



DEADLY DJIBOUTI
Rights groups want African Court to prosecute it for its role in extraordinary rendition **Pages 12-13**

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SDGs, DOLLAR BY DOLLAR >
How spending on certain carefully selected areas can achieve 'people, peace, prosperity.' **Page 19**

KENYA SH100 TANZANIA SH1700 RWANDA RWF900 UGANDA SH2700 BURUNDI BIF2000

No. 1068

Learning crisis looms over bid to ban diplomas in varsities

HIGHER EDUCATION: Institutions stare at revenue losses as Cabinet Secretary prepares to table changes to Act

By **JAMES ANYANZWA**
The EastAfrican

The full impact of a move by the Kenyan government to bar universities from offering diplomas and certificates will be felt in two months when more than 80,000 qualified students miss places in the available middle-level colleges and universities experience sudden drops in revenues.

Education Cabinet Secretary Prof Jacob Kaimenyi said he is set to have amendments to the Univer-

sity Act 2012 tabled in parliament to that effect.

"Somebody amended the University Act to allow universities to have certificate and diploma courses," Prof Kaimenyi told *The EastAfrican*. "We are going to seek rescission of the amendment of the law once parliament is out of recess."

The move is informed by the argument that universities should concentrate on their core mandate of offering degrees and conducting research. It is estimated that

between 10 and 25 per cent of the university population in Kenya is comprised of diploma and certificate students.

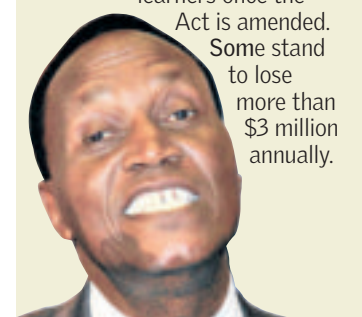
"We want the universities to focus on what they do best, their central core, and that is higher learning," Prof Kaimenyi said. "We don't want a situation where we will create antagonism between colleges and universities." The University Act 2012 established the Commission for University Education.

FULL REPORT, PAGES 6-7

Kaimenyi's move a blow to the institutions

Universities fear they will lose millions of dollars in fees and other charges levied on diploma and certificate learners once the

Act is amended. Some stand to lose more than \$3 million annually.



Bloodied but unbowed Buganda Magazine



Remembering the day the Zimdollar died

Citizens are still bitter about becoming penniless overnight

Outlook, Pages 25-27

Rising inflation takes its toll on EA economy

Food prices are rising right across the region

Business, Page 37

XENOPHOBIC ATTACKS

East African nationals caught up in SA madness

Why are ordinary South Africans attacking and seeking to drive foreigners out of the Rainbow Nation?

SPECIAL ANALYSIS , PAGES 8-9

New law allows firms to buy back shares at NSE

Rule creates flexibility but also allows price manipulation

By **JAMES ANYANZWA**
The EastAfrican

An amendment to Kenya's Companies Act, which has already gone through the first reading in the National Assembly, seeks to allow quoted companies with excess cash to reduce the number of shares available for trading, thereby supporting the share price, when they feel the market does not reflect the true worth of the stocks.

However, critics say this could open the door for listed companies to manipulate share prices. The reduction would be achieved through the company buying a portion of the shares issued to the public or through merging several shares into one, effectively limiting the supply of shares in the market.

FULL REPORT, PAGE 49

AGENDA

The week ahead

MONDAY

Agencies meet in New York

A two-day special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council, the World Trade Organisation and the UN Conference on Trade and Development on financing for sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda kicks off in New York.

TUESDAY

EAC workshop kicks off in Kigali

A two-day East African Community workshop on trade and service commitments under the Common Market Protocol begins in Kigali.

WEDNESDAY

Dubai hosts economic summit

A two-day World Green Economy Summit begins in Dubai.

FRIDAY

World marks immunisation week

World Immunisation Week under the theme; close the immunisation gap.

SATURDAY

World Malaria Day

The world marks World Malaria Day.

The EastAfrican

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FACES IN THE NEWS



PETER WEMALI: Uganda athletics coach is in police custody over allegations of defilement. Mr Wemali was detained by police after medical examinations of three under-age runners aged 15, 16 and 17 turned out positive.



DESMOND ELLIOT: The Nollywood star has won a seat in the Lagos State House Assembly elections. He contested under the All Progressive Congress party ticket, which is headed by president elect Muhammadu Buhari.



JACOB ZUMA: South Africa's president condemned a spate of attacks on foreigners, calling it "shocking and unacceptable." He was reacting to xenophobic attacks that began in Durban before spreading to Pietermaritzburg and Jo'burg.



PERCY SLEDGE: US soul singer famed for his song *When a Man Loves a Woman*, has died aged 74 at his home in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Mr Sledge had surgery for liver cancer in January last year and recovered.



POPE FRANCIS: The Catholic Church leader has announced his first visit to Ecuador, Bolivia, and Paraguay. He will spend two days in each country, beginning in Ecuador on July 6 and ending in Paraguay on July 12.

THE INTEGRATION TRACKER

Monitoring the progress of the East African Community



Positive developments



Negative developments



Neutral

Tough regulations to stop money laundering in EAC



East African countries are crafting tougher regulations on money laundering targeting firms registered in tax havens and jurisdictions with bank secrecy. Companies with shareholders represented by nominee accounts will have to disclose the beneficial owners when they open accounts in banks or stockmarket intermediaries such as brokers and investment banks.

Customers being served in a KCB banking hall.



EAC to establish information sharing system



East African Community trade agencies plan to establish an integrated ICT data system aimed at enhancing information exchange. The concept, promoted by TradeMark East Africa, focuses on setting up an enabling ICT infrastructure to help EAC imports and exports to become competitive and affordable by reducing costs related to information sharing.

Workers lay a fibre optic cable in Kenya.



Apps to track movement of goods on Northern Corridor



An online mobile tool designed to monitor causes of delays along the Northern Corridor has been launched. M-ship will be used to detect areas where hitches occur in clearing of cargo and transport along the crucial trade route, with a view to facilitating trade and identifying emerging non-tariff barriers. It was developed by the International Standing Committee on Shipping.

Mobile apps will track movement of goods.



Dar ports agency in ICT project to improve efficiency



The Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) expects to improve its efficiency with the completion of a major information and communication technology project connecting its 13 branches throughout the country with fibre optic cable. The project will connect TPA with Tanzania Tel ecommunications Company Ltd fibre optic cable through a system called multiprotocol label switching virtual private network.

A container depot at Dar es Salaam port.



Trucks transport goods from Mombasa port. Picture: File

Manufacturers to form regional body

By SCOLA KAMAU
Special Correspondent

MANUFACTURERS in the East African Community have resolved to establish their own lobby group to collectively tackle challenges the sector is facing.

Representatives from the five EAC member states meeting in Nairobi last week said the network will be mandated to provide solutions to business-related disputes and illicit trade and push for fast-tracking of the Industrialisation Strategy Bill in the regional assembly and harmonisation of VAT.

"Of particular concern is a review of the common external tariff, which should be based on the value chain and a tariff structure that encourages manufacturing in the region," said Betty Maina, Kenya Association of Manufacturers chief executive.

The two-day meeting in Nairobi was attended by executives from the five member states.

According to Ms Maina, the proposed network will incorporate all manufacturers in the EAC region as well as new entrants into the market.

"International and regional firms expanding their operations into East

Africa are members of more than one associations in the region but there is no association that brings all of them together as EAC manufacturers," said Ms Maina.

There has been a reduction in the average time taken to clear goods at the Mombasa port and transport them to Kampala from eight days to four days.

The Single Customs Territory, which was launched last year has sped up clearance of goods at border points, leading to an increase in trade volumes.

"For example, fuel imports into Uganda have increased from 32.1 million litres to 108 million litres due to this single measure," said Frank Matsaert, TMEA chief executive.

The network will monitor implementation of decisions made at the regional level.

The business community noted that failure to implement provisions of the EAC Treaty, protocols and Council of Ministers decisions, market access barriers, and limited understanding of the Common Market and Customs Union hinder the flow of goods across the region. The network will assess whether each member state has enough expertise on the Common Market to track implementation of the EAC Industrialisation Act.

FINANCIAL MISMANAGEMENT

Kemri sends 3 home, begins probe into scandal

Centre for Global Health Research director among those affected

By **ALLAN OLINGO**
The EastAfrican

The Kenya Medical Research Institute (Kemri) has sent three senior managers on leave as it starts investigations into claims of financial mismanagement after the budget of more than \$80 million was depleted prematurely, threatening key research projects and putting more than 1,000 members of staff at risk of losing their jobs.

The EastAfrican has learnt that the director for the Centre for Global Health Research at Kemri, Dr John Vulule, under whose docket the affected programmes fall, is among those sent on leave. Dr Pauline Mwinzi will take charge of the programmes in an acting capacity.

Kemri has been in the spotlight after it emerged that despite receiving 92 per cent of the current year's budget for programmes it runs jointly with the Atlanta-based Centres for Disease Control (CDC), it had spent nearly all the money with less than a month's operating cost left in its account, and five months left in the budget period.

CDC has been collaborating with Kemri for 36 years now in conducting human health research in malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/Aids, schistosomiasis and other emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases.



Kemri head office in Nairobi. Picture: File

These projects are covered under a Co-operative Agreement (CoAG) signed mutually between the two parties and runs for a period of five years on renewable terms. The current CoAG covers the period 2010-2015. The CoAG projects are based at the Kemri Centre for Global Health Research in Kisian, Kisumu.

Kemri corporate affairs manager Davis Mgoji said the organisation's board had instituted investigations into the matter and would issue a statement once it had established all the facts.

"Several allegations have been made concerning commingling of funds belonging to the Co-operative Agreement (CoAG) programme. That's the reason the board has initiated investigations," Mr Mgoji said.

A fortnight ago, *The EastAfrican* reported about Kemri's financial mismanagement on the CoAG, which was exposed by a confidential document from the premier institution's main donor, the Atlanta, US-based Centres for Disease Control (CDC).

Kemri, however, said that despite the budgetary shortfall, all the research activities are on course.

"The CoAG programme activities are ongoing and if there is any shortfall on the budget, we will establish that once the investigations are completed. However, we expect additional funding from CDC, as has been the practice, to ensure that there is smooth running of the critical programme activities to August,

\$80M WORRY

Kemri is said to have spent over \$80 million, leaving just enough for a month yet there are five months to go in the budget period.

The funds are off joint projects with CDC in human health research in malaria, Tuberculosis, HIV/Aids, schistosomiasis and other emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases.

2015 when the CoAG is expected to end," Mr Mgoji said.

However, it is understood that CDC is looking at emergency funding that would be used for specific projects.

CDC had requested Kemri to provide a "barebones" budget for activities that need to continue to avoid harm to patients and clinical trial participants. Such activities include HIV care and treatment. Some activities will need to continue to avoid loss of major investments.

"Within CDC Kenya, we are exploring funding options for the 'barebones' budget that will have to undergo review and approval from Atlanta," the document stated.

However, Mr Mgoji would not admit or deny receiving such a request, saying that it is only after the investigation by the board that such information can be responded to.

The EastAfrican has learnt that CDC has requested financial accounts for these programmes for auditing.

"We want to state categorically, that CDC has not been denied access to any financial accounts for these programmes for audit purposes. Indeed, the CoAG accounts are audited annually by a competent professional firm appointed by both CDC and Kemri. These accounts are available for audit verification by CDC or any other party that may wish to access them," Mr Mgoji said.

Kemri's board of management held a meeting with the staff under the CoAG programme in Kisumu on Friday to reassure them about the impact of the financial challenges and the audit it would undertake.



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Request for Proposal (RFP)

UNFPA/SOM/2015/0001

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UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund, an international development agency, is seeking qualified offers for the above-mentioned services. Your company is kindly invited to submit your best technical and financial offer for the requested services. Your bid could form the basis for a contract between your firm/institution and the UNFPA.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) Document and any future clarification documents can be obtained from the following links:

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OR

<https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice>

Bidders are requested to frequently check the above sites for any addenda that may be posted.

The proposal for the above advertisement must be received in a sealed envelope no later than **30th April 2015** at **1400HRS** clearly indicating the advertisement responded to as per the instructions on the documents and addressed to:

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United Nations Complex
Block P, Level 2, UN Avenue, Gigiri
P.O. Box 28832 - 00200
Nairobi, Kenya

'RFP/UNFPA/SOM2015/0001: CONSULTANCY FOR CPE - UNFPA SOMALIA CO. Closing date 30 Apr 2015'

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Please note that this advertisement is not to be construed in any way as an offer to contract with your firm. Furthermore, UNFPA reserves the right to reject part or all of the proposals.



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Campuses.

TOO BIG TO FAIL

Plans afoot to save struggling UTL from sinking as it is 'strategic,' says official

Govt scrambling bailout for telco, whose debt has exceeded assets

By GAAKI KIGAMBO
Special Correspondent

The Ugandan government has vowed not to allow troubled telecommunication firm UTL, in which it holds a 31 per cent stake, to collapse and is scrambling a bailout package whose details will be known in eight weeks.

"The government will not let this company sink," said David Nambale, the company's chief legal counsel. "I'm very sure about that."

"They will bail it out. How they do it I'm not at liberty to divulge but you will soon know. Remember Barack Obama's 'too big to fail'? This company is too strategic to the government to fail."

The assurances come on the back of mounting tension over the future of the telco, whose debt has overtaken the value of its assets.

The sector's regulator, the Uganda Communication Commission, had given UTL a stern notice in which it threatened to revoke the company's licence within 60 days. The notice asked UTL, Uganda's first full-fledged telco, to show cause why it should continue holding a licence given its financial condition.

A monitoring exercise conducted by the regulator in January and February revealed that UTL's liabilities, valued at Ush366 billion (\$120.5 million), far exceeded its total asset base of Ush220 billion (\$72.5 million) as at December 31, 2013.

Mr Nambale however attributed the firm's woes to the political climate in Libya.

Not a failing company

"UTL is not a failing company as has been claimed," said Mr Nambale. "You need to understand the environment in which it operates."

"What is required is recapitalisation. The company is owned by two sovereign governments, one of which, Libya, the major shareholder, is in a political crisis."



UTL is not a failing company as has been claimed. You need to understand the environment in which it operates."

David Nambale, UTL's chief legal counsel

A UTL billboard. The government is said to be working on a bailout plan for the telco. Picture: File

some spectrums illegally.

"UTL is not a going concern and is insistently making losses and is on the brink of collapse," states the notice of revocation of licence.

The worsening financial situation at UTL, coupled with its strained transition from Orange to Africell, has sparked debate about the vulnerability of Uganda's liberal telecoms policies that industry players have for a long time argued are not beneficial to it in the long-term.

The bleak scenario at these two foreign-owned operators has, therefore, renewed the necessity for further consolidation in order to correct market distortions, according to industry insiders and analysts. That will also make the sector more viable for the requisite number of operators, who should be no more than four.

"The challenge for every one of us is that Uganda is one of the most competitive markets in every aspect," said Brian Gouldie, chief executive officer of MTN, the leading telco in Uganda. "Eight licences for a country with a total addressable market of 37 million are actually quite a lot."

Indeed, Uganda presents quite an oddity in the region

with its volume of active licences vis-a-vis its population. Kenya, the biggest economy in East Africa, has only four active licences to an estimated 38 million people.

Rwanda, whose population is estimated at 11.7 mil-

lion, has three active licences while Tanzania, with 49 million people, has only five.

Farther afield, in Nigeria, Africa's biggest economy and its most populous, has only five operators for an estimated 180 million people.

FIELD BIG ENOUGH FOR ALL

According to a telecoms analyst at one of the four multinational audit firms, the Ugandan market is still big enough, especially in the data segment, for all the players in it so far. Yet, for UTL and Africell to survive, they have to find money to recapitalise as fast as they need to put together a robust value proposition

to existing and potential subscribers.

By the end of the first quarter of 2014, total mobile and fixed telephony subscriptions stood at 19.2 million, which translates into a teledensity of about 52.4 per cent. Between the last quarter of 2013 and the first of 2014, there were 800,000 new subscriptions.



Customers make inquiries at an MTN Mobile Money tent in Kampala. MTN is the leading telco in Uganda. Picture: File

In South Africa, arguably the most technologically advanced country on the continent, there are only three active licences for an estimated population of 51 million.

"The moral of this is that issuing licences does not result in competition if the licence does not result in investment in a network that can create sustainability of quality of service that the regulator wants, which then supports a viable process in terms of having a return on investment," noted Mr Gouldie.

If UTL has been lucky to deal with its financial woes in relative quiet, Africell has not had it so easy taking over Orange, whose financials are no different to UTL's.

The Lebanon-based telco, which has growing operations in Africa, acquired Orange last May but did not take control of it until November due to disagreements with the former owners and employees. The transition is a subject of multiple complaints involving the regulator, the Ministries of Labour and Internal Affairs, and even the Office of the Vice-President.

At the heart of the crisis is the sudden and brutal restructuring by the new management, which it insists was necessitated by the financial mess in the company.

"It is no secret that the company was sold because it was insolvent," Africell CEO Mohammad Ghaddar told *The EastAfrican*. "It was performing on the customer end but, from the internal end, from the financials and investors' end, it was not."

"The company was losing; that is why Orange had to sell it, because they were not able to make it profitable. Even the auditors said it was a non-going concern. The model that was implemented by Orange was not viable."

In all the five years Orange operated in Uganda, it never posted a profit; its losses have grown year on year, the worst being 2010 when it plunged Ush143 billion (\$47.1 million) into the red.

By 2012, the losses had halved the \$200 million (Ush589 billion at the current exchange rates) initial capital injection that parent company France Telecom made in 2009. By 2013, Orange's debt obligations to its shareholders slightly surpassed the capital injection.

To arrest the situation, some supplier/vendor contracts were either frozen or reviewed and 59 middle-level and senior managers sacked.

STRINGENT MEASURES

Rwanda to abolish VAT breaks for investors

New investment code still offers tax holidays and zero rates for strategic sectors

By **BERNA NAMATA**
The EastAfrican

Rwanda's standing as East Africa's most attractive foreign investment destination will be tested as the government implements reforms that will abolish some tax exemptions to businesses in the next financial year.

In the new investment code awaiting signing by President Paul Kagame, the Cabinet will no longer grant a blanket discretionary incentive package, and investment certificate holders will no longer get value added tax exemptions, *The EastAfrican* has learnt.

All incentives related to Customs duties will be reformed in line with EAC regulations, and general investment thresholds will no longer apply and will instead be granted to specific sectors.

Investors will no longer get profit tax discounts depending on the number of employees hired.

Stringent measures

Although the new investment code offers tax holidays and zero rates for the country's strategic sectors, stringent measures have been put in place for investors to qualify for the incentives.

The decision to abolish some generous tax exemptions comes in the wake of concerns raised by the International Monetary Fund that the country is forgoing too much revenue in its bid to woo investors.

Over the years, Kigali has dished out a raft of tax exemptions that experts warn are denying the country revenue.

They argue that tax holidays and similar advantages have served to undermine public finances without necessarily increasing the level of foreign direct investment.

Rwanda's private investment portfolio, estimated at 12 per cent of GDP, is relatively low, with government still the largest investor and employer.

The experts argue that cutting down exemptions will help the government reduce dependence on donor aid and create the fiscal space for development spending.

Tax revenue in Rwanda,



An irrigation project in Eastern Rwanda. Agriculture is one third of GDP but contributes less than 6 per cent of taxes. Picture: File

estimated at 14 per cent of GDP, is still low by several standards — including the East African Community convergence criteria of 25 per cent of GDP. The target is to increase this to 17 per cent of GDP in the 2015/16 financial year.

Over the last six months of 2014, tax and non-tax revenue collections were Rwf406.3 billion (\$589.7 million), five per cent below the Rwf427.9 billion (\$621.1 million) target. Experts say the targets are too ambitious, and higher than what the economy can afford.

The economy has registered impressive growth over the past decade, with an average of over seven per cent, but this has been largely driven by government expenditure as opposed to private

investment.

The issue in Rwanda is not so much about raising the tax rate, but collecting from the sectors that are not contributing.

“For instance, agriculture, which is one third of GDP, contributes less than 6 per cent of taxes; real estate and immovable property tax contributes less than it should,” an economist who did not want to be named told *The EastAfrican*.

The government has now undertaken feasibility studies to facilitate the introduction of new tax regimes for mining, agriculture, and immovable property.

New incentives to private sector to boost exports

In the new code, the government plans to offer incentives such as tax holidays for up to seven years for large scale investors bringing in a minimum of \$50,000,000, and contributing at least 30 per cent of the investment in form of equity to priority sectors like export oriented projects, manufacturing and energy.

Investors in products used in export processing zones will be exempted from Customs taxes and duties, according to the provisions of the East African Customs Protocol.

“If the incentives are to encourage exports, energy, manufacturing, it will be the right move because what the country needs is more exports than imports, and there are stringent rules to qualify for the incentives,” said Paul Frobisher Mugambwa, a senior manager for tax services at PricewaterhouseCoopers Rwanda.

Rwanda's traditional ex-

sult of poor performance in the mining and tea sectors. Imports, however, rose by 6.8 per cent, increasing the country's trade deficit by 7.5 per cent from \$1,674.38 million to \$1,799.54 million.

The government is especially keen to attract investors in export-oriented projects in service sub-sectors, including the information and communications technology and financial sectors.

Investors in the microfinance sector will get up to a five-year tax holiday.

In addition, the country has slashed its corporate income tax rate of 30 per cent to 15 per cent for strategic sectors; the investor has to export at least 50 per cent of turnover of goods and services produced in Rwanda, including business processing outsourcing and the energy sector, in order to qualify.

To encourage value addition in the export sector, an export company will only benefit from the 15 per cent corporation tax if it has added value of at least 30 per cent to its exports.

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TEACHING, NOT MINTING CASH

Varsities to lose out as govt shuts diploma and certificate lecture halls

Universities should concentrate on core mandate of offering degrees and conducting research, some say

By JAMES ANYANZWA
The EastAfrican

The full impact of a move by the Kenyan government to bar universities from offering diplomas and certificates will be felt in two months when more than 80,000 qualified students miss places in the available middle-level colleges and universities experience sudden drops in revenues.

Education Cabinet Secretary Prof Jacob Kaimenyi said he is set to have amendments to the University Act 2012 tabled in parliament to that effect.

"Somebody amended the

University Act to allow universities to have certificate and diploma courses," Prof Kaimenyi told *The EastAfrican*. "We are going to seek rescission of the amendment of the law once parliament is out of recess."

The move is informed by the argument that universities should concentrate on their core mandate of offering degrees and conducting research. It is estimated that between 10 and 25 per cent of the university population in Kenya is comprised of diploma and certificate students.

"We want the universities to focus on what they do best, their central core, and that is

higher learning," Prof Kaimenyi said. "We don't want a situation where we will create antagonism between colleges and universities."

The University Act 2012 abolished the Commission for Higher Education and replaced it with the Commission for University Education (CUE), which is mandated to exclusively manage degree programmes. Diploma and certificate programmes are now regulated by the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA).

The CUE said running degree courses together with diploma and certificate programmes compromises university standards.

"The work of a university is production of new knowledge," the commission's chief executive, Prof David Some,



Some of the University of Nairobi graduands follow the proceedings at the institution's 52nd graduation ceremony last December. Picture: File

told *The EastAfrican*. "Offering diplomas is going backward in the universality of knowledge."

"To me, really, it makes a lot of sense for universities to concentrate on production of new knowledge. In other countries, universities don't offer diplomas."

Prof Some added that the Universities Regulations (2014) do not allow universities to offer diploma and certificate courses, which puts them in conflict with the 2012 Act. This contradiction is to be corrected through the University Amendment Bill (2015).

The university regulations state June 30 this year as the date for barring new intakes though continuing students will be allowed to complete their courses.

"This Bill is meant to make corrections to the miscellaneous amendments that allow universities to issue diplomas and certificate courses," said Prof Some. "It will now be subjected to stakeholder consultations."

Academics agree that this is the way to go but some took issue with the manner in which the change will be implemented.

"I think one of the major problems we are having with the Ministry of Education is that it is shortsighted and wanting to micromanage our university principles," said Dr Samuel Nyandemo, a senior lecturer at the University of Nairobi's School of Economics. "Whereas this policy is

a good idea, it is only good for the longterm and requires some time for implementation."

"Our middle level colleges lack both the human and institutional capacity to absorb all diploma and certificate students. What the government needs to do is first to build capacity in these colleges and empower them adequately with human resource before they are allowed to admit more students."

Our middle level colleges lack both the human and institutional capacity to absorb all diploma and certificate students."

Dr Samuel Nyandemo, senior lecturer at the University of Nairobi's School of Economics

He added that, should middle-level colleges be unable to absorb all diploma and certificate students, the universities should step in.

"Stopping diploma and certificate courses in Kenyan universities will ultimately lead to a mass exodus of students to other universities in neighbouring countries, particularly Uganda," said Dr Nyandemo.

Mount Kenya University chairman Simon Gicharu said he hoped for consultation before the amendment

Bill is taken to Parliament.

"There is no regulatory framework that bars universities, both public and private, from offering these courses and if the law has to be amended, we need to be consulted so that we can discuss its pros and cons," said Mr Gicharu. "As a stakeholder in education, what I would like to see is a streamlined and vibrant post-secondary education."

"The decision to phase out diplomas and certificates from universities must be informed by a study. What will happen to the new universities that have come up and which were offering diploma and certificate courses?"

Both private and public universities in Kenya offer diplomas to about 10,000 students. This is the number that would have to squeeze into the available 50 public colleges and private institutions, some of which have come under scrutiny over the quality of their programmes. Many more could seek slots in universities in the region that still offer diploma and certificate courses.

It is instructive that a notice by the Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service last week showed that 150,000 students who sat the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education examination last year attained the minimum C+ grade required for admission in public universities.

However, only the 67,000 who scored a B of 60 points

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for males and, affirmatively, B- of 58 points for females will be admitted to degree programmes. This will leave 83,000 students scrambling for the more expensive parallel degree courses.

Another 130,000 students who attained the mean grade of C- required for admission to diploma courses will compete for the 41,550 places available in public colleges. Those who miss out will be left looking for opportunities in private colleges that offer diplomas and certificates but are more expensive.

The notice did not allocate universities any diploma places, which helped to increase the degree intake by 10,000.

According to Dr Em-

manuel Manyasa, a lecturer at Kenyatta University's School of Economics, universities should concentrate on their core mandate of producing professionals and adding to the range of knowledge, rather than making money from tertiary courses.

"That is a decision that is long overdue," he said. "Universities should never be competing with middle-level colleges as this will only paint them in a bad light."

"This was a mistake in the first place."

Kenyan universities fear they will lose millions of dollars in fees and other charges levied on diploma and certificate learners once the Act is amended.

The EastAfrican has es-

tablished that some universities stand to lose more than \$3 million annually, putting a major dent in their operational budgets.

For example, the University of Nairobi has churned out 9,571 diploma holders in the past five years (2010-2014), translating into close to 2,000 annually. This excludes certificate holders, some of whom are released into the labour market after every three months. The university charges between \$1,075 and \$1,612 for diploma courses in the Faculty of Arts and \$505 for certificate courses.

East African residents doing diploma courses at Kenyatta University pay \$774 while non-residents pay \$1,344, depending on the programme.

At Mount Kenya University, one of the largest privately chartered institutions of higher learning in East Africa, diploma courses go for about \$430 per semester.

The amendment has raised questions whether mid-level colleges have the capacity to accommodate the growing number of students who qualify for diploma and certificate every year as well as degree holders who pursue post-graduate diplomas to enhance their career prospects.

The government however maintains that the directive is a boost to the technical and tertiary institutions but has huge financial implication for universities, which have been minting millions of dollars in fees from

students pursuing these courses.

"There is a raging debate over this issue that has not been concluded," said Emily Maina, the acting director-general, TVETA.

The decree is widely expected to meet with stiff opposition from university administrators, who have seen funding from the central government dwindle and are increasingly turning to commercial activities such as hospitals complete with morgues, farming and consultancies to make ends meet. Fees from diploma and certificate courses, as well as parallel degree programmes for those who do not qualify for the government-sponsored stream, have also come in handy.

Internationally, universities supplement their incomes through endowments from industries and other philanthropists but this is yet to pick up in Kenya.

Kenya's technical and tertiary institutions have been facing dwindling demand because of the growing influence of universities.

Several colleges — including those offering specialised courses, such as the former Kenya Science Teachers College — have been taken over by universities while others have entered into partnerships to offer selected university programmes.

Sought court injunction

The Kenya National Association of Private Colleges (Kenapco) last week sought an injunction from the courts to restrain universities from admitting students for diploma, certificate and bridging courses. They also want the CUE not to license universities to offer mid-level courses forthwith.

Kenya has 52 universities and 748 tertiary colleges, according to the country's *Annual Economic Survey* (2014).

Kenyan universities have been given a target to produce at least 1,000 PhD graduates every year to improve the competitiveness of the country in human resource development. University enrolment rose by 34.9 per cent to 324,560 in 2013 from 240,551 in 2012.

Plans are under way to harmonise the education system in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi so as to encourage mobility of students and workers across the region as part of the East African Community integration.

Part of the proposed harmonisation is the establishment of a full-fledged credit transfer system that will allow students to move between universities in different countries without losing credits already accumulated.



Kiira EV Smack, built by Makerere University engineering students, on display at KICC, Nairobi, in November. Pic: Salaton Njau

Uganda universities to continue offering diploma, certificate courses, says council

A JOINT REPORT

The EastAfrican

UGANDAN UNIVERSITIES will continue offering diploma and certificate courses, the country's higher education regulator has said.

Prof John Opuda-Asibo, the executive director at the National Council for Higher Education, told *The EastAfrican* that the government had no intention to bar the institutions from offering the intermediate courses as Kenya plans to do from June.

"At the moment, our universities are free to offer education to students from the certificate to PhD levels," Prof Opuda-Asibo said. "It is upon these universities to phase out some courses based on, possibly, costs and teaching, and some of them are already doing that."

Prof Opuda-Asibo said some courses, such as the higher diploma in engineering, cannot be left to colleges because they require skilled instructors, especially mathematicians. He said Uganda was still in dire need of skills at the technical level, which universities are better equipped to develop.

More certificates, diplomas

"In principle, we need to have more graduates with certificates and diplomas compared with those with degrees," Prof Opuda-Asibo added. "However, that is not the case as we have more degree holders than those with lower qualifications."

There are 33 institutions of higher learning in Uganda which turn out 400,000 graduands every year.

Last month, Makerere University announced that it had stopped accrediting diploma courses and was working to phase out at least six such courses offered directly. It said the move would cut costs and allow faculty

to concentrate on improving the quality of higher degrees.

The affected courses, according to the university data, are diplomas in library and information studies; record and archive management; project planning and management; youth in development network; performing arts; and civil engineering survey.

Students taking certificate and diploma courses in Uganda pay an average of Ush1.4 million (\$460) compared with Ush3 million (\$1,000) and more per year for a bachelor's degree.

Rwanda has a specialist system, where eight public tertiary institutions offer degrees and another 12 diplomas and certificates. There are also 18 private institutions.

Latest statistics indicate that, in 2013, some 68,246 students were awarded degrees, 12,430 diplomas and 127 certificates from the local institutions of higher learning. There were also 335 students who received postgraduate certificates, 697 post graduate diplomas, 2,601 second degrees and a dozen doctorates. Demand for diploma and certificate courses is low in Rwanda as many people prefer degrees.

Tuition fees in foreign institutions, such as Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and Mount Kenya University, are slightly higher than those of the University of Rwanda, the only public university in the country. An undergraduate day student pays around Rwf900,000 (\$1,305) at MKU compared with between Rwf400,000 (\$580) and Rwf600,000 (\$870) in rival institutions. A self-sponsored student at the UR pays Rwf650,000 (\$943) per year for tuition.

Reported by Isaac Khisa and Rodrigue Rwirahira

REVENUE STREAM AT RISK

The University of Nairobi has produced 9,571 diploma holders between 2010 and 2014, excluding certificate holders. The UoN charges between \$1,075 and \$1,612 for diploma courses in the Faculty of Arts and \$505

for certificate courses. Kenyatta University charges East African residents \$774 for diploma courses while non-residents pay \$1,344. The private Mount Kenya University charges \$430 per semester for diploma courses.



Mount Kenya University head Simon Gicharu is awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree by Gulu University Vice-Chancellor Prof Nyeko Pen-Mogi. Picture: File

ANTI-FOREIGNER ATTACKS

Unemployment and poverty blamed for xenophobic violence in Rainbow Nation

Kenya prepares to evacuate nationals, Nigeria warns of retaliatory measures and China formally complains

By **TREVOR ANALO**

The EastAfrican

East African nationals are among victims of xenophobic violence that broke out last week in Durban, South Africa and extended to other parts of the country.

As the attacks spread to Johannesburg on Friday, Kenya announced plans to evacuate its nationals, with the Foreign Cabinet Secretary Amina Mohammed saying they are keenly following the events in South Africa.

The attacks, which have mostly targeted foreigners, have increased in the past few days, forcing foreign-owned shops and businesses in Johannesburg to close down.

Unemployed black South Africans, who accuse African immigrants of taking their jobs, have been blamed for the attacks meant to force foreign African nationals to go back to their homelands.

At least six foreigners, among them a 14-year-old boy, were killed and 10,000 displaced.

South African authorities

have made efforts to repulse the mobs since the violence broke out, with 12 people arrested overnight as anti-foreigner attacks spread to parts of downtown Johannesburg.

"Twelve suspects were arrested for trying to break into foreign-owned shops," said police spokesman Lt-Col Lungelo Dlamini.

According to reports, the protesters from a local hostel demanded foreign nationals leave South Africa, setting cars alight and clashing with police.

No injuries were reported, said Dlamini.

The areas remained tense Friday morning, with hostel-dwellers telling reporters they wanted immigrants to know they were not welcome in the country.

President Jacob Zuma condemned the violence in parliament.

Frustration or anger

"No amount of frustration or anger can ever justify the attacks on foreign nationals and the looting of their shops," he said on Thursday night.

Tanzanian media reported the deaths of two Tanzanians in the violence that rocked Durban on Tuesday.

But the country's High Commissioner to South Africa, Elibahati Ngoyai Lowassa, said he was yet to receive official confirmation whether the deaths

Armed anti-immigrant crusaders march in the Jeppestown suburb of Johannesburg on Friday. Pic: AFP



were connected to the anti-immigrant attacks.

He said the High Commission only has information about a shop belonging to a Tanzanian, which was set ablaze in Durban during the violence.

Kenya's Foreign Ministry said no Kenyan had been attacked, but confirmed that some had sought refuge in camps.

There are about 800 Kenyans living in Durban, 100 of them working in the informal sector. The majority are students and faculty members at the Kwa Zulu Natal University on the outskirts of Durban.

A note to Ugandans living in South Africa by their High Commission advised them not to live

"a very conspicuous lifestyle that annoys the public," among other guidelines on what to do as the violence escalated.

The High Commission noted that there were no Ugandan casualties, but said African ambassadors were working with the authorities in Pretoria on how to resolve the violence.

The recent outbreak of xenophobic violence has been linked to comments by Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini, who said that foreign migrants in the country were taking South Africans' jobs and that they should "pack their belongings and go."

That is believed to have fanned the violence in Durban, where Zulus constitute the larg-



No amount of frustration or anger can ever justify the attacks on foreign nationals and the looting of their shops."

Jacob Zuma, SA President

est ethnic group, and led to the worst scenes of unrest since January, when looters burnt down foreign-owned stores during clashes that led to four deaths.

The grim images of what amounted to pogroms on the streets cast a permanent shadow

The trouble with South Africa will not be traced to the spaza

THIS WEEK, Africa has been gripped by the horrifying images coming out of South Africa, in which thousands of foreigners have been hounded out of their homes and businesses by xenophobic mobs and forced to take refuge in police stations and camps.

The common narrative in trying to explain — or at least understand — these attacks, is that foreigners (mostly black Africans) have flooded South Africa, taking away the jobs and opportunities of the locals.

South Africa's political, economic and social problems are many, complex and layered, and it is futile trying to outline them all in one article.

But there is something in the structure of the South African economy that partly explains its shocking inequality and crime,

ANALYSIS CHRISTINE MUNGAI

"It is curious that a country of South Africa's size could have so much capital in its financial markets."

sluggish growth, and why the African National Congress government has struggled to deliver on its promises of prosperity; hence the scapegoating of "foreign" Africans.

It starts not in the spaza shops of the Durban or Johannesburg, but on the floor of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

A few weeks ago, reports out of South Africa indicated that the

number of initial public offerings on the stockmarket in the first quarter of 2015 accelerated to levels not seen since the global financial crisis, as the benchmark index rose to a record and companies

took advantage of the rally — even as the broader economy is in the doldrums.

In 2014, there were two IPOs in the first quarter; in 2013 just one; and none in 2012.

It seems paradoxical that the stockmarket would be doing so well, considering the rest of the economy is almost stagnating, with growth rates now less than 2 per

cent and unemployment almost 25 per cent.

While the rand has declined 2.4 per cent against the dollar this year, the stockmarket climbed 6.1 per cent and touched a record in February. In effect, the JSE bears little resemblance to the economy.

But, far from being an aberration, the disconnect between what happens on the JSE and in the wider South African economy is the key in understanding the country's structural problems.

Mining is considered the backbone of South Africa's economy, and, historically, gold and diamond mines were central in making the country the richest on the African continent. But today, the South African economy is driven by its financial sector, which, relative to the economy at large, is one of the

largest in the world.

Data from the World Bank shows that South Africa has the third-biggest market capitalisation, relative to GDP (160 per cent) second only to Hong Kong and Switzerland.

Market capitalisation of the JSE is nearly three times the country's GDP. It is curious that a country of South Africa's size and population could have so much capital concentrated in its financial markets.

The reason for this is rooted in the apartheid era, where mining barons would not easily stash their profits outside the country, and so ended up accumulating it within the economy, particularly in the stockmarkets.

The effect is a Dutch disease of sorts, where money multiplies itself endlessly on the stockmarkets, therefore, there is little incen-



on the narrative of multi-ethnic and racial harmony associated with Nelson Mandela's Rainbow Nation.

Other than Zimbabwe, whose nationals have been the targets of previous xenophobic attacks, immigrants from Mozambique, Malawi, Nigeria, Somalia, Tanzania and Ethiopia have been affected by the current wave of xenophobic violence.

As frustrations grow over high unemployment and lack of opportunities, successful foreign African migrants have become easy targets of these attacks from young black South Africans.

South Africa's unemployment is currently at 25 per cent, but

experts suggest the real figure could be much higher.

The size of the migrant population in South Africa is about 5 million and the majority of them come from Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

Illegal immigration

Xenophobia in multiracial South Africa is a complex problem, layered over with the country's history of apartheid as well as its peculiar relationship with the rest of the African continent. There are genuine frustrations over the scale of illegal immigration to the country.

One in four people in South Africa is jobless, and this, combined with widespread poverty,



Foreign nationals march to the City Hall of Durban, calling for tolerance and peace. Picture: AFP

RESIDENTS STAND WITH VICTIMS

On Thursday, concerned groups and religious leaders participated in march in solidarity with foreign nationals in Durban, where most of the latest attacks took place. Al Jazeera's producer Mukelwa Hlatshwayo spoke to some of the marchers.

Nosipho Hadebe, resident of KwaZulu-Natal

"What I see happening in our townships is not right, because the foreigners are also people and they helped us during our struggle. They should not be killed."

Andile Thebe, 21-year-old student

"How can one kill someone just because they are foreign?"

Avastha Singh, Durban resident

"It's about time people stood up for our brothers and sisters because we are Africans. Xenophobia should not be tolerated."

easily feeds into anti-immigrant feelings.

Africans are baffled by the attacks. The attacks are mostly directed towards African migrants running shops and small businesses.

The African Centre for Migration and Society says 78.1 per cent of migrants in South Africa are Africans, 17 per cent are whites and 3.2 per cent are Asians.

Employ locals

But the notion that enterprising Africans come to compete for jobs with unemployed black South Africans has been challenged by a recent study by the Johannesburg-based Gauteng City-Region Observatory, which said that most African migrants with small businesses actually employ more locals.

The study interviewed about 263 migrant traders in Johannesburg and found that they

created 1,223 jobs, 500 of which went to South Africans.

In Soweto, the 131 migrant traders interviewed created 224 jobs. More than 100 of these jobs were held by South Africans.

According to the study, the perception that foreign shop owners are crowding out local traders was not based on facts, as eight out of 10 (82 per cent) informal business owners were South Africans. In the formal sector, nine out of 10 (87 per cent) business owners were South Africans.

Early this year, foreign shopkeepers in and around Soweto, south of Johannesburg, were forced to vacate their premises after violence and looting broke out.

Becoming frustrated

In 2008, post-apartheid South Africa saw its worst xenophobic attacks when more than 60 people, mostly foreigners from other African countries, were killed.

African governments are becoming frustrated with the slow response of President Zuma's administration to the wave of attacks on foreign nationals living in South Africa, and some have been forced to take action on their own.

Malawi and Kenya have announced plans to evacuate their nationals while a senior official of Nigeria's newly elected All Progressive Congress (APC), Tolu Adesanya, announced that they had asked South African authorities to end the violence or else Abuja will close down South African-owned businesses.

South African companies such as cellphone company MTN, retail giant Shoprite, satellite TV provider MultiChoice and cement giant AfriSam have branches across the continent.

China's Foreign Ministry has already made formal complaints to South Africa over attacks against its nationals. Scores of shops owned by Chinese nationals have been looted during the latest wave of violence.

Additional reporting by AFP, Washington Post-Bloomberg

shops, but to the floor of the JSE

tive to direct it into the productive economy — resulting in "jobless growth" and outsized gains for investors in the financial markets, who can comfortably live off interest accrued from their financial assets and do not necessarily have to build anything in the labour-absorbing economy in order to create wealth.

The end of apartheid meant even better fortunes for the financial sector. Since 1994, South Africa's already large and sophisticated financial services sector has grown from 15.3 per cent of GDP to 21.4 per cent of GDP in 2009.

The informal sector accounts for just 15 per cent of jobs, compared with 70-80 per cent in East Africa.

The reason, again, goes back to the white-dominated economy that apartheid created, where the

majority black population was only valuable for their labour, so any entrepreneurial self-sufficiency in the black community was stifled, in order to channel them into the wage economy.

The ANC came to power with promises of redistribution and social justice, but big businesses won the day. The administration has largely been faithful to the inflation-targeting, economic liberalisation model, with a few (often politically-connected) blacks allocated rents in the form of the Black Economic Empowerment Programme, but the overall structure has remained intact.

The over-formalisation presents a situation where a *mama mboga* (vegetable retailer) is expected to get a food handling inspection licence, pay corporate tax, pay the

official minimum wage and provide health insurance for her assistant before being allowed to open a shop.

There is no space in such an economy for *boda boda* riders or *mitumba* (second-hand clothes) sellers, and so, no wriggle room to quickly accommodate the mostly black young people coming of age every year.

Over-financialisation means there is little pressure to create formal sector jobs, and over-formalisation means there is little ability to create informal sector jobs.

It means that the black person has very narrow options if they want to make a living — and in comes xenophobia and crime.

Christine Mungai is senior reporter of Mail & Guardian Africa



Visitors monitor trading at the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. Picture: AFP

SPILLOVER EFFECT

Tension in Burundi could raise EA risk profile

Investors are likely to either close shop or suspend operations in the country

A JOINT REPORT
The EastAfrican

The current political tension in Burundi in the countdown to the presidential elections in June could not only derail the country's economic progress, but also threatens to undermine regional economic integration.

Analysts warn that the tension, which has led to at least 6,000 people fleeing the country to Rwanda, could raise the risk profile of the region and dampen investor confidence in Burundi, a country that is under pressure to attract investment to support economic recovery after 13 years of civil war that ended in 2006. Businesses and investors are likely to go back to the drawing board either to close shop or suspend operations in the country should the political situation deteriorate further.

The presidential election is set to take place on June 26, with the campaigns expected to start only two weeks to the voting day. Political parties are expected to announce their presidential candidates from April 30 to May 9. This is when it will be clear if President Pierre Nkurunziza will run for another term.

Thousands of Burundians continue to flee the country as tensions rise over intimidation and violence perpetrated mainly by the militia, Imbonerakure, the youth wing of the ruling National Council for the Defence of Democracy-Forces for the Defence of Democracy (CNDD-FDD) party, which wants President Nkurunziza to seek another term in office.

The 2000 Arusha Accord that ended the country's 13-year civil war limits a president to two five-year terms



Burundian refugees arrive at the reception centre of Gashora in Bugesera, eastern Rwanda on April 3. Picture: AFP

in office. Those who support another term for President Nkurunziza argue that his first term was not as an elected leader.

Last week, a demonstration in Bujumbura against another term turned violent after police used teargas and water cannons to disperse crowds. The demonstration was led by opposition leaders, including the former president's spokesman Leonidas Hatungimana and Nyakuri Jean Minani of the Frodebu political party.

"This is the beginning of the march. What we want is for the president not to run for the third term since this will be against the Burundi Constitution and the Arusha agreement," said Mr Minani.

Former members of CNDD-FDD, who were expelled from their political party for signing the petition against the incumbent's third term, have joined the opposition.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, has called on the government to clamp down on the Imbonerakure.

"Over the past two days, the number crossing the border has soared to 1,000 people

per day. Several of those who have left have told the UN explicitly that their reason for leaving were the actions of the militia," said Mr Hussein.

The UN secretary General Ban Ki Moon last week met Burundi Internal Affairs Minister Edward Nduwimana and expressed his concerns about the rising political tensions in the country.

"Burundians should resolve their political differences through dialogue and without resorting to violence," said the Secretary General during the meeting with Edward Nduwimana in New York.

President Nkurunziza spent two days of his visit in the northern part of the country, where many of the citizens were reported to have been increasingly crossing the border to the neighbouring Rwanda. During his address, President Nkurunziza said that anyone caught disseminating false information that is threatening and causing citizens to flee the country will be arrested.

"There is ongoing propaganda that the country is insecure. What I can assure you is that we are going into these elections peacefully. Burundi will not go back to war after this hard-won peace and God is the witness," said President Nkurunziza.

In Bujumbura, four people were arrested including two university students accused of insulting the head of state and later transferred to Mpimba Central Prison.

"No one knows when, where and how these students committed the offence," said

BUSINESS ANGLE

While Rwanda and Tanzania are likely to feel the pinch of political tensions in Burundi more than their counterparts in East Africa due to their closer trade ties, the rest of the region is not immune. Kenya and Uganda, which have significant business interests in the country, could be affected.

Trade experts also believe that should the political situation continue to worsen, it is likely to

reduce the market for Rwanda's exports, and the existing business opportunities.

While definite figures are not available, Burundi remains Rwanda's second largest market for non-traditional exports, mainly agro-processed products within Central and East African after Democratic Republic of Congo.

Rwanda also re-exports petroleum products and vehicles to the country.

Dieudonné Bashirahishize, then defence lawyer.

Twenty-five civil society organisations have sent a letter to the UN Secretary General expressing fear and seeking a resolution compelling the Burundian army to disarm the Imbonerakure militia and approve a UN military intervention to prevent crimes against humanity being committed.

Impact of tension

But tensions continue to rise. Recently two members of CNDD-FDD found offensive paintings on their houses against Nkurunziza's third term.

Journalists have not been spared either. Recently, a Bonesha FM radio journalist escaped a bomb attack that targeted his home, while some say they have received threats from anonymous persons.

The impact of the tension is being felt beyond Burundi.

"Investors feel insecure not only for their lives but are also concerned about the survival of their businesses as people start leaving the coun-

try. It also makes it difficult to focus on work," said Eric Rutabana, the chief investment officer at Business Partners International Rwanda.

The crisis could negatively affect cross-border trade and derail regional projects and undermining the ongoing economic integration process.

Of particular concern is the Northern Corridor project. During the 9th Northern Corridor Integration Projects summit that was held in Kigali on March 7, Burundi announced full involvement after participating in previous events as observers.

It is not clear whether the country will still go ahead and officially commit to 14 ongoing projects at the forthcoming summit in Kampala in May.

"We are concerned about the instability and refugee crisis as neighbours, but we do not yet know which projects are likely to be affected because Burundi is yet to inform the summit about the specific projects it would like to be involved in. They

also have to first accede to the memorandum of understanding (MoUs) that have already been signed including the defence pact," Monique Mukaruliza, Rwanda's co-ordinator of Northern Corridor Integration projects, told *The East African*.

There are also fears within the Rwandan private sector that the ongoing crisis could further complicate an already difficult business environment for Rwandan importers and exporters.

Rwandan businesses accuse Burundian police of corruption, saying they extort bribes that increase the cost of doing business.

"People already have reservations about the business environment in Burundi because it is becoming increasingly difficult. For instance, to get a power connection requires one to bribe a number of officials. The current political tensions are making the situation worse," a member of the Rwandan private sector said on condition of anonymity.

Trade experts believe that should the political situation in Burundi continue to worsen, it is likely to reduce the market for Rwanda's exports, and the existing business opportunities.

"Our hope is that it does not get out of control, otherwise it will not only hinder cross-border trade but also regional efforts to formalise informal trade along the borders," said John Bosco Kanyagoga, a regional and international trade expert.

By Berna Namata, Moses Havyarimana, Alex Ngarambe and Isaac Khisa.

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Safety Net & Skills Development (SNSDP) (P143915)

Credit No. 5284-SS

Assignment Title: Consultancy services to develop M&E and MIS Systems for beneficiary registry and capturing other project information
Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan for Consultancy Services): Item 4

- The Government of the Republic of South Sudan (GoRSS)** has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Safety Net and Skills Development Project (SNSDP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The objective of SNSDP is to provide access to income opportunities and temporary employment to the poor and vulnerable and put in place building blocks for a social protection system.
- The consulting services ("the Services") include Consultancy services to develop M&E and MIS Systems for Beneficiary registry and capturing other project information. The objective of this consultancy is to design, develop and maintain an online MIS application for Phase 1 of Skills Development component of SNSDP. The objective of the skills development component is to provide youth from poor and vulnerable households with access to livelihood opportunities.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives & Rural Development (MoAFCD) now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:
 - At least 5 years' experience in software development
 - At least 3 years of experience in designing and developing online MIS systems for skills development projects for National or State Governments or World Bank supported projects.
- The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers dated January 2011 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interest related to this assignment: Bank policy requires that consultants provide professional, objective, and impartial advice and at all times hold the client's interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and that in providing advice they avoid conflicts with other assignments and their own corporate interests. Consultants shall not be hired for any assignment that would be in conflict with their prior or current obligations to other clients, or that may place them in a position of being unable to carry out the assignment in the best interest of the Borrower.
- Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.
- A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultants' Qualification Selection (CQS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines dated January, 2011.
- Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours **Monday - Friday, from 9:00 A.M. to 16:00 P.M.**
- Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by **30th April, 2015**.

Prof. Mathew Gordon Udo
Under Secretary for Finance
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry,
Cooperatives & Rural Development
Ministries Complex
RSS-Juba
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WRONGFULLY HELD

Report calls for Djibouti to take responsibility for rendition

Human rights groups say the country allowed the CIA to use its territory for detention and torture

By **TREVOR ANALO**
The EastAfrican

A new report before the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) states that Djibouti should be held accountable for the role it played in a CIA programme of rendition, secret detention and torture during the US administration of George W. Bush.

The three human-rights

groups behind the report — UK-based Justice Forum and Kenya-based Haki Africa and International Commission of Jurists — say Djibouti allowed the CIA to use its territory to conduct the programme after the September 11, 2001 attacks by Al Qaeda on New York City and Washington DC.

"Djibouti appears to have functioned as a key staging post for prisoners being

transferred out of East Africa to locations within the wider secret prison system, in particular CIA and US military facilities in Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay," the report states.

Last year, a leaked report on the US Senate inquiry into the agency's rendition programme confirmed that several individuals from East and the Horn of Africa had been detained in Djibouti.

According to the Senate Intelligence Committee, Djibouti hosted CIA "black sites" where detainees from Africa were temporarily held and tortured before being transferred to either Afghanistan or Guantanamo Bay.

Black sites are prisons operated by the CIA outside the jurisdiction of the United States, and the detainees have no rights other than those given to them by their captors.

The families of the men detained by the CIA receive no news about the whereabouts of their kin.

The wife of one of the detainees said, "We never received any news of his whereabouts or any information about his health, except for terrifying rumours."

The report says Djibouti was a major rendition hub in Africa, where six nationals from Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia and Yemen were held "incommunicado, subjecting them to torture and inhuman treatment" for several months.

The detainees were denied the opportunity to challenge the legality of their detention in a foreign land, or even access to legal counsel.

Authorities in Djibouti allowed CIA agents to hold and interrogate the foreign prisoners using unlawful torture techniques described by the CIA itself as "enhanced interrogation techniques," violating basic human rights and decency.

Wrongful detention

US officials privy to the confidential Senate report have previously said that at least two of the detainees in Djibouti "had been wrongfully detained."

One of those who went through the CIA programme, Mohammed al-Asad, a Yemeni living in Tanzania, was arrested in his Dar es Salaam home in December 2003 and flown to a secret prison in Djibouti. He says he was tortured for two weeks, and wrongfully detained in a series of "black sites" in Afghanistan and Eastern Europe before being jailed in his country Yemen in 2005, where he was released without any charges of terrorism-related crimes.

More than 10 years since his abduction in Tanzania, Mr al-Asad is still seeking justice for the many months he suffered in detention. His case against Djibouti is before the ACHPR, which recently ruled that case could not go forward because of Djibouti's denials of involvement. However, with the recent revelations of Djibouti's involvement, the commission could review its ruling.



A US marine walks in Camp Lemonnier, the US military base in Djibouti. Djibouti has been accused of using its territory to conduct a CIA programme of rendition. Picture: AFP



The abuses committed by CIA partners must no longer be hidden behind a veil of official secrecy."

NYU law professor Margaret Satterthwaite

The New York University Global Justice Clinic, which filed the case on his behalf in 2009, has already asked the commission to "review its decision and hear Mr al-Asad's case on the basis of the new evidence."

"These revelations about Djibouti's role in the CIA rendition programme provide strong support for Mr al-Asad's case," said NYU law professor Margaret Satterthwaite. "At the same time, the Commission's decision demonstrates the urgent need for the release of the Senate's CIA torture report. Releasing the report will have a real impact on victims still seeking the truth."

Mr al-Asad's legal team is adamant that "American secrecy trumped African human rights guarantees."

"The abuses committed by CIA partners must no longer be hidden behind a veil of official secrecy," Prof Satterthwaite said.

Suleiman Abdallah, a Tanzanian national, was first detained in March 2003, in Mogadishu, by a Somali warlord who allegedly worked for the US. According to reports, Abdallah was a victim of a bounty system, which was popular in Somalia at the

time, where local warlords sold individuals to the CIA as terror suspects for cash. After being handed over to the US officials, he was briefly detained in Kenya and Somalia before being transferred to Djibouti and Afghanistan. He was released in 2008.

"Mr Abdallah's own testimony, given to lawyers and UN investigators, suggests that he was subjected to arbitrary detention and serious mistreatment amounting to torture in both Djibouti and Afghanistan," reads the report.

Techniques

The US Senate intelligence committee confirmed in its report that Abdallah was among 17 detainees who were subjected to enhanced interrogation techniques without approval from CIA headquarters.

Some of the grisliest techniques involved waterboarding and sleep deprivation that kept detainees awake "for up to 180 hours, usually standing or in stress positions, at times with their hands shackled above their heads."

Other techniques included forced nudity, facial slaps, and for those who refused to eat "rectal feeding."

"Mr Abdallah continues to suffer psychological and emotional damage due to his detention in, and transfer from, Djibouti, which was marked by a constant threat of death or serious harm," the rights groups say in their report to the commission.

"Prior to his transfer out of Djibouti in an airport in the territory of Djibouti, Mr Abdallah was forcibly stripped naked, photographed, assaulted, and was diapered by



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR A DEVELOPMENT FOR SINGLE REGIONAL CUSTOMS BOND GUARANTEE AT THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT (ARUSHA - TANZANIA)

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20141521

The East African Community (EAC) is a regional organisation mandated by the governments of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda to spearhead the East African economic, social and political integration agenda. In line with this, the EAC Secretariat based in Arusha - Tanzania wishes to contract a **Consultancy firm** to develop a single Regional Customs Bond Guarantee (RCBG) who will be responsible for developing a framework for implementation of the regional single bond by partner states.

The detailed Terms of Reference for this consultancy and the application form can be obtained at TradeMark East Africa's website

<http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>.

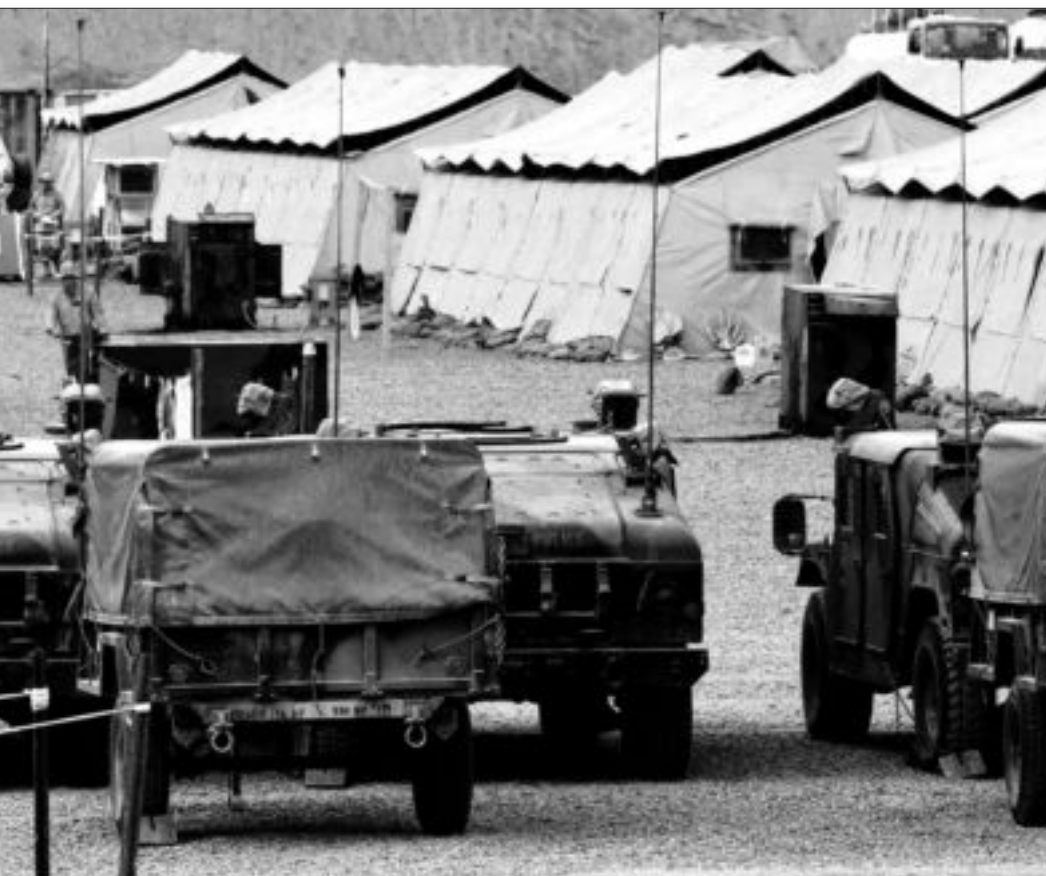
Interested and qualified **Consultancy firms** must register and apply online ONLY on the TradeMark East Africa procurement portal at the website:

<http://procurement.trademarka.com>. Any queries must be directed to procurement@trademarka.com.

The closing date for applications is **11th May 2015** Only successful applicants will be contacted.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender three days or less prior to the submission deadline.





a team of individuals,” the report adds.

Gouled Hassan Dourad, a former asylum seeker in Sweden, was captured by Dji-

boutian authorities in March 2004 in his house. Dourad is still detained in Guantánamo Bay, and to date has not been charged with a crime.

His personal testimony is not available, and his statements to US authorities are classified as “top secret.”

Somali national Mohammed Ali Isse was reportedly detained and interrogated on a US naval ship in or near Djiboutian territorial waters in 2004.

The reports says Mr Isse was then transferred to Camp Lemonnier, the US military base in Djibouti, and from there to a secret prison in Addis Ababa where he says “the Ethiopian military tortured him with electric shocks.”

Kenya has also played a major role in rendering its own citizens to the CIA detention camps. Mohammed Abdulmalik, a Kenyan national held in extrajudicial detention in Guantánamo Bay, was arrested by the police in early 2007, and transferred to CIA custody a month later.

According to his own publicly available statements, filed in a Washington DC court, Abdulmalik was flown on a US plane to Djibouti, where he was detained and interrogated by American and Djibouti officials before being flown to Afghanistan where he was held in two detention camps and then dispatched to Guantánamo Bay.

Ismail Mohamed, another Somali national arrested on May 2007 while passing through Djibouti on his way to Eritrea, was transferred to Guantánamo Bay in June 2007, where he remained until his release in November 2009 without charge.

The US global rendition network stretched from Djibouti, Morocco, and Egypt, where prisoners were held for questioning, to large military prisons in Guantánamo Bay, Afghanistan and Iraq.

is unlawful, arbitrary and unjustified because it deprives the individual of basic substantive and procedural rights.

In addition to being held in pre-trial detention for an unreasonable and typically indefinite period of time, detention in the context of rendition is incommunicado and involves violations of an individual's basic due process rights, including the right to be promptly informed of charges, to be promptly brought before a judicial authority and to access medical and legal services. Mohammed's secret, incommunicado detention in Djibouti lacked any due process; he was not brought before a judge or competent judicial authority, he was not told the reason for his detention, and he was cut off from all access to legal services, violating his right to liberty under Article 6 of the ACHPR.

SEEKING JUSTICE

Mohammed al-Asad's case is the first of its kind in the African human rights system. His rendition and secret detention violated many of his core human rights, which are protected by the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), including the prohibition against torture and refoulement, the right to liberty, and the right to a fair trial.

The transfer of individuals to a state where they will be at a real risk of being subject to torture, especially in the context of an extraordinary rendition, violates the obligation of non-refoulement under Article 5 of the ACHPR.

Extraordinary rendition, which by nature involves the secret and arbitrary detention of individuals without trial — violates Article 6 of the ACHPR. Detention in the context of extraordinary rendition



Hooded protestors take part in a demonstration against the Guantánamo Bay detention facility outside the White House in January. Picture: AFP

Spain proposes new court to try terrorism crimes

By TREVOR ANALO

The EastAfrican

THE PROPOSAL by Spain to establish an international court to prosecute terrorism crimes has renewed debate over the jurisdiction and legitimacy of the Hague-based International Criminal Court.

Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo said such a court could be used by nations like the United States, China and Israel, that do not accept the jurisdiction of the ICC.

“The problem is that many countries, like the United States and Israel do not work in the framework of the International Criminal Court,” the minister said on the sidelines of a meeting between EU, Middle East and North African foreign ministers in Barcelona last week.

The proposal to include terrorism as an international crime is not new.

In 2010, ICC member states meeting in Kampala for the court's first review conference rejected a proposal by The Netherlands that the crime of terrorism be added to the jurisdiction of ICC because of a lack of a universally agreeable definition of terrorism.

According to Mr Garcia-Margallo, the swiftest route for the prosecution of terrorists is an international tribunal with widespread international support and legitimacy — which he says the ICC currently lacks.

Attempts to prosecute transnational terrorists have frequently faced delays and controversies over extradition, as in the case of the 2010 Kampala bombing where Kenyan suspects were extradited to Uganda for trial.

In Africa, the ICC has had a troubled relationship with the continent's leaders over its perceived racial and colonial biases — all cases at the Hague-based court are from Africa.

The proposed African Court of Justice and Human Rights (ACJHR), to be fully run and funded by Africans, is intended to stop ICC's interventions in Africa and, according to some quarters, prevent a non-African court from holding African leaders accountable.

However, at the February AU summit in Addis Ababa, Kenya's push to fast-track the creation of ACJHR failed to get support from leaders who last year voted to strip the ICC of powers to prosecute senior government officials.



Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta issues a statement on the ICC at the 24th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the AU in January. Picture: File

Only 11 countries have signed the Malabo Protocol, which broadly expands the jurisdiction of the court.

Four more countries are needed to establish the second permanent international court in the world that deals with war crimes. The African Court will also be the first to have jurisdiction over both state and individual criminal responsibility.

The African Court will have jurisdiction over 11 other crimes, including corruption, money laundering, drug trafficking, illegal exploitation of natural resources and terrorism.

While the African court exists in theory, legal experts familiar with the workings of AU institutions say it may take three to five years to get to the 15th ratification and even then, these countries will still need to get approval from their national assemblies.

There are myriad legal, diplomatic, political and financial problems facing the only continental court in Africa today, the African Human and Peoples' Rights Court (AHPRC), that the new court will have to overcome.

Only half of AU members are subject to the court's jurisdiction.

So far, 28 countries have signed up to the court since it was established in 2004. Of these, only Burkina Faso,

“Many countries, like the US and Israel do not work in the framework of the ICC.”

Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo

Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Malawi, Mali, Rwanda and Tanzania have made declarations allowing their citizens to access the court directly.

For the rest, they have to first file a complaint at the African Human Rights Commission, and then hope that the Commission refers it to the African Court, which is “hardly an ideal situation” says Donald Deya, the CEO of the Arusha-based Pan-African Lawyers Union.

But this has not stopped Africans from filing cases at the court.

As of November 2014, Africans had filed 33 cases at the court. Twenty seven were from private individuals, three from NGOs and the other three from the African Commission, where two cases were filed against Libya and Kenya.

Interestingly, all 28 countries that have ratified the protocol establishing the court have had cases before it. According to the court's website, 24 cases have been disposed of and only nine are pending.

Critics have accused the court of having its decisions routinely ignored by governments. But Mr Deya, who has litigated before the court, says this is inaccurate because some cases have been dismissed on merit.

“There have been recent decisions in which the Court has ruled against Burkina Faso and Tanzania,” Mr Deya told *The EastAfrican*.

“There are other cases that the Court has thrown out, and therefore ‘implementation’ does not arise,” he added.

African leaders prefer to resolve conflicts through mediation rather than juridical measures.

FORCED AGREEMENT?

Sanctions loom for Juba if deal is not signed

The US says that the war in South Sudan threatens its interests in EA



South Sudanese soldiers in Juba in June last year. The US, the UK and Norway want a peace deal signed immediately. Pic: AFP

By FRED OLUOCH
Special Correspondent

US President Barack Obama has set the stage for sanctions and military intervention in South Sudan by declaring that the war in the country threatens Washington's interests in East Africa.

Diplomatic sources said such a declaration usually signals a move by the White House to seek approval by the Congress for interventions in a foreign country as happened in Libya, Sudan, Iraq, and, lately, Syria.

This, they said, is behind the pressure for President Salva Kiir of South Sudan and his rival Riek Machar to sign a binding peace agreement without further negotiations or be sidelined in the search for stability in the country.

The EastAfrican has established that the US, the UK and Norway, the have taken a position that the two have to sign a deal immediately, some sources said as early as today, April 18, or be coerced to.

A revelation by Juba that it had exhausted its foreign reserves has prompted fears in the UK, US and Norway, the Troika who fund the Addis Ababa process that a second failed state in the region after Somalia could become another breeding ground for terrorists. The three countries are now pushing for restoration of stability in the country, starting with the signing of a peace accord.

Ethiopian Foreign Minister Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is understood to have briefed Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta on the latest plans of Troika during a visit to Nairobi on Wednesday last week. Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed the meeting but did not divulge the details.

The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (Igad) has annoyed Juba by delaying the talks until the conference of rebels which started on Wednesday in Pakag, an Upper Nile town bordering Ethiopia, ends.

"Why is the international community so keen on rewarding rebellion?" South Sudan ambassador to Kenya Marion Deng asked. "Peace

building is a process that does not have deadlines unless they want to create another Libya."

Dr Machar's representative in Kenya, Adel Sandrai, said a forced agreement would not succeed because the people of South Sudan needed a total transformation.

"Any compromises must come from the South Sudanese themselves, not an imposed deal," said Mr Sandrai.

The Troika is proposing a replication of the protocol-by-protocol approach similar to the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between South and North in which the parties signed on the agreed items before moving to the contentious ones.

Despite the expected unspecified action by the US, South Sudanese nationals say that the solution must be homegrown.

"As much as South Sudanese appreciate the efforts by the region, Africa and the international community to bring peace to the country, they are trying to treat a cancer with Panadol," said John Andruga Duku, a former South Sudan head of mission in Kenya. He added that while Juba recognised the security concerns of the US, an imposed deal would just postpone the underlying factors to the conflict.

The two parties have so far agreed on the composition of the Transitional Government of National Unity of 27 Cabinet ministers. But the power balance remains contentious.

The last deal by the two parties stated that the country would go for two vice-presidents to accommodate the opposition and the government was to get 60 per cent of seats in the TGNU, SPLM-n-Opposition 30 per cent and the former political detainees 10 per cent.

The Troika has come up with a new arrangement giving the government 40 per cent, the rebels 40 per cent, former detainees 10 per cent and other political parties 10 per cent. But Mr Duku says that Juba will not accept anything below 60 per cent because that is rewarding rebellion.

Juba has dispatched the

DISCORD

The two warring parties in South Sudan have so far agreed on a transitional government of 27 Cabinet ministers, but the power balance remains contentious.

LAST DEAL: Two vice-presidents, with government getting 60 per cent, SPLM-In-Opposition 30 per cent and former political detainees 10 per cent.

THE TROIKA PLAN: Government to get 40 per cent, rebels 40 per cent, former detainees 10 per cent and other political parties 10 per cent.

larger Equatoria governors to tour the region and try to talk to those who have joined the rebellion. Equatoria Governors Louis Lobong Lojore (Eastern Equatoria), Joseph Bangazi Bagosoro (Western Equatoria) and Clement Wangi Konga (Central Equatoria) were in Nairobi mid-week to reach out to South Sudanese in the diaspora. They headed to Uganda on Thursday on the same mission.

The reason for this move is that out of the three larger regions — Equatoria, Upper Nile and Bahr-el-Ghazal — Equatoria has been peaceful even though the South Sudan rebellion called Anyanya I led by Gen Joseph Lagu started in Equatoria.

The EastAfrican managed to speak to Equatoria Governor, Louis Lobong Lojore, who noted that the world should not lose faith in Addis Ababa, arguing that it is upon the region and the international community to guide South Sudan, which is scarred by a violent past.

"Our country has more than 60 tribes, who have fought for over 50 years, are traumatised, militarised, with arms in the hands of civilians.

The only thing they have known is solving their problems through the gun. I appeal to the international community, especially the region to help us transform our society," said Mr Lojore.

In the meantime, the Addis Ababa talks hang in the balance, given that there is a possibility that the rebels may come out from their Pakag convention with their position hardened. The government on the other hand is determined to take advantage of the dry season to try to solve the conflict militarily.

Republic of Kenya



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PR FIRM

The Ministry intends to hire a Public Relations (PR) firm to provide consultancy services for developing a Communication Strategy, media liaison and packaging for publicity the Ministry's key messages on its role in policy development, regulation, standardization and capacity building of stakeholders in line with Constitution.

The firm is expected to communicate the Ministry's interventions, programmes and activities in its overall objective of making the country food secure, creation of employment opportunities and wealth through publicity in the mass media and out-reach programmes.

The PR firm must:

- Be registered with the Public Relations Society of Kenya (PRSK)
- Be registered with the Advertising Practitioners Association (APA)
- Have skilled and competent staff as demonstrated by work results
- Understand the Ministry's mandate and strategic objectives clearly as well its role in the overall national agenda and development goals
- Be able to grasp key issues and messages intended for the Ministry's stakeholders, clients and audiences and able to write and communicate them clearly in a way that will get the attention of busy audiences
- Understand Kenya's mass media environment as well as the country's media regulatory framework
- Have successfully provided a public organization in Kenya with a similar PR consultancy
- Have global presence and network in order to be able to cover the Ministry's interests in the diaspora

Terms of Reference

- Develop a broad-based communication strategy including a Public Relations Plan
- Raise awareness of the Ministry's activities and programmes through mass media
- Provide positive public relations that would help the Ministry's communicate its mandate and successes.
- Package and disseminate technical information into press briefs suitable for dissemination to various audiences in various mass media
- Design messages, informercials and advertisements for use by the Ministry to effectively communicate with its publics
- Monitor and evaluate mass media and public messages, advertisements and promotional programmes in order to determine their impact and employ remedial/corrective measures

The Ministry invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing these services.

Shortlisting criteria will include clear understanding of the assignment, possession of requisite equipment, experience in similar assignment(s) as the one requested, appropriate qualifications, skills and competences of the firm and evidence of tax compliance and registration with PRSK and APA

Expression of Interest must be delivered in written form to
Principal Secretary
State Department of Agriculture
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries
4th. Floor, Kilimo House, Cathedral Road
P.O. Box 30028-00100
Nairobi, KENYA

Or be placed in the tender box situated ground floor, Kilimo House.

Not later than 11.00 am, April 21, 2015, East African standard time:

Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at **11.00am on April 21, 2015 at the Conference Room Kilimo House 7th Floor.**

**Head Supply Chain
for Principal Secretary**

KIKWETE SUCCESSION

ACT not Lowassa vehicle, party leader insists

Newest party has started campaigning, prompting claims it's ex-PM's outfit

By ERICK KABENDERA
The EastAfrican

“Mr Lowassa is neither thinking of defecting nor joining another political party.”

Aboubakary Liongo, the spokesperson for the former prime minister

Tanzania's newest political party, Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT), has started campaigning even as former prime minister Edward Lowassa continues to deny links with the Ujamaa-leaning outfit.

ACT leader Zitto Kabwe embarked on a countrywide tour last week, raising questions whether the former MP is holding the party for Mr Lowassa. The CCM supremo was accused of campaigning too early and threatened with a ban on vying on the ruling party's ticket.

Some analysts say ACT has put paid to plans by the main opposition party Chadema to secure more seats in the October elections.

Aboubakary Liongo, the spokesperson for Mr Lowassa, however told *The EastAfrican* that the former premier

has no plans of switching parties ahead of the polls.

“Mr Lowassa is neither thinking of defecting nor joining another political party,” said Mr Liongo. “One can't talk about his defection while he hasn't even declared whether he will run for president or not.”

Mr Lowassa has not officially declared his candidacy but his political activities since he resigned as prime minister following an emergency power generation scandal in 2008 suggest that he is interested in the presidency.

Religious groups have been flocking to his homes ostensibly to persuade him to run, something that has attracted strong criticism from CCM.

“There are growing concerns within the party about his candidacy; they think he is using his financial muscle to divide the party, making it hard to have fair competition since he would use the money to solicit votes from CCM members,” the source said.

There are claims that Mr Kabwe founded ACT as an alternative vehicle for Mr Lowassa in case he was locked out of CCM and the latter is financing the party. However, Mr Kabwe told *The EastAfrican* he was busy building a support base for the new party and had little time to respond to disruptive propaganda.

“Well wishers and members are contributing to our party,” Mr Kabwe said.

Former Tanzanian prime minister Edward Lowassa. Picture: File



PICKING THE CCM FLAG BEARER

The CCM nomination procedure requires presidential aspirants to get at least 200 members per region from a minimum of 10 as sponsors. The secretariat, which has nine members,

then grades the candidates. After that the ethics committee, which is chaired by the chairman, makes recommendations to the 32-member central committee, which comes up with

five names. These are forwarded to the national executive committee, comprised of 378 members, to be voted on. The top three then go to the National Congress, which picks the nominee.



NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL TRAINING AUTHORITY OPEN NATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

The National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) is a State Corporation established under the Industrial Training (Amendment) Act No.34 of 2011. The mandate of the Authority is to promote the highest standards in the quality and efficiency of Industrial Training in Kenya and ensure adequate supply of properly trained manpower at all levels in industry. The Authority invites sealed bids from interested eligible bidders as described hereunder.

| TENDER NO. | TENDER DESCRIPTION | PRE-BID CONFERENCE | OPENING DATE |
|-------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------|
| NITA/29/2014-2015 | SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, IMPLEMENTATION, TESTING, TRAINING AND COMMISSIONING OF AN ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING (ERP) SYSTEM | 28/04/2015 at 11a.m | 05/05/2015 at 10.a.m |

Eligible bidders may view/obtain/download the above Tender Documents at www.nita.go.ke, www.supplier.treasury.go.ke or at **Supply Chain Management Office Located on 1st Floor, Main Office Block B, along Commercial Street, Industrial Area, Nairobi, on weekdays during working hours.**

Hard copies of tender documents attract a non-refundable fee of Kshs.1,000 payable cash to account no. **1102588075, Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB), Industrial Area Branch** and the Banking Slip presented at the Cash Office before 4.00pm on normal working days or in banker's cheque payable to the **Director General, National Industrial Training Authority, Nairobi.**

Tenders in plain sealed envelopes, marked tender number on the right hand side corner and bearing no indication of the tenderer should be addressed to:-

**Director General
National Industrial Training Authority
P. O. Box 74494 -00200,
NAIROBI.**

and placed in the tender box on **First Floor of the main Administration Block, National Industrial Training Authority, Commercial Street, Nairobi** or sent by post so as to reach the above address not later than **Tuesday, 5th May, 2015 at 10.00am.**

Submitted bids shall be opened publicly in the **Conference Room located on 2nd Floor, Main Administration Block, National Industrial Training Authority, Commercial Street, Nairobi** soon after the above stated closing date and time in the presence of the tenderers or their representatives who choose to attend. Late bids will be returned unopened.

The tender attracts a bid security of Kenya shilling five hundred thousand only, and prices quoted must remain valid for one hundred and twenty (120) days from the opening date of the tender.

**DIRECTOR GENERAL,
NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL TRAINING AUTHORITY**

STATE OF PRIVATE EQUITY IN EAST AFRICA

The EastAfrican will on **2nd May, 2015**, publish a special feature titled “State of Private Equity in East Africa”.

The feature will highlight among others:

- **Why East Africa is ranked highly as a destination for private equity and venture capital investment;**
- **Trailblazers in African private equity;**
- **Perspectives of veteran investors in emerging market.**

To participate, contact:
Joel Omiah on +254-721-517534;
Email: jomiya@ke.nationmedia.com

The EastAfrican 20 YEARS





Somalia's Al Shabaab militant group official Robow Abu Mansur (centre) is escorted on December 14, 2008 by bodyguards to a press conference outside Mogadishu. Picture: AFP

Govt forces committing sexual violence, says UN

By KEVIN J KELLEY
Special Correspondent

SEXUAL VIOLENCE is being committed in South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan's Darfur region by "state actors or armed groups associated with the state," the United Nations said last week.

Members of Somalia's National Army have also reportedly carried out sexual assaults, the UN added in a report released on April 14.

But the report also indicates that many of the documented rapes in conflict zones in East and Central Africa were carried out by members of insurgent groups such as Al Shabaab, the South Sudan rebel forces and various militias in eastern DRC.

Representatives of about 70 countries took part in an April 15 debate on the report that describes sexual assault as "a tactic of war." Rwanda's delegate said that this type of violence should be termed "sexual terrorism."

The UN documented thousands of such cases last year in Africa and the Middle East but noted that the actual total is probably much greater.

Full accounting

Meanwhile, the UN is failing to make a full accounting of sexual assaults committed by its own or associated forces, Human Rights Watch charged last week. As an example, the group pointed to its findings last year that members of the UN-supported African Union Mission in Somalia had sexually assaulted women and girls at two Amisom bases in Mogadishu.

Similarly, a recently leaked internal UN report — not cited

in the official document published last week — found that UN peacekeepers have engaged in sexual abuse in South Sudan, the DRC, Liberia and Haiti.

In addition to examining sexual violence in 18 countries experiencing or recovering from internal conflicts, the April 14 UN report calls attention to an increase in sexual assault in refugee camps in Kenya.

Some 53,000 South Sudanese, many of them unaccompanied minors, fled to the Kakuma camp in 2014 "with a corresponding increase in reports of sexual assault, teenage pregnancies and forced marriage," the report says.

Sexual violence has also increased in the Dadaab refugee complex, the UN adds.

Sexual violence in Darfur

In its tally of 206 victims of sexual violence in Darfur last year, the UN excludes at least 221 women and girls who were raped by Sudanese soldiers in the village of Tabit, HRW said in a commentary on the UN report.

The report's allegations in regard to Darfur are "naïve," Sudan's UN delegate Hassan Hamid Hassan said during the April 15 debate.

In the DRC, members of government security forces were responsible for 31 per cent of nearly 700 confirmed cases of conflict-related sexual violence, the UN said.

The other 69 per cent of cases are attributed to armed rebel groups, with Mai-Mai Simba/Morgan identified as the main perpetrators. Men belonging to that group committed 117 rapes, the UN added.

Al Shabaab is said to be responsible for an unknown number of the 2,891 incidents of gender-based violence in Mogadishu alone during an eight-month period ending in August last year.

In South Sudan, the report states, sexual violence remains "prevalent" and is "exacerbated by impunity and a militarised society in which gender inequality is pronounced."

RISING INSECURITY

Kenya engages UN in a bid to

The talks aim at addressing security lapses in the camp that may have led to infiltration by extremists

By FRED OLUOCH
Special Correspondent

The Kenyan government has started talks with a UN agency aimed at addressing security in the Dadaab refugee camp, which it wants closed for allegedly being a breeding ground for terrorists.

The talks seek to address security lapses in the camp that may have led to infiltration by extremists, prompting Kenya to order the relocation of more than 350,000 refugees back to Somalia in three months.

The EastAfrican has established that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) country representative in Kenya, Raouf Mazou, held discussions last week with Cabinet Secretaries Amina Mohamed (Foreign Affairs and International Trade) and Joseph Nkaissery (Internal Security).

The talks aim at striking a middle ground between addressing the fears that Dadaab has become a recruitment ground for Al Shabaab terrorists and safeguarding the rights of refugees under international treaties.

"Forced return is one of the most serious violations of international refugee law," said Mr Mazou. "More than humanitarian assistance, it is asylum that someone fleeing danger and persecution most needs."

Following the April 4 Al Shabaab attack on Garissa University College in which 148 people died, Deputy President William Ruto said the government had given UNHCR three months to close the Dadaab camp, failure to which Kenya would relocate the 350,000 refugees to Somalia.

Mr Ruto reasoned that the way America changed after 9/11

is the way Kenya will change after Garissa.

"We must secure this country at whatever cost," Mr Ruto said in his statement.

However, according to Mr Mazou, refugees would face a bleak future were Kenya to declare them unwanted guests. At home, Somali militants Al Shabaab control various parts of the country while Yemen, previously a safe haven, is at war.

Already, international medical organisation Médecins Sans Frontières has warned that the conditions do not allow for a safe and dignified return of the refugees to Somalia.

According to Charles Gaudry, MSF's head of mission in Kenya, the move would force the refugees to return to a country where safety and medical care is not guaranteed or is non-existent.

Since the collapse of Somalia's central government in 1991, Kenya has borne the brunt of the crisis with some refugees knowing Dadaab as their only home. UNHCR has warned that abrupt closure of the camps and forcing refugees back home would be in breach of Kenya's international obligations.

"In order to ensure that returns are sustainable, they should be voluntary and be adequately supported to ensure that those reaching their places of origin have access to social services," said Mr Mazou. "We, therefore, have to continue mobilising the international community to make sure of that."

"For now, we consider that large-scale returns are still not possible in many parts of the country."

In December last year, a pilot scheme was launched to support voluntary repatriation to the relatively safe areas of Luuq, Baid-



Somali refugees sit outside a transport centre in Dagahaley Refugee Camp near Dadaab in Kenya in July 2011. Pic: AFP

For now, large-scale returns are still not possible in many parts of Somalia."

Raouf Mazou, UNHCR country representative in Kenya

oa and Kismayu but only 2,000 refugees have returned so far against a target of 10,000.

"We are ready to work with the governments of Kenya and Somalia to step up this programme where there are opportunities for voluntary repatriation," Mr Mazou added.

The war in Yemen between Houthi rebels and a Saudi Arabia-led coalition has forced many Somali families to cross back into Somaliland or Djibouti. The UNHCR said up to 130,000 refugees could be received in the three countries by October.

Yemen was home to more than 238,000 Somali refugees.

Gerry Simpson, senior refugee researcher at Human Rights Watch, said stateless refugees — those born in the camps — and where the refugees would go were among the complex issues that would ensue from a forced

Whenever there is a terrorist attack

By ABDULLAHI HASSAN
Special Correspondent

AS KENYA MOURNS with the families who lost their loved ones in the attack of Garissa University College by Al Shabaab, the refugees living in Dadaab are gripped with fear.

Politicians are once again demanding that the refugees "go back home" to Somalia, accusing them of harbouring extremists within the camps. At the same time, the residents of the camp are being subjected to a violent aftermath of police arrests, extortions and door-to-door operations with little regard for human rights.

But why blame refugees when

all the evidence points towards Al Shabaab fighters and even Kenyan citizens?

Whenever there is a terrorist attack, even far away from the camps, the response is felt in Dadaab. This creates suspicion, discrimination and stigmatisation among the very community that the police should be working with to root out Al Shabaab from among the refugees.

The belief that the gunmen in the recent Garissa attack were refugees of Somali descent without evidence seemed more common among Kenyan Somali populations than the rest of the Kenyan population.

A group of ethnic Kenyan Somali

politicians, led by the Kenyan parliament majority leader Aden Duale, called for an immediate facilitation of the proposed repatriation and a change of government policy on that matter.

"The refugees have been with us for the past 20 years," said Mr. Duale. "I think time has come when the national security of our people becomes

1991

The year when the writer fled civil war in his country, Somalia. He has lived in Kenya as a refugee since then.

"Al Shabaab is said to be responsible for an unknown number of 2,891 incidents of gender-based violence in Mogadishu alone."

have Dadaab camp closed



repatriation.

In 2011, Al Shabaab banned some aid agencies, including most United Nations agencies, because it wanted to control the aid. In 2013, a report by Overseas Development Institute and the Mogadishu-based Heritage Institute for Policy Studies highlighted how aid agencies were forced by the militants to pay “registration fees” of up to \$10,000 to access areas that they controlled so as to provide food aid to starving Somali citizens during the 2011 drought.

Kenya has the obligation under the 1951 UN convention on refugees that recognises the right of persons to seek asylum from persecution in other countries. The convention says that the host country cannot forcibly repatriate refugees to a place they had ran away from and where there are prospects that they will face persecution

TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT

Kenya has the obligation under the 1951 United Nations convention on refugees that recognises the right of persons to seek asylum from persecution in other countries.

THE CONVENTION SAYS THAT: The host country cannot forcibly repatriate refugees to a place they had ran away from and where there are prospects that they will face persecution or even death.

INVOKE AN ARTICLE: Kenya can, however, invoke Article 1 (h) of the Tripartite Agreement signed in 2013 between itself, the government of Somalia and the UNHCR, which sought to provide a legal framework for the safe and dignified voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees and their integration in Somalia.

REPATRIATION: In December last year, a pilot scheme was launched to support voluntary repatriation to the relatively safe areas of Luuq, Baidoa and Kismayu but only 2,000 refugees have returned so far against a target of 10,000.

or even death.

However, Kenya can invoke Article 1 (h) of the Tripartite Agreement signed in 2013 between itself, the Somali government and the UNHCR, which sought to provide a legal framework for the safe and dignified voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees and their integration in Somalia.

“The attack in Garissa underlined the need for the Kenyan government to better guarantee the security of its population,” said Muthoni Wanyeki, Amnesty International’s regional director for East Africa, the Horn and the Great Lakes. “But this must not be done by putting at risk people Kenya is duty-bound to protect.”

Kenya argues that the same UN convention says the host country has the right to act on its own interest when it has been proven that the refugees endanger the larger population of citizens.

The UNHCR can also invoke the Cessation Clause — through which host countries and the UNHCR recognise changed circumstances in refugees’ countries of origin and allow for repatriation. In December 2012, the UNHCR invoked this clause with regard to Rwandan refugees who fled the country between 1959 and 1998, on the grounds that circumstances in Rwanda had changed.

It required the Rwandan refugees to choose one of three courses of action: Voluntarily return to Rwanda, apply for citizenship to stay in the host country or apply for an extension of their refugee status based on certain exemption criteria such as proof of persistent threat to their lives.

In East Africa, Tanzania is the only country that has naturalised refugees. In 2010, it granted citizenship to 162,156 Burundi refugees who had fled ethnic conflict in their country in 1972.

Additional reporting by Allan Olingo

the response is felt in the camps

more paramount than the international obligations that we have.”

But Mr Duale has failed to explain how this would help Kenya’s security when the attackers and the masterminds were purely local lads!

And when warnings of the latest attack were issued, why didn’t the Kenyan government go to those camps to flush out the suspected extremists?

President Uhuru Kenyatta said on April 4 that those behind the Garissa attack were “deeply embedded” in Kenya and called on Kenyan Muslims to help prevent radicalisation. This was a clear statement from a sensible leader.

It was a Kenyan lawyer and the son of a Kenyan government official who massacred innocent Kenyan civilians and not the son of a refugee camp leader.

Children growing up in the camps and their parents, who have been incarcerated for 25 years, are among the least likely groups to be radicalised. We are in these camps are seeking sanctuary from Al Shabaab.

I lost my father in the civil war in Somalia. Just like any other refugee who fled the country in 1991, and after two decades in another country, it sounds satirical to join a deadly monstrous group like Al Shabaab and join a terror war against a coun-

try that made me who I am today — at least a family man with children, verily not entitled to employment and movement even with a university degree in a civilised country like Kenya.

Al Shabaab is not exclusively a Somali thing. It is the Devil’s work done in the name of a global ideology.

Refugees are, in this battle, the vulnerable families who await food rations every 15 days from the World Food Programme and UNHCR. And we cannot return to our bleeding nation, Somalia, where even politicians are killed daily. We are just helpless refugees, who are not affiliated to Al Shabaab or any extremist group.

Q&A WITH RAOUF MAZOU

Returns should be voluntary, supported

The Kenya country representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) addresses the issue of the government’s demand to relocate the Dadaab refugee camp to Somalia, following the recent Al Shabaab attack on Garissa University College. He spoke to FRED OLUOCH

Deputy President William Ruto says that the government has given UNHCR three months to close the Dadaab refugee camp, failure to which it will relocate the refugees housed there. Has UNHCR received an official request?

The government’s decision was announced this past weekend. We have had contacts with a number of government officials. A number of concerns were raised in relation to this decision, including the security of the Dadaab camps and the need for a solution to the Somali crisis which has lasted for the past 24 years.

What is the right procedure to be followed?

For returns to be sustainable, they should be voluntary and adequately supported to ensure that those returning to their places of origin have access to social services. We, therefore, have to continue mobilising the international community to make sure that services are available in these places, as well as opportunities for a livelihood.

Has any country expelled refugees before?

Refoulement [forced return in French] has taken place in different parts of the world, but it is one of the most serious violations of international refugee law. A person fleeing danger and persecution needs asylum more than humanitarian assistance.

How far has the tripartite agreement signed in 2013 succeeded in voluntary repatriation?

The tripartite agreement has established a legal framework, which has given the opportunity for Kenya, Somalia and the UNHCR to discuss ways of finding a durable solution to the plight of refugees.

A number of meetings and activities, such as the visit of a group of Dadaab refugees to Kismayu and of government officials to Dadaab, including the visit of the Prime Minister, have taken place as a result of this dialogue.

In December last year, we launched a pilot scheme to sup-

port people who seek to voluntarily repatriate to one of three relatively safe areas of Somalia, namely Luuq, Baidoa and Kismayu. Efforts will continue to help create conditions for voluntary return of refugees in conditions of safety and dignity.

How many have voluntarily returned?

We are aware that many refugees have gone back to Somalia over the years to areas that they consider safe. Last year alone, more than 50,000 refugees went back home.

Since December, we have helped more than 2,000 refugees to return to the same locations and the programme continues.

As the situation in various parts of South Central Somalia stabilises thanks to the Somali government and Amisom’s efforts, we will step up the voluntary return programme. The return movement will continue as the security and socio-economic conditions continue to improve.

I also believe that security ought to be co-ordinated at the regional level. Forcing Somali refugees to return would certainly negatively impact on countries in the region.

Is Kenya likely to get international support in view of terror attacks if it goes ahead to expel refugees?

Kenya is one of the countries in the world which is providing asylum to the largest number of refugees and which has been the most active in supporting peace initiatives for the stability of the region. I am certain that this tradition will be maintained in the future.



DRC government troops launch a missile in a fight against rebels. Unep reports that criminal groups promote the co-existence of several militias to retain control of smuggling operations
Pic: File



INSTABILITY IN THE CONGO

DRC: Organised crime worse than rebels

Large-scale organised criminal networks play a role in keeping armed groups active, says Unep

By KEVIN J KELLEY
Special Correspondent

Transnational crime syndicates are the primary catalyst for instability in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the United Nations reported last week.

The more than two dozen armed rebel groups operating in the DRC are a less significant factor, says a report issued by the United Nations Environmental Programme. These militias receive only a tiny share of the net profits from resource smuggling, leaving them ill-equipped and vulnerable to manipulation by the more financially potent criminal rings, the Unep report observes.

"The protracted conflict cycle and insecurity in eastern DRC appear increasingly dominated by economic interests rather than predominantly political motivations," says the 39-page analysis prepared with input from the UN mission in the DRC and other UN agencies.

"Around 98 per cent of the net profits from illegal natural resource exploitation — particularly gold, charcoal and timber — goes to transnational organised criminal networks operating in and outside DRC."

Measly 2pc cut

The two per cent cut left for groups such as the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) amounts to a combined \$13.2 million per year, Unep estimates. It calculates that this sum is sufficient to maintain up to 8,900 fighters, based on a subsistence cost of about \$1,500 per combatant.

Annual net profits that organised crime derives from the DRC are "conservatively estimated" to include up to \$120 million from gold smuggling, \$48 million from timber, \$35 million from charcoal, \$23 million from minerals used in digital devices, and up to \$28 million from the combined trade in ivory, fish, cannabis and other resources, as well as from "local taxation schemes."

"The sheer scale of the

smuggling and the fact that armed groups receive only a small fraction of these profits suggests that large-scale transnational organised criminal networks play a role in keeping armed groups active," the report says. "This could be deliberately done to create an environment of insecurity to continue facilitating the illegal extraction and smuggling of natural resources from eastern DRC."

Divide and rule

It is also possible that the criminal groups promote the co-existence of a large number of rebel militias in order to prevent any single entity from becoming powerful enough to challenge the crime syndicates' smuggling operations, the report adds.

Some militia units are used to provide security at mines operated by other actors, Unep notes.

Members of the FDLR, currently the target of a military offensive on the part of the DRC army, suffer from low morale and complain about the quality of their weapons and uniforms, the report says. FDLR fighters are "ordered to loot to survive," according to the report. "This indicates that they do not retain any significant amount of the mineral or charcoal wealth that they collect, tax and/or loot."

Additional funding for the FDLR comes from the Rwandan diaspora in Europe and from Rwandan refugees in South Kivu, Unep says.

Even if the Congolese army were to succeed in its campaign against the FDLR, the rebel force would be able to regroup, the report suggests. "Disarming armed groups individually will not prevent their reappearance," Unep says. "This is particularly the case as the income generated from continuous large-scale natural resource smuggling goes to transnational organised criminal networks located for the most part outside the DRC."

These crime syndicates are beyond the reach of the DRC government and the mandate of the UN mission in the country, the report notes.

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OPINION

APRIL 18-24, 2015

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Finn Kydland, Bjorn Lomborg, Tom Schelling and Nancy Stokey

SDGs: How to achieve 'people, planet, prosperity' dollar by smartly spent dollar

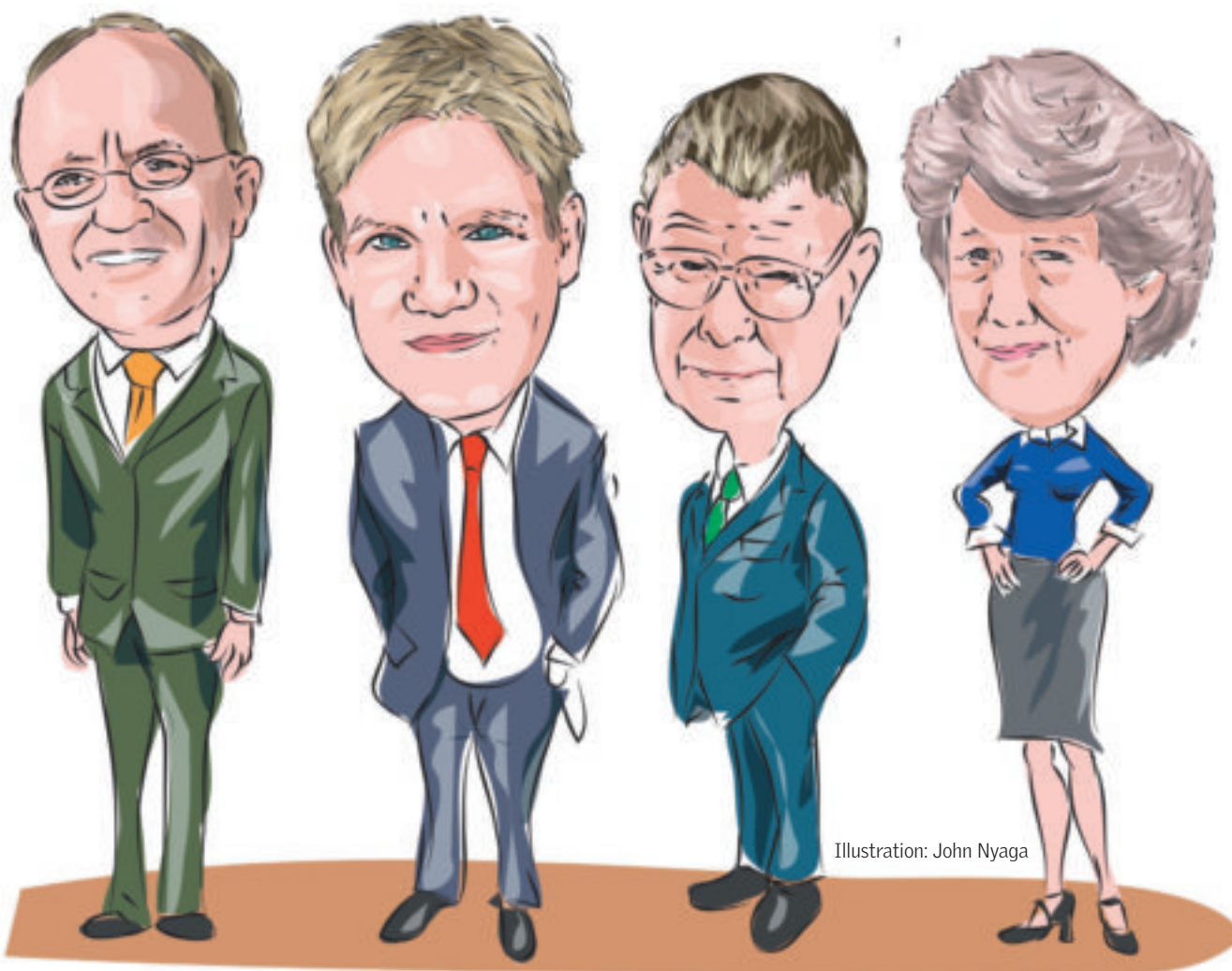
In September, the world's 193 governments will meet in New York and agree on a set of ambitious, global targets for 2030. Over the next 15 years, these targets will direct the \$2.5 trillion to be spent on development assistance, as well as countless trillions in national budgets.

Based on peer-reviewed analyses from 82 of the world's top economists and 44 sector experts organised by the Copenhagen Consensus, three of us — Finn, Tom and Nancy — have prioritised more than a hundred of the proposed targets in terms of their value for money. They are certainly not all equal. Some targets generate much higher economic, social and environmental benefits than others, per dollar spent.

The natural political inclination is to promise all good things to everyone, and the UN is currently poised to pick 169 well-intentioned targets. But the evidence at hand, although limited, indicates pretty clearly that some of these targets are much more promising than others. The analyses of the experts suggest that some of the targets are barely worthwhile, producing only a little more than \$1 in social benefits per dollar spent, while others produce much higher social returns.

We have selected the 19 targets that we expect to produce the greatest benefits. The expert analyses suggest that if the UN concentrates on these top 19 targets, it can get \$20 to \$40 in social benefits per dollar spent, while allocating it evenly across all 169 targets would reduce the figure to less than \$10. Being smart about spending could be better than doubling or quadrupling the aid budget. Our short list covers a lot of ground, but the thread that connects the individual targets is the benefits they will provide for people around the world in terms of health, the environment, and economic wellbeing, the three headings the UN has dubbed "people, planet and prosperity."

Consider a couple of targets that help people directly through health benefits. Tuberculosis is a "hidden" disease. Over two billion people carry the bacterium that causes it, about 10 per cent of those people will develop TB at some point, and about 1.5 million people each year die from TB. But



help alleviate poverty, but there is another target that promises to be even more effective: Lowering barriers to international trade. The historical evidence on this point is compelling. In China, South Korea, India, Chile and many other countries, reducing trade restrictions has lifted incomes and reduced poverty, and triggered decades of rapid income growth.

Poverty reduction was the first item on the UN's list of Millennium Development Goals, and the numerical target was achieved. Why? Income growth in China was a big part of the story. And how did the Chinese achieve that remarkable feat? Most evidence suggests that international trade was a key ingredient. Trade produces immediate benefits by opening up markets, but it also facilitates the flow of ideas and technologies, producing even greater benefits over a longer horizon. A successful Doha free trade agreement could lift 160 million people out of extreme poverty.

treatment is inexpensive and, in most cases, highly effective. Spending a dollar on diagnosis and treatment is a low-cost way to give many more years of productive life to many people. Ebola may get the headlines, but TB is a much bigger problem.

Reducing childhood malnutrition is another excellent target. People of every age deserve to be well nourished, but nutrition is especially critical for young children. A good diet allows their brains and muscles to develop better, producing lifelong benefits. Well-nourished children stay in school longer, learn more and end up being much more productive members of society. The available evidence suggests that providing better nutrition for 68 million children each year would produce over \$40 in long-term social benefits for every dollar spent.

There are excellent targets involving the planet as well. Governments around the world still subsidise the use of fossil fuels to the tune of over \$500 billion each year. Cutting these subsidies would reduce pollu-

tion and free up resources for investments in health, education, and infrastructure.

Protecting coral reefs turns out to be a surprisingly efficient target as well. There are benefits in terms of biodiversity, but healthy reefs also produce more tangible and immediate benefits. They increase fish stocks — benefiting both fishermen and consumers, and attract visitors who explore their beauties — benefiting everyone working in the tourist industry, as well as the tourists themselves.

Perhaps the most important, overarching problem facing the world is poverty, which still afflicts billions of people. Poverty is the ultimate source of many other problems. Poor families have trouble providing their children with adequate food, education, and medical care. The immediate result is high rates of infant mortality, as well as poor cognitive skills and reduced productive capacity among surviving children. The ultimate result is a cycle of poverty. Better nutrition and better schools will

Our list of targets will not solve all the world's problems, but neither can any list under realistic budgets. Our list can help the UN make its choices like a savvy shopper with limited funds. Choosing good targets will vastly increase the benefits to people around the world, as well as generations to come. Governments should forgo the instant gratification of promising everything to everyone, and instead focus on choosing smart development goals.

Finn Kydland is a Nobel Laureate and a professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Bjorn Lomborg is president of the Copenhagen Consensus Centre. Tom Schelling is a Nobel Laureate and a professor at the University of Maryland. Nancy Stokey is a professor at the University of Chicago. For more information on the project and all 19 targets, visit www.post2015consensus.com

The EastAfrican

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE NATION MEDIA GROUP

Oh South Africa, how could you do this to us?

The xenophobic attacks in South Africa targeting African immigrants are unacceptable in the 21 century. They are particularly disheartening coming two decades after the birth of a new South Africa in 1994, following the collapse of the apartheid regime.

The attacks, which first erupted in Durban before spreading to other parts of the country, have left five people dead and property worth thousands of dollars destroyed or looted by locals who blame their unemployment and poverty on foreigners.

This is not the first time the spotlight is on the Rainbow Nation; there have been frequent eruptions of xenophobic violence over the past decade. The most notable one was in 2008, when 62 people, both foreigners and South Africans, were killed and more than 150,000 displaced in one of the deadliest waves of violence.

Although the number of deaths is small in the latest attack, more than 3,000 individuals have either fled their homes or been left homeless after their properties were destroyed. Many are now sleeping in makeshift tents in temporary camps hoping that the local people will come to their senses and stop the violence.

Yes, it is true that native South Africans are facing serious challenges, among them, high rates of unemployment, crime and diseases. Some feel frustrated that the sacrifices they made in fighting apartheid and ending white minority rule have not paid enough.

They accuse foreigners, mainly from Somalia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, of reaping where they did not sow by taking up their jobs and engaging in crime.

According to reports, the latest violence erupted after Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini stated that all foreigners should leave South Africa. However, King Zwelithini has denied the accusations, saying he was quoted out of context.

It should not be forgotten that many African countries stood by the South Africans in their struggle against apartheid, by supporting their anti-apartheid leaders, among them Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Desmond Tutu and Winnie Mandela.

This is the reason it is frightening to see Africans turning against their fellow Africans just because they are not natives of South Africa. This is not the Rainbow Nation that Mandela and his anti-apartheid colleagues envisioned.

It is incumbent upon the South African government to do more and stop xenophobic attacks once and for all, as it is giving the country, viewed by many as one of the continent's beacons of true democracy, a bad name.

King Zwelithini should also be investigated to ascertain whether he is the cause of the latest wave of violence and be sanctioned if found guilty.

The recent rally against xenophobia, which brought together more than 5,000 people in the coastal city of Durban, is a step in the right direction. It showed to the whole world that the majority of South Africans are against xenophobia and support a united Africa.

“

Hardline rogue elements in the ANC and EFF are said to be behind the violence.”



Charles Onyango-Obbo

I was in Johannesburg this week and, unsurprisingly, I couldn't escape the conversation about the current wave of xenophobic attacks, targeting mainly Somali, Ethiopian and Malawian shop-owners.

There are always those who ask, “Who will they attack next after they are done with the African immigrants?”

The answers are uncomfortable. On Tuesday, the *Times* had a little item on page two that was revealing.

A reporter and photographer covering residents in a township looting for-

As the ANC moderates lose out and its electoral fortunes slowly decline, the thuggish elements are rising

oreign-owned shops were threatened and told to leave. Not because the looters didn't want to be covered, but because the photographer was a South African Asian. The reporter was black. “We don't want to talk to dogs, especially an Indian dog,” said a looter who was brandishing a hammer, the *Times* reported.

Will xenophobia morph into political thuggery?

Also, last weekend a man vandalised the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Johannesburg. The great man Gandhi's history in South Africa before he went back to India to lead an inspired non-violent campaign for Independence is contradictory. At one point, he held racist views.

But he evolved, and generally Gandhi is more celebrated for his latter-day progressive ideals.

Why does any of this matter? Because there are two views toward the xenophobic attacks in South Africa. One is that post-apartheid reform was shallow, and the ANC has been corrupt and incompetent, so it has not done enough to create opportunities, and has been hopeless at sharing the nation's wealth.

Indeed, South Africa today is more unequal than during apartheid, and having youth unemployment in such a rich country is asking for trouble.

The second is that South Africa is a second-rate welfare state, and the people have been turned lazy by handouts, and become averse to hard work. Thus when foreigners fleeing from the hardships in places like Somalia arrive, they slave 24/7, build their businesses, and so “jealous” South Africans attack and rob them.

I was told that both these views oversimplify a bigger problem. The worst fears of progressives in South Africa

are that the xenophobic attacks are political. Hardline and rogue elements in the ANC and the opposition Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) party are behind the violence.

As the ANC moderates lose out and the electoral fortunes of the party slowly decline, the thuggish elements are rising.

They are encouraging their militant youth supporter to loot from small-time African immigrant shop-owners to pay themselves, and because they believe it will do less damage to the national economy.

The idea is to keep the militants fed through the looting until the elections of 2019. On current form, the ANC's election fortunes will shrink further. That is when the present “looters” will be unleashed for their real purpose — to visit violence on political opponents.

It was a shocking and sad analysis, but there is a small but growing group of moderate voices in South Africa who see things that way. One always hopes for the best, but it would be one of the greatest African tragedies if we arrive in 2019 and find out that South African author Allan Paton wrote his famous *Cry the Beloved Country* 70 years too early.

Charles Onyango-Obbo is editor of *Mail & Guardian Africa*. Twitter: @cobbo3

Closing Dadaab will only punish the wrong people

Never let the facts get in the way of scapegoating and xenophobia. Thus the calls to close down Dadaab refugee camp and resettle its 350,000 or so inhabitants in Somalia. Whether or not they're all Somali.

The calls began with the parliamentarian for Garissa and assorted politicians from the region. It was picked up by no less than the office of the Deputy Presidency. Then echoed, unsurprisingly, by the umbrella for the evangelical churches (determined to frame violent extremism as a battle between Christianity and Islam). And, surprisingly, by the trade union umbrella.

The parliamentary human-rights caucus put out a measured statement, sensibly calling for respect for our Constitutional and treaty obligations and, even more sensibly, for longer-term “solutions” such as enabling refugees to work freely and integrate. Coastal politicians fell on this side of the debate.

The public, however, remains divided. Scapegoating and xenophobia come easy when people are angry and scared. As Kenyans are in the aftermath of the Garissa attack.

The immediate reason for the calls for the camp's closure is evident. Intelligence has apparently informed the executive and relevant parliamen-

tary committees that the camp is used for the co-ordination and planning of attacks by Al Shabaab. Which may be true. But so, presumably, are other sites in Kenya given the geographic spread of attacks both big and small.

The GoK says it is annoyed with the slow pace of implementation of the tripartite agreement between it, the government of Somalia and UNHCR on voluntary returns. But the tripartite agreement was always intended to be piloted first (which has now hap-

We need longer-term solutions. Which do not include forced returns. But do include integration

pened). It was also always intended to be based not on “push” factors in Kenya (which would make the returns involuntary) but on “pull” factors in Somalia. Those factors, to date, are neither strong nor stable.

The GoS barely controls the territory around the capital. No sane person would want to return to territory still marked by clashes between Al Shabaab and the African Union Mission in Somalia or risk being caught in the cross-fire. Neither would any sane person want to return to territory controlled by Al Shabaab and risk be-

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No sane person wants to return to territory controlled by Al Shabaab.”



L. Muthoni Wanyeki

ing targeted for any number of its odd demands: Growing beards long, no wearing short trousers, no listening to music, watching football or chewing khat. But the worst demands are all the strictures around simply being women: Covering hair, covering faces, not going out alone, not running businesses, not being in the company of men other than those from one's family. Risking medieval punishments like amputations, lashings and stoning.

We are not Saudis. Including those of us who happen to be Somali. Let's be honest. Life under Al Shabaab is not only not fun, it is also dangerous and unnecessarily restrictive.

The parliamentary human-rights caucus is correct. We need longer-term solutions. Which do not include forced encampment and forced returns. But do include integration. Surely the GoK, with its sudden appetite for pan-Africanism, could set the example. For the Africa-without-borders to come.

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It's been some time now since we abandoned all pretence of debating our problems.”



Jenerali Ulimwengu

The thinking heads in and around Dar es Salaam have been having a field day on the Internet, labouring over what they see as a probable terror threat to Tanzania and wondering whether the country is prepared to deal with such a threat if it were to be realised.

There is an invitation in all the correspondence for people to take the issues of security and public safety more seriously than they are taken at the present for we could be in real trouble. What has happened in the region recently has been given as additional reason why we should cultivate more vigilance.

To which I say, yes, let's discuss these issues, for they are real. Yes, we are faced with a real and present danger of getting attacked anytime, anywhere, because those who would attack us need no invitation and their motivation we may not exactly comprehend. They choose and target the softest of soft points and mean to inflict maximum pain to a chosen section of unsuspecting humanity.

We need to talk about terror, yes, but first we must stop shouting at each other

Yes, let's discuss the whys and the wherefores, and maybe also the hows involved in the prevention of or reaction to such eventual attacks. We surely can learn more through sharing our ideas on the convoluted issues involved in this endeavour than if we continue to worry and panic ourselves over impending bloodbaths about which we can know but little.

And yet, how are we going to start discussing these questions, which in certain circumstances are considered sensitive, when we have lost the habit of discussing even the most non-sensitive matters? It's been quite some time now since we Tanzanians abandoned all pretence of debating our problems and instead have taken to shouting slogans and hurling insults at each other, when not mumbling incomprehensible gibberish.

The political space — what they call political, at any rate — takes pride of place when it comes to this sad state. You don't have to discuss policy matters to be a politician, as long as you know how to lie and how to shout every time you want to come across as having made a memorable speech.

It seems there is a tournament for foul mouth of the year now that we are headed towards a general election. Those who consider themselves

political operatives have sharpened their tongues and hypothecated their brains till the elections are lost and won. For now, they will fly on autopilot, with no brains.

Unfortunately, security concerns need brains to address them. I believe the guys going around attacking people and institutions do so for a reason, because it's hard to accept the perception that these are no more than a bunch of crazed thugs whose thirst for blood is unquenchable.

Done wrong?

If we gave ourselves time to have a continuing conversation about our situation at strategic level, we could maybe uncover a few areas where we have done things the wrong way: The questions we should be asking ourselves are legion and their list is growing. The greater the silence surrounding these problems, the longer the list grows because unanswered questions engender fresh ones.

Often has it been said that what is not used atrophies, and that is true of the habit of questioning everything in our midst. If we've lost that faculty of being inquisitive in our ordinary lives, we will not suddenly rediscover it in the heat of terror and destruction. When the worst attacks take place we

will be as clueless as our rulers, and devil take the hindmost.

For those who will survive these troubled times some serious reflection is called for. An underground current of anger and resentment may be coming to the surface via movements and trends that we cannot fathom because they defy classical pigeonholing though they are as real as you and me.

If we've lost that faculty of being inquisitive in our ordinary lives, we won't suddenly rediscover it in the heat of terror and destruction

Else, explain to me why young, super intelligent men and women abandon all the world seems to hold for them to go and join bands of utterly disgusting mass murderers. Are these kids mad, or are we, the supposedly normal human beings, in fact, raving mad, only we don't know it?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Electronic correspondence should be sent to: eastafrican@nation.co.ke.
Send attached text or Word documents

Smart strategies, not walls, will see us win terrorism war

AS WE mourn the victims of Garissa University College terrorist attack that killed 148 people, what can we do to avoid or limit similar occurrences in future?

While the quest for a lasting solution has included suggestions of building walls and even closing refugee camps, the solution to insecurity in Kenya lies in building strategic relations.

Though the complexity of countering terrorism calls for different strategies, we must not assume that when we build walls terrorists will not think of alternatives as Al Shabaab has demonstrated it is a dynamic outfit employing strategies that are changing faster than our security forces can cope.

The war on terrorism is about winning hearts and minds; in this case, include the Somali community in our strategies. How, for example, will our relationship with Somali be viewed were we to build a wall on our common border?

Building of a wall, it can be

argued, could lead to changes in how we engage as nations. Borrowing from the US example, it is no coincidence that US has frosty relations with Mexico, with which it has a physical fence along its common border. What would happen, for example, if the US were to build a physical fence around its common border with Canada, with which it has enjoyed better relations despite ever increasing security threats?

While walls can delay or restrict movement of people, they are not impregnable.

When our counterterrorism measures are deemed discriminatory, opportunities for effective co-operation are reduced or lost altogether.

Security forces must make efforts to recruit minorities groups such as Kenyan Asians, Kenyan Somalis, Kenyans of European origin into security force as that will help reduce the perception of alienation.

Most of all, maintaining good relations with other countries for shared intelligence and investing in technology to match or even surpass the level of sophistication that Al Shabaab and other terror gangs are employing will make the country more secure.

In addition, in the recent past Kenya's insecurity has been blamed on corruption, mistrust, ill-equipped security personnel and the unco-ordinated response of security forces. Addressing these issues will not only improve credibility of our security organs but improve security to ensure that those entrusted with safeguarding our security are well motivated and trained to do the job.

Suleiman Okoth
Via e-mail

Ugandans don't have to wait for govt help

We have recently witnessed deaths of people known to the public — some stay in Uganda for treatment, others raise money to go to Nairobi and India but die, incurring even more costs to transport the bodies back home among others.

It is high time Ugandans believed in their own people and resources, loved their country more than anything else and worked hard to make Uganda a better place, for it starts there.

Why should we raise money for an ailing citizen to receive "better" treatment abroad but

they end up dying, despite the millions and the professional treatment? So how good are these foreign hospitals that take a lot of money, which could even clear part of Ugandan doctors' salaries, so they can eradicate corruption and theft of drugs in Mulago Referral Hospital?

Here is my thought: Since we can't doubt we have the best doctors in the land, why don't we use the same solidarity we use to save these popular personalities, like washing cars to raise money, to raise money to develop the infrastructure of these health institutions, and salaries for these doctors so we can encourage our health workers to do their work efficiently and save more Ugandans?

Not only will we save the popular ones but the millions of people in the same battle who are just overshadowed by their status. For example, why not continue the fundraising started by a local TV station and send the money to the Mulago Cancer Institute?

The government is not the only body to help Ugandans, we can do it ourselves.

Asiimire Joanita
Makerere University

POLITICS AND VERSE

'The Paranoid Western Diplomat Visits Mombasa'

Mandazis stuffed with spoonfuls of explosives,
And these waves that shake like gelignite.
Fort Jesus could be useful if the Al Shabaab
Attack. Yes, palms look lovely through my

Bomb-proofed, tinted glass. A G-and-T?
My man will taste it for you just before you
Sip. We switch our cars from day to day;
My wife detests it, but I think she
understands.

My kids build castles in the sand? You must
be
Joking. In this climate in this climate
Of humidity and threats it would be suicide to
Play; they sit inside, they sulk, they sweat,

For as the stonefish and the tiger sharks
Can pass beyond the reef, the men in camou-
Flage and black can pass unnoticed in the
street.
We do not dine; we do not dance; we never
swim,

All flesh is grass, and in the grass we've
snakes
And subterfuge, and arsenals of AK-47s.
Shh, the doors are barred and bolted. No,
Mombasa's
Not a paradise; it's one short blast from hell or
sudden heaven.

Stephen Partington
stepartington@yahoo.co.uk



Illustration: Patrick Gathara

Joachim Burwembo

Anatomy of a Kampala traffic jam: The snooty, the morose and the busy

These days there are three types of people that you can see in a Kampala traffic jam. First there are the many of us in 14-seater matatus locally called taxis and more recently, “kamunye,” which means hawk. They are called so because of their speed and recklessness as they go about picking up passengers, the way a hawk picks out its prey.

The people inside a kamunye are generally unhappy and most have given up hope of ever becoming happy. They had pegged their happiness to getting material wealth, which includes a car. In their lamentations, they tend to ask why all those cars in Kampala don't include one of that belongs to them. They look enviously at the second type of people stuck in the jam in private cars.

This second type are either driving saloons or SUVs. Those in SUVs, especially the ladies, look down, literally, at the passengers in the kamunye. There is a certain way a woman driving an elevated SUV stuck in a jam casts a pitying sideways and downward look at the passengers in a kamunye as she waits for the traffic to start moving again. Should your eyes happen to meet, the SUV driver or passenger looks away in guilt, like someone who doesn't intend to give any alms caught looking at a



Illustration: John Nyagah

beggar.

Those in saloons and SUVs do not want anything to do with those in the kamunye. They do not want to be reminded of those days when they used to commute in these collective contraptions. They have arrived in the good life of self-drive, and do not want to know what happens in the other world of kamunye. They are inside a nice car with the windows up enjoying AC, while the masses are packed in the sweaty kamunyes.

Both the kamunye crowd and the self-drive lot curse the third group — those on boda boda bike taxis. But these are the only people who are full of hope. In fact, you see them but they are not stuck

in the jam, they are whizzing past you, even at the traffic junctions. They have things to do.

The boda boda passengers include Indians, whom you will hardly find in the other two groups. In Kampala, only rich Indians drive private cars. The others are on boda boda, on the way to becoming rich. Many of the black Africans on boda boda in the city are also on their way to becoming rich, and cannot afford to waste time seated in traffic jams. They are making a delivery somewhere or are picking up something important and time is of great value to them. Some

of them have parked their private car somewhere and will pick it up in the evening to go home.

Sadly, there is no fourth category, one which I would have loved to see — those riding bicycles. We can list many reasons why bicycles would be good in the city, from enhancing physical fitness, reducing pollution and saving lots of money on fares and petrol. But as long as the authorities do not see value in creating cycling lanes, nobody would risk their life on a bicycle in a city of bad drivers — bad not only at driving, but sometimes bad hearted too. If you doubt this, ask the boda boda riders what happens when they try to overtake a kamunye.

LAST WORD

Paedophilia not a crime? Set this archbishop to cutting grass in the cop station

A Catholic bishop in the US left the world perplexed when he testified that he didn't know having sex with children was a crime. “I'm not sure whether I knew it was a crime or not,” said St Louis Archbishop Robert Carlson, who is part of a lawsuit accusing more than 100 priests and church employees of sex abuse.

“I understand today it's a crime,” Robert Carlson, now a 69-year-old archbishop in St Louis but formerly an auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, gave a deposition last month for a lawsuit that claims the Minnesota Archdiocese and the Diocese of Winona caused a “public nuisance” by not disclosing information on abusive priests.

Others wondered whether he could be suffering from dementia, because how can one not know this was not legal much less not be sure if he knew or not? Carlson admitted during the deposition that while he never reported sex abuse himself, he did encourage parents to report sex abuse to police on at least one occasion.

Carlson has reportedly been involved in handling sexual abuse cases in Minnesota for 15 years.

The toddler who would be president

“I want to be the US president even though I'm not yet

out of nappies!”: A hilarious U-tube clip shows a young boy, Zeke breaking into tears after being told he is too young to run for president. Sobbing as he lies in bed, Zeke tells his mother that he wants to run for president instead of Hillary Clinton.

He confirms to his mum he has all the qualifications needed for the role. When his mother asks: “What would you do if you were president?”, Zeke emotionally replies: “Play. And toys.”

She gently tries to tell him that he is slightly too young for such responsibility, but this little boy isn't having any of it. Giving in, the mother adds: “OK, we're going to have to work on your platform then.”

Malingering dog gets the miss in baulk

They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks — but a dog in UK has gone the extra mile in an attempt to land a treat.

The creative canine was captured on a 20-second video clip faking injury before miraculously strolling on when it became clear it wasn't getting any attention. The dog dragged itself on its hind legs as if they had gone lame as it followed passers-by for several metres.

But the dog casually leaped back up onto all fours when passing members of the public showed no interest in its supposed plight.

A tongue wider than an iPhone 6 earns US man title of Gobfather

A dad and daughter have become overnight celebrities - for having the world's widest tongues. American Byron Schlenker made it into Guinness Book of World Records for having 8.6cm wide tongue, which is 2cm wider than an iPhone 6. And daughter Emily, 14, is not far behind at 7.3cm — the widest female tongue in the world.

Byron, 47, who has now been nicknamed the Gobfather, only discovered his rare gift when he picked

up a copy of the Guinness Book of World Records while helping Emily with a school project at the library. The father-of-three said: “Turning the page I saw that the world's widest tongue was a guy from Australia at 7.9cm. Emily said: ‘I really didn't want anything to do with it’ at first but I measured my tongue and I found out it was wider. “It does feel a little weird. It's something that doesn't happen every day.”

South Africa has no monopoly of 'negrophobia' in Africa

South Africa is in the news again, and again for the wrong reasons. There is a great deal of good news coming out of Nelson Mandela's country. There is, however, also a lot of not-so-good news and, every now and then, torrents of bad news.

But bad news can also sometimes be rather entertaining. Consider the video clips on social media depicting the country's president being harangued at length in parliament, or muggers plying their trade with breathtaking audacity in broad daylight, even when there is a risk that their images will be captured on camera.

This time the bad news is bad, through and through, whichever way one chooses to look at it. The latest mass attacks by ordinary South Africans on "foreign" Africans living and working in their midst have caused shock across the globe and drawn much ire from across the continent. Anger is particularly high in countries whose nationals have been identified as the main targets, and those where locals feel that somehow South Africans owe them a debt of gratitude for offering their exiles and freedom fighters sanctuary when they needed it.

The general tendency has been, and rightly so, to condemn the South African government for not preventing the attacks, and South Africans for their xenophobia.

There is something not quite right about the perennial reference by other Africans to the assistance they rendered to South Africans running away from oppression under the apartheid government. It seems to suggest

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Not too long ago, DRC nationals were thrown out of Congo-Brazzaville like dogs.”



Frederick Golooba-Mutebi

that the assistance was rendered in the expectation that once the exiles took power, their former hosts would be at liberty to come and go as they wished, and do pretty much whatever they wished.

The denunciations of South Africa and South Africans are, generally speaking, justified. They are also hypocritical in some cases. In our own Great Lakes region where some of the loudest criticism of South Africans can be heard, we are not short of examples of governments evicting foreign Africans at short notice, and of locals setting upon them with the same ferocity television images have been conveying to us from South Africa.

Not too long ago, DRC nationals were thrown out of Congo-Brazzaville like dogs, most with only the clothes they were wearing, some having been subjected to physical

Graft means illegal immigrants can insert themselves into communities where competition for livelihoods is already cutthroat

violence. DRC nationals are themselves hardly innocent. Some of the localised episodes of armed violence have to do with attempts to evict "foreigners" and send them to wherever they are said to belong.

And then there was Burundi expelling "illegal" Rwandans shortly after Tanzania had expelled Malawians, Burundians and Congolese, and then evicted violently thousands of Kinyarwanda-speaking "Rwandans" and, some say, Tanzanians whose forebears had left Rwanda more than a half a century previously. The only difference is that we have not heard much about the details of these events because the media chose not to dwell on them.

Non-blacks ignored

Moreover, as in South Africa, in these countries too, non-African (non-black) illegal immigrants, among them Europeans, Americans, Pakistanis, Indians, Chinese, Lebanese and Arabs of various descriptions, are for the most part ignored. So what is now being popularised as afrophobia or negrophobia is as African as it is South African. And South Africans are just as welcoming of foreign Africans as the rest of us if they choose to be so.

I lived and worked there for some years, with the only time I was ever reminded of my foreignness being when I found myself in the midst of poor and illiterate Shangaan villagers in the northeast, whose motivation for calling me *kwerekwere*, albeit jokingly, must have been the desire to assert their supposed superiority as "South Africans" to the "Afri-

can" who couldn't speak their language. In more polished sections of South African society, hardly anyone seemed to remember that I was "African."

So, it's not surprising that the violence has been in those areas of KwaZulu-Natal and elsewhere, where local South Africans are mainly poor, ill-educated, and unemployed, and therefore frustrated with their lives, and desperate for attention from a government seen as uncaring. And it is among these desperate people that African immigrants arriving with nothing except their determination to overcome adversity, install themselves and go on to become successful and jealousy-inducing informal sector operators.

Analysts have been quick to accuse the South African state of responsibility for the violence. Apparently, poor controls, inattention, and corruption have meant that genuine and bogus refugees as well as illegal immigrants without means of livelihood can enter and insert themselves into communities where competition for livelihood opportunities is already cutthroat and, through sheer hard work and the will to survive, crowd out the locals. The formulation may not explain everything, but it points to how state weakness can impact society in unexpected ways and even kill.

Frederick Golooba-Mutebi is a Kampala- and Kigali-based researcher and writer on politics and public affairs. E-mail: fgmutebi@yahoo.com

A strong man is good to find? Who'd want to live in an uptight society like Singapore?

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This is as close as we ever get to an ideological debate: To despot or not to despot, pros and cons?”



Elsie Eyakuze

With the referendum on the proposed constitution safely postponed, Tanzanians are left with a cool six months to ponder issues of leadership as we anticipate the coming general election. After all, getting up the energy to vote is largely an exercise in hope and imagination, as well as deep cogitation and sober judgement. Not to mention the effect of great campaign slogans.

These are incredibly exciting times, especially since so far the field remains wide open with many declarations of intent and no firm candidates yet. Six months may be cutting it close, but it also guarantees that there will be no time to get fatigued by the candidates before it's time for the ballot. The question is what kind of leadership style seems to be the popular choice?

When Lee Kuan Yew died earlier

this year, the depth of feeling his passing elicited in some of the local press took me somewhat by surprise. The story of Singapore's success under his stewardship took on almost mythical proportions. And comparative development raised its head. Interesting as it was, direct comparisons between a hulking post-colonial African polity like Tanzania and a teacup of a city-state like Singapore are perhaps not particularly realistic.

Still, the underlying message is clear, and has been around for as long as we have been independent. There is a hankering for a "strong leader," by which folks tend to mean a benevolent dictator in the guise of democratically elected president. Someone who can get things done, whatever the cost. This is as close as we ever get to an ideological debate: To despot or not to despot, pros and cons? There is something dangerous in this line of thinking, something that is slyly hostile to democratic principles.

Let's not tempt fate here: Lightning doesn't strike in the same place

We got our founding father dose of benevolent despotism and it was a lucky roll of the dice. Mwalimu was exceptional

twice. We got our founding father dose of benevolent despotism and it was a lucky roll of the dice. Mwalimu was exceptional. Imperfect, sure, but also inexplicably immune to the massively destructive moral collapses that overtake so many who are burdened with absolute power. He didn't have to politick in the information age. And manners meant something back in the 20th century — thuggery wasn't a component of the political culture.

No repeat

There is absolutely nothing about the present conditions to suggest that this class act could be repeated, no matter what candidates say who reference him as their role model. In the media, we have been indulging in some very sweet nostalgia, with quotes and programmes about him increasing in frequency as we meander towards October. I think it should serve as a reminder to us that the past is firmly past, even as we use Mwalimu as a moral measuring stick against which any contemporary candidate is sure to underachieve.

There's the underlying chauvinism, highlighted by the fact that the master-list of self-declared presidential hopefuls is alarmingly devoid of women. As it is, the battle for the consideration of young candidates was fraught (it still is), even though we have history to prove that modern Tanzania was

consolidated and administered largely by people who had just squeaked past their twenties. Again, like then perhaps, this country is youthful and benefiting from women's participation in the formal economy and public life. How can the idea of regressing to a strongman make sense?

Besides which, abdicating individual political responsibility in the hopes that one person could get it all right on behalf of all of us is wishful. Of course, electoral representative democracy is annoying: You have to show up and research and register and vote and refrain from the existential despair that creeps up on one when you observe politicians too closely. But when it works it is the best defence available, to date, against, well, those things that happen in totalitarian regimes.

Ultimately, the safety and enjoyability of so-called authority are false. The affably cheerful and biddable citizen belongs in the very same archives that keep coughing up black-and-white footage of days gone by. What would happen if modern Tanzanians were tasked with living a regime as legendarily uptight as Singapore's? No chewing gum, no moonshine, getting caned for minor infractions... oh wait, we already have that.

Having tasted our chaotic little freedom and tested collective actions to resist what we perceive as unwanted state interference, I very much doubt that we have what it takes to adapt to a strongman anyways.

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Equalisation Fund: When it comes to ending marginalisation, there will be no big bang

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What is needed is a vision for how to achieve something memorable with this fund.”



Jason Lakin

About a month ago, the national government gazetted the guidelines for Kenya's Equalisation Fund. They were long overdue; the Equalisation Fund was created by the 2010 Constitution to improve services in the most marginalised parts of the country. It should have started operating by 2013 at the latest. It probably could have started to operate even earlier, but it required a policy from the Commission on Revenue Allocation on marginalised areas, which was provided only in February 2013.

So let us say that we are about two years late with these guidelines, which in turn require ministerial work plans that may not be approved in time for this budget season, meaning we may need to wait still longer for these funds to be disbursed. That is a shame, as the objectives of the Equalisation Fund are earnestly desired by so many Kenyans.

Was it worth the wait? I don't think so. First of all, on the one issue that the Constitution left open, and on which we would have wanted clarity from these guidelines (will the money be used by national government directly or will it be given as conditional grants?), there is none. The guidelines indicate that we will deal with this on a case-by-case basis, based on the ministerial work plans mentioned above. Flexibility is not a bad thing, but this is a small, time-bound fund. For it to have an impact, there must be a focused plan for its use. Yes, a “robust management structure” is needed, as National Treasury states in the guidelines. But what is needed far more is a vision for how to achieve something memorable with this fund.

The guidelines anticipate a board consisting of principal secretaries of the national departments related to the four constitutionally mandated services (roads, water, electricity and health). Their respective departments will propose work plans to be reviewed by the board. The board will advise on how much to put here or there and whether it should be a conditional grant or not. This sounds like a recipe for lots of small projects divided across lots of counties.

Although the four services covered by the Fund are all shared or devolved functions, there is no county representation on this board. Who will ensure that the national work plans are related properly to county

plans, take into consideration local priorities, and recognise the complementary roles of the two levels of government? Perhaps such representation will be covered by the four additional members that are “outside the public service”, but perhaps not. The board may also form local “committees” to advise on projects, which sounds ominously like CDF, and another parallel programme that will duplicate or undermine county plans.

The main problem with the way that the Equalisation Fund is rolling out, aside from delays caused by parliament's attempt to grab it and drive it through the CDF, relates to CRA's marginalisation policy rather than these guidelines. By choosing to focus on counties as the unit of analysis, the CRA missed an opportunity to help us think about the massive inequities within counties.

Inequalities in Kenya are in most cases more severe at constituency and ward level than at county level. For example, data from Kenya National Bureau of Statistics and the Society for International Development released in 2013 show that the range of poverty rates among counties is four to one. This means that the county with the highest share of poor people has four times the share of the county with the lowest share of poor people. But at the ward level, the ward with the highest share of poor people has 30 times the share of the ward with the lowest share of

poor people.

Given that the Constitution speaks of marginalised areas and marginalised communities, there is no reason to assume that the Equalisation Fund should target counties. It would make as much sense to target the most marginalised wards in the country through a conditional grant that brought together a stream of resources capable of overcoming that marginalisation.

This would require an assessment of the most marginalised wards in the country by access to the four services, and a strategy that links the available funds to guaranteeing that in those wards, however many can be managed, it would be possible “to bring the quality of those services in those areas to the level generally enjoyed by the rest of the nation, so far as possible.”

Whether this is done through a conditional grant or not is less im-

Instead of counties, it would make as much sense to target the most marginalised wards in the country through a conditional grant

portant than whether there is an ambitious, coherent plan to make it happen and to which national departments and counties make their contributions. In this regard, both the CRA policy and the guidelines fall short. When it comes to ending marginalisation, it seems, there will be no big bang.

Jason Lakin is Kenya country manager for the International Budget Partnership. E-mail: jason.lakin@gmail.com

US vs China: Can the ageing celebrity accept the new reality?

Giving up the spotlight is never easy. The United States, like many ageing celebrities, is struggling to share the stage with new faces, especially China. The upcoming meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank — two institutions dominated by the US and its Western allies — provide an ideal opportunity to change that.

The US must come to terms with the reality that the world has changed. The longer it remains in a state of denial, the more damage it will do to its interests and its global influence, which remains substantial, if more constrained than before.

The world no longer adheres to the static Cold War order, with two blocs locked in open but guarded confrontation. Nor does it work according to the Pax Americana that dominated in the decade after the Soviet Union's collapse, when the US briefly emerged as the sole superpower.

Today's world is underpinned by a multipolar order that emerged from the rise of developing economies — most notably China — as major actors in trade and finance. The US — not to mention the other G-7 countries — now must compete and co-operate not only with China, but also with India, Brazil, and others through expanded forums like the G-20.

To this end, the US must show leadership and adaptability. It cannot refuse to support China's efforts to expand its role in global governance. Nor should it issue harsh re-

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The US risks losing its ability to shape what comes next.”



Paola Subacchi

bukes to its allies when they do not follow suit, as it did when the United Kingdom announced its intention to join the new China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

The US seems to be stuck in the Bretton Woods system, the rules-based order — underpinned by the IMF and the World Bank, with the US dollar at its heart — that emerged after World War II. The Bretton Woods system institutionalised America's geopolitical supremacy, leaving the old imperial power, the UK, to step aside — a step that it took graciously, if a little desperately, given its grave post-war economic situation.

Over the years, however, the Bretton Woods system, with its mix of liberal multilateralism and market-oriented economic policies, has come to symbolise the Anglo-American dominance of the global economy that much of the world now criticises, especially since the global financial crisis. In particular, the Washington Consensus — the set

of free-market principles that influences the policies of the IMF, the World Bank, the US, and the UK — has generated considerable resentment, especially after the Asian financial crisis of the 1990s.

Against this backdrop, it is hardly surprising that China has been using its growing global influence to help engineer a new economic order — one in which the US dollar does not reign supreme. Zhou Xiaochuan, the governor of the People's Bank of China, China's central bank, has repeatedly called for a shift toward an international monetary system that allows for the use of multiple currencies for payments and investment. Such an approach would reduce the risk and impact of liquidity crises, while decoupling the international monetary system from the “economic conditions and sovereign interests of any single country.”

Since 2009, China's leadership has been pursuing a set of policies that encourage the use of the renminbi in regional trade and reduce its dependence on the dollar in international payments. But expanding the renminbi's role in the international monetary system is just the first step toward institutionalising a multipolar world order. China has also spearheaded the establishment of new multilateral institutions, with AIIB following on the heels of the New Development Bank, created with other major emerging economies (Brazil, Russia, India, and South Africa).

By taking these steps, China's leaders

have called attention to the inadequacy of the existing international monetary system, and its institutional framework, in today's complex, multipolar world economy. In particular, China's agenda highlights questions about America's capacity to provide the needed liquidity to support international trade and finance.

As the US stubbornly pursues a policy of containment toward China — exemplified in its fight against the AIIB's establishment, its relentless accusations of currency manipulation, and its refusal to ratify IMF reforms that would increase China's influence — it risks losing its ability to shape what comes next. The result could be a world of fragmented blocs — an outcome that would undermine not only global prosperity, but also co-operation on shared challenges.

The Spring Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank offer an important opportunity to signal a new approach toward China. And there could be no more credible signal than US support for the renminbi's addition to the basket of currencies that the IMF uses to value its international reserve asset, the Special Drawing Right. America will be in the spotlight once again. How will it perform?

Paola Subacchi is research director of international economics at Chatham House and professor of economics at the University of Bologna

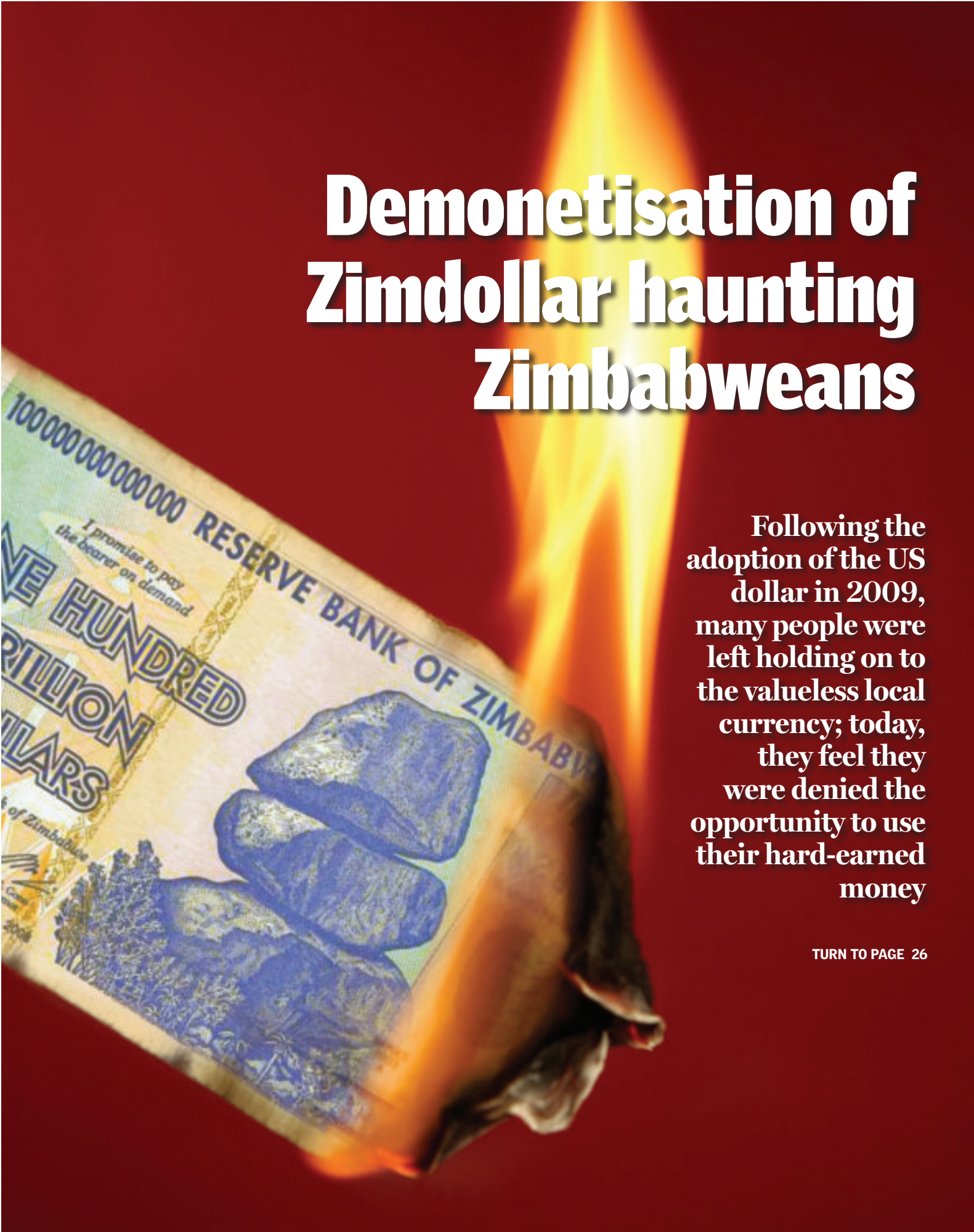
OUTLOOK

AFRICAN AFFAIRS, ECONOMICS, TRADE, SECURITY, ENVIRONMENT

APRIL 18-24, 2015

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DESPAIR: RUNAWAY INFLATION AND A MORIBUND CURRENCY



Demonetisation of Zimdollar haunting Zimbabweans

Following the adoption of the US dollar in 2009, many people were left holding on to the valueless local currency; today, they feel they were denied the opportunity to use their hard-earned money

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Globe marks one year after Nigerian school girls' abductions
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Why ban on plastics in Uganda may be good for Kenya
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Is technology phasing out human pilots?
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For many Zimbabweans, the long dead Zimdollar brings back painful memories



A street child in downtown Harare displays a sheaf of Z\$200,000 notes. Picture: File

By MTOKOZISI DUBE
Special Correspondent

When Zimbabwe's economic crisis reached its nadir in early 2009, the banking sector was in a shambles, with very few people keen on depositing their cash in banks. The Zimdollar was so worthless that putting it in the bank would only result in the loss of value of the money as inflation galloped away, with prices of goods increasing three times a day.

While normalcy seemingly returned in the economy following the adoption of the US dollar in 2009, many people were left holding valueless Zimdollar notes.

Many like Richard Nkatha, who moved to Gaborone, Botswana, in 2011, are still in possession of the Zimdollar notes, some of which ran as high as 100 trillion dollars.

The change to the US dollar was a relief but the speed at which the Zimdollar was rendered valueless left a bitter taste in the mouths of many people. Emotions still run high when the issue is brought up, as people feel they were denied the opportunity to use their hard-earned money. There is a feeling of despondency when it comes to the issue of Zimdollars as people feel it is better to forget about them and move on.

"Yes, it is painful when you have money and one day you wake up and are told that it is no longer of any value. For me, the Zimdollar has many bad memories, I do not want to think about it; I want to move on. We made efforts to recover our funds but the Government has been quiet and those who were reimbursed their funds were given \$5 irrespective of how much money they had in the bank," Mr Nkatha, who



Zimbabweans queue outside a bank in Harare, Zimbabwe on December 31, 2007 to exchange their local currency, hours before the former was to cease being legal tender. Picture: AFP

has a lot of Zimdollars, told *The EastAfrican*.

The period caused a loss of trust in the banking system among the general public, and although banks and government have been trying to encourage people to keep their US dollars in the bank, many are reluctant to hand over their funds to the financial institutions because they still have sad memories of that

period.

Julius Tapera, chairman of the Department of Accounting and Finance at Lupane State University, says news of

"The speed at which the Zimdollar was rendered valueless left a bitter taste in the mouths of many."

the imminent demise of the Zimdollar did not reach most areas; and rural folk lost out as they never used the banking system.

Zimbabwe's Reserve Bank Governor John Mangudya last year initiated a move to compensate account holders who lost their savings when the government introduced multi-currencies in 2009. The RBZ used the rate of one US dollar

to 35,000 Zimbabwe dollars when it demonetised the local currency.

Under the process, everybody who had an account as at December 2008 would be awarded a blanket \$5 per account regardless of whether there was any credit in their bank balances. Recently, though, Mr Mangudya said that all Zimdollar bank balances as at December 2008

will be divided by the then United Nations US dollar exchange rate, with the minimum payment per account slated at \$5.

The demonetisation of the local currency will be completed by June 30, allowing many people who had stashed the Zimbabwe dollar to finally discard it. The government is expected to release \$20 million for the process.

The local currency was abandoned in favour of mainly the US dollar and the South African rand. Other currencies accepted in the banks were the Australian dollar, British pound, Botswana pula and to a limited extent the Euro, Indian rupee, the Chinese yuan and Japanese yen.

However, a new trend emerged in 2013, where enterprising people began selling

their old notes, particularly the 100 trillion Zimdollar note to tourists.

Jonas Mudimba, a trader in the resort town of Victoria Falls, said he sold some 100 trillion notes to tourists, and says with a bit of luck, one could fetch up to \$40. Tourists bought the note to take home as a souvenir.

Recovering funds

"Yes, it had to take the enterprising to do that but it is not all people with the notes that will benefit from this exercise, which I think is a good way for one to recover the funds they lost," said Mr Tapera.

The local currency was made moribund in 2009 when the government sought to arrest runaway inflation.

The RBZ redenominated the Zimbabwe dollar in 2006, 2008 and 2009, to deal with inflation, with the highest being a 100 trillion dollar banknote printed on bond paper after the German company that used to supply the special paper stopped doing so because of economic sanctions imposed on the country. The central bank would also occasionally slash the zeros from the notes amid concerns from businesses that the many zeros were crashing their computer systems.

Zimbabwe has a huge external debt and Economic Minister, Patrick Chinamasa is on record as saying the debt had become a major impediment to the country's efforts to access concessionary borrowing from multilateral lenders.

The Southern African country owes the World Bank \$1 billion, the IMF \$142 million and \$566 million to the AfDB. The debt-ridden country also owes the Paris Club \$3.09 billion and the European Investment Bank \$350 million.



A customer buys bread in Harare in September 2008 using the Zimdollar. Pic: AFP

Tight liquidity to keep inflation below 0pc

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AFP

ZIMBABWE'S inflation rate will probably remain below 0 per cent this year because of tight liquidity within the Southern African nation, and a weakening of the rand in neighbouring South Africa, the central bank said.

Company closures, which rose to 87 last year from 44 in 2013, alongside "companies in distress," have contributed to Zimbabwe's lack of liquidity, the Harare-based Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe said in its December 2014 quarterly report, released recently.

"A significant number of companies are also failing to pay their staff on a regular basis, accumulating salary arrears and further adversely impacting

"The Zimbabwe dollar isn't likely to be reintroduced until the economy normalises."

on aggregate demand," it said.

Zimbabwe, without a currency of its own, trades mainly in US dollars, though other currencies including the rand, euro and the British

pound are also legal tender. The Zimbabwe dollar, abandoned in 2009 after a chaotic hyperinflationary period, isn't likely to be reintroduced until the economy normalises, Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa said in December.

Declining gold and platinum prices last year, together with falling nickel and copper prices, showed Zimbabwe's "susceptibility to adverse international price developments," said the bank. That reiterates the need for Zimbabwe to add value to minerals before exporting them, it said.

Low metals prices, tight liquidity and constraints in the retail industry led to the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange's market value falling 12 per cent last year to \$4.3 billion, the bank said.

Dollarisation: Why Harare may have gone past the point of no return

By PERRY MUNZWEMBIRI
Special Correspondent

IT IS SIX years since Zimbabwe adopted the multi-currency monetary system in response to the chaotic hyperinflationary period that had defined the country's economy for almost a decade prior to February 2009.

Most Zimbabweans are still haunted by the memories of that era when their legal tender effectively lost its usefulness as a medium of exchange, store of value, unit of account and means for deferred payments — features that give any monetary currency its value.

Looking back in history, it is interesting to note that there has not been any economy that has reverted

to its local currency once it has dollarised. The logic behind dollarisation is that the government is aiming to reduce inflation while reaping the economic benefits of "co-opting" another country's currency.

However, the effectiveness of the strategy is debatable. The Latin American countries that have dollarised, including Panama, Ecuador and El Salvador still have to achieve notable economic development compared with their peers that have not adopted the strategy.

Some scholars have argued that for dollarisation to be effective, it must be accompanied by fundamental macroeconomic reforms as well as transformations in financial and banking institutions. Evidence shows, however, that in the short

term, partial dollarisation — where a country continues to use discretionary monetary policies in maintaining control over the economy, or full dollarisation, is efficient in reducing high inflation.

Consider Ecuador, which dollarised its economy following a severe economic crisis in 1999. Ecuador's local currency, the sucre, had gone from an exchange rate of 7,000 against the dollar, to 25,000. Following the approval of the Economic Transformation Act, which prohibited the Ecuadorian government from printing the sucre, and paved the way for the declaration of the US dollar as the country's official currency, hyper-inflation was curbed and there was rapid economic recovery.

However, the benefits were short-lived. Ecuador still continues to be characterised by poverty and high disparities in income. The financial system continues to be vulnerable due to the limits that dollarisation places on the central bank's flexibility on policy responses to crises. The climax of Ecuador's economic challenges perhaps came in the form of a political crisis that eventually triggered the downfall of president Jamil Mahuad.

Ecuador vs Zimbabwe

Similarities can be drawn between Ecuador's experiences and those of Zimbabwe since 2009. Zimbabwe's record breaking inflation was reined in, and the economy grew like it was on steroids in the

years immediately after dollarisation.

Still, Zimbabwe, like El Salvador, Panama and Ecuador, has found out that adopting the world's most powerful currency is no stroll in the park. For one, there is less sovereignty as the central bank cannot effectively use its monetary policy to respond to local economic challenges.

Another possible pitfall could be if the US dollar depreciates significantly against other major currencies, as has happened in the past.

A growing American trade deficit could also potentially harm dollarised economies.

So why is it difficult for an economy to revert to its domestic currency once it has dollarised?

The answer lies in whether the

people can manage to trust their local currency again. For Zimbabwe, as has been witnessed with the slow uptake of the recently unveiled bond coins, many locals still harbour reservations as the memories of the losses they suffered when the Zimbabwe dollar was suddenly demonetised, are still fresh in their minds.

Money largely remains intertwined with the confidence factor. And small things like being backed by a country or countries, being recognised by other countries, being minted by a stable government and having a physical form one can touch and feel, do matter.

Factors such as sufficient asset reserves to back that currency as well as the scale of production activity in the country also weigh on the

decision to reintroduce a previously demonetised currency.

Talk has been doing the rounds in Zimbabwe that the introduction of the bond coins is a precursor to full re-introduction of the Zimbabwe dollar by the country's government. Whether this is true or not, it is prudent to note the apparent lack of confidence Zimbabweans have in any deviation from the current multi-currency system, and the fact that no economy has successfully reverted to its currency once it has dollarised. This seems to imply that for Zimbabwe, the reintroduction of the Zimdollar, by whatever name they choose to call it, still remains implausible. This, however, assumes a rational government.



A money changer in Ecuador in March 2000. Pic: AFP

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VALUELESS NOTES



A new 100 billion Zimbabwean dollar note in this photo taken in July 2008. Zimbabwe's central bank introduced the high-value notes to fight spiralling hyperinflation. Pic: File

The Zimdollar was made moribund in 2009 when the government sought to arrest runaway inflation.

The country then adopted the US dollar and many people were left holding on to the valueless Zimdollar notes.

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Tight liquidity to keep inflation below 0pc

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AFP

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Point of no return

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A money changer in Ecuador in March 2000. Pic: AFP

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

Chibok abductions, one year later



The News: Ceremonies were staged around the world to mark one year since more than 200 girls were abducted by the Nigerian militant Islamist group Boko Haram.

The Lowdown: A procession was held in Nigeria's capital, Abuja, with 219 girls taking part to represent each missing girl. Events marking the anniversary were held in Lagos, France, the UK and US. The abduction of the girls in Chibok, north-eastern Nigeria, sparked global outrage, with nations such as the US and China promising to help find them. Incoming president Muhammadu Buhari has said his government will "do everything in its power to bring the girls home."

Schools in Sierra Leone re-open



The News: Schools across Sierra Leone have reopened, nine months after they were closed because of the Ebola outbreak.

The Lowdown: New cases of Ebola continue to be reported in Sierra Leone but numbers are declining. Unicef has trained 9,000 teachers in Ebola prevention and is also supplying hand-washing facilities to every school. The government hopes that the studying time lost by the country's 1.8 million children can still be made up. Sierra Leone is the last of the three countries worst affected by the Ebola virus to reopen schools. Guinea reopened its schools in January and Liberia followed a month later.

UNHCR to Kenya: Do not expel refugees



The News: The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has warned Kenya not to expel Somali refugees in response to al-Shabaab's massacre of students.

The Lowdown: The agency warned that the closure of the Dadaab refugee camp in northern Kenya would have "extreme humanitarian consequences." UNHCR says that the 1951 UN Convention on Refugees, which Kenya ratified in 1966, stipulates that countries must not forcibly return refugees to countries where they may be at risk. Kenya has given UNHCR three months to close the camp which houses 350,000 Somali refugees, saying it is a security threat.

Verdict: 15 years in jail for gang rape



The News: The three men convicted of gang-raping a teenage girl in Kenya and dumping her in a pit latrine more than a year ago have each received 15-year jail terms.

The Lowdown: The victim — known as Liz, to protect her identity — was brutally raped in 2013 in an attack that left her in a wheelchair. Initially, police punished the men by making them cut grass in their [police station] compound, an incident that spurred local and international outrage, as well as an online petition which gathered more than 1.8 million signatures, demanding justice. The case was subsequently referred to the country's judicial watchdog.

World Malaria Day: Time to address gaps in cures

Next weekend, on April 25, people across the globe will mark World Malaria Day. The World Health Organisation is calling on the global health community to address major gaps in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of the life-threatening disease, and is issuing updated malaria treatment guidelines. Statistics show that malaria mortality rates have fallen by 47 per cent globally since 2000, and by 54 per cent in the WHO African Region.

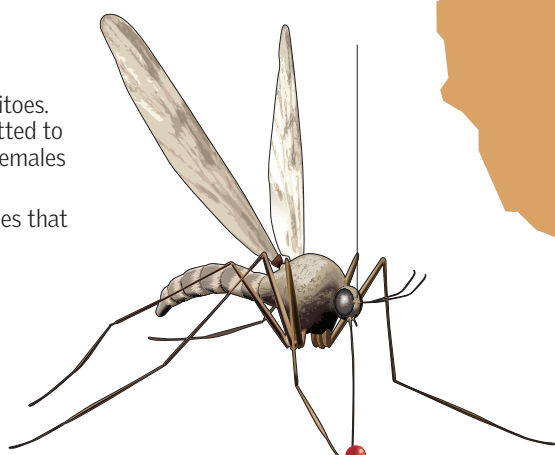
According to the latest estimates released in December last year, there were about 198 million cases of malaria in 2013 (with an uncertainty range of 124 million-283 million), and an estimated 584,000 deaths (with an uncertainty range of 367,000 to 755,000). Of these, 3,000 deaths occurred Eastern Africa countries.

3,500

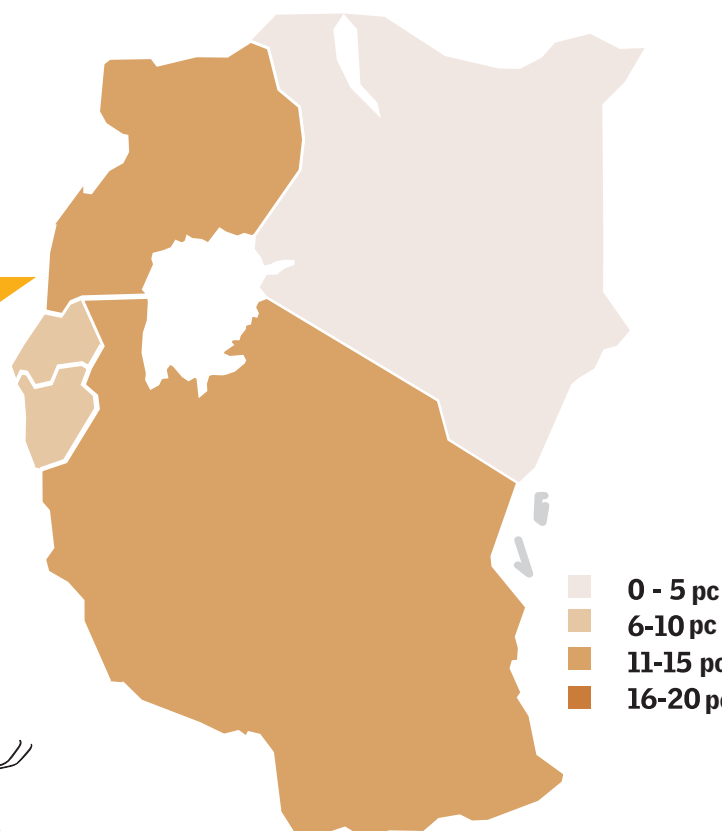
Number of species of mosquitoes. Malaria is, however, transmitted to humans only via the bite of females of the Anopheles genus.

There are four parasite species that cause malaria in humans:

- Plasmodium falciparum
- Plasmodium vivax
- Plasmodium malariae
- Plasmodium ovale.



Malaria deaths among children under five in East Africa (pc)



58pc

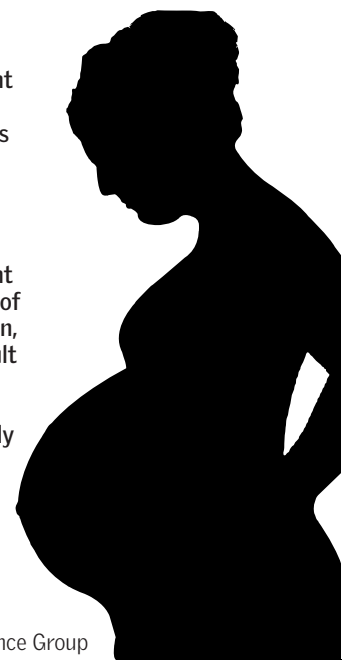
Percentage by which malaria mortality rates among children in Africa have been reduced by since 2000.

Most malaria deaths occur among children living in Africa where a child dies every minute from the disease.

Specific population risk groups include:

- Young children in stable transmission areas who have not yet developed protective immunity against the most severe forms of the disease;
- People with HIV/Aids;
- International travellers from non-endemic areas because they lack immunity;

- Among non-immune pregnant women, malaria causes high rates of miscarriage and can lead to maternal death;
- Among semi-immune pregnant women in areas of high transmission, malaria can result in miscarriage and low birth weight, especially during the first and second pregnancies.



Lifespan: 2-4 weeks

Period when mosquito is infectious

Days

Cycles



Gonotrophic cycle: Egg production and laying takes 2-4 days

Parasitic infection: Plasmodium parasite takes 10-14 days to develop to stage when it can be transmitted from a mosquito to human

Source: Child Health Epidemiology Reference Group

Q&A WITH ANDY DAVIDS

The case for building supertall skyscrapers

Aurecon's buildings director for the Middle East and North Africa discusses the rationale behind constructing supertall buildings

Do supertall buildings add value to cities?

Tall buildings address a real and important issue that many countries and cities face — the fact that we are running out of space to house people. This is a key driver of many planned projects.

In China, for example, a single square kilometre typically houses 50,000 people. These people are typically living in three to four-storey buildings — blocks of flat that cover half of the land area.

Infrastructure such as roads take another 20 per cent of the land, leaving you with about 30 per cent of the area for recreation, growing food, energy production and so forth. This is a serious concern because some areas in China will eventually run out of land to develop.

With this in mind, tall buildings not only address sustainability issues but in many cases an issue that could mean life or death to large segments of the population.

If, for example, we can house the same 50,000 people in 10 per cent of the land space, thanks to tall buildings, then we are left with 90 per cent of the area for recreation, food production, energy generation and infrastructure, which is an incredible improvement from the current situation.

Housing the population of a growing city in these tall buildings is a big winner for all involved — developers, government, as well as citizens.

Technology is helping the construction of tall buildings faster than ever before. Are there any challenges?

It took around seven years to build the Burj Khalifa, an 830-metre skyscraper in Dubai. I was the chief engineer on this project. One of the challenges that we encountered was that developers and clients cannot wait for years for a project to be completed.

Our design team has therefore come up with a holistic construction system for putting up such a building in half the time.

Modular systems are helping in faster construction of tall buildings. Does this affect the individuality and beauty of the buildings?

There's a beautiful hotel in China called the T30 Hotel. The prefabricated 30-storey tower was erected by 200 Chinese workers in just 15 days. This hotel broke the Broad Group construction company's own record of building a 15-storey building in just a week. This was all possible because modular, pre-fabricated solutions were used. We are starting to extrapolate these

principles to expedite the construction of even taller buildings. The goal is not to break records, but to deliver a high performing tall building within a short time.

How does the modular system work?

The floor system is pre-engineered and pre-built, so the floor decking and beams are already in place when we start erecting a building. The columns are also pre-engineered and brought to the site in a way that the cranes can lift them into place.

With the Shanghai Tower project, the developer wanted us to create a clever product as opposed to simply designing the building as a one-off project. This led to a focus on creating a modular solution that could be replicated. This doesn't mean that every building is going to look the same or even perform in the same way, but it gives us the ability to offer mass customisation to countries, cities and developers who need tall buildings within a short time.

Mass production of modules that can be customised according to the needs of each individual client is now a popular means of construction.

How do engineers fill the gap between technology and architectural visions for tall buildings?

Buildings are not only becoming taller, but also more majestic and able to perform better in terms of energy efficiency and indoor comfort levels for occupants.

Besides being more aesthetically pleasing, they're also becoming more economical and easier to construct.

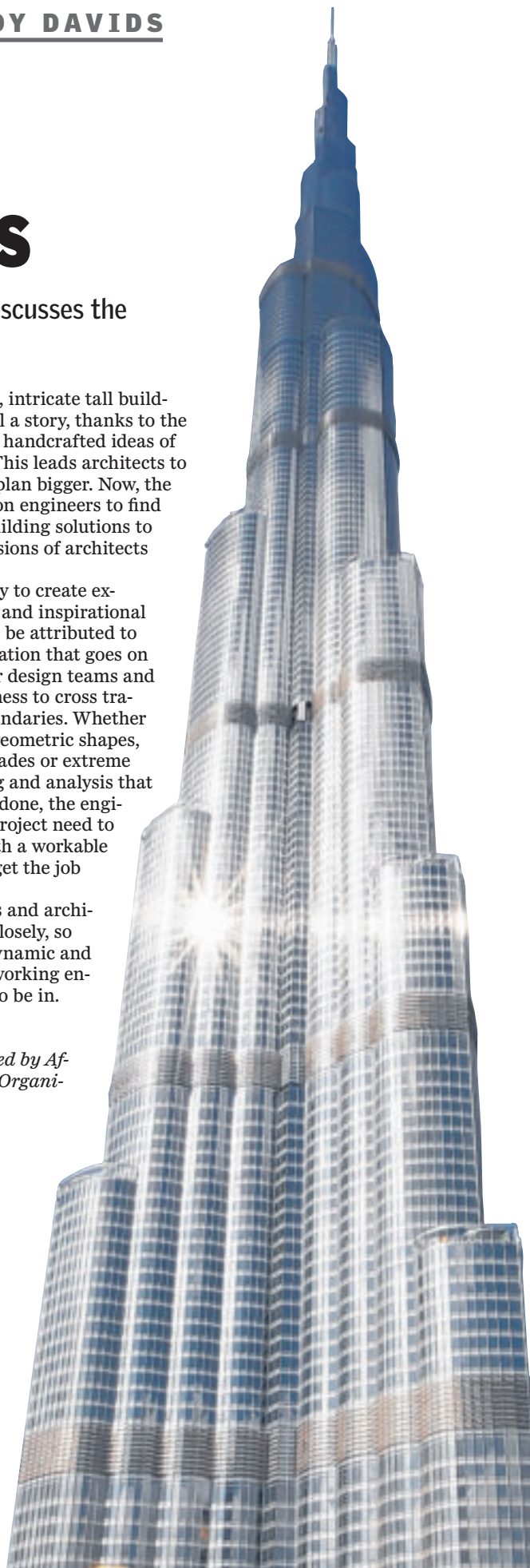
Design professionals, specifically architects, feel they are less constrained by technology than in the past — and rightfully so. As consulting engineers, it is our job to use technical skills so that an architect or a client's vision can be realised. Today, we are able to build

magnificent, intricate tall buildings that tell a story, thanks to the customised, handcrafted ideas of architects. This leads architects to dream and plan bigger. Now, the pressure is on engineers to find workable building solutions to bring the visions of architects to life.

Our ability to create extraordinary and inspirational projects can be attributed to the collaboration that goes on between our design teams and our willingness to cross traditional boundaries. Whether it's unique geometric shapes, complex facades or extreme wind testing and analysis that needs to be done, the engineers on a project need to come up with a workable solution to get the job done.

Engineers and architects work closely, so it's a very dynamic and refreshing working environment to be in.

Distributed by African Press Organisation



BIO

Dr Andrew (Andy) John Davids has joined Aurecon on August 28, 2013. He joined Aurecon from Hyder, where he was the director of structures for Middle East for eight years.

He is one of a few renowned experts who design supertall buildings. He held complete design responsibility for the Burj Khalifa, which is currently the tallest building in the world, as well as that of 838m J220 Sky City, the tallest building in China.

Other completed projects for which he was responsible are the 355m tall Emirates Towers in Dubai, the 80-level Sun Sky Towers in Abu Dhabi, and the recently completed 40-storey Central Bank of Kuwait. Other projects currently under construction are the 80-level CMA HQ Tower in Riyadh, the 80-level D1 Project on Dubai Creek, and the Metropol in Istanbul, which will be the tallest building in Europe when completed.

Russia using Uganda as gateway to EAC market

By GAAKI KIGAMBO

Special Correspondent

AS IT continues to battle isolation by the West, Russia is looking to Uganda as a gateway to the East and Central African market, as it seeks to strengthen trade and diplomatic relations through reinforcing its “soft power.”

On March 24, the Russian embassy in Kampala donated 67 Kamaz trucks to the World Food Programme at their regional warehouse in the eastern town of Tororo. The fleet is part of a total of 129 trucks that Moscow is donating to the UN relief agency for its operations in Uganda, South Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Djibouti, the DR Congo and Somalia.

The EastAfrican has learnt that this is part of a strategy to introduce the full range of Kamaz's auto products in the region over the next two years. These include tippers, haulage, trailers, mixers, tanks, cranes, buses, tractors and semi-trailers.

The manufacturer, Kamaz Inc, enjoys close relations with the Russian government. Last year, it was the first automotive company the Kremlin bailed out in order to survive a prolonged downturn on the automotive market, according to the company's website.

Not only is the donation the largest to a WFP regional fleet by a single donor, it is also the largest to the region, of all the others in which Russia is making similar offers. West Africa received a fleet of 32 while Central Asia got 57.

Moscow hopes this donation will strengthen relations with Uganda and its neighbours.

“We are keen to develop relations with as many states in the East, West and South as possible. These relations should be based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, and consideration of interests,” said Sergey Shishkin, Russia's ambassador to Uganda.

“We want to be friends with Uganda and its neighbours... We are also interested in strengthening ties with the African Union and sub-regional organisations, including the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and the EAC.” According to WFP officials, Russia's gift will augment its fleet and response capacity to more than 2.5 million South Sudanese who are in of food relief and other forms of assistance. The regional fleet had 13 trucks previously.

“The WFP has relied on Kamaz trucks for many years. They are efficient and dependable in remote areas,” said Michael Dunford, WFP's acting country director in Uganda.

DEVELOPMENT

Kenya likely to benefit most if Uganda imposes plastic bags ban

Trade minister calls urgent meeting to resolve policy dilemma

By **MICHAEL WAKABI**
The EastAfrican

Kenya's plastic manufacturing industry, already accused of being the source of lightweight polythene carrier bags in the region, could end up being the major beneficiary of a ban by Uganda on the use of such bags.

While Uganda's National Environmental Management Authority says it will enforce the ban in phases starting with major retailers on April 15, it faces the challenge of stemming the flow of thin plastic carrier bags into the country.

In a March 31 notice to major retail stores in Kampala, Nema asks them to find alternatives to plastic carrier bags.

"We have opted to start with the large retailers because they constitute the bulk of the market," Nema executive director Dr Tom Okurut told *The EastAfrican*.

Concerned about the likely impact of the ban on the \$9 million plastic recycling industry that collectively employs more than 6,000 people directly, Trade and Industry Minister Amelia Kyambadde has called an urgent meeting of stakeholders to discuss the future of plastic carrier bags.

The meeting, due April 14, will be attended by representatives from the Ministries of Finance, Trade, Water and Environment, as well as plastic manufacturers and the Kampala City Traders Association.

Plastics industry lobby, Uganda Plastic Manufacturers and Recyclers Association (UMPRA) said the regulator's action runs contrary to an ongoing process to amend the law in recognition of their efforts to establish recycling capacity and a vibrant value chain in plastics.

"We are in a dilemma because on the one hand, we have been told to invest in recycling capacity and appeal for an amendment of the law to accommodate those efforts, and on the other, we see Nema implementing a ban without considering the fact that there is a process in progress to harmonise the law with regard to the reality on the ground," said UMPRA's treasurer, Naim Sabra.

The regulators action follows a refusal by the Parlia-



Hope Mwanyuma (C), one of three recipients of the 2012 Young Environmental Leader Award from the United Nations Environmental Programme, and friends, pick polythene bags from a dumpsite in Mombasa in February, 2013. Pic: AFP

“

We have opted to start with the large retailers because they constitute the bulk of the market.”

Dr Tom Okurut, Nema executive director

mentary Budget Committee early last month to approve Nema's budget allocations for the coming financial year unless it implemented provisions of the July 2009 Finance Act that prohibit the manufacture, importation and distribution of plastic bags below 30 microns.

"We would have expected Nema to be responsible enough to update parliament on what we have jointly been doing to address the problem of plastic waste on a more sustainable basis, especially given the fact that the country is soon going into oil production," UMPRA chairman Lugwana Kaggwa said.

Mr Kaggwa also questioned the viability of the proposed ban given that more than half of the offending polythene bags are smuggled or dumped into Uganda from Kenya. More over, the targeted retail chains — Capital Shoppers, Game, Nakumatt, Quality, Shoprite and Uchumi — account for only a fraction of the bags in circulation.

"The problem here is two-fold. First, the targeted supermarkets who buy from us use the high gauge 30 micron bags which to the best of our understanding are allowed by law yet enforcement has failed to deal with the problem of bags that are smuggled in from Kenya and widely used across the country. Second, the notice given is too short for us to produce alternatives, and ironically, the only country with that capacity again is Kenya," Mr Kaggwa said, adding that retailers across the country

POLICY PENDING

The July 2009 Finance Act prohibits the manufacture, importation and distribution of plastic bags below 30 microns in Uganda.

But in November 2012, members of the Natural Resources Committee recommended that the ban on manufacturing polythene bags be reviewed,

and importation of the same stopped, after touring plastic waste recycling facilities.

In its report, the committee recommended the development of a policy targeting plastic waste management with manufactures installing recycling lines, and working with retailers to establish collection centres.

prefer the thinner bags because they get more pieces per unit of weight sold compared with what they would get if they bought thicker Uganda-manufactured bags.

"We have made it clear to them that we would not pass their budget unless they effected the ban on carrier bags below 30 microns. What I know is that 90 per cent of the plastic bags made in Uganda are recycled but the Uganda Revenue Authority has failed to control smuggling and dumping from Kenya," said Achia Remigio, vice chair of the Budget Committee.

Push for a notice

According to another plastic recycler who did not want to be named, the industry would need at least six months' notice to switch to alternative packaging otherwise under the present circumstances, Kenya, which already has a well-established paper industry, would have to be the source of such packaging.

James Kisaale, an assistant commissioner for enforcement at the URA said that for as long as Kenyan manufacturers continue to produce the thin bags, a

ban in Uganda would be impractical because Kenya will continue to be a source despite efforts to impound the bags.

"The other problem is that the current environmental law does not provide policy alternatives to plastic bags," he added.

Between 2012 and 2014, the URA confiscated 20,000 tonnes of underweight bags but large numbers still slip through.

In an example of the confusion existing at the policy level Nema has ordered a blanket ban even though the oversight committee wants only carrier bags below 30 microns banned.

But Michael Werikhe, the chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee said that there was never any talk of a "blanket ban" and that there was no new ban.

"All we are asking is that the law we passed back in 2009 be implemented and we are aware that the industry here is recycling and we are supportive of those efforts but then problem is bags from Kenya," he said.

Dr Okurut said that the ban will go ahead regardless of what parliament says.

Refugees from South Sudan get \$2m aid

By **HALIMA ABDALLAH**
Special Correspondent

THE EUROPEAN Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO) has provided close to € 2 million (\$2.12 million) to support the emergency response to South Sudanese refugees in Uganda.

The funds will be used to facilitate immunisation, nutrition, water and sanitation projects.

ECHO, which funds relief operations for victims of natural disasters and conflicts outside the European Union, had earlier offered €1.9 million (\$2 million) to Unicef Uganda to facilitate activities in the districts of Adjumani, Arua, Koboko, Yumbe and Kiryandongo, which are hosting the refugees.

There are close to 144,000 South Sudanese refugees in Uganda, with more than 70,000 of them being children.

"We are proud to continue our partnership with Unicef to expand life saving services to South Sudanese refugee children and their families in Uganda," said Isabelle D'Haudt, ECHO's humanitarian advisor, for the Horn of Africa, Kenya and Uganda.

The funding will support immunisation against measles with a target of reaching over 145,000 children in refugee camps and host communities. Another 62,000 children below the age of five years will also be given polio immunisation.

Due to insecurity in South Sudan, healthcare systems have broken down and many children do not get protection against preventable killer diseases through vaccination. The current move is intended to not only protect the South Sudanese children from death but also to protect host communities.

"With this additional funding, we are now able to expand our emergency response to thousands of South Sudanese refugee children in Uganda; it will help improve health, education and protection," said Unicef's representative to Uganda, Aida Girma.



South Sudanese refugees at the Dzaipi refugee camp in Uganda.

Picture: AFP

SCIENCE

Initial results of Ebola vaccine trials in Kenya show it is safe

A single dose of the Canadian-made rVSV-ZEBOV is safe and effective in producing antibodies that ward off the Ebola virus

By **CHRISTABEL LIGAMI**
Special Correspondent

An Ebola vaccine test conducted in Kenya has shown it can protect people against the infection without causing side-effects.

Initial results from the Phase 1 trials of the candidate Ebola vaccine rVSV-ZEBOV released by the Kenya Medical Research Institute (Kemri) suggest that the vaccine is safe, and that it generates an immune response.

The candidate vaccine was given to 138 volunteer nurses and clinicians across four sites in Kilifi on Kenya's Coast. No serious side effects were seen among them. Some experienced fever in the first few days after vaccination, while others developed transient pain and/or swelling of their joints.

"Health workers were chosen to participate in the vaccine trials because they have been proven to be extremely at risk of the viral attack," said Benjamin Tsafa a policy researcher at Kemri's, Wellcome Trust Research Programme.

Dr Tsafa said that Kenya and Gabon were selected in Africa for the vaccine trials because they are low-risk countries for an Ebola attack.

"The initial trials could not be conducted in West Africa because the region already has a full blown Ebola outbreak," said Dr Tsafa.

He said that Kenya, Malawi, Gambia and Gabon are classified among the countries in Africa with the right capacity and infrastructure to conduct a study of this nature.

The research study was also carried out in Switzerland and Germany.

In Kenya, the trials started in January after receiving approval from the country's ethics body, the Pharmacy and Poisons Board.

The project benefited from a \$5 million grant from the Wellcome Trust, which allowed several glo-

bal partners, overseen by the WHO, to gather essential safety data for rVSV-ZEBOV. The candidate vaccine had been tested only in monkeys prior to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

According to the vaccine's initial results published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, a single dose of the Canadian-made rVSV-ZEBOV is safe and effective in producing antibodies that ward off the Ebola virus.

Although there are no cases of Ebola reported in Kenya, the fact that the vaccine has demonstrated safety and immune responses in the Kenyan population is useful information to facilitate its use.

It is, however, not yet clear whether the vaccine can prevent a person from becoming infected with Ebola.

Offer protection

"The vaccine is safe and has potential to offer protection against Ebola. The vaccine will be tested further in the countries affected by Ebola," said Solomon Mpoke, director of Kemri.

In Guinea, some 10,000 people will receive an injection of rVSV-ZEBOV in a massive clinical trial being conducted by the government and international partners, including the WHO. The patients will be followed for three months and the results could be available as early as July.

"You cannot test a vaccine for Ebola if there's no Ebola," said Charlie Weller at the Wellcome Trust in the UK, which has provided about \$20 million in funding for vaccines, treatment and research. "You need an active epidemic, which is why there has been such a global collaborative effort to start these (vaccine) trials as quickly as possible."

To date, the WHO has identified two vaccines as being most advanced: rVSV-ZEBOV first developed by researchers at Winnipeg's National Microbiology Laboratory in Canada; and chAd3-ZEBOV, developed by the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and pharmaceutical company GSK.

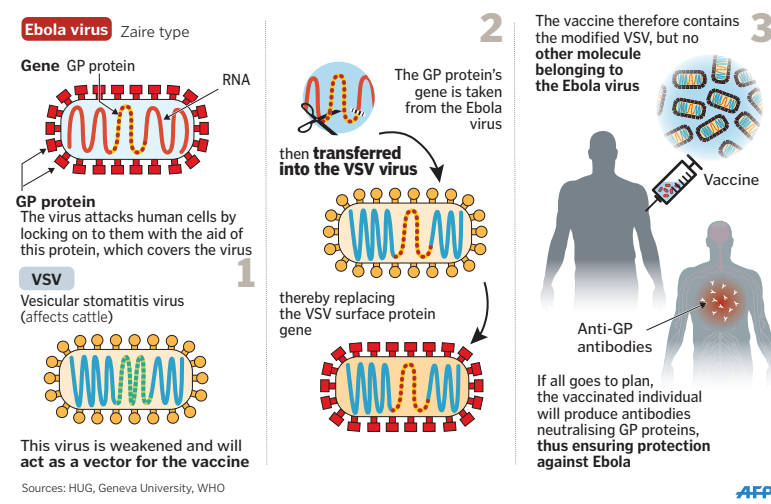
The vaccine candidate, chAd3 - ZEBOZ uses a chimpanzee-derived cold virus to deliver the Ebola virus genetic material from the Zaire



A man gets vaccinated on March 10 during the first clinical trials of the VSV-ZEBOV vaccine against the Ebola virus at a health centre in Conakry. Pic: AFP

Ebola vaccines bring hope to victims

Two vaccines are being tested on patients, including VSV-ZEBOV, developed in Canada



strain of the virus that caused the outbreak in Liberia.

The other candidate — rVSV-ZEBOV being tested in Kenya — employs vesicular stomatitis virus, an animal virus that primarily affects cattle, to carry an Ebola virus gene segment.

Tests in Liberia

Both leading Ebola vaccines are being tested in Liberia in trials that began in February. Volunteers are assigned at random to receive a single injection of chAd3-ZEBOV, the rVSV-ZEBOV vaccine or a placebo.

A recent study by US scientists warned that the Ebola outbreaks could become more likely due to climate change and human encroachment into untouched natural habitats.

The scientists said that there will be an increase in the outbreaks because people are moving around more, the contact between hu-

mans and the wild is on the rise, and possibly because of climate change.

Some experts suspect that population pressure and deforestation in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea, which have brought people into closer contact with wild animal hosts of numerous viruses combined with changes to rainfall patterns that affected the numbers and behaviour of bats, may have led to the first transmission of Ebola in West Africa, a region that prior to last year had never had an outbreak.

Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea, the three West African countries hardest hit by Ebola, have set a target of having no new cases by the end of this month.

WHO data shows that the outbreak has killed more than 10,000 people in the three countries over the past year.

BRIEFS

Kampala lays out plan to fight typhoid epidemic

Uganda's Ministry of Health has beefed up prevention, control and management systems in the wake of the typhoid outbreak in Kampala and surrounding districts. The country has set aside \$1.3 million to stop further spread through surveillance, social mobilisation and investigation on the disease. The government set up an inter-ministerial committee under the Office of the Prime Minister to co-ordinate all efforts geared towards the management of the epidemic.

\$951m cancer centre in Kenya to be opened soon

A new cancer centre at the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in Eldoret has been completed and will be opened soon. The \$951.5 million facility will be used to treat cancer and other chronic diseases, including heart ailments. This will be the second largest public cancer facility in Kenya after the one at Kenyatta National Hospital. It will provide chemotherapy and radiography.



A medic scans a patient at the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in Kenya's Rift Valley. Pic: File

Dar to build medical diagnostic centre

Tanzania's National Health Insurance Fund has given \$555.6 million to aid the construction of an international medical diagnosis centre. The centre will be located at the University of Dodoma. It will have five equipped laboratories, ranging from an intensive care unit to a radiology unit, surgery theatres, cardiac centres and presidential suites, and will have key medical equipment including MRI machines, CT-scanners and machines for conducting cardiac tests.

Pregnant women's blood could provide key facts

Testing pregnant women's blood for disorders in unborn children promises dramatic advances in medicine, researchers have said. A US team writing in the *New England Journal of Medicine* say Down's syndrome can be reliably tested in the mother's blood. Currently, a woman is assessed based on her age and an ultrasound scan, with those deemed high-risk having further tests. Blood tests look for fragments of DNA from the placenta, which drift about in the mother's bloodstream.

“

The vaccine will be tested further in the countries affected by Ebola.”

Solomon Mpoke, director, Kemri



A Centaur Optionally Piloted Aircraft, which can be operated unmanned. Picture: The New York Times

Enter R2D2: Why human pilots will not be needed any more

Agencies are experimenting with replacing the co-pilot, even both pilots on cargo planes, with robots

By **JOHN MARKOFF**
Special Correspondent

Mounting evidence that the co-pilot crashed a Germanwings plane into a French mountain has prompted a global debate about how to better screen crew members for mental illness and how to ensure that no one is left alone in the cockpit.

But, among many aviation experts, the discussion has taken a different turn. How many human pilots, some wonder, are really necessary aboard commercial planes? One? None?

Advances in sensor technology, computing and artificial intelligence are making human pilots less necessary than ever in the cockpit. Already, government agencies are experimenting with replacing the co-pilot, perhaps even both pilots on cargo planes, with robots or remote operators.

"The industry is starting to come out and say we are willing to put our R&D money into that," said Parimal Kopardekar, manager of the safe autonomous system operations project at Nasa's Ames Research Centre.

In 2014, airlines carried 838.4 million passengers on more than 8.5 million flights. Commercial aviation is already heavily automated. Modern aircraft are generally

flown by a computer autopilot that tracks its position using motion sensors and dead reckoning, corrected as necessary by GPS. Software systems are also used to land commercial aircraft.

In a recent survey of airline pilots, those operating Boeing 777s reported that they spent just seven minutes manually piloting their planes in a typical flight. Pilots operating Airbus planes spent half that time. And commercial planes are becoming smarter all the time.

"An Airbus airliner knows enough not to fly into a mountain," said David Mindell, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology aeronautics and astronautics professor. "It has a warning system that

tells a pilot. But it doesn't take over."

Such a system could take over, if permitted. Already, the Pentagon has deployed automated piloting software in F-16 fighter jets. The Auto Collision Ground Avoidance System reportedly saved a plane and pilot in November during a combat mission against Islamic State forces.

The Pentagon has invested heavily in robot aircraft. As of 2013, there were more than 11,000 drones in the military arsenal. But drones are almost always remotely piloted, rather than autonomous. Indeed, more than 150 humans are involved in the average combat mission flown by a drone.

"If you have a bunch of humans on an aircraft, you're going to need a captain."

Mary Cummings, researcher



Advances in sensor technology, computing and artificial intelligence are making human pilots less necessary in the cockpit.

'Lion lights' illuminate villages, save livestock

By **KENNEDY SENELWA**
Special Correspondent

PASTORALISTS IN Kenya's Kajiado County have started installing solar-powered flashing lights to deter lions and other predators from attacking domestic animals at night.

The Kenya Wildlife Service, working with the Kajiado county government, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Wildlife Foundation (TWF) are helping install light emitting diodes (LEDs) on posts around livestock enclosures in the manyattas.

The initiative is using renewable solar energy to mitigate human wildlife conflict, especially in Isinya, a dispersal triangle and migratory route to Maasai Mara Game Reserve from Nairobi, Tsavo West and Amboseli national parks.

WWF's governance coordinator Jackson Kiplagat said continuous attacks by predators test the community's tolerance and lead to retaliatory killings of the animals.

"Using LED technology, we are scaring away the predators," he said.

He added that most attacks by lions, leopards, hyenas, cheetahs and jackals occur at night in the manyattas, impacting negatively on the livelihoods of the residents of the semi-arid area.

Kenya has fewer than 2,000 lions, compared with 15,000 a decade ago, a decline attributed to human-wildlife conflict and rapid urban encroachment on their habitat. Livestock herders at times use Furadan, a pesticide, to poison the lions. A tablespoon costs less a dollar.

The predator deterrent lights, now refined by TWF, were developed four years ago by Richard Turere, an 11-year-old schoolboy in Kitengela near the Nairobi National Park. Turere devised it without any training in electronics or engineering. He had realised that lions were afraid of venturing near livestock enclosures when someone was walking around with a flashlight. He then developed the lights to be fixed on posts. He used LED bulbs from broken flashlights, an old car battery, wires, a solar panel and a motorcycle turning light indicator box to design a system that flickers intermittently. The system fooled li-

ons into believing someone was moving around carrying a flashlight. A fixed light does not deter them.

Eliminating infections

In Isinya, the community is also getting a solar household lighting system.

Each household pays Ksh10,000 (\$108.69) to receive a solar house lighting system to eliminate use of kerosene lamps that cause pollution, leading to respiratory system infections. WWF pays Ksh25,000 (\$271.7) for the predator deterrent light.

"The project has two components, with each household receiving a solar house lighting system and their livestock being protected through installation of the lion lights," said TWF's regional human-wildlife conflict consultant Michael Mbithi.

"The success of this project is expected to be higher because each family is required to contribute towards the cost of installation, thereby creating a sense of ownership and responsibility over the systems."

Forty homesteads in Ilpolosat, Emarti, Olmurrui and Oltepesi have benefited from the solar-powered kits. The WWF has also installed solar lights in Inkitito, Enarau, Kirkuria, Oldupai and Oltanki primary schools.

"These installations are expected to help pupils enjoy longer learning hours," said Mr Kiplagat.



A 'lion light' in a manyatta in Kajiado. Picture: BBC

SCIENCE

Scientists in Uganda push for law on GMOs

Ongoing trials on bananas, cassava, potatoes and maize may have to wait until parliament passes the biotech law

By ISAAC KHISA

The EastAfrican

Ugandan scientists are worried that ongoing research on genetically modified crops may have to be put on hold due to lack of a regulatory framework to guide its production.

Andrew Kiggundu, a senior research officer at National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) said that trials on bananas, cassava, maize and potatoes may have to wait until the National Biotechnology and Biosafety Bill 2012, currently before parliament, is passed into law.

"The delay in passing the law on biotechnology is a serious concern to us because part of the support that we are getting through foreign collaborations could be curtailed, thereby stagnating the research," Dr Kiggundu said during the launch of the *Global Genetically Modified Organisms Report 2014* in Kampala on April 7.

Foreign organisations that Uganda is working with in developing genetically engineered crops include the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, United States Agency for International Development (USAid), and universities such as Arizona State University and Cornell University in the US, University of Leeds in the UK, and Queensland University in Australia.

Uganda had planned to commercialise GM cassava by 2016 which would help fight the mosaic virus as well as protect maize against stem borers and produce drought-tolerant varieties by 2017. But the absence of a biotech law stands in the way of

these plans.

Uganda has also carried out field trials on bananas to test resistance to the black sigatoka disease (2007-2009). The country is carrying out two trials on banana bio-fortified with vitamin A and iron, and testing resistance to the devastating banana bacterial wilt.

Titus Alicai, the principal scientist in the cassava research, said there is an urgent need for a law on how genetically modified products should be developed and disseminated.

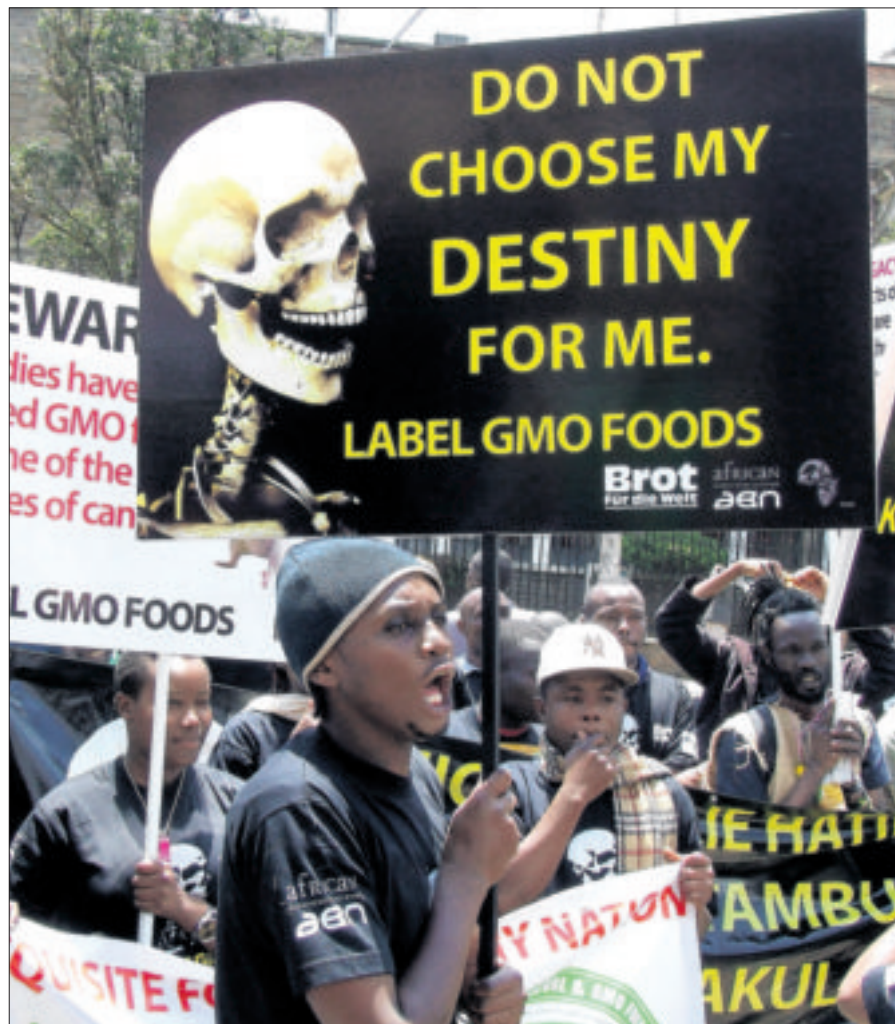
"Communication is regulated, electricity is regulated, so why not come up with a law on developing genetically engineered crops?" asked Dr Alicai. "With a law in place, scientists will not wake up one day and just because they're knowledgeable, start producing GMOs."

Bt cotton

The fears of the Ugandan scientists are informed by the country's failure to commercialise Bt cotton last year after Monsanto, a US-based company involved in genetically modified crops, withdrew funding for the research, citing the lack of a regulatory framework to guide production and commercialisation of the crop.

Monsanto and NARO had successfully developed a cotton variety that is resistant to herbicides and bollworm (2009-2010) at the National Semi Arid Resources Research Institute in Serere District, and Mobuku Prison Farm in Kasese District.

Dr James Mutende, the Minister of State for Industry and Technology, said the government is planning to invite scientists for a roundtable discussion



The Kenya biodiversity coalition demonstrates outside parliament demanding strict adherence to the labelling of GMOs. Picture: File

Part of the foreign support we are getting could be curtailed."

Dr Andrew Kiggundu, researcher at NARO

to iron out the fears of the unknown, especially among those opposed to the technology.

The co-ordinator of the Uganda Biotechnology Information, Dr Barbra Zawedde, said whereas GM crops do not pose any health risk to human beings, they are likely to be planted or sold in the country unknowingly especially from the neighbouring states such as Sudan, which has commercialised Bt cotton.

According to the Interna-

tional Service for the Acquisition of Agri-Biotech Applications (ISAAA), the land under GM crops grew 3.5 per cent in 2014 to 181.5 million hectares, up from 175.2 million hectares in 2013.

For the third consecutive year, developing countries — in Latin America, Asia and Africa — planted more GM crops accounting for 53 per cent or 96 million hectares compared with the industrialised countries.

BENEFITS

Data from the National Agricultural Research Organisation shows that GM crops could:

- Increase the productivity of key staple crops in Uganda by 25-60 per cent depending on the crop and challenge being addressed.
- Increase yields and thereby contribute to food and income security among Ugandan households.
- Boost the economy by an estimated \$300 million annually by stimulating industrial transformations in textiles, biofuels and starch-based industries through the production of crop varieties that are resistant to bacterial disease.

The five leading developing countries in growing GM crops in the three continents, according to the ISAAA report, are China and India in Asia, Brazil and Argentina in Latin America, and South Africa on the African continent, whose hectares increased by 47 per cent to 84.7 million hectares in 2014, compared with the previous year.

Africa, too, continued to make progress in growing GM crops with Sudan increasing its Bt cotton hectareage substantially by 46 per cent to 90,000 hectares, and South Africa and Burkina Faso growing 2.7 million and 500,000 hectares of GM crops respectively.

Other African countries including Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi and Nigeria, have conducted confined field trials on various crops including maize, sorghum and sweet potatoes.

Biotech could help offset effects of climate change, says report

By EVELYN LIRRI

Special Correspondent

BIOTECHNOLOGY could help mitigate the effects of climate change and increase food production in Africa, whose population is growing rapidly, says a new report on the global status of commercialised biotech crops.

It notes that drought, floods and temperature changes will become more prevalent as a result of climate change, meaning, there is a need to develop crop varieties that can easily adapt to such changes.

The report, by the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications, puts the global value of biotech crops produced annually at \$133.3 billion. It notes that adopting biotech or genetically

modified (GM) crops, would significantly reduce greenhouse gas and fossil-based fuels.

"Biotech crops are already contributing to the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions by inhibiting the need for ploughing a significant portion of cropped land, conserving soil and reducing pesticide spraying," says the report.

Theresa Ssengooba, a plant breeder and senior advisor for Uganda with the East Africa Programme for Biosafety Systems, said Africa must be prepared to deal with the changes in climatic conditions that have led to the emergence of new pests and diseases in crops.

"Because the effects of climate change are unpredictable, we must be prepared and equipped with the

best technologies to fix whatever challenges come our way; biotechnology is one of the options we have," said Dr Ssengooba.

Andrew Kiggundu, the head of the National Agro-Biotechnology Centre at the National Agricultural Research Centre in Kawanda, central Uganda, said that over the years, climate change has also affected the amount of water available for agriculture, yet most of East Africa's crop production is rain-fed.

"We now provide farmers with drought-tolerant varieties so that even when there is little rain, the crops can still grow and the farmers can harvest some yields," said Dr Kiggundu.

Globally, up to 70 per cent of fresh water is used for agriculture, which experts say is not sustainable

in the face of a growing population.

"Drought tolerance is expected to have a major impact on more sustainable cropping systems worldwide, particularly in developing countries, where it is expected to be more prevalent and severe than in industrialised countries," the report notes.

Barbara Zawedde, the co-ordinator of the Uganda Biosciences Information Centre, said more young people are abandoning rural areas or agriculture for urban settings, thereby leaving a small fraction of people to produce the food needed for the growing population.

"This is not sustainable," said Dr Zawedde. "We must find new ways of increasing crop productivity that use fewer resources such as land, water, fertiliser and pesticides."



A confined field trial of GM Banana plants at the National Agricultural Research Organisation in Kawanda, Uganda. Pic: Morgan Mbabazi

DEVELOPMENT

Hopes raised as Igad forecasts average rainfall in the region

The rainfall is expected to minimise the devastating effects of drought, mainly in the arid and semi-arid areas

By **JEFF OTIENO**
The EastAfrican

A large part of East Africa is expected to receive normal to below normal rainfall in the current long rains season.

According to the forecast produced by the Igad Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), there is an increased likelihood of near normal to below normal rainfall over the central parts of Sudan, central Eritrea, eastern Djibouti, southwestern and northeastern Rwanda, southeastern Burundi, northeastern Uganda and southeastern parts of South Sudan.

Large parts of Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania and Kenya are also expected to receive normal to below normal rainfall.

"There is a 40 per cent probability of near normal rainfall, a 35 per cent probability of below normal rainfall and a 25 per cent chance of above normal rainfall," said ICPAC, which produces regular rainfall forecasts for the region.

The rainfall is expected to minimise the devastating effects of drought in the region — mainly in the arid and semi-arid areas — which has killed thousands of heads of livestock and left millions of people in East Africa in need of emergen-

cy food supplies.

According to the World Food Programme, as at February this year, 7.8 million people were in the crisis or emergency phase, with the largest numbers being in Ethiopia (2.9 million), South Sudan (2.5 million), Kenya (1.5 million), Somalia (731,000) and Uganda (180,000).

Food security

The long rains season is considered the backbone of the region's rain-fed agriculture, as it contributes the biggest percentage of rainfall in the region.

Indeed, the region's food security status normally depends on the performance of the long rains, especially for the production of maize, wheat, rice and beans.

But meteorologists warn that if below normal rainfall is realised in the cited areas, the food situation may worsen before the end of the year.

In its latest update on global food security, WFP said if below normal rainfall were realised in the greater part of Kenya, Somalia and most areas of Ethiopia, Djibouti and central Tanzania, there would be a depletion of pasture and water resources, affecting the food and nutrition security situation in the region.

"Northeast, eastern and southern Kenya and southern Somalia have persistently suffered drier-than-average conditions since the early stages of the short rains season," said WFP.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation cited Kenya and



A Kenyan farmer ploughs his maize farm. East Africa is expected to receive normal rainfall. Picture: File

Uganda as the countries in the region facing localised food insecurity — mainly in the arid and semi-arid areas — due to reasons ranging from the vagaries of weather to a large influx of refugees from the war-torn countries of South Sudan and Somalia.

In South Sudan, the main drivers of food insecurity in the are conflict-related displacement, disruptions to livestock and crop production and high staple food prices.

The conflict has led to the in-

"The South Sudan conflict has caused sharp increases in the price of staple foods and reduced stocks."

WFP

ternal displacement of 1.4 million South Sudanese, mostly in the states of Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile, where the conflict has been largely concentrated.

"It has also caused sharp increases in the price of staple foods and reduced stocks. Stocks from own production are expected to be depleted within the first quarter of 2015 in the worst-affected counties," WFP said.

In Kenya, poor rainfall is to blame for the more than 1.5 million people facing severe food shortages. The government sounded a drought alarm early in the year, after putting 23 counties under the "alert drought" status. Most of the counties are in the arid and semi-arid regions, where pastoralism is the predominant source of livelihood.

The Kenya government,

through the Devolution Ministry, has already set aside Ksh3 billion (\$33.3 million) to tackle drought in the country.

In Uganda, 180,000 people are facing severe food shortages in Karamoja region, which has suffered two years of below-average crop production.

Among the principal factors ICPAC took into account while coming up with the regional forecast were the observed and predicted atmospheric ocean conditions, mainly in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans, in relation to moisture transportation and rainfall distribution.

"The dominant climate forcing processes included the continued cooling and warming over the western Indian Ocean as well as southeastern Atlantic Ocean and eastern Indian Ocean respectively with implications on the March-May 2015



A farmer dries his maize. Food losses in Africa account for a third of the total food produced.

New FAO project to help African farmers cut

By **DICTA ASIIMWE**
Special Correspondent

THE FOOD and Agriculture Organisation has launched a project to stem post-harvest losses in Africa.

Mireille Totobesola, FAO project manager, said the \$2.7 million project will give small grants of about \$1,000 to smallholder farmers in Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo and Burkina Faso to reduce food losses through the provision of modern storage facilities.

The funding will also support establishment of an online platform, where African governments can pick up some lessons and seek the help of experts who are available on a chatroom.

FAO is working on the project with the World Food Programme and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

Ms Totobesola said that in Uganda, the project will focus on maize, beans and seed oil conservation. DRC will be supported to reduce post-harvest losses in maize and rice and Burkina Faso in maize, sorghum and cowpeas.

The three countries are expected to design a roadmap for the implementation of the African Union's Malabo Declaration of 2014. AU heads of state and government promised in June 2014 to end hunger and halve the current post-harvest food losses by 2025.

Apart from the three countries receiving direct support, other countries are expected to use the lessons from this project to help cut food losses. They include Kenya and Cameroon and Rwanda.

Kenya was put on the list of beneficiaries after FAO conducted a study that quantified maize, banana, fish and milk losses. But the study did not find out an outstanding cause

of food losses.

The project is now expected to answer this question, so that Kenya can start implementing measures to reduce food losses, which stand at 11.2 per cent for dessert bananas, 7.3 per cent for milk and 24 per cent of some fish species. The losses in maize, according to the FAO study, range between 28.2 and 29.2 per cent.

According to Simon Costa, project manager of a food loss reduction initiative by WFP, post-harvest handling and storage practices in sub-Saharan Africa are to blame for food losses.

He said that post-harvest losses would significantly drop if governments trained farmers and provided them with proper storage facilities — plastic bags and metallic containers.

Food losses in Africa account for a third of the total food produced on the continent.



KEY QUESTIONS

What is normal rainfall?

Above average rainfall, normal rainfall and below average rainfall are calculated using the long-term average rainfall of a particular ecological zone. The long-term average rainfall of a region is the mean rainfall amount for the past 30 years. It is calculated for both the long rains and short rains. Currently, the agreed 30-year period that meteorologists use to calculate long-term averages for various ecological zones is between 1980 and 2010. The period is normally set by the World Meteorological Organisation.

What amounts to normal rain for a particular ecological region?

An ecological region is expected to receive normal rainfall when the predicted amount is within the range of 75 per cent and 125 per cent of the long-term average.

When the rainfall received is 125 per cent above the long term average of that particular region, it is above normal.

Below normal rainfall is when an ecological zone receives below 75 per cent of the long-term average.

food losses

But Mr Costa says these are easy to stem. In an ongoing WFP project with maize and bean farmers in Uganda and Burkina Faso by WFP, they have reduced post-harvest losses by 98 per cent.

Under this project, 400 families received training in how to keep the moisture content below 30 per cent and store their produce for 100 days in an improved storage facility. WFP purchased 10 kilogrammes of produce, which was stored in traditional storage facilities, like granaries.

Mr Costa said that after 100 days, 98 per cent of the produce was as good as the day it was stored, while that in the granary was unsuitable for human consumption.

The plastic bag, which holds 80 kilogrammes, costs \$2 while the metallic container, which holds 1,200 kilogrammes, costs \$180. The plastic bag requires replacement after a while.

Mr Costa said many African governments seem uninterested in adopting these technologies, waiting for international agencies to solve the problem.

How residents of Tanzania and Kenya ASALs are adapting to climate change

By **CLIFFORD GIKUNDA**
Special Correspondent

FAUZIA MOHAMMED, 12, a primary schoolgirl in Mordogashe on the border of Garissa and Isiolo counties in northern Kenya, often misses classes in order to water her family's goats. She makes several trips to a virtually dry riverbed to fetch water.

"I missed school today because I used the only water left at home to make tea and breakfast. The goat kids drank all the water we had, so I had to get some more," she told *The EastAfrican* at one of the wells.

The only water sources in the area are deep wells in a sandy riverbed.

"Sometimes it takes five or more people to go down the wells to reach the water," said Ali Dabasso, a pastoralist.

The loose sandy soils are a death trap. In the past two years, five people have plunged to their death in the wells, according to locals. Adida Abduba, 21, says 10 years ago she survived death by a whisker after the well caved in as she fetched water, burying her alive.

"When I was pulled out, I was unconscious," she recalled. She lived to tell the tale.

In the past five years, the rains in northern Kenya have been erratic. The acacia trees are gone and the herders have moved their livestock closer to the Meru National Park in the Mt Kenya area in search of pasture.

Charcoal burning

"We have not received any rains here for two years," said Mr Dabasso.

The problem has been compounded by charcoal burning which has decimated the available vegetation.

This is not unique to northern Kenya. Indeed, it is common in most arid and semi-arid areas of the country.

The residents of northern Kenya have started looking at mechanisms of coping with climate change, including damming rainwater.

In Tanzania, in the central areas, which are arid and receive unreliable rains, the communities rely on shallow wells, dug communally.

"We use the water to irrigate our vegetables," said Saidi Athumani, a farmer in Singida.

The government has embarked on building dams to harvest floodwater during the rainy seasons for future use, according to Stanley Mngale, Singida's agricultural officer.

He said water management coupled with innovative conservation technologies are resilience mechanisms that will help local farmers grow food



Camels drink from a trough in Wajir, northeastern Kenya. These troughs are part of a project to conserve water for use by people and livestock in the region. Picture: File

and earn some income.

In northern Kenya, following prolonged periods of insufficient rainfall, the communities are engaged in the construction of water pans and dams.

"Climate change is real," said Lordman Lekalkuli of the National Drought Management Authority and chairman of the Isiolo County Adaptation Planning Committee.

"We have tried to understand the dangers of climate change and adapt to the main challenges facing the communities in the arid and semi-arid areas."

"Pastoralists have now realised the importance of conserving water, as the rains sometimes fall for only three weeks, whereas the water collected in the dams can be used for up to six months," Mr Lekalkuli said.

Other arid and semi-arid areas such as Kitui, Garissa, Makueni and Wajir have adapted the Isiolo model of water conservation.

A County Adaptation Fund was established and the projects are implemented by community committees, which identify challenges and find the

"Pastoralists have now realised the importance of conserving water."

Lordman Lekalkuli, National Drought Management Authority

relevant interventions to counter them.

The fund has helped community members build their resilience to climate change by constructing and maintaining sand dams, which provide a reliable source of water during dry periods.

Some of the existing sand dams were rehabilitated while others were fenced off to avoid misuse and contamination by livestock and people.

The water is pumped into troughs using a diesel pump. The herders pay for watering their cattle and the money is used for fuel and maintenance of the pump.

The northern Kenya communities have also learned to reserve some grazing areas for the dry seasons.

Dr Joseph Kithinji, Isiolo County director of veterinary services, said the movement of livestock has been fuelling the spread of diseases.

"The Meru National Park is a repository of diseases and the incoming livestock bring more," Dr Kithinji said, adding that if the diseases are not contained, they could wipe out all the livestock in northern Kenya.

To safeguard the health of the livestock as a climate change resilience mechanism, a modern laboratory has been built in Kinna Ward for disease control, surveillance and re-

sponding to outbreaks.

"We no longer try to guess at the diseases affecting our livestock," said Hassan Wario a pastoralist in Kinna. "We just inform the professionals working at the laboratory who take samples from the animals, test them and prescribe remedies."

The climate resilience and adaptation mechanisms have so far borne fruit and other arid and semi arid areas in Kenya and Tanzania are catching on.

The ASALs contribute most of the animal products in Kenya and Tanzania.

According to a United Nations Environmental Programme (Unep), investing in mechanisms to adapt to climate change will promote the livelihood of 65 per cent of Africans while failing to address the issue could reverse decades of development on the continent.

Africa's population is set to double to 2 billion by 2050, the majority of whom will continue to depend on rain-fed agriculture.

"With 94 per cent of agriculture dependent on rainfall, the future impact of climate change — including increased droughts, flooding, and sea-level rise — may reduce crop yields in some parts of Africa by 15–20 per cent," said Unep executive director Achim Steiner.



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HIGH COST OF LIVING

Rising inflation takes its toll of region's economies

Prices of rice, fish, sugar, maize, vegetables, cassava and beans have gone up in Tanzania, while in Kenya, the cost of milk and bread has risen

By ALLAN OLINGO
The EastAfrican

East African economies are experiencing rising inflation even as their currencies continue to weaken against the dollar.

The Bank of Uganda has raised its benchmark lending rate for the first time since June 2014, in a bid to slow the increase in inflation.

BoU Governor Emmanuel Tumusiime-Mutebile said that the depreciation of the shilling and faster real GDP growth will lead to an increase in inflation over the medium term.

Uganda has raised the base lending rate to 12 per cent from 11 per cent, as its core inflation rose to 3.7 per cent from 3.3 per cent between February and March: BoU's outlook is 5 per cent by mid-2015.

Ben Mungyereza, the executive director of the Uganda Bureau of Statistics attributed the rise in inflation to the effect of the shilling's depreciation on the prices of imported goods.

"The annual headline inflation also rose in March to 1.9 per cent from 1.6 per cent in February. The low rates of headline inflation are mainly attributable to the negative food crop inflation, which is a result of a good harvest in 2014/15 season," Mr Mungyereza said.

Kampala, Arua and Mbale registered the highest annual inflation rates, driven by high prices of food, clothing and footwear, and rent.

The monthly food inflation, which includes crops and processed foods, went up by 4.7 per cent in March. The drivers

for this were an increase in the prices of staple foods, fresh vegetables, meat, fish and milk.

There was a decrease in the prices of cassava, oranges, pineapples, sweet bananas and carrots. In the non-food category, prices for kerosene, petrol, diesel and charcoal went down. Prices of firewood, clothing and cement rose in most centres during the month.

In Kenya, the overall inflation rate rose to 6.31 per cent in March from 5.61 per cent the previous month, a new high this year.

James Gatungu, the director of production statistics at the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), said the inflation rate for Nairobi's lower income earners reached 6.32 per cent in March; this class of Nairobi residents was the hardest hit by Inflation.

"Between February and March, the prices of food increased by 3.18 per cent for lower income, 2.37 per cent for middle income and 1.37 per cent for the upper income group. The rise in prices was mainly as a result of the dry weather conditions experienced during the period," said Mr Gatungu.

Between February and March, the food and non-alcoholic drinks index increased by 2.65 per cent. The rise was mainly attributed to increases in the cost of vegetables, milk and other food products. Currently, a 500ml packet of milk costs Ksh55 (\$0.56) and the price of bread went up to Ksh50 (\$0.53) from Ksh45 (\$0.48) in January.

Interestingly, the data shows that the prices of sugar, maize



Fruits and vegetables for sale at a market in Kenya. The cost of food has gone up in the past two months.
Picture: File

flour and other food items dropped, yet the price of maize flour went up by Ksh20 (\$0.21) in the past two weeks to retail at an average of Ksh105 (\$1.11).

The Kenya Food Security Outlook report for March, compiled by the World Food Programme, Famine Early Warning System Network and the Ministry of Agriculture, shows that food security declined between January and March.

"Many households currently have no food stocks. As a result, households need to purchase all their food from markets at a

time of seasonally low household incomes," the report said.

Inflation rates of housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuel eased by 0.05 per cent. There were also a drop in the cost of electricity, cooking gas and transport due to a drop in public transport fares that outweighed the increase in the prices of diesel and petrol. A 13-kilogramme gas cylinder is selling for Ksh2,600 (\$27.5), down from Ksh3,100 (\$32.8) in December 2014.

Mathew Mutua, an analyst with RSL Financial Services, said that as much as the weakening of the shilling helps to rebalance the economy in the medium term, it has been discouraging investors.

"Investors feel that with the rising inflation, their investments will lose value. They therefore choose to move their investments to countries where the inflation rate will hold over the medium term," Mr Mutua said.

An increase in staple food prices resulted in a slight increase in annual headline inflation in Tanzania in March, despite the country enjoying a bumper harvest in the 2014/15 season.

Ephraim Kwesigabo, the director of Population Census and Social Statistics at the Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics, said the increased food prices pushed up the annual headline inflation rate to 4.3 per cent in March, from 4.2 per cent in February.

Prices of rice, fish, sugar, maize, vegetables, cassava and

beans have gone up in the country.

"The annual inflation rate for food consumed both at home and out of the house has increased to 6.1 per cent," Mr Kwesigabo said.

In Rwanda, the increasing cost of power, food and transport pushed up the inflation index by 0.8 per cent year on year in March, higher than 0.7 per cent recorded in February. Rwanda National Bank attributed the rise to the increase in year on year inflation on food, housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels.

The inflation on local goods rose by 1.1 per cent on a monthly basis. That on imported products fell by a margin of 0.1 per cent on an annual basis, but remained stable on a monthly basis. The prices of fresh products rose by 4.5 per cent in March.

"The increase was driven by a 3.8 per cent rise in prices of housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, 0.8 per cent increase in food and non-alcoholic beverages, and a 3.9 per cent increase in transport costs," BNR said in a statement.

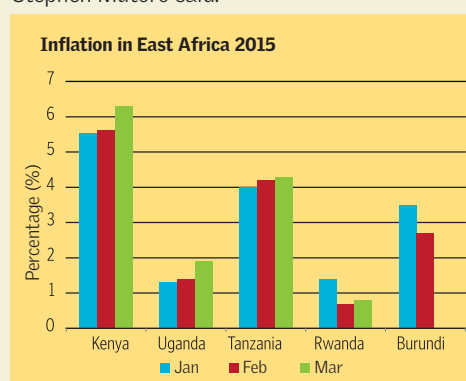
Burundi, which releases its inflation figures the month after, said its February rates fell sharply by 1.2 per cent from 3.5 per cent due to lower costs for housing, water and electricity.

According to Burundi's Institute of Economic Studies and Statistics, lower international fuel and food import prices saw the average inflation rate drop to 4.4 per cent in 2014, from 7.9 per cent in 2013.

CONCERN

The Consumer Federation of Kenya (Cofek) is concerned about the rising cost of living, claiming that when the rate of inflation goes down, the drop is never fully felt as most retailers and manufacturers don't reduce the prices of basic consumables.

"It's unfortunate that when we speak of an increase in inflation we can attest to the price going up, but when there is a reduction in inflation the prices still remain high and out of reach for many," Cofek secretary general Stephen Mutoro said.



Kenya and oil: What choice between lead exporter and regional transport?

When it comes to new oil and gas frontiers, it is all about the East African Coast, with Kenya at the forefront of fastest-paced hydrocarbon discoveries in the region.

After decades of unsuccessful on-and-off exploration by international oil companies, and having agriculture and tourism as the main industries contributing towards Kenya's GDP, commercial discoveries of oil were made in March 2012 by Tullow Oil, a UK-based firm. To date, Kenya's oil resources are estimated to be 600 million barrels, with a final appraisal and testing expected to be completed by Tullow Oil by the end of the year.

This transition period, while the country's hydrocarbon potential is still being determined, offers a unique window of opportunity for Kenya to tackle the following pertinent question: Could we be placing too much hope on the production of a finite resource as the main propeller of higher GDP growth, broader social development, infrastructure development, and job creation?

There undoubtedly exist potentially high rewards if Kenya exploits its commercial discoveries as an oil producer. For the government, these rewards can be obtained through the imposition of taxes on the profits of the oil companies. The oil and gas industry also creates jobs, as it employs both directly and indirectly the skills and services of both oil and gas professionals and non-oil and gas professionals.

Tullow's total payments to all Kenyan stakeholder groups, including taxes to the national government, expenditure on local supplies and discretionary investment in community projects for the year 2013, amounted to \$71 million, of which \$22 million was paid directly to the national government in taxes.

One can see why the country



Kenya is playing up its strategic location on the Indian Ocean as a potential oil transit route.

Picture: File

COMMENTARY

DR MELBA K. WASUNNA AND JONAH MNGOLA

"The reality is that these new oil discoveries may still only make the country a small African producer."

is keen to press ahead with production and the promise that holds for increased revenues and national development. The reality, however, is that these new oil discoveries may still only make the country a small African producer. In fact, Kenya's role as a regional transport hub for East African crude oil and petroleum products may be more significant than its potential position as an oil and gas producer. The regional proximity of proven oil and gas reserves (given Uganda's 2006 onshore oil discoveries, and offshore gas findings in Mozambique and Tanzania) undoubtedly boosts this position.

While the extent of its oil and gas reserves is being assessed, Kenya is playing up its strategic

location on the Indian Ocean as a potential oil transit route that would provide an outlet not only for its own production once it starts, but also for some of its landlocked neighbours' future — and current — output. It is also not too far from China and India, where oil and gas demand is projected to grow by as much as 60 per cent and 50 per cent respectively in the next two decades.

Kenya is committed to the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport Corridor (Lapsset) project — an extremely ambitious flagship project under Kenya's Vision 2030, the national long-term development blueprint, which is aimed at transforming the country into a mid-level economy with 10 per cent annual growth. The Lapsset project was launched in March 2012 by the governments of Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan to facilitate regional trade (Uganda also recently joined the project).

It has multiple elements, notably the development of a new port at Lamu; an oil pipeline from that port to South Sudan;

road and railway links; and a possible line to southern Ethiopia. There are also plans for a new international airport and new "resort cities" along the line of the rail. Lapsset is expected to generate at least three per cent of Kenya's GDP.

With respect to project costs, these are currently budgeted up to \$30 billion but are expected to rise. The Kenyan government is funding 25 per cent, with public-private partnerships expected to provide the backbone of this. The government will invest approximately six per cent of its annual GDP during the first five or more years of development, and then three and four per cent of annual GDP.

Kenya is also spearheading other related regional infrastructure agreements. Most notably, in May 2014, President Uhuru Kenyatta hosted Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and, alongside regional leaders from South Sudan, Rwanda, and Uganda, signed an agreement to establish a new East African railway line. At nearly \$4 billion, Chinese companies will build the

first stage — a 610-kilometre line from Mombasa to Nairobi, which will replace the original line established during British colonial rule over 100 years ago. The project period is five years (2012/2013-2018). The Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway, whose construction has commenced, is set to open up at least 40 stations along the line. This is the most important railway channel in Kenya, which links the Coastal city of Mombasa (the largest port in East Africa) and the capital city of Nairobi (the political, economic and cultural centre in Kenya and a key traffic hub in East Africa).

Both infrastructural projects have the potential to promote regional trade and boost our national economy, overcoming the limitations of a transport network whose basic architecture is still that laid down in the early years of colonial rule. On the backs of these impressive projects, Kenya is poised to become one of the lead oil transport hubs in Africa — a status that slumping oil prices do not seem to be threatening.

Oil price volatility is dependent on market forces and, from a historical perspective, it is never permanent. The recent drop in global oil prices should not dampen the urgency for upstream petroleum sector infrastructure development. Price volatility is a cyclic phenomenon, and prices are sure to rebound followed by a new wave of investments.

Moreover, although the recent slump in oil prices could hamper exploration on a global level, overall oil exploration has maintained a strong momentum in Kenya, with commercial production slated to begin in 2016.

Thus, in the global race for oil exploration and development, Kenya remains a top contender, but should move forward at double the speed of neighbouring oil producing countries in its infrastructure projects and position itself as a regional transport hub. At least until the extent of its reserves is determined, it makes sense for Kenya to play all the cards at its disposal — as a potential producer and/or an export hub — in order to take advantage of East Africa's new oil and gas wealth.

\$39.7m facelift for Kilimanjaro Airport

By **ADAM IHUCHA**
Special Correspondent

KILIMANJARO INTERNATIONAL Airport is all set for a \$39.7 million facelift starting June.

In the one-year project to be funded the Tanzanian and Dutch governments, runways, apron, taxiways and the passenger lounge will all be modernised.

"The idea behind the scheme is to give KIA a different outlook," said Kilimanjaro Airports Development Company (Kadco) managing

director Bakari Murusuri.

For this task, BAM International from Netherlands was chosen in mid-March. The firm will install new airfield ground lighting and floodlights along the aprons, resurface the runways, and create continuous loop linking runways and taxiways to eliminate delays in landing and takeoff.

KIA was inaugurated in 1972 and was expected to handle just 200,000 passengers a year but with increased traffic, security concerns and growing competi-

tion, it has become necessary to benchmark the facility with others of its calibre. This year alone, it is expected to handle 1.2 million customers.

Natural Resources and Tourism Minister Lazaro Nyalandu termed the revamping of KIA as opportune especially since it is coming at a time when the country wants to elevate the airfield as the gateway to the tourist attractions Mount Kilimanjaro, Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti National Park.

Already, Kadco has developed a comprehensive plan that will see estates surrounding the airport, transformed into a state-of-the-art, modern duty free shopping city.

According to the master plan, the location was to become a "city" at the centre of Moshi and Arusha, where prospective investors were to establish shopping centres, high class tourist hotels, duty free ports, export processing zone, educational institutions, custom bonded warehouses, curio shops, golf courses and a large game ranch.



Kilimanjaro International Airport.

Picture: File

CONMEN ON THE LOOSE



The Uganda Revenue Authority, shown here at a tax awareness seminar, met with the Uganda Bankers Association to discuss options for tracking down rogue bank staff and their accomplices. Picture: File

Taxman, banks lose \$4m to fraudsters in Customs theft

Preliminary findings indicate that about 142 containers carrying industrial chemicals were affected

By **BERNARD BUSUULWA**
The EastAfrican

The Uganda Revenue Authority and several banks lost \$4 million in a sophisticated Customs fraud that dates back to 2013.

An investigation by URA following complaints from business people about suspicious import transactions also revealed that 10 suspects have already been arrested.

Imports of industrial chemicals used in the production of juice, cosmetics, insecticides, distilled alcohol and surgical spirit were particularly affected by this fraud, with the fraudsters exploiting loopholes in the banking and revenue collection system to file and secure approval of false Customs entries, forged letters of credit alongside creation of bogus companies that made suspicious import orders, *The EastAfrican* has learnt. Most of these inputs are sourced from Chinese and Indian manufacturers.

Preliminary findings indicate that about 142 containers carrying different types of industrial chemicals were exposed to this fraud, with 42 of these still held at Mombasa port. About 110 containers are valued at

Ush9,501,407,168 (\$3,175,604) with accompanying tax liabilities of Ush3,098,267,564 (\$1 million), according to investigation reports.

Though industrial inputs are exempt from import duty under existing Customs laws, they are subject to import value added tax of 18 per cent and a withholding tax rate of six per cent. In spite of fairly generous tax rules, rogue importers reportedly connived with clearing agents and grossly undervalued their consignments.

"We are also investigating cases of collusion between junior employees and senior managers within clearing and forwarding firms. Though taxes worth Ush3,098,267,564 (\$1 million) were lost through this fraud, this figure could rise further as investigations continue," said James Kisaale, URA Assistant Commissioner for Enforcement Operations.

"UBA raised this issue with the courier operators and three people were arrested."

Claver Serumaga, Bank of Africa Uganda

forcement Operations.

In other cases, fictitious companies with names close to genuine ones were used to deceive foreign suppliers to dispatch goods, URA and banking sources say. For example, a nonexistent "Quality Chemical Industries International Ltd" also bore the same address as the officially registered Quality Chemical Industries Ltd.

In addition, fraudsters created false letters of credit while the genuine ones belonging to legitimate businesses were stolen from local courier companies, doctored and used to execute import orders, investigators found. These letters of credit were subsequently approved by accomplices among bank staff.

"The Uganda Bankers Association has raised this issue with the courier operators and three people were arrested," explained Claver Serumaga, general manager for business development at Bank of Africa Uganda.

To widen the investigation trail, URA officials met with the Uganda Bankers Association two weeks ago to discuss options for tracking down rogue bank staff and their accomplices.

Some banks cite limited regulation in the clearing and forwarding industry as the biggest factor behind the complex fraud but local agents seem to disagree.

"We are still examining the

PEOPLE, METHODS EMPLOYED

The racket, which mostly affected industrial chemicals from China and India, was hatched by individuals employed by clearing agents, banks and local middlemen.

Methods employed included forging and doctoring letters of credit, creation and use of fictitious companies, and undervaluing imports — thereby denying URA taxes

impact of this problem on our business and are yet to identify any suspects within the bank," noted Patrick Mweheire, managing director at Stanbic Bank Uganda.

DHL Express Uganda has already reported cases of parcel theft to police but investigations have not been concluded, a company source told *The EastAfrican*.

"I have heard about that racket and I wonder why it has taken URA so long to investigate it. Regulation for clearing and forwarding agents are well captured by the East African Community Customs Management Act but the problem lies in failure to enforce laws effectively," said Kassim Omar, chairman of the Uganda Clearing and Forwarding Agents Association.

IMF warns of rising risks as dollar hits emerging markets

RISKS TO the global financial system are rising, as emerging markets face a squeeze from the strong dollar and weak commodity prices, the IMF said.

While the strengthening dollar and lower oil prices are boosting the world recovery, the changing landscape is putting pressure on countries and firms that export crude and other commodities, the International Monetary Fund said in its biannual *Global Financial Stability Report* released Wednesday.

"Further rapid dollar appreciation and an abrupt rise in US interest rates, coupled with a rise in geopolitical risks, could put added pressure on emerging-market currencies and asset markets," the IMF said. "Foreign investors could abruptly reduce their holdings of local-currency debt, thereby adding to turbulence and creating debt rollover challenges."

The IMF said the strains are already becoming evident in the ability of oil and gas companies in Argentina, Brazil, Nigeria and South Africa to repay debt.

The IMF's warning comes two years after emerging markets were roiled by speculation that the Federal Reserve would wind down its unprecedented stimulus programme, an episode known as the "taper tantrum." Fed policy makers have signalled the central bank may start raising rates as early as June, a move that would increase the burden on foreign companies that borrowed in US dollars.

A "sudden rise" of 1 percentage point in the 10-year Treasury yield is "quite conceivable" if a Fed interest-rate increase comes sooner than investors anticipate, the IMF said. "Shifts of this magnitude can generate negative shocks globally, especially in emerging-market economies."

Volatility in major foreign-exchange rates has increased by more than any similar time since the global financial crisis, the IMF said.

Reduced liquidity in the currency and fixed-income markets could make it difficult for investors to adjust their portfolios, it said.

"The resulting tensions in global financial markets have increased market and liquidity risks, given that sudden episodes of volatility could become more common and more pronounced," the IMF said.

The IMF said declines in "structural liquidity" in world bond markets have "amplified asset-price responses to shocks, increasing potential spillovers" to other assets and to emerging markets.

The report also highlights the threat of a "retrenchment" in Chinese industries that are facing overcapacity, as well as in the country's property market. The hunt for yield in a world of depressed interest rates is "stretching some asset valuations," the fund said, adding that the low-rate environment could pose solvency issues for European life insurers.

Stress tests on the European life-insurance industry, which has 4.4 trillion euros (\$4.7 trillion) in European Union credit assets, show that 24 percent of firms may not be able to meet their solvency requirements under a prolonged low-rate scenario, according to the IMF.

The fund said markets "appear complacent" about geopolitical risks such as the conflict in Ukraine and the negotiations among Greece and its international creditors.

By Andrew Mayeda,
Washington Post-Bloomberg



The IMF says that further rapid dollar appreciation could put added pressure on emerging-market currencies. Pic: File

RACE FOR FIBRE OPTIC MARKET

Seacom to sell bandwidth to SMEs directly

This might be lucrative because some require huge amounts of bandwidth compared with what some ISPs offer

By SCOLA KAMAU
Special Correspondent

Undersea cable services provider Seacom will compete directly with Internet service providers (ISPs) across East Africa in its bid to reach a wider market.

Seacom said licensed businesses can now buy broadband of at least 20 megabits per second (Mbps). In this, Seacom is targeting the small and medium enterprises segment widely served by ISPs.

The firm wants to offload part of the 90 per cent of its bandwidth that is idle, company officials said, while providing the market with faster, reliable Internet services.

“Open access means all licensed operators and businesses in need of broadband can come to our data centres and landing stations and buy services directly. We don’t do home and small office requirements yet,” said Joseph Muriithi, Seacom regional manager.

The 20Mbps will go at a wholesale price of \$3,000 of unlimited broadband per month across Mombasa, Nairobi, Kampala, Addis Ababa and Dar es Salaam. Businesses and buildings within a radius of 60 km from the data centres will enjoy these services.

Rwanda and South Sudan could receive these services from November, when Seacom hopes to be fully licensed to operate in the two countries. The undersea cable operator said it has completed its link from Nairobi to Kampala through Tororo and it is now able to carry some traffic to South Sudan from Kampala. Currently, Seacom is us-

ing Technology Authority Uganda cables and Liquid Telecom (formerly Rwandatel) to deliver broadband in the two countries respectively.

Though a welcome move to the buyers, Seacom’s plans join fibre-optic firms offering wholesale broadband to businesses may be upset by price and infrastructure.

Wananchi Group, through Zuku, sells 20Mbps unlimited high speed Internet at Ksh5,499 (\$60) per month and connects homes and businesses to their main cable in Nairobi and parts of Mombasa.

Jamii Telecom, through its Faiba product, offers between 5Mbps and 20Mbps to residential houses and businesses at Ksh5,000 (\$54) and Ksh20,000 (\$217) respectively. The two fibre service providers are shareholders in the Teams undersea cable.

Teams (The East African Marine System) is an initiative of the government of Kenya to link the country to the rest of the world and takes 60 per cent of the Kenyan market. Liquid Telecom, formerly Kenya Data Networks Ltd, owns 10 per cent of Teams and is into fibre broadband for homes and businesses.

“In the next year in Kenya alone, Liquid Telecom will invest over \$20

“The networks being run by banks and insurance companies with a regional reach might be a good business for the undersea cable companies.”



million in connecting the 47 countries through fibre optic, satellite and wireless technologies,” said Paul Statham, chief commercial officer of Liquid Telecom Kenya.

According to Thomas Makau, an ICT and telecoms analyst, selling directly to businesses could be lucrative because some require huge amounts of bandwidth compared with what some Internet service providers offer.

“The networks being run by banks and insurance companies with a regional reach would provide a good business for the undersea cable companies,” said Mr Makau.

He added that when an undersea cable provider sells broadband wholesale, it is dedicated to the single buyer. On their part, third parties sell Internet to many parties with an assumption that the users will not all need it at the same time.

“When many use the Internet at the same time, it is slow and if overloaded it fails completely,” said Mr Makau.

Penetration of fibre connections is limited by inadequate infrastructure, leaving the competitors scrambling for the market in cities. Zuku and Jamii Telecom, for instance, cover Nairobi and Mombasa where the companies have established a ring network — that is, cables laid beneath the earth in a ring around an area to ensure that bandwidth can move from either side of the ring. Any building with a fibre connection at one metre from the ring can enjoy a connection.

To mobile operators, the market is big enough for all players.

“Competition ensures that consumers get value, enhanced experience and quality service from operators,” said Adil El Youssefi, Airtel Kenya chief executive.

One-stop border posts now ready

By ISAAC KHISA
The EastAfrican

TRADEMARK EAST Africa is set to hand over Busia, Mirama Hills and Mutukula one-stop border points to the Ugandan government, paving the way for faster clearance of cargo and passenger traffic at Customs.

“Construction of Busia and Mirama Hills one-stop border posts is over 90 per cent complete, and we hope to hand over to government of Uganda this April. Mutukula border is over 80 per cent and we hope to hand over by the end of May,” Trade-Mark East Africa director in Uganda Allen Asiimwe told *The EastAfrican*.

Busia border will serve cargo and passenger clearance between Uganda and Kenya while Mutukula and Mirama Hills will serve Uganda and its neighbours Tanzania and Rwanda, respectively.

Early this year, Trademark East Africa handed over the Malaba border post to the Ugandan government upon completion; and procurement for the construction of the Elegu border post between Uganda and South Sudan is ongoing.

The one-stop border posts aim to harmonise transit clearance, with Customs officers from bordering countries sitting under one roof to handle transit documents concurrently.

Ms Asiimwe said they have also earmarked \$600,000 for each of the borders for networking, furniture, capacity building, communication, and training.

Data from the East African Community Secretariat shows that intra-EAC trade grew from \$4.5 billion in 2011 to \$5.5 billion in 2012 as EAC started to eliminate non-tariff barriers.

Middle East, Asian airlines expand in E.African skies

RIVALRY IN the aviation industry in East Africa is set to increase as international airlines announce expansion into the region.

The United Arab Emirates national carrier, Etihad Airways, will unveil a daily flight out of Entebbe airport starting next month and later Dar es Salaam on December 31, while China Southern Airlines will offer three weekly flights out of Nairobi — its first destination in Africa — to Guangzhou, starting August 5, giving passengers alternatives to Kenya Airways, Ethiopian, Emirates and Qatar Airways.

The development comes at a time when Flydubai, Qatar Airways and Ethiopian Airways are increasing their frequency into the region. Flydubai will double flights out of Zanzibar starting June 1 while Qatar Airways will unveil

five weekly services out of Zanzibar a month later.

The launch of the Zanzibar flights will bring Qatar Airways’ African destinations to 20 overall, with six in East Africa, where the airline already serves Entebbe, Kigali and Nairobi.

James Hogan, president and CEO of Etihad Airways, said daily flights starts in May using Airbus A320 aircraft with 236 seats.

“We are confident the new passenger route will replicate the positive response our cargo flights have received during our operation,” Mr Hogan said.

He added that the direct connection between Entebbe and Etihad Airway’s Abu Dhabi hub will offer travellers convenient onward

flights to the Gulf region, Europe, the Indian subcontinent, North Asia, Southeast Asia and Australia.

Currently, Etihad Airways has daily flights to Nairobi under a code share arrangement with Kenya Airways.

China Southern Airlines sales and reservation manager in Uganda Meddy Migadde said the airline also plans to extend its flights out of Entebbe and Dar es Salaam airports next year.

“The East African region has many travellers heading to and from China, the majority of whom are traders and tourists. We believe that our direct flights to Guangzhou will be convenient to them,” Mr Migadde said.

Isaac Khisa



Qatar Airways is among airlines increasing their flights to the region. Picture: File

OIL AND GAS

Firms seek new partners, extensions

They are trying to avoid cancellation of PSCs as they seek funds for exploration

By **KENNEDY SENELWA**
Special Correspondent

Oil and gas exploration companies in Kenya are seeking partners and extensions on their contracts amid tight liquidity due to the fall in crude oil prices.

Industry analysts said many firms are looking for new partners to avoid cancellation of production sharing contracts (PSCs) as the fall in oil prices has made it difficult to get funds for exploration.

PSCs have timeframes for carrying out work programmes like seismic surveys to identify hydrocarbons deposits for drilling in an initial two-year exploration period either onshore or shallow offshore and three years deep offshore.

Adamantine Energy Ltd and Lion Petroleum Inc, for example, have written to the Ministry of Energy asking for more time to meet the terms of crude oil and natural gas exploration agreements while FAR Ltd of Australia has been given a one-year extension on the current production sharing contract to complete work in block L6 that straddles offshore and onshore Kenya.

Tower Resources Plc chief executive Graeme Thomson said Lion Petroleum Inc, the operator of onshore block 2B in north-eastern Kenya, had proposed additional time be sought after joint venture partners completed drilling the Badada-1 well, which was dry.

Adamantine Energy has applied to the Ministry of Energy for a 15-month extension to allow for acquisition, processing and evaluation of two dimension (2D) seismic data of block 11B in northwestern Kenya.



Some oil and gas exploration firms are looking for partners for funding. Picture: File

Adamantine owns 50 per cent of acreage 11B, First Oil Plc 30 per cent stake and Bowleven Plc 20 per cent. First Oil in July 2013 agreed to fund up to \$9 million of initial exploration work with a further commitment of additional \$12.5 million in an agreement signed with Bowleven.

"The application for extension to the Kenyan authorities is to enable completion of the seismic programme," said Bowleven's chief executive Kevin Hart.

He said logistical issues including security concerns delayed seismic operations.

FirstEnergy Capital LLP, which is managing the strategic review of Swala Energy Ltd, has received expressions of interest from credible parties who want to buy part of the firm's interests in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. Swala is looking for a partner

Swala is looking for a partner as an alternative way of raising funds for drilling

as an alternative way of raising funds for drilling.

Swala and Tullow Oil Plc, each owning 50 per cent of block 12B in western Kenya, are preparing to drill the Ahero prospect near Kisumu town.

FAR chairman Nic Limb said security issues led Milio Exploration and Production Ltd to defer the seismic survey of onshore part Block 6 until the second quarter of 2015 as well drilling is expected to start early next year.

Government extension

"The government awarded the joint venture a one-year extension to the current PSC in order to complete the work in a safe manner," he said.

Milio acquired 60 per cent of the onshore portion of acreage L6 in February 2014 by agreeing to spend \$30 million to survey and drill a well. FAR retained 24 per cent and Pancontinental Oil & Gas NL 16 per cent in the deal.

Offshore is 60 per cent owned by FAR and 40 per cent by Pancontinental. FAR has from last

year been looking for an investor to buy part of its offshore stake near Block L10 A, which has a discovery well for hydrocarbons.

The Ministry of Energy has approved extension of the initial exploration period of onshore block L20, which is wholly owned by Dubai based Milio Exploration and Production, to September 2015 to allow for acquisition of new seismic data.

Milio has contracted London based Envoi Ltd to advise on securing a strategic partner for blocks L6 and L20. Milio wants a partner to fund 1,000 kilometres of 2D seismic data likely to cost \$11 million and one well in the onshore part of L6, expected to cost about \$14 million.

Meanwhile, ERHC Energy Inc is working with Deloitte Corporate Finance to sell part of its 35 per cent stake in block 11A in northwestern Kenya, where CEPSA has a 55 per cent equity and National Oil Corporation of Kenya 10 per cent.

ERHC said drilling of the first exploration well is expected during the first quarter of 2016.

sector round-up

Zambia proposes 9pc open-cast and underground mines royalty

Zambia has proposed to fix open-cast and underground mines royalties at 9 per cent to prevent mining firms from pulling out of the country. President Edgar Lungu in March directed that the royalties be changed by April 8. Zambia, Africa's second largest copper producer in January increased royalties for open pit mines from 6 per cent to 20 per cent and the levy for underground mines from 6 per cent to 8 per cent. The Zambian government has been at loggerheads with mining companies over higher royalties and value added tax refunds, leading to some firms scaling down operations and reducing numbers of workers.

Pala gives Rainbow \$12m for Gakara project in Burundi

Rainbow Rare Earths Ltd has secured \$12 million funding from Pala Investments Ltd to push the Gakara project in Burundi to commercial production.

"With the recent approval of the mining licence and mining convention by the Burundian government, we can now make rapid progress," said Rainbow managing director Martin Eales.

The first tranche of \$6 million will be allocated for studies and to prepare for trial mining. The work is estimated to be completed within six months. The second tranche will provide capital to commence trial mining at the high-grade Gakara rare earths project site.



Work at a mine. Pic: File

Simba Energy raises \$450,000 for oil exploration in Kenya, Gambia

Simba Energy Inc has raised \$450,000 through a private placement of 15 million shares to fund crude oil exploration in Kenya and Guinea.

Simba's chief executive Robert Dinning said the proceeds will not only be used as general working capital but also fund exploration commitments under production sharing contracts in the two countries.

"The company has granted stock options to officers, directors and consultants, under its stock option plan, for purchase of up to 7.2 million common shares for a period of 5 years at a price of \$0.06 per share," he said.

IMR Resources receives 5-yr retention licence from Tanzania

Tanzania has granted IMX Resources Ltd of Australia a five-year retention licence over the Ntaka Hill tenement area, which has nickel deposits, paving the way for the completion of the Ntaka Hill nickel project joint venture agreement with Loricatus Resource Investments, an arm of Fig Tree Resources Fund II of Mauritius.

Fig Tree can now make a pre-payment of \$300,000 out of \$2 million, with the balance payable immediately after Tanzanian Fair Competition Commission approval, said IMX's chief executive Phil Hoskins. Fig Tree will acquire 70.65 per cent stake in Ntaka project from a joint venture that is 85 per cent owned by IMX with 15 per cent belonging to MMG Exploration Holdings Ltd, for a \$6 million cash consideration. \$4 million will be paid upon a positive outcome to a geotechnical study work to be carried out by Fig Tree.

Works on 300MW Turkana wind farm start

By **STEVE MBOGO**
Special Correspondent

WORKS ON the 300megawatt Lake Turkana Wind Power Project (LTWP) have started in Marsabit County near Lake Turkana.

"All works have started on site, and foundation works for the turbines as well," said Carlo Van Wageningen, LTWP director.

The first commissioning of the project will be in October 2016 when it will generate 90MW while full commissioning for 300MW will take place in July 2017.

The start of the project is a relief to investors and the government as the project has been delayed for over five years after the World Bank withdrew from guaranteeing the company's borrowing. Thereafter, the African Development Bank (AfDB) stepped

in, assembling a consortium of financiers.

In March last year, LTWP signed funding agreements totalling \$858.12 million to revive the project. AfDB provided, through the government of Kenya, a \$27.54 million guarantee against the risk of delays in the construction of the transmission line linking the project to the national grid.

Guarantee

The guarantee had been set as a condition by the financiers to the government and LTWP. The Kenya Electricity Transmission Company (Ketraco) is set to build a 428km 400kV transmission line between Loyangalani, where the project is located, and Suswa on the floor of the Rift Valley, to join the national grid. Kenya received \$170.3 million in funding for this compo-

nent of the project from Spain.

The Lake Turkana Wind Power consortium comprises KP&P Africa B.V. and Aldwych International as co-developers, Industrial Fund for Developing Countries (IFU), Wind Power A.S. (Vestas), Finnish Fund for Industrial Co-operation Ltd (Finnfund), and the Norwegian Investment Fund for Developing Countries (Norfund).

LTWP is solely responsible for the financing, construction and operation of the wind farm. Aldwych will oversee the construction and operations of the power plant on behalf of LTWP while Vestas will provide the maintenance of the plant in contract with LTWP. The power produced will be bought at a fixed price by Kenya Power over a 20-year period in accordance with the signed power purchase agreement.

MANAGER

Who's your most valuable salesperson?

Companies have become savvy customers, often determining the solution they need, the supplier they want and the price they will pay before a salesperson sets foot through the door. In this competitive environment, the premium on finding, training, motivating and retaining star salespeople has never been higher.

Yet because firms measure only past sales performance, they have limited insight into how a salesperson will do. As a result, many firms overvalue their poor performers and undervalue their stars.

Failing to forecast a salesperson's future value (SFV) can lead to costly misallocation of training and incentive dollars. Worse, it can allow undervalued but top-flight salespeople to slip through your fingers and take valuable customers with them.

We define SFV as the net present value of future cash flows from a salesperson's customers after accounting for the costs of developing, motivating and retaining the rep.

Comparing SFV for different time horizons allows managers to optimise training and incentives to achieve short- and long-term goals. In our research, we forecast reps' SFV at one year and three years. A three-year horizon is typical for managerial decision-making.

Like most companies, the firm we worked with had been using revenue generated as the main metric for valuing its salespeople. Reps who brought in the most money were considered "stars." An SFV analysis, however, revealed that this blunt measure was neither an accurate gauge of a rep's current worth nor a good indicator of



COMMENTARY

V. KUMAR, SARANG SUNDER AND ROBERT P. LEONE

"As selling becomes more complex, the role of the sales force as a source of competitive advantage grows."

his or her potential.

What training and incentives will bring out the best in a high achiever or help a promising rep improve?

We defined two classes: training-driven reps, influenced by instruction and learning; and incentive-driven reps, motivated by monetary and other rewards.

Most sales training is task related, focused on improving knowledge and skills involved in selling. Growth-related training

helps reps identify and develop needed task-related skills.

After gauging the impact of the training, three findings emerged that have important implications: One, more isn't necessarily better. Two, time frame matters such that training effects in general are greater in the long term. However, the impact of long-term training on SFV is much more pronounced among training-driven reps. Finally, training types are mutually reinforcing. Growth-related training, which focuses on adaptive and problem-solving skills, can enhance a salesperson's ability to apply information and tactics developed in task-related training. The benefits of the synergy between the two types is greater in the long term than in the short term.

When it comes to extrinsic motivators, salespeople respond

quickly and enthusiastically to monetary rewards and recognition. Monetary rewards are more powerful for all types of reps in the short term. Finally, monetary and nonmonetary rewards have a greater impact on SFV when combined — in both segments and in both the short and long term.

With SFV metrics in hand, managers can segment the sales force, identifying those sensitive to training, incentives or other factors. Then, managers can make data-driven decisions about investments in training and incentives, career development and even hiring and firing.

Training and incentives investments: Managers should determine each salesperson's sensitivity to different types of instruction and monitor both assigned and opt-in training accordingly. Training decisions

must also take into account managers' time-frame goals: Training strategies that maximise short-term performance may be different from those that lead to the best long-term outcomes.

Managers must also determine which salespeople will respond best to different types of incentives and adjust the incentive structure as needed.

Career development and retention: Salesperson segmentation and future value calculations allow managers to understand why the profit potential of one salesperson is climbing while another's is plateauing or falling. Not all underperforming salespeople should be cut loose, obviously. In many cases, our research suggests, performance problems may reflect misapplication of training and incentives. The problem, in other words, is managerial.

Profiling and recruitment. The SFV measurement allows a firm to profile top performers in a given segment and then recruit and optimally train and motivate others like them. Our study found that incentive-driven reps were generally older, had more experience (more than 10 years) and were more self-confident than training-driven reps. Training-driven reps tended to engage in more cross-selling and so sold a wider breadth of products, but their revenue per transaction was lower. Finally, training-driven reps were more likely to sell to smaller but rapidly growing clients, while incentive-driven reps tended to attract larger and more stable customers.

As selling becomes ever more complex, the role of the sales force as a source of competitive advantage grows. Measuring and managing the sales force according to future value metrics can deliver greater efficiency and profits and increase competitive advantage.

Harvard Business School Publishing Corp

After change management, greater returns on investment

BY MICHAEL HOLZMANN

Special Correspondent

IN PWC's recent *Africa CEO Survey*, 59 CEOs of financial services organisations in 17 countries report that change programmes are under way or completed in several common areas.

However, some 75 per cent of change initiatives fail. To understand this high failure rate, let's examine change management at a practical level.

Organisations are doing two things to change: communicating and training. Communication tends to focus on the value of the initiative to achieve greater buy-in. Training addresses the detail and requirements. However, without a clear understanding of the problems, neither communication nor training will sustain long-term

change.

Change management supports business transformation effectively when it is clear which problems need to be solved. One way to approach this is to apply a simple test to any proposed change: How will it improve the client experience and profitability?

Within financial services organisations, change initiatives tend to be driven by market demands e.g. the need for new products or outreach to new customer segments. The underlying issue may be how to differentiate the company from the competition. Introducing new products or greater efficiency in an itemised way will not achieve this outcome and constant segmentation of customers may eventually lead to diminishing returns. Comprehensive change management will, therefore, reveal insights to

drive transformation through a changed customer experience while maintaining a careful eye on profitability.

The CEO may not need to have a personal view of what the client experience should be, but he should task his managers with understanding it. Increasing market share or improving customer retention is more about having people volunteer and identify what they need to do. Their efforts are vision-driven, but the responsibility for driving the initiative forward does not need to reside with the Daydreamer-in-Chief at the company.

75pc

The percentage of change initiatives that fail

How can organisations think differently about transformation? First, they can agree upon the key characteristics of the customer's experience now and in the future. They can empower teams to identify the critical customer experiences that drive the business in terms of market share, profitability and cross-selling. They can identify the experiences that drive customer decisions and behaviours with regard to extending or expanding their relationship with the business—or leaving for a competitor.

A clear view of what needs to get done to achieve that new experience should also include a way of tracking progress towards it as benefits accrue over time. The interdependence between various stakeholders within an organisation will also lead to a sense of co-ownership transcending silos

and departmental structures and hierarchies — trust is an essential ingredient in change management: trust within members of the organisation, and trust that the organisation has earned among its customers.

Organisations that successfully manage change view it as a capability to be developed—not a cost to be managed. They are agile, change-ready and more competitive. Agile organisations accept that customer focused change is an ongoing feature of organisational life.

Organisations that have experienced managed change and learned from those efforts are more likely to realise a greater retrain on investment on future change efforts.

Michael Holzmman is the Director of PwC Kenya's People & Change advisory consulting practice.



Coming Soon!

Reinsurance Industry in East Africa

Special Feature

The EastAfrican will publish the annual feature on region's **Re-insurance industry**. It will provide a platform for reinsurance stakeholders to highlight and celebrate their achievements.

This year's feature which will be available on www.theeastafican.co.ke will highlight among others:

- ICT solutions providers for Reinsurance Industry
- Regional consultancy advisory service
- Reinsurance Industry leaders and brokers in the region
- Technical and professional training in reinsurance sector

To advertise contact Mercy on
Tel: +254 734960644 or
Email: mbarasa@ke.nationmedia.com

The EastAfrican 20

Sipi Law Associates, Advocates & Legal Consultants

INVITATIONS FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO PURCHASE LAND OFF KISUBI BAY ENTEBBE ROAD, WAKISO DISTRICT

Duly instructed by our client, we present for sale undeveloped lake-side property the brief description of which is as below:

- Acreage is 75 acres of Mailo land on block 428; Plots 20, 21 and 192 unencumbered.
- Location; Bugiri, Wakiso District turn 4.8km off Entebbe Road at Kawuku along an all-weather murram road.

The land is approximately 18km from Kampala with closer proximity to Entebbe. Potential developments are Recreational/hospitality/resort development, Educational institution, residential estate or a mixed commercial development.

Offers should be sent by email or courier to the address below. To make enquiries or send offers contact paul@sipilawuganda.com or call **0414-235391/ 256-393-272921** to arrange a site visit.

Sipi Law Associates, Advocates & Legal Consultants,
Jocasa House, Plot 14, Nakasero Road,
P. O. Box 4180, Kampala, Uganda.



INTERNATIONAL TENDER

HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE NORTHERN CORRIDOR INTEGRATION PROJECTS- PROVISION OF SKILLS AUDIT

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

The Northern Corridor Integration Projects are an initiative of the Heads of State of the Republics of Rwanda, Uganda, South Sudan and Kenya to fast-track regional development through infrastructural development, trade, political and economic integration. The integration projects have been put in clusters which include Human Resource Capacity Building that is chaired by the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MOEST), Kenya.

MOEST – Kenya is therefore seeking the services of reputable firms or consortia from the partner States or internationally to undertake skills audit of the member state in the eight sub-sectors below:

1. Power Generation, Transmission and Interconnectivity;
2. Geothermal Development
3. Petroleum (oil and gas) : Upstream, Midstream and Downstream
4. Land & Hydrographic Survey and Mapping
5. Land, Property Valuation and Physical Planning
6. ICT infrastructure.
7. Airspace Management
8. Maritime Transport and Shipping Logistics

The scope of the contract will include but not limited to the following:

1. Identifying the existing and required skills in the given sub-sectors to implement the Northern Corridor Integration Projects
2. Mapping of the existing skills and preparation of a mapping report
3. Submit a comprehensive report on skills audit and recommend intervention strategies
4. Recommend capacity building plan to bridge the skills gap
5. Projecting the skills demand for the next ten years.

The contract is envisaged to be for a maximum of three months.

Interested and eligible firms or consortia of firms shall provide information demonstrating that they have necessary qualifications, capability, experience and resources to undertake this task. Such information may include description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions and availability of appropriate skills among staff. The short listing criteria are: a minimum of five (5) years' experience advising on capacity building and human resource development especially in developing countries with at least three (3) projects in the last 5 years, relevant qualifications, experience and proven track record in human resource planning; demonstrated project management and coordination skills; track record of working in results based management approaches; track record of conducting professional diagnostics of institutional and organizational development; highly experienced in supporting change management and regional integration in a developing country context; knowledge and experience of East African Community and Northern Corridor Partner States.

Completed EOI proposals submitted in four (4) printed copies (1 original and 3 copies) enclosed in plain sealed envelopes, marked **"PROVISION OF SKILLS AUDIT"** be delivered to the address below in person to be deposited in the Tender Box situated on the Ground Floor, Jogoo House "B" MOEST Headquarters, Nairobi not later than **28th April, 2015 at 10.00am.** or by email to the address below so as to reach us not later than **28th April, 2015 at 10.00am.**

The submission will be opened on **28th April, 2015 at 12.00pm.** in the presence of the tenderers' representatives who choose to attend the opening in the 2nd Floor Boardroom, Jogoo House "B", MOEST Headquarters- Nairobi.

This advertisement can also be obtained from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology; Public Procurement Oversight Authority; and the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology Websites.

The Principal Secretary
State Department of Education
Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
NAIROBI – KENYA
Telephone: 318581
Email: psecretary@education.go.ke
Website: www.education.go.ke

GREEN BUILDING SOLUTIONS

'Revolutionizing Sustainable Building'

The EastAfrican the region's authoritative weekly newspaper will in the issue of 25th April publish a feature on Green Building Technology.

This aims to address:-

- Waste reduction, pollution and environmental degradation.
- Improved efficiency in the use of energy, water, and other resources
- Importance of green building technology on occupants health and productivity.

For further information contact:

David: Tel: +254 720 684 854,
Email: dwanyonyi@ke.nationmedia.com
OR

Edward Tel: +254 724 854525,
Email: engarega@ke.nationmedia.com



The EastAfrican

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



RWANDA TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

P.O Box 6674 Kigali - Rwanda/ African Union Boulevard/ Email: info@rtda.gov.rw/ KIGALI

CLARIFICATION

INTERNATIONAL OPEN COMPETITIVE BIDDING (ICB)

Employer: Rwanda Transport Development Agency.

Funding: Government of Rwanda (GoR)

ICB No: 006/G/2014-2015/IO/RTDA.

CLARRIFICATION RESPONSES ON THE TENDER DOCUMENT No 006/G/2014-2015-IO /RTDA.

The Rwanda Transport Development Agency (RTDA), hereby presents to you the Clarifications that were raised by one of the prospective bidder, on the Tender Document related to supplying and installation of eight mobile weighbridges.

Rwanda transport Development Agency therefore, would like to inform you the following :
- The clarifications are available at Rwanda Transport Development Agency (RTDA)'s office or can be downloaded from RTDA Website/Tender (www.rtda.gov.rw).
- The deadline for submission of bids has been extended up to 5th May 2015 at 10:00 A.M Local time (8 :00 GMT) ;

No further request for clarification on this tender shall be recieved.

Sincerely,

Guy M. KALISA
Directeur General



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SMALLSCALE HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (SHDP)

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)

CORRECTION

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF GREEN HOUSE SOLAR DRIERS

Reference is made to our advertisement in Nation News paper and the Star News paper which run on Monday 13th and Wednesday 15th April, 2015 respectively. **Please note the following;**

Tender Number should read MOALF/SHDP./TO1/14-15

Paragraph 5 should readpayment of a **non-refundable fee of Kenya Shillings One Thousands Only** per tender in **Bankers Cheque** payable to the **Principal Secretary,**

Bids should be clearly marked 'supply and Delivery of Green House Solar Driers and deposited at State Department of Agriculture Tender Box, situated at the Ground Floor, Kilimo House, Cathedral Road or posted to

Principal Secretary
State Department of Agriculture
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries
Kilimo House, Cathedral Road
P. O. Box 30028-00100
NAIROBI

and should be received **on or before 11.00 am on Tuesday 12th May 2015** must be accompanied by a bid guarantee as indicated in the table above.

Bulky bid documents that cannot fit in the tender box should be dropped at the Head: Supply Chain Management Office at Kilimo House, 4th Floor Room 4-2B.

FOR: PRINCIPAL SECRETARY



CAPITAL MARKETS OPEN DAY!

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CAPITAL MARKETS OPEN DAY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 7TH TO 9TH, 2015

The Authority, in partnership with capital markets industry stakeholders, will hold Capital Markets Open Day Exhibition to be held from **7th to 9th May, 2015** at the **Kenyatta International Conference Center, Tsavo Ballroom**. The event targets participants from the General Public, as well as the Business and Professional Community, within Nairobi and its environs.

The Open Day is intended to give participants an opportunity to get information on:

- How to buy shares, bonds and other capital markets products
- Opening and running a Central Depository System (CDS) account
- How you can start investing with as low as Kshs. 500.00
- How to protect your shares
- What you need to know about Unit Trusts (Collective Investment Schemes)
- Available products and licensed market institutions
- Developments in capital markets
- The role of intermediaries in facilitating long term savings.
- Capital markets as an alternative financing option for long term projects
- The government's role in promoting investment and security of investments
- The 10 year Capital Markets Master Plan
- Corporate Governance reform for listed companies
- The rights and obligations of investors

The event will also provide an opportunity for attendees to raise questions, concerns or complaints to the Authority.

As part of the event, the Authority has organized several themed conferences which are **by invitation only** to run concurrently during the Open Day. These include

| | CONFERENCE | DATE | TIME |
|---|---|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 | The Role of Capital Markets in Funding Vision 2030 Projects | May 7th, 2015 | 2.00pm to 4.00pm |
| 2 | Capital Markets On going Developments | May 8th, 2015 | 8.30am to 10.00am |
| 3 | Stakeholder Consultative conference | May 8th 2015 | 11.00am to 12.30pm |
| 4 | Capital Markets Products | May 8th, 2015 | 2.00pm to 4.00pm |
| 5 | Investing in the Capital Markets | May 9th, 2015 | 10.00am to 12.00pm |

If you are interested in attending any of the above conferences, please contact Halkano Huqa or Faith Mwende on **Tel. 020 2264900**. You could also email: iepa@cma.or.ke

Some of the entities expected to exhibit at the event include, the Capital Markets Authority, the Nairobi Securities Exchange, the Central Depository and Settlement Corporation, Fund Managers, Stockbrokers, Custodians, Investment Banks, Investment Advisors and Data Vendors among others.

Entrance is Free!!!

Come and learn how to create wealth through the capital markets.
Don't leave your friend behind!!!!

For more details, contact **Halkano Huqa** or **Faith Mwende** on **Tel. 020 2264900**. You could also email: iepa@cma.or.ke

Entrance is Free!!! All are Welcome!!!



British Institute in Eastern Africa

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for this full time post to be based in Nairobi on a 2 year contract, from June 2015, or as soon as possible thereafter. Applicants should have the right to work in Kenya.

The British Institute in Eastern Africa has been active since 1960 and has its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. Applicants should consult our website (www.biea.ac.uk) for further information about the BIEA and its work.

Further particulars for this post can be accessed here: <http://biea.ac.uk/job-opening-assistant-director/#more-3888>

The post holder will play a key role in maintaining the high profile of BIEA into an internationally recognised British Academy centre for research excellence in African studies. S/he will be responsible for

- Pursuing his/her own research
- Supporting graduate trainees and researchers.
- Organising BIEA stands at international conferences.
- Overseeing the organisation of BIEA's Nairobi seminars and workshops.
- Overseeing the development of the BIEA's online strategy
- Deputising for the Director.

The successful candidate must possess a doctorate. Applications will, however, also be considered by candidates whose doctoral thesis has been submitted and will be examined on or before 1 June 2015, subject to their supervisor's reference. S/he should demonstrate a commitment to research in any of the subject areas of interest to the BIEA, including anthropology, archaeology, heritage studies, history, law, political science and public health, in Kenya and elsewhere in East Africa. S/he should be able to demonstrate the potential to publish their research work to international standards of excellence. Administrative experience and good IT skills are essential. It would also be useful for the candidate to have a knowledge of the UK and / or eastern Africa academic research environment. A full driving licence is essential.

Terms and Conditions

The post holder will be expected to reside in Nairobi and will be based at the BIEA headquarters there. Gross Salary will be between 230,000KSH – 250,000kes/month, depending on experience/qualifications. Includes medical benefits and provident fund.

Application process

Please apply by sending; covering letter, Curriculum Vitae, A statement of interest. The names, addresses, email addresses and contact telephone number of TWO referees. Please email the above to ad@biea.ac.uk

All applications must be received by **6.00 PM [East African Time] 1st May 2015**

Short listed candidates will be invited for interview by **15th May 2015**

INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD IN NAIROBI ON 29th May 2015

Start date, **mid to late June 2015**, or soon as possible thereafter, subject to negotiation.

Use the references given

What do you do when, after you have exhaustively interviewed job candidates, you end up with a list of, say, five candidates who equally fit the one vacancy you have in your company? Quite a dilemma, isn't it?

Nevertheless, don't get stuck. You still have a very important tool in your hands — the referees given. They are very important in the job selection process. This is the point at which the references presented by the candidates come in handy. Use them to sieve through the candidates. To eliminate and hire the most suitable.

For best results, be consistent in your questions to each referee. Typical queries will include those meant to establish how long they have known the candidate, the relationship between them, and the referee's perception of the candidate's professional skills and personal attributes. Ask them if they would hire the candidate if they were in your shoes, and why.

Get it in writing

Don't put all your eggs in one basket of verbal job offers, even if it's from a trusted employer. You should never resign from your present job on the basis of such an offer. Wait until you get a written commitment. Unforeseen events may occur in between and influence the decision of your prospective employer. You could then end up without a job. The absence of a written commitment makes it easy for them to rescind an offer.

Learn from your mistakes

There is no harm in asking an employer who has just written you a regret letter to share with you the reasons that may have influenced them not to consider you as the candidate of choice. Tell them you want to improve on your weaknesses. A good human resource manager will share this information with you. Make use of any advice presented.

Register with job alert sites

The Internet is well endowed with sites that

offer free job alerts. Many of these sites give subscribers the option of narrowing down their alerts to regions and careers of choice. It's time to give them a try. Most of these sites don't charge for the service, so there is nothing to lose (apart from a few adverts that will cram your inbox) by subscribing to them and getting frequent notifications. You may just get a good job out of the arrangement.

Make impressive presentations

Impressive presentations on a subject, idea, design, product and service can yield splendid responses, and even become the turning point of your career. If you are in a position that will at one point or another require that you make presentations, then you need to acquire good oral skills, if you haven't done so already. Start by understanding who your audience will be, so that you specifically design the content of your presentation to their needs. Develop a relevantly captivating approach to the presentation, and rehearse this in front of a mirror, or before friends and family. You could record your rehearsal to listen to later, and make improvements, as necessary. During the actual presentation, capitalise on your strongest skills. This will ensure that any shortcoming is overshadowed. Dress sharply to stand out, but don't overdo it as this may divert attention. Express confidence, even if you have to act it. Be pleasant and remain calm. Dramatise your examples. Speak as if you are addressing the person furthest from you, if you are not using a microphone. Obviously, you must be heard, which also means that you must speak clearly.

Work checklist

Do you forget to do some assignments at work? Don't take it lightly. Soon, you might miss out on a breakthrough deal for the simple reason that you forgot to make a phone call at the crucial moment. Forgetful or not, it is good practice to draw a checklist of the work you have set out to do in a day or week, particularly if the assignments are many. The checklist will help you audit your progress for better efficiency.



FAIR CONSTRUCTION

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

FAIR CONSTRUCTION originally launched its building and civil works operations in Uganda in 1986 but was established in Rwanda in 1995. A pioneer in the indigenous large scale construction industry here in Rwanda, today we are still one of the leading construction firms in Rwanda visit us at www.fairconstructionrw.com. We are therefore seeking for applications from suitable qualified auditors for the position of Internal Audit Managers.

POSITION: Internal Audit Manager (2 candidates)

ROLE & PURPOSE STATEMENT

ROLE PURPOSE STATEMENT: To formulate, maintain, enforce and control internal audit policies, systems, procedures and processes to ensure compliance with professional and statutory reporting requirements.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES/ RESPONSIBILITIES

- To design, develop and maintain internal audit systems, procedures and processes, which ensure that all accounting documents in the company provide systematic audit trails of all transactions to facilitate effective management control and follow up.
- On an annual basis, prepare and agree with immediate manager an audit timetable to review implementation of audit guidelines in the day to day management of company operations and present the reports and recommendations to the immediate manager for follow up with audit policy committee for adoption and implementation.
- Design and produce a systems and financial audit operating manual for the company and oversee its company wide application.
- Continuously review formulation and implementation of operational controls in all operating departments to detect and prevent any errors.
- Design and implement the use of all accountable documents in procurement and internal usage/movement of consumable materials e.g. fuel, building products and other fast moving stock items to eliminate loss through pilferage and other forms of misuse.
- Oversee the implementation of sound financial controls at all company building sites to ensure that the management of all projects undertaken comply with company operational guidelines to avoid potential abuse and expensive cost overruns.
- Carry out regular operational audits in all areas including human resource deployment, physical and financial security systems to protect the company from potential losses due to laxity in internal controls.
- Also carry out random tests to verify whether or not cash and check payments are processed in absolute compliance with audit policy guidelines

Carry out other duties that may be assigned from time to time by immediate manager.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS EXPERIENCE

- University graduate and professionally qualified accountant preferably with experience in practical audit
- Minimum 8 years accounting experience, five of which must be in a busy organisation.

Relevant professional and industry experience.

Qualified candidates can apply on line by submission of their application letter, CV, copies of their academic qualification documents to: Email: hr@fairconstructionrw.com or fair@fairconstructionrw.com not later than 2nd May 2015.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – WDA

Empowering people with employable skills and entrepreneurship capacity
P. O. BOX 2707 ,Tel: (+250) 255113365
E-mail: info@wda.gov.rw, Website: www.wda.gov.rw

Title of The tender: SUPPLY, COMMISSIONING, INSTALLATION AND TEST OF CIVIL ENGINEERING LABORATORY EQUIPMENT FOR IPRC SOUTH

TENDER NUMBER: N° 26/SPLY/ICB/04/2014-2015/BTC/WDA

The Workforce Development Authority (hereinafter called "Client") has received funds from BTC-Belgian Development Agency. The client intends to use a part of the funds to eligible payments under the contract for which this Bidding Document is issued. The Workforce Development Authority (WDA) invites eligible bidders to submit bids for the **SUPPLY, COMMISSIONING, INSTALLATION AND TEST OF CIVIL ENGINEERING LABORATORY EQUIPMENT** as indicated in detail in the statement of Requirements.

The tender is divided into five (4) lots, each lot being indivisible, as follows:

- Lot 1: Soil Mechanics Laboratory;
- Lot 2: Soil Mechanics Laboratory;
- Lot 3: Soil Mechanics Laboratory;
- Lot 4: Soil Mechanics Laboratory.

The tender document can be obtained from the Workforce Development Authority- Remera former PSCBS from Monday to Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Fridays from 8:00 AM to Noon, upon presentation of a prepaid bank slip of a non-refundable of Fifteen Thousand Rwanda Francs (15,000 Rwf) or its equivalent in any free convertible currency to RRA" Rwanda Revenue Authority" account n° 120.00.46 opened at the "Banque Nationale du Rwanda" (BNR), B.P 513 Kigali, Tel. (250) 572551 or to the RRA branches of Kigali city, Nyabugogo, Kacyiru and Remera.

Well printed bids, properly bound and presented in

four copies (one original and three copies) marked ORIGINAL and COPIES accompanied by Bid security of **2% of the total bid price for each lot separately** or its equivalent in the freely convertible currency issued by a bank recognized must reach the WDA Headquarters, Procurement Department at the address mentioned above not later than **2/6/2015 at 9:45 a.m.** Late bids will be rejected. The bids shall remain valid for **120 days**.

Enquiries regarding this tender may be addressed to Director General-WDA, P.O Box 2707 Kigali, Tel: [+250788899289](tel:+250788899289), E-mail: procurement@wda.gov.rw, not later than 15 days before the date of bids submission. Bids will be opened the same day on **2/6/2015** at 10:00 a.m. in the presence of bidders, or their representatives who choose to attend at WDA Procurement Department.

The reference number and title of the tender must be clearly indicated on the outer envelope and marked "TO BE OPENED ONLY IN PUBLIC SESSION"

Bidding will be conducted in accordance with the Law modifying and completing the Law n°12/2007 of 27/03/2007 on Public Procurement N°05/2013 of 13/02/2013.

Done at Kigali, on 17/04/2015

GASANA Jerome
Director General -WDA

JOB SCAN

MANAGEMENT

Position: Human Resource Director (Britam). Location: Nairobi Requirements: Degree in Human Resource or social sciences. Masters degree or post-graduate diploma in HRM. Eight years experience at a senior management position Apply to: recruit@virtuahr.co.ke Closing date: April 20 Publication: Daily Nation, April 8

Deputy Chief of Party/Senior Technical Advisor (USAID)

Location: Nairobi Requirements: Masters degree in public health or related field with seven years experience in project management Apply to: vacancies@chskkenya.org Closing date: April 17 Publication: Daily Nation, April 8

Position: Front Office Manager Location: Mombasa Requirements: Degree in Hospitality Management with a higher diploma in the same from a recognised institution. Five years experience in a similar position

Apply to: The Chairman of the Board, North Coast Beach Hotel P.O Box 43844-00100, Nairobi

INFRASTRUCTURE

Position: Macroeconomics, Infrastructure- Economic Services Division Location: Nairobi Requirements: Degree in relevant area coupled with experience in similar area Apply to: www.kippira.or.ke Closing date: April 17 Publication: Daily Nation, April 2

Position: Senior Policy Analyst- Macroeconomics, Productive Sector, Social Sector Division Location: Nairobi Requirements: Degree in relevant area coupled with experience in similar area Apply to: www.kippira.or.ke Closing date: April 17 Publication: Daily Nation, April 2

Position: Principal Policy Analyst- Macroeconomics, Productive Sector, Social Sector Division Location: Nairobi Requirements: Degree in relevant area coupled with experience in similar area

Apply to: www.kippira.or.ke Closing date: April 17 Publication: Daily Nation, April 2

MEDICAL

Position: Medical Director (Nairobi Hospital) Location: Nairobi Requirements: Masters degree in Medicine with specialisation in a give area. A PhD will be an advantage. 15 years years experience at the executive level management Apply to: The Lead Consultant, Rose Avenue Consulting Group, Blue Violets Plaza Suite No 207, Kamburu Drive, off Ngong Road, Next to Top Plaza P.O Box 56858-00200, Nairobi Email: recruitment@racg.co.ke Closing date: April 15 Publication: Daily Nation, April 1

Position: Assistant Medical Director (Nairobi Hospital) Location: Nairobi Requirements: Masters degree in Medicine with a sub-specialisation in a give area. A PhD will be an advantage. Five years years experience at the executive level management Apply to: The Lead Consultant, Rose Avenue Consulting Group, Blue Violets Plaza Suite No 207, Kamburu Drive, off Ngong Road, Next to Top Plaza P.O Box 56858-00200, Nairobi Email: recruitment@racg.co.ke Closing date: April 15 Publication: Daily Nation, April 1

Position: General Manager/ Corporate Affairs-CAK Location: Nairobi Requirements: Minimum of Masters Degree in Business Management, Social Sciences or relevant area with a degree in communication or Public Relation Apply to: The Director General, Communication Authority of Kenya 14448-00800, Nairobi Closing date: April 20 Publication: Daily Nation, April 1

Position: Chief Manager/Legal Services-CAK Location: Nairobi Requirements: Degree in Law with a Masters degree in the same area coupled with 10 years experience Apply to: The Director General, Communication Authority of Kenya 14448-00800, Nairobi Closing date: April 20 Publication: Daily Nation, April 1

Position: Inventory and Supply Assistant UNSOA) Location: Mombasa Requirements: Relevant academic qualification and fluent in English. Computer literate Apply to: recruitment-unsoa@un.org Closing date: Publication: Daily Nation, April 1

MARKETING

Position: Marketing Manager-NBD (NMG) Location: Nairobi Requirements: Degree in Marketing and member of Marketing Society of Kenya coupled with six years experience Apply to: http://careers.nationmedia.com Closing date: April 20 Publication: Daily Nation, March 26

DEVELOPMENT

Position: Director of Public Works (Department of Lands &

Infrastructure) Location: Nyeri Requirements: Degree in Architecture or Quantity Surveyor coupled with seven years experience. Member of a professional body Apply to: The Secretary, Nyeri County Public Service Board, Kersons Photo House, Kimathi Street P.O Box 90-10100, Nyeri Closing date: April 20 Publication: Daily Nation, March 26

Position: Director Roads and Transport (Department of Lands & Infrastructure) Location: Nyeri Requirements: Degree in Civil Engineering coupled with seven years experience. Member of a professional body Apply to: The Secretary, Nyeri County Public Service Board, Kersons Photo House, Kimathi Street P.O Box 90-10100, Nyeri Closing date: April 20 Publication: Daily Nation, March 26

Position: Director Land Survey & GEO -INFORMATICS (Department of Lands & Infrastructure) Location: Nyeri Requirements: Degree in Land Surveying coupled with seven years experience. Member of a professional body Apply to: The Secretary, Nyeri County Public Service Board, Kersons Photo House, Kimathi Street P.O Box 90-10100, Nyeri Publication: Daily Nation, March 26

Position: Director of Physical Planning, Housing and Estate Management (Department of Lands & Infrastructure) Location: Nyeri Requirements: Degree in Regional Planning, Urban or Town Planning coupled with seven years experience. Member of a professional body Apply to: The Secretary, Nyeri County Public Service Board, Kersons Photo House, Kimathi Street P.O Box 90-10100, Nyeri Publication: Daily Nation, March 26

Position: Director of Education and Training (Department of Lands & Infrastructure) Location: Nyeri Requirements: Degree in Education coupled with seven years experience. Member of a professional body Apply to: The Secretary, Nyeri County Public Service Board, Kersons Photo House, Kimathi Street P.O Box 90-10100, Nyeri Publication: Daily Nation, March 26

Position: Principal Information Officer (Office of the Governor) Location: Nyeri Requirements: Degree in Mass Communication, Journalism or Public Relations with seven years experience. Member of a professional body Apply to: The Secretary, Nyeri County Public Service Board, Kersons Photo House, Kimathi Street P.O Box 90-10100, Nyeri Publication: Daily Nation, March 26

ICT

Position: Head of Digital Division (NMG) Location: Nairobi Requirements: Degree in relevant area with a post-graduate degree in ICT. Eight years experience in the media Apply to: digitalhead@ke.



Making it count for your career

Recruitment of a Head of Rural and Agricultural Finance for Financial Sector Deeping Trust, (FSDT)

Our client **FSD Tanzania** aims to further develop the country's financial system to provide greater access to financial services to more Tanzanian men, women, and enterprises. Incorporated in July 2004, FSD Tanzania's mission is to generate sustainable improvements in the livelihoods of poor households through reduced vulnerability to shocks as well as increased incomes and employment. FSD Tanzania's vision is to achieve improved capacity and sustainability of the financial sector in Tanzania by meeting the needs of small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs) and individuals.

FSD Tanzania is keen to continue facilitating rural and agricultural finance, including investments in the informal sector. Augmenting these investments with mobile platforms appears to have a significant potential impact in Tanzania. They therefore wish to employ **Head of Rural and Agricultural Finance**. The Head of Rural and Agricultural Finance will report to the Operations Director.

Summary of Key Duties and Responsibilities

The Head of Rural and Agricultural Finance will be accountable and responsible for, among others to:

- Driving regulatory policy analysis by advising FSDs partners on rural and agricultural finance;
- Managing and developing FSDT's rural and agricultural finance portfolio of projects and investments;
- Lead evaluations of potential investments in rural and agricultural finance, including those in the informal sector and increasingly incorporating mobile technology and electronic payments;
- Serving as a thought leader in rural and agricultural finance within Tanzania by bringing information about innovations, best practice, and successes/failures from other markets to FSD Tanzania colleagues, regulators, and the broader market;
- Provide specialist advice on rural and agricultural finance to banks, other financial institutions and informal financial sector groups, mobile network operators (MNOs), third party support service providers, and other relevant entities to help them advance their efforts in financial inclusion;
- Engage on matters relating to: Rural and Agricultural Finance Portfolio; Technical Assistance; and Strategic and Business Planning

- Collaborate with other theme heads: SME finance, Digital Finance, Insurance, and other financial inclusion products/portfolios; .
- Manage and building the expertise of other members of the rural and agricultural team;
- Serve on FSDT's Senior Management Team (SMT), which holds decision-making authority;

Qualification and experience required:

- Bachelors/Master degree in Agricultural economics, economics, business law, telecommunication, finance, accounting, business, but others will be considered;
- At least 10 years' experience working in agricultural finance and/or rural finance;
- Exposure in telecoms/ mobile money, electronic payments, private financial institutions, consulting firms, or a combination of these is an added advantage;
- Knowledge of related regulations, as well as the ability and confidence to engage at the highest levels within the Bank of Tanzania, Ministry of Agriculture, financial ministries, and other government agencies;
- Exposure to a range of rural and agricultural finance strategies from around the world;

- Experience preparing and managing grant agreements, subcontracts, and investments is desirable;
- Experience effectively managing budgets; Experience working in Africa or other developing country contexts is required;
- Operations experience within agricultural or rural finance is beneficial, but not essential;
- English and the ability to be an excellent team player is a must;
- Flexibility and willingness to work with tight deadlines is a requirement of this role;

A competitive package will be offered depending on the experience and qualifications of the successful applicant. This role will be a three year contract, subject to performance. The contract may be renewed by mutual agreement.

If you believe your career objectives match this challenging role, please apply online via our recruitment channel <http://www.pwc.com/tz/en/executive-search/index.jhtml> by **Thursday 23rd April 2015**.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

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The EastAfrican



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Position: Audit and Risk Management (NTSA) Location: Nairobi Requirements: Relevant academic qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: www.ntsago.ke/careers Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

WORLD VISION

Position: Project Manager- Food Assistance (World Vision) Location: Dadaab Requirements: Relevant academic qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-africa> Closing date: April 25 Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

Position: Project Manager- Food Assistance (World Vision) Location: Samburu Requirements: Relevant academic qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-africa> Closing date: April 29 Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

Position: Project Manager- Food

Assistance (World Vision) Location: Isiolo Requirements: Relevant academic qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-africa> Closing date: April 29 Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

Position: Project Officer- Food Assistance (World Vision) Location: Kakuma Requirements: Relevant academic qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-africa> Closing date: April 29 Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

Position: Project Officer- Food Assistance (World Vision) Location: Isiolo Requirements: Relevant academic qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-africa> Closing date: April 29 Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

Position: Project Officer- Food Assistance (World Vision) Location: Samburu Requirements: Relevant academic qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-africa> Closing date: April 29 Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

Position: Project Officer- Accountability, Monitoring and Evaluation (World Vision) Location: Dadaab Requirements: Relevant academic qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-africa> Closing date: April 29 Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

Position: Project Officer- Food Assistance & Reporting (World Vision) Location: Dadaab Requirements: Relevant academic

qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-africa> Closing date: April 29 Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

Position: Accountant (World Vision) Location: Dadaab Requirements: Relevant academic qualifications and experience in the similar area Apply through: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-africa> Closing date: Publication: Daily Nation, March 18

CENTRAL BANK

Position: Chairman, Central Bank of Kenya (Nairobi) Location: Nairobi Requirements: Masters degree in Economics, Banking, Finance or Law with knowledgeable and experience in monetary coupled with 10 years experience Apply to: The Secretary, Public Service Commission, Commission House P.O Box 30095-00100, Nairobi Closing date: April 28 Publication: Daily Nation, March 11

Position: Governor, Central Bank of Kenya (Nairobi) Location: Nairobi Requirements: Masters degree in Economics, Banking, Finance or Law with knowledge-

able and experience in monetary coupled with 10 years experience Apply to: The Secretary, Public Service Commission, Commission House P.O Box 30095-00100, Nairobi Closing date: April 28 Publication: Daily Nation, March 11

Position: Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Kenya (Nairobi) Location: Nairobi Requirements: Masters degree in Economics, Banking, Finance or Law with knowledgeable and experience in monetary coupled with 10 years experience Apply to: The Secretary, Public Service Commis-

sion, Commission House P.O Box 30095-00100, Nairobi Closing date: April 28 Publication: Daily Nation, March 11

SECURITY

Position: Operations Director (G4s) Location: Nairobi Requirements: Graduate degree qualification in business/ financial or operational fields Apply to: Resourcing Manager, G4s Kenya Limited P.O Box 30242-00100 GPO Nairobi Closing date: April 29 Publication: Daily Nation, March 11.

**PERISHABLE
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The **EastAfrican**, of April 25 2015, will publish a special report on the **Perishable Cargo Handling Services in the EA & Great Lakes Region**. The report's highlights will include:-

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

NOTICE FOR INVITATION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (NfIEoI)

PROCUREMENT REFERENCE NUMBER: MEMD /SRVCS/2014-2015/00598

(OPEN INTERNATIONAL BIDDING)

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DESIGN AND SUPERVISION OF REDEVELOPMENT OF AMBER HOUSE AT PLOT NO. 29 – 33 KAMPALA ROAD, AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW OFFICE BLOCK AT PLOT NO. 1 – 3 SPEKE ROAD, KAMPALA

- The Government of the Republic of Uganda (GoU), represented by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) has allocated funds to be used for acquisition of the above captioned consultancy services as further described below.
- MEMD, intends to redevelop/modernize Amber House building on Plot No. 29 – 33 Kampala Road and construct a new office block on the adjacent Plot No. 1 – 3 Speke Road, all in Kampala, Uganda. This NfIEoI is issued to shortlist firms to tender for consultancy services for provision of designs (architectural, engineering) and construction supervision services required to deliver works of the proposed redevelopment/modernization and new office building.
- MEMD now invites eligible consultants to submit sealed expressions of interest (EoI) for the consultancy assignment as hereunder.
- Scope of the consultancy assignment
 - Objective of the proposed works:** to provide adequate and appropriate office accommodation for MEMD and its agencies to fulfil their mandate and missions in the energy and minerals sectors.
 - Scope of works:** Amber House, an existing 8-storey office building of 11,298m² with 3 basement parking levels (for 95 cars), constructed in 1954, shall be redeveloped and modernised involving additional floors, internal remodelling, refit of fixtures, installations and services, and a makeover of finishes. A new 11-storey office building of 13,550m² shall be constructed on the adjacent Plot No. 1 – 3 Speke Road
 - Consultant's tasks:** The key tasks shall include assessing requirements; provision of designs (architectural, engineering) and bid solicitation documents for tendering construction of the facility; assisting in tender action activities; preparing contract documents; administering the contract and supervising the construction works.
- Phasing:** the assignment will be undertaken in two phases – Phase I, Design (lump sum contract); and Phase II, tender action, Supervision of works, administering the contract (time-based contract)
 - Time frame for the assignment:** The overall duration for implementing Phases I and II of the assignment is estimated at a total of 212 calendar weeks, starting from date of commencement of the Consultant's assignment.
- Consultants will be short listed to tender and subsequently selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Government of Uganda's Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets (PPDA) Act and Regulations 2014.
- Interested consultants should provide information demonstrating that they are eligible and possess the required qualifications to perform the services supported with relevant documentation.
- Short listing shall be based on the eligibility and qualifications (capacity) of the applicant. The shortlist shall be made of the best ranked 3-6 applicants who are eligible and have attained the qualifying mark of 50 points as set out in the criteria for evaluation below:
 - Eligibility of applicants (on a pass/fail basis)
 - Legal capacity to enter into a contract with GoU
 - Applicant is not insolvent, in receivership, bankrupt or being wound up;
 - Business activities of applicant are not suspended
 - Applicant is not under legal proceedings for any of (ii)
 - Has fulfilled obligations to pay taxes and social security contributions
 - Applicant does not have a conflict of interest
 - Applicant is not suspended by PPDA
 - Applicant is not a member of MEMD
 - Qualifications (Capacity) of applicant (on a merit point basis)
 - Experience in similar assignment (25 Points)
 - Experience in countries with similar conditions as Uganda (5 Points)
 - Consultant's organization and facilities for the assignment (10 Points)
 - Skills of Consultant relevant to the assignment (60 Points)
 - The qualifying mark for capacity of eligible applicants shall be 50 points
 - Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture to enhance their qualifications. The form of association, where applicable, should be indicated in the Expression of Interest
 - Interested applicants must provide information and documents as follows to indicate that they are eligible and qualified to perform the services
 - Eligibility documents: copy of valid practice certificate/license **for key staff; copy of memorandum and articles of association; copy of business registration and incorporation certificate; tax registration certificate; signed statement that applicant has no conflict of interest and meets other eligibility requirements (where the consultant is not registered in Uganda, the consultant may submit alternative/equivalent documents from their country or a statement affirming non-availability of the documents in the country of the consultant)**
 - Qualification (Capacity) documents: brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc. Consultants may associate or form joint ventures to enhance their qualifications.**
- Interested eligible consultants may obtain further information at the address given below from **9:00 am – 5:00 pm** during office hours on working days.
- The REoI/notice of expression of interest is available at the MEMD website at www.energyandminerals.go.ug and at www.ppda.go.ug.
- Sealed Expressions of Interest and other relevant documents in **5 copies and 1 original must be delivered to the address below before 10.00am on 12th May 2015:**

The Procurement and Disposal Unit
Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development,
First Floor Room C109
Amber House Plot 29/33, Kampala Road
P.O. Box 7270, Kampala, Uganda. .
Tel: 256-414-344-414.
Fax: 230220/234732
E-Mail: psmemd@energy.go.ug, hpdu@energy.go.ug
- Address for Submission/Obtaining further information:
The Permanent Secretary,
- The planned Procurement schedule is as follows:

| Activity | Date |
|---|---|
| a. Publication of Notice of Expression of Interest | 20 th April 2015 |
| b. Closing date for receipt of Expression of Interest | 12 th May 2015 |
| c. Evaluation of Expressions of Interest | 18 th -22 nd May 2015 |
| d. Display of shortlist | 28 th May 2015 |

Eng. Paul Mubiru
ACCOUNTING OFFICER



Africa Director, Nairobi

Development Initiatives (DI) works to end poverty by 2030 by making data and information on poverty and resources transparent, accessible and useable. We help decision makers use information to increase their impact on the poorest people in the most sustainable way.

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Africa Director will have previously held senior managerial positions ideally in the international development or related sector. They will be self-driven, passionate and highly motivated with skills and experience in strategic management, mobilising resources and managing teams in multiple locations with a focus on enabling the organisation to perform at the highest levels in complex and changing environments. The successful candidate will be based in our Africa Hub in Nairobi, and should expect substantial travel both within and outside Africa.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone with a high level of integrity to work with a motivated team on development issues of regional, national and global importance. This position is ideal for someone who enjoys pushing the boundaries of poverty eradication by increasing transparency of resources and creating a data revolution that empowers people at all levels.

If you have a Masters or degree in development studies, economics or politics, have a good understanding of the global and African development sector, an ability to engage strongly with the global development narrative, are experienced in building relationships with a wide range of actors within the sector and have excellent leadership, financial and managerial abilities then please read the full role profile with details on how to apply at www.devinit.org

Closing date: Friday 8th May 2015 17.00 GMT

Development Initiatives // www.devinit.org



Uganda National Meteorological Authority

The Government of Uganda has transformed the Department of Meteorology under the Ministry of Water and Environment into a semi-autonomous organization, "Uganda National Meteorological Authority". The transformation has included restructuring and retooling and a new structure with new job titles have been developed in line with the Business Plan. Applications are invited from suitably qualified applicants for the position of Executive Director of the Authority. Engagements will be on a five year contract terms renewable upon satisfactory performance.

A summary of the job description is given below. The full job description can be obtained on the UNMA website: www.unma.go.ug and on Future Options' website: www.futureoptionsug.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority employed on a full time basis, a person of high moral character and proven integrity, with the relevant qualifications and experience relating to the functions of the Authority, and not more than 65 years of age.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- As provided for in UNMA Act 2012, the ED is the Secretary to the Board
- Ensure implementation of the functions of the Authority;
- Ensure that the meteorological services are provided in a timely and business-like manner;
- Identify areas in which meteorological instruments may be installed;
- Ensure that meteorological services are provided to the end user efficiently, effectively and in a cost effective manner;
- Carry out functions which the Minister may consider desirable for the proper functioning of the Authority.
- As provided for in World Meteorological Organization Basic Documents No. 1 (Conventions, General Regulations, Staff Regulations, Financial Regulations (WMO No. 15, he/she is Permanent Representative (PR) of Uganda with WMO and acts on technical matters for the member state between Sessions of Congress.
- Provide meteorological services to customers and the public in the most efficient and effective manner;
- Manage the affairs of the Authority in a business-like and cost-effective manner in accordance with modern management practices and techniques, in particular apply its operations the best standards of financial management and accounting;
- Ensure that the Authority operations are designed for the provision of the best services to its customers and maintain a high degree of responsiveness to their needs.

Job Requirements:

- Honours Bachelors' degree in Natural Sciences obtained from a recognised university plus a Masters' degree in Meteorology, Management, Organizational Development or related fields (Environmental studies, Agriculture, Forestry, Hydrology and Atmospheric Sciences, Business Management, Social Sciences. A PhD in a related field is an added advantage.
- At least 10 years working experience in a related field working with a reputable organization 3 of which should be at senior managerial level.
- Demonstrated ability to deal with UN Agencies in resource mobilization, negotiation skills and familiarity with national Government of Uganda and Development Partners funding.
- Demonstrated management and leadership skills with clear vision, including a track history of creativity, innovation, self-drive, and results-orientation;
- High professional and ethical standards in line with integrity requirements of service and leadership in the Public Sector;
- At least 5 years management experience, with responsibility for strategy development, personnel management and financial management,
- Management experience in both personnel and budget control, experience of managing high-level stakeholder relationships in both the public and the private sectors, including inter-governmental relationships.

How to apply: Interested candidates should submit an application letter, CV and copies of academic documents & professional qualifications along with contact details of at least three professional referees to: **The Director, Future Options Consulting Ltd, 4th Floor, Diamond Trust Building, Kampala Road, P.O. Box 34934, Kampala, Uganda either by post, courier, hand delivery or email: consultant@futureoptionsug.com**

Applications should be received by 5.00pm on the **4th May 2015.**



NILE BASIN INITIATIVE

NILE EQUATORIAL LAKES SUBSIDIARY ACTION PROGRAM

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Country: Nile Basin Initiative /Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program

Name of Project: Nile Cooperation for Results (NCORE)

Grant No.: CIWA TF 013766

Assignment Title: External Audit of the Financial Statements of the NELSAP/NCORE Project/CIWA Grant/CIWA Grant and Country Contributions for the Six Months Period January-June 2015

The Nile Basin Initiative/Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Nile Cooperation for Results (NCORE) Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") include undertaking of External Audit of the Financial Statements of the NELSAP/NCORE Project/CIWA Grant/CIWA Grant and Country Contributions for the Six Months Period January-June 2015.

The audit will be conducted in accordance with the International Standards of Auditing. The specific objectives of the audit are to:

1. Audit the financial statements relating to the NCORE Project/CIWA and Country Contributions as contractually committed and to ensure that the NELSAP is fully compliant with the project grant agreement contributions, funding requirements and other pertinent regulations;
2. Express an opinion on the adequacy or otherwise of the NCORE Project/CIWA Grant and Country Contributions financial management and operations of the designated account and in particular:
3. Verify all Interim Financial Reports (IFRs) including summary expenditure statements used as a basis for the submission of grant withdrawal applications to the World Bank –NCORE/CIWA;
4. Review the activities of the Designated Accounts associated with the World bank NCORE Project/CIWA Grant;
5. Evaluate and obtain sufficient understanding of the internal control structure of NELSAP to assess control risk and identify issues which should be reported on, including material internal control weaknesses;
6. Perform tests to determine whether the NELSAP complied, in all material respects, with agreement terms and applicable laws and regulations. Any material instances of non-compliance and all indications of fraud should be identified and reported on;
7. Express an opinion as to whether all the funds have been provided and used in accordance with the relevant financing agreements, with due attention to economy and efficiency, and only for the purposes for which they were provided;
8. Express an opinion as to whether goods, works and services financed have been procured in accordance with the relevant financing agreements including specific provisions of the World Bank Procurement Policies and Procedures;

The NELSAP-CU now invites eligible con-

sulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

- (i) Experience in undertaking External Audits assignment during the last 10 years.
- (ii) Specific experience in handling External Audit assignments of similar organizations as NELSAP funded by major bilateral and multilateral development agencies such as the World Bank and SIDA.
- (iii) Availability of staff with relevant skills in auditing, financial auditing and accounting.
- (iv) Working experience in in the Nile Basin Region

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers of January 2011 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Least Cost Selection (LCS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from Monday to Friday except on public holidays, between 09:00 to 17:00 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by email) by **5th May 2015 at 11:00 hours**, and shall clearly indicate: **"External Audit of the Financial Statements of the NELSAP/NCORE Project/CIWA Grant/CIWA Grant and Country Contributions for the Six Months Period January-June 2015"**:

Procurement Specialist
Nile Basin Initiative/ Nile Equatorial lakes Subsidiary Action Program
Kigali City Tower, 5th Floor; Plot 6418 Avenue du Commerce
P.O. Box. 6759 Kigali, Rwanda;
Tel: +250 788307334
Email: tmungai@nilebasin.org copy to nelcu@nilebasin.org

TRUE WORTH OF SHARES



Investment brokers on the trading floor of the Nairobi Securities Exchange. Picture: File

Will share buybacks save Kenyan companies' stock?

Amendment to the Companies Act seeks to allow quoted companies with excess cash to reduce the number of shares available for trading

By **JAMES ANYANZWA**
The EastAfrican

An amendment to Kenya's Companies Act, which has already gone through the first reading in the National Assembly, seeks to allow quoted companies with excess cash to reduce the number of shares available for trading, thereby supporting the share price, when they feel the market does not reflect the true worth of the stocks.

However, critics say this could open the door for listed companies to manipulate share prices.

The reduction would be achieved through the company buying a portion of the shares issued to the public or through merging several shares into one, effectively limiting the supply of shares in the market. Known as share buybacks or repurchase and reverse splits, the measures are common in the United States and Europe, where they were partly blamed for the 2008 financial crisis.

If the system is adopted, Kenya will be among the pioneers

of financial engineering in East and Central Africa.

During repurchase, investors who opt to sell the shares back to the company benefit from a ready buyer willing to take on the stocks at a premium despite the low prices. However, they miss out on future dividends which will only be paid out to investors who hold out.

The company would benefit through putting money in an enterprise it has full confidence in, especially during lean times when there are no better investment options on the market.

The repurchase also allows companies to postpone income tax payments because, unlike dividends, which are taxed on payout, the reinvested cash becomes taxable only when the stock changes hands and there are capital gains.

Blue chip companies like Kenya Airways, East African Breweries and Safaricom have in the past contemplated share buybacks, but this is not allowed under the existing Companies Act.

Kenya Airways' share price

fell to \$0.08 last week, owing to its inability to settle financial obligations to employees and creditors in the face of huge equipment debts, falling passenger numbers and long term-term commitment to lenders estimated at \$800 million.

"A company needs this tool (share buyback) for survival, and to ensure it matures faster. It is a very important tool in terms of price management," said James Murigu, an investment banker and director at Metropool Corporation Ltd.

He added that the proposed law will help companies, particularly those with financial muscle, to maintain their net worth in case of short-term crises that have a negative impact on their share price.

However, John Kirimi, the executive director of Sterling Capital, said companies are likely to utilise the buyback tool to manipulate their share prices, to the detriment of investors.

"The Bill allows companies to buy back their shares by paying the shareholders. Without checks and balances, this cannot be a good thing," Mr Kirimi said. The Companies Bill (2014) also gives quoted companies room to consolidate their shares.

"This Bill is in parliament now, and it has gone through the

CONSOLIDATE

According to the proposed amendments to the Companies Act, a limited company may consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of a larger nominal amount than its existing shares.

When subdividing, consolidating or dividing its shares, a company shall ensure that the proportion between the amount paid and the amount if any unpaid on each resulting share is the same as it was in the case of the share from which that share is derived.

law, a limited company that has share capital may buy its own shares (including redeemable shares) on condition that the purchase doesn't exhaust all the issued shares of the company, which could put the company at risk of bankruptcy.

In other jurisdictions, the buyback is restricted to between 20 and 25 per cent of the issued and fully paid shares. In South Africa, an amendment similar to that underway in Kenya was made in 1999 allowing companies to buy back up to a fifth of their floating stock. South African firms bought back R200 billion (\$16.7 billion) worth of their stock in the decade to 2009. Last year, Fortune 500 companies repurchased \$565 billion worth of their shares, led by Apple with \$6.1 billion, according to US tracker *Factset BuyBack Quarterly*.

The proposed amendment for Kenya provides that a company may not purchase its own shares unless they are fully paid, a rule meant to prevent purchases from ghost investors.

"We would like to see an immediate enactment of the Bill as it will revolutionise companies' governance in Kenya. I'm particularly excited about provisions that enable share buybacks by companies, as this will herald a new era in perception of value and demand and supply dynamics," said Amish Gupta, a director at Standard Investment Bank.

Important tool

"This is a very important tool that companies have been missing to manage their share prices in the market," Mr Murigu said.

"There are temporary difficulties that companies go through and come out of. During this time, you find that their share prices fall even if there is nothing fundamentally wrong with the company. In such a situation, the share buyback tool is essential to stabilise the price," he added.

"Companies must have shareholders who bear the maximum risk and hold the management accountable. Reducing the number of shareholders by buying back their shares creates a fertile ground for corruption," said Mr Kirimi.

According to the proposed law, companies will also be able to consolidate their excess shares in the market to ensure price stability and better dividends to the shareholders.

"Consolidation reduces the amount of shares in the market to a level that is manageable and which will ensure existing shareholders receive good dividends," said Mr Kirimi.



Kenya's Attorney General Githu Muigai said the Companies Bill (2014) is now in parliament.

Picture: File

first reading," Attorney General Githu Muigai told *The EastAfrican*.

According to the proposed

“We would like to see an immediate enactment of the Bill.”

Amish Gupta, director Standard Investment Bank

GOVERNMENT OF KENYA FIXED RATE TREASURY BONDS

| Issue No. | Issue Date | Maturity Date | Issued Value in millions | Coupon (%) | Previous Price (%) | Total Value traded(kshs) |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| TWO YEAR BONDS | | | | | | |
| FXD 3/2013/2Yr | 26-Aug-13 | 24-Aug-15 | 17,927.40 | 12.9390 | | |
| FXD 4/2013/2Yr | 24-Dec-13 | 21-Dec-15 | 25,251.00 | 11.5530 | | |
| FXD 1/2014/2Yr | 24-Mar-14 | 21-Mar-16 | 20,000.00 | 10.8030 | | |
| FXD 2/2014/2Yr | 26-May-14 | 23-May-16 | 20,130.15 | 10.7930 | | |
| FXD 3/2014/2Yr | 22-Dec-14 | 19-Dec-16 | 8,905.12 | 10.8900 | | |
| FXD 1/2015/2Yr | 23-Jan-15 | 20-Feb-17 | 23,592.55 | 11.4700 | | |
| FIVE YEAR BONDS | | | | | | |
| FXD 1/2010/5Yr | 24-May-10 | 18-May-15 | 11,924.85 | 6.9510 | | |
| FXD 2/2010/5Yr | 30-Nov-10 | 23-Nov-15 | 14,973.10 | 6.6710 | | |
| FXD 1/2011/5Yr | 31-Jan-11 | 25-Jan-16 | 22,083.10 | 7.6360 | | |
| FXD 1/2012/5Yr | 28-May-12 | 22-May-17 | 31,079.55 | 11.8550 | | |
| FXD 1/2013/5Yr | 29-Apr-13 | 23-Apr-18 | 20,240.75 | 12.8920 | | |
| FXD 2/2013/5Yr | 1-Jul-13 | 25-Jun-18 | 26,340.05 | 11.3050 | | |
| FXD 3/2013/5Yr | 25-Nov-13 | 19-Nov-18 | 14,937.80 | 11.9520 | 11.0000 | 200,000,000 |
| FXD 3/2013/5Yr | 25-Nov-13 | 19-Nov-18 | 14,937.80 | 11.9520 | 11.0500 | 200,000,000 |
| FXD 1/2014/ 5Yr | 28-Apr-14 | 22-Apr-19 | 25,540.95 | 10.8700 | | |
| FXD 2/2014/ 5Yr | 23-Jun-14 | 17-Jun-19 | 16,418.25 | 11.9340 | | |
| NINE YEAR BONDS | | | | | | |
| FXD 1/2006/9Yr | 24-Apr-06 | 13-Apr-15 | 3,060.25 | 13.5000 | | |
| TEN YEAR BONDS | | | | | | |
| FXD 1/2006/10Yr | 27-Mar-06 | 14-Mar-16 | 3,451.05 | 14.0000 | | |
| FXD 2/2006/10Yr | 29-May-06 | 16-May-16 | 5,028.10 | 14.0000 | | |
| FXD 1/2007/10Yr | 29-Oct-07 | 16-Oct-17 | 9,308.80 | 10.7500 | | |
| FXD 1/2008/10Yr | 29-Oct-07 | 16-Oct-17 | 2,992.75 | 10.7500 | | |
| FXD 2/2008/10Yr | 28-Jul-08 | 16-Jul-18 | 13,504.70 | 10.7500 | | |
| FXD 3/2008/10Yr | 29-Sep-08 | 28-Sep-18 | 4,151.60 | 10.7500 | | |
| FXD 1/2009/10Yr | 27-Sep-09 | 15-Apr-19 | 4,966.85 | 10.7500 | | |
| FXD 1/2010/10Yr | 26-Apr-10 | 13-Apr-20 | 19,394.15 | 8.7900 | | |
| FXD 2/2010/10Yr | 1-Nov-10 | 19-Oct-20 | 18,849.90 | 9.3070 | | |
| FXD 1/2012/10Yr | 25-Jun-12 | 13-Jun-22 | 16,803.75 | 12.7050 | | |
| FXD 1/2013/10Yr | 1-Jul-13 | 19-Jun-23 | 12,643.05 | 12.3710 | | |
| FXD 1/2014/10Yr | 27-Jan-14 | 15-Jan-24 | 30,520.25 | 12.1800 | 12.1000 | 55,000,000 |
| ELEVEN YEAR BONDS | | | | | | |
| FXD1/2006/11Yr | 25-Sep-06 | 11-Sep-17 | 4,031.40 | 13.7500 | | |
| TWELVE YEAR BONDS | | | | | | |
| FXD1/2006/12Yr | 28-Aug-06 | 13-Aug-18 | 3,900.95 | 14.0000 | | |
| FXD1/2007/12Yr | 28-May-07 | 13-May-19 | 4,864.60 | 13.0000 | | |
| FIFTEEN YEAR BONDS | | | | | | |
| FXD1/2007/15Yr | 26-Mar-07 | 7-Mar-22 | 3,654.60 | 14.5000 | | |
| FXD2/2007/15Yr | 25-Jun-07 | 6-Jun-22 | 7,236.95 | 13.5000 | | |
| FXD3/2007/15Yr | 26-Nov-07 | 7-Nov-22 | 17,568.00 | 12.5000 | | |
| FXD1/2008/15Yr | 31-Mar-08 | 13-Mar-23 | 7,830.90 | 12.5000 | | |
| FXD1/2009/15Yr | 26-Oct-09 | 7-Oct-24 | 9,420.45 | 12.5000 | | |
| FXD1/2010/15Yr | 29-Mar-10 | 10-Mar-25 | 20,823.73 | 10.2500 | 12.5000 | 120,000,000 |
| FXD2/2010/15Yr | 25-Apr-11 | 8-Dec-25 | 13,513.10 | 9.0000 | | |
| FXD1/2012/15Yr | 24-Sep-12 | 6-Sep-27 | 21,089.45 | 11.0000 | | |
| FXD1/2013/15Yr | 25-Feb-13 | 7-Feb-28 | 40,886.33 | 11.2500 | | |
| FXD2/2013/15Yr | 29-Apr-13 | 10-Apr-28 | 17,385.85 | 12.0000 | | |
| TWENTY YEAR BOND | | | | | | |
| FXD1/2008/20Yr | 30-Jun-08 | 5-Jun-28 | 20,360.95 | 13.7500 | | |
| FXD1/2011/20Yr | 30-May-11 | 5-May-31 | 9,365.80 | 10.0000 | | |
| FXD1/2012/20Yr | 26-Nov-12 | 1-Nov-32 | 43,082.72 | 12.0000 | 12.9552 | 300,000,000 |
| TWENTY FIVE YEAR BOND | | | | | | |
| FXD1/2010/25Yr | 28-Jun-10 | 28-May-35 | 20,192.50 | 11.2500 | | |
| THIRTY YEAR BOND | | | | | | |
| SDB 1/2011/30Yr | 28-Feb-11 | 21-Jan-41 | 23,888.95 | 12.0000 | | |

GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA TREASURY BONDS

| Issue No. | SECURITY NAME | TENURE | VALUE Ush(BN) | EXPIRY DATE |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------|---------------|-------------|
| GOVERNMENT BONDS | | | | |
| UG00000001368 | GoU - FXD 4/2013/12 | 3 | 80 | 12/1/16 |
| UG00000001335 | GoU - FXD 6/11/2013/5 | 10 | 80 | 11/1/18 |
| UG00000001327 | GoU - FXD 5/11/2013/1 | 4 | 80 | 11/5/15 |
| UG00000000691 | GoU - FXD 10/2009/10 | 17 | 70 | 6/10/21 |
| UG00000001277 | GoU - FXD 9/2013/5 | 10 | 75 | 9/8/16 |
| UG00000001301 | GoU - FXD 2015/2 | 4 | 70 | 9/10/15 |
| UG00000001319 | GoU - FXD 2018/5 | 10 | 75 | 9/6/18 |
| UG00000001079 | GoU - FXD 7/2012/10 | 17 | 160 | 6/9/22 |
| UG00000001269 | GoU - FXD 8/2013/3 | 7 | 80 | 6/2/16 |
| UG00000001285 | GoU - FXD 2016/3 | 7 | 145 | 7/14/16 |
| UG00000001251 | GoU - FXD 7/2013/2 | 4 | 190 | 5/21/15 |
| UG00000001244 | GoU - FXD 6/2013/10 | 17 | 50 | 4/13/23 |
| UG00000001236 | GoU - FXD 5/2013/3 | 7 | 100 | 4/21/16 |
| UG00000001202 | GoU - FXD 3/2013/5 | 10 | 100 | 2/22/18 |
| UG00000001194 | GoU - FXD 2/2013/3 | 7 | 100 | 1/28/16 |
| UG00000001186 | GoU - FXD 1/2013/5 | 10 | 100 | 12/28/17 |
| UG00000001178 | GoU - FXD 2/2011/10 | 17 | 50 | 1/21/21 |
| UG00000001137 | GoU - FXD 11/2012/5 | 10 | 5 | 10/5/17 |
| UG00000001129 | GoU - FXD 10/2012/3 | 7 | 100 | 9/10/15 |
| UG00000001111 | GoU - FXD 9/2012/5 | 10 | 50 | 8/10/17 |
| UG00000001061 | GoU - FXD 6/2012/3 | 7 | 100 | 6/18/15 |
| UG00000001046 | GoU - FXD 4/2012/3 | 8 | 100 | 4/23/15 |
| UG00000001020 | GoU - FXD 2/2012/5 | 10 | 95 | 1/26/17 |
| UG00000000972 | GoU - FXD 11/2011/5 | 10 | 40 | 9/8/16 |
| UG00000000915 | GoU - FXD 6/2011/5 | 10 | 40 | 4/21/16 |
| UG00000000840 | GoU - FXD 13/2010/5 | 10 | 80 | 12/3/15 |
| UG00000000782 | GoU - FXD 6/2010/10 | 17 | 80 | 7/9/20 |
| UG00000000733 | GoU - FXD 2/2010/10 | 17 | 50 | 1/23/20 |
| UG00000000733 | GoU - FXD 2/2010/10 | 17 | 50 | 1/23/20 |



Market Recap

Crude oil surges as U.S. oil inventories rose less than expected

Global equity markets moved up extending year-to-date gains on increased optimism for renewed growth as central banks continued their accommodative policies. In Europe and Japan, the expansionary monetary policies of central banks has supported a bullish run for stocks as a result the European and Japanese stock indices reached 15-year highs but struggled to make further headway.

1. In the US, economic data releases were mixed. Retail sales rose 0.9 percent in March, just below the consensus forecast of a 1.0 percent gain. Initial claims for state unemployment benefits increased 14,000 to a seasonally adjusted 281,000 for the week ended April 4. The Markit Services Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI) rose to 59.2 in March, the highest level since August, from 57.1 in February, while the Institute for Supply Management’s services gauge edged down to 56.5 from 56.9.

2. In Europe, Germany shows mixed signs of recovery. German exports rose 3.9 percent in February from a year earlier. Germany’s industrial production was up 0.2 percent in February, which was less than

expected, while January’s number was revised down to a 0.4 percent decrease from the 0.6 percent increase previously reported. Growth in UK service sector activity accelerated to a seven-month high in March as the economy picked up momentum. U.K. headline CPI (YoY) remained at zero while it rose 0.2 percent (MoM) in March.

to 483.69 million, the smallest build since the week ending January 2

CURRENCIES

EUR/USD Futures and EUR/USD CFD gained marginally during the reporting week. Last week, the dollar gained against the euro as Fed minutes showed that U.S. policymakers were readying for a possible interest rate hike during 2015. On Monday, the euro was down 0.35 percent against the dollar at \$1.0567 after earlier hitting a nearly 1-month low of \$1.05195 before partly recovered losses on Tuesday. The US dollar slipped against the euro on Wednesday after weak U.S. economic data led to uncertainty over the timing of the Federal Reserve’s first interest rate hike in nearly a decade.

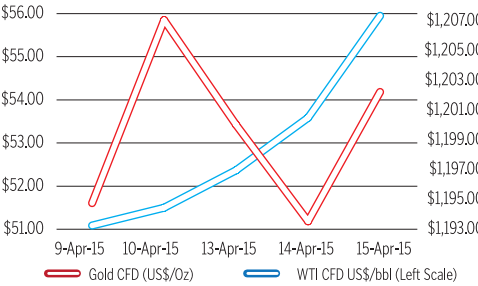
GBP/USD Futures and GBP/USD CFD rose against the dollar in the reporting week. Last week, the British pound declined against the dollar as the Bank of England (BOE) retained interest rates at a record-low of 0.5 percent. Sterling fell to an almost five-year low against the dollar on Friday as a report showed U.K. industrial production rose less than economists forecast. On Tuesday, sterling drops to a session low after U.K. March CPI (YoY) came in at zero for a second month before recovering to post a gain following a soft report on U.S. retail sales. On Wednesday, the pound was up -0.4 percent against the dollar due to weak U.S. industrial output.

Major developments in East Africa

Kenya’s central bank sold 24.02 billion shillings (\$259.96 million) worth of a 12-year infrastructure bond in an extended sale in which it aimed to raise up to 25 billion shillings. At the extended sale on 9th April all the bids for the bond were allotted at the fixed yield rate of 11.556 percent. Kenya’s shilling was hovering at three-year lows on 15th April but avoided a further slide due to expectations that the central bank could offer support by selling dollars.

Rwanda’s urban inflation rose to 0.8 percent in March year-on-year from 0.7 percent a month earlier. Burundi tax revenues rose 21 percent to 166.5 billion francs (\$107 million) in the first quarter of this year, partly due to higher tax collections on business profits.

Weekly Price Movements



Source: Bourse Africa

| Bourse Africa Currency Futures and CFDs | Denomination | Contract Expiry | Closing Prices | | | | | Weekly Change (%) |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-------------------|
| | | | Thursday | Friday | Monday | Tuesday | Wed | |
| EUR/USD | US\$ per Euro | 15-Jun-15 | 1.0657 | 1.0600 | 1.0573 | 1.0680 | 1.0705 | 0.45 |
| GBP/USD | US\$ per B. Pound | 15-Jun-15 | 1.4693 | 1.4644 | 1.4665 | 1.4790 | 1.4831 | 0.93 |
| USD/MUR | MUR per US\$ | 18-May-15 | 36.2000 | 36.2600 | 36.3800 | 36.38 | 36.35 | 0.41 |
| USD/MUR Weekly | MUR per US\$ | 16-Apr-15 | 36.1500 | 36.2100 | 36.3300 | 36.34 | 36.31 | 0.44 |
| JPY/USD | US\$ cents/100 Yen | 15-Jun-15 | 82.9800 | 83.2800 | 83.3000 | 83.90 | 84.15 | 1.40 |
| ZAR/USD | USD per Euro | 18-May-15 | 8.3550 | 8.3175 | 8.2150 | 8.3125 | 8.2625 | -1.11 |
| EURUSDCFD | USD per B. Pound | No expiry date for CFDs | 1.0648 | 1.0590 | 1.0564 | 1.0671 | 1.0670 | 0.21 |
| GBPUUSDCFD | USD per B.Pound | | 1.4700 | 1.4650 | 1.4667 | 1.4797 | 1.4829 | 0.87 |

REGIONAL SHARES PERFORMANCE TRACKER

| Name | Close this Fri | close last Fri | % 5day | % 1mnt | % 3mnts | % 6mnts | % 1year |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| DSE ALL SHARE | Tsh | Tsh | | | | | |
| EAST AFRICAN BREWERIES | 6,290 | 6,220 | 1.13% | 7.71% | 7.71% | 23.82% | 27.85% |
| KENYA AIRWAYS | 150 | 150 | 0.00% | -16.67% | -11.76% | -14.29% | -37.50% |
| TANGA CEMENT COMPANY LTD | 4,060 | 4,300 | -5.58% | -8.14% | -5.58% | -26.18% | 63.71% |
| SWISSPORT | 6,200 | 6,110 | 1.47% | -4.62% | 23.75% | 24.00% | 129.63% |
| TANZANIA BREWERIES | 15,000 | 15,000 | 0.00% | 3.45% | 3.45% | -17.63% | 87.50% |
| TANZANIA CIGARETTE | 17,000 | 17,000 | 0.00% | -0.06% | 2.47% | -8.11% | 70.00% |
| TANZANIA OXYGEN | 560 | 580 | -3.45% | -1.75% | -3.45% | 12.00% | 80.65% |
| TATEPA TEA PACK | 650 | 650 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| TANZANIA PORTLAND CEMENT CO. | 3990 | 3900 | 2.31% | 5.84% | -0.25% | -12.31% | 60.89% |
| JUBILEE HLDS | 10,320 | 11,010 | -6.27% | -2.92% | 20.84% | 37.60% | 74.92% |
| KENYA COMMERCIAL BANK | 1,220 | 1,180 | 3.39% | 6.09% | 15.09% | 9.91% | 40.23% |
| CRDB BANK | 405 | 400 | 1.25% | 1.25% | -5.81% | -4.71% | 35.00% |
| DAR COMMERCIAL BANK | 800 | 800 | 0.00% | -8.57% | 5.96% | 45.45% | 63.27% |
| NATIONAL MICRO-FINANCE BANK | 3,500 | 3,500 | 0.00% | -11.62% | 0.29% | -24.89% | 29.63% |
| NATION MEDIA GROUP | 4,570 | 4,560 | 0.22% | -4.19% | -11.43% | -21.88% | -21.07% |
| ACACIA MINING | 7,300 | 7,130 | 2.38% | 13.71% | 4.14% | 35.19% | 4.14% |
| PRECISION AIR SERVICES | 470 | 470 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| MBP | 600 | 600 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| SWALA | 545 | 545 | 0.00% | -9.17% | -26.85% | -74.05% | - |
| USL | 190 | 210 | -9.52% | -9.52% | -5.00% | -5.00% | - |
| MKOMBOZI COMMERCIAL BANK | 1,250 | 1,250 | 0.00% | - | - | - | - |
| USE ALL SHARE | Ush | Ush | | | | | |
| BAT UGANDA | 8,525 | 8,525 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 13.59% | 13.59% | 31.15% |
| BANK OF BARODA | 130 | 130 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 10.17% | 8.33% | 18.18% |
| CENTUM INVESTMENT | 1,906 | 2,037 | -6.43% | -1.19% | 15.52% | 2.64% | 78.97% |
| DEVELOPMENT FINANCE | 850 | 850 | 0.00% | 6.12% | 20.57% | 30.77% | -29.75% |
| EAST AFRICAN BREWERIES | 10,349 | 10,219 | 1.27% | 5.49% | 10.67% | 25.15% | 32.02% |
| EQUITY BANK | 1,522 | 1,682 | -9.51% | -10.47% | -0.85% | 0.93% | 62.09% |
| JUBILEE HLDS | 16,661 | 18,401 | -9.46% | -6.68% | 19.98% | 24.07% | 73.30% |
| KENYA AIRWAYS | 247 | 262 | -5.73% | -20.06% | -10.18% | -8.18% | -36.01% |
| KCB UGANDA | 1,970 | 1,957 | 0.66% | 3.85% | 12.96% | 13.35% | 44.01% |
| NIC | 16 | 16 | 0.00% | -11.11% | -20.00% | -20.00% | -46.67% |
| NATION MEDIA GROUP | 7,561 | 7,923 | -4.57% | -5.24% | -7.54% | -18.17% | -17.55% |
| NEW VISION PRINT | 605 | 600 | 0.83% | 0.50% | 0.83% | 8.04% | 0.83% |
| STANBIC BANK UG | 33 | 33 | 0.00% | 0.00% | -2.94% | 0.00% | 10.00% |
| UCHUMI | 332 | 327 | 1.53% | -6.48% | 3.11% | 8.85% | -22.79% |
| UGANDA CLAYS | 18 | 18 | 0.00% | -10.00% | -10.00% | -10.00% | -28.00% |
| UMEME | 485 | 485 | 0.00% | -3.00% | -3.96% | -4.90% | 32.88% |
| NSE 20 SHARE | Ksh | Ksh | | | | | |
| SASINI TEA & COFFEE | 1705 | 14.35 | 18.82% | 9.29% | 33.20% | 15.99% | 0.29% |
| BARCLAYS BANK | 16.00 | 16.55 | -3.32% | -6.16% | -2.44% | -6.16% | -0.62% |
| C.F.C STANBIC BANK | 125.00 | 126.00 | -0.79% | -3.10% | 0.00% | -1.57% | 15.74% |
| EQUITY BANK GROUP | 48.25 | 51.00 | -5.39% | -7.21% | -1.53% | -2.03% | 50.78% |
| KENYA COMMERCIAL BANK | 63.00 | 60.50 | 4.13% | 8.62% | 12.50% | 6.78% | 36.22% |
| STANDARD CHARTERED BANK | 342.00 | 338.00 | 1.18% | -3.39% | 1.48% | 0.59% | 8.57% |
| CO-OPERATIVE BANK | 21.25 | 21.00 | 1.19% | 0.00% | 11.84% | -2.30% | 6.25% |
| KENYA AIRWAYS | 7.55 | 7.95 | -5.03% | -20.11% | -17.03% | -17.49% | -41.70% |
| NATION MEDIA GROUP | 237.00 | 235.00 | 0.85% | -2.87% | -13.82% | -23.79% | -23.55% |
| SCANGROUP | 44.50 | 46.00 | -3.26% | -6.81% | -4.30% | -3.26% | -3.26% |
| ARM CEMENT | 78.00 | 80.00 | -2.50% | -7.14% | -6.02% | -8.77% | -6.02% |
| BAMBURI CEMENT | 155.00 | 159.00 | -2.52% | -3.73% | 6.90% | 0.00% | -18.42% |
| KENGEN | 10.05 | 10.85 | -7.37% | -9.46% | 2.55% | -13.36% | -14.83% |
| KENYA OIL COMPANY | 8.80 | 9.00 | -2.22% | -12.00% | 0.57% | -8.33% | -9.74% |
| KENYA POWER | 17.05 | 17.45 | -2.29% | -5.28% | 7.23% | 10.71% | 13.67% |
| BRITISH AMERICA INSURANCE | 25.50 | 26.00 | -1.92% | -9.73% | -9.73% | -7.27% | 42.06% |
| CENTUM INVESTMENTS | 58.50 | 59.50 | -1.68% | -0.85% | -7.14% | 3.54% | 57.05% |
| BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO | 720.00 | 800.00 | -10.00% | -14.89% | -20.09% | -27.93% | 26.54% |
| EAST AFRICAN BREWERIES | 325.00 | 321.00 | 1.25% | 8.33% | 4.84% | 18.61% | 23.11% |
| SAFARICOM | 15.90 | 16.60 | -4.22% | 0.95% | 15.64% | 24.22% | 24.71% |
| RWANDA SECURITIES EXCHANGE | Rwf | Rwf | | | | | |
| BANK OF KIGALI | 295.00 | 340.00 | -13.24% | -0.34% | 1.72% | 5.36% | - |
| BRALIRWA | 377.00 | 875.00 | -56.91% | -0.79% | 1.89% | -14.90% | -13.83% |
| NATION MEDIA GROUP | 1,200.00 | 1,200.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| KCB RWANDA | 185.00 | 185.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| UCHUMI RWANDA | 104.00 | 175.00 | -40.57% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| EQUITY BANK RWANDA | 430.00 | 430.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | - | - | - |

AFRICAN INDICES

| Name | Location | Last | Net.Chng | Pct.Chng | Open | High | Low | Close |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| LUSE ALL SHARE INDEX | Zambia | 6,094.85 | -11.86 | -0.19% | 6,106.71 | 6,106.71 | 6,090.89 | 6,106.71 |
| ZSE INDUSTRIAL | Zimbabwe | 157.19 | 0.62 | 0.40% | 156.57 | 156.57 | 156.57 | 156.57 |
| CFG Index | Morocco | 21,109.45 | 36.73 | 0.17% | 21,115.21 | 21,115.21 | 21,109.45 | 21,072.72 |
| MALAWI ALL SHR | Malawi | 15,764.56 | 166.87 | 1.07% | 15,597.69 | 15,597.69 | 15,597.69 | 15,597.69 |
| EGX 30 IDX/d | Egypt | 8,886.84 | -9.84 | -0.11% | 8,897.38 | 8,897.38 | 8,843.29 | 8,896.68 |
| TUN MAIN INDEX | Tunisia | 5,405.49 | -8.26 | -0.15% | 5,412.13 | 5,412.13 | 5,394.54 | 5,413.75 |
| GABORONE INDEX | Botswana | 9,805.50 | 1.28 | 0.01% | 9,804.22 | 9,804.22 | 9,804.22 | 9,804.22 |
| SEMDEX | Mauritius | 1,943.01 | -6.99 | -0.36% | 1,950.00 | 1,950.00 | 1,950.00 | 1,950.00 |
| SGBV | Algeria | 1,191.53 | 0.00 | 0.00% | 1,191.53 | 1,191.53 | 1,191.53 | 1,191.53 |
| GSE CI | Ghana | 2,270.44 | 7.48 | 0.33% | 2,262.96 | 2,262.96 | 2,262.96 | 2,262.96 |
| NSX Overall IDX | Namibia | 1,187.67 | 8.09 | 0.69% | 1,179.58 | 1,179.58 | 1,179.58 | 1,179.58 |

NAIROBI COFFEE EXCHANGE

NCE Sale No. 29
|Price per 50 Kilos in US Dollars|

| | Offered | Low | High | Mean |
|-----|---------|-----|------|--------|
| AA | 2,304 | 106 | 308 | 260.08 |
| AB | 5,274 | 97 | 213 | 174.11 |
| C | 2,393 | 101 | 161 | 128.50 |
| HE | 372 | 81 | 113 | 99.40 |
| MH | 4,566 | 87 | 97 | 94.37 |
| ML | 1,464 | 70 | 87 | 84.73 |
| PB | 1,691 | 91 | 204 | 147.24 |
| T | 711 | 77 | 125 | 115.10 |
| TT | 1,555 | 90 | 167 | 131.40 |
| UG | - | - | - | - |
| UG1 | 986 | 51 | 113 | 92.56 |
| UG2 | 1,011 | 50 | 108 | 82.98 |

THE EAST AFRICAN TEA EXPORT AUCTIONS

Auction No. 15 – 13th and 14th April 2015

| CTC QUOTATIONS | BP1 – USC | PF1 – USC | PD – USC | D1 – USC |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Best | 264 – 374 | 318 – 336 | 300 – 342 | 240 – 315 |
| Good | 255 – 270 | 316 – 327 | 296 – 322 | 240 – 270 |
| Good Medium | 252 – 278 | 300 – 328 | 290 – 308 | 235 – 264 |
| Medium | 280 – 394 | 254 – 312 | 258 – 294 | 230 – 262 |
| Lower Medium | 120 – 280 | 142 – 260 | 136 – 260 | 125 – 260 |
| Plainer | 070 – 204 | 082 – 190 | 070 – 256 | 070 – 180 |

COMMODITY PRICES

Effective date: 10th Apr 2015

| Metals | | Softs | | Oil & Gas | |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|---------|---------------|----------|
| 100 OZ GOLD(\$) | 1205.00 | SUGAR N05 (\$) | 363.20 | L.CRUDE(\$) | 50.54 |
| SILVER (JPY) | 63.00 | COFFEE (\$) | 173.00 | N. GAS(\$) | 2.54 |
| HG COPPER (USC) | 2.76 | COCOA(\$) | 2805.00 | KEROSINE(JPY) | 54040.00 |
| TANZANITE(\$) | 450.00 | MAIZE EUR(€) | 155.75 | BRENT (\$) | 56.87 |
| AL.(CNY) | 13250.00 | WHEAT (USC) | 517.75 | GAS OIL(\$) | 530.75 |

EXCHANGE RATES

E.A EXCHANGE RATES

| | KSH | TSH | USH | RWF | BIF |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|------|------|
| KSH | - | 20.27 | 32.07 | 7.37 | 6.80 |
| TSH | 1.94 | - | 0.6 | 2.65 | 1.73 |
| USH | 32.23 | 1.60 | - | 4.37 | 1.92 |
| RWF | 7.60 | 0.37 | 0.24 | - | 0.45 |
| BIF | 16.79 | 0.83 | 0.52 | 2.28 | - |

AFRICAN CURRENCIES

| Background | Bid | Ask |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Angolan Kwanza | 108.90 | 109.40 |
| Burundi Franc | 1,560.00 | 1,580.00 |
| Botswana Pula | 0.10 | 0.10 |
| Congo Franc | 915.00 | 935.00 |
| Cape Verde Escudo | 101.20 | - |
| Djibouti Franc | 177.00 | 178.00 |
| Algerian Dinar | 97.79 | 98.27 |
| Egypt Pound | 7.63 | 7.63 |
| Ethiopian Birr | 20.38 | 20.58 |
| Ghanaian Cedi | 3.81 | 3.83 |
| Gambian Dalasi | 42.40 | 43.40 |
| Eritrea Nakfa | 15.00 | 15.50 |
| Guinea Franc | 7,155.00 | 7,355.00 |
| Rwanda Franc | 685.00 | 693.00 |
| Kenya Shilling | 93.35 | 93.55 |
| LIBYAN DINAR | 1.37 | 1.37 |
| Moroccan Dirham | 9.92 | 9.94 |
| Malawi Kwacha | 437.00 | 450.00 |
| Mozambique Metical | 34.80 | 35.50 |
| Nigerian Naira | 198.95 | 199.05 |
| Sudan Pound | 2,025.50 | 2,035.60 |
| Somali Shilling | 704.00 | 711.00 |
| Tunisian Dinar | 1.96 | 1.96 |
| Tanzania Shilling | 1,890.00 | 1,900.00 |
| Uganda Shilling | 2,993.00 | 3,003.00 |
| South Africa Rand | 11.93 | 11.94 |
| Zimbabwe Dollar | 378.00 | 381.00 |

SELECTED HARD CURRENCIES

| Background | Bid | Ask |
|-------------------|--------|--------|
| Chinese Yuan | 6.20 | 6.20 |
| Euro | 1.08 | 1.08 |
| Japanese Yen | 118.71 | 118.76 |
| British Pound | 1.50 | 1.50 |
| Swiss Franc | 0.95 | 0.95 |
| Australian Dollar | 0.78 | 0.78 |
| Canadian Dollar | 1.22 | 1.22 |
| Swedish Krona | 8.60 | 8.60 |
| Russia Rouble | 50.80 | 50.84 |
| Indian Rupee | 62.36 | 62.37 |
| UAE Dirham | 3.67 | 3.67 |

ARAB CURRENCY RATES

Arab Currencies are quoted against the US Dollar

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Algerian Dinar | 82.33 |
| Bahrani Dinar | 0.377 |
| Djibouti Franc | 177 |
| Egyptian Pound | 71.5 |
| Jordanian Dinar | 0.708 |
| Kuwait Dinar | 0.28775 |
| Lebanese Pound | 1512 |
| Libyan Dinar | 1.2035 |
| Mauritian Ougiya | 289 |
| Moroccan Dirham | 8.6861 |
| Omani Riyal | 0.38499 |
| Qatar Riyal | 3.6412 |
| Saudi Riyal | 3.7509 |
| Syrian Pound | 158.96 |
| Tunisian Dinar | 1.7915 |

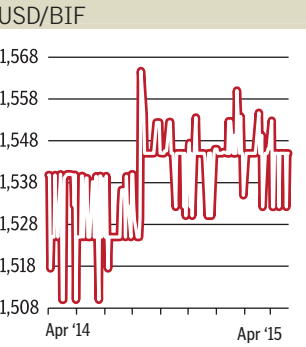
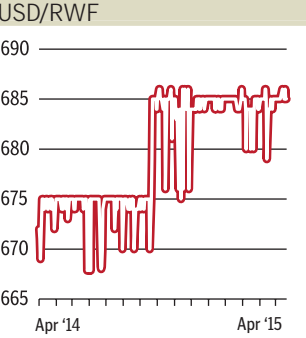
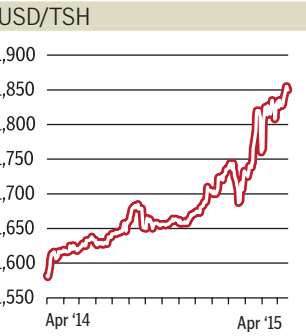
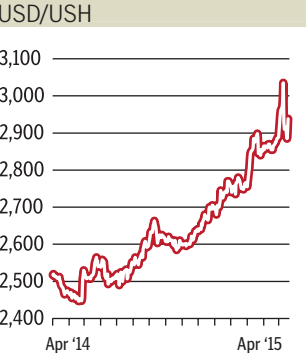
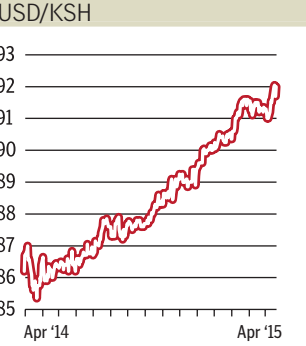
UNIT TRUSTS

| | SHILLING FUND (Kenya Sh) |
|------------------|--|
| Fund | Daily Yield(%) Effective Annual Rate (%) |
| African Alliance | 6.99 7.22 |
| Old Mutual | 7.41 7.67 |
| British America | 10.87 11.48 |
| CIC | 11.25 11.92 |
| Madison Asset | 10.19 10.68 |
| Stanlib | 9.72 10.16 |
| UAP | 10.77 11.38 |
| ICEA | 11.11 11.75 |
| CBA | 8.92 9.26 |

| | BALANCED FUND (Kshs) |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Old Mutual | 164.45 175.12 |
| British American | 196.48 202.23 |
| CIC | 14.33 15.01 |
| Madison Asset | 6703 70.72 |

| | EQUITY FUND(Kshs) |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Old Mutual | 415.25 444.92 |
| British American | 215.86 222.72 |

E.A CURRENCY GRAPHS



EA INFLATION RATES

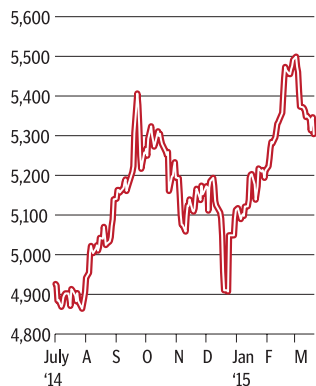


THE MARKET WHISPERER

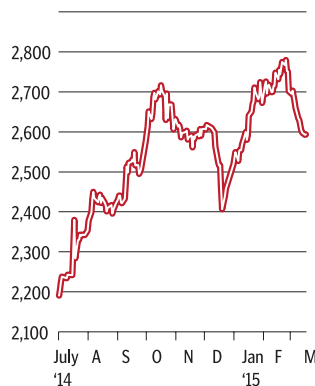
EQUITY MARKETS (WEEKLY CHANGE IN BENCHMARK INDEX)

NSE 20 Share Index
Kenya 5,093.00
▼ -0.60%

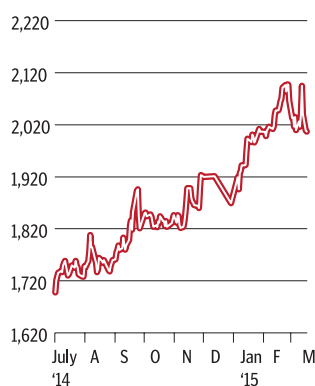
(CUMULATIVE MOVEMENT)



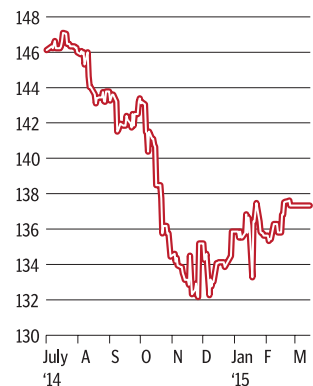
DSE All Share Index
Tanzania 2,720.16
▲ 1.00%



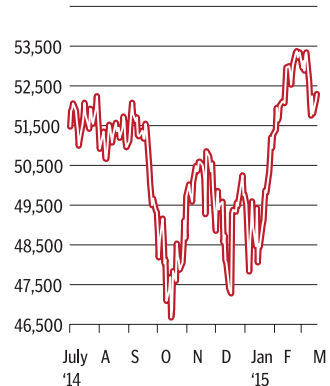
USE All Share Index
Uganda 2,057.69
▲ 2.00%



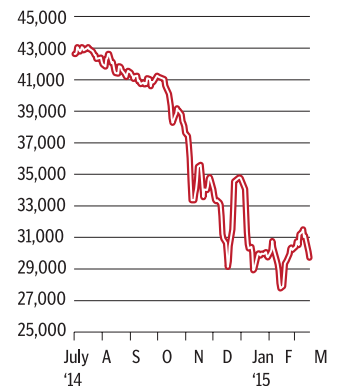
RSE All Share Index
Rwanda 137.14
▲ 0.01%



JSE All Share Index
South Africa 53,734.04
▲ 0.67%



NGSE All Share Index
Nigeria 35,005.42
▲ 0.22%



Regional companies seek to dual-list in London

Listed companies in East Africa are set to access a pool of international funding as the region's capital market regulators seek opportunities for dual listing on the London Stock Exchange (LSE).

The move is expected to attract foreign investment to the region and give regional investors a chance to invest across borders by raising money from global financial capitals, with London being the largest global pool of investment capital.

A high-profile dual listing conference organised by the LSE was held in Kenya's capital Nairobi last week to lay the ground for the proposed integration of local markets into the global financial map.

The Capital Markets Authority, Nairobi Securities Exchange, Stephenson Harwood and Horizon Africa Capital were among the convenors.

"The option for dual listing is already available to all markets in East Africa and there is one Tanzanian company that is dual listed in London and one dual



Paul Muthaura, acting chief executive of the CMA, said the option for dual listing is available for East African markets. Picture: File

listed Kenyan company," Paul Muthaura, acting chief executive of the CMA, told *The EastAfrican*.

A dual-listing involves two companies listed in different countries agreeing to combine their operations and cash flows. They pay similar dividends to their shareholders while retaining separate shareholder registries and identities.

It is estimated that a fifth of the 600 interna-

tional companies listed in London are African or Africa-focused. They have a combined market capitalisation of \$396 billion. Dual listing in London and in Nairobi, Kampala, Dar es Salaam, Kigali and Bujumbura would allow companies from the region to raise equity capital locally and abroad through a single offer.

Swala Energy Ltd of Tanzania is in the initial stages

of planning a listing on the AIM Market of the LSE.

The company has engaged Stifel Nicolaus Europe Ltd, formerly Oriel Securities Ltd, to act as its nominated advisor and broker for the transaction.

"The dual listing on London's larger and more liquid stock exchange will allow us to gain access to larger capital markets ahead of our 2015 drilling campaign," said Dr David Mes-

tres Ridge, the company's chief executive.

A Kenya oil firm, Atlas Development & Support Services, formerly Africa Oilfields Logistics Company, which is listed on the Growth Enterprise Market Segment of the NSE, has dual listed on the LSE.

"A dual listing allows a Kenyan company to attract the world's largest investors and gain international visibility without compromising its ability to tap domestic capital and develop a robust domestic shareholder base," said Mr Muthaura.

It is estimated that African companies have raised in excess of \$12 billion in new and further equity capital across the Alternative Investment Market and the Main Market on the LSE since 2008. About 120 companies having major operations and assets in Africa are on LSE markets; three operate in Kenya.

Geoffrey Odondo, chief executive of the NSE, said the bourse is keen to collaborate with the LSE and other exchanges to enhance dual listings.

Tanzanian shilling falls farther

MONEY TRADERS expect the Tanzanian shilling to lose further ground this week after tumbling to an all-time low against the dollar last week. The shilling has encountered turbulence for most of the year and could slide below 2,000 units to the dollar unless the central bank intervenes. The shilling started the day at 1,890 selling and 1,906, but slid to 1,900 and 1,925, respectively, at close. Some commercial banks quoted the dollar as high as 1,940.

"With increased demand expected next week, the shilling is poised to remain on a weak footing if no sizeable US dollars inflows enter the market," a dealer at one of the banks told *The EastAfrican* on condition of anonymity. He said demand for dollars would come from oil companies, manufacturers and multinational companies paying dividends. He said the shilling would remain depressed until mid this year when foreign exchange earnings from tourism and agricultural start flowing into the economy.

DHL names Mbarara and Konza as 'boom towns'

THE WORLD'S leading logistics company, DHL, has placed Uganda's Mbarara town and Kenya's Konza City among five unexpected "boom towns" and cities in Africa with high growth potential.

The two are among five outliers whose growth would be bolstered by agriculture and technology. The others are Bobo-Dioulasso city in Burkina Faso, Ebène, a technology hub in Mauritius, and Farafenni town in Gambia.

According to the new DHL report, Mbarara's location at the heart of the dairy-farming district in western Uganda coupled with favourable climate and abundant land availability, is attracting investors.

The town is situated 280km from Uganda's capital Kampala. In 2013, Nile Breweries Ltd (NBL) expanded its operations in Uganda with the establishment of a new brewery in Mbarara with an

initial capacity of 650,000 hectolitres of beer per annum, expandable to 1.8 million hectolitres.

"Proximity to important export markets in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo was an added factor in choosing this location," according to NBL.

Alpha Dairy Products (U) Ltd and Shumuk Dairy Products (U) Ltd are other industries already in the town.

Konza Techno City, having just

finished its infrastructure phase, targets the four economic sectors of education, life sciences, telecommunications and business process outsourcing.

It is expected to significantly stimulate technology spending, investment and growth in Kenya, according to John Tanui, Konza Technopolis Development Authority chief executive officer.

The planned city is located 80 kilometres south of Nairobi.



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The EastAfrican



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art

BIG BUCKS: WHY ONLY A FEW ARTISTS BOTHERED

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The Kabaka of Buganda Ronald Muwenda Mutebi, right, and his wife the Nabagereka of Buganda Sylvia Naginda (in red) arrive at Bulange for the Kabaka's 60th Birthday celebrations. Picture: Morgan Mbabazi

Bruised but unbroken, Buganda back to basics

Kabaka Mutebi marks his 60th birthday as the ancient kingdom resets relations with subjects and state, writes DANIEL K. KALINAKI

TURN TO PAGE VI-VII

travel



The Orthodox church in Addis Ababa. Below, priests take part in celebrations on the eve of Orthodox Easter in Addis Ababa on April 11. Pictures: Clifford Gikunda and AFP.

Discovering Ethiopia's rich history and culture

I admired the Orthodox followers, the men dressed in white flowing robes; the women also had their heads covered, writes CLIFFORD GIKUNDA

Ethiopia has one of the richest histories in Africa. It is mentioned in the Bible, and the prophet Mohammad fled into exile there.

The beauty of Ethiopian women has been legendary since the times of King Solomon when the Queen of Sheba visited him in search of wisdom. According to Ethiopian legend, the Queen later gave birth to a son, Ibn-al-Malik (known as Menelik), the founder of the Ethiopian Dynasty.

The country was never colonised by a European power, but was occupied by the Italians in 1936.

There are remains of Italian influence in the country: The magnificent bathtubs, the jacuzzis, and the furniture in the hotels.

Athletics is synonymous with Ethiopia; locals revere their own athletes as well as those from other countries.

"How is Paul Tergat doing? Is he a great man in your country?" they often asked me.

The language of the Amharas, Amharic, has been written for more than 3,000 years; today it is the official language, taught in schools. Newspapers, radio and the only TV station all use Amharic as the language of communication.

They also learn English, but only at Advanced Level and the universities.

There are two major religions — the majority Christians and the minority Muslims. Among Christians, there are the Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant denominations.

I admired the Orthodox follow-

ers, the men and women dressed in white flowing robes; the women also had their heads covered.

I noticed that whenever we drove past an Orthodox church, our driver Alihu would make the sign of the cross two times. "What's that for?" I asked. "You must make the sign of the cross every time you pass an Orthodox church, if you are Orthodox," he said.

The following Sunday, I went for a stroll up the road. "Salamno," I called out in greeting to a shoe shiner by

the side of the road. "Salamno," he replied. I sat down for a talk, and he said how much he would love to come with me to Kenya.

Farther along the road, a young man greeted me in English, and said he was a tour guide. "How much would that cost me?" I asked. "For the whole day, you will pay me 90 Birr (\$4.4)," he said. I didn't need to be shown around for the whole day — 54 Birr (\$2.6) would be ok, I said.

The young man narrated how

they defeated the Italians in war. "The warrior who led the war was from Amhara region," he said. He then took me to see the statue of Emperor Menelik II, in the public park. As we went on, we came across the Orthodox church. The shape of an Orthodox church is similar to a mosque, but a mosque has a moon atop the dome while the Orthodox Church has a cross at the top.

"I would like to worship here today," I told my guide. "Are you a Christian?" he asked. I said I was. But he said that in Ethiopia you can't just attend any church, everyone goes to their own denominational place of worship.

We walked to the right side of the church and came to a big painting of Mary holding Jesus. He knelt down, laid his head on a raised concrete slab and prayed.

I went round the church compound and came across several well-constructed "house" graves. "We bury our priests here," he told me. I could not read the epitaphs though, they were in Amharic.

I also visited Sheshamane, a town 250km to the south of Addis Ababa in Oromia region, where I expected to see many dreadlocked people and thought marijuana was legal.

In the town, horse chariots race up and down the streets. Horses are the mode of transport for the poor people in Ethiopia; occasionally you come across a mule, and the donkeys too pass by with bales of straw.

A horse costs about \$100 in Ethiopia.

"Who lives in this town?" I asked my friend Bekele Kassa. "Both Ethiopians and Jamaicans; this place was donated to Jamaica by Emperor Haile Selassie."

"Is marijuana legal in Sheshamane?" I asked on a light note.

"Marijuana is illegal in Ethiopia, and there is no exception in Sheshamane," Dr Kassa replied.

And so there was no marijuana served, but instead juice and fruit salad characterised my visit to Sheshamane.



religion

The introduction of Christianity as the state religion of Ethiopia came about not as the result of organized evangelical activity from outside the country, but because it was the desire of the king. The introduction of

Christianity as the state religion marked a turning point in Ethiopia history. Christianity does not constitute a purely religious phenomenon on the country, but plays an integral role in all aspects of national life.

HANGING OUT

Apps to help tourists get the local feel

When Toni Finnimore, 30, from Brighton, a seaside city two hours south of London, came to New York City in mid-November, she wanted to hang out with locals. She had made the same trip seven years earlier and "found myself visiting every tourist attraction the city had to offer," she said.

"The bright lights of Times Square, while dazzling, were not enough," she continued. "I wanted to experience the real NYC."

So she downloaded Feastly, an app that connects tourists to residents who want to host them for dinner. A few days later she was in the Upper East Side studio of two New Yorkers, Dalila Ercolani and Marco Maestoso, eating grilled skirt steak and macaroni and cheese for dinner, and laughing with three other locals and two travellers from Chicago. She ate a "divine" meal, made what she says will be long-lasting friends and secured tips for the rest of her trip. "Who needs a guidebook when you have real-life New Yorkers?" she said.

Finnimore is hardly alone in craving local experiences.

Over the past year or so, an increasing number of tools has emerged to help them. Airbnb and Homestay may have been the first to cater to this desire, offering real homes for tourists to use, but others have quickly followed suit.

Here is a look at some of those apps.

For the partyer

The purpose of the app Party With a Local is exactly what it sounds like: To connect users with locals for a night out, based on your location. Users post ideas — "let's go for a drink at this wine bar" or "come to this birthday party at this club" — and tourists can chat with them through the app and arrange to meet up. The app has 20,000 users in 160 countries, and expects to have 16 million users within three years.

For the foodie

Cookening is one of a growing number of apps that uses home-cooked meals as a point of connection. The setup is not entirely altruistic — most of the locals hosting dinners make money by charging for the meal.

For the knowledge seeker

Other apps are more like potential replacements for concierges. UrbanBuddy, for example, connects travellers to hand-selected locals who answer questions in real time through a live chat on their phones. Questions are answered in less than two minutes.

Alyson Krueger, NYT

books

German Nobel Prize winner who falsified biography, dies

Guenter Grass admitted that he had been a member of the elite Waffen-SS, which had perpetrated horrific crimes, writes STEPHEN KINZER

Guenter Grass, the German novelist, social critic and Nobel Prize winner whom many called his country's moral conscience, but who stunned Europe when he revealed in 2006 that he had been a member of the Waffen-SS during World War II, died on Monday in the northern German city of Luebeck, which had been his home for decades. He was 87.

His longtime publisher, Gerhard Steidl, said that he learned late Sunday that Grass had been hospitalised after falling seriously ill very quickly. The cause of death was not announced.

Steidl said he drank his final schnapps with Grass eight days ago while they were working together on his most recent book, which he described as a "literary experiment" fusing poetry with prose. It is scheduled to be published in the summer.

"He was fully concentrated on his work until the last moment," Steidl said.

Grass was hardly the only member of his generation who obscured the facts of his wartime life. But because he was an eminent public intellectual who had pushed Germans to confront the ugly aspects of their history, his confession that he had falsified his own biography shocked readers and led some to view his life's work in a different light.

Grass came under further scrutiny in 2012 after publishing a poem criticising Israel for its hostile language toward Iran over its nuclear programme. He expressed revulsion at the idea that Israel could be justified in attacking Iran over a perceived nuclear threat, and said that such a prospect "endangers the already fragile world peace."

The poem created an international controversy and prompted a personal attack from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Grass later said that he had not meant to criticise the country, but only its government.

He was propelled to the forefront of postwar literature in 1959, with the publication of his wildly inventive masterpiece, *The Tin Drum*. The book was banned in Communist countries, including Poland, meaning that it could not legally be read in Gdansk, the city where it was set.

The book's fame grew after the director Volker Schlöndorff made it into a vivid movie, which won the 1979 Academy Award for best foreign language film.

In awarding Grass the Nobel Prize in 1999, the Swedish Academy praised him for embracing "the enormous task of reviewing contemporary history by recalling the disavowed and the forgotten: the victims, losers and lies that people wanted to



social critic

Guenter Grass was a playwright, essayist, short-story writer, poet, sculptor and printmaker as well as a novelist, but it was as a social critic that he gained the most notoriety, campaigning for disarmament and broad social change.

forget because they had once believed in them." It described *The Tin Drum* as "one of the enduring literary works of the 20th century."

He revealed his Nazi past himself, days before a memoir, *Peeling the Onion*, was to be published, bringing on accusations of hypocrisy. Grass had long said that he had been a *flakhelfer* during the war, one of many German youths pressed to serve in relatively innocent jobs like guarding anti-aircraft batteries. But in an interview with the newspaper *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, he admitted that he had in fact been a member of the elite Waffen-SS, which had perpetrated horrific crimes.

"It was a weight on me," said Grass, then 78. "My silence over all these years is one of the reasons I wrote the book. It had to come out in the end."

Although he was conscripted into the SS in 1944, near the

end of World War II, and was never accused of atrocities, the fact that he had obscured this crucial part of his background while flagellating his fellow Germans for cowardice set off cries of outrage.

With his mane of black hair and drooping walrus mustache, bifocals slipping down his nose and smoke curling from his pipe, Grass was almost a caricature of the postwar European intellectual.

Grass was renowned for his wide-ranging tastes. He was an epicure who favoured hearty peasant food. His fascination with animals was reflected in book titles like *The Flounder* and *From the Diary of a Snail*. He was a jazz lover, once worked as a jazz musician, and collaborated on *O Susanna*, an illustrated book on jazz, blues and gospel music published in 1959.

Grass came of age on a continent torn by hatred. He was born in Danzig on October 16, 1927, to a German father and a mother who was a Kashubian, a Slavic ethnic group with its own language and traditions. Danzig, now the Polish city of Gdansk, was then a free city under the control of the League of Nations, but its population was mostly German and loyal to the Reich. It was the first territory seized by the Nazis.

Grass joined the Nazi children's organization Jungvolk at the age of 10. Like many Germans of his generation, he later claimed to have done no real service to the Nazi war effort.

Among them was Joseph Ratzinger, who went on to become Pope Benedict XVI. After the war ended, Grass and the future pope were prisoners together in an Allied camp at Bad Aibling. Grass later remembered Ratzinger as "extremely Catholic" and "a little uptight," but "a nice guy."

After returning to civilian life, Grass was drawn to art and poetry.

His marriage in 1954 to Anna Margareta Schwarz, a Swiss dancer, ended in divorce in 1978. He is survived by his second wife, Ute Grunert, an organist; four children from his first marriage, Laura, Bruno, Franz and Raoul; two stepsons from his second marriage, Malte and Hans; two other children, Helene and Nele; and 18 grandchildren.

ELSEWHERE



Eduardo Galeano reads from his new book *Los hijos de los días* (*The sons of the days*) on April 3, 2012. He died on April 13. Picture: AFP

Uruguayan anti-capitalism voice silenced

Eduardo Galeano, the Uruguayan writer who blended literature, journalism and political satire in reflecting on the vagaries, injustices and small victories of history, died on Monday in Montevideo, Uruguay. He was 74.

The cause was complications from lung cancer, said his sister Teté Hughes.

Of his more than 30 books, Galeano is remembered chiefly for *The Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent*, an unsparing critique, published in 1971, of the exploitation of Latin America by European powers and the US.

Banned under right-wing military dictatorships in Latin America in the 1970s, it became a canonical text of anti-colonialism and anti-capitalism.

Open Veins gained traction again in recent years after Hugo Chávez, the late Venezuelan leader, gave a copy to President Barack Obama when they met in 2009. It soon appeared briefly on bestseller lists and has sold more than a million copies worldwide.

But Galeano stunned many of his supporters as well as his critics when he disavowed the book, saying that it was poorly-written and that his views of the human condition had grown more complex.

Eduardo Germán María Hughes Galeano was born in Montevideo on April 13, 1940, when many in Uruguay still remembered their leaders forging one of the world's first welfare states in the early 20th century. His father was a civil servant, and his mother managed a bookstore.

Galeano was imprisoned in 1973 after a coup d'état opened the way for the rule of a military junta in Uruguay. Galeano went into exile in Argentina, where he founded *Crisis*, a cultural and political magazine. He moved to Spain in 1976, when a coup in Argentina triggered an exceptionally brutal dictatorship that lasted until 1983. Returning to Uruguay in 1985, Galeano produced *Memory of Fire*, a trilogy about Latin American history.

He is survived by his wife, Helena Villagra, and three children.

Simon Romero, NYT



Above, author Guenter Grass. Left, books he wrote.
Pictures: NYT and AFP

“

Many of Grass's books are phantasmagorical mixtures of fact and fantasy, some of them inviting comparison with the Latin American style known as magical realism. His own name for this style was "broadened reality."

NYT

movies

GE planning TV series on science, tech

The Lego Group charged onto the big screen in 2014 with *The Lego Movie*, which made \$468.8m at the box office worldwide

In an age when viewers increasingly fast-forward past television commercials on their DVRs or bypass most advertisements altogether by streaming the programmes, companies are constantly looking for new ways to reach consumers.

General Electric is the latest to experiment, with the help of big-name movie producers and directors. The company is working on a six-part documentary series about science and technology that will be broadcast on the National Geographic Channel beginning in November. The channel, which is co-producing the series, planned to announce it on April 15 at its upfront presentation in New York.

With the series, called *Breakthrough*, GE aims to create high-quality branded content that will highlight scientific innovation, some of it involving scientists who work for or with the company. Brian Grazer and Ron Howard of Imagine Entertainment — who both won Academy Awards in 2002 for *A Beautiful Mind* and have worked together on other blockbuster films like *Apollo 13* — are producers, along with Asylum Entertainment. Howard, Brett Ratner, Angela Bassett, Akiva Goldsman, Peter Berg and Paul Giamatti will each direct one of the hourlong episodes.

GE, which has a global research division with nearly 4,000 scientists and engineers, said its goal with the series was not to sell more light bulbs or other GE products, but to spread awareness about the company's contributions to science and technology. GE helped pick the topics for the series and gave the producers access to its research centres to generate story ideas.

The company said it was leaving much of the actual storytelling to Imagine and Asylum. GE products and scientists are likely to appear in the episodes, though Beth Comstock, the company's chief marketing officer, insisted they would not be included "unless it makes sense."

latest trend

GE is certainly not the first brand to try branded entertainment.

The Lego Group charged onto the big screen in 2014 with *The Lego Movie*, which made \$468.8 million at the box office worldwide.

Chipotle put out a four-part comedy series called *Farmed and Dangerous* on Hulu last year, after releasing two animated shorts on YouTube, *Back to the Start* in 2011 and *The Scarecrow* in 2013.

A series in 2012 for Intel, *The Beauty Inside*, about a man who wakes up as a different person every day, won a Daytime Emmy Award.

Other companies will also be able to buy commercial time during the episodes. (GE said it did not currently have plans to run its own commercials during the series.)

"It's not just slapping our logo on and paying the production fee," said Comstock, who is also the president and chief executive of GE business innovations. The six episodes will focus on scientific advances involving the brain, ageing, water supply, alternative energy, pandemics and the fusion of biology and technology.

Production on several of the episodes is already underway. The series will run in 171 countries and in 45 languages, those involved said.

"You see GE as this gigantic corporation that does many, many different things, but we connected to the heartbeat of what that is," Grazer said.

Neither GE nor the National Geo-

“

Because it's no longer about the 30-second spots for brands, television networks also have to innovate and think differently about how they work with brands.”



The Lego Movie by Lego Group was a box office hit for the brand. Pic: File

graphic Channel, of which Fox Cable Networks, a division of 21st Century Fox, is a majority owner, would disclose the budget for *Breakthrough*. But both said the series required a significant financial investment.

GE is certainly not the first brand to try branded entertainment. The Lego Group charged onto the big screen in 2014 with *The Lego Movie*, which made \$468.8 million at the box office worldwide. Chipotle put out a four-part comedy series called *Farmed and Dangerous* on Hulu last year, after releasing two animated shorts on YouTube, *Back to the Start* in 2011 and *The Scarecrow* in 2013. A series in 2012 for Intel, *The Beauty Inside*, about a man who wakes up as a different person every day, won a Daytime Emmy Award.

Marketing experts say this turn to branded entertainment is happening because the traditional methods of advertising are outdated and every piece of content, advertising or not, must compete for viewers' attention.

"There's no room for anything that's secondary, that doesn't add value to people's lives," said Andrew Essex, the vice chairman for the advertising agency Droga5. "Brands have to try harder and aspire to the level of entertainment."

GE has been quick to adopt new forms of social and digital media. It was among the first brands on Twitter, Instagram and the video service

Vine. GE also recently teamed with Vevo on a video bundle for streaming devices like Roku and Apple TV.

Brands are still spending plenty of money on television advertising. Television ad expenditures increased 5.5 per cent in 2014, to \$78.1 billion, from \$74.0 billion in 2013, according to Kantar Media.

Still, as brands rethink the way they advertise, television networks are adapting as well. For the National Geographic Channel, producing a series with GE was a way to align itself with a company beyond a traditional sponsorship, said Courtney Monroe, the chief executive of National Geographic Channels US.

"Because it's no longer about the 30-second spots for brands, television networks also have to innovate and think differently about how they work with brands," she said.

Still, in producing a series like *Breakthrough*, which is supposed to entertain viewers as much as to market GE, there is the possibility that consumers will not realise the company's connection to the show.

"I don't think it has to be plastered all over the screen," Comstock said. Still, she added, "We'll make sure that everyone knows that GE has been part of it."

And if they don't?

"Sure it's a risk," she acknowledged. "Good content has to be risky."

NY Times News Service

ELSEWHERE

Online music sales edge CDs and LPs

The global market for recorded music fell slightly in 2014 to \$14.97 billion, down 0.4 per cent from the year before, as sales of online music matched those of CDs and other physical formats for the first time, according to an annual industry report released on April 14.

Revenue from downloads and online streaming was \$6.85 billion last year, up seven per cent from the year before and representing 46 per cent of the industry's total, according to the report by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, a trade group based in London. Slightly less than that amount, yet still about 46 per cent of the total, were CDs and vinyl LPs, which generated \$6.82 billion in revenue, according to the trade group.

The rest of the revenue last year, about \$1.3 billion, came from the licensing of music to outlets like television and film. The federation accounts for the trade, or wholesale, value of music, as it is received by record labels and their distributors. The report does not include revenue for music publishers, which represent songwriters.

Over the past several years, the trade revenue for record labels around the world has remained relatively stable at between \$15 billion and \$16 billion, after years of rapid decline as record companies struggled to adjust to the online world. The industry's peak was in 1999, when the federation recorded \$26.6 billion in trade revenue.

The group's report highlights the continuing rise of streaming music and the parallel decline of CDs and downloads. Subscription services like Spotify and Deezer accounted for \$1.6 billion in trade revenue in 2014, up 39 per cent from the year before, and have 41 million paying users around the world, up from 28 million in 2013. At the same time, downloads — not long ago the most important growth format in the business — were down eight per cent.

Yet the report also illustrated the varying ways in which this transformation has been playing out around the world. Some countries, like Sweden, are almost completely dominated by streaming: 92 per cent of digital revenue there comes from streaming, while in Canada, where Spotify arrived late last year, the number is just 8 per cent. And in several of the world's biggest markets, a majority of sales are on physical formats like CDs: In Germany, for example, the number is 70 per cent, and in Japan it is 78 per cent.

This year is expected to be a highly competitive one for online services, as Spotify, which is now available in 58 countries, continues to raise hundreds of millions of dollars from investors. NYT

culture



Amos Waisswa, one of four barmen UBL is grooming to add to Diageo's global list, mixing cocktails at the launch of King George V at White Horse Inn in Kabale. Picture: All pictures by a correspondent

Rare whisky excites luxury market



Top: Businessman Amos Nzeyi admires a bottle of KGV as Grace Nshemeire-Gwaku, UBL's marketing director, looks on.

Above: Grace Nshemeire-Gwaku, with ushers at the KGV launch in Kabale.

Uganda Breweries Ltd has rolled out a marketing campaign to unveil to its high net worth consumers an exclusive ultra-premium blend every three months, writes GAAKI KIGAMBO

After a year of treating its high-brow clientele to a range of high quality single malt whiskeys, Uganda Breweries Ltd, a subsidiary of Diageo plc, is now introducing an exclusive ultra-deluxe brand whose distinguishing mark is price and history.

The company has rolled out a marketing campaign to unveil to its "high net worth consumers" an exclusive ultra-premium blend every three months. The objective is that by the end of year, each client in the company's reserve segment will have had an opportunity to buy a rare bottle of whisky at least once a year.

"The luxury market in Uganda is still young and as such we have been offering Johnnie Walker Blue Label as the epitome of luxury drinks. However, our discerning consumers have been asking for something a little more sophisticated," said Annette Nakiyaga, UBL's luxury consumer manager.

"This segment of our clientele enjoy the finer things in life and usually pay attention to the detail of the brands they consume, and they challenged us to offer our range of ultra-deluxe blends as each of them has a rich heritage and a story to its being some of the rarest blends in the world," said Ms Nakiyaga.

In this latest marketing blitz, UBL says it imported just 40 bottles of Johnnie Walker's King George V, according to Grace Nshemeire-Gwaku, the company's marketing director.

"Given the price and type of brand, we wanted it to be memorable for those who get it. This is a collectors' item. It is that precious," noted Ms Nshemeire-Gwaku.

Retailing at Ush2.8 million (about \$928)

apiece, KGV, as it is commonly known, boasts an exquisite blend matching in taste and style that produced in the 1930s golden age of whisky. KGV celebrates the first Royal Warrant granted to John Walker and Sons Ltd to supply Scotch whisky to the British Royal Household in 1934.

Golfing experience

UBL's launch of KGV was highbrow in its own way. The actual launch and sale happened 404 kilometres away from Kampala in the southern district of Kabale as the high-point of the annual Easter golf tournament. Kabale's landscape and weather have certain similarities with KGV's homeland, Scotland. "Johnnie Walker associates with its consumers through golf. As you know the home of golf is Scotland, which is also the home of whisky. Hence Johnnie Walker is the perfect drink choice at the 19th hole," explained Nakiyaga.

The whisky segment has helped keep UBL in the lead as its mass market share has come in for cutthroat competition.

According to the company's analysis, while the high net worth segment presently accounts for five per cent of the total £190 million in alcohol revenues in Uganda, it has the potential to quadruple in the next five years. As such, they are keen to capture it while it is in a nascent stage.

"We have offered KGV as an entry blend into the world of the more exclusive ultra-deluxe blends that would cost as much as Ush50 million a bottle... We will be bringing in more ultra-deluxe blends that will definitely cost more than KGV for our discerning consumers to meet their ever growing and changing tastes," said Nakiyaga.

MOVIES

Tribeca: A festival for every taste

Show business ballyhoo and serious cinema: Every film festival offers some combination of the two. But the Tribeca Film Festival, which began April 15, is different from others because it has never staked its reputation on groveling for the respect of the cineastes who flock to Cannes, Toronto, Venice, Berlin, Sundance or the New York Film Festival. Tribeca is a community celebration in which art films, documentaries and indie pop movies coincide on a populist menu that aims to satisfy every taste.

After shrinking from a height of 176 films in 2005 to 85 in 2009 and 2010, the festival is growing this year, with more than 100 features scattered at several theaters.

The dominant mood of the feature selections is almost uniformly dark and pessimistic. In the world according to Tribeca, the center cannot hold and the kids are not all right.

A number of the best have already been previewed at the other festivals. Arguably the most powerful is Andrew Niccol's "Good Kill," a gripping docudrama about drone warfare starring Ethan Hawke in one of his deepest performances. His character, a veteran of air combat missions over Iraq and Afghanistan, has been reduced to working unhappily with other drone technicians in a trailer on the outskirts of Las Vegas, dispatching remote-control death and destruction to suspected terrorist sites overseas.

Although the movie cogently outlines the arguments for and against drone attacks, it is a chilling study of dehumanisation in which war is a deadly video game and its casualties shadowy pixels on the operators' screens. Hawke's depressed, alcoholic character doesn't have the stomach for his work, which his superiors assure him is vital to American interests, and he slowly comes apart.

Other movies worth mentioning include "Bridgend," from Denmark, and "Necktie Youth," from South Africa, revolve around suicide. The locale of "Bridgend," the debut film of Jeppe Rønde, is based on an actual Welsh town that has seen 79 suicides since 2007, mostly among teenagers for whom self-destruction is a horrifying rite of passage.

In Sibis Shongwe-La Mer's "Necktie Youth," set in Johannesburg, the death of a young woman who livestreams her suicide provokes despairing, incoherent conversations that expose the emptiness of lives that revolve around sex and drugs. These lost souls agree that, since the fall of apartheid, South Africa's optimism has devolved into a Darwinian malaise.

NY Times

cover story

Bruised but unbroken, Buganda's back to basics

Life has always been brutal and short for the Kabakas (kings) of Buganda Kingdom. Kabaka Kimbugwe was killed around 1644 “by witchcraft” sponsored by his stepson. Kabaka Tebutwereke was drowned in Lake Victoria on the orders of his angry sister while the luckless Kabaka Kateregga died around 1674 after being stung in the genitals by a millipede.

Kabaka Ronald Muwenda Mutebi I's 60th birthday celebration this week was therefore significant: he has now lived longer than his father, grandfather, great-grandfather and, in fact, longer than all the kings of the recorded modern era.

Kabaka Mutebi is unlikely to worry about being poisoned or drowned by a rival sibling — that kind of fratricide is unlikely to be allowed by modern criminal laws. Modern medicine and better living conditions have improved the life expectancy for royalty and subjects alike, and the Kabaka would have to be extremely unlucky for a millipede to find its way past modern clothing to the inner sanctuary of the crown jewels.

Yet Kabaka Mutebi faces challenges as the leader of an ancient kingdom seeking its place in a modern nation-state. When he was born on April 13, 1955, the era of the traditional kingdoms that had held sway over large areas of present-day Uganda was coming to an end.

To the west of the country, near the present-day border with the Democratic Republic of Congo, the great Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom, which had rivalled Buganda for dominance over centuries, was in ruins. Its last great king, Omukama Kabalega, had defied the British colonial army and, with his fearsome Abarusura warriors, engaged them in eight years of guerilla warfare until superior weapons, the support of republican Baganda officials, and the treachery of local tribes just north of the River Nile led to his capture and defeat.

The scorched-earth policy that the British used to smoke out Omukama Kabalega had led to what some have argued amounted to genocide in Bunyoro. What survived the British was claimed by famine and pestilence.

Mutebi's great-great-grandfather, Kabaka Muteesa I, had invited the Christian missionaries to Buganda and although his grandfather, Kabaka Mwanga, tried to resist the usurpation of his power when it be-

came clear that the missionaries and their armed colleagues wanted more than just souls to save, it was too late. In any case, there were enough allies among the Baganda elite supportive of the “modernising” ways of the Christian missionaries and the colonial administration that Buganda was granted and retained a special status, quite different from that of the other chiefdoms and kingdoms, including Bunyoro, Ankole and Tooro that also came under the British protectorate.

Kabaka Mutebi was born in the heady days of pre-Independence agitation, for self-rule, and for greater economic opportunities for natives. The suppression of native economic opportunities had started almost as soon as the British imposed their control. For instance, in the late 1890s, his great-grandfather, Kabaka Mwanga was prevented by the British colonialists from buying and installing a sawmill to engage in the timber trade that was flourishing amidst, a construction boom.

Some of the colonial-era obstacles, such as restrictions on Africans owning gineries, had been removed by Independence, but more fundamental questions remained, such as the place of Buganda in the modern-day nation state to which it had lent its name to.

The Buganda Question, as it came to be referred to, was one of many unresolved questions but perhaps

the most important one, leading or contributing to the break-up of the first post-Independence government, the abolition of traditional kingdoms in 1966, the rise of Idi Amin in 1971 and the militant violence offered then and since, to try to answer what were fundamentally political problems.

By the time Prince Ronald Mutebi became king in 1993, he was no stranger to these problems. His father, Kabaka Muteesa II, had died, sad and penniless, in exile in the United Kingdom where the prince was also to spend two decades. Although he got his crown back, Kabaka Mutebi was, in many ways, a king without a kingdom. Many of the kingdom properties had been taken over by the military and its land by squatters and he was a cultural leader without the political power his predecessors once had, including power over life and death.

By the time he married Lady Sylvia Nagginda in August 1999, the honeymoon with the government was already over or at least coming to an end. There were at least three

fundamental points of disagreement, according to several sources familiar with the matter: Return of and compensation for property and land taken over by the central government after 1966; a new land law that made it difficult if not impossible for Buganda's landed gentry, many of them absentee landlords, to evict settlers and squatters on their land; and most, controversial of all, Buganda's demand for a “federo” (federal) system of government similar to that which existed at Independence, giving it more autonomy over its affairs.

Although the kingdom did not openly endorse a candidate in the 2011 presidential elections, the close ties between some of its senior officials and opposition candidate Dr Kizza Besigye were symptomatic of the disaffection within Buganda.

These demands have dominated relations between the Kingdom and the central government under Kabaka Mutebi's reign. Many but not all properties have been returned, the land law has neither been the panacea the central government claimed it would be nor the existential threat many Ganda landlords feared, and a lukewarm Regional

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Many aspects of the Buganda Question remain unanswered. What has changed, however, is the manner of asking.

Sleepless in September

A turning point can be seen in the months between December 2008 and September 2009. That December, as an annual Buganda Conference got underway in Kampala, word trickled in that two outspoken kingdom officials, Medard Segona and Betty Namboozee, who had

carved themselves a niche by using their talk shows on the kingdom's CBS Radio, had been arrested.

They would subsequently be charged with terrorism and treason-related offences but it was clear, as the subsequent dropping of charges showed, that this was an attempt to silence the rumbustious pair, as well as Charles Peter Mayiga, another kingdom official with an equally critical show on the radio, who was later also detained.

If that was a warning shot across the brows, the real shots came a few months later, in September 2009, when riots broke out after the police prevented Kabaka Mutebi from touring a restive part of his kingdom. At least 27 people, most if not all unarmed civilians, were shot dead as the country threatened to erupt in tribal violence and CBS radio was switched off for more than a year.

In the days following the riots, an angry President Yoweri Museveni revealed that Kabaka Mutebi had refused to grant him audience or to take his calls, in a sign of how badly broken relations were.

A few months later, in March 2010, the Kasubi Tombs, a Unesco World Heritage Site on the outskirts of Kampala where some past kings, including Kabaka Mutebi's father, are interred, went up in flames. The fire, whose cause has never been confirmed, made short work of the enormous and elaborate grass-thatched structure and, in the teary



The Katikiro of Buganda, Charles Peter Mayiga, waves to the people of Buganda at Lubiri palace on the day he was appointed Katikiro in 2012. Picture: Morgan Mbabazi



What was left of the Kasubi Tombs after a fire razed them in 2010. Below: The Kasubi Tombs being reconstructed today using contributions from Buganda well wishers. Pictures: Morgan Mbabazi

eyes of many Baganda, including the Kabaka himself, adding insult to the injuries the kingdom had suffered over the years.

Collectively, these were the lowest points in relations between the central government and Buganda since the 1966 crisis and, while few people will openly admit it, it left a lasting impression on the Ganda psyche and certainly changed the way the kingdom goes about agitating for its interests.

“Those killings did,” says Mr Mayiga who, two years ago, was appointed the Katikiro, in response to whether the Kayunga Riots, as the September 2009 disturbances came to be called, affected the kingdom and its people..

“Once people feel they are being pressured as a group, as a community, they come together. Some people thought it would destroy the kingdom and make us weak, but the reverse has happened.”

Mayiga, with a short gaotee and with black-rimmed spectacles, speaks from experience. After his release in 2009 (no charges were preferred against him), he recalls strangers turning up at his home to shake his hand and encourage him to remain firm.

“Many were people I had never seen before, total strangers, queuing to shake my hand and just say thank you, be strong,” he says. Some brought goats, others chickens but all brought a sense of solidarity.

Mayiga was a young, fresh law graduate from Makerere University in 1991 when he was tapped to become secretary of a committee set up to make arrangements for the return of the kingdom and the coronation of the king.

He'd spent a few months in the state prosecutor's office and had left to do wholesale trading in downtown Kampala when the older officials, looking for a young, inexpensive Muganda lawyer with pedigree (he

comes from a family with a history of activism) called him up.

Sources familiar with the matter say that Mayiga is therefore uniquely placed, having seen and participated in the ebbing and flowing of the tide of relations between Buganda Kingdom and the Central government.

Katikiro Mayiga is now using that experience to fundamentally change the kingdom's approach to its agitation. Over the past 24 months he has spent endless days on the road fundraising to repair the Kasubi Tombs, other palaces and commercial properties to generate a steady income for the kingdom.

The economic initiative is not new. In 1995 the then Katikiro Joseph Mulwanyamuli Ssemogerere launched a five-year “cultural and development revolution” in which the kingdom set up the Buganda Cultural and Development Foundation as its social arm, and the Buganda Investments and Commercial Undertakings Ltd to make the money.

Yet the clamour for federo dominated the discourse and while these initiatives rolled on slowly in the background, they were not seen as the kingdom's meat and potatoes.

On the other side of town, a shopping mall owned by the kingdom opened many months ago. A new company has been set up to manage the Kasubi Tombs when renovation is completed as well as other tourist facilities in the kingdom; another one is a branding company to produce kingdom memorabilia and negotiate with corporate entities seeking to tap into the kingdom's loyal subjects. A marathon held to commemorate the king's birthday was sponsored by a bank and a telco. Other companies were queuing up to sponsor the dinner.

Not everyone is sold on the fundraising initiative. A populist Muslim cleric, Sheikh Nuhu Muzaata, himself a Muganda, caused an uproar when he berated the poor subjects of the kingdom for contributing to the

Changing lanes

The fundamental difference is that his predecessors saw federo as a means to socio-economic emancipation in Buganda; Katikiro Mayiga sees social-economic emancipation as a means to attaining federo.

“Federal is important because Buganda sacrificed its sovereignty for Uganda, and that is what it is all about,” Mr Mayiga told *The East-African* this week, “but people must have an income and must have food. When I harp on the federo song I don't think people will get food.”

So the Katikiro spends days on end visiting different parts of the kingdom and elsewhere, collecting “Ettoffali” (bricks) to pay for badly needed repairs and investments.

By the last count, about Ush7 billion (about \$2.3 million) had been collected, with most of it, according to Mayiga, coming from small donations from small people.

The kingdom has run fundraising campaigns previously, including selling certificates but without as much impact as the current drive. The key, says Mayiga, is to be transparent and account for every cent received, and to make it easier for those willing to contribute to do so.

Ahead of the coronation in 1993, Mayiga was tasked with setting up bank accounts in which well-wishers could deposit money, but for many the cost of travelling to the bank was higher than what they could give. The advent of mobile money, and public declarations of all collections have addressed both problems, and is beginning to bear fruit.

One of the gifts presented to the Kabaka at his birthday was a newly refurbished plaza, next to the Kingdom's official court, which had lain abandoned and unfinished for decades.

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cover story

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The Katikiro of Buganda, Charles Peter Mayiga, waves to the people of Buganda at Lubiri palace on the day he was appointed Katikiro in 2012. Picture: Morgan Mbabazi



art

Big prizes? You can bank on it!

But in spite of some very large carrots, only a few bothered to make it stick, writes FRANK WHALLEY

Five Kenyans and one Iranian have been chosen to represent Kenya in the finals of a new art competition, aimed at encouraging work by young people.

An Iranian? Well, why not? Maral Bolouri is at least married to a Kenyan. It makes a change from the Chinese, and we still have the rest of the world to go at.

In any case, Bolouri is based at a recognised arts centre, the Kuona in Nairobi, instead of what I presume to be a shed either in Beijing or round the back of the Chinese embassy.

And, thank heavens, she also happens to be rather good.

Three of her mixed media images — photocopy transfers featuring disparate elements inspired by and made during a performance by an Argentinian musician — will be going to Johannesburg for judging in the finals of the Barclays l'Atelier Art Competition. It was recently expanded to include artists not only from South Africa but also Botswana, Kenya, Ghana and Zambia.

The hatful of prizes includes more than \$13,000 cash, a six-month sabbatical in Paris, a two-month residency in Germany, a one-month fellowship in New York, plus a solo exhibition at a South African gallery ... well worth the effort, you might think.

Yet the competition in Kenya attracted but 33 artists, of whom only six were judged good enough for exhibition; one of these being our photocopying Iranian inspired by an Argentinian.

So what to do... a hall at the National Museum to fill and precious little to put in it.

The answer, decided organiser Raj Shah, who set up the event for Barclays with local

support from the Kuona Trust, was to fill it up with more than 40 pictures and sculptures from artists specially invited to exhibit.

Unfortunately Barclays was unwilling to show artists attached to private galleries who could expect commission on sales — thus ruling out Peterson Kamwathi, Richard Kimathi, Beatrice Wanjiku and Ehoodi Kichape among others — and instead sought works from the unattached.

And that explains why an exhibition planned to promote the work of young artists includes two paintings by Shah's own dear lady wife, Leena Shah, a couple of thoughtful pieces by Paul Onditi, one by Yassir Ali, a large painting by Geraldine Robarts, a chalk drawing of a mother and child by Patrick Kinuthia, charcoals of plump market women by Patrick Mukabi, saucy pictures by Michael Soi and sculptures by Joseph "Bertiers" Mbatia and Maggie Otieno, all of whom, with the best will in the world, may be thought to be aged something over 21.

Never mind, at least there was a reasonable cross-section of work — and abilities — to see.

Below, detail from *Pass Slowly*, by Paul Njihia and bottom, *Life Study*, by Jennifer Atieno.

Pictures: Frank Whalley



The five Kenyans who won through to the Jo'burg finals were a mixed lot.

Outstandingly good was Wambui Wamae Kamiru, with her installation about the interdependency of African revolutions and ordinary people.

Painstakingly put together and at once intelligent and provocative, I will be surprised if it does not feature somewhere among the ultimate prizewinners.

Also on the mark was Jackie Karuti, with her paintings first

seen at the Kuona under the title *Labyrinth*. Prisoners stare through bars... stand in lines... spirits dulled by monotony... we are all trapped in the meaningless existence we call our lives... *Labyrinth* explores the banality of life through repetition... *Labyrinth* explores the banality of life through repetition... etc. etc. etc. We have been here before, but it remains a considered deconstruction and what the artist calls, "a morbid response to an unlivable life." It deserves its place in the final.

Another who is in with a shout for Kenya is Brian Omollo, who in three mixed media pieces reflects on his cross-cultural upbringing: Kenya meets Superhero. Spiderman morphs into a monkey, Batman becomes a tiger (er, not actually African, Brian) and Catwoman turns into a cheetah.

Kevin Irungu from the Kibera-based Masaai Mbili collective makes the finals with a painted construction called *Daily Kibera Home Bank*, part of his *Daily Kibera* series that promotes the more positive side of life in Africa's biggest slum.

A touch passé

And last and least is Cyrus Kabiru, who set the art world abuzz with his C-Stunners handmade spectacles. It was a great idea, big on irony and a witty comment on waste and the need for recycling. It still amuses, but is becoming a touch passé. Here he has decorated a Black Mamba as a tribute to those iconic bicycles.

Apart from the finalists, two other invited artists are worth a look.

Jennifer Atieno offers two figure paintings, beautifully modelled and secure in line and volume, while Paul Njihia gives us a carefully rendered overhead view of three walking figures, called *Pass Slowly*.

If the failure of the Barclays competition to attract enough entries to fill the hall has been a disappointment, it has at least brought prominence to these two artists, if only by default.

Can it be that the value of sound technical skills is now being realised more widely? I have not seen work by either Atieno or Njihia before, but I certainly hope to again.

Frank Whalley runs *Lenga Juu*, a fine arts and media consultancy based in Nairobi

TAXIDERMISTRY

Classes offer a slice of life and death

In the basement, dead pigeons lay on their backs, wings splayed, their bodies sliced open at the breastbone. White powder, an abrasive, was sprinkled liberally over the carcasses. Then a hand carefully reached in behind each of the birds' knees and tugged, patiently pulling the torsos free from the wings.

This was just another Saturday afternoon taxidermy class at the Morbid Anatomy Museum in Brooklyn, New York. Other classes, which typically sell out in advance, have featured chipmunks and the heads of mammals, like coyotes or foxes.

"We started offering taxidermy classes about five years ago and they were an immediate and insane sensation," Joanna Ebenstein, the museum's creative director, said. "At one point we had a 600-person waiting list."

Katie Innamorato, 25, one of the two taxidermists who teach the classes, said most students had an interest in taxidermy or loved nature and the natural sciences.

She said she prefers the larger mammals.

Divya Anantharaman, the other taxidermist teaching the classes, said she preferred "the small, over-looked animals we don't value as much."

She came by her fascination early. "My mom was a biology teacher and she had skins and lamb's brains in jars in her classroom, so that had a huge influence on the way I saw nature and wildlife," Anantharaman, 30, said. "I was able to see anatomy as something that isn't gross but that is pretty cool."

Anantharaman's first attempt at animal preservation failed. "I was five or six and saw a lizard had died in our bug zapper," she said. "I put it in my box with my collections of rocks and seashells. Of course, it stank after a few days."

Her mother explained to her how animals were best preserved, but barred her from bringing home any roadkill.

The museum, which opened in Gowanus last year as an outgrowth of Ebenstein's blog, library collection and course offerings, explores the rituals and oddities surrounding human life and especially death.

The six students in the pigeon class ranged in age from 17 to 57; all but one was a woman. "It's kind of weird I'm the only guy here," said Danilo Miglietta.

"It's hard, but I thought it would be more difficult," said Donna Orton, a nurse. Still, she said, she was likely to take another class before trying taxidermy at home: "I still have a lot to learn. This one may go in the closet."

Stuart Miller, NYT

“

The competition in Kenya attracted but 33 artists, of whom only six were judged good enough for exhibition; one of these being a photocopying Iranian inspired by an Argentinian.”

short story



The unspoken evil

By AMOS MUTURI

She had dressed her son in white to make it easy for her to spot him when darkness fell. She knew where to find him; the village playground where all children gathered to play until dusk, before each headed to their respective homes.

She had spent the whole day spying out the route to the abandoned well. She would follow the road that was never used after nightfall.

She had every turn memorised. She would have no trouble finding her way in the dark.

It was already 6.30pm when she took the corner that led to the spot.

She had lingered there and had seen the children arrive at the playground one by one. She was happy at last when her son joined them and they started playing. They would play all manner of games until nightfall and would disperse one by one to their homesteads.

She waited patiently. She didn't want to mess up her plans. They had agreed to meet at the well. It would not be long before she got rid of her burden.

She lurked around like the devil that waits in darkness for poor souls to prey on. The wait was worth it. Her opportunity finally came.

As the children played, she

stealthily stole into their midst and hurriedly snatched him. The child did not struggle.

Life changing walk

She walked briskly towards the well, following the winding road through the pyrethrum plantation.

This was not the life she had dreamt of for herself. The promises had been broken. She had kept her part of the bargain but not any more. The pain was too much.

She was 17 years old now. She had already been through three years of hell trying to raise the child after dropping out of school following the pregnancy.

The child was never accepted by her parents and had created a rift between them and had caused her friends to desert her.

She however held on to the child not because she loved him but because that was the only thing she could do then.

All the despair and hopelessness of the three years rushed back into her mind and she sobbed quietly as she hurriedly walked through the farms, one bend after another. She clutched the child close to her chest, heaving as she sobbed.

The child reciprocated by clutching his small tender arms around her neck.

She followed the path that led to the lower end of the farm.

She walked faster, increasing

her pace with every step. Sometimes she found herself half running when her emotions ran high. Many questions raced through her mind. "What if someone sees me?" "Where did all this start?" "Will the money be enough to start a new life?"

The questions were hard to bear. She excitedly wondered what it would be to start all over again. Without a baby and a chance to recover the three wasted years with the money she was about to receive.

She did not have all the answers but the only thing she knew now was that she would never miss her child. She had never loved him in the first place.

She loved her life and she wanted it back.

She had decided that she was the only one who could do that, and that is what she was doing now.

It was dark; the starry sky shone above and helped her navigate the path. Her heart was pounding heavily now. She was almost there. Thirty minutes had already passed. The crickets and barking of dogs in the distance interrupted her thoughts. But she did not stop.

She reached the well. It was a deep one with a river flowing at the bottom. When the water had receded to the bottom, the villagers abandoned the well. She held the boy closely not knowing what to do next as she looked around and saw no sign of him. He was nowhere

to be seen.

"Stranger?" she called hopefully.

She called several times but there was no reply. She decided to wait a little longer. They had agreed he would pick up the child at the well at 7.30pm. It was now almost 9.00pm. There was no point of lingering here any more.

All this while she had been sitting by the well with the child cuddled in her arms. She stood up and went to the edge of the wall and closed her eyes for a moment.

"Forgive me," she whispered.

Her resolution was stronger than ever. She held the child out ready to drop him. This is when she noticed.

She drew her face nearer to have a better look at the child.

"Jim," she whispered under her breath.

"Let me go," the little boy said in a voice that knocked the breath out of her lungs. The boy slipped out of her hands and before she knew it he was screaming his way down into the well. She was left clutching at his shoe.

Unforeseen problems

This was not a problem she had foreseen. She had not got rid of her son but had just dropped her neighbor's child into the well.

Her consolation was that no one knew what she had done; no one saw her snatching the boy.

She decided to move on. She still had a mission for another day.

She walked back to the village and entered the homestead still clutching the shoe. She was terrified but was determined to act composed.

"Mummy," the voice she hated the most rang in her ears as she entered the kitchen. It was the voice she had sought to silence but now he was here spreading his arms pretending he was loved, or rather knowing he was loved. She felt like grabbing him and throwing him out of the house but this was neither the time nor place. She had already messed up her murderous chance for today.

"Come here my boy," She said forcing a smile.

Just as she was about to embrace her child, her neighbour Njeri walked in. "I have come to get my boy, I was told you picked him from the playground a while ago," said Njeri.

The words hit her like a hammer blow. She panicked as all eyes rolled to the shoe which she was still holding. Everything was suddenly cold and silent. They kept watching her, waiting for an answer.

A dog howling in the distance was all she heard as she fainted.

COVER STORY

Bruised but unbroken, Buganda back to basics

TURN FROM PAGE VII

sponsor the dinner.

Not everyone is sold on the fundraising initiative. A populist Muslim cleric, Sheikh Nuhu Muzaata, himself a Muganda, caused an uproar when he berated poor subjects of the kingdom for contributing to the cause but many see the value in putting business ahead of politics.

One of them is Prof Samwiri Lunyiigo, a historian, author of books on the kingdom's history, and an advisor to President Museveni on Buganda affairs.

"We are the most centrally located but we are the most peripheral politically," he says. "If we can regain some economic might, if we can feed our people, teach and educate them, then that is a good thing for now."

Mayiga is convinced that delivering services, particularly in a country where public health and education are in dire straits, is the best way for the kingdom and the Kabaka to remain relevant to his subjects.

As he traverses the kingdom, he hears, first-hand, the needs of the people. Many complain about the state of the schools, others about lacking seedlings but the most common refrain is the need for better hospitals and one of the projects the kingdom is thinking about fundraising for next.

"A king today that doesn't address the social-economic conditions of their people is irrelevant. Culture must be about the welfare of the people," he says. "It is after addressing the welfare of the people, building schools, building hospitals, and so on, that the Kabaka will become more powerful – it is not federalism that is going to make him powerful."

A non-confrontational approach is also drawing more concessions out of a regime weakened by internal power struggles and keen to maintain broad alliances, particularly with the populous Baganda. In a recent memorandum of understanding the central government committed to paying back rent arrears for properties occupied over the years, and to expedite the return of other properties.

President Museveni also threw in a Toyota Landcruiser as a birthday gift to the Kabaka and it is presumed that telephone calls placed in to congratulate the king would have been taken or at the very least returned.

In remarks to mark Uganda's 50th Independence anniversary, Prof Mahmood Mamdani, whose book, *Politics and Class Formation in Uganda*, is a useful study in the evolution of the Ugandan state, noted a distinction between the pre-colonial traditional kingdoms and the modern nation-state. Traditional societies managed themselves through some form of consensus, while the nation state relied on its ability to conquer society and impose rules upon it.

Kingdoms like Buganda, which belong to the older period but must survive in the present, need to expand their soft power and build consensus with those they lead.

"The Aga Khan has millions of followers, but he has no army. The Pope has hundreds of millions of followers, but he too has no army," Prof Mamdani argued. "The most durable human societies are built on the basis of consent, not conquest. It is not the capacity for violence and coercion that distinguishes us from animals. What is most human about us is the gift of speech, and the ability to persuade fellow humans."

Kabaka Mutebi's predecessors once commanded impressive military capabilities, including the ability to conduct simultaneous wars on land and water. Today the king's traditional guards are largely ceremonial and he relies on armed guards provided by the state. In the absence of military power, it perhaps makes sense that the Kabaka needs to rely on the soft power of his position and the love of his subjects – love that is sustained better by services, not slogans.

This is a lesson that, as he grows older and more experienced in the exercise of power, Kabaka Mutebi appears to have understood well and in Katikiro Mayiga he seems to have found a loyal follower keen to build Buganda Inc., one brick at a time.

ea diary

Festival

Nairobi Cultural Festival

The Third Nairobi Cultural Festival. The theme is World Heritage – World Unity: Unity in Diversity.
Venue: Outside courtyard, botanical garden and amphitheatre at the National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi
Date: Apr 19
Time: 10am - 6pm

Sport

H&A Watamu Triathlon 2015

The 2015 Kenya national triathlon calendar kick offs with the annual H&A Watamu Triathlon on April 18 and 19, in Kilifi County.
Open to amateur and professional triathletes of all ages, duathletes, corporate organizations, fitness enthusiasts and holiday seekers.
Venue: Watamu Turtle Bay Beach Club
Date: Apr 18, 19
Time: 8 am
Tickets: Children from Ksh2,000 (\$22), Adults from Ksh4,000 (\$44)

Music

Thursday Nite Live

Featuring Leo Mkanyia from Tanzania as part of the East Africa Music Xchange in collaboration with Live at the Elephant

and The GoDown Gig.
Leo is a singer, guitarist, percussionist, harmonica player, song writer, composer, arranger and guitar tutor. He was inspired by his father, and has been playing for 20 years.
Venue: Choices Pub and Restaurant, Nairobi
Date: Apr 23
Time: 8 - 11pm

Soul Sista

South Africa's leading artist/ Dj Soul Sista will be performing live.
Dress code: Formal chic sheer white or black shine
Venue: Budhaa Bar:Lounge, Delta Towers, Chiromo Rd, Westlands, Nairobi
Date: Apr 24
Time: 9pm
Charges: Advance Ksh 1,200 (\$13), gate Ksh 2,000 (\$22)

Drink

Wine pairing

Tamarind Nairobi and Nedeburg wine pairing dinner. Free wine sampling from 5 pm from April 20 to 22.
Venue: Tamarind Nairobi, Haile Selassie Avenue, CBD
Date: Apr 23
Time: 7pm
Charges: Ksh 5,500 (\$60)

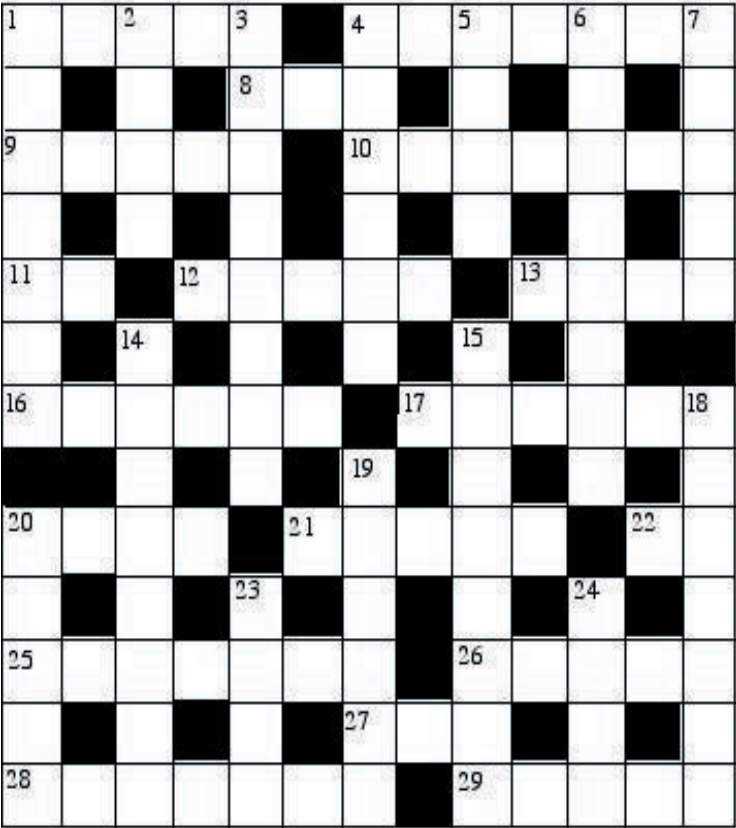


Tamarind Nairobi and Nederburg wine will have a wine pairing dinner on April 23. Picture: File

SIMPLE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Type of book. (5). (5)
4. Wattle on a cockerel's head. (7)
8. Burnt residue. (3)
9. Ascend/descend. (5)
10. Flexible/adaptable. (7)
11. Abbreviation for 'for example'. (2)
12. Supports. (5)
13. Inner feathers of a water bird. (4)
16. Admirer/boyfriend. (6)
17. Dismal/dark. (6)
20. State of mind. (4)
21. Paste for fixing window glass. (5)
22. Abbreviation for postscript. (2).
25. Ruled. (7)
26. Biblical poem. (5)
27. Abbreviation for a debt. (3)
28. Graceful/stylish. (7)
29. An Arab leader. (5)



23. Ancient S. American person. (4)
24. False. (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

ACROSS:

1 Gallop, 4 Rapper, 9 Right, 10 Hunting, 11 SN, 12 Limps, 13 Grey, 16 Abused, 17 Fester, 20 Meek, 21 Slain, 22 FF, 25 Drive-in, 26 Inuit, 27 Leeway, 28 Snared

DOWN:

1 Garissa, 2 Logo, 3 Outsider, 5 Acne, 6 Priority, 7 Rugby, 8 Shape, 14 Juvenile, 15 Petition, 18 Refuted, 19 Bland, 20 Model, 23 Beta, 24 Purr

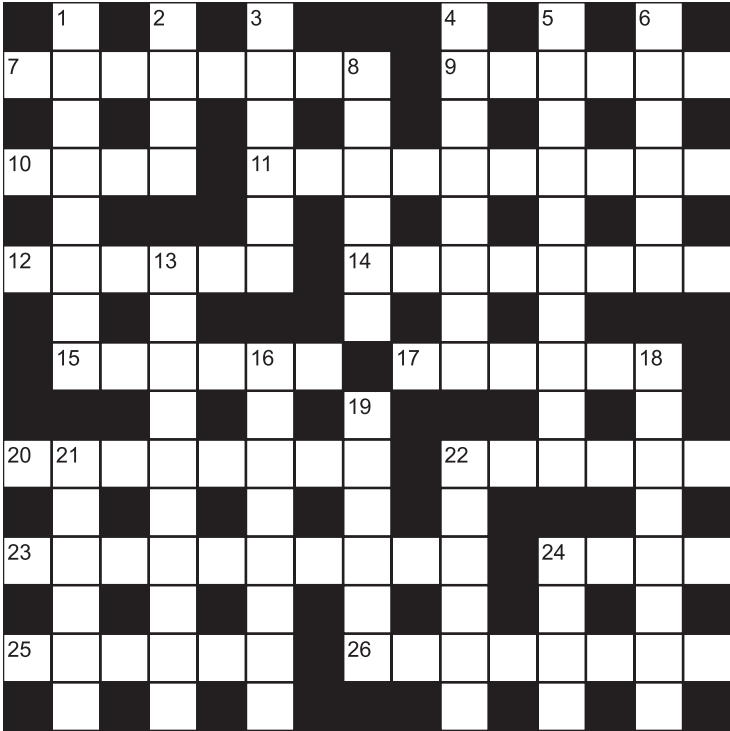
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 7 Plague produced by store in state of disgrace (3,5)
9 Learner driver breaking a rule formulated appeal (6)
10 Crack biscuit in game (4)
11 Annoying mob's here to riot (10)
12 Real man Gareth accepting no good wristband? (6)
14 A name curtailed in performance making one speechless (8)
15 Scot in Selkirk guards worthless material (6)
17 Slight quarrel about a right to get list of duties (6)
20 Authentic Scottish community on radio (8)
22 Stewed food with student festivities in the open? (6)
23 Musicians' gathering blocks discordant noises (3,7)
24 Poetess bringing out line for course of action (4)
25 Bully a rival of the Greeks (6)
26 Cooking pies, I do start to caramelise at intervals (8)

DOWN

1 Gloomy players near Belfast? (8)
2 Shot in play — and getting caught with it? (4)
3 See through gang fight in New York (6)
4 Clan I've upset associated with a Spanish city (8)
5 Place for hiding with hook almost visible providing narrow escape (5,5)



- 6 Jolt from significant remorse (6)
8 Extended car that's electronic, say (6)
13 Kelly, perhaps, fronting appeal surrounded by hopeful kindness (10)
16 Young woman enthralled by hearing organ with unknown agent (8)
18 Fellow with excess of butter, maybe, but no mass water source? (8)
19 Fire uppity American in service, fool close to unemployable (6)
21 Time needed by French composer making journey (6)
22 Organised police force in rank (6)

- 24 Tramp left to break in to school (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

ACROSS:

1 Playdown 5 Dreich 9 Astonish 10 Anklet 12 Earwig 13 Judgment 15 Steeled 16 Anon 20 Duel 21 Offence 25 Aeronaut 26 Plough 28 Employ 29 Schedule 30 Tandem 31 Crayfish

DOWN:

1 Planet 2 Actors 3 Dentists 4 Wisp 6 Renege 7 Illbeing 8 Hatstand 11 Bugeyed 14 Tenfour 17 Adjacent 18 Terrapin 19 Scullery 22 Snooze 23 Cumuli 24 Thresh 27 Scar

food

The right wine for your sandwich

If you accept that wine can go with almost anything, sandwiches become just another food, writes ERIC ASIMOV

Some people with narrow views of the possibilities ask, “Why would you drink wine with a sandwich?” I say, “Why on earth wouldn’t you?”

Bread and wine are a foundation of civilisation. A sandwich simply adds other flavours to the equation, and very few foods won’t be improved by wine.

Let’s quickly dismiss those that will not: A jam sandwich will not go with wine, even if the jam is made from the finest wine grapes and painted on the best bread. Too sweet, although some sweet sandwiches may go beautifully with wine. How about a Nutella sandwich paired with Madeira?

Peanut butter? Much better with beer. Egg salad? Well, I don’t particularly care for egg salad, but it doesn’t strike me as a good match for most wines, although Champagne may do the trick because it’s often a good choice with eggs.

What would cause anyone to resist the notion of drinking wine with sandwiches? Perhaps too many people associate wine with stilted formality, which doesn’t correspond to the determined nonchalance of most sandwiches, unless of course you are one of the fastidious few who insist on dismantling them with fork and knife, napkin at the ready. Wine is formal? Nonsense. What would picnics in the park be without it? Or fishing, without the bottle of white dragging in the cool water behind the boat?

If it’s informality you want, serve the wine



With wine and sandwiches, the possibilities are endless. Picture: NYT

in a tumbler or paper cup. Guzzle it out of a goatskin like the Basque herders. Wine can match any occasion, no matter how relaxed. Sandwiches, by the way, are not always unceremonious. Why else raise a pinkie when lifting that crustless finger sandwich to the lips? You never know which of those aristocrats may have claret in their cups rather than tea.

Americans tend to associate sandwiches with a hasty lunch, gobbled hurriedly at your desk while trying not to rain crumbs onto the keyboard. Modern notions of productivity have all but doomed the midday pleasure of a glass of wine with a meal, to say nothing of a martini or three, especially if you never leave the office. But what’s to stop you on a weekend?

If you accept that wine can go with almost anything, sandwiches become just another food. To pick a wine, consider primarily the dominant flavour of the filling, as well as the context of the occasion.

With complex sandwiches, as with contemporary dishes that offer complicated blends of seemingly discordant ingredients, traditions that govern wine selections must be dismissed. Nothing will be as natural as lamb with cabernet. A banh mi, for example, poses the same challenges for selecting a wine as many Asian cuisines. The combination of sliced pork, pâté, pickled vegetables, herbs and perhaps fermented fish sauce, all stuffed into half a baguette, was not constructed with wine in mind.

But that doesn’t mean you must forgo wine, even though a beer with a banh mi is pretty great. A good dry riesling, a vibrant pinot noir or frappato rippling with acidity

would go beautifully. Recently, I drank a pale red wine from Knauss, a producer in the Württemberg region in southwestern Germany near Stuttgart. It was lively and refreshing, made from the obscure trollinger grape, which is hardly better known as schiava in the Alto Adige region of Italy. This wine is sold by the litre under a screw cap and costs less than \$20, and I would drink it happily with many different sandwiches, especially a good banh mi.

Even the modern hamburger can be a quandary. No, not the classic of savoury ground beef and roll, delicious with any red wine (but go easy on the ketchup). The issue stems from the incessant desire of restaurants to pile stuff on — cheese, onions, tomato, bacon, a fried egg. The hamburger, so beautiful in its simplicity, becomes instead a riot of warring condiments that do not welcome wine. This, I submit, reflects a problem with chefs and burgers, not wine.

With the classics, like a club sandwich, you can probably guess my recommendations — whites or fresh reds, whatever you like. Bacon, lettuce and tomato, the club’s close relative? I’d stick with a white or a rosé. A pan bagnat, that Provençal specialty that essentially stuffs a salade niçoise into a round rustic roll? Most definitely a rosé. A sausage-and-pepper hero? Bring on the simple Chianti, the Lambrusco, the Montepulciano d’Abruzzo.

Just about every sandwich has more than a few wines that will bring out its best. There’s rarely one right answer. With wine and sandwiches, the possibilities are endless.

NYT

DIY

Winemaking workshops for hotel guests

Wine or champagne are no longer limited to imbibing; hotels and wineries around the world are giving their guests the chance to customise their own blends.

Artéis & Co, a vintage champagne brand in France, for example, offers disgorging of a half-dozen bottles. Visitors work with the winemaker, Jean-Philippe Diot, to remove the yeast from the bottles, add a reserved wine that has been sweetened to their liking, and design a custom label. The price is 1,200 euros (\$1,272) a couple and includes one night’s accommodation.

The Hotel Cala del Porto in Tuscany has partnered with the Rocca di Frassinello winery, where visitors work with the oenologist Alessandro Cellai to come up with a wine from grapes like sangiovese and syrah. The blend goes into 300 bottles, which are shipped to the guest’s home. The price is 18,000 euros (\$19,080) a person; the offer is for two people or more.

At the Grace Cafayate hotel in the Calchaquí Valley of Argentina, travellers can go to the Bodega El Porvenir winery to extract red wine grapes like malbec, syrah and tannat straight from the barrel to turn into a blend that they take home; \$150 a person.

There are also winemaking options in the United States: The Inns of Aurora, a collection of three properties in the Finger Lakes in New York, has an excursion to the Heart and Hands Wine Co, where guests work alongside the owners, Tom and Susan Higgins, to make either a pinot noir or riesling wine. Price is \$360 a couple and includes a picnic lunch and a \$100 dinner voucher for the Aurora Inn.

Also in New York, Woelffer Estate Vineyard on Long Island has a package in which visitors tour the winery, receive a tutorial on growing grapes and mix varietals including petit verdot and merlot, into a wine they can sip over a meal or cheese platter on the grounds. Prices are from a \$100 a person.

And in California, Raymond Vineyards in the Napa Valley lets oenophiles design their own red wine by combining cabernet sauvignon, merlot and cabernet franc varietals and go home with a bottle; \$100 a person.

Drinking a bottle of wine you created is like cooking your own meal, according to Jared Fischer, the wine and spirits director for the Peninsula Hotel in New York City. “You appreciate the taste so much more because you made it, and you also get a hands-on lesson in winemaking along the way,” he said.

Shivani Vora

“

What would cause anyone to resist the notion of drinking wine with sandwiches? Perhaps too many people associate wine with stilted formality.”

sports



“

For Kenyan golf to grow, the game should be included in school's extracurricular activities.”

Patrick Obath

Left, Kenya's Dismas Indiza tees off from the 10th tee at the Barclays Kenya Open Golf Championship on April 12. Below, South Africa Haydn Porteous holds up the Kenya Open trophy as Barclays Bank chairman Francis Okello and Kenya Golf Union patron former president Mwai Kibaki watch. Pics: Chris Omollo

Learning from the best in golf

South Africa has high performance centres to help upcoming golfers transition from amateur to professional, writes AYUMBA AYODI

American Jordan Spieth and South African Haydn Porteous making history at the US Masters and Barclays Kenya Open golf tournaments respectively raised questions on what regional players could do to improve their game.

The 21-year-old Spieth became the second youngest player to win the Masters, behind Tiger Woods. He matched the 72-hole tournament record set by Woods in 1997.

Porteous, who turns 20 on July 8, became the youngest player to win the Kenya Open, beating childhood friend Brandon Stone in a play-off.

South Africa boasts some of the best golf courses in the world; it has 190 championship courses. The country has high performance centres to help upcoming golfers transition from amateur to professional.

South Africa's Trevor Immelman won the US Masters in 2008.

Kenya Open tournament director Patrick Obath said Kenya lacks a transition plan where there are properly laid out structures from amateur level to professional.

“There is no qualifying process in Kenya, nothing to test the abilities of players turning professional,” said Obath.

“Players want to turn professional to earn quick money without focus-

ing on refining their game.

“South Africa has tournaments outside the tour events, in which upcoming golfers from the amateur ranks get their high level skills. That is why they take our locals to the cleaners when they come for the Kenya Open,” said Obath. “That three of the four South Africans who came to Kenya made the cut emphasises it.”

Obath said for Kenyan golf to grow, the game should be included in school's extracurricular activities. Children should be able to go for training or lessons at golf clubs.

“Schools will need guidance so that those willing to take up golf can benefit. At the moment it's not possible even though clubs are willing to adopt some of these schools,” says Obath.

He said the Junior Golf Foundation and Golf Talent Foundation need to have a golfing ambassador, who can go around the country talking about the game and removing the elitist tag. “The game needs a person who has succeeded in golf to talk about it,” said Obath.

As a short term remedy, Obath said professionals need to play in several tournaments in the buildup to the Kenya Open. “We have a plan where we want to have a serious regional tour; that will come up for discussion in three weeks' time,” he said.



Elisha Kasuku, the Professional Golfers of Kenya (PGK) sponsorship director, said they would like to have more professionals being sponsored to events outside the country.

“We want to use the sponsorship to take pros to the Sunshine Tour in South Africa, and PGA Challenge Tour in Europe,” said Kasuku.

Kenya's Dismas Indiza, who is a regular on the Sunshine Tour, has been consistent in making the cut at the Kenya Open even though he is yet to win it.

Local professional David Wakhu said lack of fitness and proper diet are major setbacks for locals. “I can imagine what our leading local professional Dismas Indiza, who has natural talent, would do if he was fit. He would be A+ by now.”

Wakhu said poor preparation by local pros leads to mental weaknesses when it comes to high performance events like the Kenya Open.

Indiza said local professionals need to adopt the latest training technologies by embracing gym sessions, coaching and nutrition. “I had problems with my back after I made the cut, but massage helped me a great deal,” said Indiza. He has suggested that a camp should be held

for local professionals two weeks before the Kenya Open.

Indiza also wants the local series to apply the same playing conditions as the Kenya Open. “They need to play on hard greens just like at the Kenya Open with tee off pins at the back rather than in front,” said Indiza.

Uganda's Deo Akope and Rwanda's Jean-Batiste Hakizimana, who played in the Kenya Open, would like a strong and consistent regional tour introduced.

Akope was disappointed that the PGK has put restrictions on foreign participation in Kenyan events. He said the \$900 fee for one to become a PGK member is retrogressive. “PGK needs to help the Ugandan game grow by letting us play in Kenyan events. We need to move ahead as a regional bloc,” said Akope, adding that regional players need more high quality events, sponsorship and outside exposure to refine their game.

“We only have one event where we struggle to make the cut, while our rivals are globe-trotting,” he said. “[Kenyan professional golfer Greg] Snow has been able to improve on his game by taking part in tour events in Europe.”

ATHLETICS

Kenya bans athletics camps over doping

Two athletics camps, that manage more than 100 top Kenyan athletes, Rosa Associati and Volare Sports, have been suspended by Athletics Kenya.

The six-month ban on Rosa Associati, run by Italian Gabriele Rosa, and Volare Sports, run by Dutchman Gerard van de Veen, which have operated in the region for a quarter of a century, comes at a time when athletes in the camps are preparing for the Boston Marathon (April 20) and the London Marathon (April 26), the Diamond League Series starting in May, and the World Championships in China in August.

Athletics Kenya president Isaiah Kiplagat told the media that they will appoint a manager to handle the athletes for the IAAF and Diamond League as investigations continue.

AK accused the camps of being behind the rise in doping cases in the country, which has seen close to 40 long distance runners testing positive to banned substances over the past three years.

The most high profile case is that of three-time Boston and two-time Chicago marathon champion Rita Jeptoo of Rosa, who was banned for two years in January for Erythropoietin use.

Kenya has more than 30 agents. Ethiopia has just a handful of athletes' managers whose movements are closely monitored by the country's authorities.

Kenya's Matthew Kisorio, who had been banned for two years before returning last July, was also in Rosa's camp.

Rosa was forced to close their female marathon training camp in Kapsabet recently over doping allegations; all athletes in their camp had to go for dope testing at Eldoret Hospital.

Rosa has more than 20 Kenyan athletes including World 800m champion Eunice Sum, 2007 World 800m champion Janeth Jepkosgei, Commonwealth Games 5,000m champion and World 5,000m silver medalist Mercy Cherono.

Volare has 40 Kenyans, including marathon World-record holder Dennis Kimetto, and two-time London marathon champion Wilson Kipsang. It also has two-time Boston and New York champion Geoffrey Mutai.

Rosa said he would fight to clear his name, even if it meant taking legal action against Athletics Kenya. “This is absolutely unfair,” he said.

Van de Veen said he will need to digest the AK decision before issuing a comprehensive statement.

Ayumba Ayodi