



2023 Africa Agriculture Status Report Released

The 2022 Africa Agriculture Status Report (AASR23) was launched today, with the message that the repercussions of inaction are not just confined to hunger and malnutrition but extend to economic, social, and environmental domains, with the potential to undermine the progress made over the years

Page 18

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News>>How Africa's Food System Can Overcome The Threat Of Climate Change

P. 8. As the African Climate Summit entered its second day, calls for Africa attaining her food security and sovereignty featured predominantly



News>>Africa Concours d'Elegance: Rush Intensifies For Remaining Places

P. 12. Just a handful of spaces for cars are vacant before the list reaches the maximum of 70 machines
The rush is underway for the last few remaining places in the Africa Concours d'Elegance which is scheduled for September 24th at the Nairobi Racecourse.

Africa To Champion Climate Action For Sustainable Growth



They made the remarks yesterday during the Africa Climate Summit at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre in Nairobi, led by President William Ruto. They were Samia Suluhu (Tanzania), Paul Kagame (Rwanda), Évariste Ndayishimiye (Burundi), Filipe Nyusi (Mozambique), Salva Kiir (South Sudan), Sassou Nguesso (Congo), Mostafa Madbouly (Egypt), Nana Akufo-Addo (Ghana), Mohamed Younis Menfi (Libya), Julius Maada (Sierra Leone), Sahle-Work Zewde (Ethiopia), Brahim Ghali (Sahrawi), Azali Assoumani (Comoros), Ismaïl Omar Guelleh (Djibouti), Isaias Afwerki (Eritrea) and Macky Sall (Senegal).



African leaders

STORY ON PAGE 9

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A Promise Of Payment Motivated Us To Register Worldcoin – Victims Tell Committee

Victims Make Revelations Amid Exercise Health Effects

By: PSCU

Worth Noting:

- “They never told us where they were taking our data to, they only said the scanning was meant to confirm that we are human, and to show you are the sole owner of the application Worldcoin so others could not access it,” said Bruce Bogita, a student at the Kenya School of Law.
- Stating that the compensation they received was not consistent with what they had been promised by the recruiting agents, the victims complained to the MPs of having traded their data for much less.



Some of the victims after testifying before the committee

Three University students yesterday appeared before the joint Ad hoc Committee of inquiry into the Worldcoin where they told MPs that they were misled into having their irises scanned without tangible payment.

Making their submissions before the joint committee chaired by Gabriel Tongoyo (Narok West), two of the students said that they encountered the Worldcoin staff in their university grounds, while the other had his eyes scanned at a local supermarket.

According to them, the promise for a KSh7,000 grant was the motivation behind surrendering their what now emerges to be very critical personal data to the foreign company that several state agencies have referred to as illegally operating in Kenya.

However, those of them who underwent the registration at the inception period in 2021 were never guided on how to convert the money from cryptocurrency to Kenyan shillings.

“They never told us where they were

taking our data to, they only said the scanning was meant to confirm that we are human, and to show you are the sole owner of the application Worldcoin so others could not access it,” said Bruce Bogita, a student at the Kenya School of Law.

Stating that the compensation they received was not consistent with what they had been promised by the recruiting agents, the victims complained to the MPs of having traded their data for much less.

“They also lied to me that they would pay me KSh7,000 but only sent me an equivalent of KSh2,000, after which, I developed eye complications and I have had to get prescription spectacles,” said, Miruoba Marube, a student at Kenyatta University.

The students, also revealed to the legislators that most of their colleagues registered with the company as early as the year 2021, also indicating that a big number of those whose information was harvested by Worldcoin were university

students.

“Most of us agreed to have our eyes scanned because of the financial motivation, and the fact that they were stationed within our learning institutions

and we did not have to do much to get the promised grant, although it was in cryptocurrency,” stated Bernard Ochieng’, a student at the Technical University of Kenya.

He told the legislators that the recruiting agent told them they would earn KSh7,000 simply after scanning their eyes and downloading an App.

The three told the committee that they have since faced social stigma based on social media reactions to the reported scans, although two of them submitted that they would not want the Data harvesting by Worldcoin continue since they have already suffered the consequences, and there is no clarity on what their data is being used for by the foreigners.

The committee is scheduled to meet with the directors of Worldcoin today.



Some of the committee members during yesterday's session

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times

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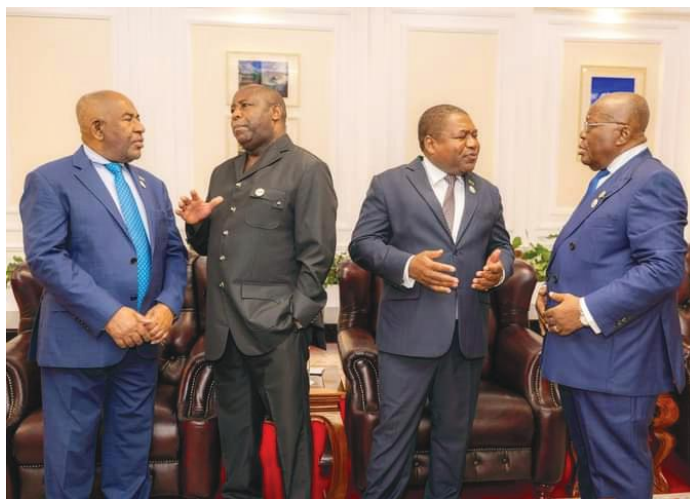


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Africa Climate Summit '23 In Photos



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Africa Can Never Develop Borrowing From International Shylocks, Karua Says

By: Beth Nyaga



Former Presidential candidate Martha Karua

Worth Noting:

- “The rating system is designed in such a way that Africa is given poor rating and as a result, it attracts more than 10 times the interest as compared to other countries. This is equivalent to borrowing from an international shylock, you can never develop!” She averred.
- On his part, Special Envoy of the President of the African Development Bank for the Alliance for Green Infrastructure in Africa Amadou Hott said that African nations need to be more ambitious to unlock funding.

Former Presidential candidate Martha Karua yesterday urged African nations to improve internal governance, stop illicit financial flow to the west and also reform the international financial system which is skewed against Africa.

“We have to stop illicit financial flow to the west, these are proceeds of corruption. These funds alone are enough to help us with the monies we are

seeking,” she said.

Karua who spoke after a high-level panel discussion under the theme “Unlocking Climate Finance in Africa: The Role of Innovation, Governance, and Partnerships co-hosted by the Open Society Foundations and AfriCatalyst also noted that due to lack of transparency and accountability mechanisms in Africa, the nations are always given very low rating.

“The rating system is designed in such a way that Africa is given poor rating and as a result, it attracts more than 10 times the interest as compared to other countries. This is equivalent to borrowing from an international shylock, you can never develop!” She averred.

On his part, Special Envoy of the President of the African Development Bank for the Alliance for Green Infra-

structure in Africa Amadou Hott said that African nations need to be more ambitious to unlock funding.

“We should be more realistic. Our partners will not mobilize the money for us. We need to have transparent and accountable governance systems to manage domestic finances as well as engage in domestic resource mobilization,” he said.

Hott in agreement with Karua also read the riot act to African nations by urging them to first fight all leakages in their respective governments in order to increase the loan ratings and hence get fair pricing.

In addition, he also suggested that to increase domestic mobilization, governments should look into compulsory domestic savings of about 15 to 20 per cent of revenue and savings used in the economy.

The event comes at a time when African nations are increasingly facing extreme weather events. To accelerate the mobilization of climate finance, various calls have been made, including greater use of innovative instruments, reforms of domestic and global environmental governance, and recourse to strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders.

According to the Climate Policy Initiative, Africa requires approximately \$250 billion each year to address its combined climate goals.

However, annual climate flows in Africa for 2022 were only \$30 billion, or just 12 per cent of the required amount.

To make matters worse, advanced economies are yet to fulfill their pledges to contribute \$100 billion annually to assist countries in the Global South to cope with the disproportionate effects of climate change.

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How Africa's Food System Can Overcome The Threat Of Climate Change



By: Jackson Ambole Okata
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Worth Noting:

- “We need to bank on climate resilience to feed Africa and assure food security and sovereignty in the next five years,” said Adesina.
- President William Ruto cited climate-smart agriculture, and nature conservation as critical areas where extensive investments are required saying the continent must act and move with speed to invest in such sectors which he says will help Africa subdue the threatening effects of the climate crisis on its food systems.
- Ruto wants African nations to leverage on their agricultural land assets to enhance the continent's food security and monetize agricultural systems.
- Climate change expert Jackson Koimhuri, a delegate at the Summit, says that Africa will not become food secure by replacing forests with food crops.



African Climate Summit Heads of States and regional bodies heads.

As the African Climate Summit entered its second day, calls for Africa attaining her food security and sovereignty featured predominantly in discussions with leaders vouching for climate adaptation investments to unlock the continent's full food production potential.

African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina called for the galvanizing of African based solutions towards climate change and its effects to the continent's food systems warning that the crisis is putting the future of the continent at risk. He cited increased droughts and floods across Africa, destruction of crops and massive death of livestock, things he said called for urgent action from African leaders.

According to Adesina, African leaders must enhance climate adaptation programmes as they strive to have a resilient food system for the continent citing adaptation of climate resilience agriculture techniques as a sure way of securing the continent's food systems which are threatened.

“We need to bank on climate resilience to feed Africa and assure food security and sovereignty in the next five years,” said Adesina.

President William Ruto cited climate-smart agriculture, and nature conservation as critical areas where extensive investments are required saying the continent must act and move with speed to invest in such sectors which he says will help Africa subdue the threatening effects of the climate crisis on its food systems.

Ruto wants African nations to leverage on their agricultural land assets to enhance the continent's food security and monetize agricultural systems.

Climate change expert Jackson Koimhuri, a delegate at the Summit, says that Africa will not become food secure by replacing forests with food crops.

“We cannot become food secure by destroying the same environment that is supposed to make us food secure. Africa needs to shift investments in agro-ecological systems if we are to increase food production substantially and sustainably. A combination of both social, biological and agricultural sciences coupled with indigenous farming techniques is what Africa needs,” he said.

He added “If we are talking about food security and sovereignty, then we must include techniques that work like agroecology in the conversation and put the small holder farmer at the

core of it.”

Koimhuri raised concerns over what he termed as underrepresentation of farmers at the summit.

“If we are serious about getting the conversation going, then we should have a room full of farmers from across Africa at this summit. We risk missing it when the farmer is left out” he lamented.

Kenya Farmers Association treasurer Rose Kemboi on her part observed that it was time African small holder farmers be allowed and supported to manage their farms and farming systems through whatever ways that can enhance food production while at the same time protecting biodiversity.

“Food production revolves around the farmer and for his reason the farmer must be part of decision mak-

ing including choosing what works best for them. When the farmer is empowered to manage their farms rightly and in ways that work best for them then we can be assured of a sustainable, secure and environment friendly food system that takes in interests of my crops, animals and myself,” Kemboi said.

Data from the World Bank shows that at least one in five Africans goes to bed hungry and an estimated 140 million people in Africa face acute food insecurity.

AGRA's 2022 Agriculture Status Report cited transformation of African food systems as crucial to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 2: Zero Hunger, but also for other goals, including SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 15: Life on Land.

AGRA notes that because Africa's food systems are highly vulnerable to climate change, conflict, and other external shocks, and they impose high costs on the environment and biodiversity, and warns that the status quo is unsustainable.

“Without transformative change, African food systems will retard the pace of income and livelihood improvement for most Africans, and further entrench the continent's over-reliance on area expansion as the main source of food production growth, thus exacerbating deforestation, environmental destruction, loss of biodiversity, and a precarious over-dependence on imports as a source of food” said AGRA Vice President Aggie Konde.



Africa To Champion Climate Action For Sustainable Growth

By: Christine Muchira

African Heads of State and Government have agreed to lead the way in finding sustainable solutions to the climate crisis.

The leaders observed that climate change and Africa's development are tightly tied and cannot be ignored.

They expressed their intention to collaborate with developed nations while also reminding them of their climate action commitments.

They made the remarks yesterday during the Africa Climate Summit at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre in Nairobi, led by President William Ruto.

They were Samia Suluhu (Tanzania), Paul Kagame (Rwanda), Évariste Ndayishimiye (Burundi), Filipe Nyusi (Mozambique), Salva Kiir (South Sudan), Sassou Nguesso (Congo), Mostafa Madbouly (Egypt), Nana Akufo-Addo (Ghana), Mohamed Younis Menfi (Libya), Julius Maada (Sierra Leone), Sahle-Work Zewde (Ethiopia), Brahim Ghali (Sahrawi), Azali Assoumani (Comoros), Ismaïl Omar Guelleh (Djibouti), Isaias Afwerki (Eritrea) and Macky Sall (Senegal).

President Ruto said Africa has made a conscious decision to be at the core of the solution to the climate change problem.

He said overcoming the challenge will require concerted efforts from all players and nations.

"We cannot pursue climate action through insular, solitary policies. Global warming cannot be mitigated by air-conditioning our little pockets and corners of the world."

President Kagame said it was time to take decisive actions aimed at curtailing climate change.

He emphasised that playing the blame game is not the answer.

"The more pragmatic approach is for Africa to be a central player in the search for global climate solutions," he said.

President Suluhu said Africans must seize the moment and capital-



African leaders at summit

ise on its potential to offer solutions to green growth and decarbonization.

"We can no longer afford to address economic development, climate change and African poverty in isolation," she explained.

President Akufo Addo said there was a need to take radical action to tame climate change in the continent.

"It is obvious that we have to act swiftly and decisively to mitigate these effects and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come," he said.

On his part, President Afwerki said it is time for Africa to mobilise its own resources instead of relying on handouts.

Meanwhile, President Zewde called on Africa to always take a common position on issues affecting the people, citing climate change.

She was supported by President Kiir who said that Africa must utilise its vast renewable energy resources to reverse the effects of climate change.

President Akufo Addo called for the streamlining of access to international climate finance to complement national funding.

At the same time, President Ruto called for a more equitable interna-

tional financial system to lessen Africa's debt burden.

He said that a just financial framework would promote economic stability and help address the climate change crisis.

The Head of State noted that Africa, despite being a mild contributor to pollution, is experiencing the most severe impacts of global warming.

He highlighted instances where African nations, such as Kenya, have had to divert funds from development to deal with the effects of climate change.

"Many of our countries are headed into debt distress because of climate change; we are suffering the most," he said.

The President regretted that Africa has been unjustly tagged as a high-risk zone even though its valuable assets have not been accurately accounted for.

President Ruto called for a paradigm shift in the allocation of global climate change funds.

He said that in the past, these funds often went to those who did not require them, neglecting genuine cases.

"There is a need to have a conversation about a carbon tax to raise

resources to finance Africa's development."

He insisted that Africa will cease the various green opportunities presented by global climate change action plans.

President Ruto also presided over the launch of the Green Hydrogen Strategy and Roadmap for Kenya.

Chairperson of the African Union Commission Moussa Faki Mahamat, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen, Secretary-General, United Nations António Guterres and the African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina were also present.

On her part, Leyen said that the Africa Climate Summit has set the stage for COP28, amplifying African voices globally and ensuring that Africa's needs are duly acknowledged and addressed.

She said a win-win outcome can only be guaranteed if all nations come together for a common goal.

"If Africa loses we all lose, if Africa wins we all win," said Dr Sultan.

Madbouly said that Africa's access to climate action financing is pivotal for the success of the climate change action plan.



Worth Noting:

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- They were Samia Suluhu (Tanzania), Paul Kagame (Rwanda), Évariste Ndayishimiye (Burundi), Filipe Nyusi (Mozambique), Salva Kiir (South Sudan), Sassou Nguesso (Congo), Mostafa Madbouly (Egypt), Nana Akufo-Addo (Ghana), Mohamed Younis Menfi (Libya), Julius Maada (Sierra Leone), Sahle-Work Zewde (Ethiopia), Brahim Ghali (Sahrawi), Azali Assoumani (Comoros), Ismaïl Omar Guelleh (Djibouti), Isaias Afwerki (Eritrea) and Macky Sall (Senegal).

- President Ruto said Africa has made a conscious decision to be at the core of the solution to the climate change problem.

Worthless Religion



By: Eric Musa
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James' words are consistently surgical. But none are so penetrating as these: "If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless" (1:26).

An exercise in futility! This is a spiritually terrifying statement, to say the least, for it cuts like a hot knife through warm butter, dissecting the cant and piety of the self-satisfied religious. An out-of-control tongue suggests bogus religion, no matter how well one's devotion is carried out. The true test of a man's spirituality is not his ability to speak, as we are apt to think, but rather his ability

to bridle his tongue.

The Lord Jesus Himself explained this in no uncertain terms in a heated exchange with the Pharisees: "Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks" (Matthew 12:33, 34). The tongue will inevitably reveal what is on the inside. This is especially true under stress, when the tongue is compulsively revealing.

Oh Lord, God, help us bridle our tongue. Enable us to be divinely disciplined especially our tongues. Let us overcome all temptations of undisciplined, unbridled tongue which has so much negative effect. From today we shall have a bridled tongue in Jesus Christ mighty Name. We believe you have forgiven us for instances when our tongue has been out of control. God glorify yourself through our tongues.

HALELUJAH. PRAISE BE TO



THE MOST HIGH, NOW AND FOREVER.

References:
The Living Bible
Discipline of a Godly Man(Book by Kent Hughes)

Evangelist Eric Musa:

(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, receive and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit, as it is written; "NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2

Cor 6:2". For prayers, devotion, and to support the ministry contact Evangelist on +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember, God Loves you and I unconditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM



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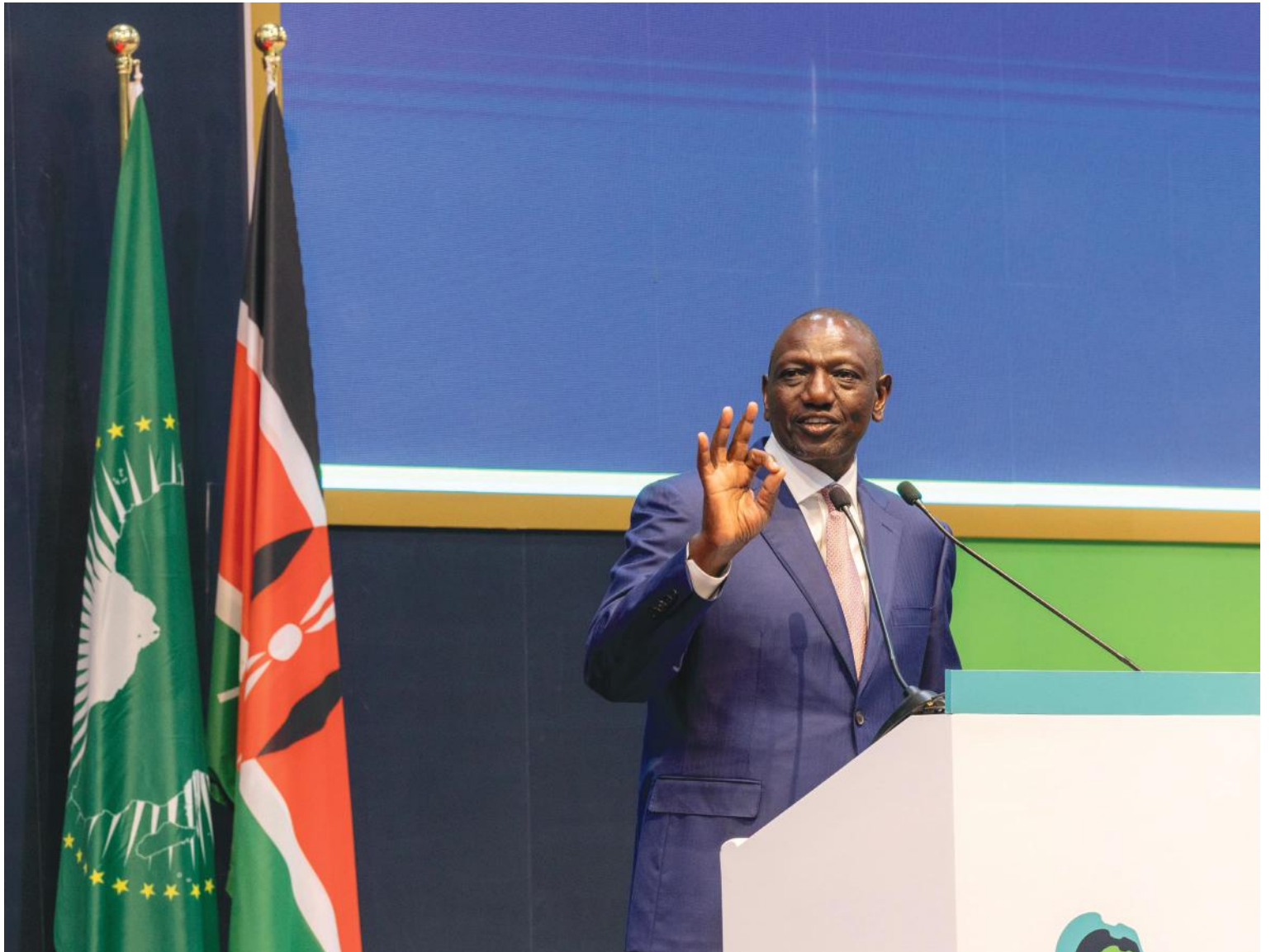


By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
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Worth Noting:

- President Ruto however noted. As Africans, we have abundant of resources. We need to harmonize them and this will help us to make a stride in combating the menace.
- When we cooperate with rich countries in global South, this should not be interpreted as begging. It is worth noting that the rich countries were the key players in air pollution.
- This is because of turning deaf ear to some key recommendations made during the previous conferences on climate change, dubbed COPs, organized by United Nations (UN).
- It is worth noting that gas emissions contributes heavily to the global warming but the rich countries of Europe and Asia have continued to ignore the recommendations on phasing out fossil fuels.



President William Ruto .

As the host of ongoing inaugural Africa Climate Summit, Kenyan President William Ruto set the pace by reiterating on redoubling of efforts towards decarbonization of the Global Economy.

While noting that the negative effects of climate change were ravaging the whole world, he called for close partnership and cooperation between Africa and global leaders.

The talk of Global South and Global North does not augur well. This is a narrative of the people who did not want us to succeed.

We have heard them saying this summit is no longer about Africa conversation. This is because we have allowed outsiders from global South to participate in these discussions.

The problem of climate change is affecting the whole planet. So, working in isolation is self-defeatist. We must work together in tackling this menace.

Dozens of Africa heads of state and government in attendance fully supported Dr Ruto's call for cooperation.

This means that we should embrace and be guided by the spirit of win-win for all of us.

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will help us to make a stride in combating the menace.

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This is because of turning deaf ear to some key recommendations made during the previous conferences on climate change, dubbed COPs, organized by United Nations (UN).

It is worth noting that gas emissions contributes heavily to the global warming but the rich countries of Europe and Asia have continued to ignore the recommendations on phasing out fossil fuels.

The following are some of the products extracted from fossil fuel: Jet fuel, petrol, diesel, kerosene and Liquified Petroleum Gas. These products were used to power vehicular, aeroplane and industrial machines.

This would flew in the face of the previous COPs recommendations that powerful nations should shift to clean renewable energy.

So, the machines should be replaced by the electric powered ones.

Solar, Wind, Biomas, Geothermal and Hydroelectric were the other source of

renewable energy.

The global humanity have continued to bear the pain and suffering due to climate change. Allow me to list occurrences that caused this: Drought, flooding, landslides, El nino, rising and overflowing of lakes, dams and sea waters, cyclone and locust invasion.

Fossil fuel emitted gas emissions poses greatest threat to green growth. Why? The machines produce the highest amount of the carbon that goes into the air.

One can therefore understand where President Ruto was coming from when he rooted for Decarbonization of global economy.

He has so far rolled out programmes on greening Kenya. One of them is planting of 15 billion trees by the year 2030.

As the Africa Climate Summit continues, I noted one thing. The president drove himself to the venue using an electric car.

This was yet another significant step showing the agenda of greening Kenya is on course.

At the Summit, the issue of unmet pledges on funding was revisited.

The rich nations would find themselves in a tight corner. This because of failing to honor thier previous pledges.

This issue has become an empty talk shop. You are leading players in air pollution. So, we are not begging you. We in Africa deserve to be compensated. Keep your word.

The ongoing Nairobi climate summit has turned out to be a game changer. Some of the world leaders would heed the call. They include the United States of America. President Joe Biden honored part of the pledge through former US secretary of state John Kerry, who is his special envoy on climate change.

By hosting this summit, President William Ruto has elevated Africa to a new level. The Africa leaders and other key players have taken this opportunity to deliberate and come up with the continent's declaration.

The Nairobi declaration will be submitted to the next UN Conference on Climate Change (UNCCC) dubbed COP28 to be held in Dubai later in the year.

Africa hopes that the global South will adopt the blueprint without any alterations.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a writer and political analyst based in Nairobi

Africa Concours d'Elegance: Rush Intensifies For Remaining Places

Just a handful of spaces for cars are vacant before the list reaches the maximum of 70 machines



STAR CAR. The 1967 Alfa Romeo 2600 Sprint of Gayling May will be one of the star cars in this year's Africa Concours d'Elegance event scheduled for Sunday, September 24th

Worth Noting:

- Participants in the event delight to show their machines to spectators and discuss the challenges of finding spare parts and in some cases having components made. The greatest glory goes to the top three overall competitors, but there is also an impressive list of prizes in the twelve classes for cars and eight for motorcycles and for the best performances by various makes.
- Long time Concours supporters include Alec Davis with his 1969 Alfa Romeo Spider sports car, Jane Chemngorem who has a 1962 Volkswagen Karmann Ghia coupe and Gayling May in his 1967 Alfa Romeo 2600 Sprint.
- The 70 car entries will be assessed using the TotalEnergies Quartz inspection ramp for the underside.

The rush is underway for the last few remaining places in the Africa Concours d'Elegance which is scheduled for September 24th at the Nairobi Racecourse.

Only a handful of spaces for cars are vacant before the list reaches the maximum of 70 machines.

The Concours is rated as the classiest event on the Kenya Motorsport calendar. Once again the entries promise to be a happy mix of newcomers and regulars.

Among the first timers is John Milia Ntoipo with a Daimler Sovereign limousine and Major Kelvin Saningo Leiyan. He will be putting his hopes on his 1980 Mitsubishi Gallant as he drives along the judging line in front of the main Nairobi Racecourse grandstand.

The Concours has been held annually by the Alfa Romeo Owners Club with the objectives of celebrating the Club's anniversaries and giving dedicated car and motorcycle owners the chance to have them judged by experienced officials.

The spectators flock to the Nairobi Racecourse from 9:00 a.m. and enjoy viewing highly prepared cars and motorcycles which are rarely seen on the road. The event also gives the opportunity for ladies to dress for the occasion.

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The 70 car entries will be assessed using the TotalEnergies Quartz inspection ramp for the underside.

Subsequently they will motor slowly along the judging line in front of the grandstand for experienced officials to check the paintwork, interior, boot and engine before competitors return to the competitor's car park.

Dr. Saio Mauro will contest the Concours in a Peugeot 304 convertible in the sports car category which also features a 1964 Triumph Spitfire which was built to compete with MG sports cars.

The organisers are pleased with the variety of cars which will be in the event and with the entries from Tanzania and Uganda. Among the entries from Tanzania is a 1990 Lancia Delta Integrale which is under preparation by Arusha based Navraaj Singh Hans.

A squad of four Mercedes-Benz saloons will be brought from Uganda to rival the Kenya based touring car entries. Patrick Mweheire the leader of the Uganda challenge is particularly pleased with his 1969 Mercedes-Benz 230S.

Kenya based motorcycle enthusiasts are preparing unusual machines

including a 1976 Bultaco Sherpa by Dominique Antoine. Simon Christy is putting the finishing touches to his Kawasaki KZ1000 and Honda CB 400F.

He has an impressive track record having previously won the overall motorcycle prize and he has been the Chief motorcycle judge.

The giant motorcycles at the parade ring will grab the interest of many spectators. Captain David Mwaura will ride his Suzuki GT750 round the parade ring in the class for large street bikes.

Another massive motorcycle in contention will be the 1999 Harley Davidson of Tumaini Muthiga.

There will be a big influx of motorcycles from the Pearl Bikers Africa and the Uganda Bikers Association to compete at the Nairobi Racecourse.

Parliament To Host The Africa Climatic Change Parliamentary Dialogue

By: Our Reporter
 @themkenyentimes

The Parliament of Kenya will today host the Africa Climate Change Parliamentary Dialogue.

Parliamentarians drawn from across the country and who are attending the Inaugural African Climate Summit at Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) have been invited for the Parliamentary Dialogue by Speakers of both Houses.

The forum will be presided over by Moses Wetang'ula of the National Assembly and his Senate counterpart Amason Kingi.

The duo sent a communication to the Parliamentarians where they noted the importance of Parliaments in forging consensus on the modalities of unlocking Africa's vast potential to positively impact the climate agenda and rally the world to tap the numerous opportunities that the Continent presents towards global net-zero ambition.



"The role of Parliaments in Climate Change agenda cannot be overstated and we therefore consider it expedient to convene a Dialogue for Parliamentarians on the side lines of the Summit," the Speakers' statement reads in

part. They explained that the role of the Dialogue Session is to convene leading African Parliamentarians responsible for climate action in their respective Parliaments to deliberate on

the role of Parliaments in achieving the outcome of the Summit. "The Dialogue will deliberate on areas for capacity-building of Parliamentarians in providing effective oversight for implementation of the

climate actions," they observed. The Speakers noted that the Dialogue will culminate in the adoption of Parliamentarians statement at the African Climate Summit.

Government To Prioritize Public Amenities Alongside Affordable Housing, CS Njeru Says

By: John Kariuki
 @themkenyentimes

Cabinet Secretary for Lands Public Works Housing and Urban Development has said the Government is concerned to see that the Affordable housing project addresses underlying services like water, waste management and access to public transport.

The CS was speaking this afternoon during a side event at the ongoing Africa Climate Summit at Kenyatta International Convention Center.

CS Njeru said the Government is making sure that Kenyans get a good quality of housing and have access to urban services including tapped water, electricity within homes, ability to access WiFi among others.

"The next intervention we have in place focuses on ensuring that all en-

abler ministries are part of the planning and development of housing projects," said Njeru.

With the new housing levy being implemented, the CS revealed that the Housing Fund will augment the budgets of enabler ministries to ensure that the social and physical infrastructure required for housing developments is made available.

Other commitments attached to AHP include access to public transport, pedestrian walkways and non-motorized transport (NMT) solutions and many more.

CS Njeru also held bilateral talks with the Food and Agriculture Organization Assistant Director General Haille Gabriel Abebe where they discussed partnership opportunities.

"We are looking forward to more partnership opportunities with the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development, for better utilization of the resources we have," said Mr. Gabriel Abebe.



CS Zachary Njeru .

The Value Of Time



By: Nematullayeva Fayoz
Nusratullayevna

Once upon a time, in a quaint little village nestled amidst rolling hills and blooming meadows, there lived a young girl named Emily. She had a deep fascination with the concept of time and often pondered its value. While her peers were engrossed in games and frivolous activities, Emily sought to understand the true essence of each passing moment.

One day, as Emily sat under the shade of an ancient oak tree, a wise old man named Benjamin approached her. Benjamin was known throughout the village for his wisdom and profound insights. Sensing Emily's curiosity, he smiled and said, "Young Emily, have you ever wondered about the value Eagerly. Emily nodded, and Benjamin began to share a remarkable tale.

He recounted the story of a humble clockmaker who resided in a distant land. This clockmaker possessed a unique ability to infuse of time?" each of his creations with a magical essence—the power to make time tangible. In this land, time was not merely an abstract concept but a physical entity. People could hold it, shape it, and cherish it. Each person was entrusted with a precious hourglass at birth, representing their lifetime. They could see the grains of sand slowly slipping through the glass, reminding them of the limited time they had.

The clockmaker's creations were revered and sought after by individuals from all walks of life. People would visit his workshop, hoping to purchase an additional hourglass, to extend their time. Some would offer vast riches, while others would plead with desperate eyes, hoping to secure a few more precious moments.

As the tale unfolded, Emily became

enthralled by the concept. She envisioned a world where people could witness the fleeting nature of time, appreciating its value more deeply. She imagined a realm where everyone embraced the present moment, recognizing the significance of each passing second. Inspired by the story, Emily embarked on a mission to share the wisdom she had gained.

She organized gatherings in the village square, where she would discuss the value of time and the importance of mindful living. People would gather eager to listen and learn. With each passing day, Emily's influence grew. The village transformed, and the concept of time shifted from being an afterthought to a cherished companion. People began to savor every sunrise, every conversation, and every shared laughter.

They understood that the true richness of life lay not in material possessions but in the moments they spent with loved ones. Emily's journey didn't end there. She dedicated herself to various charitable endeavors, helping others realize the importance of utilizing their time wisely. She taught children to cherish their education.

Encouraging them to explore their passions and pursue their dreams. She visited the elderly, sharing stories and lending a compassionate ear, reminding them that their time held immense value. Years passed, and Emily's impact resonated far beyond the boundaries of her village. Her message of the value of time spread like ripples in a pond, reaching distant lands and inspiring countless individuals to live with purpose and appreciation.

And so, the story of Emily and the magical hourglass teaches us that time, in its intangible form, is a precious gift. It is not to be squandered or taken for granted but to be cherished, embraced, and utilized wisely. For within each fleeting moment lies the potential for growth, love, and fulfillment.

Nematullayeva Fayoz Nusratullayevna is a writer, poet, reviewer, editor and translator. She was born in 2004 in Termez state, Surkhandarya region. Currently, she is studying at Termez state university. Fayoz is a second-year student of the Termez state university of Uzbekistan. Future Practical Psychologist. She writes in English, Uzbek and Tadjik languages

Difficulties Of Life, Your Life Is Your Hand



Life seems to be a very unnatural word. I decided to start this story with a simple but difficult question. What did you get from life when you came to the world? Or what is life for you? Try to answer? Life. Life, so full of difficulties or does it seem so to us, or is it God's tests? None of us know what our sufferings are, most importantly our heartache, and we don't even try to find a solution to it. In life, we feel that we need something. But we don't know what this need is, we don't even find what it is. Sometimes I don't understand myself. At such times, we ask ourselves many questions, but I don't understand why we can't find answers to any of them. (Actually, you don't need any miracle. The real miracle in life is to understand that you are yourself. Do not look for it from afar.)

Tayfun Topalog'li

Something hurts so bad that I don't know what it is. I feel like people who are drowning in the mire of difficulties and never get out of there. Day by day, I see the real face of people because they are tired of always wearing a mask, and I am tired of believing their lies. One day, we will all go to this simple grave. There we see no lies, no fakeness, no greed. If only all this, that is, that we are temporary people in this world. Is it so difficult for people to understand this? Sometimes I think that maybe I am lying to so many people, and they are returning it to me (I don't know, I don't understand anything). This is the happiness that I want to find and feel in this life. What is happiness? Do you ask yourself this question a lot or is it just me? That's why the question



I ask people the most is "What is the happens?" I don't know why I love this question (maybe because I still don't have an answer to it).

I really want to gain knowledge and experience about life, as well as built self-esteem without any fear. Because, if I spent my time to learn something, I will not anything like sadness or so on, I forget about everything.

A person realizes one thing during his life, no matter what happens in life, you just have to laugh.

Only smile solve a lot of problems :)

You never forget:

Nothing is easy, Nothing is free. (Jack Ma)

Always be happy!!!

Reminder for everybody!

Every coin has two sides because, our life has ups and downs (before trusting anyone, remember that only Allah accepts and loves us with our faults). You will be cheerful without any distractions.

THANKS FOR ATTENTION :)

My full name is Matqurbanova Ruzakhan. I am 2nd course student of Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages. I am winner of many competitions. Among them, I won honorable places in the district and regional stages of the "Yosh Kitobkhon" competition. I graduated the school with a gold medal and was admitted to study on the basis of grand 2022-2023-years. In 2023, I won the badge of "Scientific Researcher". I participated in many foreign conferences with my scientific articles. I took IELTS certificate (B2).

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BUSINESS

Impax Business Solutions Celebrates 20 Years

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- Thinking of the journey of 20 years and how systems have evolved in terms of corporate business systems, you roll back the years and you see how small and desperate systems were in terms of being individual.
- You had systems that ran one application for the business like human resource management, another one runs for finance, in the first ten years of existence you saw merging of these applications and bringing them to a unified interaction then what has happened in the next decade especially now is making businesses more efficient in the way they run, we globalise processes and now what we are talking about more is localisation of these processes, making systems work for you.



Impax Business Solutions Celebrates 20 Years.

Leading IT Company based in Nairobi, Impax Business Solutions is delighted to celebrate twenty years since inception.

This is what Mr. Patrick Mbatia, CEO Impax business solutions had to say:

“Today we are celebrating 20 years of our existence in the Market. The main activity today is to engage with our customers and bring to them the new products and solutions which we have in the market and also to have a discussion which is very critical in the market today which is cybersecurity and why you need to take care of your data, your business applications, the systems that you run in your company, how you need to work around them and basically securing customers information and your end con-

sumer data.

So we are happy to engage with our customers today and have this very important conversation that is very relevant in the country today in the face of what we have seen in the last six months in the country, there’s been a lot of cyber-attacks and all that and we need to bring this conversation alive to our customers and discuss with them on what can we do better and what should they be on the lookout for and basically how we can protect our customers a bit more.

Thinking of the journey of 20 years and how systems have evolved in terms of corporate business systems, you roll back the years and you see how small and desperate systems were in terms of being individual.

You had systems that ran one ap-

plication for the business like human resource management, another one runs for finance, in the first ten years of existence you saw merging of these applications and bringing them to a unified interaction then what has happened in the next decade especially now is making businesses more efficient in the way they run, we globalise processes and now what we are talking about more is localisation of these processes, making systems work for you.

In terms of the last five years since Covid, we’ve seen a huge uptake of cloud solutions and that is why we work with partners such as Microsoft who are leading in that front and the solutions they are providing, providing an extra layer of expansivity and also security so that’s why we need

robust solutions that are available for different market layers for small to medium, for enterprise customers as well and it always helps for you to have a product or a solution such as what we work with Microsoft dynamics, solutions that are a little bit ahead of time that have now infused AI or Artificial intelligence, we have what is called Microsoft Co-pilot and this is now embedded in our day to day work, so artificial intelligence is now here working with us in our workspaces and in our workplaces everyday.”



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2023 Africa Agriculture Status Report Released

By: Our Reporter
@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- The report calls for a concerted response from governments, the private sector, communities, and individuals alike in empowering Africa's Food Systems for the Future
- 650 million Africans—50 percent of the continent's population—lack economic or physical access to sufficient food.
- If AfCFTA's goals are fully realized, 50 million Africans could escape extreme poverty by 2035.



John Ulimwengu, senior research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute and lead researcher for the AASR Report gives his remarks during the launch of the AASR Report at the 2023 AGRF Summit held at Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The 2022 Africa Agriculture Status Report (AASR23) was launched today, with the message that the repercussions of inaction are not just confined to hunger and malnutrition but extend to economic, social, and environmental domains, with the potential to undermine the progress made over the years.

The new study underscores the need to address the challenges affecting African food systems considering the imminent threat posed by climate change, and the potential consequences of inaction.

Titled “Empowering Africa’s Food Systems”, AASR23 offers an in-depth exploration of the vulnerabilities, challenges, and transformative potential of the continent’s food systems. This timely report delves into a holistic understanding of the intricacies of African food systems from socio-economic vulnerabilities to the pivotal role of knowledge and technology, while highlighting the urgent

need for innovative financing.

“This report strives to show that Innovative Finance is not just a buzzword – it is an essential tool for Africa’s journey towards sustainable, resilient, and inclusive food systems. As the continent faces the dual challenges of rapid population growth and climate change, finding new financing mechanisms will be paramount in shaping a prosperous and food secure future for all its citizens,” said AGRA President, Dr. Agnes Kalibata.

Out of the 50 indicators outlined in the Food Systems Countdown Initiative (FSCI) framework, sub-Saharan African countries are performing worse than the global average in a total of 32 indicators, mostly related to diets, nutrition, and health. On the other hand, sub-Saharan African countries are performing better than the global average in the remaining 18 indicators, including those on food systems’ greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and biosphere integrity.

The above is accentuated by the fact that up to 650 million Africans—half of the continent’s population—lack economic or physical access to sufficient food to meet their minimum needs every day (BCG, 2021).

While African governments are committed to tripling intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services by 2025 as part of the 2014 Malabo Declaration, the aspiration is far-fetched as this kind of trade continues to dwindle from its peak in 2013 to less than 15 percent in 2022. However, if fully implemented, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) could raise household income by nine percent by 2035 while lifting 50 million people out of extreme poverty. Africa could see Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) increase by between 111 and 159 percent under the AfCFTA.

The report offers a deep dive into the underlying challenges that have historically held back the potential of

the continent’s vast natural resources. Overall, despite progress in food production, processing and distribution, significant challenges and failures persist, leading to an alarmingly poor state of food and nutrition security across the continent. The report unveils a multifaceted web of challenges that stretch from production to consumption. While daunting, the report provides a clear call for a concerted response to these challenges from governments, the private sector, communities, and individuals alike.

“The findings in this year’s AASR are not just a reflection of the current challenges but also a roadmap for future actions, guiding the continent towards food systems where every African will have access to sustainable, healthy diets,” said Dr. John M. Ulimwengu, the report’s lead author.

Climate Experts And Stakeholders Request A Neat Framework For The Implementation Of Ffloca Programme

Experts and stakeholders in climate action in Kenya seek a neat framework for the implementation of Financing a National locally-led climate action program dubbed FLOCCA, in Kenya.

Stakeholders from across the country convened at the National Conference to provide space for the exchange of experiences, share perspectives learning, and scale up on practical lessons and challenges faced by communities, governments, and funders in promoting locally-led climate action, with a specific focus on the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLOCCA) Programme in Kenya.

Participants explored challenges in ensuring the fund flow is well channeled as stipulated and questioned on accountability and transparency are duly respected to ensure that the community has access to the locally-led climate action.

Susan Otieno, Executive Director, ActionAid shed light on the need for transparency and accountability and insisted on the need for the inclusion of youth, women margin-

alized and indigenous communities in the process of implementation of the FLOCCA Program noting the principle of human rights and equal participation.

Since it was launched in 2021, the program has successfully disbursed 979 MILLION KES under the county Climate institutional support grants to 45 and 44 counties respectively. The program is present in all 47 counties. However, challenges are still evident as accountability is still fuzzy.

Mithika Mwenda, Executive Director, PACJA, there must be a neat protocol to be followed and ensure communities have access to the funding which should enable them to address the impacts of climate change. He stressed that no one should be left behind in the participatory process of the programme.

The structure of the framework questioned by participants was also mentioned by the president of the Republic of Kenya, Dr. William Ruto during the FLOCCA check handover at the start of the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi.



“The FLOCCA program design provides a bold and innovative, bottom-up decentralization of climate financing, as well as decision-making, thereby empowering the lowest units, which are the grassroots-level communities in each of Kenya’s 1450 wards, to take charge of the processes of identification, planning, and implementation of climate action, based on the existing climate risk”, said HE William Ruto.

Though this framework is well developed, H.E. Wilbur Otichillo, the Chair of the Council of Governors Environment & Climate Change Committee and Governor of Vihiga County highlighted the significance of inclusive climate change laws to ensure smooth implementation. He underscored the role of counties in contributing to Locally-led Climate action instead of waiting for support from foreign funders. “Climate

change is global, but climate action must be local”, stressed HE Otichillo.

The FLOCCA program has seven components namely: policy, legal, and regulatory Framework for climate change; capacity building, decentralized financing, community-led actions technology and innovation, measuring climate results, and climate-related emerging Issues.

Parliament Wants KEMSA To Address Losses

By: Gladys Mungai

The National Assembly Public Investments Committee on Administration and Social Services now wants the Kenya Medical Supplies Agencies to work towards reducing the percentage of drugs that are destroyed by the agency upon expiration.

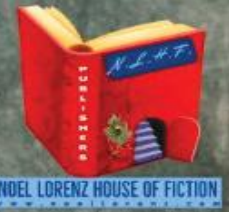
While appearing before the committee on Tuesday the agency revealed, that the taxpayer lost 150 million shillings over expired drugs in the 2018 /2019 financial year.

The committee has called for improved collaborations between KEMSA and counties to address drug shortages in some regions and save taxpayers the losses.

The committee also grilled KEMSA officials on reasons behind single sourcing of drugs a move that members claimed could be violating procurement laws leading to loss of public money.



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A Glimpse Of Mary Nzyuko's Gospel Artistry

By : Elijah Maingi
 @themtkenyatimes

In a world where music is the universal language that bridges divides and soothes weary souls, there emerges a gospel artist whose voice transcends earthly boundaries to touch the depths of the human spirit. Mary Nzyuko, a beacon of hope and inspiration, has graced both stages and hearts with her unwavering commitment to gospel music. With a voice that radiates faith and melodies that resonate with the soul, Mary stands as a testament to the enduring power of gospel music in an ever-evolving musical landscape. Mary introduces herself as a born-again Christian, a mother, and a wife. Let's take a glimpse of her music journey.

to bring out the message and present it as an artist.

In the current music landscape, where various genres are blending, how do you maintain the distinctiveness of gospel music while appealing to diverse audiences?

Maintaining the distinctiveness of gospel music in today's blended music landscape is about staying true to the core elements that define the genre: heartfelt lyrics centered on faith, powerful vocal performances, and a sense of spiritual connection. While appealing to diverse audiences, I strive to infuse these elements with modern production techniques and collaborate with artists from different genres to create a fusion that resonates with a broad range of listeners while preserving the essence of the gospel's message and emotion.

Tell us about your upcoming projects and music releases.

On November 12th, I'll be having a Live Music Launch at Deliverance Church Umoja, Nairobi and I'll also be celebrating my birthday. The theme of the event is Prayer Unlocks Mission. After the launch, there will be live music recordings. All are welcome.

Being a young artist, how do you see yourself contributing to the growth and evolution of gospel music in the years to come?

I have a band that does pure gospel music and I hope that I'm going to impact growth in the gospel industry. We are recruiting artists to commemorate the gospel. I have adopted young energetic ministers who are not ashamed of the gospel and we are taking the gospel to higher levels.

What advice would you give to other aspiring gospel artists who are just starting on their musical journey?

Be bold, humbled, and most importantly trust in God in whatever you do. There is no superior music minister before the eyes of the lord for we are all spreading the gospel. Note that, you cannot serve God and end up in shame.

As a gospel artist, how do you handle criticism or negative feedback, and what strategies do you use to stay focused on your artistic goals?

You can't please everyone. I just don't focus on negativity, I smile and pass it's normal.

Do you have any plans to collaborate with other artists in the future, either within the gospel genre or across different styles?

Yes, plans are underway. Maybe by the end of this year, God willing the project will be complete.

Finally, what legacy do you hope to

What are the specific life events or experiences that influenced your decision to be a gospel artist?

In 2019, I lost everything I owned to the point of sleeping in the streets. Imagine from a cozy lifestyle to being a beggar! I was traumatized and depressed. Those I termed as friends ran away from me and I was their topic, I remember very well I was helped by people I wasn't expecting. During this hard time, I turned back to my parents back in the village. I called upon the Lord and He restored everything I had lost and I chose to serve the Lord through gospel music.

As a young artist, what challenges have you faced in the gospel music industry, and how have you overcome them?

Challenges are part of the journey but by the help of the Holy Spirit am overcoming them. Mostly when it comes to airplay, we have cartels who charge to play your music on air on either radio or TV stations. Sometimes they might charge you and fail to play. Another challenge is financial instability. I have unfinished projects due to lack of finances but I remain royal and make prayer my sponsor.

Gospel music often carries messages of hope and inspiration. Can you share a personal experience that inspired one of your songs?

"UNISIKIE". This was my first song which I produced at my lowest moment. It inspired me because I talked directly to my Maker and He heard my sorrows and wept away my tears.

How do you ensure that your songs maintain a balance between connecting with listeners and staying true to your faith?

I'm original I don't fake, I try as much as possible to be Mary. I give my audience what I have and through God's grace, they get blessings.

What role does your faith play in your songwriting and performance?

Faith is the key to my music. "REIGH" one of my songs talks about how faith changes unchangeable. Spirit guides me



Mary Nzyuko.

Worth Noting:

- "UNISIKIE". This was my first song which I produced at my lowest moment. It inspired me because I talked directly to my Maker and He heard my sorrows and wept away my tears.
- I'm original I don't fake, I try as much as possible to be Mary. I give my audience what I have and through God's grace, they get blessings.
- Faith is the key to my music. "REIGH" one of my songs talks about how faith changes unchangeable. Spirit guides me to bring out the message and present it as an artist.
- Maintaining the distinctiveness of gospel music in today's blended music landscape is about staying true to the core elements that define the genre: heartfelt lyrics centered on faith, powerful vocal performances, and a sense of spiritual connection.

leave behind through your music and your journey as a gospel artist?

As a gospel artist, my ultimate legacy is to inspire and uplift others through the transformative power of faith and music. I hope that my songs continue to touch people's hearts, strengthen

their spiritual connection, and serve as a source of hope and encouragement for generations to come.

SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS
SCORES
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STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



Sports >> *Four players have been dropped by Harambee Stars head coach Engin Firat as he named his travelling squad that leaves the country early today morning for Doha, where they will play a friendly match with Asian champions Qatar on Thursday night.

Four Dropped As Firat Names Stars' Travelling Squad For Qatar Friendly



Harambee Stars head coach Engin Firat (right) consults with assistant coach William Muluya (left). PHOTO/Timothy Olobulu.

Four players have been dropped by Harambee Stars head coach Engin Firat as he named his travelling squad that leaves the country early today morning for Doha, where they will play a friendly match with Asian champions Qatar on Thursday night.

Defender David 'Cheche' Ochieng, debutant Stanley Wilson as well as Abdallah Hassan and Austin Odhiambo have been dropped from the 24-man squad that travelled.

The four however might have a part to play in next Tuesday's friendly match against South Sudan in Nairobi.

Firat hopes that the friendly

match in Doha will give him a clearer view of the team as they move towards the November World Cup qualification dates.

"All these matches are to help us test different circumstances. We are playing a tough team, the Asian champions and it is long since Kenya played a tough team," said the coach.

He added; "This will be a good match for my players to see how they behave against a good team."

Travelling Squad

Goalkeepers

Ian Otieno (Zesco, Zambia), Byrne Odhiambo (KCB), Patrick

Matasi (Kenya Police FC)

Defenders

Collins Sichenje (AIK, Sweden), Joseph Okumu (Stade Reims, France), Brian Mandela (Mamelodi Sundowns, South Africa), Johnstone Omurwa (Estrela, Portugal), Daniel Anyembe (Viborg, Denmark), Eric Ouma (AIK, Sweden), Amos Nondi (Ararat, Armenia), Abud Omar (Kenya Police).

Midfielders

Richard Odada (AaB, Denmark), Teddy Akumu (Sagan Tosu, Japan), Kenneth Muguna (Kenya Police), Timothy Ouma

(IF Elfsborg, Sweden), Duke Abuya (Singida Fountain Gate, Tanzania), Ayub Masika (Nanjing City Football Club, China), Alfred Scriven (IL Hødd, Norway), Clarke Oduor (Bradford City AFC, England).

Forwards

Moses Shummah (Kakamega Homeboyz), Elvis Rupia (Kenya Police), Michael Olunga (Al Duhail, Qatar), Masud Juma (Al Jabalain, Saudi Arabia)

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Al Ittihad want to make another offer for Mohamed Salah before the Saudi Pro League window closes on Thursday.

NOT GIVING UP – Saudi Side Al Ittihad Set To Make Second Offer To Sign Salah



Mo Salah celebrates his goal against Leeds. PHOTO/LFC.

Al Ittihad want to make another offer for Mohamed Salah before the Saudi Pro League window closes on Thursday.

Senior figures at the club believe it is worth making one more try to sign Salah but others are advising they should give up until next summer.

Any new offer would need to be approved first by the SPL through interim chief executive Saad Al Lazeez and director of football Michael Emenalo.

Liverpool rejected a verbal offer for Salah worth up to £150m from Al Ittihad on Thursday.

Liverpool's position has not

changed – Salah is not for sale.

Speaking after Sunday's 3-0 won over Aston Villa, Jurgen Klopp said: "I never had any doubts about his commitment to this club. You can't imagine how much fuss the world has made but how calm we are with it. He is our player and he wants to play here."

The SPL window closes midnight on Thursday.

-By Sky Sports

SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
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Backpage



Glitz And Glamour Sandton-South Africa



Ayanda Chiberengwane of Botswana, best star model of the year.



Dolly Masiloamangwe- Botswana Top model..



Hemant Punjabi -Benin Republic 🇸🇩



Da Lyrical Teller Best Star Collaboration of the Year S.A.



Best Tv personality Southern Africa- Cristina Matabele.

KHIRAH JOWENAH from Uganda 🇸🇩 category; Best Star Video Vixen of the Year.



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So precious, so rare,

Your love to
Is like air,

Needed to live
So much to give,

Surrounds my soul
A once dark hole,

That never I thought
Would feel love again,

I had given up hope
Of ever trusting a lady,

To hold my heart
Within their hands,

Pleading them not to shatter
The dreams we once shared,

Only to suddenly feel
Like they never cared,

I now know
There is a lady,

That can hold my heart
Within her hands,

And love all the pieces

Left behind from before,

And piece it back together
Never have I loved more.

This one lady
Is all that I will ever need,

Just me and my true love,
From now till eternity.

#ThePenKnight