "signs of intransigence" from Dr Ruto's camp.

"If it is happening in Nairobi and Kisumu because all the cargo to the hinterland pass there, then basically you have closed the region that serves the hinterland," said Mr Langat earlier.

"Whenever there are demonstrations, there's a negative story that goes out there which is used by our competitors that Kenya is not stable and there will be delays due to skirmishes and riots even if it is just a section of the country."

Dr Ruto agreed to bipartisan talks between his ruling Kenya Kwanza Alliance and Mr Odinga's Azimio la Umoja coalition but has limited talks on the reconstitution of the electoral body.

The move prompted the opposition chief to call off economically devastating bi-weekly anti-government protests, which largely hit the capital Nairobi and Kisumu – key nodes for transportation along the Northern Corridor.



Tabora Regional Commissioner Dk Batilda Buriari (C) in seated in a picture with Mkwawa Leaf Tobacco managing director Matthew Kapnias (2L) and his deputy, Richard Sinamwa (2ndR), at iftar organised by the company. Others are Uyui DC Zakaria Mwansusu(L) and Tabora regional Sheikh Ibrahim Mavumbi. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

VIEW FROM THE TOP



## WORLD

## SUDAN FIGHTING:

## RSF and army clash in Khartoum for third day

## KHARTOUM

FIERCE clashes have been reported across Sudan as fighting between rival armed factions continues to spread.

Violence between the army and a paramilitary group called the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) continued overnight into its third day.

Nearly 100 people have been killed, a doctors' union said, and one estimate put the number of injured at 1,100.

Both sides claimed to control key sites in the capital Khartoum, where residents sheltered from explosions.

Earlier on Sunday, they held a temporary ceasefire to allow the wounded to be evacuated, although it was not clear how strictly they stuck to it.

Doctors warned that the situation at hospitals in Khartoum is extremely difficult, and that the fighting was stopping both staff and medical supplies from reaching injured people.

The fighting is part of a vicious power struggle within the country's military leadership, which has escalated into violence between rival factions.

The two men at its centre disagree over how the country should transition to civilian rule. Sudan has been run by

generals since a coup overthrew the long-standing authoritarian president, Omar al-Bashir, in 2019.

On Sunday and early Monday, the RSF claimed to occupy sites in the capital Khartoum such as the presidential palace, and the adjoining city of Omdurman, as well as in the western region of Darfur and Merowe Airport in the north of the country.

But some accounts indicated that the army had regained control of the airport, with the military saying they were dealing with "small pockets of rebels".

The army has previously denied that the RSF had seized key sites in the capital, and witnesses in the country told Reuters news agency that the army appeared to be making gains after blasting RSF bases with air strikes.

## 'We haven't slept for 24 hours'

Residents of Khartoum have spoken of fear and panic, and reported gunfire and explosions.

"We're scared, we haven't slept for 24 hours because of the noise and the house shaking," Huda, a Khartoum resident, told the Reuters news agency.

"We're worried about running out of water and food, and medicine for my



Smoke is seen rising from a neighborhood in Khartoum, Sudan on Saturday. AP

diabetic father." Another Khartoum resident, Kholood Khair, told the BBC that residents could not be sure of safety anywhere. "All civilians have been urged to stay at home, but that has not kept everyone safe."

The fighting is between army units loyal to the de facto leader, Gen Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, and the RSF, a notorious paramilitary force commanded by Sudan's deputy leader, Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, better known as Hemedti.

The major sticking points are over the plans to incorporate the 100,000-strong RSF into the army, and over who would then lead the new force.

The brief pause in the fighting on Sunday followed complaints from doctors' unions that it was difficult for medics and sick people to get to and from hospitals while the fighting was raging.

A chorus of international voices has called for a permanent end to the violence.

Leading Arab states and the US have also urged a resumption of talks aimed at restoring a civilian government, while the African Union has announced that it is sending its top diplomat, Moussa Faki Mahamat, to

try to negotiate a ceasefire.

Egypt and South Sudan also offered to mediate between the warring factions, according to a statement by the Egyptian presidency.

Death toll estimates have varied.

The Central Committee of Sudan Doctors reported 97 civilians killed and dozens among security forces dead, as well as 942 people injured.

Meanwhile, the World Health Organisation says more than 83 people have been killed and more than 1,100 people injured across the country since Thursday, when the RSF began mobilising its forces. It does not specify how many civilians have died in the fighting.

Among the dead are three staff members of the UN World Food Programme (WFP), which has suspended its operations in the country.

In a statement, the WFP said it was "horrified" by the news of the deaths, adding that one of its aircraft had been damaged at Khartoum International Airport during an exchange of gunfire on Saturday, which it says impacted its ability to provide aid.

Sudan state television is reported to have stopped transmissions, but it was not immediately clear what caused the break in programming.

Agencies

## Thousands take part in marathon in Uganda to promote HIV/AIDS awareness

## KAMPALA

THOUSANDS of people took part in a Sunday marathon in Kampala, the capital of Uganda, aimed at promoting HIV/AIDS awareness as the country expects to end the scourge by 2030.

The marathon, also known as the Kabaka Birthday Run, was themed "The Fight to End HIV/AIDS by 2030", which attracted sponsorship from the government, the corporate world, cultural leaders, and various individuals from the entertainment industry.

Kabaka (King) Ronald Mutebi of Buganda, a constitutional kingdom in modern-day Uganda, flagged off the run in Mengo, Kampala, as he celebrated his 68th birthday.

The marathon was divided into 21km, 10km and 5km. In his message, Mutebi said the war against HIV/AIDS was very important. "We want our people to stay alive and look after the relatives with this disease."

"I have been informed that this run is one of the most prestigious ones in the whole world. I appeal to you to surge forward as we fight against HIV/AIDS," he added.

Emmanuel Ainebyoona, the spokesperson for the Ministry of Health said at the event that Uganda has so far made tremendous steps in the fight against HIV but the marathon was important in creating awareness.

"As a ministry, we applaud the organizers because the awareness created among the thousands and the messages of prevention, testing and adherence to medicine are important," Ainebyoona said.

He said Uganda had reduced the AIDS prevalence as well as new infections per year. "We have also ensured that those who contracted the virus are enrolled on treatment in a bid to hit the sustainable development goal of Ending AIDS by 2030," he said.

Edwin Katamba, popularly known as MC Kats, a local deejay who is living with HIV, called for an end to stigmatization. "Allow people to take their medicine peacefully.

Do not point fingers at them. For those who have contracted the virus, my advice is to come out boldly and enroll for the drugs if you want to live longer," he said.

He also called upon those who are living positively to avoid the habit of intentionally infecting others. According to Uganda AIDS Commission, a state-run institution, at least 1.4 million people in Uganda are living with HIV/AIDS, and out of these, 1.3 million are on treatment.

As of 2021, the health ministry put the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate at 5.3 percent among adults of 15 to 49 years.

Xinhua

## Production of Finnish nuclear plant starts after 18-year delay

## HELSINKI

THE huge Finnish nuclear power plant Olkiluoto3 (OL3) went into commercial production on Sunday after over a decade's delay, making Finland almost self-sufficient in electricity supply.

According to the plant operator Teollisuuden Voima Oyj (TVO), OL3 is currently the largest in Europe and the third largest globally in terms of electricity production volume. With an output of 1600 Megawatt (MW) electricity, the new reactor will supply 14 percent of Finland's electricity demand.

TVO said that the entry of OL3 plant makes Finland almost self-sufficient in electricity supply. Combining the Olkiluoto 1 and Olkiluoto 2 plant units, almost a third of country's electricity is produced on the Olkiluoto island on Finnish west coast.

Jarmo Tenhunen, chief executive officer of TVO, said that the facility would run at full capacity until scheduled maintenance in March 2024.

Construction of the 1.6 gigawatt (GW) reactor, Finland's first new nuclear plant in more than four decades and Europe's first in 16 years, began in 2005.

Originally planned to be operational in 2009, the OL3 was plagued by technical issues. The plant was based on technology delivered by the French Areva and German Siemens.

The delay was one of the reasons for the major shortage of Finnish power production in recent years, professor Peter Lund of the Finnish Aalto University said when talking to the Finnish news agency STT.

Before the energy crisis of 2021, Finland routinely imported 20 percent of its electricity from abroad. The deficiency of domestic production emerged in the 2010s as Finland closed major coal-powered power plants.

Professor Lund said the launch of OL3 could somewhat reduce the price of electricity for consumers. Agencies



Originally planned to be operational in 2009, the OL3 was plagued by technical issues. The plant was based on technology delivered by the French

## China's growth contributes to Chinese, global financial stability, says IMF official

## WASHINGTON

CHINA'S economic growth is important for both Chinese and global financial stability at a time when the global financial system is showing considerable strains, an International Monetary Fund (IMF) official has said.

"I think growth is a crucial recipe for financial stability. There cannot be financial stability without growth, it's a super important point to make," Fabio Natalucci, deputy director of the Monetary and Capital Markets Department at the IMF, told Xinhua on Wednesday.

"So growth in China, it's important for Chinese financial stability. As a part of the global economy, it's important to restore growth at the aggregate level, as well as to contribute to financial stability," said Natalucci, who is responsible for the Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR).

China is an important global player, due to its contribution to global growth and participation in the global financial market, said Natalucci. "So China clearly has to play an important role in trying to address these financial stability concerns," he said.

"What we're seeing essentially is a financial system, a global financial system that is being tested by this new environment of higher rates and higher inflation. That's why we think that financial stability risks are increased now," he said.

"The big question is whether rates and inflation are going to stay higher, what particular interest rate level, or whether we're going to go back to what we were used to pre-pandemic? This is going to affect risk-taking and also the vulnerability in the financial system," said Natalucci.

There is a need to analyze what happened in the banking



Fabio Natalucci, deputy director of the Monetary and Capital Markets Department at the IMF, attends a press conference in Washington, D.C., the United States, on April 11, 2023. (Xinhua/Liu Jie)

sectors of countries like the United States and Switzerland from an internal risk management perspective, from a supervisory perspective and from a regulatory perspective, he said.

"It's important to keep in mind that the stocktake also needs to be done at the global level, because how some of these financial institutions behave has an impact and re-

percussion across the globe," Natalucci said.

Multilateral efforts should be strengthened to reduce geopolitical tensions and economic and financial fragmentation on which the latest GFSR had a chapter, said Natalucci.

"There is a cost policymakers need to be aware of and those costs come in terms of cross-border capital flows, in terms of the health of the

global financial system, as well as in the ability of investors to diversify risk. So that cost of financial fragmentation, it's something that needs to be considered very carefully," he said.

He suggested international regulatory and standard-setting bodies, such as the Financial Stability Board and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, should continue to promote global financial regulatory standards to minimize financial fragmentation.

Climate change policy is another area where Natalucci thought "global coordination and cooperation, multilateralism approach are important."

"Climate change is a global threat. Climate policy taken by one country, one jurisdiction impacts other countries as well. Increased climate change affect everyone. So I think their coordination in terms of response is crucial."

Xinhua

## MOSCOW

DANISH authorities do not follow any red lines in supplying continuously new armament to Ukraine and do not think of the price of the conflict escalation, Russian Ambassador to Denmark Vladimir Barbin said in an interview with the Izvestiya newspaper.

"Copenhagen firmly believes that the West is able to deliver a military defeat

## Denmark has no red lines in arms supplies to Ukraine'

to Russia in Ukraine. Denmark does not take thought of the fate Ukraine and its nationals will face in case of further conflict escalations. Based on such perceptions, Copenhagen at present has no red lines or prohibitions against the transfer of new and new weapons," the Ambassador said.

A special fund amounting to \$1 bln

has been recently established in Denmark to boost the military aid to Kiev, the diplomat noted.

Denmark has transferred weapons worth \$900 mln to Ukraine, including antiship, antitank and air defense mis-



THE revenue of the Chinese online literature market surged from 2.45 billion yuan (\$356.7 million) in 2012 to 26.72 billion yuan in 2021, said a report released by the China Audio-Video and Digital Publishing Association at the sixth China Online Literature + Conference recently held in Beijing.

According to the report, the number of online literary works expanded from around 8 million to over 32 million during the same period, and the number of registered authors from 4.19 million to 22.78 million.

IP licensing revenue of the Chinese online literature industry grew from less than 100 million yuan to more than 4 billion yuan, and the industry gained over 2.9 billion yuan from the overseas market in 2021, up from 400 million yuan in 2018.

Online literature is a literary form

## Chinese online literature embraces prosperous development

whose creation and communication are internet-based. Most authors of online literary works are young people.

When the industry just emerged, its subjects were mostly fantasy, mystery and xianxia, also known as spirit cultivation. It was later developed into more than 200 sub-categories under some 30 subjects, such as urban, history, sci-fi, industry, education and traditional culture. There are many online literary works that well depict the modern society and mirror the development of the times.

He Changzai is a member of the national committee of the Chinese Writers Association and vice chairman of Hebei Network Writers Association. A trip to Shenzhen, the forefront of Chi-

na's reform and opening up, inspired him to portray the great journey of the economic reform of the country in the past four decades, and later he published the novel Haodang, which literally means magnificence in Chinese. The novel soon earned him awards and became a hot seller.

"The great time we live in must be recorded by someone. Only by living in a down-to-earth manner can we create fantastic contemporary works that keep the common touch," He said.

Online literary works enjoy huge development potential as they can be made into a number of peripheral products such as TV series, animations, reality shows, games, documentaries, stage shows, online

performance, among others.

Miu Juan, who writes literary works online, said she enjoys the creation of online literature as she can get immediate feedback from her readers as she updates her works.

In 2021, over 32 million online literary works were published in China, and the number of registered online authors were five times more than that 10 years ago.

Insiders believe that online literature can be transformed into multiple business forms thanks to the diversity of authors and content.

Online literature is a mirror of people's mentality in today's world, which is an advantage enjoyed by online literary works when being

transformed into other products.

"Interactivity is the biggest difference between online literature and traditional literature. Interaction with readers enriches authors' creation and makes authors more responsive in portraying the reality," said Huang Jie, deputy editor-in-chief of Tencent Video.

According to her, online literary works tell stories about workplace, youth and hot topics that are closer to people's life.

"I never thought that I'd be an author. It was under the advice from my husband that I started to write stories I wanted to read," said a Philippine woman who names herself TheBlips online and is a fan of Chinese online literature. Having been

writing on the international site of a Chinese online literature platform for four years, she is of some renown among local readers.

There are hundreds of thousands of overseas writers like her writing on the international versions of Chinese online literature platforms. So far, overseas platforms operated by relevant Chinese enterprises have published more than 300,000 literary works and gained over 145 million readers. Over 200,000 foreign readers have started writing novels online of various subjects in multiple languages. A development path that exports Chinese literary works, copyrights, as well as production models and culture has been preliminarily taken shape.

People's Daily



## US state Montana's TikTok ban triggers outcry from civil rights activists

LOS ANGELES

THE Republican-led House of the U.S. state of Montana on Friday approved a bill banning TikTok in the state, triggering nationwide opposition arguing that it infringes on citizens' rights to free expression and access to information.

According to the bill, entities such as Apple and Google's app stores and TikTok itself would be prohibited from allowing residents in Montana to download TikTok.

Entities that violate the ban will face penalties of up to 10,000 U.S. dollars per day, read the bill, without specifying how the state would enforce or monitor the ban. The prohibition will take effect from January 2024 if enacted. However, a representative from the tech group TechNet said it would be impossible to enforce the law as Apple and Google app stores are unable to geofence apps on a state-by-state basis.

A previous version of the bill had required Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to block connections to TikTok in Montana, a task that ISP representatives said was not feasible. Soon after Friday's vote, TikTok condemned the bill on both logistical and First Amendment grounds.

"The bill's champions have admitted that they have no feasible plan for operationalizing this attempt to censor American voices and that the bill's constitutionality will be decided by the courts," TikTok spokesperson Brooke Oberwetter said in a statement on Twitter.

"We will continue to fight for TikTok users and creators in Montana whose livelihoods and First Amendment rights are threatened by this egregious government overreach," she said in the statement.

In an open letter sent to the Montana House of Representatives, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), ACLU of Montana, and half a dozen free speech and civil liberties organizations pointed out that passing the legislation would flout the First Amendment and trample on Montanans' constitutional right to freedom of speech.

The ACLU called the move a violation of free speech rights that "would set an alarming precedent for excessive government control over how Montanans use the Internet." "The government cannot impose a total ban on a communications platform like TikTok unless it is necessary to prevent extremely serious, immediate harm to national security.

But there's no public evidence of harm that would meet the high bar set by the U.S. and Montana Constitutions," said the ACLU. Riana Pfefferkorn, a research scholar at the Stanford Internet Observatory, said the jurisprudence of the First Amendment was clear on this case.

"It's clearly unconstitutional," she told the U.S. monthly Wired, as Montana Attorney General Austin Knudsen "admitted the purpose was to keep people from both saying and hearing legal speech."

Moreover, civil rights advocates noted that Montana's bid against TikTok was just the latest example showing that the U.S. authority tried to cite so-called "national security" as an excuse to violate people's legal rights.

"Government has long appealed to 'national security interests' to justify intrusions on protected First Amendment activity," said Ari Cohn, free speech counsel at TechFreedom, a non-profit, non-partisan technology think tank based in Washington, D.C..

Xinhua

## ATMIS kicks off mental health training for troops in Somalia

MOGADISHU

THE African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) said Sunday it has kicked off a five-day training to equip its personnel with skills and knowledge to respond to their mental health and psychological needs while serving with the mission.

The training on mental health and psychosocial support in peace support operations brought together the military and police officers who are exposed to violence, death, and destruction.

"As military and police personnel, exposure to trauma may not be avoidable in a stressful operational environment such as Somalia," Mohammed El-Amine Souef, the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia and head of ATMIS said in a statement issued in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia.

Souef who opened the meeting outlined the risks and mental health challenges faced by personnel in peacekeeping missions. "We are exposed to violence, death, and destruction, which can negatively affect our mental well-being and lead to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)."

During the training, ATMIS personnel will learn about how violent conflict affects mental health, families, communities and the impact of trauma and post-traumatic stress on peacekeepers and the mission, and how to manage stress while serving in the mission.

The training was organized by the United Nations in collaboration with the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center (KAIPTC). Emmanuel Gyadu, the Course Director at the KAIPTC noted that personnel serving in African Union peace support operations such as ATMIS are often exposed to traumatic events that affect their mental health.

"This mission is one of the toughest across the globe. The negative impact, mentally, socially and psychologically on the citizenry and the participants in this operation cannot be overemphasized. It is for this reason that the center has deemed it necessary to bring this course to the doorstep of the mission," Gyadu said.

Souef said soldiers who have been exposed to stress and trauma on the battlefield are more likely to develop mental health challenges upon returning home, yet they lack the financial ability to get medical assistance. He noted that whereas pre-deployment training prepares soldiers for the physical and mental rigors of serving in the mission, post-deployment psycho-social support after serving in the mission will help address the troops' mental health needs.

Xinhua

## Russian-Chinese military cooperation helps strengthen strategic relations, says Putin

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN-Chinese military cooperation helps strengthen strategic and trust-based relations between the two countries, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Sunday at a meeting with visiting Chinese Defense Minister Li Shangfu.

He hailed successful and comprehensive cooperation between Moscow and Beijing in the defense sphere. "I think that it is another major area, which strengthens the trust-based, strategic character of our relations, relations between Russia and China," Putin said.

He hailed Russian-Chinese military cooperation, noting that Russia's and China's defense ministries exchange useful information and hold joint drills.

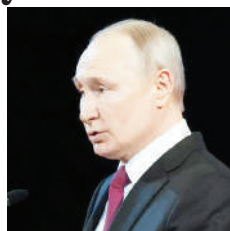
The Russian president recalled Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit to Russia in March, when cooperation between the defense ministries was among the topics.

He noted that the Chinese defense minister "has quite rich working program" in Russia. "We are glad to see you. I am sure that your visit will be held at the highest possible level. Welcome to Russia!" Putin said.

The meeting in the Kremlin was also attended by Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu.

The Russian defense ministry said on April 14 that Li Shangfu will pay his first foreign visit as defense minister to Russia on April 16-18. He plans to have talks with his Russian counterpart, Sergey Shoigu, to discuss "the current state and prospects for the development of bilateral cooperation in the defense sphere, as well as current issues of global and regional security."

Agencies



## Uganda's failure to jail child rapists as teen pregnancies soar

By Tamasin Ford

THE shocking rise of sexual abuse of young girls in northern Uganda was revealed when it was reported that in the wake of the pandemic there was a more than four-fold increase in those aged 10-14 becoming pregnant. BBC Africa Eye has been looking at why perpetrators are getting away with the crime.

The heavily pregnant girl - no more than 12 years old - looks down at her hands as the local council chairman asks about her latest visit to the doctor.

It is the sort of question a family member should be asking, but this is no normal pregnancy.

The girl lives on her own in a small home, in Kitgum district, and is expected to give birth any day.

Her parents' cassava business failed, so they returned to their village to find money for the family.

"She was left here because here is a little bit nearer to the schools," chairman Obita David Livingstone says.

"But the unfortunate part, the next room here is where people drink. That alone has exposed her to a lot of challenges."

No-one knows who the father is, or what happened.

### Three cases a week

BBC Africa Eye is only allowed to film this girl, who we are not naming, because Mr Livingstone said he wanted to raise awareness of the sexual violence happening in the community.

"In a week, we always have like three cases of defilement. Sometimes when we get the perpetrator, we have to tie them with ropes and take them, escort them to the police. But they don't bother to follow it up."

He is fed up with such levels of impunity.

"There is nobody who can really support the person who has been raped. To me I look at this justice as a weak justice," the local chairman says.

Defilement means unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl below the age of 18.

According to Uganda's Health Management Information System, pregnancies among girls between the ages of 10 and 14 increased by 366% during the country's first Covid lockdown (March-June 2020).

At the regional general hospital in Gulu



Dr Baifa Arwinyo sees a lot of pregnant teenagers who were victims of rape

nearly a quarter of all pregnancies in the last financial year were girls under 18, the age of consent in Uganda.

Dr Baifa Arwinyo, the head of obstetrics and gynaecology, said: "If I am talking of teenage mothers, all of them are defiled. They are teenagers, they are not supposed to be pregnant."

"You will find that young mothers are the highest proportion of those dying of obstructed labour. The younger the mother, the more the complication."

### 'Sexual abuse was a war strategy'

The high levels of sexual violence are thought to be a legacy of the two-decade conflict in northern Uganda, which was infamous for its brutality.

The war was started by Joseph Kony, head of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a rebel group that wanted to overthrow the government.

His fighters were known for their inhumane treatment of those they abducted: maiming, cutting off lips and limbs, and forcing people into submission through fear.

It is estimated 40,000 children were abducted, forced to become soldiers or sex slaves, and 1.7 million people lived in internally displaced camps.

The rebels moved on from Uganda in 2008, but the after-effects of their atrocities are still present today, according to gender rights activist Pamela Angwech, director of Gulu Women Economic and Globalisation, a grassroots non-governmental organisation (NGO).

"Living within a toxic, minefield environment had long-term effects on the community. People are used to seeing dead bodies, people are used to seeing death. Sexual abuse was used as a military strategy by the LRA team."

"I describe it as the war was fought in the body of the woman and the woman became the battlefield."

Few people ever saw justice for the heinous crimes committed during the war. One LRA commander, Dominic Ongwen, was tried at the International Criminal Court (ICC) and found guilty of 61 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity in February 2021.

Kony is also wanted by the ICC but his whereabouts remain unknown. According to lawyer Eunice Lakaraber Latim, who works for NGO Caritas, that legacy of a lack of accountability thrives in northern Uganda to this day.

"Growing up from Gulu, I saw so many children getting defiled, and most of those parents did not have the resources to pursue the justice that their children deserved."

'My child lives in pain'

Ms Latim took Africa Eye to the family of a three-year-old girl

who was raped by a relative.

The mother only found out after she noticed the child's style of walking changed. When the police came to arrest her relative, she says they asked her for money to "transport him".

"I was then expected to feed the prisoner," says Ms Latim.

"You have to literally pay your way to get justice. You have to pay money for fuel to have the suspect apprehended."

"You're supposed to provide feeding for them while they're still at the police station."

The suspect was held for six months, but because some of the correct legal procedures were not followed, he was released on bail. The mother simply did not have the means to keep pursuing the case.

Police and medical reports confirm that the three-year-old had been infected with a sexually transmitted disease.

"My child is still in pain, even now. The infection has never healed," her mother said. "He should face a prison sentence. I didn't want it to end this way."

Ms Latim says it is not unusual for the justice system to fail victims, saying they have had a number of cases that have fallen apart.

"There is a lot of corruption. People don't fear committing crimes here, because they say, if you have money, you will get out. That is what is happening."

Nachula Damalie, the regional police commander of Aswa, acknowledges the problems with how some cases are handled, but she denied corruption is rife.

"We are not supposed to ask a victim to pay for our services. But sometimes I should accept that we can run out of fuel. Yes. Now with the corruption, it has been a general perception that police officers are corrupt, but not all are corrupt, just like any other institution would be. We have good ones and bad ones."

The Minister of State for Northern Uganda, Grace Freedom Kwiyucwiny, also admits there are problems.

"I can't deny corruption. Corruption is there. It's at all levels, even at ministries' level," she says.

"We have laws on defilement, we have laws on incest, but somehow again, people just go behind the law and bribe police and then police say, 'OK, go and settle it at home.' There are cases which have been prosecuted, but the number is not high."

None of the suspects in any of the cases BBC Africa Eye investigated were prosecuted.

BBC

## Chinese hybrid rice boosts rice supply in Madagascar



A farmer in Madagascar works in a hybrid rice field. [People's Daily/Yan Yunming]

OVER an hour's drive away from Antananarivo, capital city of Madagascar, there lies Fiadanakely village, Mahitsy, a town northwest of the capital. Rice in the vast paddy fields was earrring as breezes brushed against the green seedlings.

Dina, a 44-year-old rice grower in the village, was checking the growth of her crops on the ridge fields. "We will reap the rice a month later," she said, expressing her confidence in a harvest.

The rice grown by Dina was a hybrid variety tailored by Chinese experts for local farmers, which featured high productivity, high quality and multi-resistance. Dina started growing the variety in a trial planting in 2017 when Madagascar agricultural technicians and Chinese experts came to the village to promote hybrid rice technologies.

According to her, the field for testing could only harvest 300 kilograms of rice in the past, and the woman didn't have much expectation for the Chinese hybrid rice, especially in a dry year. However, she ended up reaping more than 900 kilograms of rice on the lot.

Tina could still remember the surprise even years later. After the testing, Dina planted Chinese hybrid rice on all her land.

In the beginning, Dina knew little about the growing techniques of hybrid rice. "Chinese experts taught us hand in hand to sow and transplant in a scientific way. No matter what problems we had, be it droughts, waterlogging or insect attacks, they would always offer timely help for us," Dina told People's Daily.

She said that due to the local climatic conditions, the rice

yield was low in the past and the surpluses each year could only feed her family for less than six months. She still had to spend a lot of money on buying food.

"Now, our rice yield has improved from 3 tons to nearly 10 tons per hectare, and we would still have a surplus of 800 kilograms of grain at the year's end. We sell the rice at 1,300 ariary (\$0.3) per kilogram, and that makes our main family income," Dina noted.

She told People's Daily that growing Chinese hybrid rice has led her family to a better life. The increased income afforded the family a newly-built two-story building with red walls and white tiles beside her rice fields.

Rice is an important source of food in Madagascar, where 44 percent of the arable land is planted with rice and 70 percent of the population is engaged in rice planting. However, rice production was low for a long time in the country and couldn't satisfy its domestic demand due to complicated climate conditions and a lack of fine varieties and core cultivation techniques.

In 2007, a China-aided demonstration center of hybrid rice was launched in Madagascar, which brought a batch of Chinese agricultural experts to the country in the Indian Ocean, including Hu Yuefang.

In more than ten years, they have visited almost all rice-growing regions in Madagascar and trained hundreds of local technicians in hybrid rice.

"When we just arrived here, rice was not available for many local residents, and they could only take cassavas, sweet potatoes and corn as substitutes. Under the assistance of Chinese experts, rice is coming to the tables of more and more local families," Hu said.

Local agricultural technician Aro is a student of Hu. As an official of Madagascar's agricultural department, he has twice joined training programs in Changsha, central China's Hunan province.

After returning to his country, Aro has been committed to offering technical support in hybrid rice planting for growers in Ambohidratrimo, a town in the central highlands

of Madagascar.

"More and more farmers are starting to grow hybrid rice. In the region that I work in, there are over 200 people skilled in growing hybrid rice," Aro said, hoping that Madagascar and China could carry out closer agricultural cooperation.

"Chinese hybrid rice helps Madagascar achieve self-sufficiency in rice supply. I hope it can be promoted to more African countries and thus help relieve the issue of food security in Africa," he told People's Daily.

In 2019, the China National Hybrid Rice Research and Development Center opened its African branch in Madagascar. It is committed to training advanced agricultural technicians and selecting hybrid rice varieties that suit the diverse climate conditions in the region.

Fanja Raharinomena, former secretary-general of the Malagasy Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, noted that hybrid rice development is under smooth progress thanks to the support of the Chinese government. She said China is a global leader in hybrid rice studies, and thanked the Chinese government's contributions to the breeding of hybrid rice in Madagascar and to the agricultural development of Africa.

People's Daily





Jonas Mkude. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

## Soccer followers now showing no concern over Mkude's absence - II

IT seems Mkude will also leave 'Domingues' on the field of play. Domestic players decline very quickly and the worst thing is those serving Simba SC and Yanga cannot be easily replaced by compatriots once the former leave the clubs.

This happens in big clubs in the country where domestic football enthusiasts believe domestic players can mature well and represent the nation because the prominent outfits are battling it out in many international matches.

Mohamed Hussein, Shomari Kapombe, Yassin, and Aishi Manula continue to fight for their positions at Simba SC but, even if these players come to the end of their careers, I hardly see natives that will fill their positions in the squad.

Simba SC cannot rope in a goalie from Prisons and immediately start relying on the keeper while its age-old rival, Yanga, has such a gifted goalkeeper like Malian Djigui Diarra. Simba SC will search for a foreign goalie.

Sometimes a football lover can hardly blame these two teams' leaders. There have always been extremely few talented domestic footballers that are showing commitment.

The worst part of it is that even those who are given a chance have been letting domestic soccer fans down.

The supporters should, for instance, look at how Habib Kyombo has lost his chance to Congolese, Jean Baleke, at Simba SC. If Kyombo was scoring goals like Baleke, it would have been important for the nation.

In this season's African inter-club tournaments' Group Stage, so far two natives, Yanga's Mudathir Yahya and Farid Mussa, have scored goals.

On Simba SC's side, there have been assists executed by fullback, Shomari Kapombe, and midfielder Mzamiru Yassin.

All other goals, as well as assists, have come from foreign footballers who have continued to be careful when wearing Simba SC and Yanga jerseys.

Sometimes when players like Mkude are not playing and fail to prove their worth, it is a loss for the nation.

Tanzania relies more on the players who play locally because they are the majority of players making the senior national team.

When a soccer fan witnesses the domestic players begin sitting on the bench in their clubs, such a football follower knows that Taifa Stars are at a loss.

An individual ought to look at a player like Yahya, he has been out for a long time and, when he signed for Yanga during the January registration period, he was immediately given chance to feature for the club in this season's CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage matches.

He has done well in the club and is now in the senior national team and is a regular in Taifa Stars, this has been brought about due to a lack of talent.

It is however also an advantage for a performer to get a place in the team participating in any of the continental tournaments.

Soccer lovers cannot interfere in the players' private lives but, from a football point of view, I wish domestic players and fans would have time to analyze the losses that occur to a player like Mkude if he fails to hit the mark.

The people around him also do not know the best way they can advise him. Mkude still has what it takes to play football at a high level for a long time. If he is running his personal life carelessly, I think he should correct himself.

When Mkude is at his best, there is no midfielder to bench him at Simba SC. However, his fate is in his hands, the rest of the domestic football followers are just ordinary consultants.

Why has Zambian midfielder Clatous Chama continued to maintain his form? There were times when Mkude was as reliable at Simba SC as Chama, Louis Miquissone, Manula, and others.

Why should Mkude lose his place on the side while his colleagues continue to be the heart of the team?

If a football supporter wants to see Tanzania enjoy success in the game, such an aficionado should crave for domestic players to be at their best at Simba SC, Yanga, Azam FC, and other clubs.

Yanga's midfielder Feisal Salum has also gone on strike, seeking to leave his club.

In the middle of this season, he started a contract dispute, the results of which were seen when Salum was called-up for Taifa Stars and was fielded in its 2023 AFCON Qualifiers' ties against Uganda, the midfielder failed to prove his worth for Taifa Stars.

Domestic players are fighting for their positions at Azam FC. Azam FC's Ayoub Lyanga and Abdulhamis Suleiman 'Sopu', for example, have recently started making an important contribution to the Taifa Stars squad.

If Azam FC had taken part in more CAF Confederation Cup matches this season, I think the outfit would have improved but, unfortunately, it was eliminated early on.

Another issue that Mkude should be reminded of is how difficult life would be for a player, who used to play for either Simba SC or Yanga for a long time, once he moves to any of the other outfits at the domestic level.

Suddenly the fans forget such a player, the footballer will begin taking long bus journeys when his team travels for various fixtures, and he will further start staying in cheap hotels booked by his outfit.

West African players plying their trade in Tanzania would take this as a challenge to continue to stay fit and play at a high level for a long time. Mkude has the potential to play for a long time if he decides to value professionalism.

# Simba SC ecstatically claims the bragging rights in entertaining Dar derby

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

IT was an encounter that had been billed as a mouthwatering run-in between two veritable heavyweights of local football and it thrillingly lived up to expectations.

Of course, I am alluding to the fierce battle between Simba SC and Yanga that unfolded last Sunday at the state-of-the-art Benjamin Mkapa stadium.

Sadly though, the epic contest would turn out to be a massive letdown for Yanga's legions of supporters as Simba SC would emerge as the deserving victors in a joyous 2-0 win.

Despite that frustrating setback, though, Yanga remains comfortably ensconced at the summit of the league table with a hefty 68 points although second-placed Simba SC is breathing down their necks with 63 points.

Indeed, judging by the present picture at the top of the table with both Yanga and Simba SC engaged in an all-out, unrestrained battle for the coveted league trophy, one hopes that the hugely entertaining race for the title goes right down to the wire.

Let us now put the Dar es Salaam football derby to bed and consider the plight of local women's netball, which is presently mired in dire straits.

Disturbingly, there are precious few netball championships staged on home soil these days, and to make matters worse, the national women's netball side, Taifa Queens, has not played an international match in years.

This frustratingly regrettable inactivity on the international netball landscape has disappointingly seen the Taifa



Simba SC supporters rally behind their side when it faced Yanga in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League tie that was held in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Queens descend the World Netball rankings to 40th place.

Indeed, it is obvious that local netball is in sore need of a shot in the arm, which would improve the sport's declining fortunes.

With cash-flow shortages being one of the chronic woes confronting the sport, the first order of business in the revival of local netball ought to be securing sponsors who would provide the sport with financial backing.

Admittedly, this is easier said than done. Nevertheless, with the present state of affairs in local netball being so saddening, rapid solutions are badly needed to defuse the difficult crisis

facing the sport.

Let us switch our focus now back to the 'People's Game' where Simba SC and Yanga are expected to go toe-to-toe with some of Africa's most exemplary football clubs in the quarter-finals of 2022/23 CAF inter-club football competitions.

Off the back of their morale-boosting two-nil win over Yanga last Sunday, Simba SC will soon do battle with Moroccan titans Wydad Casablanca in the first leg of the CAF Champions League quarterfinals.

Indeed, the encounter is expected to be a genuine battle royal for Simba SC as Wydad Casablanca is the reigning champions of continental foot-

ball's top-tier competition.

While Simba SC will be trying to hold their own against the highly touted African champions, Yanga will be locking horns with Rivers United of Nigeria in the first leg of their CAF Confederation Cup quarterfinals, which is merely days away.

Unquestionably, both Simba SC and Yanga have a mountain to climb in the quarterfinals of their respective football tournaments.

One hopes then that both clubs can remember that football giants have been slain many a time in the past and that they are eminently capable of pulling off victories against their much-vaunted opponents.

## Mkwakwani Stadium management to start preparation for hosting ASFC final

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

TANGA'S Mkwakwani Stadium is scheduled to undergo minor renovation starting on May 1 this year to prepare to host Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) final.

Nassoro Makau, Mkwakwani Stadium's manager, revealed that the facility's management has already received an official letter from the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) informing it of the matter and issued instructions on what should be done before the clash.

He said the stadium, which is currently used by Coastal Union and African Sports for this season's NBC Premier League and Championship League fixtures, deserves to host the historical ASFC final.

Makau pointed out that due to the clash's importance, they decided to make some preparations one month earlier.

He mentioned areas set to undergo renovations as players' changing rooms, pitch, and resting huts for substitute players and technical bench members.

"TFF announced that Azam Sports Federation



Mkwakwani Stadium

Cup's final will be staged here, recently we received an official letter from the federation instructing the stadium management on renovations ahead of the final," the official pointed out.

He further explained that plans are in place to host the final either at night or late evening to have the same entry fees for three stands, except for the VIP stand.

The official noted: "The stadium can accommodate 11,000 fans and has four stands,

the VIP's, the one used by Coastal Union fans located on the northern side, the stand used by African Sports fans located on the southern side, and 'Rasha' located on the eastern side of the stadium."

Makau added: "The 'Rasha' platform has experienced challenges as people are lately avoiding it because, in the evening, they cannot watch the action well while sitting there as they are hit by sunlight therefore we are still undecided over the

match kick-off."

The official noted: "We recently installed floodlights and they are working effectively, they will give us the advantage of setting flat rate entry fees."

Mkwakwani Stadium was built in 1974 when Tanga was under Regional Commissioner, Kingunge Ngombale Mwiru, and was used as the home stadium for Tanga-based Coastal Union and African Sports.

Mkwakwani Stadium will have the opportunity

to host the ASFC final for the first time.

In the showdown's semi-finals, Simba SC will face Azam FC and Yanga will take on Singida Big Stars.

Simba SC cruised to the semi-finals following the squad's 5-1 win over Ifeju SC in the quarterfinal stage tie at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Yanga made it to the last-four stage after edging Geita Gold FC 1-0 in the last eight at the same venue.



## Ancelotti exposing Chelsea downfall on Bridge return

LONDON

UNDER a fortnight ago, Chelsea owner Todd Boehly picked up the phone and called Blues great Frank Lampard to come back and try to steady the ship, with the team in shambles.

In another world, it might have been Carlo Ancelotti on the line to the American.

Instead Ancelotti returns to Stamford Bridge dug-out strictly as an opponent, representing Real Madrid in the Champions League quarter-final second leg clash today.

It was Madrid president Florentino Perez who brought the Italian back for a second stint at the helm, after Zinedine Zidane walked away again in 2021.

Ancelotti's Madrid picked off the Blues in the first game, carving out a 2-0 lead through Karim Benzema and Marco Asensio, and they could have added further goals as they controlled proceedings.

At the other end former Chelsea duo Thibaut Courtois and Antonio Rudiger made important saves and blocks to leave Lampard's side empty-handed.

Ancelotti's return to Chelsea evokes warm memories of one of the finest ever Premier League sides, which he led to the club's first ever league and FA Cup double in 2010, halcyon days in stark contrast to the Blues' recent slump.

The Italian's Chelsea side featured big characters including Didier Drogba, John Terry, Michael Ballack and Lampard himself, and they racked up 7-0, 7-1 and 8-0 triumphs at the Bridge as they strolled to domestic glory.

Chelsea's current hodgepodge of players lacks both the leadership and quality of that group, as was laid painfully bare in their defeat at the Santiago Bernabeu last week.

"I am sad, yes," said Ancelotti before that clash. "I have a fantastic memory of this club, of the people that are still working there.

"I'm a supporter of Chelsea, of course, because I spent two really nice years there.

"I think and I hope Lampard will be able to do a fantastic job with them."

It was a generous line from Ancelotti, but the Italian will hope his coach is nowhere near as magnanimous on Tuesday under the lights in London.

Ancelotti was let go by then-owner Roman Abramovich in 2011, ending his brief but memorable two-season spell in charge.

- Safe hands -

Madrid are aiming to win a record-extending 15th Champions League, defending the title after their triumph over Liverpool last season, and looked streets ahead of the 2021 victors in the Spanish capital.

Despite not being first choice -- or second, or third -- for the job, Ancelotti was chosen as a safe pair of hands and also helped Madrid lift La Liga last season too.

Like Zidane before him, is showing excellent man management is a vital skill for Los Blancos coaches -- although not the only one, as he was at pains to point out.

"I am 'fantastic' at managing but there are other things, because this team is well-trained," said Ancelotti before the first leg.

"If we win the Copa del Rey, we will have won every title possible in two years and there are teams who won't win that in their whole lives."

Ancelotti has kept squad players like Dani Ceballos, Nacho Fernandez and Asensio both hungry and helpful, with the latter netting again at Cadiz at the weekend. Most of them, anyway.

Former Chelsea star Eden Hazard has remained a fringe presence and his former fans will hope not to see him on Tuesday -- if the Belgian appears, it will mean Madrid have clinched progression and the key players are getting rested.

"The door is open and it's up to us to kick it open further," said Lampard after the first leg defeat, angling for a comeback.

It will be music to Ancelotti's ears, with his team so lethal on the break against desperate sides and the coach wise enough to play to their strengths.

The 63-year-old has lifted the trophy six times, twice as a player, and four times in the dug-out, recently observing he is approaching his 1,300th game as a coach.

His experience and stability are in stark contrast to Chelsea's haphazard project, and on Tuesday they may help him highlight chasms where he once left silverware and memories.

Meanwhile, Victor Osimhen and Mike Maignan will face off for a place in the Champions League semi-finals today when AC Milan travel south to Naples for the decisive second leg of the all-Italian quarter-final.

Nigerian striking sensation Osimhen and France's new first-choice goalkeeper Maignan arrived at two of Italy's most storied clubs via Ligue 1 outfit Lille, where they played together for a season before both eventually made their way south of the Alps.

Osimhen hadn't played for Napoli since the last international break before making a substitute's appearance in Saturday's goalless draw with Verona which cut his side's imposing Serie A lead to 14 points.

The 24-year-old only played the final 17 minutes of that frustrating stalemate but the match came alive once he was on the pitch.

He caused havoc in the Verona defence and came close to snatching the points when he smashed a first-time rocket off the underside of the bar with eight minutes remaining.

AFP

# Arsenal can handle title stress as Man City close in, vows Arteta

LONDON

ARSENAL'S bid to win the Premier League for the first time since 2004 is in danger of imploding, but Mikel Arteta remains adamant the leaders can cope with the pressure of the title race.

Arteta's side blew a two-goal lead for a second successive game as West Ham hit back to snatch a 2-2 draw at the London Stadium on Sunday.

After squandering the same advantage in last weekend's 2-2 draw at Liverpool, the Gunners once again paid the price for taking their foot off the gas.

Although Arsenal are four points clear of second placed Manchester City, it is the champions who have all the momentum heading into the final weeks of a gripping title battle.

With a home game against Arsenal looming on April 26, City know they will be crowned champions if they win their last eight games.

Ominously for Arsenal, Pep Guardiola's men have already beaten them twice this season, winning 3-1 at the Emirates Stadium in the league in February, just weeks after knocking the Gunners out of the FA Cup with a 1-0 victory



Bukayo Saka missed a penalty as Arsenal surrendered a 2-0 lead to West Ham. Agencies

in Manchester.

For Arsenal to no longer be in control of their own destiny is a bitter pill for Arteta to swallow after the north Londoners' long spell at the top this term.

Arteta concedes Arsenal's untimely collapses against West Ham and Liverpool were self-inflicted wounds, with the Spaniard especially frustrated by the way his players took their strong position for granted on Sunday.

But he refuses to accept it was the tension of being chased so relentlessly by City that provoked the calamitous results.

- 'Ruthless mindset' -

"I'm certain it is not the pressure. It is we misunderstood

what was needed in that moment," he said.

"It was very different to Liverpool in terms of the pattern of play. But that is the next stage, you have to play with the same purpose when it is 2-0.

"You have to have more composure to finish the game. When you drop your level so quickly the game is there for the opponent."

Before the summit meeting with City, Arsenal host Southampton on Friday.

A victory over the bottom of the table Saints would move Arsenal seven points clear of City, who don't play in the league next weekend due to their FA Cup semi-final against Sheffield

United on Saturday.

Fuelled by Erling Haaland's record-breaking goal-spree City -- winners of their last 10 games in all competitions -- have the edge in the remaining matches after the Arsenal showdown.

Their toughest tests could come on trips to Fulham and Brentford, although their progress in the Champions League might also pose a distraction.

Arsenal's trickiest fixtures could be a daunting visit to Newcastle and a home game against in-form Brighton, while a London derby against struggling Chelsea can't be taken for granted.

Arteta doesn't believe Arsenal's young squad are running

out of steam towards the end of their unexpected title bid.

But he will spend the days leading up to the Southampton game searching for answers to the blip that threatens to ruin their dream season.

"Fatigue? No. The best way to put it is to convince the team they can do it. We have to dig very deep and find the solution," he said.

"We stopped playing with the purpose to score a third and fourth one. It looked too easy. We gave them hope and credit to West Ham, they took it.

"We need that ruthless mindset to go kill a team and we haven't done it."

AFP

## The picture that suggests Chelsea fans are turning on Todd Boehly

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

DISGRUNTLED supporters venting their feelings against chairmen and owners of football clubs is nothing new, although less common than jeers directed at managers, teams and individual players. But an owner having a go back, as Chelsea's Todd Boehly appeared to do after Saturday's 2-1 home defeat by Brighton, marks something of a departure even in the chequered recent history of goings-on at Stamford Bridge. Even Ken Bates usually directed his ire via his programme notes.

The directors' box at the Bridge was always a haven of calm under previous owner Roman Abramovich, an occasional flicker of emotion across the Russian's usually impassive features during the early years of his ownership as exciting as it got. And with the sustained success his investment brought, complaints were few.

But fans above the owner's box in the West Stand were pictured leaning over the parapet above Boehly's seat to express their frustrations during and after Saturday's game, and he is clearly remonstrating back with them.

In fairness, the American is probably just as frustrated with performances on the pitch as the supporters are, in view of his consortium's investment of approaching £5 billion.

The long-term plan he imagined when paying

£21 million to bring Graham Potter and his staff from Saturday's victors last autumn is in ruins, which must have stung even more as Brighton outplayed his expensively assembled squad with a team built on a relatively small budget and with the second-lowest wage bill in the Premier League.

When interim head coach Frank Lampard made a desperate and ultimately unsuccessful quadruple substitution in the second half, it must have set a record in the transfer values of the eight players involved: the four hauled off -- Raheem Sterling, Enzo Fernández, Christian Pulisic and Wesley Fofana -- alone cost £281.5 million.

Any suggestion that Boehly might already have tired of an investment that has turned very sour very quickly is surely well wide of the mark, however.

He overpaid to buy the club, but his view was surely on the returns from future television deals and the possible return of a European Super League in some form.

Assuming that Boehly is in it for the long haul, what now? A roof over the directors' box? He could always sack Lampard, who, after all, has a 100 per cent losing record in his second reign, albeit after only three matches. But better surely to wait until Tuesday's home second leg against Real Madrid in a tie Chelsea are losing 2-0 and hope for a miracle that the former



Todd Boehly

club hero was surely re-hired to deliver.

After that, Lampard's job will be to begin a rescue mission. He denies his players lack hunger. Rather it is their shortage of confidence that must be addressed, and he plans to do so with one-to-one sessions, which, with a squad of Chelsea's size, could take

most of the rest of the campaign.

"It's the work to build confidence because there is talent in the squad, some of it is young and there has been some change," Lampard said.

"At the minute it has been more conversations and meetings than training on the pitch,

talking individually to the players.

"At this level we have to be on the limit and I am not sure we are. It doesn't matter how we got here, it has to be addressed now. Every conversation is different. Every player needs confidence but there are different ways to get there.

"Sometimes if you are a yard short or receiving the ball and not confident, you take your first touch backwards and these things can look like a hunger or passion thing. But I don't sense that. I will back the players that are hungry to be successful as Chelsea players. With Brighton it's a long process of work that has got them there. They are in a good place."

In fact, Brighton are enjoying the best season in their history, but still want more. After watching substitute Julio Enciso, 19, win the game with the goal of his young life, head coach Roberto De Zerbi only wanted to talk

of how he could improve the Paraguayan spark plug whose eyes are only ever on the whites of the posts.

"If he wants to become a great player, he has to improve in mentality," the Italian said. "I'm speaking about him like this because I am one of our biggest fans and I want to help him, only this."

Brighton captain Lewis Dunk said: "He [Enciso] has probably never experienced the level of work ethic and detail it takes to make it in the Premier League, especially under this manager.

"After dinner last night we had a meeting about how to improve; that's how detailed and thorough he is."

Boehly, of course, probably aspired to something similar when he tempted Potter from Brighton, paving the way for them to hire De Zerbi. It is that approach that Chelsea need now.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Arsenal can handle title stress as Man City close in, vows Arteta**

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**5 EATV TUESDAY**

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**MJADALA**

**MJADALA**

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shopping process.

**eastafrica RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Nabi: Yanga lost midfield battle to Simba SC



Yanga's left back, Lomalisa Mutambala (down), challenges Simba SC's full-back, Shomari Kapombe, as the clubs locked horns in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League clash that took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Simba SC notched 2-0 victory. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

**Y**ANGA head coach Nasreddine Nabi has admitted that his side lost the battle in midfield in their 2022/23 NBC Premier League clash against Simba SC.

Nabi's charges went down 2-0 to Simba SC to concede their second league defeat of the season at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

The 2022/23 NBC Premier League leaders thus have seen their point-lead at the top cut to five by their age-old rivals Simba SC.

A spirited Simba SC, led by coach Robert Oliveira

'Robertinho', demonstrated plenty of effervescence, especially in the final third. The Msimbazi Street

Inonga and Denis Kibu.

Nabi, aged 57, speaking after the game, reiterated that his team lacked aggressiveness and determination in midfield which led to the defeat.

The gaffer revealed: "I will start by congratulating Simba SC for the victory. I believe the first goal came after 30 or 40 seconds when the referee gave the opponent a corner where there was no corner."

"I don't really like to talk about refereeing but I'm not sure that on the first goal, there was a corner, so there was a refereeing error and we will check that on television," Nabi said.

"The fact that we conceded a goal so quickly, it took the players out of the game completely. We were mentally out from the moment we tried a little bit to get back into the game only to concede a goal on a counter-attack."

The coach added: "I think in the 90 minutes Simba deserved their victory, we were on our toes today. And that's football. We would regret it."

"I think we deserved to come back in the second

half, we had a lot of opportunities, we didn't manage to score and that's how we lost the match," he revealed.

"I think a lot of players have been below their level today and especially the midfielders which is why we immediately changed two midfielders after 45 minutes."

"I think we lacked aggressiveness and determination. Simba SC players showed more sacrifice in the midfield battle than Young Africans."

"I think the whole middle line was not good, they were not up to standards. It was much better in the second half when Aziz came in."

The coach pointed out: "He brought a little more aggressiveness and presence, it allowed us to create chances that unfortunately we did not use."

The Tunisian-born Belgian national expects to see a positive response from Yanga in their trip to Nigeria to face Rivers United in the CAF Confederation Cup quarter finals first leg game on Sunday.

## Athletes all set for 2023 CAA Junior Championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) has announced that the national U-19 and U-20 athletics teams will depart for Zambia next week to take part in this year's Confederation of African Athletics (CAA) Junior Athletics Championships.

Jackson Ndaweka, AT acting secretary-general, said the teams made up of 15 athletes will depart for the southern African country on Tuesday next week.

He said the athletes will be accompanied by head coach Alfredo Shahanga, his assistant Asha Abdallah, team doctor Cosmas Kapinga, and team manager Aman Ngoka.

Ndaweka said currently the teams are undergoing intensive training to stay in great shape.

"The athletes are undergoing intensive training, they will depart for Zambia by bus on Tuesday next week and we are confident the teams will do well in the games," he said.

The CAA Junior Athletics Championships are set to take place in Lusaka from April 29 to May 3.

Ndaweka's remarks echoed the ones presented by the team's head coach, Alfredo Shahanga, who told The Guardian that he is confident of witnessing the youngsters garner good results in Zambia.

The coach said morale in the camp is very high as all athletes are in high spirits.

"I can assure you that we will do well, I have said so because all athletes are in good spirits, the environment in the camp is superb, in short, I can say my charges are enjoying it," he said.

The 15 athletes are camping at Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) in Dar es Salaam.

They are Said Ali who will compete in 100m and 200m races in U-18 and U-20, Alex Sezario (U-20's 100m), Nicodemus Joseph will battle it out in U-18's 1500m and 5000m races.

Gasisi Girunda will represent Tanzania in U-20 Boys' 100m and 200m races and Elia Clement will compete in U-20's 100m race.

The other U-20 competitor making the squad is Benedict Martius that will feature in 200m race, while Hafidh Talib is to compete in U-20's discus.

In Boys U-18, Mpaji Gipson will take part in long jump and Samir Sururu will put his skills to show in shot put.

In Girls U-20's javelin, Mwanaamini Mkayu will be the country's envoy, whereas Brethe Everist and Salma Charles will compete in the category's 200m and 800m races respectively.

Nasra Abdallah will compete in U-18 Girls 100m and 200m races, and compatriot Siwema Julius will feature in the category's 100m race.

The 15 athletes were selected in the trials organized by AT in Dar es Salaam recently, with more than 100 junior athletes from across the country putting their skills to show in the showdown.

Initially AT was set to use this season's East and Central Africa Junior Athletics Championships (EAAR), held in the city recently, to select junior athletes that will represent the country in the CAA Junior Athletics Championships.

However there was no local athlete to have managed to meet the qualifying time for the continental showpiece.

A total of 50 African nations are expected to enter athletes in CAA Junior Athletics Championships.

## NBC Bank offers Dar derby treat for customers

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC), main sponsor of this season's Mainland Tanzania Premier League, last Sunday coloured the top-flight tie bringing together age-old rivals, Yanga and Simba SC, by rewarding the institution's customers and staff.

The bank took its staff and the customers to the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam to enjoy an exclusive, all-expenses paid match experience, with the anxiously awaited fixture ending with Simba SC posting 2-0 victory.

Further, the lender also organized a large screen match viewing point for its customers at the Warehouse Arena Bar, formerly Nextdoor Arena, located at Masaki in Dar es Salaam.

The experience sought to provide an opportunity for the institution's customers and other football fans who could not make it to the stadium to enjoy the match.

Commenting on the move, NBC Bank's Director of Retail Banking Elibariki Masuke said that it aimed at bringing together their large and small customers to enjoy the flavour of the 2022/23 NBC Premier League that has recently gained popularity following the bank's rich sponsorship deal.

"It has now become our seasonal routine to enjoy with



NBC Bank's Director of Retail Banking, Elibariki Masuke (R), addresses some of the bank's customers during the lunch held at a hotel in Dar es Salaam on Sunday shortly before the customers headed to the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in the city for an exclusive, all-expenses paid opportunity to watch the 2022/23 NBC Premier League match between Yanga and Simba SC held at the stadium. The fixture ended with Simba SC cruising to 2-0 victory. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

our customers in various ways when it comes to enjoying the 'Dar es Salaam derby'. Realizing the pressure that our customers have during the derby, we have been organizing several sessions just to make them feel our presence on the big day," he stated.

As usual, before the match the customers had the opportunity to have lunch with the top officials and board members of the bank at the Hyatt

Regency Hotel then together proceeded to the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium to watch the derby in a VIP special treatment and experience.

Masuke noted: "We are proud to be the National Premier League sponsors and that all football fans can enjoy the league from wherever they are across the country."

"We would have loved to treat all our customers to a VIP treatment

unfortunately we may not have the capacity to, thus, we have sponsored a few screening joints where those who could not make it to the stadium can enjoy the match," he said.

In addition to enjoying the game, the audience also had the opportunity to access various services of the bank, including opening bank accounts and making various transactions.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

