Climate Finance and Neocolonialism: Kenya's Struggle in the Global South

"The intersection of climate finance and neo-colonialism in developing nations represents a complex tapestry of power dynamics, economic interests, and environmental imperatives," argues Dr. Amina Njeri, a renowned Kenyan environmental economist.

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The
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Creative Rewards
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News>>NHC Eases Titling Process, Links Investors To Cheap Mortgage

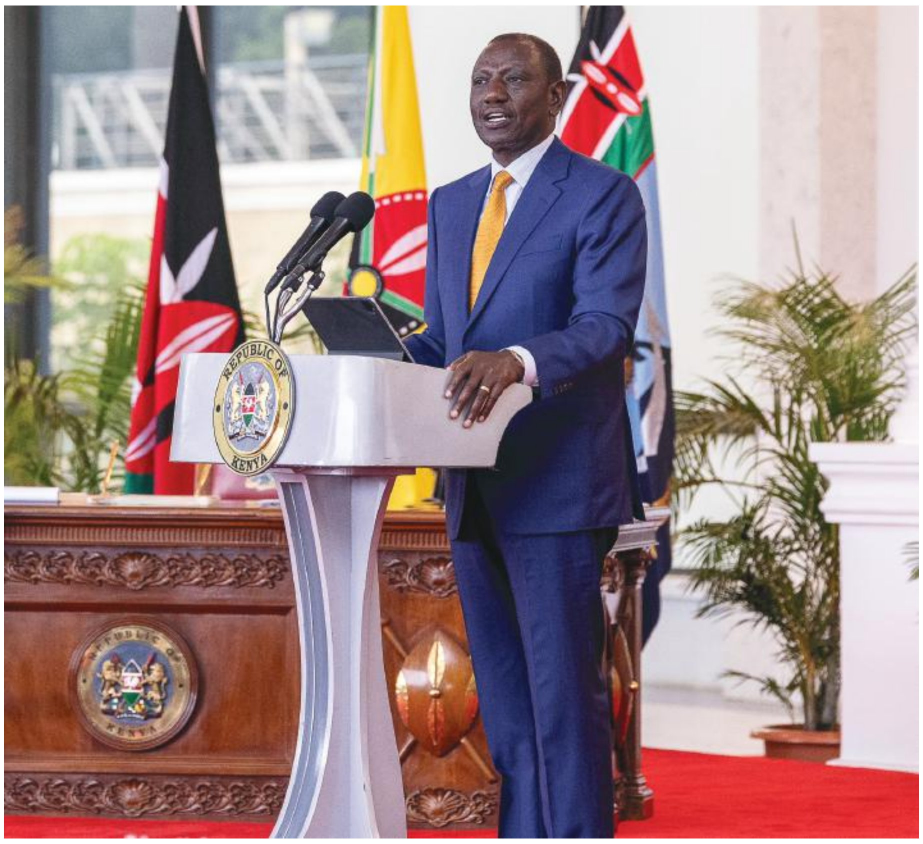
P. 8. NHC has continued to link investors to financial institutions for eased access to mortgages, even as it seeks to offset 1, 200 housing units nearing completion.

News>>Africa's Mounting Debt Crisis And The Need For Reform In The Global Financial Architecture

P. 12. Africa's debt stocks have grown significantly in the past decade. Understandably, African governments took advantage of historically low interest rates in the 2010s and borrowed heavily from international capital markets and China.

Ruto: Serve Kenya Diligently

President William Ruto has presided over the swearing-in of his reconstituted Cabinet with a pledge to enact far-reaching measures to root out corruption and enhance accountability in the public service. Speaking after the 19 Cabinet Secretaries were sworn into office at State House, Nairobi, yesterday, President Ruto said the country was beginning a new chapter of governance and development.



President William Ruto addressing the new cabinet secretaries

STORY ON PAGE 9

Government Allocates Billions To Improve Education Standards

By: Sharon Atieno
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- “The applicants aged below 18 years can apply for loans and scholarship using their KCSE index numbers and attach copy of their birth certificates in place of ID cards, while those aged 18 years and above, yet to receive ID cards, are advised to attach their waiting cards as evidence of the pending ID applications,” he maintained.
- He added that the new funding model in education reform will provide adequate skills and competences in strategic disciplines to stir industrial and economic development aligned with the aspirations of Kenyans.

Dr Isaac Maigua Mwaura.

The government has allocated billions of shillings to improve the education sector and develop a new funding model, with the aim of improving standards in the higher education sector

“In its commitment, the government has allocated Sh36.31billion to the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), Sh17.9 billion for the recruitment of Junior Secondary School teachers into permanent and pensionable terms and Sh3 billion for the school feeding program,” Government Spokesperson Dr. Isaac Mwaura said.

Mwaura also informed prospective students that they can apply for the scholarships and loans without having an identity card to ensure that no student is disadvantaged or experiences delays in pursuit of higher education due to administrative processes.

Speaking in Nairobi during a press briefing, Mwaura said that in June last year, the government had introduced a new funding model on the education reforms, adding that the model advocates for the creation of an education model which enhances equity in education and training in the tertiary and college levels.

“The applicants aged below 18 years can apply for loans and scholarship using their KCSE index numbers and attach copy of their birth certificates in place of ID cards, while those aged 18 years and above, yet to receive ID cards, are advised to attach their waiting cards as evidence of the pending ID applications,” he maintained.

He added that the new funding model in education reform will provide adequate skills and competences in strategic disciplines to stir industrial and economic development aligned with the aspirations of Kenyans.

“The fund was envisioned to address the substantial shortcomings in funding caused by the previous Differentiated Unit Cost model (DUC), which was to cover 80 percent of the university education course for admitted students through loans and scholarship,” he said.

The government spokesperson explained that the commitment to cover 80 percent ended up covering only 50 percent or 45 percent in the same cases resulting in a significant gap and compromised educational quality making the universities ending up with an inherited debt of Sh77 billion putting them on the crisis.

Mwaura maintained that the new funding model which commenced in September last year utilizes the means testing instrument to fairly assess students’ needs, categorizing them into five funding bands including students from household, who earn Sh5,000 monthly or less and who will receive 95 percent funding from the government as loans and 5 percent as parents’ contribution.

Additionally, households earning between Sh 5,000-Sh23,000 will receive 90 percent support from the government, 30 percent as a loan, 60 percent as scholarship and 10 percent as household contribution and tax-free students earning from between Sh23,000- Sh70,000 will receive 80 percent of their support with 50percent scholarship,30 percent as loan and 20 as a household contribution.

“Households earning between Sh70, 000-Sh 100,000 will receive 70 percent funding that is 40 percent scholarship and 30 percent as loans and 30 percent as household contribution and those earning over Sh120,000 will receive 60 percent funding that is 30 scholarships and 30 loans and 40 percent as household contribution since the costing is per the degree programme,” he clarified.

He said that the universities will inform students about the exact payable fees based on their household’s financial ability ascertained through the means testing instrument beginning on the 19th of this month.

Concerning the misconceptions and misinformation about the livestock Bill 2024, Mwaura said that the bill requirement applies only to farmers engaged in commercial ventures using natural serviced bulls alongside artificial insemination services.

“The government urges the youths to ignore the calls to violence, as they offer little benefit to them and emphasize the importance of peace and stability and avoid unchecked protests, which could lead to further economic hardships and hinder their chances of gaining grievances,” he said.

Editor’s Desk

The Mt Kenya Times is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative.
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Group Executive Chairman
M. Danson

Our Contacts
P. O. Box 101 675 - 00101 Nairobi, Cell: 0700 161 866, 0705 215 262
Editorial Desk: editorial@mountkenyatimes.co.ke, **Adverts:** ads@mountkenyatimes.co.ke,
News Desk: news@mountkenyatimes.co.ke, **Web**: www.mountkenyatimes.co.ke

Facebook: facebook.com/themtkenyatimes, **Instagram:** instagram.com/themtkenyatimes/ , **Twitter**: twitter.com/themtkenyatimes
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Mama Judith Ongoro

MEDICAL APPEAL

Our Mother, Mrs. Judith Ongoro is battling Cancer of the Oesophagus. She has been referred to India, Apollo Hospital, for treatment and management. We have started the first course of urgent treatment at MP Shah Hospital, Nairobi. The Ongoro Family is seeking your humble and generous support to enable the doctors commence urgent and immediate treatment at the cost of:

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May God Bless you,

As You Stand With Us.

NEWS IN BRIEF

"Mothers should exclusively breastfeed their children for the first six months, but they also need to continue for a period of up to two years even after weaning," said Secretary of the Interfaith Network, Sheikh Mohammed Oyolo. Oyolo urged close family members and male spouses to support lactating mothers so that they can have a conducive environment with their newborns. He pointed out that Islamic women have free space to breastfeed their babies as opposed to their Christian counterparts since places of worship for males and females are separate. "Islamic law also allows lactating mothers to abstain from fasting during Ramadhan because they need to eat well so that their babies can have enough milk," he said.

Public service transport in parts of Ndhiwa Sub-County was disrupted after public service transport operators held a demonstration to protest over the poor condition of roads in the area. The angry demonstrators paralyzed transport for several hours, accusing both the government and Ndhiwa Sugar Company for the deteriorating condition roads. The protesters expressed frustrations that despite being taxed by the county government, the roads in the area were poorly maintained. They complained that the roads have become impassable due to heavy downpours and threatened to boycott remitting taxes to the government unless they act fast to improve the roads. Additionally, the protesters accused Ndhiwa Sugar Company for allowing over loaded tractors with poor lighting on the roads, which has led to accidents and damage to roads. They also pointed out that Ndhiwa Sugar Company's tractors often breakdown on the roads and are mostly poorly parked without proper warning road signs, creating further hazards. In response to the concerns of the protesters, the company's management promised to address their concerns to ensure smooth operations and better cooperation with the locals.

In an intelligence-driven operation, Anti Narcotic Unit (ANU) detectives, based at NACADA, have arrested two suspects, Rufftone Kinuthia Ngeruro and Joseph Kangethe Kamau, and recovered 360 rolls of cannabis sativa at their hideout located behind Kangundo Road market. The suspects and exhibits are in safe custody as efforts to deal with the sale, distribution and consumption of illicit drugs continue to gain traction.

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

Transparency International Kenya (TI-Kenya) has launched an Integrity Walkathon scheduled for September 28, to combat corruption and promote integrity in public affairs management. Programs Manager Abrahams Misoi announced the walk, highlighting the country's concern for integrity, transparency, accountability, and honesty. TI-Kenya is also implementing ongoing programs such as community empowerment on corruption, public finance management, and government expenditure. Programs Coordinator Elizabeth Duya emphasised the importance of raising awareness about corruption and its adverse effects on citizens and stakeholders. She urged stakeholders to mobilise and walk together with TI-Kenya to help curb corruption and achieve a corruption-free society. Duya called on stakeholders to be open and transparent, involve citizens, and make process documents available for easy access. The aim is to create a country where people are held accountable for their actions and work together to create a corruption-free society.

Busia County Nutrition Coordinator Scholastic Navade said that 80 per cent of mothers who deliver their babies at the health facilities breastfeed them within the first one hour as recommended by the WHO. "But we realise that most of these mothers are not able to continue with exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months and instead introduce the babies to other food substances as early as three months," she said. Navade added that there was a need to work closely with the community leaders, the media, and religious leaders to sensitise the community about their role in supporting lactating mothers to embrace exclusive breastfeeding.


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Meru Governor Kawira Mwangaza Impeached Again

By: Jeff Mwangi
@themtkenyatimes


Meru Governor Kawira Mwangaza .

Worth Noting:

- To substantiate the charges of gross misconduct, Kinya claimed Mwangaza misled the public by falsely reporting that Ksh86 million had been raised through a Paybill account following the murder of blogger Danile Muthiani, while only Ksh286,516 had been collected. This, she argued, breached the ethical standards expected of public officials.
- Muthiani, a well-known blogger, was abducted from Meru and found dead in Tharaka Nithi in December of the previous year.

Meru Governor Kawira Mwangaza was impeached for the third time.

Of the 69 Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) 49 voted in favour of the motion, 17 opposed while three abstained.

The impeachment represents the third successful removal out of five attempts by the current assembly. The Meru High Court had previously halted three others after the embattled county boss moved to court claiming the process was flawed.

In the latest motion, the mover UDA nominated MCA who is also the deputy majority leader Zipporah Kinya accused Mwangaza of three main charges: gross violation of the Kenyan Constitution, breaches of various national and county laws, and abuse of office.

The assembly convened yesterday morning, with the session officially starting at 10:30 am, amid heavy police presence around the assembly premises.

There was a brief altercation involving assembly security and a group of MCAs allied to Governor Mwangaza, who accused the assembly of bias.

Former Abothoguchi Central MCA Bundi defended the proceedings were within the law.

To substantiate the charges of gross misconduct, Kinya claimed Mwangaza misled the public by falsely reporting that Ksh86 million had been raised through a Paybill account following the murder of blogger Danile Muthiani, while only Ksh286,516 had been collected. This, she argued, breached the ethical standards expected of public officials.

Muthiani, a well-known blogger, was abducted from Meru and found dead in Tharaka Nithi in December of the previous year.

His murder heightened political tensions surrounding Mwangaza and her rivals, with several suspects arrested.

Additionally, Kinya accused Mwangaza of inflating the governor's office staff to 111 personnel, significantly raising the county's wage bill beyond the 35 per cent limit of annual revenue.

She noted that 79 of these staff were cleaners a number she deemed excessive for the office.

Mwangaza was also charged with illegal appointments and dismissals, including allegedly revoking the appointment of County Public Service Board CEO Virginia Kawira Miriti, an action Kinya deemed unlawful.

Further allegations against Mwangaza included her failure to appoint heads for the Meru County Development and Investment Corporation and the Meru Microfinance Corporation.

Deputy Speaker Mwenda Ali argued that Mwangaza's hiring practices and excess staffing warranted her removal to restore fairness and end impunity.

Majority Whip Jim Muchui and Minority Whip Mwenda Ithili supported her removal, citing poor revenue collection and a need to restore integrity to Meru's governance.

MCA Martin Makasi cited inadequate health services as a reason for Mwangaza's ouster, while Abogeta West MCA Dennis 'DMK' Kiogora claimed Mwangaza's continued violations justified her removal and noted that she had exacerbated the situation by allocating a Ksh531 million road project to the Mechanical Transport Fund, leading to capital flight.

The governor has d maintained all attempts to impeach her are politically motivated.

NHC Eases Titling Process, Links Investors To Cheap Mortgage

By: Anne Sabuni
@themtkenyatimes

The National Housing Corporation (NHC) has continued to link investors to financial institutions for eased access to mortgages, even as it seeks to offset 1, 200 housing units nearing completion.

Managing Director David Mathu, has said that the Corporation was working closely with financial institutions such as the Kenya Mortgage Refinancing Corporation and its affiliate institutions, to afford would-be customers with single-digit interest finance credit.

Mathu, who noted that 45 units were available for sale in addition to 1,200 housing units nearing completion, said that the corporation, in collaboration with the State Department for Lands and Physical Planning, had also set up a desk to facilitate faster transfer of titles to potential customers.

"This would enable our customers to acquire sectional titles for easier access to mortgage finance. The Corporation offers very competitive pricing, with the tenant purchase scheme affording lenient payment terms that are flexible up to 18 years on a rent-to-own mode of sale," he added.

The ongoing Affordable Housing Program (AHP), which is also on the Corporation's to do list, has since rolled out 103, 000 housing units that are at various stages of construction across the country, with the corporation also targeting Kenyans in the Diaspora.

In partnership with the county governments, Mathu foresaw a drastic reduction in the cost of the housing units owing to the provision of land by the counties, in addition to operationalization of at least eight regional offices to bring its services closer to the people.

"The Corporation has engaged professionals in addition to implementation of its building information modeling system for all its projects designs and execution to mitigate against cost and time overruns and quality of the housing units and therefore, guarantee efficiency of our projects and attractiveness of our units," he said, boasting in promotion of green building practices, in line with global standards.

"The NHC Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) factory, the largest in East and Central Africa, produces climate-friendly and cost-effective building materials. Over 2,000 artisans and masons have been trained in using EPS technology, contributing to faster and more sustainable housing construction," added Mathu.

Currently, the Corporation is implementing various projects under its traditional commercial segments portfolio and AHP in the counties of Meru, Kericho, Kakamega, Marasabit, Kisumu, Nakuru, Mombasa, Homa Bay, Embu, Samburu, Kirinyaga, Siaya, Nyeri, Uasin Gishu, Machakos, Taita Taveta and Nyandarua.

These projects, he said, have created over 160, 000 employment opportunities through the multiple programmes that the Corporation was undertaking either directly or indirectly in both informal sectors, such as boda boda riders, market vendors, suppliers, artisans, security guards, construction professionals, manufacturers, banking and insurance companies among others.

Kabete Youth To Benefit FRom Jitume Initiative

By: Xavier Brian
@themtkenyatimes

Over 1500 youth from Kabete will have the opportunity to be enrolled in the Government sponsored youth centered digital programme dubbed Jitume Initiative.

The program under the TVET sector is intended at providing youth with access to digital services, digital skills, and opportunities to enable them to benefit from technology for job creation.

Underscoring the importance of such initiatives was Jitume Initiative youth representative Eric Nyaribo who said the high unemployment rate in the country has seen many youths go without jobs or lack a source of living but through Jitume over 31,000 youths are now earning a daily commission by performing simple tasks online.

He however noted that as much as the initiative mainly targets the youth it can also be utilized by willing learners who want to make extra income.

"Our program is designed for anyone who is interested in expanding their knowledge and skills in a variety of fields. Whether you are a student, a professional, or someone who is simply interested in learning new things, we believe that our program can benefit you," he said.

"Young men and women are now earning a living through the program," Nyaribo reiterated.

One such beneficiary is Edison Kago who on a bad day makes approximately $20, which is approximately Sh2600 in a day!" he claimed and added that website design and website management is his main source of income with the program.

"At first I started it as a side hustle but after some time I decided to do it fulltime and it has been paying off," says Kago.

In a show of support for the program, President Ruto during the centenary celebrations for Technical and Vocational Education and Training Centers (TVETS) appointed a special taskforce that will be obligated to build technology and ICT hubs in every county.

"Money meant for the constituency development fund will now be incorporated into building of ICT hubs in every constituency and we are in the process of creating a taskforce to assist get even more youth into the program," the President had said.

The Jitume initiative which mainly relies on internet technology will also benefit from setting up of fiber internet connectivity in local areas around the country that will run concurrently with fixing of power lines by the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC).

Jitume initiative sees itself as the bearer of the Country's torch towards economic transformation in the coming years.

President Asks New Cabinet To Serve Kenya Diligently

By: PSCU

President William Ruto addressing the new cabinet secretaries who were accompanied by their relatives. Also present were First Lady Mama Rachel Ruto, Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi.

Worth Noting:

- **Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Prime Cabinet Secretary and CS for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Musalia Mudavadi were present.**
- **The new CSs were accompanied by their families who witnessed as they took their oath of office.**
- **In his address, President Ruto noted that great strides have been made in the implementation of the Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda over the past two years, but is optimistic that more will be achieved under the new Cabinet.**
- **"I am confident that each one of you has what it takes to deliver on your mandate and to satisfy the people's expectations," the President told the appointees.**

President William Ruto has presided over the swearing-in of his reconstituted Cabinet with a pledge to enact far-reaching measures to root out corruption and enhance accountability in the public service.

Speaking after the 19 Cabinet Secretaries were sworn into office at State House, Nairobi, yesterday, President Ruto said the country was beginning a new chapter of governance and development.

"The women and men who have been appointed to serve the nation in the reconstituted Cabinet have today embarked on a mission that cannot and must not fail," he said.

The 19 Cabinet Secretaries are Kithure Kindiki (Interior), Soipan Tuya (Defence), John Mbadi (Finance), Adan Duale (Enviroment), Davis Chirchir (Roads), Kipchumba Murkomen (Sports), Salim Mvurya (Trade), Margaret Nyambura (ICT), Justin Muturi (Public Service) and Rebecca Miano (Tourism).

Others are Alfred Mutua (Labour), Opiyo Wandayi (Energy), Julius Migosi (Education), Eric Muga (Water), Hassan Joho (Mining), Alice Wahome (Lands), Deborah Barasa (Health) and Wycliffe Oparanya (Cooperatives).

The Gender and East African Community dockets have not been filled because the National Assembly rejected the nomination of Ms Stella Lang'at to the Gender and Culture ministry.

Ms Beatrice Askul, the EAC ministry nominee, has not yet been vetted.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Prime Cabinet Secretary and CS for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Musalia Mudavadi were present.

The new CSs were accompanied by their families who witnessed as they took their oath of office.

In his address, President Ruto noted that great strides have been made in the implementation of the Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda over the past two years, but is optimistic that more will be achieved under the new Cabinet.

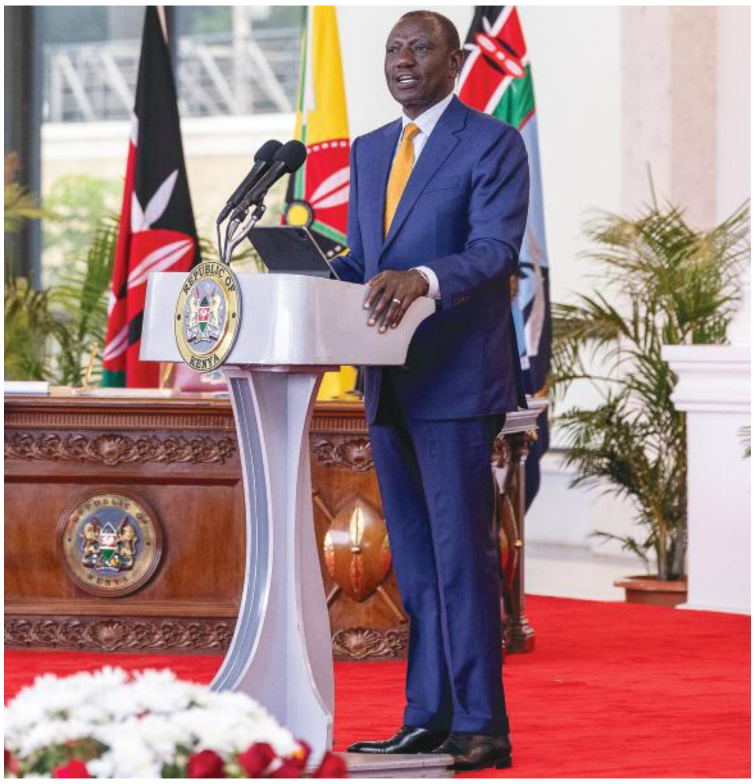
"I am confident that each one of you has what it takes to deliver on your mandate and to satisfy the people's expectations," the President told the appointees.

Among the President's raft of proposals to curb corruption is the introduction of a Unified Personal Identification system aimed at stamping out "ghost workers" across government, including constitutional commissions.

Further, he said the Cabinet will propose to Parliament a legal and institutional framework for mandatory continuous vetting of all public officers.

Additionally, the President said the Cabinet will speed up amendments to the Witness Protection Act, Evidence Act and the Criminal Procedure Code to make fighting against corruption effective.

He said he has engaged the parliamentary leadership to expedite the enactment of the Conflict of Interest Bill, which aims to overhaul the country's approach to conflict of interest situations in the public service.



Moreover, he said the government will digitise the procurement process to make it more open and transparent.

Beginning the 2025/2026 financial year, the President added that the government will adopt a zero-based budgeting system to re-orient the expenditure framework of the government.

Once again, the President reiterated the need for the broad-based government in bringing together former political rivals, saying inclusivity will ultimately lead to national stability.

"I am persuaded that a moment such as this in the history of our nation calls for patriotic citizens to forge an alliance of rivals to harness our collective political capital, knowledge and expertise to take the strides necessary to make our country great," the President said.

He recalled critical moments in Kenya's history when dialogue and consensus pulled the country from the brink of the precipice.

"Here we are again being called upon to remember the lessons of history, to live up to the demands of this moment and set aside our partisan interests in order to show up for Kenya.

Not Even One Of The Promises Of God Fails

By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

In life, you will find yourself in a challenging season/s, where things do not seem to go as prayed for, or dreamed of. This is the reality, and our hope is clinging to God, and where we look up to is His divine mercies and providence. We see the Psalmist King David express this in Psalm 121:1-2 " I will lift up my eyes to the hills [around Jerusalem, to sacred Mount Zion and Mount Moriah]–From whence shall my help come? [Jer. 3:23.]. My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth." This word, I am sure everyone reading this can relate to, in some point of his/her life. Keep up the hope, keep the faith, God promises are true and will come to pass.

It is written in Isaiah 35:7 "The parched ground will become a pool, and springs of water will satisfy the thirsty land.' From this scripture we learn:

- The Lord is the great Restorer of our lives.
- Often He will give us the vision of what is to come before the reality happens.
- To experience the 'pools of water' we may have to face the 'parched land' first.
- Every promise that God gives us will become reality in time.

So, have this PRAYER: Lord, thank You for the promises that You have given. Even if things do not appear to resemble the promise yet, I will continue to trust You in the process and keep my eye on the hope of the promise You have given: AMEN.

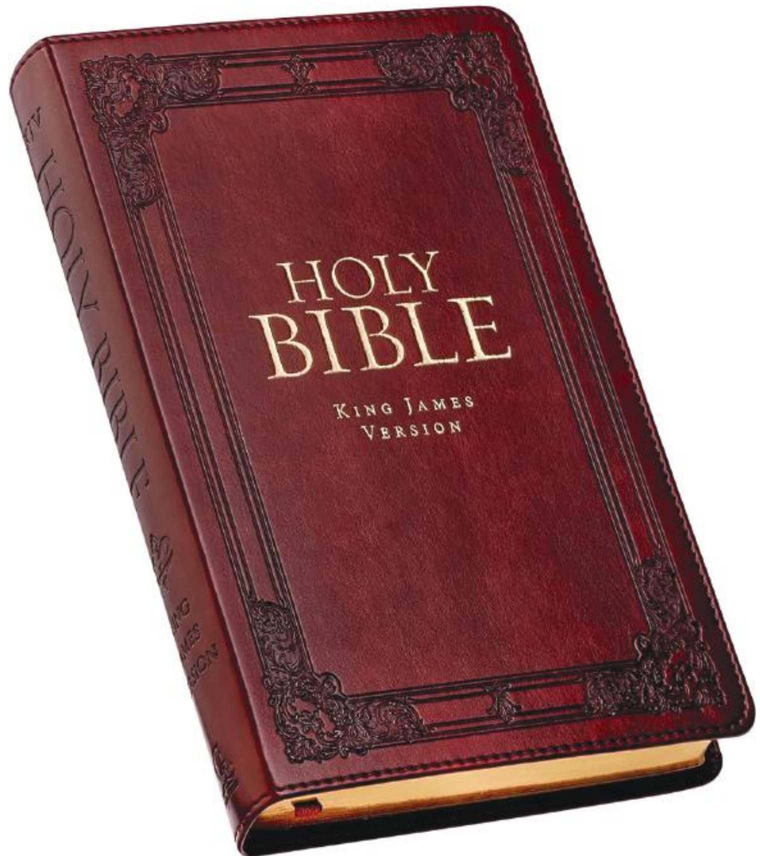
Recall what Joshua boldly proclaimed after reaching the promised land : " Not one of the good promises which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel(Ev. Eric Musa/you) failed; all had come to pass (Joshua 21:25)."

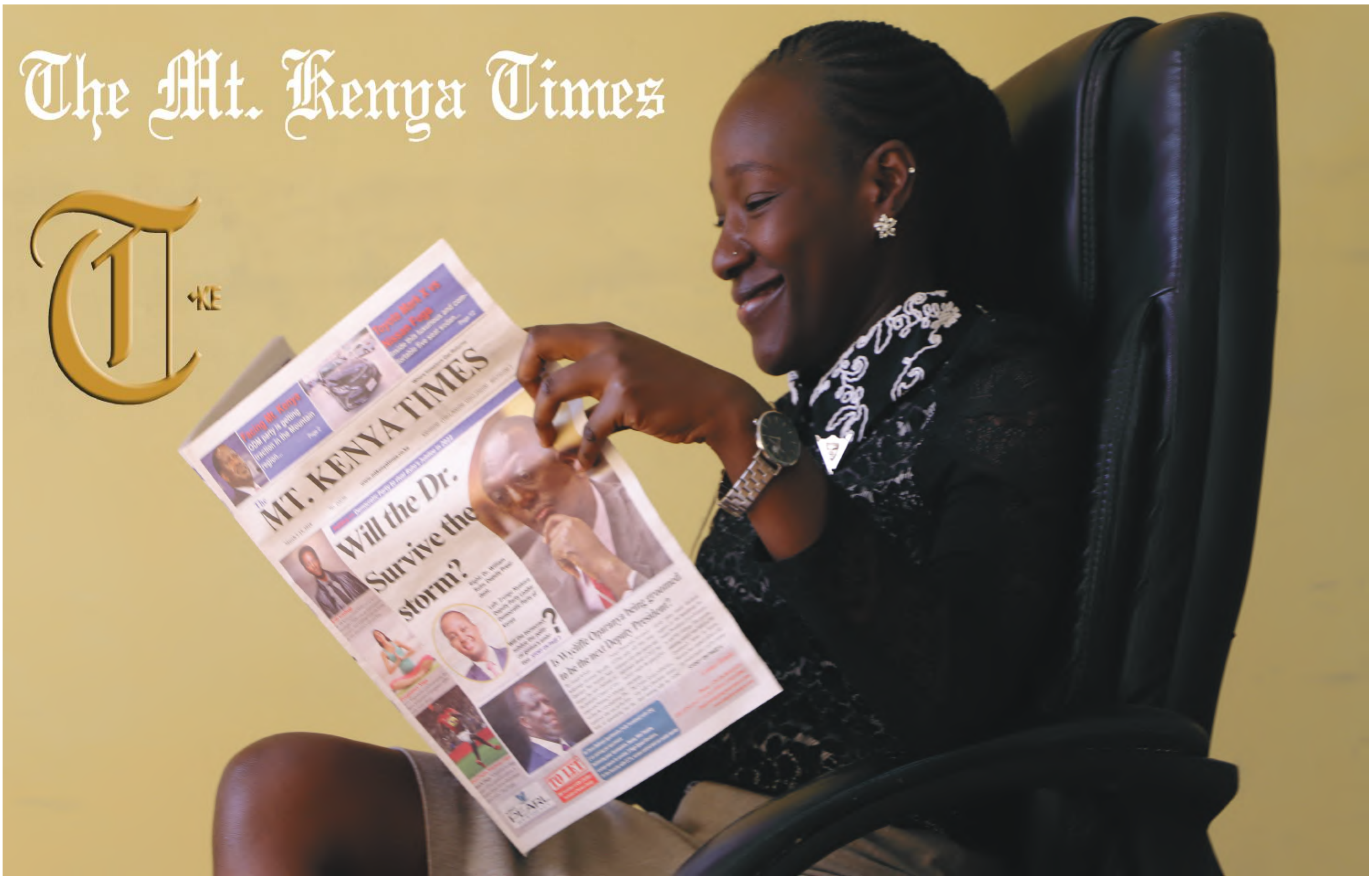
Are you aware that the promises contained in the Scripture/ Bible we have inherited them through Christ Jesus? Thus you should take ownership of them(personalize them as your own); as though God is speaking to you directly. Be confident, and be assured we shall also proclaim as Joshua did, knowing very well that the Lord, God promises are YES and AMEN in Christ Jesus : "For as many as are the promises of God, in Christ they are [all answered] "Yes." So through Him we say our "Amen" to the glory of God (2 Cor 1:10)."

HALELUJAH: PRAISE, GLORY, HONOR BE UNTO THE ALMIGHTY GOD, WHO CHANGETH NOT.

Evangelist Eric Musa:

(My message continuously: The best decision in this earthly life is to receive Christ Jesus as your personal Saviour: Believe and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit: AMEN). As it is written; "NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2". For prayers, devotion; to support Evangelism contact Ev. Eric Musa on +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember, God Loves you unconditionally, perfectly and forever.





Unlocking Africa's Renewable Energy Potential Through Innovation and Investment

John Mwendwa, An Impact-Driven Business Climate And Unvestment Expert Discusses The Opportunities And Challenges In Unlocking Africa's Renewable Energy Potential Through Innovation And Investment

By:Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- **Kenya's remarkable transition to a predominantly green energy mix, deriving 85-90% of its power from geothermal, hydro, wind, and solar sources, as detailed in the Trade.gov country commercial guide for Kenya, serves as a compelling testament to Africa's renewable energy potential. Such success stories are instrumental in attracting further investments and should be replicated across the continent.**
- **On the other hand, investment strategies, as outlined in Baker & McKenzie's report "Africa: The Continent's Sparkling Clean Energy Future," can further incentivize private sector involvement. Clear, stable, and transparent regulatory frameworks are essential and the backbone of successful projects. They reduce risks and expedite project approvals, as demonstrated by Kenya's success. Offering attractive incentives such as tax breaks and feed-in tariffs can improve project returns.**

John Mwendwa, an impact driven Business Climate and Investment expert..

Africa is abundant in resources and opportunities, particularly in the renewable energy sector. With landscapes that cater to solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal energy, Africa has the potential to lead the global energy transition. Yet, the continent's vast potential remains untapped, hindered by inadequate infrastructure, investment deficits, and policy bottlenecks. A strategic approach that blends investment, innovation, and sound policies is imperative to unlock this energy treasure trove.

The continent's renewable energy capacity is as diverse as its geography. With its vast deserts, North Africa holds some of the world's most significant solar power potential. The Noor Ouarzazate Solar Complex in Morocco, one of the world's largest solar power stations, exemplifies how concentrated solar investment can significantly impact energy output. Contrastingly, with its extensive river systems, Sub-Saharan Africa offers expansive opportunities for hydropower development, as demonstrated by the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), which aims to be the largest dam in Africa. Therefore, mobilizing substantial investments is the cornerstone to revolutionizing Africa's renewable energy output.

However, the African Development Bank (AfDB) has sounded a stark warning-Africa faces a significant infrastructure deficit, requiring an estimated $130-$170 billion annual investment and a $68-$108 billion financing gap. This is not a problem we can afford to ignore. Bridging this gap demands a concerted effort to attract public funding, private capital, and international finance. The International Energy Agency (IEA) underscores the urgency of doubling energy investment in Africa to over $240 billion annually by 2030, prioritizing clean energy.

Therefore, a multi-pronged approach involving public-private partnerships and international finance is crucial in closing this funding gap. Public funds can catalyze foundational projects, reducing risks for private investors, while blended finance models, combining public and private capital, can further mitigate investment uncertainties. Notably, the Lake Turkana Wind Power project, the largest in sub-Saharan Africa with a capacity of 310 megawatts, exemplifies the transformative potential of focused investments. This is a clear demonstration of what can be achieved with the right focus and resources.

Kenya's remarkable transition to a predominantly green energy mix, deriving 85-90% of its power from geothermal, hydro, wind, and solar sources, as detailed in the Trade.gov country commercial guide for Kenya, serves as a compelling testament to Africa's renewable energy potential. Such success stories are instrumental in attracting further investments and should be replicated across the continent.

On the other hand, investment strategies, as outlined in Baker & McKenzie's report "Africa: The Continent's Sparkling Clean Energy Future," can further incentivize private sector involvement. Clear, stable, and transparent regulatory frameworks are essential and the backbone of successful projects. They reduce risks and expedite project approvals, as demonstrated by Kenya's success. Offering attractive incentives such as tax breaks and feed-in tariffs can improve project returns.

Further, mitigating risks through political risk insurance and currency stabilization measures can boost investor confidence. Local content requirements can also be implemented to foster regional economic development and expertise. Lastly, investing in education and training to develop a skilled workforce is crucial for the long-term sustainability of renewable energy projects. By adopting these strategies, African nations can create a more favourable investment climate and accelerate their transition to a clean energy future.

Technological innovation is another critical accelerator. For example, solar photovoltaic (PV) costs have declined by 89% in the past decade, making solar energy increasingly competitive, as the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) reported. Innovative solutions have become essential to reach remote and rural areas. Pay-as-you-go solar home systems, popularized by companies like M-KOPA in East Africa, have revolutionized energy access in East Africa, enabling households to afford solar energy. Similarly, micro-grid technologies provide community-based power solutions in areas beyond the reach of traditional grid infrastructure. Therefore, investing in research and development (R&D) for such localized solutions, alongside conventional renewable projects, and fostering innovation hubs can cultivate a culture of entrepreneurship in renewable energy technologies and accelerate energy access for sustainable growth.

South Africa's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) has attracted over $20 billion in private investment, showcasing the impact of clear policy frameworks. African nations can emulate South Africa's success by prioritizing transparency, regulatory stability, and attractive incentives for renewable energy projects. Additionally, structured power purchase agreements (PPAs), which ensure fair returns on investment over extended periods, are crucial. Regional policies promoting cross-border energy trade can further expand market opportunities, enhancing the sector's attractiveness to large-scale investors.

Developing human capital is not just about sustaining the growth of the renewable energy sector. It's about empowering communities and ensuring that the benefits of renewable energy projects are widely shared. Emphasizing STEM education, as Rwanda has, prepares the future workforce for the demands of a technologically driven energy market. Furthermore, vocational training programs focused on renewable energy installation, maintenance, and management can empower local communities, ensuring that the benefits of renewable energy projects are widely shared.

Africa's renewable energy future hinges on a unified approach that combines directed investments, innovative solutions tailored to unique regional needs, and enabling policy environments. By drawing on the continent's diverse potential and leaning into collaboration across governments, private investors, and communities, Africa can leapfrog traditional energy models to become a leader in renewable energy. This vision of a sustainable, accessible, diversified energy future is attainable and essential for Africa's continued growth and prosperity. Let this be when we commit to a brighter, greener future for Africa.

The writer John Mwendwa, an impact driven Business Climate and Investment expert.

Africa's Mounting Debt Crisis And The Need For Reform In The Global Financial Architecture

By: Muhammad Mustapha Gambo
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- **According to the Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI, 2020), offering African countries debt instruments with more favorable terms or cash, in exchange for existing debt, will not only provide immediate liquidity but also address debt sustainability concerns in the long term.**
- **In the absence of better mechanisms for debt-distressed countries in Africa, more governments will struggle to service their obligations and limit their ability to invest in providing the necessary development needs of their countries. This is even more pertinent considering the need for enhanced effort in attending to the challenges of climate change in the region, through effective climate adaptation and mitigation measures.**

Africa's debt stocks have grown significantly in the past decade. Understandably, African governments took advantage of historically low interest rates in the 2010s and borrowed heavily from international capital markets and China.

However, debt has recently become a lot more expensive. Since 2020, the impacts of COVID-19 and the on-going Ukraine war, coupled with worsening climate conditions have resulted in African governments having credit-rating downgrades, which consequently led to rapidly increasing their borrowing costs and made tapping international debt markets prohibitively expensive.

According to data by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), public debt in Africa reached USD 1.8 trillion in 2022. In 2024, African countries will pay US$163 billion in external debt service, according to the African Development Bank.

One in five people globally live in countries that are in debt distress or at risk of it. Two-thirds of low-income countries – most of them in Africa – fall into this category, while eight of the nine countries currently in debt distress are on the continent, according to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN ECA) 2023.

Some of the factors that have contributed to the mounting debt crises in Africa are population explosion and rapid urbanization, massive infrastructure needs, declining availability of official development assistance and concessional financing.

Need for reforms

Recently, there have been collective clamor by African ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development for decisive action to reform the global finance architecture in light of the mounting debts and to spur the investments needed for achieving sustainable development and climate goals around the world.

Pundits hold that the global financial system is structurally unfair to developing countries in general and more so to African countries in particular and that some crucial reforms are urgently needed to address the problem of Africa's mounting debt stock.

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In the absence of better mechanisms for debt-distressed countries in Africa, more governments will struggle to service their obligations and limit their ability to invest in providing the necessary development needs of their countries. This is even more pertinent considering the need for enhanced effort in attending to the challenges of climate change in the region, through effective climate adaptation and mitigation measures.

Africa's multilateral institutions

In the light of these challenges, there is the need for practical engagements anchored by African-led Development Finance Institutions (DFI's) such as the African Development Bank, to reform the global financial architecture and ensuring a transition from multilateralism to a plurilateral system of the global financial system – one that is more nimble, more inclusive, more flexible and realistic in responding to the changing nature of challenges that African countries face today.

Aligned with these, there is also the critical role of sector specific DFI's such as Shelter Afrique Development Bank and other relevant institutions that form part of the founding partners of the Alliance for African Multilateral Finance Institutions (AAMFI) - established under the auspices of the African Union, to support the implementation of Agenda-2063. Its formation underscores Africa's commitment to self-reliance and sustainable economic development.

It's believed that AAMFI , which is an alliance of African-owned and controlled African Multilateral Financial Institutions (AMFIs) whose membership also include African Trade and Investment Development Insurance (ATIDI), African Export - Import Bank, Trade and Development Bank Group, Africa Finance Corporation, African Reinsurance Corporation (Africa-Re), ZEP-RE (PTA Reinsurance Company), East African Development Bank (EADB), and the African Solidarity Fund (ASF) will address Africa's development finance needs, advocate for Africa on global finance issues, develop innovative finance tools and support sustainable finance strategies.

AAMFI is in a pole position to lead the financial reforms on behalf of the continent.

And as an adage goes, if you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.

The writer Dr. Muhammad Mustapha Gambo, PhD is with the Policy, Research, Partnerships and Advisory Services Unit at Shelter Afrique Development Bank and 2023 Fellow at the Asia Global Institute.

Community Youth Project At Eastleigh Health Centre: A Step Forward For Adolescent And Youth Health In Kenya

By: Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyatimes

In a landmark initiative aimed at transforming adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health and rights (AYSRHR) in Kenya, Network for Adolescent and Youth of Africa (NAYA) Kenya has launched a comprehensive community youth project at the Eastleigh Health Centre. This ambitious project underscores NAYA Kenya's commitment to advocating for reforms and implementing policies that enhance the quality, affordability, and accessibility of AYSRHR information and services.

The project, inaugurated earlier this week, is a collaborative effort designed to address critical gaps in sexual and reproductive health education and services for young people in Eastleigh, a bustling neighborhood in Nairobi known for its vibrant, diverse community. With a significant proportion of the population being adolescents and youth, the need for targeted, accessible health information and services has never been more pressing.

The Eastleigh Health Centre has been transformed into a hub for youth-focused sexual and reproductive health services through this initiative. The project features several key components.

Enhanced Health Services: The Centre now offers specialized reproductive health services tailored to the needs of adolescents and young adults. This includes confidential counseling, contraceptive options, and sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing and treatment.

Educational Workshops: Regular workshops and seminars are conducted to educate young people on various aspects of sexual and reproductive health. Topics include safe sex practices, consent, and managing reproductive health issues. These sessions aim to dispel myths, reduce stigma, and empower youth with accurate information.

Youth Peer Educators: A group of trained peer educators has been mobilized to facilitate discussions and provide support to their peers. These educators, who are themselves from the community, play a crucial role in creating a relatable and supportive environment for their counterparts.

Digital Resources and Helplines: To increase accessibility, the project includes a range of digital resources, including an interactive website and a confidential helpline. These platforms offer information and support to youth who may be unable to visit the health centre in person.

Network for Adolescent and Youth of Africa (NAYA)

Advocacy and Policy Dialogue: NAYA Kenya is also using the project as a platform to engage with local and national policymakers. By presenting evidence from the field and gathering feedback from the community, NAYA aims to drive reforms that improve AYSRHR services and policies on a broader scale.

The community's response to the initiative has been overwhelmingly positive. Local residents, particularly the youth, have expressed appreciation for the increased availability of relevant health services and educational resources.

"This project has been a game-changer for us, i now have access to reliable information and support that I didn't have before. It's empowering to know that help is available and that we're being heard." Said Amina, a 19-year-old student.

Health professionals at the Eastleigh Health Centre have also noted a significant increase in the number of young people seeking services.

"The project has brought a much-needed focus on youth health issues. We're seeing more young people coming in for consultations and preventive care, which is a positive sign of increased awareness and engagement." Remarked Lilian Agengo a Community Health Officer in Eastleigh Health Centre.

Looking ahead, NAYA Kenya plans to expand the project to other areas in Nairobi and beyond, leveraging the success of the Eastleigh initiative as a model. The organization is also exploring partnerships with other NGOs and government bodies to scale up their efforts and ensure sustained impact. In addition to expanding reach, they are committed to continually assessing and refining the project based on community feedback and evolving needs. The goal is not just to provide immediate support but to foster long-term improvements in the sexual and reproductive health landscape for Kenya's youth.

NAYA's community youth project at Eastleigh Health Centre represents a crucial step towards addressing the sexual and reproductive health needs of young people in Kenya. By combining enhanced services, education, and advocacy, the initiative exemplifies a holistic approach to improving AYSRHR and offers a beacon of hope for similar communities across the country.

Parliament Lists Reasons Why It Rejected Gender CS Nominee Stella Soi Lang'at

By: Eric Biegon

The National Assembly Committee on Appointments listed several reasons why it decided to drop one Cabinet Secretary nominee from the 20 recently picked by President William Ruto.

The Committee whose report was adopted by the whole house said the nomination of Stella Soi Langat as Minister for Gender, Culture, Arts and Heritage could not be approved given that she failed to convince lawmakers that she was suitable for the role.

The Committee said the nominee did not demonstrate knowledge of topical, administrative, and technical issues touching on the portfolio to which she had been nominated.

In the report, members of the Committee chaired by Speaker Moses Wetangula argued that Ms Langat failed to demonstrate adequate knowledge of topical, administrative and technical issues touching on the Ministry of Gender, Culture, The Arts and Heritage to which she had been nominated to lead.

"The nominee is unsuitable for the position to which she was nominated as she was unable to respond in a satisfactory manner to the queries raised during the approval hearing relating to Gender, Heritage and Culture," the MPs said in the report

According to the legislators, the Ministry is strategically important and is tasked with overseeing critical national policies and services.

They argued that the Ministry requires leadership with a strong strategic vision, cultural sensitivity, and a deep understanding of policy management, which Ms Langat lacked.

The committee was categorical that, given the Ministry's functions and mandate, a person seeking to head it must be an effective communicator and innovative and committed to promoting cultural heritage and gender equality.

"The nominee failed to exhibit any of these qualities to the committee's satisfaction," the MPs said in their concluding remarks effectively sealing her fate

In their assessment, the lawmakers also pointed out that Stella Langat's experience in public service, spanning almost 30 years, is marked by frequent job transitions in various roles.

"All the six different postings that the nominee has held do not require any long-term strategic planning. As a result, she has not become grounded in any specific leadership role in the public service," the Committee said


Stella Soi Langat .

President William Ruto is expected to nominate another person to be considered for the post.

In the meantime, the 19 CS nominees who were approved by parliament will be sworn into office Thursday morning after appointment by the President on Wednesday.

Tell Me If You Are...

My window rang last night,
He was waiting for my arrival,
Maybe he really suffered
Tell me if you are ...

Placing my photo in the heart,
Waiting to cross my paths .
Planting flowers for me on purpose
Tell me, are you that gardener...

Talked Layli and Majnun's poetry
Sang a song in love with pain.
Wanted a cure for the heart
Tell me, are you that patient...

Khushvaktova Marjonabonu Sayil's daughter was born in June 2004 in Kashkadarya region. Currently, she is a 3rd year student of Shahrisabz State Pedagogical Institute. Her creative works were published in "Taloktepa tolei" bayoz, "Taloktepa tolei" election books and "The smart youth of Uzbekistan", "Raven Cage Zine", "Page 3 News", "Youth of Uzbekistan", "Bayoz of youngsters" and in many similar international books, prestigious magazines, newspapers, anthologies, and Marjona is the owner of many diplomas and certificates.

There Is A Mother, The World Is Bright

Humanity is so wounded that there are no poems, epics, or stories about mothers that have not been told.

Mother is the torch that illuminates our life path. The sun shines equally on everything: the good and the bad, the poor and the rich. A mother's love is an example of this sun, her love never ends. It's as if she came into the world for her child. When she laughs, she laughs, when she cries, she cries. When life's trials bend our waists, this mother is our support and helper.

No matter how much we describe the mother, our pen will not be able to do it. Prophets, elders, and scientists were also brought up by mothers.

No matter how illiterate the father is, but if the mother is educated and righteous, she will give birth to educated and righteous children. It follows from this that the education of the next generation and the future of children are in the hands of mothers.

A mother wants to see her unfulfilled dreams in the image of her child. Therefore, she works hard for his child's future.

There is some mystery hidden in a woman that we do not understand. Why does a crying baby hear its mother's voice and instantly relax? This is God's gift to mothers.

Why do our mothers lose strength when they get old, they can't do anything, their legs can't walk like before? I think it's because of us children. Because she carries us in her womb for nine months, patiently endures all the pains, and gives up her pleasure. Scientists say that the child begins to receive useful elements from the mother while still in the mother's womb. This is the reason why our mothers get into this situation when they get old.

It is our mother who planted a bouquet of flowers for us and showed us how beautiful life is.

"If you want to see heaven in this world, look at your mother's face," it is not for nothing. In fact, falling on the face of mothers is equated with prayer. Mothers are our soul and world, our loving ocean.

Even a bird cannot fly without one wing. A child can also suffer a lot in life without a mother, because mothers are a lamp that illuminates our path.

It is not for nothing that it is said in the hadiths: "Even if you carry your mother around the Kaaba and perform Tawaf seven times, you will not be able to compensate for one pain of your mother during childbirth." It can be seen from this hadith that the rights of our mothers are an irredeemable debt to us.

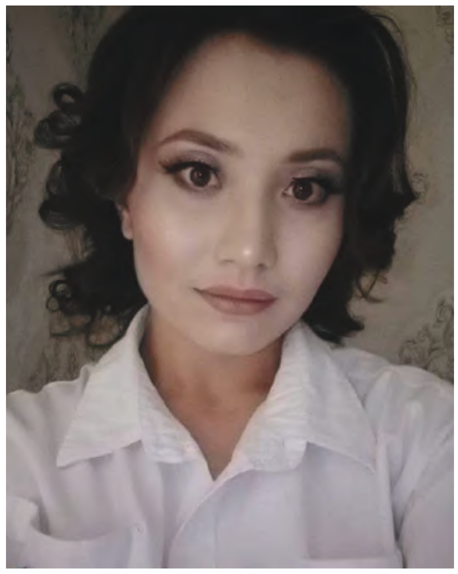
A mother's love is an example of a river that never ends. Even when she is old and taking his last breath, she gives up his life saying "my child". The most priceless feeling is the grateful love of a mother for her child.

Mothers are the perspective of the future, the support of the nation, the figure that plays a role in the formation of the whole nation.

All the best wishes for you, mothers!!!

Shahlo Solijonova was born on September 14, 2005 in Rishton district of Fergana region. She is currently a 2nd year student of the Faculty of Philology of Fergana State University.

What I Understand



(Written under the influence of what I saw and some events)

"Some recommendations for parents in raising children"

Being a parent, it is not easy to take responsibility and raise a child. If there is a little neglect, they can get involved in anything. They always think that you should be strict with them. But this does not mean that you should always be strict with the child and always fight. You want to teach the horse the right way until he reaches it. But no matter how much you beat the child, it will never help. Worse, they will be cold towards you. Your respect will disappear.

Respect their decisions;
You should not neglect their goals;
You should give them their freedom without pampering them.
The main thing is to know how to listen to your child!

Always pay attention to your child's dream goals and respect their abilities. So-and-so's child knows math. You should also study math, history, and IT! Unfortunately, in many parents, their child knows this type of piston very well. They say, "You have learned too!". Have you asked your child first about his interest, the field of science he is interested in?

Never compare your child with someone else's child!

Every child has his own abilities given by God. Someone is strong in science. Maybe your child is interested in sports, art, IT, why would someone say, "Why can't you do it?!" "should be compared by saying?! Allow your child to pursue an area of interest. What your child can do may not be possible for the child of the pumper who praises you. The more you compare your child, the more he loses interest in his own identity and begins to fall into depression. Let your child be like HIMSELF, not like SO-and-so's child. And the thoughts that no one understands me and why they compare me to him appear in their minds, and their interest fades. Because every child has his own interests, abilities, self-thinking worldview. If every parent listens to their child's abilities and uses them, they would go in the direction they are interested in. Therefore, no child's field is the same. If his fellow doctor does this, he shouldn't do it either. It can't be like that.

Don't compare your child at all and listen, this is the thing that has the most negative effect on the child. It even makes the parents think that they hate me!

Always give your child their freedom without pampering them.

No matter who asks you to do something or what clothes to wear (I can't tell you everything, of course you should consult with your parents), I mean let the child make decisions that he can make without fear. That's it. What do you mean, parents, don't be afraid. Let them make their own personal decisions freely. Therefore, you should give them such freedom and strong confidence, say the words "I believe in you", "I respect their decisions", and only then have a child. He starts to try to justify the trust given to him, but many people say that if he doesn't have to take it hard, he will do as he knows how. No! this is a big mistake! Give them confidence, motivation, and then a child

My parents and me

He tries harder because he respects my decisions and interests. He is also afraid of abusing the trust given to him. Can he act? under depression?!

He does it only because he is afraid.

Author Bakhora Bakhtiyorova Asliddin daughter was born 2006 21-march republic of Uzbekistan International Journalist,monologist.

FEATURE

From The Shadows Of Adversity To The Spotlight Of Success: The Inspiring Journey Of Radio Queen Agiso Patience

By: Peter Aowa
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- **It was a moment of profound self-realization. Instead of succumbing to the shame, Agiso harnessed this experience to cultivate a boldness that would define her future endeavors. She learned to stand up for herself, transforming perceived weaknesses into sources of strength.**
- **Challenges continued to shape her journey. Bad company and negative influences led her astray at times, but Patience used these setbacks as stepping stones. She cut off toxic relationships and embraced a more straightforward, bold approach to life. The lack of an active support system meant that many of her battles were fought alone, yet these experiences only solidified her resolve.**

Agiso Patience's story unfolds—a narrative of resilience, courage, and triumph against all odds.

The 25 year old radio presenter is a beacon of hope for many, navigating the world of broadcast journalism with a story that resonates deeply with those who have faced their own battles.

Her journey began under challenging circumstances. After being abandoned by her mother at a few months old, she was raised by her grandmother in an environment marked by unconditional love and support from her extended family.

Despite this nurturing background, Patience faced an identity crisis due to her absent mother and unknown father. This early experience of abandonment shaped her determination and drive.

Her defining moment arrived during her school years when a classmate mocked her for having only her mother's name on her birth certificate.

It was a moment of profound self-realization. Instead of succumbing to the shame, Agiso harnessed this experience to cultivate a boldness that would define her future endeavors. She learned to stand up for herself, transforming perceived weaknesses into sources of strength.

Challenges continued to shape her journey. Bad company and negative influences led her astray at times, but Patience used these setbacks as stepping stones. She cut off toxic relationships and embraced a more straightforward, bold approach to life. The lack of an active support system meant that many of her battles were fought alone, yet these experiences only solidified her resolve.

From a young age, Agiso's aptitude for media was evident. Known affectionately as "Radio" in primary school for her keen awareness of school happenings, she went on to excel in public speaking and journalism. As Head of the Journalism Club and a key player in the debate team during high school, she won accolades that foreshadowed her future success.

Agiso Patience.

Her professional media journey began with a swift ascent. After graduating from the Kenya Institute of Mass Communication in 2018, she landed a job two months later at Base Radio, where she quickly rose to the position of Breakfast Show Host and Editor-in-Chief of the website. Her career trajectory continued to climb as she joined Top Prime Radio, contributing significantly to its development and serving as Morning Show Host, Editor-in-Chief, and Sports Show Producer.

Patience's unwavering confidence, creativity, and commitment to learning have been pivotal to her success. Her biggest motivation came from a personal setback—a time when she was locked out of her rented home due to unpaid rent. This experience ignited a fierce determination in her to never face such a situation again and to work diligently towards her dreams.

Her advice extends beyond personal achievements; it is a call to action for people to embrace their human flaws and seize opportunities. She also advocates for women in media, emphasizing that while online platforms offer new opportunities, they should not be a ground for favoritism but a space for merit and skill.

"People and especially the youths should embrace human flows and seize every opportunity." she noted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Kes.129,000
Kithimani Springs
MACHAKOS
FROM AS LOW AS
Kes.1.50M
Great Oasis Gardens
NANYUKI
FROM AS LOW AS
Kes.399,000
Ocean View Ridge Vipingo
VIPINGO
FROM AS LOW AS
Kes.1.750M
Wema Gardens
NARO MORU
FROM AS LOW AS
Kes.439,000
Vuyanzi Gardens
KITALE
FROM AS LOW AS
Kes.1.995M
Love Gardens
KAJIADO
FROM AS LOW AS
Kes.950,000
Achievers Paradise Phase 2
NGONG
FROM AS LOW AS
Kes.1.995M
Ushindi Gardens
NAKURU
FROM AS LOW AS
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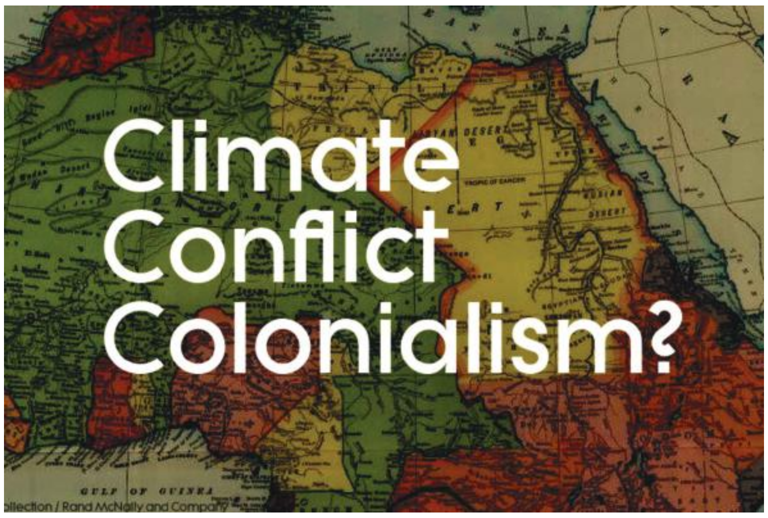
Climate Finance And Neocolonialism: Kenya's Struggle In The Global South

By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The role of international financial institutions (IFIs) in climate finance has been a subject of intense debate, particularly in the context of neocolonialism.
- The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have been at the forefront of mobilizing climate finance for developing countries, but their approaches have often been criticized for perpetuating dependency and imposing policy conditionalities that limit national autonomy.
- The case of the Kenyan government's negotiations with the IMF for a $2.34 billion loan in 2021, which included climate-related conditions, exemplifies this dynamic. While the loan provided much-needed fiscal support, it also required Kenya to implement specific climate policies that some critics argued were not fully aligned with national priorities.



"The intersection of climate finance and neocolonialism in developing nations represents a complex tapestry of power dynamics, economic interests, and environmental imperatives," argues Dr. Amina Njeri, a renowned Kenyan environmental economist. This observation encapsulates the multifaceted challenges faced by Kenya and other Sub-Saharan African countries as they navigate the intricate landscape of global climate finance. The concept of climate finance, designed to support developing nations in their efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, has become a double-edged sword. While it offers essential resources for combating environmental degradation, it simultaneously reinforces existing power imbalances between the Global North and South. This dynamic is particularly evident in Kenya, where the influx of climate finance has been accompanied by concerns about sovereignty, economic dependency, and the perpetuation of neocolonial structures. The Kenyan experience serves as a microcosm of the broader struggles faced by developing nations in accessing and utilizing climate finance while maintaining autonomy and pursuing sustainable development. As we delve into this complex issue, we will explore the legal frameworks, international treaties, and scholarly perspectives that shape the discourse on climate finance and neocolonialism. Through an examination of case studies, data, and comparative analyses, we will unravel the intricate web of relationships between donor countries, international financial institutions, and recipient nations in the Global South.

The Paris Agreement of 2015 marked a significant milestone in global climate action, establishing a framework for climate finance that aimed to support developing countries in their transition to low-carbon economies. Article 9 of the agreement explicitly calls on developed countries to provide financial resources to assist developing countries with both mitigation and adaptation efforts. However, the implementation of this commitment has been fraught with challenges, particularly for nations like Kenya. The Green Climate Fund (GCF), established as a key mechanism for channeling climate finance, has been criticized for its complex accreditation process and stringent requirements that often favor large international organizations over local entities. This has led to a situation where Kenyan institutions struggle to access funds directly, instead relying on intermediaries that may not fully understand or prioritize local needs. The Constitution of Kenya, 2010, enshrines the right to a clean and healthy environment in Article 42, placing a responsibility on the state to ensure sustainable exploitation, utilization, management, and conservation of the environment and natural resources. However, the government's ability to fulfill this mandate is often constrained by the conditions attached to climate finance, which may prioritize donor interests over local environmental and developmental goals. The case of the Lake Turkana Wind Power Project illustrates this tension, where concerns about land rights and community displacement were overshadowed by the project's potential for clean energy generation and its attractiveness to international investors.

The concept of neocolonialism, first articulated by Ghanaian leader Kwame Nkrumah, finds new expression in the realm of climate finance. Nkrumah argued that the essence of neocolonialism is that the state which is subject to it is, in theory, independent and has all the outward trappings of international sovereignty, but in reality, its economic system and thus its political policy is directed from outside. This dynamic is evident in the way climate finance is often tied to policy conditionalities that shape Kenya's national development strategies. The World Bank's Climate Change Action Plan for Kenya, while providing crucial funding for adaptation and mitigation projects, has been criticized for promoting market-based solutions that may not align with local priorities or cultural values. The push for carbon trading schemes, for instance, has raised concerns about the commodification of nature and the potential for land grabs under the guise of conservation. These issues echo broader debates about the neocolonial implications of international environmental governance, as discussed by scholars such as Ramachandra Guha and Joan Martinez-Alier in their work on environmentalism of the poor.

The legal framework governing climate finance in Kenya is a complex interplay of international agreements, national laws, and customary practices. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its associated protocols provide the overarching structure for global climate action, but their implementation at the national level often reveals gaps and contradictions. Kenya's Climate Change Act of 2016 establishes a comprehensive framework for mainstreaming climate change responses into development planning, decision-making, and implementation. However, the act's provisions for accessing and managing climate finance are often overshadowed by the requirements of international donors and financial institutions. The case of Kenya v National Environmental Management Authority & 2 others [2021] eKLR highlights the challenges of balancing environmental protection with development imperatives, as the court grappled with the legality of a coal power plant project that had received significant foreign investment. This case underscores the tension between Kenya's commitment to renewable energy and the economic pressures that often come with climate finance packages.

The data on climate finance flows to Kenya and other Sub-Saharan African countries reveal a stark imbalance in the global distribution of resources. According to the Climate Policy Initiative's Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2021 report, Africa as a whole received only 26% of the climate finance it needs, with Sub-Saharan Africa facing the largest gap. Kenya, despite being one of the larger economies in the region, still struggles to attract sufficient climate finance to meet its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. The country's updated NDC estimates that it will require approximately $62 billion between 2020 and 2030 to implement its climate action plans, with only 13% expected to come from domestic sources. This financial shortfall underscores the dependency on external funding and raises questions about the long-term sustainability of Kenya's climate strategies. Moreover, the sectoral distribution of climate finance in Kenya reveals a bias towards mitigation projects, particularly in renewable energy, at the expense of adaptation initiatives that are crucial for building resilience in vulnerable communities.

The experience of other developing nations provides valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities facing Kenya in the realm of climate finance. In India, the National Action Plan on Climate Change has been criticized for its top-down approach and limited engagement with grassroots organizations, echoing concerns about the lack of local participation in climate finance decisions in Kenya. Brazil's experience with the Amazon Fund offers lessons in the complexities of managing large-scale international climate finance initiatives, particularly in balancing national sovereignty with donor expectations. The case of Indonesia's Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) program highlights the potential for community-based approaches to climate finance, but also the risks of corruption and elite capture that can undermine the effectiveness of such initiatives. These comparative examples underscore the need for Kenya to develop robust institutional frameworks and governance mechanisms to ensure that climate finance serves the interests of its citizens and contributes to genuine sustainable development.

The role of international financial institutions (IFIs) in climate finance has been a subject of intense debate, particularly in the context of neocolonialism. The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have been at the forefront of mobilizing climate finance for developing countries, but their approaches have often been criticized for perpetuating dependency and imposing policy conditionalities that limit national autonomy. The case of the Kenyan

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Open Letter to Dr. Debra Mulongo Barasa: A New Era for Afya House

Dear Dr. Mulongo,

Congratulations on your recent appointment as the Cabinet Secretary for Health. As you step into Afya House, you are entering a complex landscape filled with both challenges and opportunities. Your extensive experience in internal medicine and infectious diseases positions you well to address the pressing issues facing Kenya's healthcare system.

The health sector is currently grappling with significant challenges, including a prolonged doctors' strike, public dissatisfaction with healthcare accessibility, and systemic inefficiencies within the Ministry of Health. Recent protests by intern doctors underscore the urgent need for reforms in the internship program, highlighting the backlog and delays in postings that have frustrated many young medical professionals. Additionally, the transition from the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) to the Shif system has created confusion among Kenyans seeking healthcare services, with a three-judge bench recently suspending the move.

Your appointment has been met with cautious optimism from the Kenya Medical Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists Union (KMPDU), which expressed hope that you will effectively address the ongoing disputes surrounding medical internships and the issues related to the Social Health Authority. KMPDU Secretary General Dr. Davji Atellah emphasized the importance of your role in ensuring quality healthcare systems and decent working conditions for health workers. This sentiment reflects the high expectations placed upon you as you take on this critical role.

To combat the challenges awaiting you, a multifaceted approach will be essential. Establishing open lines of communication with healthcare workers, including doctors, nurses, and interns, will be crucial. Collaborating with unions like KMPDU to understand their grievances and work towards sustainable solutions should be a priority. Your ability to engage with these stakeholders will be key to fostering a collaborative atmosphere that encourages dialogue and problem-solving.

Addressing the internship crisis will require you to prioritize timely postings for medical interns and tackle any legal or administrative hurdles that have delayed their entry into the workforce. Restoring public confidence in the NHIF will also be essential, involving transparency in operations and addressing allegations of fraud to ensure Kenyans can access necessary healthcare services without bureaucratic obstacles.

Your extensive background, including co-leading programs addressing outbreak-prone infections such as COVID-19 and Ebola while working with the World Health Organization (WHO), equips you with the expertise needed to implement long-term solutions. Conducting a thorough situational analysis of the health sector to identify root causes of ongoing issues and developing actionable plans with input from various stakeholders will be vital.

However, it is important to note that a consultative approach, while valuable, may not suffice in the face of entrenched interests and "cartels" that have historically plagued the ministry. You will need to balance diplomacy with decisive action to ensure that the reforms you propose are implemented effectively.

As you embark on this critical journey, Dr. Mulongo, the health of millions of Kenyans rests on your shoulders. The expectations are high, and the challenges are daunting. However, with your expertise and a commitment to inclusive governance, you have the potential to drive meaningful change. Your success will depend not only on your knowledge and skills but also on your ability to engage with various stakeholders and tackle the systemic issues head-on.

We wish you the best as you assume your responsibilities at Afya House. The opportunity to transform Kenya's healthcare system is significant, and we are hopeful that you will rise to the occasion and make a lasting impact.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and communication student at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology kakamega.

Email address kilonzojames5713@gmail.com.

Sexting Surge: A Growing Concern Among Students

By: **Orifwa Ruben**

The exchange of explicit photos and messages is becoming increasingly prevalent among adolescents and teenagers, with potential long-term consequences. As students enjoy the extended break of the holiday season, a concerning trend of sexting is on a high notch.

Sexting, once considered a taboo subject, is now a common reality for many teenagers. Unlike in the past where sexting involved writing love messages on pieces of paper and sneaking them to lovers, the trend has greatly changed nowadays. The anonymity and accessibility of smartphones have made it easier than ever for students to share intimate images. While the intent may be innocent, the risks are significant.

Students are highly involved in sexting, with accessibility of the smartphones they can freely sext. It has become 'normal' and they consider it a way of strengthening their relationships and bonds with their loved ones. The act has far reaching consequences, once a sexually explicit image is sent, it can be difficult to control its distribution. Photos and messages sometimes leak to the public on social media that was never anticipated. The potential for cyberbullying, blackmail, and emotional distress is high.

The consequences cause mental turmoil to sexters and to some cases like suicide, and mental illnesses such as depression. Media literacy and being mindful of what to share over communication devices, especially intimate photos and videos. Teenagers should be aware of the dangers of sexting. Open and honest conversations about online safety, consent, and the permanence of digital content are essential among peers to.

Schools and organizations can also offer workshops and programs that teach students about healthy relationships, digital citizenship, and the importance of respecting themselves and others. It is crucial to create a supportive environment where young people feel comfortable seeking help if they or someone they know is involved in a harmful situation.

Climate Finance And Neocolonialism: Kenya's Struggle In The Global South

By: Our Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Contd from page 18

Worth Noting:

- **The data on climate finance flows to Kenya and other Sub-Saharan African countries reveal a stark imbalance in the global distribution of resources. According to the Climate Policy Initiative's Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2021 report, Africa as a whole received only 26% of the climate finance it needs, with Sub-Saharan Africa facing the largest gap.**
- **Kenya, despite being one of the larger economies in the region, still struggles to attract sufficient climate finance to meet its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.**
- **The country's updated NDC estimates that it will require approximately $62 billion between 2020 and 2030 to implement its climate action plans, with only 13% expected to come from domestic sources.**

government's negotiations with the IMF for a $2.34 billion loan in 2021, which included climate-related conditions, exemplifies this dynamic. While the loan provided much-needed fiscal support, it also required Kenya to implement specific climate policies that some critics argued were not fully aligned with national priorities. This scenario echoes the concerns raised by scholars such as Walden Bello and Naomi Klein, who have argued that the current structure of global climate finance reproduces colonial power relations under the guise of environmental protection.

The concept of climate justice, which emphasizes the ethical and political dimensions of climate change, provides a crucial lens for examining the relationship between climate finance and neocolonialism. Scholars like Maxine Burkett and Sheila Jasanoff have argued that the current global climate regime fails to adequately address historical responsibilities and differential vulnerabilities, instead reinforcing existing inequalities. In the Kenyan context, this is evident in the disproportionate impacts of climate change on marginalized communities, such as pastoralists in the arid and semi-arid regions, who often have the least access to climate finance and adaptation resources. The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, enshrined in international environmental law, calls for a more equitable approach to climate finance that recognizes the historical contributions of developed countries to global emissions and the limited capacities of developing nations to respond to climate challenges.

The role of multinational corporations in climate finance adds another layer of complexity to the neocolonial dynamics at play in Kenya and other developing nations. While private sector investment is crucial for scaling up climate action, there are concerns about the potential for "green grabbing" – the appropriation of land and resources for ostensibly environmental ends. The case of the Olkaria Geothermal Project in Kenya's Rift Valley illustrates this tension, where the expansion of renewable energy capacity has been accompanied by disputes over land rights and the displacement of indigenous Maasai communities. This scenario echoes broader debates about the commodification of nature and the risk of perpetuating colonial patterns of resource extraction under the banner of green development. Scholars like Esteve Corbera and

Christophe Bonneuil have argued that market-based approaches to climate mitigation, such as carbon offsetting schemes, can create new forms of enclosure that disproportionately affect communities in the Global South.

The international legal framework for climate finance, while ostensibly aimed at promoting global cooperation, often reinforces power imbalances between donor and recipient countries. The principle of additionality, which requires climate finance to be new and additional to existing development aid, has been particularly contentious. Critics argue that many developed countries simply repackage existing aid commitments as climate finance, undermining the spirit of the UNFCCC and related agreements. The case of the Netherlands v. Urgenda Foundation, while not directly related to Kenya, sets an important precedent for climate litigation and underscores the potential for legal action to enforce climate commitments. This ruling, which required the Dutch government to take more ambitious climate action, highlights the growing recognition of climate change as a human rights issue and the role of the judiciary in holding states accountable for their climate obligations. For Kenya and other developing nations, such legal precedents offer potential avenues for challenging the current structure of climate finance and advocating for more equitable and effective mechanisms.

The governance of climate finance at the national level in Kenya reflects the broader challenges of balancing local needs with global imperatives. The National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2018-2022 outlines a comprehensive strategy for mainstreaming climate action across sectors, but its implementation has been hampered by limited institutional capacity and coordination challenges. The establishment of the National Climate Change Council under the Climate Change Act was intended to provide high-level oversight of climate policy and finance, but its effectiveness has been questioned by civil society organizations who argue for greater transparency and public participation in decision-making processes. The case of Friends of Lake Turkana Trust & 5 others v Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment & 4 others [2021] eKLR highlights the importance of public interest litigation in ensuring accountability in climate finance decisions, as the court ruled in favor of greater community consultation in the development of renewable energy projects. This legal precedent underscores the potential for domestic legal frameworks to serve as a counterbalance to neocolonial tendencies in climate finance by empowering local communities and civil society actors.

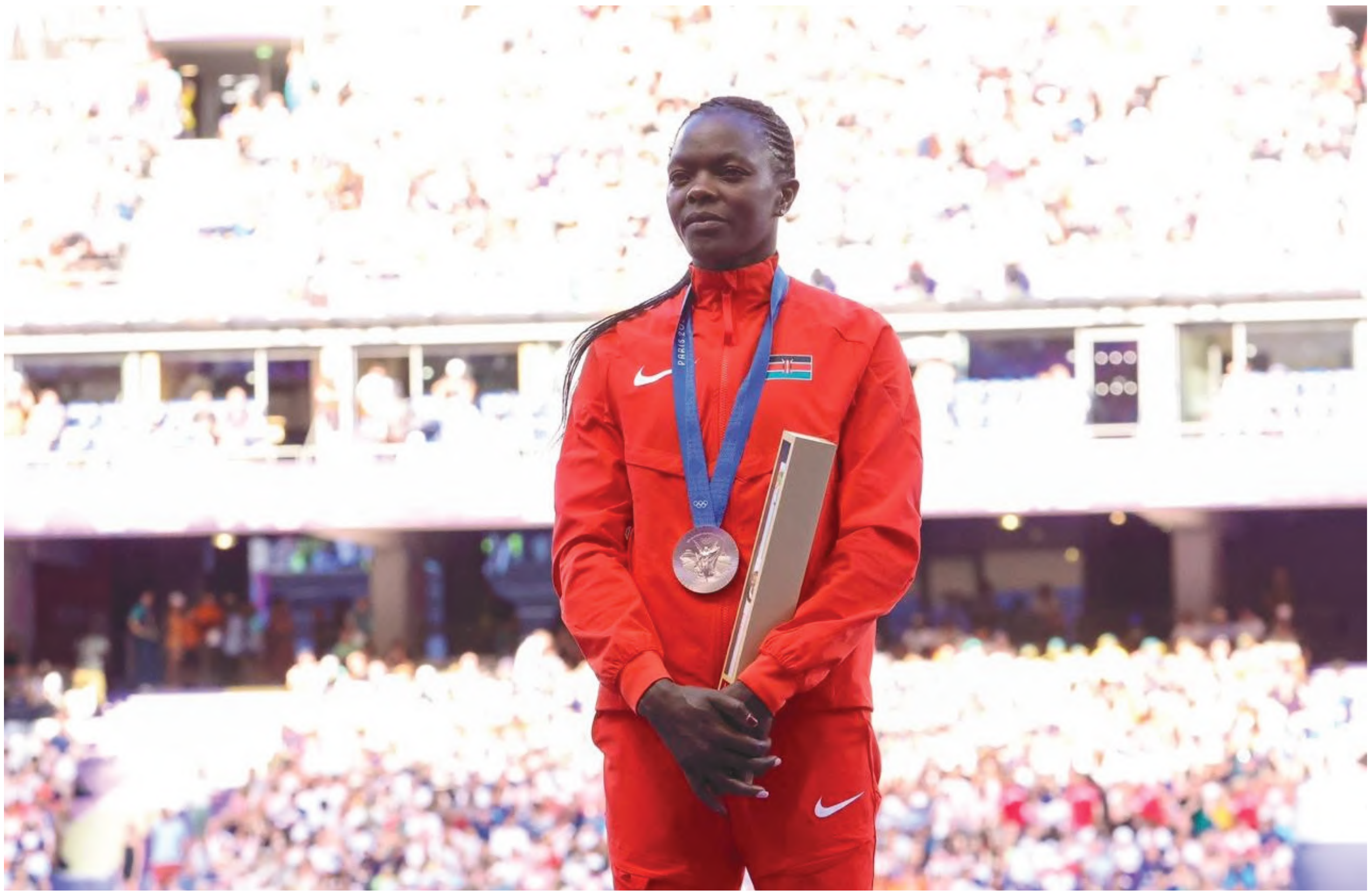
As Kenya and other developing nations in the Global South continue to navigate the complex landscape of climate finance, there is a growing recognition of the need for alternative models that prioritize local agency and sustainable development. The concept of climate-resilient development pathways, as articulated in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, offers a framework for integrating climate action with broader development goals. This approach emphasizes the importance of context-specific solutions and the need to build adaptive capacity at multiple levels of society. Initiatives like the County Climate Change Funds in Kenya demonstrate the potential for decentralized approaches to climate finance that empower local communities to identify and implement adaptation and mitigation projects. However, scaling up such initiatives requires a fundamental rethinking of the global climate finance architecture to address power imbalances and ensure that resources reach those most in need. As scholars like Arun Agrawal and Maria Carmen Lemos have argued, effective climate governance requires not just financial transfers, but also the transformation of institutions and power relations at multiple scales.

In conclusion, the intersection of climate finance and neocolonialism in Kenya and other developing nations presents both challenges and opportunities for reimagining global environmental governance. While the current system often perpetuates historical inequalities and power imbalances, there are emerging pathways for more equitable and effective approaches to addressing the climate crisis. The Kenyan experience highlights the need for a nuanced understanding of the political economy of climate finance, one that recognizes the agency of developing nations and the importance of local knowledge and priorities. As the global community grapples with the urgency of climate action, it is imperative to develop financial mechanisms and governance structures that not only provide resources for mitigation and adaptation but also challenge the neocolonial underpinnings of the current system. Only through such a transformation can climate finance truly serve as a tool for sustainable development and environmental justice in Kenya and beyond.

The writer is a legal scrivener

Sports >> *There is an old adage in sports that those who win bronze medals at the Olympics are actually happier than those who clinch silver.

Moraa Chuffed With Her Maiden Career Olympic Medal In Paris



Mary Moraa at the medal ceremony of Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Photo/TEAM KENYA.

There is an old adage in sports that those who win bronze medals at the Olympics are actually happier than those who clinch silver.

This is for the simple reason that the runner-ups regret more about how they narrowly missed out on gold, while those in third place are simply happy to be on the podium.

Reigning 800m World Champion Mary Moraa won gold medal at the 2023 World Athletics Championships, a bronze medal in the event at the 2022 Worlds, got eliminated in Tokyo Olympics semis and chalked up gold at the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

Since her early days as a junior in 2017, Moraa has spent years making sacrifices and honing her craft with zeal and vigor and is glad to finally realize her ultimate dream of bringing home an Olympic medal.

She was among those tipped for gold in the women's 800m in Paris but not until Keely Hodgkinson handed Team GB her gold. Hodgkinson timed 1:56.72, ahead of Ethiopia's Tsige Duguma on 1:57.15 and Kenya's Mary Moraa on 1:57.42.

"I'm happy for my best performance at the Olympics because at the 2020 Games in the Japanese capital, I reached the semis. Now I have a bronze and I am happy with everything and performance. The race was good."

Moraa was left to rue the pain inflamed by an injury to his leg.

"Depending on how I ran my race, my performance has been okay. I had complications with my leg. I was feeling my body was responding well until the last 80-meters," Moraa said.

"I started feeling some pain in my leg, so I fought to the finish. And I said to myself that I will be confident with my position. Being a lone range in the final was a bit difficult for me though without any Kenyan. But it's God's plan and the kind of effort you put in training, so I'm happy for everything," Moraa explained.

She continued: "The way we have been training with my competitors; I believe everybody was strong it's just a matter of pushing yourself to the limit. I dedicate it (bronze) to my family. They have been supporting me. They have been encouraging me. Been with me all the time. When I need something they help me."

Moraa was mentored by Hellen Obiri since she started running in 2017 when she was a junior.

"Obiri has encouraged me over the years, talking to me as a mum and I'm happy for her support. Winning and losing is part of the game, I am happy for my opponents when they win because it is not always you. We need to encourage each other."

-Mary Moraa Fact File-
Name: Mary Moraa
Sport: 800m
Born: June 15, 2000
Weight: 56kgs
Height: 5.6ft
Personal best
200m: 25.48 (Nairobi 2017)
400m: 50.38 (Nairobi 2023) NR
800m: 1:56.03 (Budapest 2023)
1,000m: 2:34.71 (Heusden-Zolder 2021)
Mile Road: 5:11.0 (Duluth 2018)
4x400m Relay: 3:32.28 (Birmingham 2022)
4x400m Mixed Relays: 3:11.88 (Nairobi 2024)
Semifinals at the Tokyo games

-Alex Isaboke is reporting from Paris, France-

Capital Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Spain captain Alvaro Morata and team-mate Rodri have been banned for one game by Uefa after they chanted "Gibraltar is Spanish" during their side's Euro 2024 victory celebrations.

Morata & Rodri Banned For 'Gibraltar Is Spanish' Chant

Spain players celebrate after winning the UEFA Euro 2024. PHOTO/SE Football/X.

Spain captain Alvaro Morata and team-mate Rodri have been banned for one game by Uefa after they chanted "Gibraltar is Spanish" during their side's Euro 2024 victory celebrations.

The Gibraltar Football Association (GFA) made an official complaint about the celebrations to European football's governing body before the pair were charged.

Uefa has now suspended Morata and Rodri "for failing to comply with the general principles of conduct, for violating the basic rules of decent conduct, for using sporting events for manifestations of a non-sporting nature and for bringing the sport of football, and Uefa in particular, into disrepute".

They are banned for Spain's next game, which is against Serbia on Thursday, 5 September.

Gibraltar is an enclave at Spain's southern tip that has been under British rule since the 18th century, and Spain has long called for its return.

The chanting took place in front of tens of thousands of Spain fans in Cibeles Square, Madrid on 15 July as players celebrated their 2-1 Euro 2024 final victory over England.

Manchester City midfielder Rodri, 28, could be seen chanting "Gibraltar is Spanish" on the stage, and AC Milan striker Morata, 31, later encouraged the crowd to join in with the same chant.

The Gibraltar FA complained about Spain's behaviour, saying it had "noted the extremely provocative and insulting nature of the celebrations around the Spanish men's national team winning Euro 2024".

"Football has no place for behaviour of this nature," it added.

Gibraltar has been a full member of Uefa since 2013.

BBC

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Saadi SHEROZI (1189–1292)

By: Faizulloev Abramat Saifi
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The harmony in the words "my soul" is the internal rhyme of this line creates a lot of music on its own. At the same time, like a row of camels, they were riding on the donkey in unison.
- Moving parts (seated, auto-custom cabins reminiscent of a mobile cabin). In one line there was so much meaning, so much melody, so much pain. That's why as much as the poet is loved in Iran, he is also loved in Turkestan they love so much. Put Iran and Turkestan, the French Voltaire, ne-Goethe also referred to his poems in his works.

Saadi SHEROZI (1189–1292)

Annotation. This article describes in detail the life activities of Saadi Shiraz, one of the great literary figures.

Key words. Saadi Shirozi, Science, Science, Literature, ways of life, cities, Samarkand, Bukhara, Tezmiz, Kesh.

Saadi SHEROZI (1189–1292)

His name is Sheikh Muslihiddin Saadi Shirazi.

"Shaykh" refers to the head of Sufis and religious figures said. As it is known from his nickname, Shirazlik. Shiraz

From the famous cities of Iran.

Saadi's name is known in many countries of the world.

As much as it is mentioned with respect in the East, it is the same in the West the attention of the poet is so high.

What is the reason? The reason is that he wrote wonderful ghazals. This ghazals were full of wise thoughts. Beautiful similes, impressive it was full of sights. For example:

Oh dear, my soul is slowly going to rest, - a ghazal began.

A camel driver, a caravan leader is called a "sarban". In love the poet appeals to him:

O sarban, walk slowly, my peace is going...

Bring it to your mind. Endless desert, the caravan is slowly on its way falling The impossible lover revolves around her like a propeller, car-Won't want to let go. Because his soul is in this caravan, the world is going away. "sarbon" in Persian means softly ron, oro-

The harmony in the words "my soul" is the internal rhyme of this line creates a lot of music on its own. At the same time, like a row of camels, they were riding on the donkey in unison.

Moving parts (seated, auto-custom cabins reminiscent of a mobile cabin). In one line there was so much meaning, so much melody, so much pain. That's why as much as the poet is loved in Iran, he is also loved in Turkestan they love so much. Put Iran and Turkestan, the French Voltaire, ne-Goethe also referred to his poems in his works.

Especially two works of the poet named "Gulistan" and "Bo'ston".

Made his name known to the whole world. Talking about these works-

Before, let's give information about the life of two mouthed authors.

Because he has seen and heard these two works came to the field based on the events.

He grew up in a rich and enlightened household in Shiraz.

han. Long lived. The year of birth is different (1184, 1189, 1203,1210) show. He died in 1292. From 20 years of his life most of them were spent on a trip. From Africa to China, from India

He traveled to Farangistan. Sojourn, even captivity saw his sufferings. This is what they saw during their travels summarized and polished "Boston" (written in 1257) and "Gulistan" (1258) included short stories in his works.

There is such a story in "Boston": There is one city judge the group invites scientists and virtues to a conversation. To expensive clothes the covered kazo-kazos are from the net with "go-go-go".

They get In the race, a dervish in an old tunic was running was sitting. The conversation begins. From Sharia and Tariqat to Fiqh and Hadith they pass. Argument, discussion, debate rages. On one issue they will fight hard.

Those who were sitting were shouting none of them could prove it with a convincing proof. Then that dervish wearing an old robe took the word and explained the matter like a burro proves with evidence. Everything will be a mess.

The judge stood up, gave his turban to the dervish, and invited him to the net does. The dervish rejects both the robe and the net. It's about people not in a turban, but in knowledge, if it were in clothes, a turban

He leaves his house, saying that a donkey with a stake or a donkey with a needle would be the most important. "I was that dervish." Ends Saadi's story.

And in the work "Gulistan" we see the poet's strange bargains we meet.

A student of the 2nd stage of primary education at the University of Economics and Pedagogy.

The son of Faizulloev Abramat Saifi was born on June 1, 2003 in the Dehkanabad district of the Kashkadarya region. He is a student of the 2nd level of the University of Economics and Pedagogy, the Republic of Uzbekistan. Armasi is the owner of the badge for "international services". 5 participants of the international anthology and 2 manuals are currently on sale on 10 sites of morebooks. He is also a holder of a high-level diploma of Navoi city administration and a member of the Golden Wings of the Republic.

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