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THE DRIVERS OF CHANGE





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FROM THE COMMANDANT'S DESK



**LT GEN A K MULATA,
CBS, OGW, 'ndc' (K) 'psc' (UK)
COMMANDANT NDC**

On behalf of the National Defence College (NDC) fraternity, I wish to welcome all readers to this issue of Newsletter Volume 1 for Course 23-2020/21. Though the course started when the world was grappling with the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic, they have adapted well to the situation and have released their first NDC Newsletter. The Newsletter is a platform for the course participants to express their personal views on a wide range of issues including valuable personal experiences. It expands Participants reach and forms an integral college overall network to extended audience which includes potential partners and prospective Participants.

To our readers, the NDC is a premier institution established to provide Participants with the intellectual tools aimed at preparing selected Senior Military Officers and equivalent-ranking Senior Civil Servants of the Republic of Kenya and their counterparts from selected friendly countries for higher responsibilities in the strategic direction and management of security and other related areas of public policy.

Excellence is the symbol of the institution and as a college, we are proud to be associated with the sterling performance of past Participants who have achieved greater heights and such is expected of the Participants of this course. I therefore encourage Course 23-2020/21 Participants to also feel inspired and raise the bar of excellence a rank higher.

As the Commandant of the NDC, I wish to congratulate the course participants and the editorial committee for their contributions, compilation and timely production of this Newsletter. I am certain that this Newsletter is but only the beginning of the creative journey and will serve to inculcate the culture of creativity as well as scientific writing.

MESSAGE FROM THE SPONSOR



MAJ. GEN. P. A. AMOGOLA,
CBS, 'ndc' 'psc' (K)
SDS ARMY

The editorial Board of the National Defence College is pleased to launch the first edition of the newsletter of course 23-2020/21 which serves as a platform to highlight the literary and contribution of the 55 course Participants drawn from seven different Countries, pitching together for this maiden effort. The articles cover diverse contemporary issues that have to do with professional experience, security, education, culture and sports activities that affect humanity as perceived by participants.

This being their first written product, it is appreciated that course 23/2020/21, the **"The DRIVERS OF CHANGE"**, have exploited their creativity and experiences and put their best effort in producing this newsletter. I wish to congratulate them and hope that the readers will be inspired by the content. It is further expected that the Participants will continue improving their writing skills to produce even better works in the future.

As the sponsor, I thank the editorial team as well as all the participants for their tireless effort in producing articles of good quality in spite of the daunting workload in term one. Finally, I wish to sincerely thank the Commandant for his continued guidance, direction and support throughout the process of producing this Newsletter.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE



COL. P. M. GITHINJI
'psc' (U)
CHAIRMAN

It gives me great pleasure and satisfaction that the Drivers of Change, Course 23-2020/21 has against all odds and challenges managed to release their first Newsletter. As I write this Editorial, the Covid-19 pandemic has transformed our lives. We are living through extraordinary times and although, by the time this reaches you, hopefully the lock-down may be easing, one thing is clear that we will almost certainly have to adjust to a 'new normal' both in our social and working lives.

In this period, learning continues remotely and it has been remarkable how well all staff and participants have reacted and adapted to our new way of working. Credit goes to all the Course participants and the College fraternity for their immense contribution and determination to actualize this publication.

I also wish to thank the Commandant for his guidance and support in the preparation and publication of this Newsletter which covers contemporary issues and personal experiences by 55 participants drawn from 7 countries.

THE DESIRE FOR FINANCIAL STABILITY: A BALANCE BETWEEN WORK AND PRIVATE LIFE FOR SOCIAL SECURITY



COL EDWARD M. O. NYAMAO,
'PSC'(K), CMGR, FCMI
KENYA ARMY

According to the World Bank report, a stable financial system is one that is capable of efficiently allocating resources, assessing and managing financial risks, maintaining employment levels close to the economy's natural rate, and eliminating relative price movements of real or financial assets that will affect monetary stability or employment levels. The report also indicates that a financial system is in a range of stability when it dissipates financial imbalances that arise endogenously or as a result of significant adverse and unforeseen events. In stability, the system will absorb the shocks primarily via self-corrective mechanisms, preventing adverse events from having a disruptive effect on the real economy or on other financial systems. Financial stability is paramount for economic growth, as most transactions in the real economy are made through the financial system. The true value of financial stability is best illustrated in its absence, in periods of financial instability. During these periods, banks are reluctant to finance profitable projects, asset prices deviate excessively

from their intrinsic values, and payments may not arrive on time. Major instability can lead to bank runs, hyperinflation, or a stock market crash. It can severely shake confidence in the financial and economic system.

On citizenry, the effects of financial instability are wide spread from loss of employment, increased poverty, surges in crime, lack of capability to meet basic needs, lack of market for the produce and poor service delivery. These are effects synonymous to inflation and collapse of the economy.

Individuals are hit hard by the poor state of the economy in the apex of financial instability. Banks opt to do business with the states for fear of loan default by individual borrowers, industries resort to downsizing or "right sizing", closure of firms and Small and Medium term Enterprises (SMEs) resort to restructuring to optimal levels, cost reduction methods by both public and private sector occasioning to individual employees being negatively affected and cash flow constraints.

Employees in public service who entirely depend on salary, to whom majority of us fall, will be the worst affected in



such circumstances. This is due to the inability for them to engage in "extra coin" earning business in comparison to the private sector employees who have part-time engagements dependent on their profession. The ethical conduct in the public sector prohibits diverted attention of public officers into "alternative adventure for greener pasture". The subsequent question therefore is; with the current global trend, what is the retention strategy by Governments to retain and attract professional in the public sector? Can it be substantial package and allowances, increased terms and conditions of remuneration? Or reviewing the ethical regulations to accommodate the changing trends?



So, what is the responsibility of Governments in ensuring their citizens have a better livelihood? According to IMF, in order to restore economic stability, policymakers must focus on restoring the institutional role of governing. Government can provide a stable environment for economic growth when it can be depended upon to maintain the stability of the currency, enforce and defend property rights, and provide oversight that assures private citizens that their transaction partners in the marketplace are held accountable. This

will allow market participants to begin putting their resources back to work in the areas where they are most beneficial.

Practically, very few employees are fully dependent on employee remunerations especially in the developing world where wages and remunerations are minimal. The advent of technology has enabled social connectivity and eased the business operational environment. The restriction and determinant of success in this case will be time and start-up capital. Under search circumstances, we look at modalities on how individual employees can aspire to be financially stable capitalizing on technology, the global financial trend while satisfying the employer.



On a working day, a simultaneous tintinnabulation of the bell is the daily norm of a public servant. The weekends are no exception for National Security officers. That also makes a way of life for any entrant into the public service work force, a place credited for ethical behaviour, dedication, discipline, hard work and professionalism as the key virtues of a public officer. Though there exists levels of freedom in the private sector, the same self-discipline and norms are expected to exist. In an effort to make ends meet and attain social stability, the delicate balancing between personal social security and serving the public has a direct

bearing of financially stable nation and an individual. Advancement in technology has come in handy to embrace the social and business interactions virtually and online, saving an ever busy public servant the scarce resource; time.

The employers' requirements in public offices are viewed as a hindrance in the personal development of employees due to classical beliefs that employees should not engage themselves in other personal income generating activities. In reality, other than the basic human needs of food, clothing and shelter, the motivating factor for man to perfect their line of work is an attractive remuneration, accommodation and capability to meet the cost of their basic needs. Personal interests are secondly to institutional interest as an employee. However, peace of mind is a proven principle in professional efficiency and productivity. Individual financial stability is an avenue to the peace of mind and a public servant can only achieve that through leveraging on technology.

Every individual, working or not, desires to be financially stable to sustain his/her needs and that of the family. In doing so however, there has to be a balance between service delivery and individual self-development, without infringing on the requirements of any sphere. The term financial stability often refers to the state of an entire financial system of an economy, but it can also apply to the individual. In terms of the economy, financial stability means that the existing climate is resistant to serious shocks and that the economy can continue to fulfill its basic necessary functions. The use of funds, managing risks, and arranging payments are all elements of financial stability. Whether it is the world economy or your household budget, understanding these components is crucial to success.

For the private individual, being financially stable means, not having to worry about paying for expenses, or taking care of your obligations. It does not mean that you have to be rich, but it does mean that you are able to handle finances without taking on



more debt. Your ability to handle financial hardships, a job loss, or a large unexpected expense is all examples of being financially stable. If you need to use a credit card or take a loan to handle emergencies, then you are still not quite to the point of having total financial stability.

For the individual, the journey can begin from working on building up a savings account or retirement plan. In fact, if you can do both, your financial situation will be even stronger. How can this be done while leveraging on changing environment of science and technology? The financial institutions have laid various platforms through which businesses transactions and other communications can be employed from the comfort of your offices. Gone are the days when workers used to take day-offs to attend to bank issues. Opening bank accounts for saving purposes, online business operations, money market transactions, mobile banking and business monitoring are online facilities that an individual needs to capitalize on. MPESA effect is the best example on how technology has transformed the lifestyle of Kenyans and the world at large.

The mobile devices, therefore can be beneficial and a source of financial breakthrough as they can also be an



avenue for financial destruction if not well managed. Utilized for other social activities like WhatsApp and other internet connectivity, security of financial data is a risk factor. From a constrained time of a public servant, the device can be utilized to control your financial private life extending from payment of bills, wages for casual workers, money market trading or instant remittances for retirement packages. Social networking is also a critical component that cannot be left out of the benefits accruable from mobile devices.

The global financial environment and management are majorly turning digital. A success of an individual or institution is majorly dependent on innovation capability, be it from developing technological change to harnessing on virgin areas of technology. The successful future entrepreneur is one who will manage to utilize the least time on the physical market but maximize on the innovative technology to leverage on the profits accruable. Smart farming, research and online trading, Bitcoins and smart currencies may determine the future entrepreneur, and a solution between the workplace and self-financial stability.

When you are financially stable, you feel confident with your financial situation. You do not worry about paying your bills because you can easily plan and afford the payment. You are debt free, you have savings for your future goals and you also have enough to cover emergencies. The same confidence is transferred to

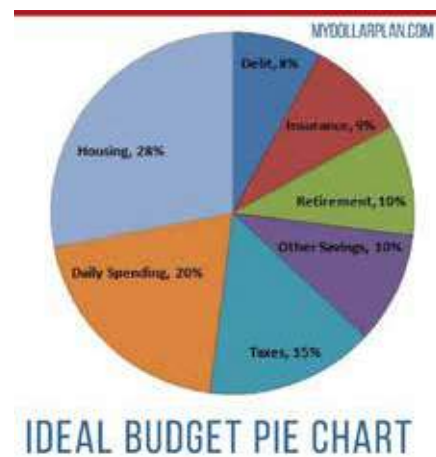
A success of an individual or institution is majorly dependent on innovation capability, be it from developing technological change to harnessing on virgin areas of technology.

the workplace. A stable mind is therefore a productive mind and a target for all employers. It is therefore essential to ensure that your productivity level is at the highest through creating a favourable environment for yourself and in extension, your employer.

Financial stability is not about being rich. In fact, it is not a number at all. It is more of a mindset. When you are financially stable, you do not have to stress about money and you can focus your energy on other parts of your life and work environment. A model geared towards achieving the desired financial stability from the comfort of a public office is more of an individual perception that should be customized to a particular situation since operating environments is varied. Critical consideration is **making one's finances Personal**. This includes focusing on your situation and not worrying about anyone else's situation. Adapt the strategy of deviating from the "right way" to do things to the "personal way" of doing things. There is not one specific method or timetable that is best for everyone.

Secondly, there is need to understand that the most important investment in personal financial stability is **yourself**. God created all humans on the same platform with equal opportunities, but gradually, social differences begin to emerge from the way of thinking, perceptions and the groups of associations. Naturally, it is believed that a man's status and welfare is determined by whom he associates himself with. Working in an **environment that is enjoyable** is critical for both one's mind and financial stability. Leveraging on your experience at work place to create a familiar financial base is essential. An example of transferring the government procurement system to the private enterprise has been known to be very effective in the private sector.

According to Will Rogers quote, too many people spend money they have not earned, to buy things they do not want, to impress people that they do not like. How one manages the little amount at their disposal is a clear reflection of how they will handle



the huge amount that can be at their disposal. It is not the salary that makes one rich but the spending habits. No valuable financial discipline there can be without a budget. The budgeting principle has only one rule; do not go over the budget.

Other critical considerations in personal financial management include creating emergency fund to take care of unforeseen circumstances, living within one's means by not having competitive expenditures with your mates, investment in retirement age and paying off debts in a timely manner. In all the above, make sure that you have some fun; live well and ensure your future is safe and stick with the proven lifestyle. Financial stability is thus the freedom to live life on your terms without worrying about how you'll pay your next bill. The chart below illustrates a model expenditure plan

Finally, the prosperity, peace and happiness of a nation is measured by the welfare status of its citizens. The ability to meet the basic needs of a person is paramount to their welfare. As a shared responsibility, nations facilitate and ensure a conducive environment for economic growth while individual and enterprises create successive business to enhance the economic growth. In the long run, a stable growth ensures a stable economy and subsequently, a financially endowed citizen with high productivity as a critical factor of production. Let the prosperity, peace and happiness of our nation be a shared responsibility with us, the citizens. ■

GENDER ASPECT IN BURUNDI NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE



COL. BERNARD BIMENYIMANA
BURUNDI NATIONAL DEFENCE
FORCE

The armed forces, in the course of history, have been the symbol of the power of Kingdoms and Empires. Thus the armies were cornerstone on which rested the power of the monarchs they served for their honours. They had the monopoly of legitimate violence and used it to defend the interests of the sovereign and the people. With the evolution and the constitution of the modern States, the mass conflicts especially the two World wars in particular, contributed to increase the prestige of the armed forces. Indeed, the power of a nation was measured by a number of the men in its army and by the modernity of their equipment.

At the end of the Second World War, the need for economic revival and democratic system has weakened the importance of military organization in the socio-political landscape. This state of the affairs was confirmed at the end of the Cold War and the fall of the Berlin wall. Indeed, the logic of confrontation has given way to that of business. Then, war was not in the trenches but on the markets. The armed forces were forced to find their place in a world where business acumen and market logic were the most important. This new

logic forced the military institution to reform itself not to participate in political institutions. Then, since the initiative of reforming the armed, forces can only come from the state, the only authority willing to carry out such an action head on; it has succeeded thanks to the political docility and the absence of claims.

Thus thanks to this reform, the military institution became professional. By accessing internal sovereignty, on July 30, 1960, Burundi adopted a national army in 1967 strongly inspired by contemporary armies and the experience of the institution of the troops of the kingdom of our country. The attitude of the military to the process of democratization is largely conditioned by the attitude of the transitional authorities. The army must devote itself exclusively to serving the institutions of the republic, if it wishes to maintain its pride, cohesion, unity and discipline which are its strength.

The discussion of this article is to highlight the rapid response, ability to do, responsibilities in the direction management, security and other public policy and the part of women in the national interests. By the wishes of population, Burundi had opened the doors of the army to the women since 1993. The Ministry of National Defence and War Veterans has initiated the reforms and measures aiming at the professionalization of the body, including the integration of the gender



Picture of Burundian Women in the peace keeping mission "MINUSCA" in Central African Republic.

aspect. An increased representation of the women is necessary to optimize the available intellectual, technical and social resources for the Defence of the country and the participation in peace keeping missions.

Gender aspect consideration in Burundi National Defence Force

The Defence Forces are committed to gender equality and employ a gender perspective in all policies and regulations. We understand gender equality to mean the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities for women and men, boys and girls. Equality does not mean women and men become the same but that women and men's rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are male or female.

A gender perspective means being able to recognize that any given situation may effect men and women differently and being able to respond accordingly. Burundi National Defence Force is an inclusive organization and encourages participation of women at all levels. Actually, in Burundi all roles are open to women and men on merit and an equal opportunities basis. On military operations, we encourage mixed gender units in order to have personnel available to respond to any given situation which can happen. When mixed gender patrols are deployed and better equipped, they respond to a variety of situations that might occur in today's complex security environment these include having both males and females available for urban operations, search operations, working on checkpoints, when patrolling villages and towns, and responding to cases of gender based violence.

Equality

The equality aims to ensure everyone, male or female, is treated fairly and is provided

with the same opportunities. We support an inclusive workplace where dignity and respect are accorded to all, regardless of rank, gender, religion, civil status, family status or sex. Burundi National Defence Force encourages and supports the right to dignity at work. Sexual harassment and harassment in any form is not accepted and is not tolerated.

Diversity

Diversity refers to the collective mixture of differences and similarities that include for example individual and organizational characteristics, beliefs, experiences, backgrounds, preferences and behaviours. The Defence Force aims to raise awareness of the variety of jobs and opportunities that are available within a modern inclusive military force. In order to reflect the society we serve, the Defence Force aims to attract future members from all backgrounds.

Therefore, managing diversity and promoting inclusion in response to a more diversified society is vital. In an increasingly complex security environment a diverse military force is required to tackle unforeseen events and threats. Other benefits include having personnel who feel included and are empowered to contribute in a positive manner.

Demonstrating a respect for difference helps create a more innovative problem-solving culture with new approaches and fresh perspectives that benefit the organization by creating an environment where all employees can contribute fully. To be more reflective of our society, the Defence Force strongly encourages people from minority backgrounds to join in order to assist others in becoming a more effective military force.

The equality aims to ensure everyone, male or female, is treated fairly and is provided with the same opportunities.



The difference between the gender's aspect and the sex

The sex, is that with what we are born, is a biological concept based on biological characteristics such as difference in genital. It establishes a biological difference between the woman and the man. The gender determines the roles, the behaviours, the values and the responsibilities that the women, the men, the girls and the boys must play in general within their families, their communities, cultural perceptions and the society. These specific roles to the gender are defined by the society and can be modified thus, since they depend on a historic, cultural, political and society context.

The value of the women in the armed services and in Peace Keeping Operations

A gender strategy was adopted in 2011. Thereafter, the Ministry of the National Defence and ex combatants included gender in its activities from 2011 to 2013. It reinforces therefore to Burundi the impetus to value the woman's role promote her rights and to protect the women and the girls against the violence based on sex. The gender strategy within the Burundi Nation Defence force is focused on the situation of the military woman and it recommends a better consideration of the gender in the logistical matters, legal framework, communication, sensitization in the recruitment and the retention of the women. It is also the respect of the strength in diversity.

Indeed, the recognition and the violation of expertise and the individual experiences not only encourage the

cohesion and the social fairness, but also increase the performance of the sector. The diversity in the composition of the defence bodies and the hold in account of the specificities of the sexes in the setting of the operations allow the bodies to fulfill their mission better. The full integration of woman in the armed services maximizes the capacity of the armies to honour their protective mission of the democratic societies that also supports the defence of fundamental values such the citizenship and the equality. The involvement of the woman to the mission of peacekeeping has tendency to increase the confidence of the local population towards the mission.

The incorporation of the women and expert in sexual specificities in military and defence institutions permits to adapt the policies and programs of defense. They can contribute to an assessment of the needs that takes into account the vulnerable groups concerning security. The increased presence of the women in the armed services and during the operations of peace keeping permits a comfortable collaboration with the organizations of the women. The strengths of peace keeping that consist of the women, collaborate with organisms of women, are better to discover and to warn the violations of the human rights and to answer the particular needs of the vulnerable groups. Women can better access the population, including women and children. They are able to build trust and confidence with local communities, serve as powerful mentors.

The biggest challenges of the gender aspect in the Burundi National Defence Force

Actually, one of the challenges is to meet the needs of the women for a decent accommodation separate to the man's one; this for reason hygiene, modesty and prevention of tension or sexual violence. To part the big infrastructures, the financial expenses to satisfy the specific needs of the women are affordable. In Conclusion, the aspect of gender involvement in the military focuses on ensuring that women also benefit the same rights as men though

The involvement of the woman to the mission of peacekeeping has tendency to increase the confidence of the local population towards the mission.

there are some peculiarities of their needs. In most cases, the society will determine women's role in the military, however the gender strategy in Burundi National Defence Force is focused on the situation of the women in the military and it recommends a better account of gender on the legal framework, logistical aspect, and sensitization in recruitment. The presence of military women personnel during peace keeping operations presents a better environment where a variety of challenges that vulnerable group confronts can be well dealt with by women. That include paying particular concern to women and children by offering full kind of support that men would.



Military women of Burundian Contingent celebrant the International Women's Day, March 8, 2020 in Subit in Central African Republic "MINUSCA".

Conclusion

Women are deployed and have made a positive impact on peacekeeping environments, including in supporting the role of women in building peace and protecting women's rights. In a field of peacekeeping, women peacekeepers have proven that they can perform the same roles, to the same standards and under the same difficult conditions, as their counterparts. In general, with our public sector duty in Burundi, Women's Network is established to support females in all aspects of their work and its aim is to develop strong female potential. ■

ONE STOP BORDER POST AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION: MIRAGE OR A REALITY



MS. L. M. NYAMBU
NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
SERVICE

Background

In Africa, just like in other global regions, interstate and regional trade is driven mainly by legal and economic considerations which may drive or hinder regional trade capacity and capability making it a reality if the objectives in the enabling treaties are met or a mirage if it remains unimplemented but a prolonged idea but only in documents. African countries are beginning to appreciate the need for a concerted effort towards lessening the custom restrictions, in an effort to bolster trade both regionally and internationally. One Stop Border Post (OSBP) concept is ingrained in bilateral and multi lateral frameworks hinged on municipal instruments to drive intra and interstate economic dynamics. Therefore, the concept of OSBP which refers to institutional and legal framework, services and associated procedures that essentially seek to facilitate movement of goods, people and vehicles in a single facility operating as a joint clearance house to fast

track custom processes in accordance with regional and national regimes. The OSBP is inherently designed to ensure accelerated crossing time, reduced logistical costs and improved security for people, goods and means of transport.

Experience from the Rest of the World on One Stop Border Post (OSBP)

OSBP is not just practiced in the region and Africa alone but a best practice from other parts of the globe. Intra-regional trades in various parts of the world are increasingly redefining the global development agenda. State-governments have turned to strategies of 'making their countries great' by seeking to renegotiate their positions in regional blocks, increasing their trade volumes by exploring new markets, and expanding their trade Corridors. These strategies have given prominence to intra-regional trade and the need to improve channels of trade within the economic blocks and beyond. In Asia, the Chinese have established the Belt and Road initiative, an ambitious infrastructural project that seeks to improve the country's intra-regional and international trade, by linking various infrastructural networks in the country with the region and the entire world. In Latin America, 12 countries including Brazil, Venezuela, Guyana, and Colombia, have established the Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure of South America whose purpose is to boost intra-regional trade by integrating highway networks, waterways, hydroelectric dams and telecommunications links in the continent, particularly in remote, isolated regions.

African countries have also endeared to change the course of intra-regional trade in the continent.

One Stop Border Post (OSBP) in Africa and the Region

Intra-regional trade has become a priority for many government states and indeed the African Union, as a strategy to unlock the continent's economic potential. African countries are increasingly embracing the concept of "Economic Corridor" to increase regional connectivity and access to both regional and international market. The development of economic corridor in Africa essentially covers the construction and integration of multi-modal infrastructural systems, including pipelines, railway lines, waterways, airports, as well as road networks linking economic blocks and communities to the entire continent. The drive to increase intra-regional trade in Africa, has set impetus for the development of economic corridors which have in turn cast light on the importance of One Stop Border Post as the bridge to improve intra-regional trade.

Intra-regional trade in Africa has historically been low compared to other regions of the world. This is partly due to the elongated bureaucratic processes, custom controls and clearances as well as tariff and non-tariff set by host countries. According to the World Bank, poor custom facilitation at the border accounts for 75% of the border delays, with the other 25% being attributed to infrastructure. The poor border facilitation, largely caused by the multiplicity and duplicity of process from one border point to the other, as well as the varied state agencies clearances requirements, for one to cross the border, have inadvertently, pushed the cost of transport in Africa three times higher than in South American, and five times, more than in Asian countries.

Africa has therefore been unable to competitively compete in the international market due to the high cost of movement and trade, which has negatively impacted on the continent's contribution to international market. The total trade

volumes from Africa to the rest of the world between 2015-2017 averaged at about US \$ 760 billion, while Europe accounted for \$ 4,109 billion, with America and Asia posting \$ 5,140 billion and \$ 6, 801 billion, respectively. Intra -African trade has also been generally low, at about 2% between 2015-2017, compared to other regions of the world like America, Asia Europe and Oceania, where the figures were at 47%, 61%, 67% and 7% respectively.

The OSBP model in Africa gained prominence in the 2000, partly due to the collaborative efforts of regional economic communities and development partners that developed the "OSBP Source Book" in 2001, to document the experiences and endeavours towards the implementation of the initiative. OSBP was identified as part of the turnaround strategy in boosting intra-regional trade

Intra-regional trade in Africa has historically been low compared to other regions of the world.

in Africa particularly within the regional economic communities or units. The development of the East African Transport and Trade Facilitation Project, by the East African Community (EAC) and the Northern Corridor Transit and Transport Coordination Authority, laid the germ seed for the establishment of the OSBP in the region in the early 2000s. However, it was not until 2009 that Africa formed the first OSBP at the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe refereed to the Chirundu One Stop Border Post, which became the first fully functional OSBP, and the model used for the development of others in Sub-Saharan African countries.

Subsequently, the concept of OSBP rapidly gained wide acceptance in the continent, with the support of development partners. In 2010 the EAC developed regional

regulation on OSBPs which eventually culminated into the formulation of the One Stop Border Post Act 2013, that was followed by the EAC One Stop Border Post Regulations 2013, and EAC OSBP Procedures Manual 2018, which essentially laid out the legal framework, provisions and guidelines for establishing OSPB in the EAC region.

Conversely, in 2012 the African Union adopted the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and its associated Priority Action Plan (PAP) to address the infrastructure deficit that has severely hampered Africa's competitiveness in the global market. The PIDA-PAP program further laid emphasis on the importance of OSBP in the continent. By 2015 there were about 27 OSBP in the continent that had either been completed or were under-construction. Currently in Africa there are about 76 OSBP sites that have been identified by the Regional Economic Blocks (RECs) for infrastructure development, of which 10 in East, South and West Africa have been completed, with another 12 still under construction and five at the planning stage, while another 49 are pending design and construction.

The establishment of OSBP on the economic corridor has triggered increase in intra-regional trade in Africa. The share of intra-African exports as a percentage of total African exports has increased from 10% in 1995 to about 17 % in 2017, even though it remains relatively low compared to the levels in Europe (69%) Asia (59%) and North America (31%). In East Africa, where the cost of movement and trade remain amongst the highest in the world, the effect of the OSBP has already begun to ease movement of goods at the Busia, Malaba and Namanga OSBP. The Chirundu OSBP between Zambia and Zimbabwe has tremendously transformed how the two countries conduct trade, increasing the efficiency of truck clearances per day from 260 to 600, the turnaround clearance time from 3 days to 3 hours, as well as increasing number of declarations dealt with from 380 to 700 per day.

The OSBP is also expected to fast track the realization of the benefits of the African Free Continental Trade Area Agreement. In the 8th Ordinary Meeting of African Union Sub-Committee of Directors General of Custom in 2016 in Harare, Zimbabwe, the development of OSBP was identified as the bridge that will deliver the dreams of AfCTA to the continent. AfCTA seeks to establish a single market of 1.3 billion people and an economic block, valued at about 3.4 trillion, essentially, becoming the largest free trade area by number of countries, in the world. It is also expected to boost intra-continental trade from its current 18% to about 50% by 2040.

A mirage or a reality for One Stop Border post and regional integration

To the extent that OSBP is reality depends on the strength of the bilateral and multi lateral agreements driving inter and intra regional trade which, in essence, need to be executed in good faith and mutual respect to the instruments through enabling municipal laws and policies which should be crafted in unison within its membership to address external trade patterns. In Africa and the region, internal and interstate rivalry seem to be delaying implementation of OSBP which, if left congested, will affect the principles and tenets of OSBP. Equally, other regional treaties and initiatives on regional cooperation do affect the operations of OSBP in one way or the other meaning that OSBP is not hinged just on one instrument but all instruments obtaining in a particular trading block, region, continent and the globe as a whole since we are consumers of goods from across the world as a family. On the other hand, OSBP will remain a mirage and even collapse if there is lack of harmony, goodwill, trust and respect to the treaties and policies in force to guarantee interstate and intra state operations of OSBP. However, it is the contention of this paper that, OSBP is still at infancy and will grow to drive the aspirations of the states, regions and globe to better heights economically. ■

ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN SHAPING PUBLIC OPINION



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The rise of the Internet has spurred the development of web-based communication platforms. Digital platforms have been growing stronger throughout the last decade, facilitating the exchange of information. Online content has undergone a transformation from being a source of raw data to also becoming an interactive tool, enabling the public to collaborate on projects through the exchange of knowledge and opinions.

As a result, consumers of information have now also become producers of information. People with common interests organize online groups and societies in which every participant can contribute by using social tools such as social networks, videos, blogs and photo-

blogging to establish common ground. The Internet enables any person to influence public opinion, creating inclusiveness and a new dimension for public relations.

Social media has established new ways of communicating and creating perceptions between businesses and consumers, organizations and their audiences, political offices and their electorate. The challenge however has been brought about by the advent of digital media that constantly generates a mass of circulating, disjointed and often contradictory information. An effective flow of information between the various distinct groups in the public sphere has historically been made possible by the mass media, which systematically edit and interpret the mass of information, making some sense of the world for audiences. Most importantly, as certain knowledge have been promoted over others, they have effectively been given the privileged status of being authoritative.



Considerable research has gone into examining the role of social media in shaping public perceptions and opinions about significant political and social issues. The popular thought is that nowadays, what we know about, think about and believe about what happens in the world, outside of personal first-hand experience, is shaped, and some would say orchestrated, by how these events are reported in the social media newspapers



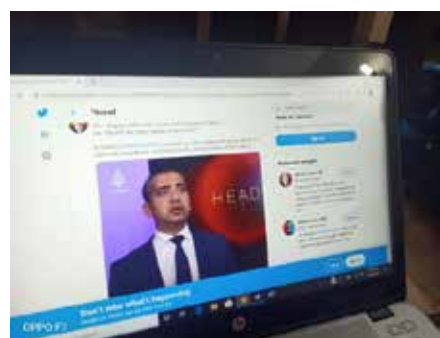
and communicated through the medium of radio and television.

In relation to content, a number of privileged groups contribute to the production of social media accounts. These include social and political institutions and other groups such as lobbyists and the public relations industry.

While their role in converging to shape the issues, the outcome at times tends to limit the information to which audience have access. Social media has the power to remove some issues from public discussion.

Social media plays a critical role in informing the public about happenings in the works, particularly in areas where the target audience may not possess direct knowledge or experience. For instance, not many people have the experience of being at the centre of a terrorist attack, or robbery with violence or some like calamity. However, the reality of those events and public responses to them are brought closer by the visual and auditory reality of social media reports. In this sense, social media brings simulated reality into the minds of the public and the later find themselves relying on those sources to provide a conceptualized image into the real world.

Granted, the public does not always swallow –hook, line and sinker– what is posted in social media. However, the content is critical in setting agenda and focusing public interest on particular subjects, which operates to limit the range of arguments and perspectives that inform public debate.



Social media plays a critical role in informing the public about happenings in the works, particularly in areas where the target audience may not possess direct knowledge or experience.

Social media and public opinion are interconnected, as the former plays a very significant role in communication and reflect issues of greatest concern to a particular society. With the increasing role of social media in shaping public opinion, it has steadily become commercialized and has experienced limitations and restrictions. Raw information evolves into perceptions based on that information. Therefore, any opinion formed on the basis of such content could be considered as having been shaped under the influence of external sources.

Public opinion is like quicksand. In some cases, it is continually evolving; in others, it is more static, based on traditional thought processes. In sum, it could be defined as ideological consent, where the opinion of the majority is dominant and leading so as to influence that of the community in which it exists.

Social media has enhanced persuading the public and influencing opinions in a way that is uncontrollable. Content presented through social media does not have to have approval to be published, which is positive in the sense that it can contravene censorship and control. On the other hand, this freedom creates new issues for regulation of access to information on the State. Social media platforms have thus become autonomous participants in building and influencing democratic societies. Everyone can be engaged in the decision-making process.

In a nutshell, social media has created new virtual worlds and new realities in all aspects of social life. These are new realities of ever-changing opinions, realities no one can fully control, realities demanding continuous online presence to respond adequately.

Social media's influence on society is deep. While short-term values do not replace long-term ones, they are able to redefine and reshape traditional perceptions of relationships and lifestyles. They may have little influence on long-term politics, but politics manages directions of social development by introducing programmes which affect lifestyles in the long-term.

From an economic view point, social media have become a new model of low-cost production, since to post content online is in most cases free. At the same time, with developed directories and high traffic, producers are able to earn fortunes from advertising revenues. In other words, social media platforms offer opportunities for high returns from low investments.

From a cultural standpoint, social media platforms, with their availability of information and opinions, do not promote long-term values. Moreover, they erode traditional values by offering short-term alternatives.

From a social perspective, the new media affects relationships through changing people's perceptions. Individuals are fragmented according to their interests and concerns. Users come together for short periods to protest or solve issues that concern them, but once any problems are solved, they disintegrate.



Social media and public opinion are interconnected, as the former plays a very significant role in communication and reflect issues of greatest concern to a particular society.

Social media platforms have been utilized as marketing tools, established to create opinions and to persuade the public to take particular actions. When the action is completed, the group becomes dormant and does not rise again until the next crisis.

But in the end, fundamental questions arise: Does democracy online reflect democracy offline, or is it a path to chaos? A conflicting set of opinions will never be satisfied by the same action. Only what is perceived as the opinion of the majority will be taken into consideration. But who shapes that opinion? Are we approaching the moment when social-media-influenced public opinion can dramatically influence and change society itself? Or are we already past this stage as many observers have claimed that the social media had played a key role in the so called Arab Spring chain of revolutions?

With the new social media, the old limiting factors – time, distance, nationality, and ideology – are gone. If public opinion can be influenced, so can societies. Social media is a unique global phenomenon whose true reach and potential to affect not only short term, but also long term change can only be understood across time and space. In its turn, Kenya, with its ever growing Internet penetration and usage, is among those countries where social media-related developments are progressing with the breath-taking speed. ■

CHIEF MKWAWA OF THE WAHEHE AND THE POLITICS OF INDIRECT RULE IN TANGANYIKA



COL. CHARLES MJATA - TANZANIA

Between 1860 and 1880 a formidable clan rose to power in the Southern Iringa Mufindi region when the head of the Muyinga family, **Munyigumba** of the Hehe united more than 100 clans into a single politically centralised society. Defending his territory against constant raids by the Ngoni, whom he virtually annihilated, he was succeeded at his death around 1880 by **Paramount Chief Mkwawa** who extended his dominion and won more wars against the southern Mshope Ngoni whilst halting the cattle-raiding Masai from the North.

His kingdom covered 14,000 square miles between Ifakara and Kilosa in the East to



Chief Mkwawa of Wahehe.

Lake Tanganyika and Nyasa in the West and up to the Ruhinga – Kilombero river. He fortified his capital in **Kalenga** with an 8-mile long 12-foot high wall, organised armed camps and military service and encouraged agricultural irrigation techniques. He was to become one of the staunchest opponents of German colonisation and was a courageous ruler much revered by Tanzanians.

Starting in 1891, **Nyamwezi** Chief Isike fought the Germans in Tabora region in the Western part of Tanganyika. Defeated in 1892, rather than surrendering, he blew himself up in the armory of his fort in January 1893. Trouble flared up north with the Chagga and in central Tanganyika with the Gogo, but two major prolonged wars challenged German rule for years: **Mkwawa** in southern Hehe land and the famous Maji Maji rebellion which inflamed a quarter of the country for more than a year.

The Germans had occupied Hehe country and following the massacre of a delegation sent by **Mkwawa**, he retaliated in 1891 by ambushing in Lugalo an armed column headed by **Lieutenant** von Zeiewski. He seized enough weapons and ammunition to keep up resistance for nearly 3 years during which the Germans prepared their assault: in October 1894 a well-organised expeditionary force under the command of **Tom** Prince, an English-born German officer, stormed Kalenga, the court town of the Hehe, defeated them and captured the town. **Mkwawa** escaped and in spite of an enormous reward of 5,000 rupees, he was not betrayed and continued harassing German troops with guerilla actions for 4 years until 1898. Trapped, he shot himself.

The Germans' exultation at this hard-won victory ran so high that they cut off **Mkwawa's** head which was sent for display to the Bremen Anthropological Museum in Germany, his body being returned to his people for ritual burial. In June 1954 his head was returned and handed over to **Mkwawa's** grandson. **Chief Adam Sapi**, who was to become the First Speaker of the independent Tanzania Parliament.

While flying across Tanganyika in February of 1954 the British Colonial Governor, Edward Twining, was informally introduced to Chief Mkwawa. Although the political and military leader of the Hehe people had died in 1898, Twining continued to interact with Mkwawa's ghostly presence. This presence, Twining contended, appeared through the medium of Mkwawa's skull which Twining carried with him. The skull, Twining wrote, possessed "poltergeistic qualities" which allowed Mkwawa to act on the living world. Twining carried the skull in a parcel on his plane; mid-flight, Mkwawa had blown off the plane's doors, nearly succeeding in killing all passengers, before an emergency landing averted disaster. Three weeks later, Twining had another equally frightening visit from Mkwawa while they traveled together by train. In a letter sent to E.B. David in the Colonial Office, Twining wrote that:

The skull continued to behave very badly while we were on safari on the train, and we had a series of mishaps which cannot be otherwise accounted for. Our poor old Bandmaster, Gulab Singh, died on the train. My A.D.C. collected a sinus and had to go to hospital. The head boy had a soda water bottle burst in his face and the cook was struck in the face by a flying saucer. We all got hay fever and we all got very irritable. So I off-loaded it at Dodoma, had the box opened to make sure that it was the skull, which I now confirm, and had it dispatched to Iringa to await a suitable occasion for me to present it

The "suitable occasion" arrived on 19 July 1954 – the anniversary of Mkwawa's death – when Twining formally returned the skull

at a ceremony attended by 30,000 people. The day was filled with enthusiasm and pageantry. Photos from the day's events show Mkwawa's skull arriving in a glass case that Twining subsequently handed over to Adam Sapi, chief of the Hehe, and grandson of Mkwawa. Twining delivered a speech that commemorated the history of the Hehe and of Mkwawa; he emphasized that the skull's restoration would validate Hehe honor. At the conclusion of his speech, following his celebration of "traditional" Hehe royalty, Twining asked those present to continue their loyalty to Queen Elizabeth II in exchange for the "benefits of modern civilization and science."

"I hope too that you and your people will continue to give your unstinted loyalty to Queen Elizabeth II and her heirs and successor" Edward Twining, Tanganyika's British governor As he presented the skull to Chief Mkwawa's grandson Chief Adam Sapi in 1954.



In theory, indirect rule intended to affirm distinctions between African metaphysics and Western science, between traditional African authority and British secularity and rights. Starting in the early days of German colonial conquest through the 1950s, Mkwawa's skull stood as a distinct emblem of colonial politics in the Southern Highlands of Tanganyika as colonial officials like Twining used it to establish forms of colonial governmentality.

Twining identified Mkwawa's skull with forms of evidence that he both selected and prioritized. His categories for authenticating human skulls were far from universal, and instead had their own historical specificity.

Following World War I, the British took control of Tanganyika and ruled it as a mandate. Rather than continuing the practice of ruling through intermediaries as the Germans had done, the British colonial office eventually decided, after 1926, to reinvigorate what they saw as more "traditional" forms of authority. This led to the unfolding of indirect rule in places like the Iringa District. Like all political institutions, indirect rule existed in a dynamic form. Throughout the period of British rule, the meaning and practices of indirect rule changed, both in terms of how the British conceived of their role in Tanganyika, and how subject populations understood the changing techniques of authority. Such changes clearly surfaced in the ways in which various colonial officials, from the period immediately following World War I through the mid-1950s, framed their interpretations of Mkwawa's skull.

In addition to recovering pre-colonial authority to establish indirect rule, however, British colonialism in Tanganyika had to additionally encounter the preceding period of German rule. In this regard, the implementation of indirect rule depended upon extensive historical and archival research. The first British administrators to interpret Hehe history clearly depended upon existent German sources. "The earliest file found in the district store at Iringa is translation of the answers to the German questionnaire Fragebogen which had been translated by a British district officer in 1925." This information from German sources proved especially valuable when the British restored the Muyinga family line to power.

Along with ideas about customary law and political institutions, the British also engaged with some German ideas about the significance of Mkwawa's skull, eventually embracing it as an important emblem of Hehe political and religious belief. To reinforce the importance of the skull, they added a clause to the Treaty of Versailles that demanded the skull's return to East Africa. In addition to normalizing, if not altogether overlooking the acts

of violence that initially produced the skull, the British used its symbolism as a direct avenue to reconstruct "traditional" authority. Horace Byatt, who directly ruled northern Tanganyika upon Britain's military occupation before becoming Governor after the Mandate, submitted a letter to the Foreign Office in 1919 describing the importance of Mkwawa's skull.

Chief Mkwawa's skull now sits on a plinth, protected by a glass box, in a tiny museum in a small town in central Tanzania. But like a trophy, it once adorned the house of a colonial official in Germany's administrative centre in Bagamoyo, before being spirited away to Germany at



The skull of Chief Mkwawa of Wahehe in Kalenga.

some point at the beginning of the 20th Century. The skull was used as a symbol to intimidate the Wahehe people, who the chief had led in a fierce rebellion against the German colonisers.

Conclusion

Mkwawa's skull reveals, even the most transparently violent emblem of colonial

conquest – the severed head of a pre-colonial king – found its meaning and original violence both displaced and transformed over time. While all British officials who wrote about Mkwawa's skull willingly placed responsibility for the skull's origins in the period of German conquest, they also took great effort to reattach Mkwawa's head to their own running concepts about the nature of Hehe political authority. These officials, many of whom designed the daily operations of indirect rule, leveraged histories of Mkwawa's skull to establish new standards for how Hehe people should and should not engage with the modern colonial state. ■

BAMBOO GROWING FOR FOREST CONSERVATION IN KENYA

It is worth recognizing that Bamboo is a versatile, multipurpose, eco-friendly plant in the grass family with distinct and fascinating characteristics which can be tapped for environmental conservation, and industrial, cultural, ecological, social and economic development. The plant is important for biomass production and plays an increasing role in revolutionizing and transforming the rural, local, national, regional and world economies.



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KENYA FOREST SERVICE

Bamboo farming is very popular in China and the United States of America and many people are talking about the growth of bamboo farming. The areas under bamboo worldwide cover more than 22 million hectares, with 1,275 species in 71 genera with more than 4,000 recorded uses. China is leading in terms of bamboo areas, species and genera which are conserving forests landscapes with cottage industries improving communities' livelihoods and economy. In tropical Africa only fourteen

bamboo species majority of which are found in Madagascar Island and only three bamboo species are in mainland. Most of the forests in Africa, East Africa and Kenya are facing major challenges from demand for forest products by increasing population, poverty and unemployed youth leading to forest degradation, unsustainable utilization and management of forests.

Kenya has a total natural bamboo growing area of 138,721 hectares of indigenous *Yushaniaalpina* (*Arundinariaalpina*), concentrated in mountain ranges. The five water towers of Aberdares range, Mau forest, Mount Kenya, Mount Elgon and Cherangani hills has 50,038 ha, 30,196 ha, 35,966 ha 14,341 and 8,180 hectares respectively. There are other twenty two exotic bamboo species grown in highland and lowland areas of Kenya. In Kenya indigenous bamboo areas have been shrinking due to human activities cultivation, settlement, grazing and forest plantations establishment for wood timber. Bamboo resources has been used all over the world since time immemorial and it can be used to substitute the slow growing wood tree species and provide the highly needed wood products at a faster rate. Bamboo can contribute to economic, cultural, environmental conservation, restoration of degraded areas, climate change mitigation, community livelihoods, employment, and cottage industries and



Source: Jessebamboo, (2015)

maximize its underutilization potentials.

Bamboo creates employment opportunities, improving livelihoods, making rural landscape green and attractive, healthy and sustainable. It is worth noting that as climate change continues its ravage on the environment and lives of people across the world, Africa is turning towards the bamboo to not only address some devastating effects of environmental degradation, but also improve livelihoods. Bamboo is considered very vital in the conservation of the environment and ecosystem protection. This is possible through arresting of soil erosion, stabilizing the riverbanks, improving environmental conditions, wide range adoption and the quick growth in marginal lands. The Bamboo serves a critical role in East Africa and contextual studies indicate that bamboo grows really fast at an estimated rate of 1.2 metres a day, which makes it a perfect buffer against climate change, global warming and restoration of degraded forest areas.

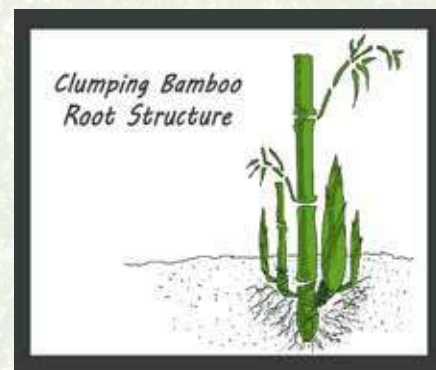
Bamboo is thought of as a form of grass from the Bambusoideae family that is evergreen as a flowering plant. It is worth appreciating that the roots of bamboo structure themselves as a strong complex of fibrous roots anchoring the plants to the ground, and thus holding it firmly and controlling any form of soil



Source: Google (2020)

erosion in the hilly, rugged terrain and along riverines considered prone to both wind and water soil erosion. While there are hundreds of varieties of bamboo species, majority can be propagated by vegetative cutting. This process usually involves selecting a young, vigorous and very healthy bamboo stock, cutting off a little section for splitting and allowing growth in potting material by watering up until when roots appear from the base of the stock and shoots sprouts.

The bamboo seedlings growing in the forest floor wildy can be used to start a basic nursery and plantation of bamboo plants. In the case of Kenya these seedlings may be found in few areas of high mountains that include the Mount Kenya region, the Aberdare ranges, Mau area, Mount Elgon and the Cherangani areas. The seedlings are usually found in young clusters that can be extracted by scooping using nursery tools, jembes, mattock, shovel, panga and then brought

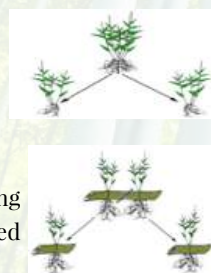


Source: Jessebamboo, (2015)

to the potting shade in the nursery for propagation, raising and replanting into portable polythene bags and containers. It is critical to bear in mind that the roots of the bamboo should never be disturbed during the transportation, preparation and planting process.

In addition the bamboo can sometimes be propagated using tissue culture to provide suitable planting materials. Root rhizomes are usually scooped, split and transplanted into tubes as an alternative propagation method. To quickly raise plantable stock bamboo stems usually known as culms are drilled with holes at alternate internodes then rooting hormones used to accelerate sprouting of roots and shoots for planting.

Multiplying nursery materials from seed/tissue culture seedlings



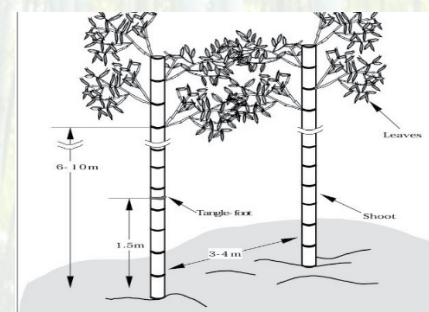
Multiplying planting materials from rooted cuttings

Source: Jessebamboo, (2015)

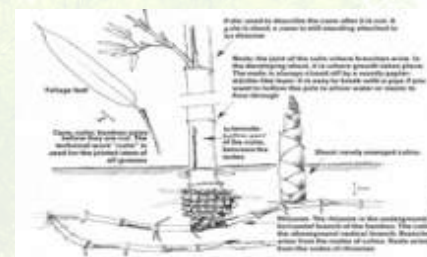
The soils, altitude, weather, rainfall in Kenya are some of the tropical climatic conditions which favours bamboo growing country wide. Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) and other stakeholders have carried out some studies on bamboo propagation, nurseries, growing, management and utilization. There is need to create public awareness, sensitization and provision of planting materials and documentation to enhance adoption. Monitoring,

evaluation, documentation and reporting the studies and surveys will motivate investors to upscale bamboo growing from the available data to set up processing bamboo factories. It is important for ecological zone consideration for site species matching and selection of suitable exotic bamboo species for cottage and industrial development for livelihood improvement. This will have a multiplier effect to commercialization of bamboo for economic growth. Kenya's gazetted natural bamboo has been going to waste during wild forest fire seasons gutting it down to ashes and it requires sustainable management to utilize the mature culms to reduce fire hazards. To revolutionize bamboo growing in Kenya for forest conservation there is need to provide support and incentives to youth groups to have innovative ideas on its utilization.

Nandi, Uasin Gishu and Elgeyo Marakwet counties in partnership and association with Kenya Forest Service, National Environmental Management Authority, Kenya Water Towers Agency and other stakeholders are piloting bamboo cultivation for commercial and environmental conservation efforts in the North Rift region with a National Bamboo Propagation and Demonstration plot at Kaptagat forest. The initiative targets expansion of the bamboo into fragile ecosystems prone to landslides and have local farmers diversify into its production for export market and finally setting up a bamboo processing factory. Perennial mudslides and floods that have been experienced in some regions of Nandi, Elgeyo Marakwet, West Pokot and Uasin Gishu counties following heavy rains would be tamed once farmers embrace large scale cultivation of bamboo.



Source: Google (2020)



Source: Google (2020)

Bamboo products are quickly gaining interest in the East African region; farmers across the region are focusing on forming part of the wave to adopt bamboo growing. The partnership with bamboo farmers in parts of Kenya is intended to boost and spur economic development and rural livelihoods. In the Kenyan context bamboo is a valuable plant species. Small scale farmers are very enthusiastic to be able to participate in the development of the

Bamboo products are quickly gaining interest in the East African region; farmers across the region are focusing on forming part of the wave to adopt bamboo growing.

bamboo sector in the country. However, many farmers do not consider farming the bamboo species, which according to those who have ever had a chance to engage themselves in growing and selling the bamboo can give a farmer a lot of money. .

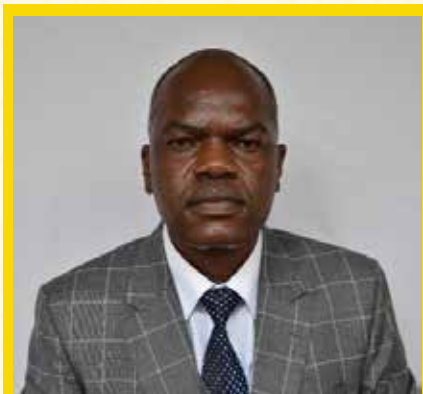
Bamboo and its products will never lack a market in Kenya. Earlier last year 2019, Bidco Africa established an initiative that would contract bamboo growers to supply their produce to power its two factories in Ruiru and Thika in terms of fuelwood, charcoal and briquettes. What's more, bamboo kitchen products can be supplied to supermarkets, marketplaces and other business dealing with culinary items. Moreover, some construction

companies are buying bamboo to aid in construction and scaffolding. Most counties are gradually turning into bamboo cultivation with hundreds of acres that were previously used for food crops flourishing with bamboo plantations. This has been due to its profitability and ready market. Nyandarua county farmers are abandoning growing of potatoes to grow bamboo which is fetching more money and with anticipation of setting up of bamboo factory; potato farming will be a thing of the past. Nyandarua is turning into a bamboo county for fuel wood, charcoal, briquettes, and horticulture to support flowers and legumes.

The county government of Nyandarua and development partners are incentivizing, facilitating and promoting farmers at Mirangine with supply contracts of at least Kshs. 400,000.00 per acre under bamboo annually. The investment returns are lucrative for guarantee minimum investment return with minimal cost in terms of inputs, labour and fertilizers. There is significant difference when compared with the same area under potatoes giving return of Kshs. 100,000.00 per acre and high cost of inputs, pesticides, fungicides, fertilizers and labour.

It is not surprising therefore that the commercialization of bamboo was identified as a key pillar and flagship project for transforming Kenya in the Vision 2030's Medium Term Plans and current Government's "THE BIG FOUR AGENDA" 1. Manufacturing industries, 2. Affordable housing, 3. Affordable health care and 4. Food security and nutrition. Bamboo is gaining prominence as a timber alternative and economic driver. Bamboo provides valuable environmental services that are increasingly being recognized. Bamboo has been used successfully to rehabilitate degraded lands to produce food and shelter for animals, insects, shrubs and other plants that together make up the bamboo forest ecosystem. In conclusion Bamboo growing for forest conservation in Kenya is well on its way to being the norm to help addressing matters of climate change. ■

DIplomacy: THE AFRICAN WAY



BRIGADIER G. O. OKUMU
KENYA ARMY

Africa is a crucible of culture and heritage with a complex history. Indigenous tribal practices and pre-existing values were altered dramatically, either by force or as a result of the Christian and Islamic cultures that spread throughout the continent. Later, the domineering forces of European colonial nations brought even greater change. Africa emerged from its colonization with an amalgam of diverse and conflicting traditions, culture, history, legacies, values, and languages. Consequently, these developments have had a wide impact on the formulation and execution of African foreign policy and diplomacy today.

Diplomacy has its ancient roots firmly in Africa, the cradle of humanity. Yet the idea of “African diplomacy” is surprisingly new, because most African states are very young compared to those in the rest of the world. The legacy of colonialism, combined with the damage caused by Cold War proxy wars, has infused the continent’s diplomacy with a collective memory of subjugation and marginalization.

An historical context is therefore essential to understanding the themes that guide

Africa’s contemporary diplomacy. Among these are a preoccupation with pan-African unity, insistence on sovereign equity in the global arena, and the pursuit of elusive security and development for the continent. The diplomatic style in which these goals are pursued is predominantly multilateral and collective, marked by a unique activist-like approach and emphasis on solidarity among incumbent leaders.

Diplomacy has been described as the best means devised by civilization for preventing international relations from being governed by force alone. The field in which it operates lies somewhere between power politics and civilized usage, and its methods have varied with the political convention of each age. There is no lack of evidence that sending of emissaries to open negotiations was a common practice among quite primitive peoples and that in many cases their reception and treatment were regulated, even if only in a

rudimentary way, by custom or taboo.

The idea that African diplomacy presents a distinct form or style of diplomacy is rather recent, because the majority of African states gained political independence only during the past five decades. Indeed, the youngest member of the United Nations (UN) is an African state, South Sudan, which achieved its sovereign status as recently as July 2011. When the UN was founded in 1945, Africa had the least representation in the organization: a mere four (Egypt, Ethiopia, Liberia, and South Africa) out of 51 founding member states. This profile has changed dramatically and, in the second decade of the twenty first century, Africa has more sovereign states than any other region in the world, amounting to more than 25 percent of the UN membership.

An historical perspective is essential to explain the guiding themes in African diplomacy: the quest for justice and



Source: Cairncross, Frances. *The Death of Distance*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Business School Press, (2017), p. 78.

equality in international relations; the overriding imperative of development and peace for the continent; and the inclination towards diplomacy that plays up African solidarity, unity, and integration. Indeed, much of the rhetoric of African diplomacy is informed by its history of marginalization: a relationship vis-à-vis the rest of the world that infers continental vulnerability. But contemporary African diplomacy is not just born of negative experiences. It is also infused with traditional values that Africans and the diaspora share: a seamless approach to the passage of time, respect for cultural tradition and authority, predilection for collective, unhurried decisions, and the prioritization of community rather than individuals. The latter approach finds expression in concepts that promote societal selflessness, such as *Harambee* (Swahili word for “pulling together”) and *Ubuntu* (Nguni word for “being human”). Thus, for example, the South African government’s most recent foreign policy document (“White Paper” of May 2011) is titled “Building a Better World: The Diplomacy of *Ubuntu*.”

It is this idea of empathetic human interaction that correlates with the enduring value of diplomacy at the international level the practice exists because of the continuous and constant need for intermediation and negotiation among human groups. Africans tend to approach the concept holistically, and “diplomacy” is therefore a normal part of life; even a part of death. In many parts of Africa, communication with ancestors is a respected tradition, regardless of the state’s religious or political dispensation. In Swaziland, for example, the Incwala is an elaborate (and official) ritual that involves “negotiation” with ancestors in order to increase the welfare of the nation. All over the continent, diplomacy is a seamless venture, non-linear, involving all levels of diverse societies including those that have departed the temporal world.

African diplomacy has a long history. As early as the sixteenth century many centralized states of pre-colonial western



Source: Ninkovitch, Frank. *The Diplomacy of Ideas: U.S. Foreign Policy and Cultural Relations, 1938-1950*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, (2011), pp. 90-91.

and eastern Africa had developed sophisticated diplomatic practices. It is worth acknowledging right from the onset that at the Berlin Conference of 1884 to early 1885, the European powers agreed to divide Africa formally into colonial territories doing this according to spheres of influence already achieved, or by the expedient of drawing straight lines on a map. The political cartoons of the day had the negotiators making merry and drinking spirits while carving up both Christmas turkey and a continent.

The continent of Africa is known as the “cradle of humanity,” home to the earliest human settlements and the place where language, as a means of communication, first developed. The human instinct to communicate, negotiate, cooperate, and trade across boundaries is a fair indication, therefore, that Africa was also the birthplace of diplomacy. Oral histories and anthropological evidence confirm this assumption, despite the lack of documented sources during the Stone and Iron ages.

The earliest records of diplomacy on the continent are inscribed clay tablets that date back to antiquity. The cuneiform writing on these tablets provides details of Egypt’s relations with its neighbours, manifesting in trade agreements, political alliances, and peaceful resolution of

conflict. The first ever codified peace agreement in human history, 1100 BCE, was a treaty between Pharaoh Rameses II of Egypt and the King of the Hittites. As happened all over the world for centuries thereafter, diplomacy was often accompanied by symbolic gestures such as strategically planned marriages and high profile visits. The Bible, the Talmud, and the Quran all mention such examples, including the legendary diplomatic relations between Israel’s King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, who is widely believed to have been a ruler of ancient Aksum, located in the horn of Africa (latter-day northern Ethiopia/Eritrea).

State like entities (some of which, like Egypt and Aksum, were among the earliest in the world) shared the diplomatic norms and conventions that started in antiquity, and which continue to characterize civilized intergroup relations across the world: the use of intermediaries, observance of ceremonial protocol, presentation of credentials, and respect of customary legal norms such as the sanctity of treaties and inviolability of envoys. The Aksumite Empire, which reached the pinnacle of its influence during the first century BCE, engaged in diplomacy with the kingdoms of the Arabian Peninsula and further afield. The state minted its own currency and became a major geopolitical link in the

trade route between the Roman Empire and India.

The noteworthy point was that, at that stage, Africa was not considered worth going to war over, and the speed and efficiency of the division was seen as an example of multilateral diplomacy at its successful best. The outcome today's Africa of 55 independent states which follow closely the boundaries agreed at Berlin has meant not only a coming to statehood in the impoverished years after World War II, and amidst the turmoil of the Cold War, but coming to statehood with incomplete, divided, or partial nations within the state territory.

The neglect, for a long time, of African diplomatic history particularly, by scholars of African history, and the failure to forcefully project the history and image of Africa, exposed the continent to uncharitable, disparaging and judgemental comments by Eurocentric historians who denied African history.

The fact is that in the 19th Century when Europe occupied Africa, her scholars did not attempt to research and understand or to build on the historical traditions in existence there; they sought instead to challenge and to supplant them. The history of European traders, missionaries, explorers, conquerors and rulers constituted, in their own view, the sum total of African history. This view has long been deconstructed by several research works centered on African history. What has received scanty academic attention perhaps is African diplomatic history.



Source: Ninkovitch, Frank. *The Diplomacy of Ideas: U.S. Foreign Policy and Cultural Relations, 1938-1950*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, (2011), pp. 90-91.

Intracontinental diplomacy was as vibrant as Africa's burgeoning relations with explorers, missionaries, and traders from Europe and Asia. From coast to coast, Africa was teeming with trade, and politics often benefited economically from their geographical position on a particular trade route. Thus states such as Mali, Ghana, and Songhai (in the Western Sahel, fifteenth to sixteenth century) were terminals of Saharan trade routes. But rivalry and conflict also shaped the structure of intracontinental relations. In West Africa, the huge Oyo Empire (fifteenth to nineteenth century) at various times enforced tributary relations on other kingdoms, including Dahomey (seventeenth to nineteenth century, in the area of the present day Benin). The famed city of Timbuktu was unilaterally incorporated by the Songhai Empire in 1468 just one of many external occupations of that Islamic center of scholarship. A later example would be the Zulu monarchy which transformed the political landscape of southern Africa during the nineteenth century through ruthless but masterful empire building.

One of the biggest impediments to diplomatic capacity building has been the death of diplomatic training centers in Africa. Cameroun, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa are some of the few exceptions, but most Sub-Saharan African states have little or no domestic capacity to train their own diplomats, who are then deployed abroad without career specific training. A minority gets offered the chance to study at diplomatic academies in donor countries, and benefits from such networking opportunities and the acquisition of technical skills. But the implication of "foreign" diplomatic training can be perverse: unskilled diplomats who need to learn how to represent *their own* states are drawn into the strategic influence realm of a foreign sovereign entity. Indeed, the political advantages of training foreign diplomats have prompted an increasing number of the world's established and emerging powers to offer diplomatic training as part of development assistance. Brazil, China,

India, and Pakistan to name just a few states cultivate their influence in Africa by inviting African diplomats to train at their national diplomatic academies.



The developing states of Africa have also battled to reach levels of diplomatic representation that would enable them to participate equitably in global forums. Diplomacy is a costly enterprise and the maintenance of numerous resident missions is simply not an option for the majority of African states. The tendency is therefore to prioritize multilateral diplomatic missions that is, accreditation to intergovernmental organizations in order to maximize diplomatic opportunities in a single location. But multilateral diplomacy itself has become a growth industry. In the twenty-first century global governance is pervasive and an ever increasing number of international organizations are tasked with regularizing the world's relations. States that cannot afford to participate in those forums because of limited human resources, and/or because they struggle to meet membership dues find themselves dictated to rather than consulted. Even where African states do maintain a multilateral presence, they struggle to attend to the array of simultaneous committees and caucuses that characterize the contemporary multilateral diplomatic environment.

It is thus clear that precolonial Africa, far from being a chaotic, backward "dark continent" (as depicted by early colonial historians), was home to sophisticated political organization, ranging from empires and kingdoms to city states and chieftaincies. Diplomacy among these centrally organized political entities produced a rich tapestry of relations, and was facilitated by abundant trade and the existence of customary law. ■

CYBER WARFARE: REAL FACT OR JUST FICTION?

Cyberspace is more than just internet, information and communications technology and presents peculiar characteristics, opportunities and challenges. It is characteristics are storage, sharing and modification of digital information and data using network or mobile systems. The dimensions of cyberspace are wide since it has coverage that traverses all the way from individuals, communities, cooperation, national to international in time and space.



COL. J. K. CHERUTICH
KENYA ARMY

"A cyber-attack is defined in most circles familiar with the topic area as an unauthorized intrusion into a computer or a computer network in such forms as tampering, denial of service, data theft, and server infiltration"

It is important to acknowledge from the onset that technology has changed the security landscape in the World dramatically than ever before. In addition it is critical to appreciate that the information revolution and related organizational innovations are seriously altering the nature, type, and approach to conflict and the kind of military structures, systems, doctrines and strategies that will be in use in the twenty-first century.

The information is found in the cyber system and this turns the focus of both legal and illegal actions to cyberspace, some cyber

activities include cybercrimes, cyber warfare, cyber terrorism, cyber hacktivism and or cyber spying. A cyber or cyber security threat is a malicious act that seeks to damage data, steal data, or disrupt digital life in general. Cyber-attacks include threats like computer viruses, data breaches, and Denial of Service attacks.

At the moment, cyber-crime also known as computer-oriented crime is mainly involves computers, and that takes place within the cyber space. Generally speaking, cyber space is considered the fusion of all databases, networks, devices, and sources of information into a vast, tangled, and

diverse blanket of electronic interchange. Cyber warfare can also broadly be defined as a computer network attack or exploitation perpetrated at the direction, on behalf of, or in support of a criminal group or an extremist ideology with the ultimate and most extreme intent being to threaten life and inflict physical. Some specific criminals have declared desire to specialize in conducting cyber warfare.

That's because spear phishing and other attacks allow cyber criminals to gain sensitive personal information, such as user IDs and passwords, and even physical addresses and social security numbers through channels victims trust. Spear phishing attacks employee data previously gathered via social media or proceeding breaches to sharpen the tip of the spear, and can be highly effective. In a recent study, cybersecurity solutions provider Phish Me found that the spear-phished attack is the root cause of 91% of all major security breaches.

Once a victim is induced to click a link in an apparently friendly email, link or embedded links redirect victims to web pages visually indistinguishable from their legitimate counterparts, with the only evidence of fraud buried in a nondescript URL at the top of the browser window. From there, unsuspecting users may be induced to release information. It is a relatively new concept, one that scholars have only begun to see play out in the twenty-first century than ever before. As states move forward, it will need to address many strategic and ethical questions that arise as people work to find the line between cyber defense and humans rights violations. When thinking of a cyber threat or online threats, one often hears about credit cards being stolen, websites going down, or information being sold on the dark web. However, sabotage



Source: Luis, R. *Diplomacy and its Practice: Digital Diplomacy*, The International School of Protocol and Diplomacy, (2017).



Source: Luis, R. Diplomacy and its Practice: Digital Diplomacy, The International School of Protocol and Diplomacy, (2017).

in the cyber warfare sense involves targeting computers, satellites, or infrastructures that people rely on.

The tools and modes of cyber-attack exist. Well-known examples are viruses and worms, computer programs that duplicate themselves and

Trojan horses. The types which usually duplicate themselves are intended to annoy or inconvenience Information Communication Technology users. They can also compromise information confidentiality and integrity. The Trojan horses on the other hand are programs that deceive to be benign applications and can be used to destroy information. They create a weakness of the systems that enables the hacker to access the system later. Often system intrusion is the main goal of more advanced attacks.

Once an intruder has fully accessed the targeted system and has control of it, the inner system is at their disposal without any restrictions and they can access all stored digital information. They then pose a great threat to the target system since they are able to inflict delays, they can disrupt, corrupt, exploit, destroy, steal, and modify information. The seriousness of the impact of damage or the threat the intruder will pose will depend on the value or degree of importance or sensitivity of the information accessed.

The first ever recorded incidences of what could credibly fit to be considered as cyber warfare hit Estonia in the spring of 2007, through an unprecedented series of what was thought to be distributed denial of service. The attack slammed more than a hundred Estonian websites, taking the whole state's online banking, digital news, council services, government sites and what could practically be anything else that had a semblance of web presence. The cyber-attacks were a response to the Estonian governments' decision to move the country's Russian-speaking minority and triggering massive protests on the city's streets and the web system. These attacks were later traced to be coming from botnets (a collection of Personal Computers strategically positioned around the world) hijacked with some form of malware that allegedly belonged to organized Russian cybercriminal groups.

The years 2009 and 2010 brought an upsurge to cyber threats, one of the most notorious one being the Stuxnet. The Stuxnet is a malicious computer worm that was first uncovered in the year 2010, primarily thought to have been in development since the years 2005. The Stuxnet worm targets supervisory control and data acquisition systems and is believed to be responsible for causing serious damage to the nuclear program in Iran.

The Stuxnet was reported to have destroyed more than a thousand of the six-and-a-half-foot-tall aluminum centrifuges installed in Iran's underground nuclear enrichment. Officially Stuxnet would come to be acknowledged as the first cyber-attack designed to directly act as an agent of cyber ware. The globe's conception of cyber ware advanced further from the year 2010, it started when VirusBlokAda, a security firm in Belarus found a mysterious malware that crashed the computers running its antivirus software, it was later found that it was a specimen of malware dubbed advance Stuxnet, which in fact was much more sophisticated piece of code ever engineered for a cyber-attack.

The information revolution generally implies that the rise of cyber ware that is neither mass nor mobility will decide the final outcomes. Communication and intelligence have always be important, at a minimum cyber ware implies that conflicts will be fought more by cyber networks and systems rather than by actual foot soldiers. It was reported that in the years 2012 the Saudi Arabian firm Saudi Aramco was attacked by a piece of malware known as Shamoon, which affected many computer systems in the office leaving their operations totally paralyzed. The Shamoon also known as W32 was a modular computer virus that was discovered targeting the then bitversion of the Microsoft Windows computer system. The virus was notably notorious due to the destructive nature of the attack and the cost of recovery.

It was claimed that after years of staging punishing denial of services attacks on its favourite adversary, South Korea, the North Korea hackers launched a more damaging operation in 2014 in the network of Sony pictures ahead of its release of a comedy movie called The Interview, a comedy about Kim Jong-un.

The cyber security experts will take the bet that NotPetya will remain a one-off catastrophe. The NotPetya took its name from its resemblance to the ransomware Petya, a piece of criminal code that surfaced in early 2016 and extorted many victims around the world. In the same year a ransomware worm known as WannaCry was launched. It actually shut down networks as far as Chinese universities, Indian police precincts, caused havoc in the United Kingdom, South Africa and even affected major companies in Kenya.

From my analysis the importance of Network security is becoming of greater than it was yesteryears due to the fact that the interconnectedness of the global village exposes the large amounts of information be it personal, government or commercial type of information to threats. With the current work from home as result of the Covid 19 pandemic means that people have to be on the net for longer hours hence exposure to cyber attackers. Despite the critical need to secure networks, the methods to be used and which need to be easily implementable are still lacking and this came at a time when many were debating on cyber warfare, and whether it was real fact or just fiction. ■

THE SOCIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 TO THE TOURISM INDUSTRY IN MALAWI

Malawi is a landlocked country in southeastern Africa endowed with spectacular highlands with extensive lakes and occupies a narrow, curving of land along the East African Rift Valley. Lake Nyasa, also referred to as Lake Malawi, accounts for more than one-fifth of the country's total area. Tourism which is Malawi's third-largest foreign exchange earner after tobacco and tea respectively contribute significantly both to the level of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the country's economic growth. Tourism is often considered as a catalyst for economic and social development because it tends to have a large trickle-down effect in terms of poverty alleviation, boosting employment, creation of small business entrepreneurship, etc. In monetary terms, the sector's contribution to GDP translates to US\$53 Million (about MK500 Billion) annually. Investors in the tourism industry are offered several incentives that will be discussed further in detail and this includes but is not limited to waivers, benefits, and many more other related business relief based arrangements.

Malawi is popularly known as the Warm Heart of Africa due to the warmth and hospitality of the people and the beautiful natural sceneries including Lake Malawi which remains amongst the most visited places before the pre-COVID-19 era and the sector was flourishing economically until the rise of the pandemic. Unlike many other African countries, Malawi adopted a moderate policy of social distancing to curb the spread of the virus. A full lockdown was proposed but the decree was shot down when Human Rights appealed through the courts to reverse the directive and was never implemented due to government failure to convince the human rights stakeholders how the government will cater for the poor in times of lockdown.

Tourism has benefitted Malawi in various facets and the industry has been improving as a fast-growing economic industry in the country, with wide-scale income revenues, infrastructure development, country's improved brands' image, source of foreign exchange earnings, source of employment, connectivity, and growth to local, regional and even the remotest areas in Malawi, boosting transportation and

communications facilities to the outside world and catalog of the Malawian culture to foreign investors. The litmus test of any traveler is the pain of leaving the tourist destination if it is so attractive and Malawi is such a country with that value-added enticement. Malawi endeavors to recreate the environment where foreign visitors whisper to "The Warm Heart of Africa" motto, that Malawi has the best secret in the tourism market where no one wants to leave but where everyone wants to return to, hence the more reason and desire for COVID-19 to be eradicated.

The government of Malawi noting that tourism is a catalyst to the economy has put in place measures to create a conducive climate for the industry to flourish. Some of the most notable incentives include but not limited to contributing significantly both the level of GDP since tourism is considered a catalyst for economic and economic social development because it tends to have a large trickle-down effect in terms of poverty alleviation that is boosting employment levels at local and expert grade as well as creating a booming climate for small business entrepreneurship. Malawi Government is now diversifying economic activities from agriculture while developing and promoting tourism. This is achieved by Customs and Excise incentives to investors and these include free import duty, free import excise, and free Value Added Tax (VAT). Hotels, inns, and lodges with more than 50 rooms can also benefit from tax exemptions which are available on furniture and furnishings and two new passenger carrying vehicles (e.g. shuttle buses). Investors in the tourism sector do not pay import duty for building materials and equipment if constructing a conference facility of over 200 seating capacity.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on tourism in Malawi being the third forex earner in the country but due to travel restrictions within the country as well as a slump in demand among travelers. The tourism industry has been massively affected by the pandemic, as many other countries have also introduced travel restrictions in an attempt to contain its spread hence Malawi is affected by severe loss of revenue. Malawi has so far lost 35,000 tourism-related jobs by mid-April, 2020. Malawi tourism is currently under tight threat over the coronavirus pandemic



BRIG R T CHAGONAPANJA
MALAWI DEFENCE FORCE

due to the closure of hospitality businesses in many places. The tourism industry to-date is failing to gain profits since almost all local and international bookings remain canceled, similarly with conferences and meetings. The tourism private sector captains have since engaged Government for bailout packages to avoid having more vibrant facilities closed and retain some of the employees in the sector. It is worth noting that most of the visitors to Malawi are tourists that originate from Eastern, Western, European and not forgetting African countries hence the pandemic has locked down all prospects for the country to gain revenue just as it is equally unfair for those that had planned to visit the country before the pandemic.

Malawi falls into the Least Developed Countries (LCD). According to the 2018 Travel and Tourism Economic Impact Report, the direct contribution of Travel and Tourism to GDP for Malawi in 2017 was 3.5 percent and 7.7 percent in 2019 and was expected to rise by 2.8 percent and 4.7 percent through 2028 respectively. This refers to the total value of goods and services and the sector's economic activities generated by hotels, travel agents, airlines, and other passenger transportation services. Most African states have moved rapidly to deepen regional coordination, deeply health workers, and enforce quarantines, lockdowns, and border closures. Malawi so far has seen the lack of capacity to employ sufficient health services to deal with the rise in coronavirus cases in several hotspot areas including the tourism sector.



As COVID-19 aggravates long-standing inequalities and deepens hunger, malnutrition, and vulnerability to disease, millions of Malawians could be pushed into extreme poverty. Tourism remittances and demand for Africa's commodities are already declining, and the openings of the trade zones have been impacted. Due to the impact on air travel, the travel decline has impacted the export industry that depends on cargo freight space on passenger planes as such this has affected the

tourism industry directly. Due to lockdowns worldwide, the short term future of Malawi tourism is bleak.

Tourism is a sector with proven capacity to bounce back once the multi-national main actors respond positively to the pandemic and this is a process that cannot clear overnight. The sector is yet to recover once the communities where people live become safe for inhabitants, which warrants the inclusion of tourism in national and global recovery packages to support the healthcare systems. The road to recovery will be longer and more difficult but achievable. Unfortunately, LCDs' economy with a large percentage of the poor contributes little to global GDP. The resumption of air travel and the return of foreign tourism would take

considerable time and space, therefore, my view is that LCDs can in the meantime, retain workers and promote domestic tourism as people move to travel once lockdown measures are relaxed, and continue to plan for more resilient, sustainable tourism sectors to retain the much needed economic value that must have been lost previous months. The economies of LCDs are being severely hit by COVID-19 due to erratic pandemic containment measures. Employment to breadwinners in most families has been lost. Government revenue has dwindled. LCDs have limited capacity to deal with the pandemic of this scale, but the tourism sector can rebound quickly if rehabilitation of the sector is included in relief and resilient building efforts at national and multinational levels. ■

NATIONAL COHESION AND NATIONAL SECURITY IN AFRICA



COL. GILBERT O. ODUOR
KENYA AIR FORCE

National cohesion generally entails the existence of an integrated citizenry with a sense of belonging amongst members of different groups and from different regions through the regulation and reconciliation of differences and competing demands. It is a process and an outcome of instilling and enabling all citizens in the country to have a sense as well as a feeling of belonging to the same country and facing shared challenges. It is anchored on the belief that societies and individuals can only achieve their potentials when living and working

together hence going beyond peacekeeping and conflict resolutions. It constitutes unity, equality, freedom, democracy and absence of war, social justice and the rule of law.

National security or national defence is the security and defence of a nation state, including its citizens, economy, and institutions, which is regarded as a duty of government. Originally conceived as protection against military attack, national security is now widely understood to include also non-military dimensions, including the security from terrorism, minimization of crime, economic security, energy security, environmental security, food security, cyber-security etc. Similarly, national security risks include, in addition to the actions of other nation states, action by violent non-state actors, by narcotic cartels, and by multinational corporations, and also the effects of natural disasters. National Cohesion and National Security in Africa is faced by many threats, among them being: Radical Islam is a global phenomenon, generated by the uncontrolled dissemination of extremist ideology, supported by vast private wealth in the Gulf, the use of which is not subject to scrutiny. It poses a distinctive threat to Africa partly because many African countries have substantial Muslim populations that, in

conditions of poverty and poor governance, can easily become disaffected. Additionally, the threat is distinctive because the organizations needed to counter it effectively require a level of sophistication and cost that are beyond the means of most African militaries. The threat from radical Islam has been evident in Mali, the Central African Republic (CAR), Kenya and Nigeria. In Mali and CAR, it was existential: without timely French military intervention both states would have been overrun and fallen to radical Islamic forces. In Nigeria and Kenya, the threat has taken the form of sensational terrorism that, while not threatening the states themselves, is highly damaging to their international reputations. This difference in consequences is primarily due to the greater military capacity of Nigeria and Kenya: both countries have economies that are sufficiently robust to finance militaries with the capacity to defeat terrorist.

Natural Resource Discoveries. Although Africa has long been a natural resource exporter, until recently it was only lightly prospected: resource extraction per square mile was much lower than in other regions. The high commodity prices of the past decade have triggered a wave of investment in prospecting and, because Africa was the least explored region, it became

the favoured location for exploration. During the past decade many valuable resources have been discovered in previously resource-poor African countries, often in remote areas. During the present decade the mines and transport infrastructure will be developed in order to exploit these discoveries. While natural resources have the potential to increase growth and economic development if not well equally managed has potential to create conflicts.

The limitations of African militaries in response to these threats have been all too evident. Their weakness in Mali, CAR and Democratic Republic of Congo was probably inevitable in view of their economic and geographic fundamentals: these territories are basically too poor to impose security on their highly dispersed populations. While retrospectively it is always easy to identify political weaknesses, prior to its collapse Mali was not on any of the three independently maintained lists of fragile states by African standards, it was one of the better-conducted democracies. Hence, any solution to insecurity in these and similar countries will require a degree of external military assistance. In contrast, the limitations of the military in Nigeria and Kenya are not fundamentally economic. In both countries the military tasks required to respond to terrorist attacks were relatively modest.

Motivation, Nationalism and Democracy: Links and tensions, two key building blocks in the belief system that generates and sustains an effective military, nationalism and heroic leadership. The nation is what the military protects, and the nation's leader is visibly self-sacrificing in the national interest. Directly, nationalism provides a shared identity, but it also involves a supporting narrative, typically of a past struggle that has forged the nation, with heroes of that struggle as role models.

Corruption in most African are rampant. The need for enhanced counter-terrorism intelligence, especially in East Africa, may be more difficult to meet. Intelligence cannot reasonably be shared with organizations that are too weak to keep it secure. The pervasive corruption of the African public sector therefore precludes substantial sharing. The alternative is to finance and train self-contained intelligence gathering capacity country-by-country.

I set to see the issues of national cohesion and its impact on national security in African

countries. Research shows a close link between the lack of cohesion and inequality in life among many African countries. These factors hindering national cohesion can be categorized as either political, economic or social-cultural and they include;

- Weak leadership and governance of institutions
- Failure to address historical injustices
- Polarization and division of a country along ethnic lines that defines political opinions and positions
- Dishonesty and selfishness among leaders (corruption)
- Inequality in access to and control of scarce resources e.g. finance, land, etc.
- Ethnicity and negative ethnicity.
- Cultural insensitivity
- High levels of illiteracy
- Corruption
- Deteriorating morals and values leading to high levels of crime and anti-social behaviours among others

Negative ethnicity, divisive politics, lack of proper representation and regional autonomy, and inequality in access to and control of scarce resources have majorly contributed to increased vulnerability of citizens of the same nationality and even migrant groups to violence and mistreatment in some areas within the country and foreign countries in Africa making protection of their rights a threat to the national securities of most African countries e.g. the South African xenophobia, terrorism in Somalia, Nigerian xenophobia, post-election violence in Kenya, the civil war in Sudan among others. Several African countries have devised some ways to promote national cohesion among its citizens to help curb their impact on national security. Governments promote national cohesion and integration by ensuring political, economic, and social stability. It is the sole responsibility of every government to create a stable and predictive environment for its citizens to pursue their aspirations and endeavours. The Kenyan government for example used different strategies to promote national cohesion such as the strategies adopted by the Ministry of Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs through the National Cohesion and Integration Commission in educating and training its citizens thus providing a strong platform for social transformation. These training targeted the youths, women groups, people with special needs, community, and political elders, public servants, religious leaders, schools, and even



colleges. The ultimate aim of national cohesion and integration in Kenya was to create an all-embracing national community that renders loyalty to competing ethnic, racial, regional, class, and religious communities.

In Sierra Leone, following its brutal civil war, the government integrated dialogue and citizen input into the planning process as it sought to institutionalize a strong transitional justice framework. The country's ministry of defense initially pursued an inclusive and participatory process and later created mechanisms for civilian participation in parliament and instituted procedures for civilian oversight and control to gain the confidence of the public. Sierra Leone's national security strategy also emphasized the link between security and development thereby identifying poverty and lack of social cohesion as a national security threat that requires calibrated responses that are not reliant on military instruments alone.

In Nigeria, the task of unifying the various ethnic, religious, political, and socio-economic groupings has remained a daunting problem and challenge to its national security for many years.

Several strategies have been employed, policies formulated including the institutionalization of the federal character principle, the National Youth Service Corps, unity schools, national symbols national orientation agency and even mantras such as the "unity of the nation is not negotiable" among others, yet the gap between the various groupings seem wider as Nigeria is still plagued with ethnic rivalry, religious intolerance, political exclusions, power-sharing, and violent agitations among others. The story is the same for a majority of African countries like Somalia, South Sudan, Botswana, Lesotho, and Congo among others. The Underlying factor is, without National unity, cohesion, and integration among the citizens of a country, National security cannot be guaranteed.

SOCIAL COHESION

Social cohesion is defined as the willingness of members of a society to cooperate with each other in order to survive and prosper.



Social cohesion is our best hope for healthy democracy

In promoting national cohesion and integration requires purposeful strategies to streamline the management of the various diversities among African countries. Some of the strategies that can be adopted include but not limited to;

Strengthening vital institutions of governance such as the executive, judiciary, local government, public administration, electoral rules, and party composition is necessary if national cohesion and integration are to be achieved.

- Addressing Socio-Economic Inequalities (regional and inter-ethnic inequalities) such as lack of access to education and training, water and sanitation, healthcare services, housing among others. These forms of inequality create a feeling of social exclusion which may intern cause violence and hatred among citizens of a country
- Management of ethnic and socio-cultural diversity. Cultural products serve to unify people while participating in cultural activities ensures that issues of national importance are profiled and a message of integration communicated thereby promoting mutual coexistence and respect.
- Finally, reconciliation, conflict resolution, and prevention are also key in ensuring national cohesion. Efforts should be made to address conflict prevention, consolidating peace, and promoting healing among conflicting communities.

In conclusion, Africa has been through a successful decade of rapid growth. However, it is facing new security threats that are likely to be beyond its current or feasible domestic

military capacity because of lack of internal cohesion and integration. While the threat from the increasing importance of natural resources can best be countered by improved economic governance, that from Islamic extremism probably requires international military assistance, at least to the neighborhoods of the Sahel and the Horn of Africa. In the longer term, African governments will need to improve domestic military effectiveness and national cohesiveness. However, lack of effectiveness is rooted in a more general lack of worker's motivation in the public sector. In this case, rectifying it may depend upon resetting the identities, narratives and norms which underpin motivation. Leaders may be able to achieve such a reset through national parties, embodying an ideology of ethnic inclusivity and personal sacrifice, as appears to be underway in Rwanda and Ethiopia. Such a strategy differs considerably from the preferred Western approach of multiparty electoral competition. But in retrospect, the emphasis on the process by which power is acquired, as opposed to how it is used is considered important. ■

BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: INNOVATION AND YOUTH AGENDA

According to *whatistechtarget.com*, Digital Divide has been defined to mean the gap between demographics and regions that have access to modern information and communications technology, and those that do not or have restricted access. The technology can include the telephone, television, personal computers and the Internet. In the earlier times, *digital divide* referred mainly to the division between those with and without telephone access; in the late 1990s the term began to be used mainly to describe the rift between those with and those without Internet access, particularly broadband network connection.

According to the Communications Authority, the digital divide typically exists between those in cities and those



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in rural areas; between the educated and the uneducated; between socioeconomic groups; and, globally, between the more and less industrially developed nations. Even among populations with

some access to technology, the digital divide can be evident in the form of lower-performance computers, lower-speed wireless connections, lower-priced connections such as dial-up, and limited access to subscription-based content. The reality of a separate-access marketplace is problematic because of the rise of services such as video on demand, video conferencing and virtual classrooms, which require access to high-speed, high-quality connections that those on the less-served side of the digital divide cannot access and/or afford. And while adoption of smartphones is growing, even among lower-income and minority groups, the rising costs of data plans and the difficulty of performing tasks and transactions on smartphones continue to inhibit the closing of the gap.

Arising from this challenge, one of the Mandates of the Kenyan Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs (MoIYA) is to bridge the digital divide. It is doing so through a number of programmes as enumerated hereafter:

Digital Learning Programme (DLP)

The DLP uses technology to facilitate students to receive educational content. The Programme provides equipment necessary to deliver the digital content including devices, internet connectivity, storage and servers, and power connection to public primary schools throughout the country. Led by the ICT Authority (ICTA), the technology and infrastructure development includes identifying, acquiring, and set up of reliable and robust devices and infrastructure to support the DLP. Eventually, it is expected that local innovators and industries will be used in the assembly of the devices and accessories. Consequently, the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and Moi University in collaboration with the Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development have established the Nairobi Industrial and Technology Park Project.

In order to join the program, an e-readiness assessment to ensure the school has a metered connection to either the national grid or solar power, secure and well ventilated storage cabinets with adequate charging ports, flat and wide desks, enough for all the students, a dust proof classroom, ample security for the devices, with grilled doors and windows where they are stored, at least 2 teachers trained per school, and a full set of devices for a school which includes tablets for the



pupils, sky blue laptops for the teachers, projectors, and digital content server and wireless router. Special needs schools also have luminous green laptops and Braille embossers for special learners.

Teacher Capacity - Led by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology building teacher capacity has seen the development and implementation of a targeted training programme for implementers of the DLP. In the initial stages 3 teachers per school are targeted to benefit from the digital learning training. So far over eighty thousand teachers have been trained. Digital content (academic material) comes in many forms including text, audio and videos files, graphics, animations, and images. The DLP provides a framework for identification of approved educational content materials to be digitized and availed in a secure digital platform for learners. The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) has led the digital content team to develop and execute a framework for developing content and converting it into digital platform. KICD launched online content for classes one, two, and three, which is available upon a simple registration. The DLP devices are preloaded with content in five subjects namely, Kiswahili, English, Mathematics, Science and Social studies. Content for class four to eight should be ready soon.

This program has had remarkable benefits with the pupils being more alert and learning becoming more fun and practical. The program has enhanced ICT skills amongst the teachers and has enabled communities close to schools to connect to the grid electricity. In addition, DLP provides **business and employment opportunities** such as ICT support centres in the counties and sub-counties, and business opportunities in digital education content development and e-waste management and disposal. Efforts through local collaborations and consortia to build the capacity to assemble the DLP devices and accessories, will build local industry and creates jobs.

Constituency Innovation Hubs (CIH)

The initial proof of concept hubs have been successfully set up in several constituencies (which also serve as Sub-counties in the administrative structure). The objective of the project is to support entrepreneurs and innovators by providing access to free internet connectivity and computing equipment in all the 290 constituencies countrywide. It will also enhance awareness and uptake of on-line platforms for employment and business opportunities. The CIHs are being set up in collaboration with the local members of parliament who provide the laboratory facilities while the MoIYA provides the data connectivity and training support. In addition, they will support access to government services through portal such as e-citizen, i-tax and TIMS. Closely related to the CIH is the Studio *Mashinani*. This project aims at enhancing availability of accessible recording studios and enhancement of self-employment opportunities for artists in the robust creative music industry. Studio *Mashinani* is a key component of the *Ajira* Digital Program is under the theme "*Talent ni Kazi*", where we aim to develop the creative industry by enabling the youth to tap into their natural creative curiosity and inventiveness. The MoIYA through the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation, has built five independent audio recording and creative production studios for purposes of recording quality audio music, commercials and jingle pieces. Studio Mashinani eligibility guidelines are necessary to ensure the greatest access to the studio to as many artists as possible. In an effort to allow equitable opportunity for facility use, reservations will be limited to no more than 4 uses per month and no more than 2 hours per use.

Ajira Digital

The *Ajira* Digital Program is a government initiative driven by the MOIYA to empower millions of young people to access digital job opportunities. The program seeks to position Kenya as a choice labour destination for multinational companies as well as encourage local companies and public sector to create digital work.

The government digitization projects already create lots of viable micro work that can be completed by digital workers.

Access to digital work has the potential of building wealth and growing tax bracket nationally. The guiding principles of the *Ajira* Digital Program are:

1. Private sector first – value generation through the private sector
2. Sustainability – orchestrate the ecosystem to self-regulate and grow organically
3. Eliminate brokers – generating more value to the youth
4. Promote the domestic economy – realization of a knowledge economy

The components of the *Ajira* digital program have been designed to address the main challenges that hinder the youth on benefiting from digital job opportunities: The *Ajira* youth who do not have personal internet infrastructure can still use government innovation hubs, Kazi Connect Centers, Studio Mashinani and Y254 TV Channel.

Presidential Digital Talent Programme (PDTP)

DigiTalent is the brand name for the Presidential Digital Talent Programme (PDTP), an internship programme that develops the ICT talent pool in Kenya through a collaboration between the public and private sectors. It is borne out of the need for government to enhance its capacity to use ICT in effective public service delivery. It also provides a training ground for potential employees and an affordable labour pool of freshly qualified individuals in government offices. Targeting recent graduates, PDTP offers participants an opportunity to understand government services, and provides them with a chance to contribute towards improving service delivery to Kenyan citizens.

National ICT Connectivity

The National Fibre Optic Backbone Infrastructure (NOFBI) has over 6,000km transmission network that enables the local government departments of the 47 counties to form an efficient transmission

network with the central government and is also used by leading telecommunication firms. Metropolitan fibre civil works has been completed in 35 of 47 counties.

County Connectivity Project (CCP)

The County Connectivity Project aims at ensuring that county Government offices are connected to the internet as well as promoting online services using telephones, emails and teleconferencing. With increased connectivity in the counties, there is faster delivery of services and documents such as birth certificates and National Identification Cards. In addition, the public has equal access to high quality public services both from the national and county offices. The project specifically aims to connect County Commissioner Offices, Treasury Departments, Civil Registration Departments, National Registry Bureau, Education Department Offices, and Governors Offices.



Google Loon

Google Loon is working with MOIYA to bring internet access to Kenya's remote regions. Floating high in the stratosphere, around 20km above sea level out of range of air traffic, storms and wildlife, Loon balloons can extend internet coverage over 5,000 square kilometres. The balloon carries an antenna, which relays internet signals transmitted from the ground. In the case of this new partnership, Telkom Kenya will be providing the internet signals, and Loon will spread it over remote areas of Kenya, away from Nairobi

which is well-covered by other internet services, it will initially cover a region spanning nearly 50,000 sq.km., including Iten, Eldoret, Baringo, Nakuru, Kakamega, Kisumu, Kisii, Bomet, Kericho, and Narok. Delivering connectivity to rural areas will uplift the underserved areas and see opportunities enjoyed by other developed areas availed to them.

Way forward

According to the Communications Authority of Kenya (CA), another agency under MOIYA, the liberalization of the communications sector has had a positive effect on the deployment of communications infrastructure and services in the country. However, the opening up of the sector has not availed communications services to all in Kenya as the licensed commercial operators and service providers have tended to concentrate operations in areas where a return on investment is guaranteed. The Kenya Communications (Amendment) Act, 2009, provides for the establishment of a Universal Service Fund (USF), administered and managed by the CA. The purpose of the Fund is to support widespread access to ICT services, promote capacity building and innovation in ICT services in the country.

The sources of the Fund include levies on licensees, appropriations from Government as well as grants and donations. The Fund is expected to finance national projects that have significant impact on the availability and accessibility of ICTs in rural, remote and poor urban areas. Consequently, areas that are perceived as commercially unviable have over time remained either un-served or under-served. The Communications Authority of Kenya is responsible for ensuring that all in Kenya have access to affordable communications services. The Communications Authority of Kenya undertook a National ICT Access gap study in 2016 and has mapped out the 66 underserved areas, in which it has started installing telephone connectivity as a start. It will continue devoting proceeds from the USF to developing the areas on the wrong side of the digital divide. ■

KNOWING HOW TO LEARN IN THE INFORMATION AGE



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When American engineer Martin Cooper invented the world's first cell phone in 1973, he had no idea that he had just changed the world. The progress of technology adoption was slow at first. In the 1990s, when people were asked whether they would consider using a cell phone or accessing the internet, many of them said these were unnecessary practices. In the past twenty years, however, the use of ICT has increased drastically across the globe, culminating in a period that is widely referred to as the digital age.

Unlike in the past where knowledge was often sequestered behind physical libraries and within the grounds of schools and



Figure 5: Martin Cooper invented the cell-phone. [Photo from CNN]

It is clear that we are all drowning in a sea of information. The challenge is to learn to swim in that sea, rather than sink under it.

universities, today there exists a flood of information that is mostly accessible free of charge. For learners in the digital age, the adverts brought about by technology might seem propitious. However, can too much of a good thing turn into poison? As Lyman (2001) posited, can students learn to swim in the sea of information rather than sink under it? How can one judiciously separate the wheat of beneficial knowledge from the chaff of fake news and internet garbage? Here, I seek to explore and attempt to answer these questions among others.

At present, nearly every learner on the planet benefits from the internet in some way or form. Even though traditional brick and mortar classes continue to exist, both teachers and learners cannot conduct their affairs without the internet's input.



Figure 6: The concept of learning has changed since the beginning of the millennium [Source: Imgflip]

In 2015, research by McGraw-Hill showed that globally, 81% of students in tertiary institutions used the internet to study. It would not be complete conjecture to postulate that percentage has only grown bigger in recent years. In the same report, it was revealed that 85% percent of students who embraced technology recorded an improvement in their grades.

The beauty of the information age is that it has devolved and democratized knowledge. People who would otherwise not have been able to acquire an education can now do so with relative ease. Students who cannot be admitted to a university either due to financial reasons or academic merit can now educate themselves using tools found over the internet. Researchers have long found out that the internet contains tools to help even students with literacy problems catch up with their cognitively-advanced peers.

The extent of the autonomy that can be achieved by learners in the information age became even more apparent during the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic. Because the coronavirus that causes Covid-19 is highly infectious, many learning institutions across the globe were shut down to contain the spread of the disease. In the days of yore prior to the information age, nearly all formal learning would have ground to a halt. However, many institutions are now able to carry on with the curriculum activities through various online electronic platforms. In their phones and computers, students can access more than enough information to pass their courses.

Any learner seeking to benefit from the fruits of the information age must first start by interrogating their objectives for learning. Any form of learning should not be geared towards merely being

'knowledgeable'. Instead, any information we consume will serve us better if we strategically direct it towards the development of relevant competencies.

This process of interrogating one's objectives might include passing up on skills that have been rendered almost obsolete in the digital age. Learning skills such as manual data entry, for example, would only put the learner at a disadvantage since such jobs have largely been automated. It is also not wise to focus on a line of study that involves rote memorisation of factoids that might not be directly applicable in real-life situations. Knowledge that is not applied is just but useless trivia. In the information age, such knowledge can simply be obtained via a 5-second Google search.

According to a report by data analytics firm Domo, human beings produce 2.5 quintillion bytes of information every day. Clearly, we are already generating more information than we can reasonably consume. What the world needs most are people who can interpret this information and use it to advance humankind. In the words of popular musician and USA Presidential aspirant Kanye West:

@KanyeWest (2018, April 30). we're in this so-called information age but we're starving for wisdom (sic). [Twitter Post] Retrieved from <https://twitter.com/kanyewest/status/990697283174858752?lang=en>

After identifying one's learning objectives, a learner's next step will involve selecting the learning methods that will accrue them the greatest benefits in the information age. While classroom-based and instructor-led methods are still vital, new methods of information dispensation may work just as well, if not better.

A learner needs to know that in the digital age, learning has been geared towards a more self-directed approach. What this means is that instead of waiting for instructors to provide structured curricula about the areas of study, learners now have more freedom in picking areas of study and specialisation. This also means

that while time-limits can be placed upon the pace of knowledge acquisition, this is quickly changing. Self-directed learners can now do away with formal supervision and dictate the pace of their own learning.

The learning of today punishes individualism and focuses on collaboration. It is said that at the cusp of the information age in the mid-1990s, two companies set out to digitise the encyclopaedia. One of them, Microsoft Encarta, hired qualified experts who were all PhD holders to produce an online encyclopaedia which people would pay top dollar to access. The other, Wikipedia, sought to make their encyclopaedia free for all and relied on well-wishers to pen its entries. Today, Microsoft Encarta is extinct while Wikipedia thrives.

The above scenario lays bare the motivations that underpin learning in today's age. Collaboration and joint learning, aided by technology, have emerged as important values that drive the learning principles of today. A student in Nairobi can easily share knowledge with their counterpart in Kosovo through mediums such as social media and internet forums. This collaboration enhances one's understanding of a learning concept as well as fosters a spirit of virtual camaraderie.

In 1545, Conrad Gesner, a Swiss physician and scholar, complained that the world, at that time, had too many books. He said that the over-abundance of books was harming learners and confusing them. Gesner called on Kings and Princes to solve this problem by sorting through the



Figure 7: Conrad Gessner is believed to have diagnosed the earliest instance of information overload [Source: Britannica.com]

books and preserving the useful ones, then burning the rest.

What Gesner complained about centuries ago is a phenomenon that modern scientists have come to define as "information overload". Information overload, according to the Oxford Dictionary, is "Exposure to or provision of too much information or data". Futurist Toffler likened the situation to what results after over-eating, coining the term "infobesity".



Figure 9: No one should fail to gain knowledge in the digital era [Source: Imgflip].

In the information age, learners have to devise ways to combat information overload. As early as 2012, it was revealed that the average person receives 63,000 words of new information every day. That is about the length of a novel! To navigate this torrent of information, the modern learner needs to be disciplined enough to turn out the noise and focus solely on the relevant material. Ironically, it is technology that holds the key to saving learners from drowning in data. Productivity apps and online tools can help filter emails and block certain time-wasting applications to enhance focused study.

Just like knowing what not to eat is the secret to combating bodily obesity, knowing what information to ignore is also the key to avoiding infobesity. Not every book about a particular topic out there deserves to be read. An academic article ought not to be read cover to cover. Learners should discipline themselves to only consume what they intend to apply.

Other than wasting time, the consequences of not dealing with information overload can be detrimental to a learner's health. Speaking to *The Australian*, Dr. Ben Searle, senior lecturer of Psychology at Macquarie University, said information overload has emerged as a major cause of psychological illness.

Both learners and teachers should take great care to evaluate the credibility of information received during the learning process. Since many entities produce information in today's world, it can be a Herculean task to separate facts from fiction. Fake news and downright inaccurate and misleading information have proliferated in our information sources such as the internet and newspapers.

A study by Stanford University found that learners using the internet do not fare well when it comes to determining truth from falsehoods. 30% of students surveyed were inclined to believe fake social media accounts that pedal inaccurate information. A whopping 80% of students will read through an advertisement disguised as an informative article and take it as the gospel truth. Learners were more inclined to believe information that is found on numerous websites as opposed to information coming from credible sources.

The need to evaluate the credibility of information is nothing new. However, until recently, most people dealt with carefully selected collections of information material from academic and public libraries. There was a limited range of widely accepted authoritative text books in the classroom and a fairly ethical and controlled mass media. Currently, anyone can make a web page. Individuals posting information on the internet are not required to pass through traditional editors or undergo any kind of fact-checking required in conventional published print media. It is difficult to tell whether the information is reliable or not. One can then pose questions like - What happens when our children get more information (from the internet and other electronic technologies

that have bombarded our society) than previously conveyed by the teachers? What do citizens do when faced with many informational possibilities - information as well as misinformation?

To avoid the conundrums stated above, teachers and students should thoroughly question how they receive information. It takes rigorous practice to be able to differentiate real news from satire and fake news. Learners should, therefore, seek to verify sources of every bit of information received and learn how to recognise patterns used by fake news peddlers. According to Nagler, fake news is characterised by grammatical errors, having illegitimate second-level domains, having a glaring lack of quotes, and a propensity for old, recycled stories. Of importance to note is that learning goes beyond merely having access to and knowledge of how to use technology (hardware and software) - because technology alone does not guarantee quality learning. As described in this article, gaining knowledge and skills in the information age can provide immense benefits in form of autonomy, increased learning opportunities, and an enhanced ability to collaborate with peers from across the globe. However, while enjoying the benefits of unprecedented access to information, learners and educators alike must take great care to minimise downsides such as information overload and unscrupulous data and information. ■

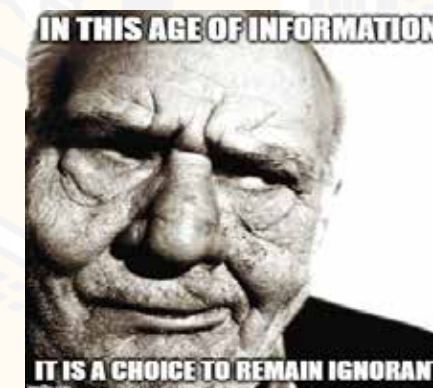


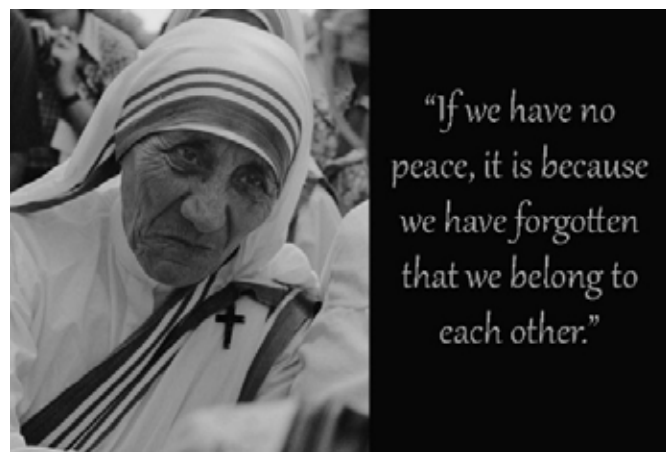
Figure 8: Learners need to know how to filter information. [Source: Imgflip]



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Moments or times of crises are generally experiences of great difficulty, danger or suffering. These are also moments of great disagreements, confusion and suffering. They could face an individual, family, organization, community, or nation. I could not help but wonder what inspired leaders in history who made greatest statements ever. Most of the inspiring words or quotes were made by men or women in moments of crises or hardship. As John Kenneth Galbraith said, "leadership is the confrontation of the major anxiety". For purpose of this article I will major more on crises of Global, regional and National magnitudes. Since time in memorial the world has suffered humanitarian calamities/crises ranging from war, conflicts, disasters, famine. Terrorism, pandemics, among others. Crises are categorized by their magnitude, scale of destruction both materials and loss of life. Among the most renown events of humanitarian crises include the Spanish flu of 1918 which left approximately 50 million people dead, the first and second world wars which left over 100 million dead. Worst world disasters include china floods of 1931 leaving 50 million dead, HIV/aids pandemic left approximately 30 million dead by WHO records of 2010. National Humanitarian crises recorded include Yemen political conflicts leading to over 15 million people dead and many more calamities leading to serious humanitarian crisis to mention but a few.

LEADERSHIP COUNTS IN CRISIS, ROLE OF LEADERSHIP IN CRISIS



"A leader is a dealer in hope" as Napoleon Bonaparte once observed. Some of the greatest moments and times of crises history had leaders who played critical key role in the survival of humanity. Just like



Humanitarian crisis in Yemen

today, humanity is faced with problems, challenges and crisis that threaten man's survival. History is often written of leaders in whom we see innovation and courage in crises. Nelson Mandela once said "Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back again". John F. Kennedy during the Cuban Missiles Crisis once said "When written in Chinese, the word CRISIS is composed of two characters. One represents danger and the other represents Hope" alternatively leader must give hope.

Leaders during crises must have a clear understanding of what is facing them. In 1962, John F. Kennedy was President of USA during the Cuban Missile crisis when his country was faced with one of the most serious threats to Americas National Security. When he

saw photographic evidence of the deployment of Soviet Nuclear Missiles in Cuba, just some 90 miles from USA soil, the President said "We here again facing another crisis, and we are hungry for whatever the past can teach us about how to survive moments of great stress and strain". President Kennedy was rational, careful and willing to compromise but was very much aware of the crisis and its threat. In his address to the Nation, Kennedy "let no one doubt that this is a difficult and dangerous effort on which we have set out. No one can foresee precisely what course it will take or cost or casualties' will be incurred. Many months of sacrifice and self-discipline lie ahead, months in which both our patience and our will, will be tested, months in which many threats and denunciations will keep us aware of our dangers".



Actions of leaders during crises determine whether the organization, nation or even the community will succeed to navigate through the crisis. Effective leadership must take good decisions very quickly and in most cases they do with limited information. Leadership therefore will serve as the force to rally everyone on the right track. To lead in crisis, the leader must remain on top of issues, take charge and in taking critical decisions. The leader must portray confidence and face crises head on despite the stress involved.

During crisis, leadership provides hope and courage. This was demonstrated during the 2nd World War when Britain was attacked by Germany. The then charismatic Prime Minister Winston Churchill in some of his powerful statements said "without courage all other virtues lose their meaning". He is also quote as saying "one ought never to turn back on a threatened danger and try to run away from it. If you do that, you will double the danger. But if you meet it promptly and without flinching, you will reduce the danger by half. Never run away from anything, never! "yet another he said "if you are going through hell, keep going". A leader becomes the figure head of courage who people look up to and still see hope and strength to carry on. The people of Great Britain where able to courageously fight against a might Germany army in World War Two with a leadership navigated their country to victory.

Crises is naturally unpredictable which means that leaders have no time to prepare. Crises or moments of adversity are moments of either a do or die. Leadership counts during crises to build their societies resilience during and post crisis period. During crises leadership reassures the people. As is common in crises the environment things could quickly degenerate in to chaos due to fear, stress and uncertainty. Leadership holds responsible those assigned responsibilities to perform so that they can execute crisis management focused on and heighten the spirit of determination of the people to get over it.

Leaders must project honesty and confidence. Being realistic during crises is an important key to inspiration. There is need for calmness and assurance when stating the magnitude of a situation. Leaders are human and they too get affected by crises. Leadership must be honesty first to itself and with the people. Honesty demonstrates the integrity of leadership. During this COVID-19 Pandemic Kenya's Cabinet Minister for Health, Kenya, Hon. Mutahi Kagwe came out honestly and admitted that his ministry is grappling with corruption issues which were hampering efficiency and effectiveness to deal with COVID-19.



CS Health, Mutahi Kagwe, briefing on Covid-19 status.

Leaders must project honesty and confidence. Being realistic during crises is an important key to inspiration.

He said the challenge is huge and that as Minister he will require help of all relevant government agencies to deal with it.

Leaders who never learn from history are doomed to fail. The world continues to be faced with astounding challenges which require leadership to provide solutions. Among them are effects of climate change such as floods, landslides and forest fires as those recently experienced in Australia,

California and USA; Terrorism by violent extremist groups; Challenges of drug abuse and drug trafficking; human trafficking, poor governance and high level corruption in Africa and Latin America. Others are Pandemics like COVID-19, poverty in Africa, conflicts, environmental pollution, threats of technological crimes like bioterrorism, cybercrimes and moral decadency of society destroying tomorrow's future generations. All these challenges, whether at global, regional, national or at community, family or individual levels are requiring leadership to act appropriately.

Learning from historical moments of crisis the role leadership played; when men and women who stood and saved their communities and provided leadership we can all look up to them for lessons, men like Winston Churchill of Britain, Truman of USA and Sigman Rhee of South Korea who led a country ravaged by war to make it world class economy with a cutting edge technology. Example of leaders like Mao Tse Tung of China who led China from devastating effect of communism and Sino-Japanese wars to make a foundation for one of the leading economic giants of the world today. Not to be left are African leaders who saw their Nations rise from hopeless crises to bright new dawn; Jomo Kenyatta and struggle for independence of Kenya, Nelson Mandela of South Africa and President Paul Kagame.

Kenya today is faced with myriads of problems ranging from corruption, tribal conflicts, unemployment, effects of environmental degradation, crime, terrorism, pandemics and their socio economic effects, all looking up to leadership. It is a challenge to all in position of leadership and responsibility to provide leadership and enable Kenyans and Africa to navigate through these challenging moments. Right now the world is going through one of the worst pandemic; covid-19 this has led to almost shut down of all economic activities and learning institutions. Air and Rail transport has been shut down, Factories and business hubs closed as workers are ordered to stay away or work from home. So many people have lost their livelihood as the governments continue to tighten measures to control the spread of covid-19. Hope for the country to navigate through the current crisis of the pandemic will solely depend on leadership. In conclusion, I congratulate The President of the Republic of Kenya together with all the leaders for showing strong leadership during this crisis. It is my hope that we all shall remain strong and resilient to rebuild our economic and social institutions. For together we stand but divided we fall. ■

DIASPORA AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN KENYA



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A diaspora can be described as a group of people who share similar heritage and origin, having migrated from their mother country, but possess significant interest and connection back in their homeland. In the last few decades, the world has witnessed people's migration into different countries because of politics, education, socialization, economics, religion, and family ties. The movement necessitated the national government to design strategies that have helped domesticate the benefits realized in the Diaspora. Inputs from the diaspora group cannot be underestimated or assumed because they play a significant role in contributing to the gross domestic product of the homeland country.

The post-colonial period saw many Sub-Saharan African countries encounter war and internal conflicts, political instability, economic crises, and genocides—this fueled a movement of people from their countries to other countries perceived to offer better conditions. Kenya's diaspora

is scattered all over the world and is estimated to be more than 3 million. Some of them are professionals in various field such as medicine, engineering, information technology specialist, accounts and university tutors among others. Most of these are in the Americas and the western world. Others are menial workers such as domestic workers.

Due to the importance the government places on Diaspora, the Government's Foreign Policy of 2014 has identified Diaspora one of the five pillars of the foreign policy. To ensure that Diaspora is well anchored in government operations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also came up with the first-ever Diaspora Policy in 2014 to guide the government's engagement with Diaspora. The Kenya's Constitution 2010 has provided for dual citizenship for Kenyans living outside the country. The Kenyan government occasionally has organized national conferences for the Diaspora to encourage them to invest back home. There is, however, a need for the government to harness fully the potential that has not been fully utilized.

During his inauguration as the third President of the Republic of Kenya, His

Money is often sent to family members, relatives and friends and also directly deposited to bank accounts opened in Kenya by individuals outside the country.

Excellency, Mwai Kibaki, called on all persons living in the Diaspora to join the government and other Kenyans in the development of the Country. He urged all Kenyans abroad to offer their assistance in developing Kenya, either through remittances, skills, knowledge, innovation and technology transfer.

The main contribution by the Diaspora to Kenya National Development is through Cash Remittance. Remittances as cash inflow to the country are being directed to increase the national income and the GDP. In the recent past, the Kenyan GDP has risen over 3% as a result of diaspora remittances. According to Migration and Development report of 2019, remittances also rose from 196 billion shillings (\$ 1.962 billion) in the year 2017 to 272 billion shillings (\$ 2.720 billion) in 2018, which was an increase of over 75 billion Kenya shillings (\$750 million). A survey occasionally conducted by CBK on remittances cash inflow monthly has shown a tremendous rise in recent years. In March this year for example \$ 228.9 million was received compared to \$ 218.8 million) received in February. The diaspora remittances are now Kenyas leading source of Foreign Exchange earnings surpassing tourism and agricultural exports.

Kenyan's remittances from the Diaspora mainly come from the North America, European countries, and Asia among others.

Money is often sent to family members, relatives and friends and also directly deposited to bank accounts opened in Kenya by individuals outside the country. When remittances are used by individuals who are the recipients, they create a



significant impact on the economy of a country. The inflows mitigate against shocks caused by shortage of foreign currency in the country and helps to stabilize the Kenya shilling. The overall growth of the economy is created as demand for services and products increases as there is liquidity in local markets. Most families living in Kenya receive cash from their relatives abroad. As a result, their living standards are improved, reducing poverty and contributing to the well-being. Remittances come in throughout the year and benefit all levels from households, individuals, community, to the national level.

The Kenyans in the Diaspora have vital contributions in areas of culture, political plans, business ventures, stability, and peace of the nation by providing great ideas and finance. The macroeconomic crises in Kenya that arise from Kenya participating in international trade are some of the problems solved by the Diaspora's remittances. Remittances improve the creditworthiness of a country hence gives a country access international markets in financing developmental projects and infrastructure.

A large part of the Diaspora's remittances is directed to consumption, investment, and human development. One of the policies drafted by the Kenyan government induces a favourable environment to allow investment by the Kenyan Diaspora in their countries, which is later channelled to homeland country through levies.

The Diaspora is now Kenya's 48th county being the largest and most influential. The Diaspora have also been allowed to vote progressively during general elections and indeed they voted in some select countries (e.g in East African countries and South Africa) during the last general election in 2017. The move to include the Diaspora in the national government matters has enhanced their participation in building the nation and participating in decision making. The decision by the Kenyan government to create policies that allow for voting rights and dual citizenship has encouraged Kenyans living in the Diaspora to link with their counterparts in their homeland actively.

The launching of the Diaspora policy in 2015 by Kenya's government was aimed at harnessing the potential of Kenyans

abroad to participate in the transformation agenda, hence contribute to vision 2030. Ideas from the Kenyan Diaspora are vital in the development of our country. The ideas that they get from abroad are later transferred directly to Kenya especially when Kenyans studying abroad return when Kenyans after their education. Some come back and work with the government, private sector or start their own businesses hence contributing to national development. The increased use of mobile phones, modern forms of social media communication, including use of twitter, Facebook and WhatsApp among others, have contributed to the exchange of information and ideas between the Kenyan Diaspora and the Kenyans at home.

There are vibrant Kenyan professionals such as engineers, doctors, and technology experts who are currently working abroad. Some of those who have returned to Kenya have already joined the Kenyan government in the national development agenda in their areas of specialization. The doctors and other professional expatriates should be encouraged to come back to Kenya and start clinics, hospitals, and even medical schools to assist in national building. The untapped profession in the medical sector can help Kenya build its medical fraternity and enhance its capacity to deal with rising health issues.

The diaspora policy was designed to facilitate a favourable environment for the Kenyan Diaspora to participate in the nation's development. Among them was the development of a mechanism of minimizing the high cost of sending the remittances to Kenya. The advancement in communication and technology has enabled many channels of transferring, which are cheap and affordable. Services of M-PESA, Tangaza Pesa, and Airtel Money, among others, are mobile-based payment methods of money transfer, which are reasonable in the current market.

The government of Kenya set to provide incentives for investment opportunities in the spirit of encouraging Diaspora to direct their remittances to central government

and devolved counties. The constitution of Kenya commits the government to protect the interest of Kenyans living abroad. Besides, the government had promised to put in place programs that will encourage professionals abroad to come back home and develop their country. The continued updating of Diaspora database of the Kenyans living abroad is aimed to improve access to the timely and quality information about Kenya for ease of engagement. A web portal for Diaspora has been created both at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at the Missions abroad for registration of each member of diaspora and provides various consular services the government offers. The ministry headquarters and diplomatic missions abroad enhance efficient engagement with Diaspora through sharing information using the trending means of communication. Some Missions such as Washington DC organize Diaspora investment conferences where the diaspora voice is heard and information on the investment climate in Kenya shared with them.

It has been noted that Diaspora can greatly assist the government wherever they are by collaborating with the Kenyan missions abroad to market Kenyan products especially the main agricultural exports such as tea, coffee, flowers and vegetables. The same applies to marketing of Kenyan tourism products that we pride in. In Canada for example, several Kenyan owned companies such as Asilia Inc. are leading in marketing Kenyan tea especially the Kericho Gold brand now available in leading stores in Ontario province. Others are selling Ketepa brand tea and specialty tea. During the major coffee and tea exhibitions, tourism fairs and shows these Kenyan companies team up with the missions or go alone to market the products. Apart from the above, ethnic food products are also being sold by Kenyans in cities with large concentration of Kenyans and East Africans. Such products include Kenyan sausages, beans, maize and maize floor, bananas for matoke and dried vegetables.

It will be noted that many Kenyans living

abroad have bought land in the counties and plots in cities and have invested in real estate. This has contributed to provision of housing/shelter to the Kenyans and in a way contributing to the Big Four Agenda of providing affordable housing. The only unfortunate thing is that many have also lost their saving after engaging in land purchase fronted by connen masquerading as genuine owners of land only for them to produce fake land ownership documents. Others have relied on relatives who have swindled them of hard earned savings.

The Kenyan professionals abroad can greatly contribute to the technological advancement of the country through technology transfer by coming in to start local industries with the knowledge acquired abroad. This could enhance not only Agricultural farm productivity but also post-harvest storage of food. We need technology for preservation and storage of fruits such as mangoes, avocados and bananas that go to waste most of the years as they are do not get market due to overproduction. Packaging technology would go a long way in adding value to locally produced products which can fetch higher prices in foreign markets and increase the country's foreign earnings.

In the western countries, there are Kenyans working with research institutions which collaborate with the government agencies and fund development programmes in Kenya. It would therefore be ideal if these officials could present the Kenyan case favourably in their organizations to attract more funding especially for research and development. Foreign research institutions like the International Centre for Research and Development (ICRD) based in Canada have active portfolio in Africa and has assisted Kenya in the past. Kenyans working for the institution have worked hand to secure some funding for projects in Kenya.

Many Kenyan youths who are highly educated are idle and unemployed as the formal jobs in the government sector are

not available. If the well to do members of diaspora could come and invest in industry, tourism, health, agriculture, transport and education among other sectors, they could create employment and reduce the current unemployment facing the youth. This would be a great contribution to the nation and would reduce the rate of crimes occasioned by unemployment. Drug addiction, robbery as well as usage of illegal arms would substantially be reduced.

Most Kenyans abroad have established Kenya Community Associations that bring people together. It is expected that the Kenyans wherever they are will be good ambassadors of the country. They could hold events from time to time to market Kenya's culture. They can hold Kenya Day or Kenya night where Kenyan Cuisine, attire, songs and dance are exhibited and enjoyed. The Kenyan story can be told to the audience to increase their knowledge about the country. If portrayed positively outside the country by Kenyans, Kenya will be taken seriously not only for investment purposes but also as an ideal place to visit. The members of diaspora should also give their best to their host countries and avoid going against the local laws.

In conclusion, Kenyans in Diaspora have a lot to offer in the development of the country. They should take the advantage of the government's willingness to facilitate them where necessary and engage for individual gain and national good. There are limitless opportunities for investment depending on one's background and interest. While abroad, they should also endeavour to register with missions to facilitate interaction and provision of consular assistance. The Remittances from Kenya diaspora in the recent past have increased considerably and have helped the country especially during the current period of COVID-19 pandemic, which has led to joblessness and reduced earnings. Professionals abroad are encouraged to return home and contribute in nation building. ■

ROLE OF FORENSIC ANALYSIS IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS



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Growth in Application of Forensic Genetics

Whenever a crime is committed, investigators look for traces left by the human body including: hair, saliva, nails, footprints and other bodily fluids. Criminal investigation is a multi-faceted challenge requiring police investigators to learn investigative processes. Scholars have studied the institution of the prosecutor, the public defender, and the operation of criminal courts; and now the crime lab is deservedly receiving academic attention as well. Crime labs vastly expanded their footprint due to the drug war, with its demands for high-volume drug testing, and the advent of Deoxyribonucleic testing, which required expensive testing equipment.

Modern crime labs perform testing of potential controlled substances and drug testing constitutes the largest portion of what crime labs do. Roughly the other half of the work of crime labs, according to these Bureau of Justice Statistics surveys, relates to identifying culprits and assessing how crimes occurred. That work includes DNA testing, but despite its prominence, relatively few cases permit a DNA test. Crime labs still handle far more requests relating to traditional forensic methods-such as comparing ballistics, latent fingerprints,

fibers, and tool marks. As the high-profile dispute between the federal government and Apple over unlocking a smartphone indicates, digital forensics is an increasingly prominent type of analysis as well.

Forensic science comprises a set of scientific disciplines and methodologies, whose goal is to help in legal procedures during investigations and prosecutions. These include forensic toxicology, psychiatry and forensic psychology, anthropology and forensic odontology, criminalistics, biology and forensic genetics. This article focuses primarily on forensic genetics role in criminal investigations. Forensic science applies scientific methods to the recovery, analysis and interpretation of relevant materials and data in criminal investigations and court proceedings hence it is both an intelligence and evidential tool to assist in the delivery of justice. In this article I have discussed case law in which forensic evidence was applied. I have also discussed the legal framework under which forensic analysis is done particularly in Kenya. These discussions clearly indicate that forensic evidence plays a very important role in investigations within the criminal justice sector.

International Perspective

Scholars submit that application of forensic science in criminal investigations began in earnest towards the end of the last millennium with the registration of patents for modern processes of DNA profile extraction. The substantial potential of the DNA profiling methods created and developed in the US and the UK at the tail-end of the 1980s to support the identification of authors of crimes led to efforts by law enforcement authorities in the following decade to develop computerized databases containing DNA profiles of convicted criminals. Computerized databases and crime labs are now a common feature for investigations in countries like the

UK. Other countries like Austria, the Netherlands, Germany, the United States and France have computerized crime labs in various stages of development. Today, crime labs are run by government departments and law enforcement agencies within the criminal justice sector. There are over four hundred public crime labs in the United States showing the importance of forensic science as a tool in investigation of crimes.

Forensic Science Application in Kenya

Forensic Science in crime governance incorporates new ways to apply justice using scientific methods. This is being applied in Kenya too. In **Republic of Kenya Siaya High Court Criminal Appeal no. 16 of 2016 Eliud Ouma Agwara versus Republic, the appellant Eliud Ouma Agwara** was charged with an offence of defilement contrary to section 8 (1) (4) of The Sexual Offences Act No. 3 of 2006. The alleged victim, a 16 years old girl is purported to have been impregnated as a result of the alleged defilement. After a full trial the appellant **Eliud Ouma Agwara** was found guilty on the main charge, convicted and sentenced to serve 15 years imprisonment. Aggrieved by the conviction and sentence the appellant appealed to the High Court of Kenya in Siaya. One of the grounds of appeal was that The Learned Trial Magistrate erred in fact and in law in failing to take into account the result of the DNA test on the paternity of the Complainant's



Figure 1; Crime Scene Technology; SOURCE; Miami Dade College

child when the same was a material issue before him as the child was alleged to be the result of the act of defilement for which the Appellant was charged. The act of defilement is alleged to have been committed by the appellant as the complainant testified before the magistrate's court that it is the appellant who defiled her. The appellant denied the offence and put forward a defence of alibi and applied for DNA testing since he claimed he was being unfairly accused.

The complainant had testified that she had never had intercourse before and that the pregnancy was as a result of an act of defilement by the appellant. The appellant was convicted by the resident magistrate on the evidence of the complainant but the conviction was set aside by the High Court and in acquitting the appellant, the High Court stated that it was the duty of the prosecution to prove as they alleged that the complainant has had no other sexual intercourse with any other person prior to the date of defilement and that as a result of the alleged defilement the complainant became pregnant, bore the child whose DNA test report connected the appellant with the act of defilement.

The trial court had convicted the appellant under section 124 law of Evidence act which grants jurisdiction to a trial court in sexual offences to convict an accused person on the basis of sole, uncorroborated evidence of the victim to the offence. However, in the instant case, the DNA evidence on record proved that the child born as a result of alleged act of defilement did not belong to the accused even though the complainant victim testified that it is the accused who defiled and impregnated her. The trial court was supposed to take into account the exculpatory, scientific, DNA evidence but it wrongly exercised jurisdiction under section 124 of the Evidence act and believed the complainant even in the face of glaring exculpatory evidence. The High Court remedied the error by quashing the conviction and setting the appellant free. This demonstrates the importance of forensic evidence in criminal investigations and prosecutions. Sometimes oral evidence from primary eye witnesses can be

erroneous and sometimes eye witnesses can be motivated by extraneous factors to testify but scientific evidence can aid the court in arriving at a fair determination of a case. The 1928 English Court of Appeal court asserted that circumstantial evidence of which forensic science is a part "is often said to be the best evidence. It is the evidence of surrounding circumstances which by intensified examination is capable of proving a proposition with accuracy of mathematics".

Similarly in another case, Charles Obonyo Atinga ("the accused") was charged with the offence of murder contrary to section 203 as read together with section 204 of the Penal Code (Chapter 63 of the Laws of Kenya). The particulars of the offence are that on 13th May 2016 at East Reru Sub-location, Seme District within Kisumu County he murdered Josephine Achieng Obonyo ("the deceased"). After the accused denied the charge, the prosecution marshalled 7 witnesses while the accused made an unsworn statement and called one witness. There was no eye witnesses linking the accused to the offence but after a forensic analysis during investigations revealed that DNA profiles from blood samples on the murder weapon recovered at the scene and blood samples recovered from the accused's clothes, matched the blood samples of the deceased. The accused could not explain why the deceased's blood was found on his clothes and this led to an inference of guilt since the inculpatory facts and the circumstances taken cumulatively, formed a chain so complete that there was no escape from the conclusion that within all human probability the crime was committed by the accused and none else and accordingly, the accused was convicted for murder. There was no single eye witness to tie the accused to the crime and without the forensic evidence of DNA analysis it would have been impossible to secure a conviction for murder against the accused. This demonstrates the important role forensic analysis plays in criminal investigations and prosecutions.

Legal Framework for Forensic Analysis in Kenya

Criminal investigation agencies in Kenya



Figure 2; Crime Scene Management; SOURCE; Lawyer Monthly; <https://www.lawyer-monthly.com/2018> accessed on 16/08/2020

can access chemical testing services from The Government Chemist Department. This government run Central Chemical Testing Laboratory in Kenya has its headquarters at Nairobi and branches in Mombasa and Kisumu. The Department provides Forensic science services and Analytical Laboratory services besides being the National Authority for the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). It also serves as the Secretariat for the National Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Centre of Excellence (COE) initiative. This Division deals with scientific analysis and other procedures for purposes of administration of justice and general investigation. Officers in this unit also attend scenes of crime for technical support and collection of samples as well as presentation of forensic evidence in courts of law. The mandate of the Department is derived from various legal provisions namely; The Penal Code Act Cap 63, The Evidence Act Cap 80, Sexual Offences Act 2006, Cap 62, Food, Drugs and Chemical Substances Act Cap 254, The Pharmacy and Poisons Act Cap 244, The Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (control) Act, Cap 245, Pests Control products Act, Cap 346, Alcoholic Drinks Control Act, Cap 121A, Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap 514, Standards Act Cap 496, Water Act 2002, Cap 372, Anti-counterfeit Agency Act Cap 130A, The Environmental Management and Coordination Act, among other national legal statutes. This department therefore provides forensic science services for the criminal justice system, and scientific crime scene support services to the law enforcement agencies. Government chemists attend court in criminal cases to submit technical reports and expert evidence for the administration of justice. This is not just in crimes in crimes against the human person such as homicides and

assaults but also in economic crimes where chemically treated currency and proceeds of crime are recovered from suspects. Forensic science therefore does play an important part in crime scene management especially where there are terrorism attacks and other disasters to identify victims of crime through DNA profiling.

Forensic Science Laboratory

This Division deals with scientific analysis and other procedures for purposes of administration of justice and general investigation. Officers in this unit also attend scenes of crime for technical support and collection of samples as well as presentation of expert evidence in courts of law. It is divided into specialty sections;

Forensic Toxicology

This section conducts analysis for chemically toxic substances in postmortem specimens like blood, the stomach and its contents, liver and kidney in homicide and other related cases in humans, analysis for chemically toxic substances in biological specimens like blood, the stomach and its contents, liver and kidney in veterinary cases, and analysis for chemically toxic substances in exhibits submitted alongside biological specimens.

Forensic Biology

This section deals with DNA analysis and other serological procedures for purposes of administration of justice in cases involving: Murder investigations, Sexual offences (rape, defilement and bestiality), Robbery/theft, Child stealing and trafficking, Identification of species of origin in wildlife crimes, Identification of missing/unidentified persons, Determination of parenthood, Development and administration of human DNA database.

Contribution of Forensic Science to Police Investigations

Research studies have been reviewed by United Kingdom House of Lords, Science and Technology Select Committee. This is in relation to the overall contribution of forensic science to crime detection. According to the United Kingdom House of Lords, Science and Technology Select Committee volume

crime detected through the use of forensic evidence has, historically, been low (less than 10 per cent of all detections). However, the growth of automated searching, alongside new forensic techniques such as DNA, and initiatives to improve attendance rates have increased the proportion of volume crime offences detected using forensic evidence. Forensic science application in the UK only gained prominence in the 1980s as per the literature reviewed and this article submits that there is need to conduct more studies to ascertain the frequency with which science is applied in investigations. Low detections using forensic science could mean low uptake and use of forensic science. There is need to evaluate the level of training and frequency with which science is employed during criminal investigations. This way we can establish the training needs for investigators in application of forensic science and come up with policy decisions how best to allocate resources in terms of personnel and materials where they are needed most. In the UK, it is estimated that forensic evidence accounts for directly detected volume crimes in more than one quarter of cases. Volume crimes in the UK are those crimes which impact the community significantly. Traditionally forensic evidence has been used to 'corroborate' evidence against known offenders. The presence of forensic material greatly increases the odds of detection where other types of evidence are not available. Overall, therefore, forensic material makes the greatest contribution to detecting harder-to-solve crimes. This underscores the key role of forensic science in investigations and prosecutions of crimes.

Challenges

Forensic analysis during investigations is not without challenges. Various challenges are encountered by government analysts, police, prosecution counsel and even judicial officers. These challenges include; Repeated adjournments in court which can render certain scientific specimens useless due to their perishable nature. The court's diary is always congested and securing a hearing date for criminal cases is not easy. Growing number of criminal investigations and prosecutions require forensic analysis of evidence. Application of

forensic science in criminal investigations has been growing since the 1980s but the number of personnel needed to conduct forensic investigations and analysis does not match the workload. There is need for more personnel and forensic labs to handle the growing cases. Whenever crimes are committed it is common to see members of the public rushing to the crime scene and interfering with evidentiary material. Crime scene managers are interested in details such as footprints, motor vehicle wheel marks, shattered glass, bullet fragments, and human body parts. Interference with the crime scene by members of the public can affect application of forensic science in investigations.

Which Way Forward for Forensic Evidence?

With increased population growth it is necessary to build capacity to manage crime using forensic science. This will facilitate access to justice for crime victims and enhance efficient determination of criminal cases. There is need for additional forensic laboratories to match the growing case load. There is also need to prioritize cases involving forensic analyses to enable the state adduce forensic evidence in a timely manner. It is also necessary to conduct continuous professional trainings for police investigators to build capacity in crime scene management. It is pertinent that further research is conducted and on a continuous basis. This can help us ascertain crime patterns and determine how best forensic science can be effectively utilized to achieve greatest impact in criminal cases in terms of crime detection, case conclusion and high conviction rates where suspects are culpable. This article therefore suggests that the police department in Kenya should work collaboratively with the department of government chemist, the Office of Director of Public Prosecutions and the Judiciary and compile data for cases investigated and prosecuted with help of forensic science. Such data can be submitted with quarterly returns for cases concluded and it can be useful for policy decisions. This will add to the existing body of knowledge regarding practice and application of forensic science in criminal investigations. ■

HEALTH BENEFITS OF MAINTAINING A RECOMMENDED BODY MASS INDEX DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

COVID-19 is here with us and with every passing day, it is becoming increasingly clear to all and sundry that important adjustments must be made to almost all aspects of day-to-day living, in what has been referred to as 'the new normal'. All of a sudden, people all over the world are grappling with the requirement to observe a raft of containment measures, as a means of slowing down the transmission of the deadly disease. These measures have been issued by relevant government authorities to the general public and include known public health practices such as regular hand-washing with soap and water, or use of recommended, alcohol-based sanitizers where prescribed hand-washing practices are not feasible.

Some seemingly more effective measures aim at limiting human-to-human contact, which is in itself the single most important factor for transmission. One such measure of specific interest to this discussion is the requirement to stay home as much as possible, as means of effectively reducing the risk of coming into contact with infected persons, which in effect obliterates any chances of infection. Much as it is very effective in breaking the transmission cycle and keeping infections at a minimum, the stay-home advisory has other impacts on the health of the concerned individuals. One such impact is its potentially profound effect, both negative and positive, on the Body Mass Index (BMI).

BMI is a measure of body fat based on height and weight that applies to adult men and women. In other words, it is a person's weight in kilograms (Kg), divided by the square of height in meters (M). BMI can be used to screen for weight categories that are likely to lead to health problems, even though it is not diagnostic of the body fatness or health of an individual. The recommended BMI range is 18.5 – 24.9 Kg/M², below which one is deemed to be underweight and above which one is deemed to be overweight. Within the overweight zone, the range of which is 25 – 29.9 Kg/M², one is not deemed to be at high risk of developing health problems. However, when one gets into the 30 – 35 Kg/M² range, they are categorized as being obese and are at a high risk of developing health problems. These include cardiovascular diseases such as heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke, diabetes, sleep-related breathing disorders, cancer, bone disease



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and depression. The three main causes of obesity are excessive food, lack of exercise and genetic (or hereditary) factors.

The stay-home advisory has led to a drastic reduction in activities associated with the normal daily lives of a majority of the people. This means that people are subjected to more sedentary lifestyles, characterized by lack of exercise and a quick, sharp increase in body weight. Similarly, the sudden increase in amount of time spent within the home setting as well as convenience provided by these circumstances and easy access to food, tend to promote the habit of eating at a much higher frequency than usual. It is

therefore imperative, that deliberate measures be taken during this COVID-19 pandemic period, to check the likely tendency to add body weight, develop obesity and the accompanying health problems. This can be achieved through observing a combination of measures involving a regular exercise schedule and controlled diet regime.

What is interesting is that a golden opportunity now presents itself for those who are already overweight and obese, to leverage such schedules and regimes, as a means of shedding off that extra fat and regaining a recommended BMI. A major impediment to maintenance of an ideal BMI is the busy work schedules of modern day working-class individuals, who spend a bigger proportion of their time at the office, working while maintaining a predominantly sedentary mode of operation. A significant number of these individuals are either overweight or obese and are already having one or more obesity-related diseases. The stay-home advisory promotes a culture of working from home, ostensibly to promote social distancing and minimize human-to-human contact.

The wider use of information and communication technology (ICT) has resulted in the deployment of more advanced and efficient digital platforms to transact daily activities. Virtual meetings, online trainings and decentralization among other innovative approaches, have become the order of the day. The sum-total of this new approach is that significantly less amounts of time are required to meet the same targets and achieve similar outcomes as before, when traditional non-digital platforms were

generally used. The time saved can be used to exercise regularly, while the capacity built around transitions from traditional to the innovative digital platforms are increasingly getting populated with online work-out plans.

Over the past few months, there has been significant proliferation of digital exercise applications which are easily and freely downloadable from the internet, which are able to offer effective exercise plans for those who need one. The beauty about such plans is that they are tailored towards a rich variety of settings so that those who are unable to take to the road for purposes of having an evening jog, can easily conduct a 30 minute to one-hour indoor work-out within the comfort of their homes. For an exercise schedule to produce useful effects in so far as obesity and BMI are concerned, one has to ensure that they do a minimum of three 30-minute (or longer) work-outs per week.

When coupled with a diet regime, online exercise plans are able to produce magnificent results with regards to weight loss and BMI reduction. The predictability of one's daily program and consistency afforded by the stay-home advisory makes it possible for a diet plan to be executed. Diet and the related weight-loss plans are premised on the basic understanding of physiology and the knowledge of what the body does when one eats food. Food provides the body with three macronutrients which must be obtained through diet: carbohydrates, protein and fats. These are essential for proper body functioning, and the body requires them in adequately large amounts. Carbohydrates are the body's main source of energy. They are the sugars, starches and fibres found in fruits, grains, vegetables and milk products.

When one eats, there is a large burst of insulin, a hormone produced automatically and needed to dispose of all the carbohydrate or sugar that is getting absorbed from the meal. This hormone promotes movement of glucose, the ultimate product of the carbohydrate and sugars, out of the bloodstream into body cells for utilization or conversion into storage forms. One of the long-term storage forms of glucose within the cells is in form of lipids. These lipid stores are responsible for increase in body weight, hence the corresponding increase in BMI and development of obesity.

A diet regime which provides for sufficient periods of fasting allow for short periods, during which very low quantities of insulin (if any) are produced, which are incapable of a net storage of glucose within the cells in form of lipids. In fact, there is a net loss of the lipids through re-conversion to glucose and use in production of energy during the fasting period. If the diet regime is consistent and sustainable enough, individuals are able to lose sufficient weight to enable them regain a BMI which lies within the recommended

range, in some cases weaning themselves off treatment for the obesity related health problems they may be having. It is imperative that in addition to spacing out the meals taken, deliberate attention be paid to selecting the types of food eaten, so that the total composition is low in refined carbohydrates such as white bread, sifted maize meal posho and white rice, among others.

There is a real opportunity to reap the numerous health benefits which are potentially achievable during this period when the global COVID-19 pandemic is being experienced. Health problems like hypertension, diabetes, and depression among other obesity related ailments can be completely reversed, courtesy of the extra time created out of new approaches embraced by the 'new normal' way of transacting business. These may include but not be limited to utilization of virtual and online platforms to hold meetings as well as time saved from removal of the need to travel to the office and other meeting venues during the pandemic. Furthermore, digital solutions which have presented themselves and are readily available online can be acquired and deployed in supporting a new drive to assume health lifestyles during the COVID-19 pandemic period.

However, it is important to note that close monitoring of progress made is key to safeguarding the gains made during the actual practice of the exercise schedules and diet regimes. Individuals targeting benefits related to cardiovascular diseases should invest in a blood pressure monitoring machine in addition to a weighing scale. Individuals who are already taking medication for obesity related health problems need to work closely with their physician in case a need to taper off their medication arises.

Finally, once a BMI within the recommended range is attained, one has to keep up with a maintenance program for the long-term. Sustainable plans which envision adjustments should be put in place, just in case a return to the traditional way of doing things is assumed after the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. ■



SOCIO-CULTURAL CHALLENGES FIGHTING COVID 19 IN LUANDA VIHIGA COUNTY



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Introduction

Immediately after the first positive case was reported in the country, panic gripped the Banyore community. There was a total and unprecedented response from the community whose social contract involve joint operations of doing things. This is a community that always had a way of doing things socially, culturally and more so economically being a business community. The pandemic appears to reverse the way business is done.

The Kenya government through a structure of administration who conveys policies, programs and instructions, like conveyor belt, had instructions to deliver the regulations as was reported, to the most remote villages of the sub county. Despite the advice to avoid social gatherings the department had to device ways to reach her subjects in the whole sub county. The sub county security and intelligence committee made decision to use the local FM radio stations, road shows and units operating from house to house.

Social distance and its cultural attachment

As the community is faced with the

'new normal', cultural issues have been raised that concerns; for instance, the relationship with the dead. Celebrating is high while bidding the dead last respect. The community respect the day by behaving in a way to show total respect. With advent of the pandemic, the actions are in jeopardy. Not more than 15 persons were to attend the ceremony. The new normal is asking the community to burry then celebrate. The actual reality as per their norms is, celebrate then burry. Very strange situation since culture change is gradual. They must live with this new culture. The instructions included but not limited to the following and subsequent obstacles and challenges that in observing social distancing, the regulation was however necessary but her implementation was a tall order to a community who believes handshaking is a show of respect and depicts maturity of persons. Waving their hands is seen as western culture. In African culture, **shaking hands** upon the first meeting and in the process of departing is normal between all the men present. Women shake hands with one another, but with men only in more sophisticated contexts; very respectful handshake involves clutching your right arm with your left hand while shaking or, in Muslim areas, touching your left hand to your chest when shaking hands.

Hand-washing challenges

Regular hand-washing to contain the spread of the corona virus. The advice was received from their elected leaders as stakeholders as it increased the level of conformity. Hand-washing in major market centers faced a challenge of regular and flowing water as the area water infrastructure is still low. The local culture denotes that immediately after any hand wash must be followed by a sumptuous meal. They have not, therefore,

had an opportunity of hand-washing without food in front of them. Corona response committee had to make decision to **avail water**. Water boozers sourced and supplied the commodity.

Economic challenges

Keeping off from social places like clubs, bars and other recreation facilities was a tall order, it had never happened before. It is a new normal. It has been difficult to accept.

Trafficking of illicit drugs became an order of the day and youths indulged in intensive venture that generate illicit employment to cartels. Routing the drugs also involves navigating against law enforcing agencies. Health care and social service providers started treating alcohol related ailments and caring of victims of drug abuse though it is unproductive activity by any standard. Luanda is the main highway to the neighbouring Uganda. The economic activity of the road is enormous. The gateway has been in existence for drugs traffickers. The covid pandemic has made it even worse as the business activity for income generating entrepreneurs has been affected greatly. Drug cartels have compromised the security apparatus due to the income involved from the sale of drugs. Supermarkets which have been spared because of its essentiality has engaged in the illegal business of selling this drugs behind the scene. Drugs have rendered the youth a great deal as Luanda is a center with the greatest number of mad people.

Police apprehended and took in those breaking the health protocol. A level of force was applied and it resulted into another problem of youths indulging in illicit brews. The community purely depend on businesses as farming has

been dwindled by increased population standing at 1,200 persons per square kilometer. Stopping them from congregation in the markets without giving another opportunity of survival was also challenge. Markets were closed to ensure crowding is controlled. Here, going to the market does not necessarily to make purchases but a means of socialization. This is the bit that was interrupted by the pandemic. Now that schools are closed even made the population to rise in the markets and villages. Frequent funeral ceremonies were affected as attendances should not exceed 15 persons yet this is the last respect of a family member.

Availability and Dressing of face mask

Wearing of facemask was affected by access to the device or availability, costs where availability prevailed and durability of the same. The community had to content with an improvised home-made mask like handkerchiefs and smaller clothes.

The Vihiga county government managed to produce more at affordable price through the local vocational and technical school.

The sub county had to device a way of dealing with the possible effects and tracing of suspected covid situation.

The Ministry of Interior formed and chaired a multiagency committee comprising of the members of the national police service, national intelligence service, the county government administration, Ministry of Health, through the clinical and public

health, religious leaders and elected political leaders. The team is referred to as Sub County **Corona Response committee**. The mandate involved sensitization, contacts tracing of persons suspected to have been in contact with victims, providing necessary tools like hand wash, sanitizers and facemasks.

Toll Free Calling

The sub county in collaboration with the county device a toll free calling center called command center where citizens were given an opportunity to report, request and seek clarifications. A security platform was also unveiled called MULIKA to allow quick intelligence on possible cases in the community for purpose of tracking suspected contacts or cases flouting the regulation. The technology gives confidence to the whistle blower as the author cannot be seen but the message is. The beauty is that the message is received by all responsible security commanders in the county. This platform makes field officers accountable for any reported cases that touches the jurisdiction.

The idea of this introducing this media was to make communication easier, accessible, secure and fast. To some extent it did make some strides as messages received were being acted upon. The identity of customers and those making inquiries

were unanimous creating more trust as the identity is guarded. The media has however met some challenges including raising alarms that are false, misleading and those that are injurious. It has become the medium to score



County commissioner and vihiga governor foresee the production of facemask

the village difference. Those protagonists are now raising against their colleagues in an effort to punish, ridicule or taint their reputations.

Security officers have also been misled by suspected criminals who misdirect officers to where the crime is allegedly committed only to realize the actual scene may be elsewhere. The fight of covid-19 through tracing via the toll free MULIKA platform has had challenges since the same issues of revenge vendetta is affected.

Based on this situation, the government has since taken some of the following interventions that include Profiling of most vulnerable members of the society to benefit from small tokens, frequent payments due to older persons, orphans and vulnerable children and persons living with severe disability that are periodically reviewed for authenticity through the Ministry of Devolution, supplied relief food to the organized clusters in the community.

The County government has supported local technical and vocational school to produce cheaper masks for the community.

Conclusion and recommendation

It appears there was not any awareness created prior. It is recommended therefore that sensitization is key for ownership of any project of the government. The more the awareness the more the recipient of the idea by the community.



Luanda market before Covid -19 pandemic.

For the little engagement with field administrative officers, it appears the trust for the information did not resonate well with a community with some levels of low literacy and poverty level. It is recommended that for proper address of such serious matter, the local political leadership can drive the agenda home because the community conform more when their leaders express an issue more than the security apparatus.

Hand-washing is hampered by sparing use of water in the community. It is recommended that this vital ingredient of fighting covid-19 is very necessary

and there the county government is recommended to make water accessible to all residents more so the urban population.

There was abuse of security platform by those misleading the security officer in an effort to commit a felony. There is need to sensitize members of the community to work with all security apparatus so that the elements who go against the security establishments are dealt with decisively.

Because covid-19 has dealt the small and medium enterprise a great deal, there is need for a necessary support to cushion the community against adverse effects. Their

livelihood has been affected due to the idea of closing social places like markets clubs and other income generating ventures within the market places.

Elderly persons should be enrolled in the government's stipend programs for persons aged above 65 years being vulnerable to the effects of the covid pandemic. Other vulnerable members of the society should be enrolled in the same scheme. They include people living with severe disability, orphans and vulnerable children and people living with HIV and aids. Those people are weak, vulnerable and deserve the state to cushion them. ■

POLICING: DISCRETIONARY POWERS AS A BREACH OF TRUST



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Crime has always been an integral part of the human society. Frictions among members of society became a common occurrence as it grew in size and complexity. This necessitated the formation of a body to enforce the rules/laws binding community members, and by this Police as an enforcement institution was born. Crime prevention and detection has always been an integral part of the policing system. Police are typically responsible for maintaining public order and safety, enforcing the law, preventing,

detecting, and investigating criminal activities as well as providing assistance to the public. Crime is and will always remain the first priority for the Police. The world over, it is the only agency equipped to deal with it, created to deal with it and also trusted to deal with it.

Towards realization of this noble cause, the police have been granted certain powers, namely the power to arrest and detain and the power to use force. It is precisely this monopoly on the use of force and the power to arrest and detain that place the police in a unique and sensitive position within society. Police actions are constantly under public scrutiny eliciting diverse reactions, both positive and negative. They exercise a wide latitude of discretion that demands a high sense of integrity and accountability as amplified by the speech at Police Training School Kiganjo by Sir Ronald Sinclair, the Chief Justice of Kenya when he spoke at a passing out parade on 28th February 1959

"Your responsibility as officers of the law begins. This is a great responsibility and you must be worthy of it. Not only have you great responsibility, but you have great powers. Be sure you use them fairly.

Remember you are officers of the law- not merely government servants. Above all, you are servants of the public. Always be honest. Act and behave in such a way that the public have confidence in your honesty and fairness. Unlike Soldiers in the army, as officers of the law, you will often have to act on your own. You will have to make important decisions quickly without opportunity of consulting your Superiors or books. On the occasions, as on all occasions, use your common sense. Whatever book knowledge you may have, you will never be good Police Officers unless you have common sense and use it".

This implies policing is centered on discretion which is susceptible to abuse by wayward officers.

It is a tough balancing act for Police Officers to exercise these discretionary powers, public expectations vis-a-vis the idiosyncrasies occasioned by our diverse genetic and environmental influence. A large proportion of the officers perform their work diligently as per the law in line with the above speech. In all training institutions, the emphasis is on operating within the confines of law with impartiality, integrity and

accountability. A few bad apples taint the image of the vast majority of disciplined hardworking law enforcement officers, hence compromising the legitimacy of the policing function.

Policing is an interactive function premised on cordial relations, where perceptions inform attitudes and trust/distrust towards the Police. Psychologists refer to this as spontaneous trait inference. More often than not, the public consider police as enemies forgetting that they are only concerned about fighting the enemy (crime) and at times endangering their lives that occasionally dictates use of violent means to mitigate the dangers. The media though performing a critical role is responsible for amplifying these negative narratives held by the society concerning the police. Relations between the police and the locals more often than not has not been a vibrant, because Police serve law abiding citizens and force criminals to conform to laws. These encounters/experiences account for the generalizations and stereotypes about the Police. Some of these negative perceptions erode trust which is the hallmark for an effective Policing function. Just as in any relation, trust is core and reciprocal whereby both parties bank on each other for support and understanding.

Citing the historical foundations of Policing in Kenya, the Police as a government institution was incepted during the colonial era to protect the interests and property of the Imperial British East Africa Company that had been designated to administer the British East Africa Protectorate by the crown. Moreover, some Police units such as General Service Unit were founded at the height of clamour for independence, precisely during the period when the state of emergency had been declared. They were used by the colonial administration to suppress the insurgency against their rule. Successive post-colonial governments similarly used the Police for self-preservation at the expense of civil liberties and freedoms. These happenings partly informed the negativity surrounding the police as a tool of oppression and brutality. The Police globally continue to receive condemnation for harassment, manhandling and

mistreatment of the public in the guise of enforcing law and order. A case in point is the George FLOYD murder incident in the USA that sparked outrage and protests across the globe, buttressing the endemic distrust towards the Police globally.

Trust is key in any form of relation and cannot be taken for granted, and trust is an abstract concept but one whose origins are firmly rooted in experience, individuals' interactions with other people and their past experiences with the institutions create expectations about how they will be treated in the future.

It is worth noting that Policing is a service to society, and for it to thrive and benefit the society, mutual and cordial relations is a prerequisite in Police-public interactions. They are two sides of the same coin. Eliminate one side, the other is rendered helpless, thereby affirming that Policing does not operate in a vacuum.

Trust is key in any form of relation and cannot be taken for granted, and trust is an abstract concept but one whose origins are firmly rooted in experience, individuals' interactions with other people and their past experiences with the institutions create expectations about how they will be treated in the future. Trust is fragile due to its highly contingent character in most social relations. Its extent and very

existence depends upon a range of factors both within and outside police control. To address the distrusts, Police reforms have been undertaken to professionalize Policing and align it to the dynamic society. In Kenya, the reform agenda subsequent to the 2007-08 post-election was meant to address the negativity cited and restore the desired trust and legitimacy in Policing. Reform is a process, not an event in which awareness creation is key to its success. All stakeholders must be taken on board, lest it pans out as an exercise in futility. Trust building must occur inside as well as outside the Police organization, since the whole exercise is geared towards changing the mindset of both parties in the way they view and interact with each other to restore confidence, legitimacy and the vital support for Policing to thrive.

Further still on the Kenyan case, the constitution provides for internal and external accountability mechanisms in the form of the Internal Affairs Unit (IAU) and Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) respectively to foster Police professionalism and efficiency. The Police reform agenda focuses on review of structures, training curriculum and attitude change informing the police that it is in their professional interests to cooperate. Enhancing police accountability and integrity is primarily meant to establish, restore or enhance public trust and (re-)build the legitimacy that is a prerequisite for effective policing. This is only attainable in the context of Public trust and support.

In conclusion, discretionary powers viz-a-vis public expectations is a tough balancing act given the contemporary Policing environment where the public is enlightened on matters civil rights and freedoms for Police Officers. It therefore calls for sobriety and understanding by both parties for the much needed trust to thrive in a policing context dominated by professionalism, integrity and accountability. These are the essentials for a trusted Policing function in which Police Officers exercise discretionary powers legitimately and in the process earn the much need public confidence and trust! ■

UNLIMITED BY THE SKIES



EUNICE A. J. DOBBY
OGW NPS

Early Life

Eunice Jevuline Anyango Dobby, is a professional Pilot with Commercial Pilots License (CPL), a police officer with National Police Service and a member of the International Police Association. I was born in Siaya County to a polygamous family with several siblings. This made it practically impossible for me and my siblings to enjoy full parental attention. Though village life has its unique challenges, it was mostly homogeneous, where everyone belonged to a wider family and to the community, rather than to their biological parents, life was considerably enjoyable. I got used to communal and convivial nature of the small community through which I grew up. The greatest danger in this type of environment is its restrictive nature and the automatic identification with the ordinary, subscribing to the same ideologies thus, limiting oneself to the normal.

Despite these challenges, I chose the path of strength, hard work and craving for a brighter future and a better family life at a pretty tender age. My schooling began in 1986 in a rural setting at Kawuondi Primary School in Bondo District, Siaya County. It was not until I passed the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) with flying colours and gained admission to the prestigious Kisumu Girls High

School in Kisumu, that I set foot in an urban setting. This contributed towards the reshaping of my worldview. Working against all odds, and being undeterred in my resolve to succeed in academics, my schooling progressed with lots of academic achievements, a factor which significantly contributed towards my positive attitude and enhanced self-confidence.

Dreams are Valid

Joining High School was a great blessing to me. As I regularly passed by Kisumu International Airport, I kept marvelling at the mystery of aviation. The most fascinating were the military jets that took off with ease and climbed while manoeuvring at high speeds while making deafening sound, which could be heard long after they had disappeared into the horizon. I later came to learn that the sound we were accustomed to hearing were the sonic booms created by the fighter jets as they broke the sound barrier and gliding with ease beyond the clouds. Little did I know that one day, I would make similar manoeuvres as a pilot in command. These experiences created a passion for flying in me, completely changing my perspective on school. I then formed a habit of spending longer hours in the school Library reading different types of books.

Some of these books did not have immediate relevance to the school syllabus, but I considered them relevant to my dream career. Looking back, my dreams were valid, and I did not disappoint. The extra hours in the library paid off and I attained good grades at Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE).

Tough Choices

Successful completion of high school education, awarded me an admission for a Bachelor of Science degree program in Pharmacy at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT). It also provided an opportunity

for an initial training as a police constable at the Kenya Police Force. It was very rare in those days, especially coming from a rural community, for one to sacrifice a university education for a career in the police service. The drive for decision making in the face of these two conflicting prospects lay on the mere fact that I detested to end up being unemployed like my elder sister and brother who had earlier graduated from Egerton University and Kenyatta University respectively but had remained jobless. Given this scenario, I opted for the police training since it had an assurance of immediate employment. Apparently, all my friends and most of my relatives disapproved my decision. Today, I look back with a sense of accomplishment that indeed I made the right choice.

Police Work

The year 1999 defined who I am today. This is when I got the admission to join the Police Training at Kiganjo. Luck came calling through a special cadet recruitment at the end of the training. This conscription allowed women for the first time to join the Police Airwing and I was one of the ladies found suitable to join the formation. I however, had to wait for two years before joining the Oxford Aviation College in Texas, USA to train as a pilot after a competitive selection process. In 2003 I graduated with a Private Pilot and a Commercial Pilots Licenses certified and issued by the US Federal Aviation Administration thus becoming a pioneer woman pilot in the disciplined services in East and Central Africa.

Since, the initial training, I have undertaken several advance courses in aircraft type, emergency responses, and management developments. Being a police pilot, has helped reshape my attitude and character, enhanced my knowledge and skills including that of decision making. Sound decision-making is crucial in piloting given the inherent risks while flying especially in remote places for

casualty evacuations, rescue missions, and in adverse weather over mountainous terrain requiring high level of safety. Lessons learnt from several air mishaps including the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster of 1st February 2003 when the shuttle disintegrated as it reentered the atmosphere in its final approach to earth from the Space Station have helped in shaping my attitude towards safety. The disaster became a serious topic during our safety classes.

It is through discipline and achievements that I have earned several recognitions and merited promotions from a Police Constable to the rank of Commissioner of Police.

Career

As soon as I got back into the country as a professional pilot with instrument and multi-engine ratings in 2003, I was made in charge of flights operations at the Kenya Police Air wing and quickly became a pilot in charge. The duties entailed ensuring police aircrafts were in good flying conditions. This role requires utmost dedication, diligence, dependability and expansive experience. My tasks included search and rescue missions, casualty evacuation, and communication flights, among others. These I'm able to accomplish by means of visual references flying, or reference to aircraft instrument flying in all weather conditions.

In recognition for the service I have and continues to render to this great nation, I was awarded the "Order of the Grand Warrior of Kenya medal (OGW)" during the occasion of the 2018 Jamuhuri Day celebration by His Excellency the President and Commander in Chief of the Defense Forces. I have also been part of the team that won the best Nairobi Trade Fair Stand in 2016. I have been and continues to inspire Form Fours for over a decade as my photograph at the flight deck graces the cover page of the Christian Religious Education book. I also conduct several motivational talks to various forums and I have been listed among the Top 40 under

In 2003 I graduated with a Private Pilot and a Commercial Pilots Licenses certified and issued by the US Federal Aviation Administration thus becoming a pioneer woman pilot in the disciplined services in East and Central Africa.

40 Achievers. I'm also the Secretary to the NPS Sports Committee and have been a member of the NPS First Aid competitions committee.

Challenges

It has not been all rosy. My career is characterized by various but surmountable challenges. These include working during odd hours and in emergency situations including holidays. Further, operational demands could also be stressful. For example, on one occasion during causality evacuation and in adverse weather, my aircraft developed main landing gear extension problem during the landing phase. I followed the emergency landing procedures, but with no success. This is where confidence brought forth through experience and training pays. In a repeat attempt, it managed to deploy the emergency landing gear extension system, pushing the landing to extend downwards. On seeing three landing gear green lights I maneuvered the aircraft into the approach and landed safely receiving a congratulatory remark from the control tower. In addition, it is not easy to balance between work and family life. Supportive family and leadership while staying focused and setting priorities right have helped. I cannot downplay good mentorship, and quality training as being instrumental in my career as well as my personal ability to cope with career and family demands.

Delayed Gratification

Despite forfeiting the chance to join the university after high school, my passion for knowledge never ceased. I therefore, joined the University of Nairobi (UoN) and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Commerce in 2008. Three years later I was awarded a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from JKUAT. This was not a very easy phase, I had to juggle the pressure of work, family demands and the stressing school life. I can now look back with satisfaction and recon that the pleasure of work is open to anyone who can develop some specialized skills provided she can get satisfaction from the exercise of her services without demanding any applause. Having majored in Human Resource Management, I was pleasantly surprised when in May 2020, I was posted to the Personnel Directorate of the Kenya Police Service. This will obviously help broaden my horizon by acquiring new knowledge, skills, work behaviour and practically putting to work my second profession. It is through this that I acquired sponsorship for this very important course. This course will bring out the very best in me, by learning from the rich experiences of all my colleagues. I am looking forward to proudly wear the badge of honour as a National Defense College graduate and an alumnus with Master of Arts in International Studies.

Conclusion

It is possible for one to achieve what one wants to achieve. As the saying goes; "the sky is not the limit". I have not been limited by the unique challenges in which I was born – the risk for anti-social behaviours associated with large families – nor the restrictive ordinary village life. Yes, dreams come true, and yes, I dreamt, but with the right character, confidence and innovative mind. With these traits I lifted myself from that humble rural setting of Kawuondi to a national figure. I refused to be ordinary, but to soar to greater heights to serve my beloved country. I have been and will continue to be a source of inspiration to many generations to come. ■

THE ROLE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) IN TAX ADMINISTRATION

Introduction

The rapid advancement of technology in the digital world and modern economies has shaped modes of operations in all industries through creation of new opportunities. Revenue authorities have not been left behind and have had to leverage on modern technology as a tool to challenge the norm of tax administration. The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has undergone a series of transformation through technology among other aspects. KRA, a recognized leading technology-driven revenue administrator, has utilized technology by implementing online platforms such as i-Tax, Integrated Customs Management System (i-CMS), Customer Relationship Management System, Cargo Scanner Management Solution and Excisable Goods Management System among others as strategic instruments to improve tax compliance and minimizing operation costs.

The current tax environment in KRA and many other tax administrators is characterized by requirement of increased transparency across jurisdictions, sharing information with each other and applying determined approaches to the tax management and collection process.

Meaning of Artificial Intelligence, (AI)

Artificial intelligence (AI) is an aspect of computer science that deals with the creation of intelligent machines that work and react more like humans. AI refers to an array of systems that change behaviours without being explicitly programmed, based upon data that is observed, collected and analysed. Artificial intelligence is an artificial creation of a human like intelligence. Some of the traits that AI has are the ability to learn reason, perceive and process a human's natural language.

AI is developed through algorithms and the success this system can achieve depends on the amount/volume of data captured. This ensures that it will provide the best results in accordance with the data captured. Artificial Intelligence is not one technology or stand-alone application but rather a combination of multiple technologies and applications.



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KENYA REVENUE AUTHORITY

Artificial intelligence is currently being applied in different ways and forms in tax and customs administrations processes. From tax administration point of view, the new possibilities/outcomes must be analysed specifically in the way AI will transform tax administration and tax systems in different countries. AI is also considered to affect taxpayers in order to strengthen their rights and guarantees where appropriate as well as the possible new framework of relations that may arise between the two sides of tax relationship. Many tax administrations and advisors are deploying AI to manage the ever-changing tax landscape and Kenya Revenue Authority

has not been left out. According to the *Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development* (OECD) over 40 tax administrators in the world are making use of AI or are planning to do so. In Kenya, the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has adopted artificial intelligence achieved extraordinary results.

iTax is a Kenyan based system that was invented by KRA using the AI technology that simplifies revenue collection in the country. Its results have been positive as it has shortened the time take to file returns and increased revenue collection. iTax has put an end to customer's dissatisfaction and has emphasized the Kenya Revenue Authority's mission to attain global best practices in tax collection and administration on par with the nations that have fully automated their tax system. i-Tax provide real time updates of tax accounts which have eased reconciliation of statements with the tax authority. As a result, this has built trust among taxpayers through the enhancement of transparency and promotion of accountability.

Taxpayers can file iTax KRA returns for Pay as You Earn (PAYE), Value Added Tax (VAT), Individual Income Tax Return, Corporate Income Tax, Partnership Tax Returns and Excise. Since employing online systems in tax administrations, tax revenue and the level of compliance have improved steadily over the years. In the 2016/17 financial year, KRA collected a total amount of 1.366 trillion an increase of 115 billion from the previous year's revenue collection an increase that was largely attributed to automation/digitalization of the tax collection processes around the same period. Furthermore, this AI based technology provides real

time updates of tax accounts which have eased reconciliations of statements with the tax authority thus it has built a trust among the taxpayers through the enhancement of transparency and promotion of accountability.

Artificial intelligence in tax data management

Tax administrations are always looking for ways to detect new tax evasion behaviors and patterns, identify organized tax evasion networks or simply reduce errors. Data from diversified sources has helped data-enabled tax administrations enforce compliance and anti-fraud policies. This practice also provides effective tools to understand non-compliant behaviors, spot high-risk areas, predict fraudulent taxpayers or businesses and create proactive measures to avoid or deter.

A data-intelligent strategy can help tax auditors with predictive modelling for investigating errors and fraud or predictive analytics for risk evaluation (e.g. on VAT refund claims for non-residents). Several benefits therefore can be associated with the introduction of artificial intelligence.

The agency has built AI-supported systems such as Data Warehouse Business Intelligence that attempts to predict which high-risk individuals are most likely to react positively to different tax authority interventions for recovering revenue. Other systems include Value Added Tax Automated Audits (VAA) which auto validates invoice declarations in the respective buyers' returns and flushes out inconsistencies. The inconsistency reports are subsequently sent to taxpayers. AI in tax procedures has been a successful pillar in fishing out tax fraudsters and tax evaders who have cost the government billions in lost revenue

Artificial intelligence in Customs and Border operations

Customs administration in Kenya is responsible for the enforcement of fiscal integrity and security of movements of goods across the country's land and sea borders. In order to verify whether the transported goods match the transport declaration, X-ray imaging of containers is used at most entry points. The current inspection procedures are reviewed to identify risks, catalogue illegal cargo, and prioritize detection scenarios. An integrated Customs System solution was developed to provide automation, information exchange between customs stakeholders.

Artificial intelligence (AI), is showing important benefits and further future advantages for customs and other stakeholders in cross-border supply chains, for the purpose of securing, facilitating and boosting global trade, and ensuring proper revenue collection. Artificial Intelligence has impacted on progressing SMART borders for seamless Trade, Travel and Transport. AI has enabled Customs administration to ensure that the following guiding principles are at the centre of Customs compliance, enforcement and facilitation efforts: Secure, Measurable, Automated, Risk Management-based and Technology-driven. Use of artificial intelligence, in Customs and Border Management has brought tremendous opportunities in the cross-border movement of people and on the commercial side. Volumes of data is generated for imported goods at border points as well people entering or exiting borders. AI provides the ability to make sense of this huge and ever-increasing amount of data across borders. AI technologies are used to collect and analyze data and by so doing the agency is able detect and predict patterns more accurately than customs officers can.

Specifically, Kenya Revenue Authority management of customs administration processes has utilized AI in the following areas:

- Import duty collection models, ensuring that the appropriate duties and taxes are collected at the border points;
- Classification of goods under the Harmonized System (HS), simplifying matters for clearing agents and importers and enabling greater compliance and certainty for both Customs and the private sector;
- Post Clearance Audits processes which are used to identify misdeclarations utilize AI so as to enable post clearance investigations to focus on areas of non-compliance;
- National Cargo Targeting has been made possible by use of AI. The Customs system compares passenger and cargo manifests against data bases and other records for clues that could reveal inconsistencies in declarations. To a greater extent AI is utilized so as to improve risk-based targeting of commercial shipments, as well as to provide and analyse data during shipment inspections using non-intrusive scanners in detecting contraband and counterfeit goods;

All Kenyan import declarations are registered in KRA's Integrated Customs Management System (i-CMS). If any errors are found when an import declaration is physically inspected by a Customs officer, a rectified version of the declaration is registered and both

versions are kept indefinitely. Integrated Customs Management System (i-CMS), has Artificial intelligence capability to detect inconsistencies and flag them out. These inconsistencies include false descriptions of goods, errors in harmonized system (HS) codes, mis information in relation to countries of origin, missing import documentation, inappropriate tax regimes, use of the wrong rates for the calculation of import duty and tax on imported and exported products.

Electronic Cargo Tracking System (ECTS)

ECTS is an AI technology solution that enables real-time tracking of cargo from point of loading to point of discharge or off-loading. The system was introduced to enable Kenya Revenue Authority Customs administration, importers, clearing agents and private transporters monitor movement of goods remotely and prevent theft of goods while on transit and diversion of goods on transit into the local market.

ECTS uses Global Positioning System, GPS to provide co-ordinates to give cargo location on the map and General Packet

Radio Services (GPRS) which enables the sending and receiving of compact data bursts and large data volumes across mobile phone networks

Regional electronic cargo tracking system, RECTS has lately been adopted by KRA to ultimately replace the existing Electronic Cargo Tracking System where monitoring is done independently through stand-alone platforms. The system envisions integrating the transit cargo tracking platforms of Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda which form the Northern Transport Corridor consequently making it almost impossible to dump goods while on transit which was possible due to border changeover processes when each country uses separate cargo tracking systems.

In conclusion Kenya Revenue Authority is commended for the adoption in Artificial intelligence in its tax and customs administrations an effort that has come with unprecedented results in revenue collection. ■

NETWORKING: PATHWAY TO UNENDING HORIZON

“Networking is not about just connecting people. It is about connecting people with people, people with ideas, and people with opportunities”

Michel Jennae

The phenomenon that everyone is connected to everyone in some way can best be explained through the theory of the six degrees of separation which posits that any person on the planet can be connected to any other person on the planet through a chain of acquaintances that has no more than five intermediaries, that is through networks. Networking can be defined as behaviors that are aimed at building, maintaining and using informal relationships that possess the (potential) benefit of facilitating work-related activities of individuals by voluntarily granting access to resources and maximizing common advantages.



COL P M GITHINJI
KENYA ARMY

Basically, networking often begins with a single point of common ground and is about building and maintaining relationships which may lead to a mutually beneficial exchange at some point in the future.

The importance of the saying “no man is an Island” has been proven to be the reason why many of us need to make

a collective effort in a bid to achieve professional success. The success of many professionals in their career can largely be attributed to the strong networking channels they have created over time. But the question of who to network with and their relevance to your career is critical as you need not network with everyone. Rather, establish how you can contribute to their success and how you stand to benefit from their knowledge.

While networking is often enthusiastically embraced by individuals just entering the workforce or seeking to make a career change, it can be neglected by mid-career and senior professionals who believe their network is adequate and no longer needs to expand. Networking is important for everybody particularly those who are interested in becoming a leader in their organization or industry. A well-built and maintained professional network could be one of the most powerful tools for career advancement.

How Leaders Use Their Networks

Many business leaders leverage their professional networks and relationships to identify career opportunities. By building professional relationships with individuals who work in a range of organizations and industries, it is possible to gain a competitive edge through advance notice of openings, as well as from personal connections that can help you get your foot in the door. This holds true whether you are just starting in your career or have been a leader in your field for decades. If you do not know about an opportunity, you can't act on it.

Business leaders do not simply use their networks to pivot from one career or job to the next; they leverage their networks to realize benefits in their existing roles. One of the key ways they do this is by turning to their contacts to source talent for important jobs within their organization and team. A well-developed professional network filled with individuals who are highly skilled in their areas of expertise is a pool of talent that business leaders can use when hiring season comes around. This can be particularly helpful during times when an organization does not have the luxury of working through its regular recruitment process, for example, after a sudden departure of a key player, or during the rapid development of a new project or initiative. When time is of the essence, having a network to rely on can mean the difference between making a good hire and making a great one.

In line with this, strategic networking should not consist solely of building new connections outside of your organization. While external connections are important, it is just as critical for professionals to develop strong relationships within their organizations. Networks also foster your learning by connecting you to people within the organizations with different skills, perspectives, and contexts than your own. Similarly, by building relationships with decision-makers in the organization, it is possible to establish open lines of communication and stay abreast of

strategic changes that may impact your role.

A professional network can be a powerful source of new ideas and information that leaders can leverage to keep their finger on the pulse of their industry and the world at large. For this reason, leaders typically do not just connect with individuals they expect to work with one day. They instead connect with thought leaders from within their industries to bring together as many diverse voices as possible and facilitate the free exchange of ideas. Effective networks are based on the closeness and diversity of the relationships within them. It is more important for your network to provide new resources and have strong relationships that rest on a willingness to help each other.

Development of Professional Network

Whether you are a current or aspiring leader, taking the time to build connections within your company can open the door to many opportunities. This can be by devoting time to sit in on meetings, whether or not they directly impact your department or initiatives, as it can be a powerful way of demonstrating your interest in the work of others.

Many people understand the value that mentorship can provide. In a mentorship, the mentee can learn from past mistakes, successes, and experiences of their mentor, and apply those lessons to their own career. Mentors can also benefit from their relationship with mentees. First, mentorship requires the mentor to reflect upon their career in order to guide the mentee a useful exercise, especially for those not accustomed to doing so. Second, when the mentee is sourced from within the organization, the mentor stands to benefit directly from the mentee's improved performance.

The mentor-mentee relationship is a powerful one which, when maintained appropriately, can last for decades. These days, individuals do not typically stay at the same organization for their entire careers.

This means that a mentor might train and build relationships with many individuals who eventually go on to work in a range of positions at a variety of organizations thus creating a robust network of ambassadors who represent the mentor's brand.

When it comes to building a robust network of external connections, professionals have many opportunities to connect with others in their industry. Professional associations, for example, regularly host luncheons and other events where members are encouraged to mingle. Similarly, industry conferences or trade shows can be an effective means of meeting new people. Consider speaking at an event or participating in a roundtable. In addition to giving you the opportunity to meet others, doing so will allow you to position yourself as a resource, an expert in the field, others will be inclined to turn to.

Networking is Critical to Leadership

An effective leader understands that networking is important. As such, building, maintaining, and interacting with your professional network should be a key component of any leadership development plan. By helping you identify career opportunities, build a successful team, anticipate organizational changes, and stay on top of industry trends, your professional network is one of the most powerful tools at your disposal as a leader.

A curious aspect of the network theory is the six degrees of separation, that the distance between any two people is six links. But it is a truism that we often cannot see beyond network horizon of two, that is, we cannot see further than the people who know those we know. Social network analysis can help to reduce the six degrees of separation, at the same time widening our exposure to links beyond our network horizons. The National Defence College has provided such an enabling environment for the participants and the entire college fraternity to establish and nurture long-term, mutually beneficial relationships whose impact will reverberate in time and space to the unending horizon. ■

CHALLENGES IN CRIME MANAGEMENT: A CASE OF UGANDA



BRIG. GEN. J. KINALWA
UGANDA PEOPLES' DEFENCE
FORCE

Crime has been severely defined according to the changing times. The Oxford English Dictionary defines crime as an activity that involve breaking the law; as an illegal act or activity that can be punished by law or an act that is looked at as immoral or a big mistake by the society. But simply put and for purposes of this discussion, this column wishes to settle for the following: an illegal act for which someone can be punished by the government, especially, a gross violation of law. Other definitions have tended to degrade it to call it just an act against morality and as something reprehensible, foolish or disgraceful. But in all legality and fairness, crime is a harmful act not only to some individual but also to a community, society or a state.

The discussion will be premised on the happenings in my great country Uganda, with varying interpretations that are rational and often irrational as well depending on what a given actor intends to portray both for information, and at times misinformation. The end result often tends to take a form that was not earlier anticipated. The social media 'craze' of forward fast and read later has not only

been disastrous, but embarrassing and degrading as well for both victims and offenders.

It is difficult to isolate crime and limit it to a definite geographical space due to the inter-connectedness of the world through advanced and real-time communication platforms via the internet and social media. The only viable or positive side to this is that all actors can compare situations in distant locations, and draw lessons for better management, with the bad guys using the same 'free for all' information to design new tactics to beat law enforcement. A look at some accounts in the history of mankind, some religious communities regarded sin as a crime; some even highlighted the crime of sin very early in legendary or mythological accounts of origins like the tale of Adam and Eve and the theory of the sin.

This column is constrained to pursue that line! However, as humans are, indeed, specie in the animal kingdom, research has shown that animal behaviour and conduct is premised on the survival and procreation. Other animals and insects, except man, depend mainly on instinct, while plants could depend on stimuli. Man with a developed brain has the ability to think, plan and execute a given task still in the confines of survival and procreation, both for the individual, group and more. This thinking can be applied to various scenarios in human beings' behaviour, conduct and relations whether as individuals or groups.

It is also upon this premise that this column wishes to restrict the discussion to violent crime. Time and space may be a constraint, but the discussion will be to the point. Scholars and other actors agree that, a violent crime or crime of violence is a crime in which an offender or perpetrator

uses or threatens to use force on a victim. This entails both crimes in which the violent act is the objective, such as murder or rape, as well as crimes in which violence is the means to an end. Violent crimes may, or may not, be committed with weapons. Depending on the jurisdiction, violent crime may vary from homicide to harassment. Typically, violent criminals include aircraft hijackers, rapist, kidnappers, torturers, active shooters, murderers, gangsters, drug cartels, and others.



It may be strenuous for this column to discuss what is obtaining in our country at the moment, mainly because, some investigations, as part of the legal regimes and actions by the law enforcement are still ongoing. But suffice it to say that generalities in the discourse could be allowed disclaimer!

Crime is not a new phenomenon to mankind, and one can comfortably posit that despite its metamorphosis over time, it has always been managed as it presents. And there are factors, both natural and artificial that facilitate its prevention and management. Therefore, for some sections of the society preferring to use descriptive phrases like; it is a new wave, the Oxford dictionary defines crime wave as a situation in which there is a sudden increase in the number of crimes that are committed and the security is overwhelmed.

There are constants in a given crime such

as intent, motivation and circumstances. It could be out of revenge, profiteering or just unintended actions either in self defence or even accidental that in the end costs a life or lives. The intention could be premeditated or even circumstantial, and one would be unfair to generalize and regard all crimes as a mere wave, without analyzing the intent and motivation. The investigators usually look for finer details even after the crime(s) has been committed. This is not only meant to understand the genesis, but also to draw lessons to prevent others or similar crimes. Therefore, they need not only time, but understanding and patience by both the aggrieved and the concerned. And the legal fraternity will need the bare facts to determine redress.

There is a category of actors, that this column will carefully call insensitive, that always want to take advantage of the circumstances to achieve 'stardom' in their professional or even private lives and others wish to gain political mileage by painting their country insecure due to crimes that happen, equally or even to a greater magnitude. In areas far and wide, the statistics are available of what transpires in other geographical areas world over, the stories reported are really scaring but one chooses to blind his/her own constituents for personal gain. I almost mentioned selfish!

Whereas it is true that globalization and technology has facilitated the criminals to

up their sophistication, the security organs have also improved their capacities and competences in addressing crime. One can only imagine the potentially deadly crimes that the security apparatus has always prevented and nipped in the bud! Those who often exaggerate accountability could include the success as well. For instance, for a moderator, during a Television interview or discussion, to ask how many CCTV cameras are deployed, where they are deployed, their coverage, how they are networked, the number of patrol cars etc, is rather farfetched!

The changing natures of crimes, especially the violent ones, come with some challenges to the legal regimes that may need some upgrades as well. The sophistication brought about by modern technology and globalization could have made criminal activity more common, more lucrative, easier to commit or even harder to detect. For instance, the nature and content of the evidence required or available needs to be in tandem with the legal regimes. Incident management in the era of fast changing technology, the processing, tracking criminals, extraction of information in the face of the glaring public with varying intentions poses the need for new tools.

This column wishes to posit that as we confront crimes in our times and times to come, candour and basic decorum need to guide the discussions especially in reaction to a given crime incident



or even a pattern, if you will. Peoples' representatives and those with a social status that allocates them constituents ought to remember that their constituents or followers usually take their word. One can only wonder how someone feels after leaving the media house having deceived or misguided the world for purely personal gains! Some are on record to have literally swallowed their words when the real facts of a given incident come out. This column will not forget someone who once said that... "As he approached a scene of crime, he realized that a gun had been placed in the hands of the victim" ... and he still had his shirt on thereafter! It is not proper, and for largely selfish reasons, to put the population in a panic mode and lose faith in their security by exaggerating the actual situation that obtains on the ground.

In conclusion, we can expect changes in the practices and methods of committing profit-driven crimes and different perpetrators. Perhaps drawn from a wider spectrum of society, even hate or otherwise called love crimes by aggrieved spouses that are usually committed using the same means could still change in form and content. Technology will also lead to changes in techniques of prevention, detection and investigation. Therefore, crime, especially violent crime will still prevail, but its understanding and management can only regulate the gravity since a human mind is at the center. The good news is that there is always a trail left and criminals should never get out of it alive or otherwise. It is rather time that man becomes his brother's keeper and strive to make Planet Earth peaceful and enjoyable for us all. It is a common knowledge and indeed a natural fact that "Life is lived once". ■



RESPONDING TO ORGANIZED CRIME IN AFRICA: THE KENYAN EXPERIENCE



GEORGE ONYANGO
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It is worth nothing from the onset that there is a definitive nexus between transnational organized crime and terrorism but we have to first define these phenomena. Transnational organized crime according to a paper released by the white house during president Obama's administration, is "organized unlawful activity across national borders involving groups or markets of individuals working in more than one country to plan and execute illegal ventures."

It can be of an international nature or domestic. From the definitions above it is clear to see that in the realm of international terrorism and violent extremism, the definition of transnational organized crime describes it quite aptly. Therefore, in this paper the mention of transnational organized crime may, in some instances, be a synonymous reference to international terrorism. Transnational organized crime is a grave threat to international peace, good governance and development compounding an already dire situation since these sorts of phenomena is catalyzed by Africa's weak systems of state and governance. This type of situation even allows these organizations to turn huge profits and acquire financial muscle far superior to that of the state. This usually leads to state capture and turns countries into either narco (is the

abbreviation of the word *narcotraficante* states or state sponsors of terrorism.

It is extremely difficult to define gang member as it is a challenge to define gangs. The best indicator of who is a gang often comes from self-identification or self-reports, which have proven to be quite valid as indicators of gang membership. A large number of other symbols and behavior can be used to distinguish gang member, but there can be shortcomings in police files as information becomes dated.

It is worth appreciating that these kinds of crimes are usually exacerbated by cultural, religious, social, political and economic issues which have been left to fester usually by either a corrupt sate or a failing state. This is why such grave crimes as robbery, violent attacks, rape, killing and shootings go unpunished. This strikes fear into the heart of the citizens and invariably changes the political landscape. This usually happens when the perpetrators of crimes will turn the tables and precipitate crises in order to put in

question the legitimacy and effectiveness of the government. This action is meant to foment an opposition among the masses. Then, afterward the delivery of essential services is compromised by this criminal class and it makes the citizenry doubt whether the government is capable of looking out for its interests. This leads to agitation, usually preferred in crowded urban areas, where any confrontation with the government will lead to massive civilian casualties, hence enforcing the belief among the people that the government is no longer acting in the interest of the citizens.

In some cases, like with acts of international terrorism, which is a form of transnational organized crime activity, the motives for such abominable acts are based on noble causes. Usually the fight for social and economic justice. In such cases these acts of international criminality are a way of acquiring enough attention and from there to establish a platform to rally for their causes in the courts of international public opinion. In some cases, it is just a



Source: Mollison, James. *The Memory of Pablo Escobar*, London, Chris Boot, (2019), pp. 7-1.

matter of spreading religious ideology usually triggered by extremist views. These groups are of the amoral view that the means justifies the ends.

In Africa, organized crime takes many forms. These forms are usually shaped by the strength of a given state and or to the extent the elite and state actors are partakers in these illegal activities. Some of these groups are well-established hard-core mafia style groups such as the *mungiki* in central Kenya whose main operations are collecting "protection" money from the citizenry. There are other groups that are loose and effective involving two different entities (a good example is the coalition between western African gangs and the Mediterranean gangs). They act as conduits to each other's markets.

On the other end, are groups of criminal enterprises masking themselves as legitimate businesses. A good example is (the Guptas in South Africa). They had protection from state actors. These organizations are usually engaged in money laundering at some level of whatever their business might happen to be involved in. A serious concern by African governments is the level of capital outflows these groups make happen, undercutting the government of its legitimate taxes. This affects the balance of payment of the country and weakens the currency. Such problems can be solved by governments over time by implementing good governance practices and initiating regulatory reforms rather than by suppression of illegal markets through brute force. This is why the war on drugs



Source: Star Newspapers, (2014)

in any country tends to fail.

Violence is a key factor in holding on to power within the criminal underworld. Since no state injunction can be used as a form of arbitration or punishment, coercion is the only way to mitigate disputes. Nevertheless, this does not mean state actors are not complicit in the violence of underground criminal activity. In fact in many cases these state actors make it possible by use of extra judicial means. This can be used in the intimidation of the general public and lead to criminal groups accumulating massive amounts of state wealth which as stated earlier leads to state capture. These are some of the organized hard-core criminal groups in Kenya that have been outlawed and gazetted by the Kenyan government. They mostly operate locally: Kapenguria Six, Wajukuu wa Bibi, Young Thugs and Chafu operating in Likoni, south of Mombasa



Source: Star Newspapers, (2014)

Island. Gaza and Spanish Sparta gangs are terrorizing residents in Changamwe while Born to Kill, Vietnam, Akili za Usiku, 64 Gang, Memory Gang, Watalia Gang and Crazy Boys roam across the county extorting residents and even killing with impunity.

In the era of information technology criminal groups have become savvy users of social media and are making propaganda videos either to turn the citizens against the government in order to weaken the state or to recruit the youth who they train to do the dirty work for them. This has become the new frontier for dealing with this menace and therefore proper investment must be made by all governments in security information technology packages and expert to monitor suspicious web traffic. But it is the assessment of the researcher that political and social solutions are much better than military or enforcement solutions.

In Mombasa, the gangs are: Gaza, based in Likoni, Buffalo (Likoni), Home Boys (Old Town), Chafu za Down (Likoni), Gater Family (Likoni), Kapenguria Six (Likoni), Young Thugs (Likoni), Spanish Sparta (Changamwe), Mawaiyo (Majengo), Crazy Boys (Old Town) and Born to Kill, which operate between the Island and Likoni. The rise of these groups seems to have a direct correlation to the breakdown of the family unit. This has led to a lot of indiscipline in the family unit leading young people to make bad choices and getting involved in crime.



Source: Mollison, James. *The Memory of Pablo Escobar*. London, Chris Boot, (2019), pp. 7-1.

It is worth mentioning that the presence of gangs in a given area limits police control and allows recruiter to take full advantage of those gray areas, as well as the fact that some areas have a history of gang sprawling. In the past years the government passed a law specifically intended to address the problems of gangs but failed to take it to the next critical level to dismantle them, including arresting and prosecuting their alleged financiers.

Organized criminal gangs are very skilled in evading security investigation, have low violence thresholds and are highly resourceful thus providing an unsettling proposition in the eventuality that they consider having an engagement with gang groups and gang leaders. It is very delicate and challenging to address gangs, it requires a balance of prevention, intervention and suppression strategies is critical for success against gangs in any community. In addition it is critical to appreciate that prevention programs target youth at risk of gang involvement and help reduce the number of youth who are actively involved in gangs to push them away from gang life. Law enforcement suppression strategies and intensive service target and rehabilitate the most violent gangs.

In the Kenyan perspective gang prevention programs typically focus on discouraging children and youth, especially those at high-risk, from joining gangs. In addition gang intervention programs target active gangs and gang members. In conclusion gang suppression programs usually involve specialized gang units (typically led by the police), that target gang members and their illicit activities through aggressive enforcement of laws, it is worth noting that suppression does not work on its own. ■

KENYA'S WANGA KINGDOM AN OFFSHOOT OF BUGANDA KINGDOM



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Introduction

When the British arrived in Western Kenya in 1883, they found the Wanga Kingdom, the only organized state with a centralized hereditary monarch in Kenya. In fact, the British used much of the Wanga administrative system, which was up and running from the 18th century, as a stepping stone to territorial and political expansionism. This kind of organized system of government was unique in the current Kenyan and only had similarities to those that existed in the present day Republic of Uganda.

Prof. Ivor Norman Richard Davies in his book, *Vanished kingdoms: The forgotten history of Europe*, wrote, "All the nations that have ever lived have left their footprints in the sand." He could well have been talking about a tribe called the Wanga, (also known as AbaWanga), the founders of the Wanga kingdom which was the only historical kingdom in Kenya.

The Wanga, who mainly occupy Kakamega county are the descendants of a cultural monarch known as Nabongo. Although they distinguish themselves as a different tribe, ethnically, they are classified as Luhya, who make up about 16% of Kenya's total population. Before the advent of the British colonialists in 1886, the Wanga

kingdom was the most highly developed and only centralized kingdom in Kenya's entire history. The kingdom had well defined structures of a centralized system of government similar to what was in the kingdoms in the present day Uganda. Structures like parliament, judiciary, centralized taxation system and a cabinet with a Prime Minister operated under the king who also had a standing army.

Links to Buganda Kingdom

For generations, the Wanga have told their children that their kingdom is an offshoot of Buganda kingdom and that it was established by a Muganda prince. The Wanga story is also found among the Baganda tribe in Uganda. It talks about a Baganda Prince who left during the reign of Kabaka Mwanga and established a kingdom in present day Kenya. Migration history shows that the ancestors of the Wanga were part of the Bantu migration out of western-central Africa around 1000BC and settled around the present day Kampala area, the capital city of Uganda. There are many versions on the origin the Wanga Kingdom but all converge on the transfer of kingship from Uganda through a Buganda Prince who migrated to Kenya.

Socio-cultural linkages

The Wanga trace their origins in Buganda, but their language has changed over time and are only left with minor traces of some Luganda words. The few Luganda words that are still part of Wanga dialect include Olukato (smoking pipe) and Omwami (Sir) among others. In Buganda, if one commits suicide he/she will not be buried in the family cemetery. The body of the suicide victim is even whipped. The Wanga used to practice the same rituals, but have since forgotten them. Children and women used to kneel before their elders as a show of respect in Wanga. The same still happens among the Baganda. The Wanga also carried with them the art of brewing a banana wine commonly known as Mwenge bigere or Tonto by the Baganda. The Wanga call it Omwenje.

The extend and decline of the wanga kingdom

The first King Nabonga Wanga was followed by several successive kings with the most prominent being Nabongo Mumia, the 12th king who ruled the Wanga kingdom for 67 years from 1882 to 1949. His reign was characterized by power, wealth and rapid expansion. He welcomed both Muslim Arabs and Christians and later the colonial government. This collaboration policy facilitated growth of the Wanga Kingdom which extended as far as west Buganda, as far south as Samia, as far north as Mount Elgon and as far east as Naivasha.

Nabongo Mumia is regarded as the most powerful and also the weak link that brought down kingdom. His collaboration with both Muslim Arabs and Christian Missionaries led to mistrust and suspicion with the colonial government of Britain. It is believed that the final decision to weaken his kingdom came when he declined to travel to England in the year 1902 to attend the coronation of King Edward VII. He declined to board a ship that had been dispatched to collect him after being dissuaded against travelling to England by his Muslim advisors at Mombasa. What followed was the progressive downgrading of his status from a king to that of a Paramount Chief. This position of a Paramount Chief reduced both his influence and the size of his Kingdom



Nabongo Mumia (seated) and Kongoti Anabasi, the Prime Minister, flanked by Masai body guards. Courtesy of Kenya National Archives.

leading to a near collapse of the dynasty. The weakened Nabongo Mumia died in 1949 and was succeeded by Nabongo Shitawa who later died in 1974 passing the mantle to Nabongo Peter Mumia II who is the reigning cultural King of the Wanga to date.

The current status of the wanga kingdom



Nabongo Mumia during his failed trip to England. Courtesy of Kenya National Archives

The Wanga still retain their King who does not have executive governance powers but acts as a lead person in sociocultural matters. The King has a palace, an assembly point where the council of elders conduct their business which mainly comprise interpretation of customary related disputes and interpretation of cultural issues. The King is recognized as the lead figure of customary laws relating to the Wanga people. He holds an office in Nairobi supported by the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Sports Culture & Heritage. Mumia II is the national

coordinator of the House of Traditional Elders in Kenya, a unifying social organization for all traditional leaders and their councils from the different communities in Kenya. The organization aims to bring harmony among tribes and ensure peaceful co-existence.



From left, Forum for Royals and Traditional leaders Chair King Mwami Godfroid Munongo of DRC, Treasurer King Peter Nabongo Mumia of Wanga Kingdom Kenya and Vice chairman King Torgbui Amenya Fiti (v) of Ghana during a visit to the Wanga kingdom in Mumias, 2018.

The current King of Wanga is also internationally recognized by the British government and some African governments and other traditional monarchs across Africa.

The story of the Wanga Kingdom and its links to the people of Buganda Kingdom is a demonstration that colonial powers were indiscriminate in drawing up boundaries for East African Nations during their scramble for the Region. They played a disruptive role in disorganizing/ disregarding already established governance structures of East African Nations. ■



Former President of Tanzania Jakaya Kikwete and then Vice President of Kenya visit King Peter Mumia II's Palace. (2005).

MILITARY DIPLOMACY IN FOREIGN POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Introduction

Foreign policy is the government's strategy used to guide its actions in the international arena for the promotion of national interest. Foreign policy generally passes through four steps; articulation, formulation, implementation, and evaluation. Defence, alliances, diplomacy, foreign aid, trade initiatives, and intelligence are the few significant instruments that states have embraced to formulate and implement foreign policy. While conducting and implementing the foreign policy and continuing cordial relations between states, diplomacy is the foremost important instrument through which stated goals are achieved. Diplomacy in foreign relations is often applied peacefully, except in the case of coercive diplomacy. Centrality of diplomacy is in the survival and independence of the nation. Effort is therefore made for better diplomacy to compensate for the weakness of other elements of national power in international relations.

The nation-state may use various elements in pursuit of its foreign policy as the situation may dictate and resources may permit. For instance, it may use military intervention, diplomatic intervention and sometimes it may choose to do nothing. The decision-makers set the goals, determine their relative strength, calculate the costs and benefits of each potential course of action, and then select the one with the highest benefits and the lowest costs to dignified life and survival. Every nation mobilizes its own national power (the sum of all resources available to the nation) to pursue its national objectives and interests. Defence and diplomacy can come to the fore in this context, and the component of defence can play the role of diplomacy in improving and sustaining international relations. To this regard, the military element contributes, which can be called military diplomacy.

The term 'Military Diplomacy' is solely related to diplomatic purpose. It includes almost every externally-oriented military

activities such as education and training of foreign military personnel, military visits with significant public exposure, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations in foreign countries, peacekeeping missions and regular official visits and military dialogues. It can also be described as a series of activities carried out primarily by Defense Department representatives to pursue the State's foreign policy interests in the field of security and defence policy. The world's leading power (United States) and many other Western nations, have effectively employed military diplomacy to further their interests all around the globe. At present some Asian countries are also fostering military diplomacy, making it a vital part of its multi alignment strategy with different nations across the globe. However, it would be worthwhile to find out whether military diplomacy is a viable tool for foreign policy, and how it exerts its significance in shaping the foreign policy globally.

Historical Development of Military Diplomacy

When civilization developed and spread, business and commerce began, the rulers then realized the need for defence. When the border has begun then it is more essential to maintain the force to protect the territory. Then after the necessity of maintaining an army became an intrinsic part following the creation of nations. According to Wikipedia, the first known standing armies in Europe were in ancient Greece where the male citizen body of ancient Sparta functioned as a standing army. The army was used as hard power at that time. However, some form of agreement was undertaken for the correspondence and settlement of disputes between various groups, which was the initial point of diplomacy. And thus the political history goes back to the nation-state origins. The diplomacy of those dates was once considered to be the element of the state whereby the diplomats were used exclusively for negotiating purposes.



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REPUBLIC OF NEPAL

As the civilization progressed and nations grew, clashes or fighting started between groups or nations for their survival and dominance of others. During the process of negotiations, it was realized that military force also can be an effective means for diplomacy. Such efforts have long been utilized, as stated in the great epics of Hinduism; Ramayana and Mahabharata, where the brave Hanuman and Lord Krishna were sent as military messengers adopting diplomatic initiatives to settle the issue and maintain the peace and prevent the war. That means the link between military activities and those of diplomacy, economics, information, intelligence, and other elements of national power is a concept going back several centuries. Most of the great warfare leaders of the modern period, like Sun Tzu, Carl Von Clausewitz, Thayer Mahan and Kautilya, recognized the link between the elements of national power and the need for their incorporation of order to achieve maximum effect. These esteemed thinkers have laid the foundation for understanding the role of the military beyond its principal warfare purpose.

Military Diplomacy vs Defence Diplomacy

Both terminologies found their expression in the diplomatic field only in the 1990s. Defence diplomacy is referred to as

the pursuit of foreign policy objectives through the peaceful employment of defence resources and capabilities. It is an organized concept for defence related international activities. It emerged especially in the post cold war period led by the United States with the principles of protecting western countries' security environment. Thus defence diplomacy is somehow confined to western countries. It is understood as a peaceful application of resources across the spectrum of defence. Defence diplomacy does not include military operations but include some military activities such international personnel exchange program, high level engagement like ministers and senior military personnel visits in defense forum, exchange of bi-lateral or multilateral senior military leaders meeting and visits, joint training exercises, enhance confidence and security building measures, and nonproliferation activities. Thus military diplomacy is a subset of this.

Defence diplomacy is a process which may include state officials; politicians, security personnel and intelligence services, some NGOs, think tanks and civil society. In the case of military diplomacy, by its broadest sense, almost all externally oriented military activity may be considered military diplomacy, because it would be an extension of national policy. Although the terms "military" and "defence" are generally synonymous in their usage, the term "military" is primarily used to describe activities undertaken by the nation's defence forces, and the term "defence" may be used to indicate the entire defense system. Defence diplomacy is wider in this regard than military diplomacy. Both "military" and "defence" terms are generally synonymous in their use, but perhaps the term "military" is primarily used to describe activities undertaken by the defence forces and the term "defence" is used to indicate the entire defence system.

Role and Goals of Military Diplomacy

In peacetime, linkage of military with diplomacy advances on implementation of foreign policy. Positioning Defence Attachés and Military Attachés (DAs / MAs) in the nation of each other is also an essential feature of military diplomacy. In

this form of interplay, eventually leads to conflict prevention through the successful exercise of diplomacy, even among fragile nations. In this regard, it can be said that military play a role beyond the violence of warfare, hence military diplomacy seeks to achieve both national security and the foreign policy objectives of a nation in simple and transparent terms. It strives to fill the gaps as needed, albeit in concert with other state instruments. Followings are the goals of military diplomacy:

- Project the Commitment of Nation for the Cause of Global Peace:** A corner stone of military diplomacy is participation in UN Peace Keeping Operations, humanitarian assistance, and striving to involve in joint operations.
- Strengthen Defence Relationships to Foster Own Influence and Access:** A healthy defence and military relationship could provide the desired influence and access to the country.
- Develop the Defence Capability of Friendly Countries:** Efforts to improve the defence capabilities of friendly foreign countries are also full of the need to safeguard against compromising one's own security.
- Enhance Own Military Capability:** To assess potential threats and strengthen one's own capabilities engaging in international military activities through conduct of professional military exercises, development of defence and military human resources.
- Promote Defence and Military Interoperability:** One of the likely outcomes of defense and military cooperation could be combined operations; either in bilateral or multilateral arrangements such as NATO, the United States led coalition in Iraq among others and under the aegis of the United Nations.

Methods of Military Diplomacy

In the contemporary world, to achieve the above-mentioned objectives in favor of own national interest, following methods are applied.

- Involve in Multi-tiered Dialogues:** Interfaces on political, security, and strategic defense to understand each other's areas of concern and to develop common and mutual interests.
- Conduct Bilateral Defense Cooperation**

Agreements: This can range from mutual assistance to cooperation.

- Maintaining Bilateral and Multilateral Contacts at Senior Military and Civilian Defense Officials:** Developing relations with a view to reducing ambiguity, handling crisis and increasing interoperability.

- Appointment of Defense Attachés (DA) to Foreign Countries:** Necessary to pursue diplomacy through negotiations and providing advice. US and China have the highest number of DAs abroad and virtually cover all the nations in the world.

- Participation in United Nations Peacekeeping Missions:** A hallmark of military diplomacy and an tool for furthering foreign policy objectives.

- Other Methods:**

- (1) Providing training to foreign military and civil defence personnel.
- (2) Provision of expertise and advice on democratic control of armed forces,
- (3) Assist in defence management & military technical support.
- (4) Maintaining contacts with military personnel trained in own country.
- (5) Provision of military equipment & other aid.
- (6) Conduct bilateral and multilateral military exercises.

Conclusion

Within a country, military forces play many roles, besides defending their national boundaries. Their participation in multinational peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts is well established and is an increasing part of their work. Since military people know the true cost of fighting war than anyone else, the military has a vested interest in trying to develop capacities and alliances to sustain peace and stability worldwide. Military diplomacy represents something of an opportunity amid the many complex national security challenges facing every country. There are growing security issues that need to be handled with caution. It can also work significantly to diffuse the political tension between the two countries. In a nutshell it can be said that military diplomacy properly executed in achieving the goals set by the country, that surely will be an effective tool of foreign policy implementation in geopolitical complexities. ■

PROTECTION OF REFUGEES: THE AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE



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KENYA

Introduction

Protection of human rights in African states takes a peripheral priority and exclusively left to a handful of courageous and beleaguered civil society activists. Refugees particularly have been relegated to the category of ‘Humanitarian’ problem and their rights are violated in host countries astonishingly without regard to their vulnerability. Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings regardless of Race, Sex, Nationality, Ethnicity, language, Religion or any other status. Human Rights include; Right to life and Liberty, Freedom from slavery and torture, Freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and Education etc. Everyone is entitled to the aforementioned rights without discrimination.

Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

A refugee is a person who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group has been forced to flee his or her country to seeks refuge in another country. Internally displaced persons are people who have fled their homes in search of refuge in

fear of persecution but have not crossed an international boundary which means that they are within the jurisdiction of their home country and continue to enjoy the rights that their country guarantees. The state is mandated to protect the rights of her citizens so that they are not violated. However, when the functions of a government of a country are impaired on account of war or other crises, it fails to protect the rights of its citizens and those citizens have to run away to other countries to seek refuge and avoid serious violations of their rights. This is where the international community steps in to stand in the gap and prevent violation of the rights of these people seeking asylum.

The origin of protection of refugees and their rights has its roots in the United Nations protection of human rights through the Universal Declaration of Human Rights article 14 which reads; **‘Everyone has a right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution’**. In the first decade, global refugee population has more than doubled with a record of over 25 million people, 67% of these population are from only 5 countries. Amongst the Ten (10) leading countries in the world namely: Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, Eritrea and Burundi in that order.

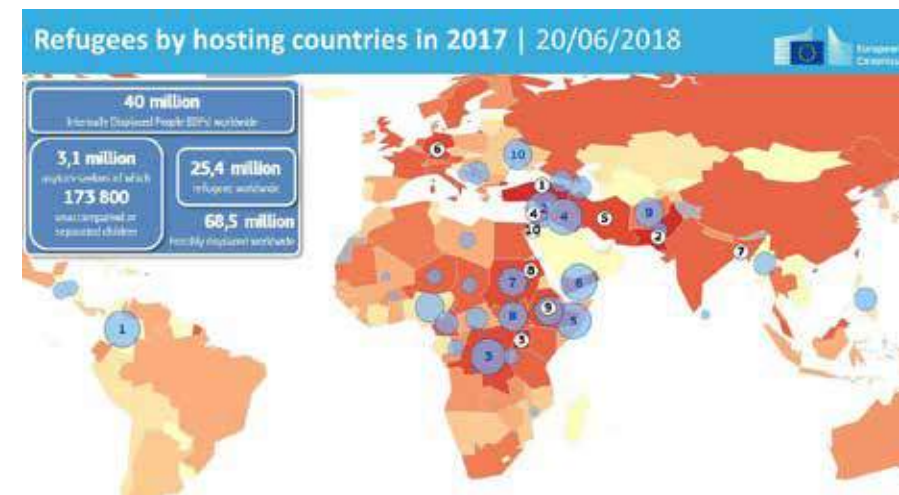
Apart from Syria, Afghanistan, and Myanmar, the other seven countries are based in Africa and more so Sub Saharan African region. Generally, almost all of Africa is involved in either producing or receiving refugees or both (case of Sudan). The mass exodus of refugees across the continent has economic consequences and impede the social economic development of both the refugees and the host countries. A great deal of resources both human and material are wasted during conflict further impoverishing the African Continent.

The evolution of refugee policies in post-independence Africa may be classified into two periods. The first is the period between early 1960s and 1990, and the second is the period thereafter. In the first period, African countries, both individually and collectively, exhibited a very generous attitude towards refugees. Through the 1969 Organization of African Unity (OAU) Convention governing specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa, African states implemented what became known as an “open door policy”. African countries readily admitted all those in search of security and safety, and refugees were hardly ever rejected at the frontier or returned to countries where they might face persecution or serious harm. Even though refugees were normally required to remain in camps, the standards of treatment of refugees were adequate and refugees enjoyed security, basic dignity as well as self-sufficiency rights. There was also a strong commitment to lasting solutions. A number of refugees were locally integrated and legally naturalized.

In collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), African host countries worked to find protection in third countries for refugees which was the best solution. Wherever there were fundamental changes in the circumstances in the country of origin, states assisted refugees who voluntarily chose to repatriate. However, these gesture was abused by greedy individuals who saw a window to register illegally as refugees in host countries and seek asylum in “lucrative” states like United States of America, Canada and Britain amongst other willing states who offered these purported refugees express citizenship.

Kenya's Obligations

Underlying international refugee protection system is that national



The map highlights the real world Refugee distribution (Source: EU Commission)

protection takes precedence over international protection. Kenya is under obligation pursuant to Art 2(5) Chapter (6) of the constitution of Kenya to ensure rights of refugees are guaranteed. It is also required to enact, implement legislation to fulfil international obligation in respect to human rights and fundamental freedoms.

When countries accented to the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol, they agreed to protect refugees on their territory and under their jurisdiction, in accordance with the terms of these instruments. States have also agreed to extend relevant rights to refugees in accordance with international human rights obligations. Even States that are not party to the Convention or Protocol are bound by the principle of non-refoulement, which is considered a norm of customary international law and as such is binding on all States. The various branches of government, whether the executive, legislature, or the judiciary have complementary roles and responsibilities for establishing and maintaining State asylum systems based on the rule of law, and for providing protection and durable solutions to refugees. These responsibilities are not limited to the National government but the county government also play an important part.

Most asylum seekers in Kenya originate from Somalia (53.7%). Other major nationalities are South Sudanese (24.7%), Congolese (9%); and Ethiopians

(5.8%). Persons of concern from other nationalities including Sudan, Rwanda, Eritrea, Burundi, Uganda and others who make up 6.8 % of the total population (494,585 as at the end of March 2020) as per UNHCR statistics. Almost half of the refugees in Kenya (44%) reside in Dadaab, 40% in Kakuma and 16% in urban areas (mainly Nairobi), alongside 18,500 stateless persons.

Political developments and the humanitarian situation in the region will continue to impact upon the Kenyan operations in 2020, mainly as a result of the situations in the two main refugee producing countries of Somalia and South Sudan, but also the ongoing unrest in Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). It is anticipated that the political situation in Ethiopia will remain stable and current limited influx of asylum seekers will be of short duration. Kenya will therefore continue to be among the top refugee hosting countries in Africa. UNHCR continued advocacy on behalf of stateless persons is expected to result in the Government of Kenya registering 4,500 Shona people in 2020 and expected 4,000 Pemba people in 2021, thus reducing stateless persons to 15,000 in 2020 and 11,000 by 2021. Since late 2013, the security situation in Kenya was adversely affected following several terrorist attacks for which the Somalia-based Al Shabab group claimed responsibility, unfortunately most security agencies believe that these

terrorist activities are hatched, planned and launched from the existing refugee camps within the county. The prevailing security situation in Kenya prompted the Government to recommend to close down one of the world largest refugee camp, The Dadaab refugee camp. It was agreed with the UN agency for refugees (UNHCR) that more should be done in Somalia to make return and reintegration sustainable. A conference was held in Brussels in October 2015 to seek support for the voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees and their reintegration in Somalia.

Uganda Refugee Policy

Uganda's Refugee Policy stands out of other countries policies as discussed briefly below. Since achieving its independence in 1962. The country has been praised for having one of the most progressive and generous refugee laws and policy regimes in the world. In fact, the 2016 United Nations Summit for Refugees declared Uganda's refugee policy a model. The 2006 Refugee Act and 2010 Refugee Regulations allow for integration of refugees within host communities with refugees having access to the same public services as nationals. They have freedom of movement and are free to pursue livelihood opportunities, including access to the labour market and to establish businesses.

The situation of many refugees living in Uganda is protracted. More recently, prolonged conflict in the surrounding countries of South Sudan, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo have led to new refugee arrivals in Uganda. Uganda is now the largest refugee hosting country in Africa, and the third largest globally. As the number of refugees sore in Uganda currently at 1.07 million people, the Government of Uganda's spending on refugee hosting remains unclear. Existing studies only documented the benefits for hosting refugees, provision of services from reception to integration and land allocation is yet to be given an aggregated monetary value, as information and statistics regarding actual government spending remain scattered and not well documented. Yet, in the absence

of such data, the Government cannot accurately document the contribution that it is making to the global response to displacement, and this may limit its ability to plan appropriately since the unit cost of hosting refugees remains unknown. This is especially relevant, given the pressure on public resources while Uganda remains a low income economy, with an annual per capita income of US\$ 773 in 2016/17.1 UNDP.

Statistically majority of Ugandan refugees are from conflict-affected countries of South Sudan 69.3 percent, the DRC 20.6 percent, Somalia, Rwanda and Burundi

6.8 percent, the remaining 3.3 percent are mainly from countries in the Horn of Africa. Uganda remains as the African jewel in refugee policy and an icon in putting into practice Africa brotherhood.

Conclusion

The world is witnessing some of the highest levels of displacement in its history 70.8 million by the end of 2018 and Africa is a major contributor of refugees and more surprisingly is that over half of this population are under the age of 18 years. There are also millions of stateless people who have

been denied a nationality and access to basic rights such as: education, health, employment and freedom of movement. UNHCR assumes function of protection of refugees under the auspices of the UN but does not provide a permanent solution to the refugee and asylum menace in Africa. Myriad of problems which cuts across the African continent from poverty, civil wars, power struggle to western instigated conflict over greed for the rich African natural resources continue to bedevil the continent and requires a home grown solution which incorporates all actors from state to non- state. ■

THE NEW NORMAL POST COVID-19 PANDEMIC



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In December 2019, news broke out that a new unidentified respiratory virus had emerged in Wuhan, Hubei province in China and was spreading exponentially to other regions in the country. Within no time the government of China announced restriction of movement from the virus epicenter in Wuhan Province and embarked on mission to construct a mega hospital in a record ten days which amazed everyone and left tongues wagging with question-why? Little did people around the world know what awaited them. The rest of the World left the Chinese to deal with their problem as it was customary referred to as “Chinese Disease”. By January 2020, the virus had acquired a new name for its reference-popularly known as the novel

2019 Coronavirus (Covid-19) as it shifted its spread in other cities in China and expanded globally to Republic of Korea, Thailand, Japan, Italy, Spain, Vietnam, Philippines and eventually it reached all the world's territories and states.

What followed the global outbreak, was a shocking announcement on 11 February 2020 by the World Health Organization (WHO), terming the novel Coronavirus as a global Pandemic accompanied by horrific images broadcasted by mainstream global television channels (CNN, BBC, Al-Jazeera) of multitude of fatalities resulting from people who had succumbed to the disease. The number of people who had succumbed to the disease in Europe rose exponentially to record an average of more than a thousand deaths per day. The number of fatalities particularly in Spain and in Italy shocked the entire world with heaps of corpses lying in morgues awaiting for military trucks to be delivered to mass graves.

Descriptively, the Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) is a communicable respiratory disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus that causes illness to humans. The disease spreads from one person to another through infected air droplets that are transmitted through sneezing or coughing. It can be transmitted when humans have physical body contact with

surfaces which have been infected and then touch their eyes, nose or mouth with the contaminated hands. Covid-19 has an incubation period of 5.2 days. The infection is acute without any carrier status. Coronavirus symptoms include nonspecific syndromes, including; fever, dry cough, and fatigue. Multiple systems may be involved, including respiratory (cough, short of breath, sore throat, rhinorrhea, hemoptysis, and chest pain), gastrointestinal (diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting), musculoskeletal (muscle ache), and neurologic (headache or confusion). Currently, there is no known cure or vaccine approved for the treatment of the Coronavirus.

Kenya recorded the first covid-19 case on 13 March 2020 when a 27-year old Woman travelling from the United States via London landed at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Nairobi. Upon detection, the government of Kenya initiated a series of approaches to contain the spread of the disease which entailed mandatory quarantine and isolation of people who had close contacts with the victims. Two people who had sat next to the victim also tested positive for the coronavirus. The government proceeded to effect a number of directives which aimed at curbing the spread of the disease. Notably, the President of Kenya-Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta-restricted travel of people

into the country from other country which had reported cases of Covid-19. Further, the President announced the closure of all schools and institutions of higher learning on 20 March 2020.

The government of Kenya announced that all public offices and businesses to start working from home except for essential services. The government further directed cessation of all congressional meetings (Church, Mosque, weddings, political gatherings, parties, night clubs and funerals). All the business premises were to give hand sanitizers, soap and running water to their customers before accessing their premises. The government further directed the use of cashless transactions over cash while also it reduced the cost of doing business by effecting various fiscal adjustment and policies. Immediately, the government announced a dusk-dawn curfew (7pm-5am) on March 25, 2020. The announcement of the curfew meant the suspension of night travel as well as cessation of all economic activities carried out at night. By the time of writing this article (6 September 2020), there were 35,105 confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Kenya, with 597 reported deaths as a result of the disease and 21,230 recoveries.

The outbreak of the novel Coronavirus has brought about a new normal which people have to live with. The new normal cuts across all socio-economic and political aspects of people's lives. Upon its emergency, the Covid-19 suspended the way people interacted socially. Whereas, Kenyans were accustomed to warm hand to hand greetings (*Hi Five*), these have been suspended indefinitely with no hugging, no kissing and other bodily exchanges permanently altered. Every individual in Kenya has been subjected to wearing a face mask to cover both nose and mouth which has become a new universal attire for the Kenyan populace.

The outbreak of Covid-19 has brought about a new concept of social-distance which entails people to stay 1.5-2 meters apart in all public places. This new demand is aimed at ensuring physical distance is maintained and limited physical contact as recommended by the WHO. This new normal has re-organized public transport

with public service vehicles demanded to reduce the number of passengers boarding them. For instance, a 14-seater Matatu is directed to ferry 8-passengers, while a 65-bus Seater is supposed to ferry 35-passenger. All these adjustments are to be adhered to in addition to hand sanitizing before boarding the vehicles.

Another new normal entails social activities which have been drastically changed from their normality. Whereas, Kenyans have been accustomed to giving their friends and loved ones a befitting send-off (burial/funeral-*Disco matangas*) attended by a multitude of mourners, the norm has been altered by a directive from the government which demands burials and funerals not to exceed more than 40 people in a congregation. Both weddings and funerals have changed *modus oparedi* due to emergency of Covid-19. While these were social activities characterized by respective cultural inclinations, they have been standardized to follow certain uniform guidelines which cut across cultural and societal variations. For instance, the government has decreed that all bodies of deceased persons to be buried hurriedly within a timeframe not exceeding two weeks (14 days).

The emergency of Covid-19 has brought in another new normal in relation to immigration into Kenya. All persons entering the country are to be subjected to mandatory Covid-19 testing and issuance of a Covid-19 free certificate. This has revolutionized the conduct of international trade with a demand for a new health regulation emerging. A case of reference is the experience of long distance truck drivers who are subjected to Covid-19 test before they cross international border post in East African countries, particularly, Kenya and Uganda. In May and June 2020, Truck drivers from Tanzania were restricted from entering Kenyan territory unless they were subjected to Covid-19 tests and confirmed negative. The Republic of Tanzania reciprocated by restricting Kenyan Truck drivers from entering the country (Tanzania), a move which created a diplomatic feud between the two countries. Although the impasse was resolved amicably, the spat left the two EAC countries at logger heads with

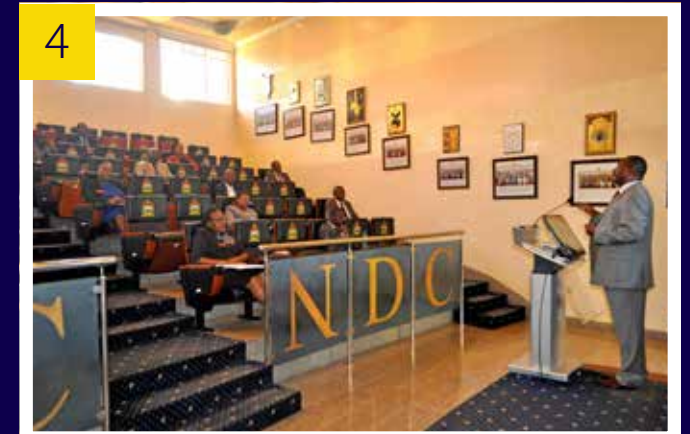
new health demands characterizing their future engagement.

The covid-19 pandemic has disrupted learning for more than 1.5 billion learners worldwide which include 18 million Kenyan learners and trainees who were in different levels and institutions of learning. The disruption to learning brought by the virus compromises the attainment of sustainable development goal number 4 on access to quality, equitable and inclusive education. Due to the pandemic, the government of the republic of Kenya closed all the learning institutions in the country starting the 16th week and 20th week of the school calendar for the primary and secondary schools and higher institutions of learning respectively. The government closed 90,000 schools and sent home more than 300,000 teachers. The disruption of education has brought about new innovations in learning where learners are utilizing online platforms to access literacy material and for instruction. The new normal under this line-up is the use of online platforms which entails the increased use of laptops, computers and smartphones to access books and instruction materials. The ministry of education has threatened that due to closure of schools, the country is likely to witness increased levels of school dropouts, teen pregnancies, child labor and increased incidents of incest, molestation and child trafficking which result from the impact of Covid-19.

The outbreak of the Coronavirus and the subsequent announcement by the WHO terming it as a global pandemic has revolutionized globalization and altered both national and individual conduct. While currently, a cure and treatment of the disease has not been found, the number of fatalities resulting from its spread continues to baffle the international community and governments in insurmountable measure. The spread of the disease to every part of the globe has re-organized the way people used to live bringing about new methods of coping. These new coping measures have been initiated with assumption that they will reduce the spread and to a certain extent curb the spread of the virus and this has created a new way of life for people to abide by-the new normal. ■



1. NDC Course 23 briefing at the Kenya National Archives (KNA); 2. NDC Course 23 group photo at Ole Sereni Hotel after visiting the KNA; 3. Seminar C members during the opening ceremony; 4. The Commandant NDC, Kenya, Lt Gen. A. K. Mulata addressing NDC Course 23 participants; 5. NDC Course 23 opening ceremony by the Commandant NDC, Kenya, Lt Gen A K Mulata; 6. Celebrating Burundi's National Day; 7. Cutting the cake to mark the national day for the Federal Republic of Nepal officiated by the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Amb. Dr. Monica Juma and the Commandant NDC, Kenya, Lt. Gen. A. K. Mulata; 8. Celebrating Malawi's 56th Independence Day; 9. Cutting the cake to mark the national day for Malawi.



THE POWER OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Marsabit County borders Ethiopia to the North, Wajir County to the East, Isiolo County to the South East, Samburu County to the South West and Lake Turkana to the West. The county is vast, with an area spanning 70,961.3Km². It has a current estimated population of 310,000. The county comprises four constituencies (Saku, North Horr, Laisamis and Moyale which are also sub-counties. It is home to the Borana, Rendille, Samburu, Turkana, Burji, Dasanetch, Gabra and Wata who are mostly pastoralists.

In this county, nearly 60% of residents live in poverty and have poor access to basic services like medical, provision of water and electricity. Frequent droughts pose a significant threat to livestock, the main source of food and income for the majority of the people who live in this area. Pastoralism is the foundations of the economy, but their huge potential remains unexploited. Harnessing this potential would improve livelihoods of the local people. The major infrastructure projects in the county are the Isiolo Moyale highway and the Lake Turkana wind power project.

The Lake Turkana Wind Power Project is located in Marsabit County approximately 50km north of South Horr Township and 8km east of Lake Turkana. It comprises 365 wind turbines - each with a capacity of 850kW, and a high voltage substation. The Wind Farm is connected to the Kenyan national grid through a 435 km transmission line, constructed by the Government of Kenya through the Kenya



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Electricity Transmission Company (KETRACO).

The Lake Turkana Wind Power project is of significant strategic benefit to Kenya, being one of the largest private investments in Kenya's history. It aims to provide 300MW of reliable, low cost wind energy to the national grid, equivalent to over 17% of the current installed electricity generating capacity. The Project also includes rehabilitation of the existing road from Laisamis to the wind farm site, a distance of approximately 200km, as well as plant and equipment lay-down areas, and access road network in and around the site for construction, operations and maintenance purposes.

The other major infrastructure is the tarmacking of the Isiolo Moyale highway that links Kenya to Ethiopia through Marsabit. Before the new tarmac, travelling to Marsabit County called for patience, energy and money. The road used to be mainly plied by huge trucks as they are the only ones suited to the difficult terrain. The Lorries carried cattle or goats and sheep. People travelled perched on top of these trucks making travel on this route torturous, spending days on bumpy terrain prone to bandit attacks. Although the route had tremendous economic potential, the rough nature of the road

and insecurity made it difficult for any meaningful development to take place.

The Isiolo-Moyale highway is a key plank of the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia (LAPSSET) Corridor Project. Kenya upgraded this road as part of its Vision 2030 aimed at facilitating free movement of goods and services between Kenya and Ethiopia. The infrastructure includes building an oil pipeline, construction of an international airport at Isiolo, railway and highway to South Sudan and Ethiopia. The Project aims to open up northern Kenya to other parts of the country and to wider East Africa and Horn of Africa region. Safe for the completed highway, other projects are yet to commence. Commissioning of the new road and the Isiolo International Airport was done in mid-2017.



The completion of this highway promoted cross-border trade and improved the lives of the residents by accessing markets for their goods and services. Moyale is expected to become a market center for Kenyan goods and services with Ethiopia. A multimillion border control custom facilities on both side of the border with Ethiopia have been established to boost cross border trade. The planned resort city of Isiolo as well as the Isiolo International Airport will significantly boost tourism in the county. Marsabit national park, the Lake Turkana and the annual cultural event at loyangalani within the county are some of the tourism attraction sites and events expected to get a major boost.

Already increased level of economic activities along the road is visible. Shops

and residential houses are quickly sprouting by the highway, teeming with fresh groceries that would hitherto not have survived the vagaries of road transport. The road has increased market access, improved delivery of government services, triggered a rise in land value and created employment opportunities.

On service delivery, In June 2019 a County Stakeholders Consultative forum from the region reported that maternal deaths were decreasing as a result of faster access to medical facilities. Security in the county has improved significantly, reducing banditry and inter-ethnic conflicts. This is attributed to easy access and reduced reaction time by the security forces. The county government on its part, has constructed schools, medical facilities and paved rural roads which has in turn improved on education enrollment, medical services and opened up development.

The wind project brings some development too. Residents are seeking access to

employment and the improved security has boosted investment. Lake Turkana Wind Power has brought an ongoing program of corporate social responsibility including provision of new water sources, and job creation. About 200km of roads have also been improved making the provision of services to the locals much easier. Since becoming operational, electricity from LTWP has enabled Kenya to save costs and reduce CO₂ emissions by avoiding production from fuel oil plants. In addition, more than 2,500 people were employed during the LTWP construction period, 75 percent of who were local residents. Indeed the project has enormous benefits to Kenyans beyond Marsabit County. During the inauguration of the project, President Kenyatta noted that the project will increase electricity supply, reduce our reliance on thermal generated electricity and insulate Kenya from supply constraints during periods of low water level.

In conclusion, as highlighted above, there have been several immediate benefits of

the road. Travel time between Moyale and Nairobi has been reduced from about three days to 10 hours. Previously, bus travellers made two, night-long stopovers during the journey from Moyale to Nairobi, the first at Marsabit and the second at Isiolo, arriving in Nairobi on the evening of the third day. Government institutions have increased their response in the delivery of public services including security. Stabilization of security among communities residing along the road has significantly increased. Inter-community conflicts have since reduced significantly. Commodity supply and economic trade into the region has increased, as has market access to goods and livestock produced from the region. Promoting equal opportunities across the country will strengthen Kenya's transformation from a low-middle income to a newly industrialized, middle-income country by 2030. Great potential lies in northern Kenya if only infrastructure and service delivery is improved. ■

RUNNING ON THE WORLD STAGE: THE TRANSFORMATION OF KENYA'S ATHLETICS BRAND

Athletics remains an integral part of the country's sporting culture, livelihood activities and national identity. Athletics has also provided a medium for de-escalation of group tensions and advancement of the country's national interests abroad. An assessment of the transformation of the country's athletics brand should illuminate the above-identified truths, particularly the outsized influence of athletics on the country's social and economic wellbeing.

During the pre-colonial era, Kenyans engaged in, amongst other sports, athletics, dancing, wrestling, friendly stick fights, swimming, canoe racing and even riding toboggans among children. However, the sports were largely rudimentary and sought to strengthen social and ethnic bonds as well as inter-communal linkages. At independence, the urgency to redress the



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widespread poverty as well as education and healthcare inequalities relegated sports to the margins of public policy. As a consequence, sports was regarded a leisure endeavour and reduced to an extra-curriculum activity for children in primary and secondary schools.

However, the impetus for increased interest, investment and participation in sports gained traction after Kenyan athletes started to excel in major international competitions. The government's decision to establish sports associations to manage and administer various sports also contributed significantly to the development of athletics in the country. As a result, few

countries have been able to match Kenya's unrivaled record and ability to produce world-class athletes and Olympic champions. Kenyan athletes' unparalleled accomplishments have enabled the

country to carve a niche for itself in the athletics Hall of Fame. Currently, athletics remains a popular sport and contributes considerably to the country's social and economic development.

Strikingly, the success of Kenyan athletes in international competitions has earned the country pride and recognition as well as imparted a sense of patriotism among its citizens. Kenya's athletics achievements have also increased the country's eminence in international sports. Undoubtedly, athletics has become one of the pinnacles of Kenya's brand in the global arena. Today, Kenyan athletes hold many of the world and Olympic records in middle and long distance running. A new jewel on the crown of Kenyan athletics is the recent naming of Iten town, in the picturesque Elgeyo-Marakwet County, where most of the athletes train, as an International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) heritage site. This highlights the contribution of athletics and the importance of the sport to the country's social and cultural heritage.

Kenya's athletics talent is largely concentrated in middle and distance running. Invariably, most of the illustrious Kenyan athletes typically come from or train in one small geographical area of the expansive Rift Valley region. This region, which largely encompasses the counties of Elgeyo-Marakwet, Uasin Gishu, Nandi and Baringo, is so popular with athletics that it is often referred to as 'the home of champions'; 'the source of champions' or 'the county of champions'. The prominence of world-class athletes from the Kalenjin community, which is predominant in the above mentioned counties, has popularised highly contentious debates which condition athletics success on genetics.

Conversely, some attribute the success to the athletics excellence and pedigree developed incrementally since the 1950s. Others point to co-location of vital athletics and sports infrastructure in Rift Valley as well as the high altitude in the four counties, which is conducive for training. Talent spotting from the nascent stage, particularly in primary and secondary schools, could also account for the athletics success in the identified counties. Some state institutions, especially the Kenya Defence Forces, Kenya Prisons Service and Kenya Police Service, have also played a vital role in provision of livelihood through employment and training opportunities. All in all, there appears to be widespread consensus that a combination of high altitude, optimal training infrastructure, talent spotting and government incentives could be responsible for the exceptional success among Kenyan athletes on the world stage.

The system of selecting athletes for international competition has also been regarded as fair, thus incentivising participation of Kenyans from all walks of life. In as much as many leading Kenyan

athletes compete mostly in international circuits, they have to attend and participate in national championships and trials if they wish to be picked for major international championships and the Olympic Games. Top Kenyan athletes often attend these pre-qualification in order to avoid missing slots. In addition to marathons, other popular athletic activities include track events, cross-country and road races. Among the most captivating of these athletics events remain the Lewa Marathon, which takes place in the wild, in the midst of the 'Big Five' and other wildlife.

The level of professionalism among Kenyan athletes continues to rise. The athletes train days-on-ends, both on and off-season. The athletes' hard work, commitment, motivation, perseverance and passion continues to distinguish them from their foreign competitors. Kenyan athletes are also trained and managed by some of the best managers and trainers in the world. This has enhanced the competitiveness of Kenyan athletes and the country's track record of success in athletics.

The athletes' hard work, commitment, motivation, perseverance and passion continues to distinguish them from their foreign competitors.

The role of sports in the conduct and execution of Kenya's foreign policy has started to gain credence. Athletics continues to play an important role in the promotion of the country's foreign policy interests. Recently, some of the country's athletes featured prominently during the official launch of Kenya's bid for the United Nations Security Council non-permanent seat. Athletics has also increased Kenya's visibility in the region and globally, more than any other sport.

The outstanding performance of Kenya's athletes in international competitions has also catalysed sports tourism. In this regard, Kenya has registered an increase in the number of foreign athletes and trainers arriving into the country to train, compete or learn from Kenyan athletes. Athletics has also become a major attraction to corporates and the country's revenue authority due to associated business opportunities and the lucrative payoffs associated with international athletics competitions.

Athletics has also served as a unifying and neutral tool for boosting national cohesion. Athletic events have provided a platform for people of diverse backgrounds to converge and exchange ideas. Politicians have also capitalized on the popularity of sports, including athletics in the country, to endear themselves to the public. Indeed, some prominent politicians are known to have used sports as a springboard into their political careers. Kenyan athletes' popularisation of the country in world events has also fostered patriotism and a semblance of national unity.

This article cannot be complete without interrogation of the role of Kenyan women athletes. It is an obvious fact that since the 1960s, Kenya has produced more world class athletes, more world record holders and more Olympic Medalists in middle and

long distance running than any other country. In the early years, however, this feat was achieved largely by men. At the beginning of the new millennium, however, Kenyan women were able to match the impeccable track record of men. They started to win world championships, marathons and road races all over the world. With these trailblazers, Kenyan women have never looked back in athletics success. Their track record of success ranges from victories across the world's major marathons such as Boston, New York, Berlin and London to the Olympics, particularly Beijing in 2008 and London in 2012.

The elevation of sports to a fully-fledged ministry has also generated greater visibility and support for athletics. The Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage continues to incentivise athletics excellence through coordination of policy and provision of monetary and non-monetary awards. Athletics Kenya (AK) has also played an important role having been charged with the onerous task of organising athletics competitions within the country as well as preparing and dispatching Kenyan teams to international championships. However, AK could upscale its contribution to the success of athletes and reduce the burden on the individual effort by scaling up investments in athletics and supporting sports infrastructure across the country.

Kenya's impeccable athletics brand is, however, coming under strain amid rising cases of doping. According to open source reports, about 50 athletes have been banned between 2014 and 2019; and about 140 others between 2004 and 2018 for testing positive for performance enhancing drugs. An athlete violates anti-doping rule when they have any combination of three missed tests or filing failures within a 12-month period. A banned athlete may be obligated to forfeit awards, medals, points, titles and appearance money. Currently, the Kenyan law stipulates a jail term of up to three years for support staff found guilty in connection to doping, but not for athletes. Legislation to criminalise doping offences is work in progress.

In conclusion, athletics remains the truest demonstration of all that can be and is good with the human spirit. Its unique power brings change to individual's lives, the lives of family members and impacts positively on the world. At the national level, athletes have succeeded in evoking national pride, prestige and unity of purpose whenever they score success at the international arena. This is particularly apparent every time a Kenyan athlete crosses the finish line first or climbs the podium to receive a Gold Medal at the Olympic Games or the World Championships. Athletic careers from zero to hero continue transforming Kenya's athletics brand. ■

THE ROAD SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ZAMBIA: A REVIEW OF FINANCING MODELS



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Introduction

The Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF 2014-2016) recognized that inadequate infrastructure was an impediment to growth and enhancement of competitiveness of the economy and

poverty reduction. One such important infrastructure are roads. Roads help in timely movement of goods and services. The rural areas in Zambia are predominantly agricultural based, hence they need to bring in inputs from the urban centers and transport products to the urban centers. Within the urban setting, supplies need to move goods and service to and from production centers and also import and export products. Therefore, the importance of a good road network cannot be over emphasized.

This article highlights the background to the road sector in Zambia post 1970, current road projects and concludes with an analysis of the various funding models being used in the road sector. This article is purely informative and therefore non provenance is urged.

Background

In the 1970s, Zambia had one of the best highway networks in sub-Saharan Africa. By 1991 it was estimated by the National Road Fund Agency (NRFA) that 80 percent of the road network had deteriorated and out of the total road assets valued at US\$2.3 billion then, US\$400 million had been lost due to neglected maintenance. The government introduced a road fund levy on fuel and that together with international aid began to improve the highway network.

By 2001 Zambia had a total of 91,440 km of road of which 20,117 km were paved. A total of 6,779 km were trunk or main routes. Unpaved roads were 71,323 km (Some of the unpaved highways were graded laterite roads). In 2004 the NRFA rated 57% of paved roads as good condition, 22% as fair condition and 21% as poor condition.



Great North Road (Source: Lusaka Times)

According to the Zambia Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (ZIPAR) by 2011 Zambia had a total road network of 67,523 km. A 'Core Road Network' (CRN) of 40,454 km of trunk, main, district, urban and primary feeder roads. The discrepancy between the total road length of 91,440 in 2001 and 67,523 in 2011 is due to road classification standards applicable at the time.

Current Road Projects

The Zambian road network has undergone significant improvements which has increased the total length and improved the condition of some of the existing sections. Among the major projects going on are those encompassed by the Link Zambia 8,000, Lusaka-Copperbelt Corridor, Pave Lusaka 400, Pave Zambia 2,000 meant to pave 2,000 kilometres of urban roads countrywide; feeder road rehabilitation for maintaining feeder roads to stimulate market access for agricultural produce and to improve 400 kilometres of the road network in the Copperbelt Province. The Link Zambia 8,000 programme for

Instead of relying on the budget for maintenance, governments were encouraged to introduce 'fuel levies', the proceeds of which were credited to a 'road fund' earmarked for road maintenance.

construction and rehabilitation of road infrastructure is expected to increase access to markets, enhance social inclusion and reduce travel time and cost to the benefit of local communities and the whole economy. The Programme has so many projects to be implemented in three phases. The first phase commenced in 2012 and focused on the regions of Lusaka and Eastern Zambia.

The second phase focuses on the Northwestern and Western regions of Zambia and is currently at the feasibility studies. The third phase focuses on specific major roads such as the Ndola-Chingola, and other scattered corridors. This phase is yet to reach the stages reached by the first two phases. Government also launched the US\$389 million Lusaka Decongestion Project (LDP) in April 2014 aimed at decongesting the city by building and expanding roads, fly-over bridges and overpasses by Afcons International, an Indian construction company. The Lusaka Decongestion Project was scheduled to be completed in three years by 2017. However, it is still ongoing due to delays in implementation. Zambia is also constructing a two-lane highway between the capital city Lusaka and Ndola in the mineral-rich Copperbelt region in order to reduce road congestion. The two-lane highway is financed by the Bank of China and other Chinese sources at a cost of \$1.2 billion.

Road Financing Models in Zambia

The central issues in Zambia's road sector are shaped by the country's geography and history. Zambia is one of the largest, most sparsely populated countries in the world. Not surprisingly, therefore, it has one of the highest lengths of road network in Africa per person and per Dollar of GDP. One obvious implication of this is that financing and maintenance of the network is more difficult than elsewhere. Serious attempts to restore Zambia's roads began in the 1990s. They covered both reform of the institutional framework and rehabilitation programmes. While Zambia was an extreme case, the problem of inadequate maintenance

funding was common throughout Africa; few governments were able to provide adequate funding through the budget.

To tackle the above issue, donors, through the World Bank led Road Maintenance Initiative (RMI), pushed for a new model across Africa. Instead of relying on the budget for maintenance, governments were encouraged to introduce 'fuel levies', the proceeds of which were credited to a 'road fund' earmarked for road maintenance. Earmarking the proceeds was presumed to make fuel levies more acceptable to road users than conventional taxes and a more reliable source of maintenance funding. Subsequently, GRZ drew up a Road Sector Investment Programme (RoadSIP I), initially covering the period 1997 to 2007. It included both rehabilitation and upgrading of parts of the network and periodic and routine maintenance, with an emphasis on gradually reducing the proportion of the network in poor condition. RoadSIP I was the basis for the substantial GRZ and donor funding that was required to rehabilitate the road network. The Government issued a revised Road Sector Policy in 2003 to guide expenditure. RoadSIP I was succeeded by RoadSIP II, covering the period 2004 to 2013. Road Fund resources were to be allocated in the following order of priority: (a) routine and periodic maintenance of all core roads classified as being in good and fair condition; (b) counterpart funding of donor-funded and rehabilitation programmes; and (c) administrative costs for Road Transport and Safety Agency (RATSA), National Road Fund Agency (NRFA) and Road Development Agency (RDA).

Initially the main source of funds was the GRZ budget, through both direct funding of rehabilitation projects and the Fuel Levy. Levy proceeds were in the range USD 7-15 million annually up to 2003, but increased substantially since 2004 reaching USD 68.7 million in 2010. Significant progress on restoring the network only got going from 2000 when donor funding scaled up substantially, reaching USD 91.4 million in 2008. The programme was mainly donor

funded between 2000 and 2005. However, following a striking jump in GRZ project funding, the programme has again been mainly domestically funded since 2006. Other Road User Charges (ORUCs), which have been credited to the Road Fund since RTSA took over responsibility for their collection in 2007, have also become a significant source of funding USD 45.5 million in 2010.

Total road funding increased from USD 30 million in 1996 to USD 243.5 million in 2010. The domestic share of road funding accelerated sharply from 2009, reaching 88% in 2010. This is due to two main developments. Firstly, GRZ took advantage of growing fiscal space to increase the budget for specific road projects from USD 26.0 million in 2008 to USD 59.3 Million and USD 100.8 million in 2009 and 2010 respectively. Road Levy is charged on each motor vehicle and is meant for the maintenance and construction of roads in the country.



Temporary Toll Plaza (Source: Lusaka Times)

The GRZ also introduced the National Road Tolling Program (N RTP) which was launched on 1st November 2013 via the Tolls Act No. 14 of 2011, by commissioning collection of road tolls at gazette weighbridges from all heavy goods vehicles. During the period November 2013 to the end of December 2015, the RDA was responsible for toll collections. On 1st September 2015, the RDA appointed the NRFA as the principal tolls agent to operate all toll collection points in the country. On 16th January 2016, toll operations at the first inland toll plazas covering all vehicle classifications at Manyumbi and also at Kafulafuta toll plazas were commissioned.



Toll Plaza (Source: Lusaka Times)

These were temporary toll plazas using the basic booth and boom technology with a highly reduced start-up-cost for the purpose of raising much needed revenues to support road maintenance programs.

Effective 1st January 2017, Statutory Instrument No. 85 of 2016 was issued by the Honourable Minister of Housing and Public Infrastructure which revised toll tariffs and also introduced value propositions such as the Local User Discounts (LUDs) and Frequent User Discounts (FUDs) to improve the experience of toll payers on toll facilities, as regards affordability and equity of road use. In May 2017, the first conventional toll plazas were commissioned. Currently, the inland toll stations stand at 10 and it is envisioned that the Agency will expand the road tolling to 40 toll stations across the country of different types according to Traffic Volumes.

Despite all the above mentioned initiatives Zambia still finances most of its road project both new and routine maintenance through loans. The country raised funds through Euro Bonds, Loans from bilateral and multilateral lenders since 2011 and embarked on massive infrastructure projects. The loans have put the country's treasury under a lot of distress. The

key questions remain, are the current financing strategies viable or not? and what needs to be changed to make the roads self-financing with minimal funding from government and financiers?

Conclusion

Zambia's land expanse and sparsely populated area's presents a serious challenge in ensuring a good road network for all. From the early 1970's the road sector has faced challenges in both expansion and maintenance. The road network deteriorated from being one of the best in sub-Saharan Africa at the time to one with severe need for rehabilitation.

In 1991 the GRZ re-strategized and partnered with cooperating partners through RoadSIP I and RoadSIP II to revive the ailing road infrastructure. Post 2011 GRZ started financing massive infrastructure projects among them, Pave Lusaka 400, Link Zambia 8000, Pave Zambia 2000, C400 and the Lusaka Decongestion Project and the Lusaka-Ndola dual carriage way. All the projects are being funded through loans. The financing of road projects through loans has become the norm but it has slipped Zambia into debt stress. ■

STATE AND GOVERNMENT IN AFRICA: GETTING THE BALANCE RIGHT FOR KENYA'S NATIONAL SECURITY



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Introduction

Central to the discussion in this paper is the issue of the crisis of Presidential contests in Africa and the dangerous insecurity it creates during elections. It is the contention of this paper that African States should explore and adopt a balance between State and government drawing examples from stable democracies of the World. According to the International law, a State is the political entity characterized by a permanent population, a defined territory, a government and the capacity to enter into relations with other States.

It is often assumed that the resources, wealth, population, and so forth of a state can be translated into the attributes of the governments of states. Put slightly differently is that the attributes of states are used to predict behaviour which is undertaken by governments or agencies. This legal and general understanding defines and sets the stage for the basis of this paper in so far as giving the distinction between state and government.

Most African Countries that moved from parliamentary to presidential system soon after attaining independence like Kenya, Uganda, Ghana, and Nigeria, ended up being in conflict over the so called winner take it all in politics. The same is different for countries like Canada, New Zealand and Australia who have had more

stable political changes in leadership, where in this discussion we intentionally call government. The separation of Government from state may allow stability, peace and security in Africa. That a non-executive President/Governor General like in Canada, if that is satisfactory will be a symbolic leader of a state who performs a representative and civic role but does not exercise executive policy making power does not allow stability in Africa. This paper concludes that there is need to have a non-executive President/Governor General as Head of State and Prime Minister as Head of Government

State and Government

Theda Scocpol defined the State as a set of administrative, policing and military organizations headed and more else well coordinated by an executive authority.... an autonomous structure- a structure with logic and interests of its own. On the other hand Krasner avers that States are actors in their own right. He contends that the state is autonomous entity acting on behalf of the national interest, and that state behaviour cannot be explained by group or class interest. This argument hence buttresses the contention that State and government need to be separated so that there is beacon of hope for the citizenry who are the main shareholders of the Country.

Levi argues that "Rulers" Rule and with this argument one is justified to argue that Governments are rulers on a social contract with the citizenry and by extension the State. In day today conversations we hear citizens talk about regimes which in this context is government. It claimed that Governments change but states endure. This paper therefore argues that States exist even during elections and for stability to be realized in Africa, there is need to distinguish governments and states. The Kenyan Constitution for example identified and recognised State Officers wherein they are expected to act for the interest of the state. The reason for that is primarily to ensure that they protect the state and

by extension allegiance to the citizenry. State is the means of rule over a defined or "sovereign" territory. It is comprised of an executive, a bureaucracy (Civil Service), courts and other institutions.

The missing link as argued by Mwagiru is that sovereignty can come to naught if does not help a nation like Kenya to enter the twenty first century in as far as security is concerned. But, above all, a state levies taxes and operates a military and police force. States distribute and re-distribute resources and wealth, so lobbyists, politicians and revolutionaries seek in their own way to influence or even to get hold of the levers of state power. In all but the short term, states are in flux. They expand and contract as military and political fortunes change. Some, like Poland, even disappear and re-appear later. Or they may be divided up (sometimes peacefully) by communities that prefer to go their separate ways (Czechoslovakia). Others, such as Iraq, may be occupied or run as a colony or protectorate. States can also "fail" - their governing institutions collapse due to civil war and internal strife (as in Somalia) or because the state has little authority outside the capital city (Afghanistan).

Government

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary offers three definitions of government, first, as the group of people, who control and make decisions for a country, state, secondly, as a particular system used for controlling a country, state, and thirdly as the process or manner of controlling a country, state. This definition underscores the difference between State and Government which was discussed at the previous paragraphs. This definition further resonates with Rousseau who argues that governments need to organize and reflect man's general will to take care of the Hobbes fears that sovereign power is the source of fear, and that sovereign power also uses that fear to govern people.

According to Philosopher Thomas Hobbes

theory of Social contract, the life of humans in the State of nature is 'nasty, brutish and short' because no higher authority exists to impose order. That because of lack of order, humans therefore agreed to surrender their precarious natural freedom to government to provide harmony and order albeit on temporary basis which can be withdrawn. Jean Jacques Rousseau differs with Hobbes by arguing that mankind in a state of nature was not miserable as portrayed by Hobbes but happy and free, that over time, the society and its institutions have corrupted man's better nature. This underpins the need for fairness and social order from governments.

John Locke focused on the inalienable rights of individuals to life, liberty and property and the practical benefits of cooperation and by extension limited government thus took a middle ground between Rousseau and Hobbes. Consequently, there arises the question - What is the problem of the modern state and or government to allow sustainable peace and security? All the three philosophers hoped for a better life for man and that government is in contract and if they fail man is at liberty to choose another.

Alford and Friedland maintain that it has been common to distinguish Class, pluralist and elitist's theories of the state which are critical in the analysis and understanding the concept of government and State. Looking at these three theories, one argues that they are grounded on either Marxism, structural or realist thinking of international relations.

The Class theory borrows a lot from Marxist which tended to reduce states to economic power relations where in O'Connor emphasize that capitalism contains contradictions and class struggle which is politicized and displaced onto the state as the 'fiscal crisis of the state'. To this end, the state is in perpetual crisis of competition and struggles. Borrowing from Mwagiru one will be justified to argue that it is the structures of government that in many forms generates conflict in society which needs to be fixed to create security. In this sense, the state is being used synonymously with society.

We will therefore argue that the state may not be in a crisis but it is the government. This is from the stand point of this paper that a State is abstract while government is concrete. For example, the Bush Government/Administration, Moi Government or some people call it Regimes. Even during the Financial Crisis during the Moi Government the state of Kenya was intact. In essence a state is a concept, an idea or a name used to denote a community of persons living on a definite territory and organized for the exercise of sovereignty. State cannot be seen.

Government is made by a section of the people of the State. It is formed by the representatives of the people. It has a definite and defined organisation and form. It can be seen as a team of people exercising the power of the State. This is where the confusion arises and the need to put the two concepts into perspectives to allow aligning the constitution and foster National Security.

The distinction between State and Government

To start with, we take note of Hon Kiunjuri statement of 25 June 2020 quoted in the Standard Newspaper of 25 June 2020 asserting that Parties are established to either form governments or influence government decision-making. This statement underscores our argument that State and Government are different and should be segregated to help resolve some of the electoral contests that has been witnessed in Kenya and by extension enhances International peace and security. Could it therefore that parties may not be for serving the States and hence underscoring the elitist theory? The succeeding paragraphs attempts to give the differences between State and Government to help in bringing the concepts into perspective.

First, that Government is an agency or an agent of the State where it acts for it. It is that agency of the State which formulates the will of the state into laws, implements the laws of the state and ensures conformity to the laws of the state. Government exercises power and authority on behalf of the state. Government is a problematizing activity: it poses the obligations of rulers in terms of the problems they seek to

address. The models of government are intrinsically linked to the problems around which it circulates, the failings it seeks to rectify, the ills it seeks to cure. Nikolas and Miller contend that the history of government might well be a place where politicians, intellectuals, philosophers, medics, military men, feminists and philanthropists have measured the actual against the perfect and found it sometimes deficient. In a sense governments may not be the answer to all citizens problems.

Secondly, government is organized only by a portion of the population of the state. Governments are formed by individual members of political parties. For example, in Kenya we have Jubilee Government while in the United States we have Republican Government. These are organizations on contract to rule a defined State for an agreed period of time. Nikolas and Miller however argue that such a perspective obscures the characteristics of modern forms of political power. Within the problematics of government, one can be nominalist about the state: it has no essential necessity or functionality.

In Kenya for example Government is exercised at National and County levels albeit with various functions as guided by the Kenya Constitution of 2010. In it, the President is the Head of State and Government at the National level while the Governor is the Chief Executive Officer at the County Level. During election period, the two personalities while still holding power and especially during the second and last term, the contest for elections along party lines sometimes creates outcry from the competitors who feel that incumbents are misusing state resources for personal gain. This situation brings in the argument of this paper into perspective. A separation would be recommended to separate this kind of affairs so as to allow creation of a beacon of National Unity during electioneering period. An office that will be non-partisan, party less and acting like the Queen of England ought to be considered whose election of term should not be coinciding with that of the government to allow stability.

Also membership of a State is compulsory but not of Government this contrast with

the very idea that all people are citizens of the State. They together constitute the population of the State. Each one normally gets the membership (citizenship) of a state automatically right at the time of one's birth and continues to live life as such. However, membership of the government is not automatic. No one can be forced to become its part. Anyone can voluntarily seek an election, get elected as a representative of the people and become a part of the government. Only some persons form the government.

Sovereignty is the hallmark of the State where sovereignty belongs to State and not to Government. The government exercises power on behalf of the State. It acts on the basis of the sovereignty of the State. Sovereignty is comprehensive, absolute, unlimited and all-inclusive supreme power of the State. The government exercises only well-defined and limited powers.

The State has sovereign ownership and jurisdiction over its territory. Territory belongs to the State. The government has the responsibility to preserve, protect and defend the territory of the State. The laws made by the government are applicable to all parts of the territory of State but territory belongs to the State and not to the government.

Each State has a uniform personality with its four essential elements Population, Territory, Government and Sovereignty. Every State has uniformly four essential elements; however, the forms and features of Government differ from State to State. It is worth noting that, governments can be of different forms either Parliamentary or Presidential, Unitary or Federal or a mixture of these. A government can be monarchical or aristocratic or democratic or a dictatorship. The people can by choice change the form of their government. But the State exists independently and has a uniform character.

Finally, State is Permanent, Government is Temporary. This means that governments come and go through general election or even through a revolution. States on the other hand is permanent and continuously lives so long as it continues to enjoy sovereignty. Independent Kenya continues

to live as a sovereign independent state since 1963. However, she has witnessed the Kenyatta 1 government from 1963 to 1978, Kenyatta government from 1978 – 2002, Kibaki government from 2002 to 2012 and presently Kenyatta 2 from 2012.

Forms and systems of Government

To help inform the place of State and Government in governance, it is prudent to look at the forms and system of governments. As African Countries turned into multiparty democracy in the 1990s, interest in alternative constitutional forms and arrangements has expanded well beyond academic circles. Discourse is ongoing and especially in Kenya on the pros and cons of Non-Executive President vis a vis, Parliamentary system of governance. Linz asserts that in countries as dissimilar as Chile, South Korea, Brazil, Turkey, and Argentina, policymakers and constitutional experts have vigorously debated the relative merits of different types of democratic regimes.

Suffice to note that a country is nothing but a big community and it has to be organized to avoid Hobbesian confusion and anarchy. Finding the right person to lead can be frustrating if the right person is not elected to form government. Some systems disregard local differences and marginalization which creates secessionist tendencies and insecurity. With respect to regime type (parliamentary vs. presidential), some researchers argue that presidential systems are more likely than parliamentary systems to experience breakdown and be replaced by an authoritarian regime; others make the opposite argument; while still others argue that there is no relationship whatsoever.

Linz is especially keen to discourage presidentialism in societies with deep cleavages. As was witnessed in Kenya during the electoral season of 2007, civic, parliamentary and presidential elections. Kenya's presidential contest has been very acrimonious calling for a review of its structure. Presidential government requires the executive to be undivided. A split executive is the result of the assembly's conversion into parliament. This debate continues to be divisive and it seems scholars may not

come to agreement. However, learning from countries like Australia, Canada one is justified to argue that a consideration be made for a parliamentary system of Government with a non-executive president who will be a father figure. This will allow those aspiring to be Prime Ministers to run on party issues while the President remains the pillar of the State during electioneering period.

Conclusion

The range of evidence discussed in this paper, and drawn from different traditions, makes strong case that the State and Government are two different entities and that combining the same plays an important role in determining National Security. The paper contends that consideration be made to separate State functions from Government functions. It is further adduced that in countries where President is both Head of Government and Head of State, it becomes difficult during elections.

Suffice to note that during such times, Heads of Government happens to be head of political parties and therefore from the onset have partisan interests and agenda. Therefore, needs to provide the distinction of State and government to reduce conflict of interest at such times needs consideration. From the paper, one observation was that it is possible to separate state and government but the implementation of the same may require proper job description.

Consequently, more research needs to be carried out to first determine the contribution of the non-executive president to peace and security and secondly the relationship between the non-executive president (Head of State) and Head of Government. From historic reflection, Canada and Australia were once British Colonies and accepted to have Governor General representing the Queen of England and this created is argued may have enhanced stability. Finally, this study does not submit or suggest a specific plan for reorganization, but to raise an inquiry on the matter of State and Government and as to whether it enhances national security. ■

THE YOUTH BULGE IN AFRICA: A TIME BOMB OR OPPORTUNITY

According to the United Nations (UN), the 'youth' comprise persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years. The African Union (AU) Charter classifies men, and women from the age of 15-35 as youth, an age bracket that several countries on the continent have adopted for this category of citizens. The age bracket for youth varies from country to country and cannot be pegged on age alone as it is a social construct defined by society and culture and must therefore be adapted to specific contexts. Youth is best understood as a period of transition from the dependence of childhood to adulthood's independence. That is why, as a category, youth is more fluid than other fixed age-groups.

Developing countries, especially in Africa, are undergoing a demographic transition that is manifesting in a large proportion of young adults and consequently a rapid rate of growth in the working-age population exacerbating unemployment, prolonged dependency on parents, diminished self-esteem and fueling frustrations. This state of affairs is referred to as the youth bulge. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) projects that by the year 2100 one in every four people on the planet will be African. That the number of Africans under the age of eighteen may rise to around one billion by 2050. Africa is already the world's youngest continent, as the proportion of youth population is higher than in any other continent. In 2010, 70 percent of Africa's population was under the age of 30. The demographics of the East African Community (EAC) specifically those in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, also reflect this trajectory. In these four countries around 20% of the population of 127 million are between the ages of 15 and 24.

Since young people represent an important share of the continent's population they have the potential to be an impetus for Africa's development, if kept healthy, given the requisite skills, and gainfully employed. However, there is a risk that if

the youth are not given the opportunities needed to improve their lives the continent's development could be adversely affected. Today countries in Africa are facing numerous challenges associated with this youth bulge.

Africa is the poorest continent on earth with a majority of its people fighting to survive without even the most basic of needs, like food, water or shelter. Regrettably the very poor tend to be youth and rural. According to the World Bank (2009) Thirty-two of the forty-eight poorest countries are located in sub-Saharan Africa where approximately one person in two lives on less than US \$1.25 per day. This is aggravated by conflicts, dysfunctional governments, and diseases such as HIV/AIDS and now COVID -19. Furthermore, food security and livelihoods are at risk as agriculture is rain-dependent and is highly susceptible to weather shocks. This abysmal standard of living is further constrained by lack of available social services, especially education and healthcare. Under such circumstances it is apparent that, despite having the highest youth population growth rate in the world, Africa is challenged to develop productive human capital.

Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest rates of education exclusion. Over one-fifth of children between the ages of about 6 and 11 are out of school, followed by one-third of youth between the ages of about 12 and 14. The countries with the highest out-of-school rates include South Sudan (62%), Equatorial Guinea (55%), Eritrea (47%), and Mali (41%) (United Nations Economic, Social and Cultural Organisation Institute for Statistics (UIS) 2019). Education is an important driver of development and one of the strongest instruments for reducing poverty and improving health; it enables people to be more productive, to earn a better living and enjoy a better quality of life, while also contributing to a country's overall economic growth. It is for this reason that education features prominently in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



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The SDG on education recognises the critical role of education for sustainable development, and the connection between education and transformative change. Low levels of education deny youth a fair chance to get decent jobs, escape poverty, support their families, and to fully participate in national development.

The problem of unemployment in Africa poses economic and social challenges for its youth. At the moment many African countries are not able to create enough formal jobs to absorb the many youth entering the labour market. A 2017 International Labour Organization (ILO) study showed that the continent's youth population is expected to double, to over 830 million by 2050 and that the incidence of unemployment among youth in Northern Africa and sub-Saharan Africa remained at 29.3 and 10.9 per cent respectively in 2016.

A lack of decent livelihood opportunities is one of the driving forces behind violence and organized crime in developing nations and is thus a worrying economic and security matter. According to the World Bank, 40% of people who join rebel movements are motivated by lack of economic opportunity. This includes involvement of the young and vulnerable in rebel groups, electoral violence and violent extremism. Across the continent

political parties have and continue exploit the vulnerability of the youth in destructive political activities like rioting, vigilantism and electoral violence. A 2017 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) study, found that for youth in countries facing both direct and spillover effects of violent groups such as Al-Shabaab, Boko Haram and Al-Qaeda, the journey to violent extremism is marked by exclusion and marginalization, lack of opportunities, and grievances with the state.

The demographic dividend, is the accelerated economic growth that results from rapid decline in a country's fertility and the subsequent change in the population age structure. With progressively fewer births, a country's working-age population grows larger in relation to the young dependent population. With more people in the labor force and fewer young people to support, a country can exploit the window of opportunity for rapid economic growth if the right social and economic investments and policies are made in health, education, governance, and the economy. The World Bank attributes one third of East Asia's growth during its economic upsurge to a growing labour force as a portion of the total population. High economic growth of the United States and the Nordic countries over many decades was also linked to high ratios of workers to dependants over several generations. A high ratio of working-age people can translate into a 'demographic dividend' for a country. It is thought that Africa could be going through this phase and that the youth

bulge may not be altogether negative. Although the benefits of a dividend can be great, the gains are not automatic or assured. In order to realize demographic dividend Africa must invest in human capital especially in health and education for development of a skilled and healthy labor force. A healthy, educated and skilled young population can contribute more significantly to economic growth.

Despite all the challenges related to Africa's youth, there is optimism that they can be a positive force for development if provided with the knowledge and opportunities they need to thrive. In particular, young people should acquire the education and skills needed to contribute in a productive economy. They need access to a job market that can absorb them into the labour force. There are measures that the continent could take to better integrate youth into a labour market that provides decent and productive jobs. For instance, the AU's Continental Agenda 2063 calls for action to support young people as drivers of Africa's renaissance. This is to be achieved through investment in their health, education, and access to technology, capital, and opportunities. Resolute strategies to combat youth unemployment and underemployment are needed at national and continental levels.

It is encouraging that many African countries are making progress towards universal primary education. Sub-Saharan Africa has experienced improvement in primary education since the establishment of the

SDGs. The net enrolment rate increased from 8 percent in the period between 1990 and 2000 to 20 percent in the period between 2000 and 2015. It is expected that the growing numbers of educated youth constitute a potential resource for growth and development in Africa. Education is expected to enable upward socioeconomic mobility and this is key to increasing the youth's chances to escape poverty.

Agriculture is the single most important economic activity in Africa providing employment for about two-thirds of the continent's working population and contributes significantly to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and value of exports of most countries. A possible solution to Africa's youth unemployment crisis is engaging more young people in the agricultural sector. Africa holds half of the world's uncultivated arable land. Agriculture could create the much needed employment and presents an opportunity for the youth of Africa to become the engine drivers in new agriculture and agribusiness enterprises. To achieve this Africa has to invest in the development of business skills among youth, provide supportive regulatory frameworks and sustained administrative support to enable them participate in the development of this sector.

In order to tap into the full potential of its youth, Africa needs to move away state-led, labor intensive job creation that is no longer sustainable. Emerging economies of Africa are witnessing the emergence of entrepreneurship as a major economic driver. There is however need for Governments to invest in building the capacity of the youth in entrepreneurship through technical vocational education and training to enhance their skills. Collaboration with different actors, including the private sector, non-profit actors, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and civil society will be crucial.

Additionally, in order to benefit from its youth, Africa needs to create jobs much faster for them. Research shows that Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) account for 95% of firms in most countries. They create jobs, contribute to GDP, aid industrial development, satisfy local demand for services, innovate and support large firms with inputs and services. It is generally accepted that a healthy SME sector contrib-



Poultry Farming is an option for Youth (picture by StartupBiz Zimbabwe)

utes significantly to a country's economy. Youth could be a crucial advantage for Africa if countries can effectively empower their involvement in SME. Through SMEs youth will be able to generate business opportunities, new skills, technologies, entrepreneurship, and eventually, also act as employers and consumers. However many African Countries are yet to tap into the full potential of the SMEs due to a number of constraints including unfavorable legal and regulatory frameworks, poor infrastructure, limited business development services, challenges of SME access to finance, ineffective and poorly coordinated institutional support framework etc. In order to benefit from this sector, African governments will need to create enabling

business environments, develop financial and non-financial services and put in place supportive institutional infrastructure.

Increased investments in information and communications technology (ICT) has led to improved quality of capital and labour rising skills of the average worker in African economies. The use of ICTs in production play an important role in innovations in making science more efficient by linking it more closely to business. Technology diffusion and investment in ICT offer a strong potential for stronger economic growth in Africa. ICT is particularly important in diversifying forces for young workers. ICT is able to change the eco-

nomics of many sectors by reducing the importance of scale, facilitates an expansion in employment in SMEs, and creates new skilled employment opportunities. In the knowledge era, continuous education and training is the only way for the youth to find job security, especially if the education and training is in ICT-related skills. ICT can strengthen youth employability. Governments should ensure that young people are suitably trained to enable them acquire jobs in the ICT sector and to enhance their entrepreneurial opportunities.

Africa is indeed undergoing a momentous transition phase with the unprecedented rise in its young population. The youth bulge can be an opportunity to turn around Africa's economy for the better if national governments implement policies that create opportunities for young people to contribute meaningfully to society. The expected result is a larger proportion of working age people to dependents, which will turn to economic productivity. The capacity of this population to reach its full social, economic, and political potential in the coming decades will largely depend on key ingredients like good governance, well thought out long-term economic policies, job creation, openness to trade, and access to credit. Better education and health care are also just as important. ■



Students Graduate from one of Kenya's Universities (Photo from Business Today)

WHEN THE UNEXPECTED BECOMES THE NORM

The President's address of 24th March 2020 will forever remain engraved in the minds of Kenyans, the confirmation that indeed the virus was in Kenya, that we would require to shut down all non-essential businesses forcing most businesses to move their operations from an office set up to a work-from-home set up and that the government was looking to stop the spread of the virus in Kenya. The stories of other places such as China, Italy and Germany had already made our minds think of the novel coronavirus as the worst thing imaginable. In early 2020 we read in the local newspapers as well as on social media that there was a novel



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virus that had originated from Wuhan, China that resembled SARS-COV-1 which had infected humans in 2002 in the Guangdong province of southern China. As of late February, the novel SARS-COV 2 was spreading like wildfire in the Savannah across the globe; severely hit were countries in South Central Europe. African religious culture had the entire continent praying that the virus would not land here, however, as we all know how science works, it was an inevitable occurrence as no measures had been taken in order to prevent foreigners from visiting the country.

As soon as Kenya had confirmed the first



case, panic gripped its citizens as was evident by the hurried shopping for essential items among which were quite interesting. Citizens shopped for food stuffs ranging from maize flour, wheat flour, cooking oil, 5-minute noodles, cereals; non-food items were not spared with toilet paper, sanitizers and soaps topping the list of items that were on high demand. Within hours, shelves in most of the local supermarkets were empty and supermarket attendants were getting exhausted by the endless questions and the numerous trips to refill the shelves. Most people thought that we would be locked in our houses from dusk to dawn, as we had seen in many apocalyptic films; we thought that people would start dropping dead on our streets and the only way that we would be able to save ourselves was to remain locked in our houses.

Businesses closed, workplaces and offices closed, places of worship closed, students were picked from boarding school and day scholars stopped going to school, everyone was now staying at home waiting for the next announcement on what to do next. This was the first time that many parents (especially those with children in boarding schools) were spending entire days in the house with their children, and although this brought a myriad of challenges, it had a good side too. One positive result was that parents and children could build a better bond due to their time spent together, they played games such as scrabble, monopoly, kati, skipping ropes and outdoor cycling, these games were essential as the children needed to use up all their pent up energy, the parents also got to participate in games that they would not normally engage in like skipping and football. Another way that the children and parents bonded was in general grooming as the salons and barbershops were closed, parents had to take up the mantle and begin planting and styling their daughters' hair and shaving their sons' hair.

The stay-at-home order, the sanitization and washing hands guidelines were followed in earnest and it was then that the reality really sunk in for most people

that our lives had been changed and it was not business as usual. Although we were not leaving the house often; when we would, we would always remember to wash our hands thoroughly for 20 seconds at least and wear our masks at all times, while keeping physical distance of at least 6 feet between ourselves and the people we are speaking to. Everyone suddenly became a health expert from the information; books, articles, journals and documentaries which we were consuming from the internet, different countries had various health guidelines and the World Health Organization had contradictory reports on the efficiency of mask wearing to protect oneself from being infected. However, the Ministry of Health came up with clear guidelines, which included wearing masks at all times and physical distancing and not touching of mouth, eyes and nose (MEN).

The government continued to place and enforce strict measures to ensure that the virus does not spread too quickly in such a way that would overwhelm our healthcare system. These measures included the cessation of movement in and out of Nairobi Metropolitan Area and Mombasa and Kilifi Counties. This order was enforced the same day it was announced, which left many people who had travelled out of the Home Counties stranded and desperate as one had to be an essential person for them to cross the new borders. Another strict measure that was heavily enforced was the dusk to dawn curfew whose purpose was to reduce risk of spread within clubs, and bars. Contact tracing was also carried out to ensure that high risk individuals and suspected persons were tested and treated adequately if found positive to curb the spread and flatten the curve. Other government measures that were put into place were cessation of movement into and out of Old Town Mombasa and Eastleigh which most people considered to be a very strict measure.

On the other hand, the government kept updating us daily with the latest number of new Covid-19 infections in the country as they moved to slow down the spread of the virus. In the beginning, the updates caused anxiety all round the country as many people were anticipating good news which would mean that the numbers begin dropping, however when the numbers were not going decreasing, the fear and panic slowly faded away and the unexpected became the normal – to receive the daily updates from the Ministry of Health.

Innovations followed; there were various taps that were emerging all over the country whose operation was with a pedal, designed to ensure that its users did not accidentally contract the virus while trying to keep it at bay. Another very notable invention was the ventilators which were made by students of Kenyatta University; this innovation was very timely as various reports stated that there was a shortage of ventilators. The County of Mombasa created sanitization booths which were

placed at the entries to the ferry; this measure was enforced in order to reduce the rising cases of Covid-19 in Mombasa.

The pandemic caused havoc in many different ways; but the most notable were the economic losses that followed, because people were at home and most businesses and offices were closed, the economy came to a halt making it difficult for businessmen to record any profits; most jobs were considered redundant so all over the world, people had to dig into their savings to barely survive. Businesses like matatu and bus operations began registering significant losses because of the government directive to carry 50% capacity to maintain social distance. Another business that was hit hard was bars and clubs, being the first to be closed, they have still not recovered and will probably not recover in the foreseeable future because of the curfew put in place and the government directive that alcohol should not be sold to sit-in customers. Fishing was also affected with reports of fishing vessel crew members testing positive and being forced to abort fishing expeditions to return to shore and isolate. Big companies registered very significant losses a good example is Virgin Atlantic which declared bankruptcy because with most borders closed, travel reduced drastically. Most businesses were forced to adapt in fear of becoming redundant for example most restaurants and hotels began doing deliveries because not only were they shut down, most people feared dining in the restaurant in fear of contracting the virus.

The stay-at-home order also came with a myriad of challenges; the cases of domestic violence within the country shot up because of people being cooped up in their houses together for so long with the added challenges of economic instability. Another social issue that cropped up was increase in the number of teen pregnancies around the country, some counties recorded that 4000 underage girls had recorded positive pregnancy tests since the pandemic began; this is a moral failing of the society as a whole because the people who were impregnating these girls were mostly adult men.

There were other challenges that Kenyans faced which were not directly caused by the virus but were aggravated by the pandemic; demolitions were being carried out in areas like Kariobangi which left more than 7,000 people homeless during this pandemic. This put them not only at risk to contract the virus but also put their lives at risk because the police was using tear gas and live bullets to disperse the crowds of people who were protesting the demolition of their houses. The biggest challenge that was facing these families was the lack of a place to sleep, especially because the dusk to dawn curfew was still being enforced and they could not return to their villages because of the cessation of movement in and out of Nairobi.

However, some good did come from people being inside their houses all the time; pollution levels were at an all time low all over the world. In Kenya, photographers were able to capture Mount Kenya from Nairobi because pollution reduced drastically.

However, some good did come from people being inside their houses all the time; pollution levels were at an all time low all over the world.

Pollution decreased because cars were no longer in heavy use, airplanes became grounded and factories were closed. In other parts of the world, wild animals came out of hiding and began roaming the streets, Rivers and lakes became cleaner. There was a trending phrase during that time, "The world was healing."

The world is now slowly beginning to adapt to this new virus without causing a second wave of rising cases by enforcing measures like wearing masks, limiting number of people who can dine in

restaurants, enforcing social distancing measures in places of work and sanitizing/ washing hands and the opening of places with the new protocols. Specific to Kenya, the curfew remained in place but with change in starting time to 9 pm to restrict bars and clubs from operating because that is one of the highest risk places to contract the virus, the transport industry too, has some strict rules to follow such as social distancing within the trains, buses and airplanes.

Lessons learnt from this pandemic is that money is important but health is more important, because no matter how much money that people had, money could not save them when they were in the ICU, but despite this being true, the laying off of many people taught us the very important lesson of saving, for future use. Another important lesson learnt was that life is a team effort meaning that, we are all one big team and that selfishness will cost us, another key lesson that was learnt was that positivity is key, because positive thinking usually leads to positive outcomes. The other great lesson the government can draw is the need to connect electricity to every household, when everything was locked down the television transmission of church services was a great relief to the citizens, while Zoom/internet lessons offered by many institutions of learning enabled the scholars continue with a semblance of normal activity. There is need for government to support innovation as seen in the manufacturing of personal protective equipment's (PPEs), ventilators, laboratory reagents because at the time of need external supply was not available as most of the countries were in need of the same supplies. Finally, there is need for the government to upgrade and refurbish the research laboratories as we are told a vaccine will be the best solution to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In a nutshell Covid-19 as a pandemic has not only changed my day to day way of life tremendously but also the way i view life in its entirety. It has exposed the fragility of life and how easy it is for normalcy' to be altered and lives changed. In its entirety covid is not an absolute negative, from it many lessons have been learnt and the level of personal preparedness is now heightened. I have also learned to appreciate the normalcy we enjoyed before. Adapting has not been easy but the very nature of being human is made possible by ability to adapt. My Christian beliefs and teaching have helped me cope with the new situation knowing that even when the unexpected becomes the normal we rely on the unchanging heavenly Father. ■

THE ROAD TO NEW YORK:

KENYA'S BID FOR THE NON-PERMANENT SEAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL FOR THE PERIOD 2021-2022



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The Strategic Plan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2018/2019–2022/2023 is: “Building bridges for peace, international cooperation, global competitiveness and shared national prosperity”. It is therefore under this premise that Kenya offered herself as a candidate for the non-permanent seat of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2021–2022.

The campaign for the seat began when the Ministry of Foreign Affairs received cabinet approval in 2018 instructing the Cabinet Secretary to proceed with the modalities of winning the seat. Having received this approval, the Cabinet Secretary Amb. Dr. Monica Juma proceeded to ensure that the necessary steps were undertaken in terms of the preparedness of the ministry to handle the monumental task ahead. The Principal Secretary, Amb. Macharia Kamau and the Political and Diplomatic Secretary Amb. Tom Amolo were tasked with constituting a formidable team comprising of officers at the ministry and those at the Kenya missions in Addis Ababa and New York to spearhead the campaign. The ground work for the campaign then began.

Kenya had been a candidate in waiting since 2013, but exercised magnanimity and shelved its ambitions to serve in the Security Council in favour of her sisterly neighbours in the region. Kenya terminated her campaign for the 2013 – 2014 term in favour of Rwanda to allow Rwanda's participation at the Security Council when commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Genocide in Rwanda. Kenya also dissolved her campaign for the 2018 – 2019 term in support Ethiopia's candidature. It was therefore assumed that the regional countries would appreciate these gestures by Kenya and support her candidature for the period 2021–2022 unopposed but this was not to be as Djibouti exercised her right as a sovereign state and expressed interest for the seat during the same period.

Kenya formally submitted her candidature for the non-permanent seat of the UNSC for the period 2021–2022 in 2017. Djibouti also expressed her interest in the same seat of the Eastern African region. On 25th –26th January, 2018 the Executive Council of the United Nations met and called for a deferment to allow regional consultations on the matter and present one candidate. Consultations were undertaken but after 19 months the two countries had failed to agree and mutually agreed to refer the matter to the African Union for adjudication and determination.

The initial preparations also included receiving the endorsement of the regional leadership of the East Africa Community (EAC) which was announced on 17th November 2018. This endorsement now allowed Kenya to confidently present herself to the African Union as candidate to represent the Eastern African Region. Since the two countries had failed to agree among themselves, the African Union Candidatures Committee met on

the sidelines of the 35th Ordinary Session Executive Council on 4th–5th July, 2019 in Niamey, Niger and after listening to both parties escalated the matter to the African Union Executive Council. During its 35th Ordinary Session held in Niamey on 5th July, 2019, the African Union Executive Council considered the report of the candidatures subcommittee and directed the African Union Permanent Representatives' Committee (AU PRC) to meet and make a final determination.

The African Union Permanent Representatives Committee met on 15th July, 23rd July and 21st August 2019 on the matter where it was finally decided by a vote in which Kenya garnered a two-third majority of the votes cast by those present and voting. This final vote formally made Kenya the African Union endorsed candidate.

The African member states endorsed Kenya because Africa believes Kenya will represent Africa in its diversity and that Kenya can champion Africa's collective interests in the UNSC, at this critical moment in history when Africa must chart its path in fast changing world. Kenya has been entrusted with the solemn duty to carry the hopes and aspirations of Africa and to make a difference to the whole world in the quest for peace and prosperity.

The campaign was grueling for Kenya. From what was a straight forward endorsement by the East Africa member states to be a candidate for the Eastern Region and later by the African Union, the entry of Djibouti as a candidate complicated Kenya's designs for the bid. Kenya viewed this entry by Djibouti as against the principle of consensus among African states (the Ezulwini consensus). The African member states have established themselves as the most organized group in handling

the rotation of the three non-permanent seats allotted to them. The African group ensures that each of its five sub-regions has a chance at representation in a rotational arrangement. In 2019, South Africa replaced Ethiopia which had represented East Africa. In 2021–2022, the seat reverts to an East African country. The Executive Council, the second most powerful organ of the African Union (AU), has the responsibility of vetting candidates for the seats and is advised in these functions by a sub-set of ministers who sit on the Ministerial Committee on Candidatures.

Once Kenya received the African Union endorsement, the campaign team quickly embarked on a vigorous multi prong campaign strategy. The campaign included two official launches in Addis Ababa and New York on 16th September, 2019 and 7th November, 2019 respectively. In the launch in New York, Kenya showcased its rich cultural diversity and among the dignitaries invited were some of the elite Kenyan sports men and women and captains of industry.

Lobbying for UN seats generally depends on personal relationships developed over time. In this regard, the campaign used the diplomatic arsenal it had to carry out a vigorous campaign that eventually ensured that Kenya clinched the seat.

Kenya is not new to the Security Council having served twice as a non-permanent member of the UNSC in

1973 and 1997–1998. Since its admission to the United Nations on 16th December, 1963, Kenya has been a constant and committed contributor to the United Nations, both in budgetary terms as well as to the substance of the work of the United Nations. Kenya has actively engaged in global and regional efforts for peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolutions including through mediation in line with the principles and objectives of the United Nations.

The Security Council is the premier organ of the United Nations and for a country to serve there is prestigious and comes with a lot of responsibility. The seat gives a country an opportunity to bring to the table its wealth of experience in the conduct of international affairs. The United Nations Security Council is mandated to maintain international peace and security in the International system.

According to the United Nations charter Article 23 which came into force in 1965 the Security Council is comprised of five permanent members and 10 non-permanent members elected by the General Assembly to serve for a period of two years. According to the rules of procedure the General Assembly elects five non-permanent members to the Security Council every year. The elections of non-permanent members are elected in a pattern prescribed pattern. The pattern is as follows:-

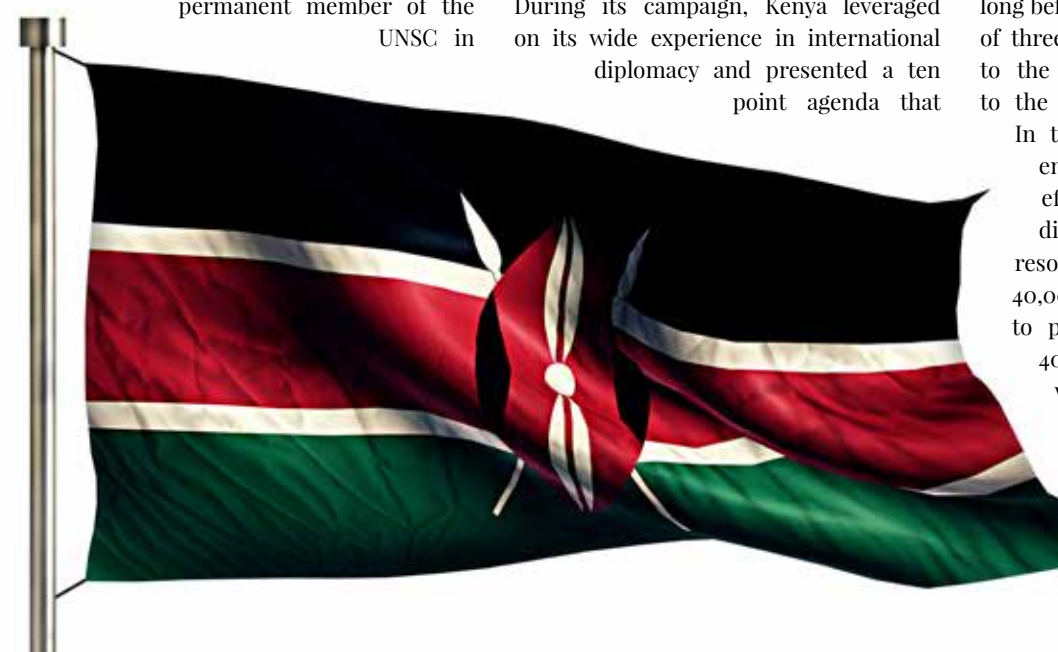
During its campaign, Kenya leveraged on its wide experience in international diplomacy and presented a ten point agenda that

hinged on the question WHY KENYA?

Kenya campaigned on the platform of building bridges and as a consensus builder among all Members of the UNSC, Permanent and Non-Permanent; the Security Council and other UN structures including the Peace Building Commission and the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). Kenya promised to endeavour to strengthen the relationship between the UNSC and the African Union Peace and Security Council, the European Union Peace and Security Council (EU PSC) and other regional peace and security organisations such as IGAD, SADC, and ECOWAS. It will support and push for meaningful triangular consultations between the UNSC, the UN Secretariat, and Troops and Police contributing countries to ensure unity of purpose, gender sensitive peace keeping and a common commitment to the execution of agreed peace keeping mandates.

Further, Kenya stressed that it accords great importance to UN peacekeeping and is a present and active actor and contributor to the United Nations Peacekeeping operations. It said that it believes that Peace operations are important expressions of multilateralism in action and would advocate for greater collaboration in Global Peace Keeping and Support Operations. To showcase its credentials in peacekeeping operations, Kenya demonstrated that it had been a contributor to peacekeeping even in 1960 long before independence. Kenya was one of three African countries to contribute to the first UN Peacekeeping Mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In this regard, it has been actively engaged in global and regional efforts for peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution by contributing more than 40,000 troops and other personnel to peacekeeping operations in over 40 countries. At the UNSC, Kenya will support and push for relevant capabilities and the reinforcing of peacekeeping performance through training, effective management of transitions and the fulfillment of outstanding pledges and the use of UN assessed



contributions to support global peace operations.

On regional peace and security, Kenya informed that it continues to play a leading role in peace, security and conflict management in the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes regions individually as a State and also within the frameworks of regional intergovernmental organizations such as the African Union, the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the International Conference on the Great Lakes Regions (ICGLR) and the East African Community (EAC). It said that it acknowledges that peace and security challenges do not respect geographic boundaries and that there is a deep conviction that peace is a shared responsibility. Therefore, Kenya pledged to bring its wealth of experience in preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and post conflict reconstruction to the Security Council.

Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism is another pillar in which Kenya sees itself as a frontline state and promised to remain steadfast in building partnerships for a strategic and operational approach to prevent and combat terrorism and violent extremism. Kenya as a member of the Security Council would continue to push for technical assistance, capacity building and enhanced coordination to strengthen global counter terrorism capacities including through the Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the Office of Counter Terrorism (OCT) and other UN entities.

Kenya recognizes the crucial link between Women, Peace and Security and has endeavoured to leverage gender perspectives in seeking lasting solutions to peace and security. It said that it sought to involve women in efforts geared towards sustainable peace and would vigorously pursue the promotion of the women peace and security agenda at the UNSC. It believes that women are change agents and catalysts for peace. The Women, Peace and Security Agenda has the potential to radically transform the global quest for peace.

Youth Empowerment is another area in which Kenya campaigned on, advocating

that the youth play a significant role in the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. Kenya would promote the empowerment and inclusion of the youth as agents of peace, security and support youth empowerment because the destiny of humanity is inextricably linked to the empowerment of the youth. It seeks to give the youth a greater voice in decision-making at the local, national, regional and international levels and to enable them participate fully in peace processes and dispute resolution.

Kenya understands that Conflict and disasters continue to generate crises that call for focused attention in building resilience and helping to transition the affected populations from emergency to development. Kenya is hosting over 600,000 refugees and is alive to the challenges faced by persons unable to return home owing to serious and indiscriminate threats to life and livelihood. Kenya promises to use the seat at the Council to seek lasting solutions to challenges faced by refugees and displaced persons. Kenya believes in the principle of non-refoulement and strives to guarantee the right of all asylum seekers.

On Justice, Human Rights and Democracy, Kenya holds the conviction that peace, security and stability cannot be enjoyed without Justice, Human Rights and Democracy. Kenya is therefore committed to a functioning value based global order. Africa and the world will secure peace and security for prosperity by nurturing ideal conditions for the promotion and protection of human rights and through championing a people-centered and sustainable development approach to peace. Kenya will continue its active role in mediation and resolution of conflict with the objective of establishing and nurturing ideal conditions for the promotion and protection of fundamental democratic and human rights.

Kenya has along and distinguished tradition in conservation and environmental protection. It cares for treasure in flora and fauna in which it holds in trust for all humanity. Kenya believes in the sustainable utilization and management of the environment and natural resources for socio-economic development. Kenya

promises to leverage on her experience and position as host country for the United Nations Environmental Programme to highlight how climate change threatens the security situation across the world and will seek lasting solutions to the security implications of climate change.

Kenya has played a leading role in promoting inclusive and sustainable development in the region and beyond. It co-chaired the 13th Session of the Open Working Group that successfully adopted the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets, as well as the inter-governmental negotiation process on the 2030 Agenda for Development. Kenya will work with others to prioritize issues of development, peace and stability and will support a reformed UN system that can deliver peace security and development and one that will address the challenges of development as central to international peace and security.

It is further argued that the ten broad themes used by Kenya in her campaign are too narrow and does not cover the most important areas of concern to the Security Council, especially on international peace and security. It is felt that Kenya should have leveraged more on its term at the African Union Peace and Security Council. Kenya has also held Executive positions at both the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development but could not show how it had used these positions to put forward the region's agenda on peace and security.

Kenya finally won the seat to represent Africa at the Security Council after two rounds of voting on 18th June 2020. Kenya received 129 votes against Djibouti's 62. While welcoming the victory, President Uhuru Kenyatta termed the win as a demonstration of the country's growing profile and influence as a dependable development partner. He further said that Kenya would endeavour to consolidate and voice Africa's position at the Security Council and advance the ten point agenda as outlined during the campaign. ■

VIRTUAL TEAMS: OVERCOMING CHALLENGES OF GROUP DYNAMICS AND EFFECTIVENESS



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Since mid-March 2020 when measures to curb the spread of the Covid-19 virus took effect, as course participants of the National Defence College, we generally understood that our learning experience would be different. Covid-19 pandemic came with many uncertainties, and disruptions to normal learning activities. However, we were unprepared for the sudden shift from the traditional lecture-hall learning to virtual learning. Just when we were settling down to college life, meeting fellow participants from different countries and disciplines, we transitioned to virtual lectures in compliance with social distancing requirements. Remote learning has interrupted the bonding and camaraderie. In these extra-ordinary times, as a virtual team, we have to adopt new skills to effectively cohere and achieve our goals.

Although the world had recently began warming up to remote working, the urgency and scale of growth of virtual teams in the past few months due to the Covid-19 pandemic was unexpected. Teams accustomed to face to face interaction suddenly have to use mediated communication through

online tools. The resulting virtual environment affects the way team participants interact and communicate, thereby affecting their cohesion.

Virtual teams have proven advantages. In a corporate environment, geographical distance allows diversity in teams, saves travel costs and reduces exposure to hazards. Virtual teams also give participants more control over their time and work-life balance. In addition, since location is no longer a consideration, organizations have unlimited opportunities to hire the right talent anywhere in the world. However, virtual teams have less interaction diminishing the opportunities for both conflict and cohesion

A study published by the RAND Corporation in 2011 showed that virtual communication had a variety of challenges including difficulties reaching consensus; inequality in participation; longer decision-making processes; differences in influence based on status; and polarization. Similarly, in an article published in 2018, on the challenges of managing virtual teams and how to overcome them, Rebecca Bakken of Harvard Extension School pointed out that if teams never meet face to face, trust and collaboration suffer

and communication gets muddled. In addition, recent research has shown that conflicts in virtual teams become common as it takes longer to build consensus. Participants in virtual teams are more unlikely to change their initial values, biases and preconceptions, which hinders conflict resolution. Other challenges of virtual teams include operating in different time zones and cultures.

Communication in virtual teams is mediated by technology. This is a major challenge to the dynamics and effectiveness of virtual teams. Studies show that about 90% of normal communication is non-verbal. We use our visual system to gauge feelings and attitudes conveyed by facial expressions, tone and pitch of voice, gestures and posture. In virtual meetings, videos appear as small squares on the computer screen, making it difficult to read body language. Furthermore, the power and status of team participants are harder to detect since context cues such as seating positions, authoritative stance, clothing and posture are reduced.

In addition to these challenges, studies on the behavioral science of online meetings have shown that in a virtual meeting we have to pay closer attention



Source: <https://www.star-knowledge.com/blog/virtual-teams-are-here-to-stay/>

to the speaker, and this consumes a lot of cognitive energy. Continuously looking out for non-verbal cues to determine the credibility of statements, tone of instruction or to discern participants' concentration is cognitively exhausting. Further, for many people, looking at one's face on a screen makes us self-conscious because of the feeling of being watched. Studies have also observed that our physical environment, for instance, if working from home, acts as a cognitive scaffold since we do not attribute our working space as we would a formal meeting room.

Further challenges experienced by participants of virtual teams are feelings of disconnection due to the loss of structure, discipline, mental and emotional support. Technology challenges may leave participants frustrated by lagging connections, background noise, interference from children and pets, and having to keep muting or unmuting their microphones.

But it is not all gloom for virtual teams. There are ways to mitigate challenges of virtual teams. Firstly, experts on building dynamic teams' advice that clear communication is key. For remote teams to succeed, leaders have to be more vigilant about removing ambiguity in communication because team participants do not have the benefit of hearing the tone of a message. Clear communication leads to better team relations and output. According to research on virtual teams, when communication is scant, team participants may start looking for hidden meanings and make up negative narratives for themselves. Frequent, quality communication is, therefore, imperative in creating a dynamic virtual team. Communication includes planning the expectations of each participant and the entire team. Team leaders should clarify assignment of tasks, the deadlines to completed, and the consequences for not fulfilling the tasks.

Virtual meetings are an important part of communication. In the recent past, the area of virtual meetings has evolved from simple online protocols with do's and do nots, to the scientific assessment of

cognitive behaviour and best practice for productive meetings. Studies have found that team leaders need to be aware that virtual meetings are extremely taxing on participants cognitive resources.

For productive meetings, a team leader must develop and communicate online protocols and adjust the same as the team evolves. Establishing pre-meeting practices such as having a clear agenda, early preparation and advance circulation of progress reports help to overcome difficulties that can interrupt communication, for instance, interruptions in power or internet connectivity. Early preparation saves time and avoids the possibility of issues that can cause feelings of frustration in participants.

Secondly, the cohesion and efficiency of virtual teams can be improved through the optimal use of technology such as computers, smartphones and tablets. Emails and chats are useful for sending files and writing out instructions. Web and video conferencing tools such as Webex, Zoom, Google Meet and Microsoft Teams are useful for meetings and conferences. Social media applications such as WhatsApp and Telegram play an important role in communicating and receiving prompt feedback from team participants. Use of collaboration tools such as DropBox and Google Docs eases file sharing. There are also software applications available for work scheduling and tracking, work automation and project management to facilitate the management of work output from virtual teams.

Team leaders need to research the most appropriate tools and provide training to ensure participants use them to their full benefit. Participants also have to accept that virtual teams are now the norm and make an effort to be technologically savvy. Mentorship relationships between seasoned and younger participants can rub essential skills both ways. Experienced participants would learn technology skills and tips while passing on unwritten wisdom to younger participants. Technology can help replicate some of the results of face-to-face interaction through

sharing knowledge and interpersonal communication.

Thirdly, team collaboration improves the dynamics and effectiveness of virtual teams. Distance bias tends to align participants to the adage "out of sight, out of mind" since we naturally tend to value people and things that are close to us in time and space. Effective collaboration helps teams' bond and builds trust as participants get to know each other's thought processes and working styles. Team participants are also able to build on each other's ideas and leverage on individual members strengths. Team leaders should, encourage regular virtual meetings to create a sense of community and familiarity.

Studies on virtual communication recommend a brief ice-breaker session before virtual meetings where participants share personal stories. Personal stories evoke emotions that create a human connection between members, enhancing team cohesion. The tone and meaning of communication can be clarified during these briefings. Meeting protocols could require that participants' cameras should be on at the start of the meeting as this creates closeness. Cameras can be turned off once the meeting begins, but when participants are speaking, they must turn on the camera. When possible, brief daily huddles with team participants are a good way for informal check in, to keep the team coherent and hold everyone accountable for daily and on-going tasks.

In conclusion, when technology is applied for effective communication and if deliberate measures are taken to foster cohesion in geographically dispersed teams, virtual teams may flourish. Team participants must try to understand and use the strengths and weaknesses of individual members to collaboratively achieve goals. Also, team participants must learn new skills and adopt technology to improve work productivity. Team leaders will need to clearly communicate individual and team expectations and innovatively build cohesion to successfully lead virtual teams. This is the new normal. ■

BRAVING THE RAVAGING FLOODS OF BUDALANG'I



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Budalang'i is historically associated with destructive perennial floods. A mention of Budalang'i in any conference in Kenya during introduction will prompt the participants to guess it right that you are a resident of the **flood prone constituency** in Busia County. Just as the historic land of Mesopotamia was situated between River Tigris and Euphrates, Budalang'i flood plain is located between the two

major rivers in Western Kenya namely River Nzoia and Yala. The two rivers drain into Lake Victoria at various points in Budalangi and cause repeated ravaging floods that often lead to displacement of residents, loss of property and lives. No wonder some individuals in this area are named after the **floods** by

the name of '**Omalla**' and '**Kechula**'.

The Effects of Floods on Settlement, Transport and Safety
Budalang'i (translated as **lions' den** or **land of Conquerors** in Kiluhya), is truly a land occupied by those who braved the destructive effects of floods including threats of fierce wild animals that inhabited the thick indigenous forests of the area. Here (Budalang'i) is where I was born and bred. My parents too were indigenes of Budalangi flood plain and courageously remained put in their ancestral land situated in Nagoba Village in Budalangi Constituency. This land had a small raised ground on which family's traditional grass thatched huts were constructed.

Whenever it flooded, this portion of land measuring about half-acre served as an island of hope for the entire family while the rest of the nearby homes and villages were submerged by the raging floods of River Nzoia. The frequent floods witnessed in the Ward has led to relocation of most residents from the fertile Nzoia flood plain to the less fertile higher grounds at the foot





of Bunyala hills. Families during heavy floods are evacuated to safer grounds by their relatives, government and humanitarian organization. Temporary flood camps are erected on Government office lands, public schools, shopping centres and earth dykes for provision of temporary shelter and essential basic needs to the displaced families.

During Flooding, roaring water torrents are seen flowing rushedly down the dry stream valleys from River Nzoia before eventually marooning the entire table-flat flood plains of Budalang'i. Ironically, floods in Budalang'i occur even when the area is experiencing a dry spell. This is due to the inability of Lake Victoria to contain the massive inflows of river Nzoia emanating from the high rainfall upper catchments of Cherangani hills and Mt.. Elgon where the river has its source.

The floods would spread to all villages in the flood plain cutting them off from the rest of the community. To a non-resident visiting the area for the first time, one would confuse the flooded area with a large natural lake with no sign of life. Flooded crop lands, homesteads and trees would be seen submerged by flood water.

The mode of transport during flood period include; swimming across the flooded streams, use of canoes and fabrication of temporary 'boats' made from Fresh banana stems or dry maize stalks bound together by sticks and ropes. It is mandatory, for survival sake that every kid in Budalang'i learns the skills of floating on water by way of swimming at

a very young age. The swimming training is undertaken in shallow waters under the supervision of the adult members of the family. Occasionally, men would dare riding on calm cows' back to swim them across the deep flooded streams.

Cases of death due to boats capsizing and displacement from the cows' backs were often reported. I once witnessed such horrific episode in 1978 when my paternal cousin drowned following the excessive leakage and sinking of the canoe they were using during fishing. I helplessly shouted for help from the stream bank as I was too young to wade into the stream to rescue my cousin and brother whose lives were in danger. My Brother, who was a little older than my cousin tried swimming along with her to the shore to no avail. Sadly, my cousin dropped off as my brother feebly gasped for breath while attempting to swim to the shore. By special grace of God, a villager who was herding his goats in the nearby bushes heard my call for help. He rushed into the water, swam towards my brother who was now sinking down the river bed. He picked him up and swam along with him to the shore where water was pressed out of his body until he gradually recovered. We spent by the stream side overnight as it was the tradition until the body of my cousin was retrieved for burial the following day at noon.

My father once survived narrowly from drowning when the boat they were using to cross river Nzoia capsized. They were crossing the river when the cow they were ferrying violently shook the boat leading to its capsizing. They swam towards the shore before they were rescued by the other boat that was nearby. Thanks to the National government of Kenya for the construction of modern Sigiri Bridge that has guaranteed safe crossing of residents from Bunyala North to Bunyala South across River Nzoia at that point.

The Destruction of Crops and Pasture

The Budalang'i flood plains are the most fertile lands in Bunyala Sub-county due to River Nzoia water sediments originating from well fertilized Maize farms of Trans Nzoia, Bungoma and Kakamega Counties. The promising harvests of Cassava,

Sorghum, Maize, Bananas and Bean crop are rarely realized due to the floods that occur normally at the peak of Long and short Rains (Usually around the month of April and August). With exception of Cassava which may be uprooted upon flooding, the rest of the crops are swept away and eventually rot in the flood water causing a choking stench after four days. In order to have an assured crop harvest, the families in the flood plains usually hire agricultural land on the upper sides of the sub-county along the hills. Here the crop yields are relatively low due to shallow, stoney and exhausted murram soils. I occasionally during school holidays used to wake up at 5am to accompany my mother to the hired farms located overs 6Km from our flood prone village. Here we would farm till 1Pm before returning home exhausted. While on the farm, fire would be lit using rubbish and dry firewood to roast Cassava. The cassava would serve as a wonderful lunch away from home with a sip of water. The hired farms lacked security of tenure as a short termination notice would be verbally served to the lessee in spite of one having toiled to clear the bushes and ploughed the virgin land for only a single season.

My father had a herd of about 35 heads of cattle which in times of floods would be moved to higher grounds in search of pasture. Because of the strong attachment to my father, despite my tender age, I would demand to go along with him and put up in temporary accommodation offered by his friends away from our home. Here my father and I would graze animals, milk and cook the meals away from the rest of the family members who had remained behind in the flooded village.

Schooling Challenges caused by Perennial Floods

There were only two Primary schools in the neighbourhood namely Mundere and Budalang'i Primary schools. The schools were approximately 6 kilometers away from our village. One was to wade through the streams and incase of floods, boats would be used to ferry pupils to school. A long route of over 10 Km through Budalang'i shopping centre would be used to avoid deep streams in the absence of boats. For the brave school going pupils, one would wrap the uniforms on the head



and swim across deep streams to the school. Occasionally the uniform would accidentally hung and soak into the water. This would mean reaching the school with dripping wet clothes. It was even worse whenever the exercise books would drop into water with the teachers of the time insisting that all writing was to be done by use of a fountain pen. You would lose all the notes due to spreading of the fountain ink. Woe onto you if the class assignment that was to be handed in for marking that morning was soaked. No subject teacher would take that kindly. He would assume that it was deliberately done to conceal ones inability to complete the assignment. You would be caned unjustly for presenting soaked exercise books.

Due to long distance covered to school, the pupils residing in far off flood prone villages could not afford to rush home for lunch. There were no bodabodas (Bicycle or Motorcycles Taxi) those days to ferry one to school. We relied on packed roasted sweet potatoes and cassava tubers for lunch. Whenever the wild edible fruits in the nearby hill were in season, we would all rush into the bush to partake of the natural God given fruits during school lunch break.

During 1980 floods, my father was granted permission by the head teacher of Mundere Primary school where I was schooling to use an idle classroom for his residence

while looking after his cattle. I had a rare opportunity of living in school and having a reliable lunch therein. It also enabled me to avoid trekking long distance daily from home to school. But this was short-lived as my father returned home after two months when the floods subsided. The experience of staying in school compound however planted in me the urge of studying hard so as to succeed joining a boarding secondary school far away from home to avoid long morning and evening trek to school. The dream came true when I emerged the best candidate in my primary school Examinations and was offered admission to Kakamega High School Provincial School in Kakamega County. The exam performance record I set in my primary school that year has never been broken to date. Thanks to the flood challenges that propelled me into such success.

The memories of my village without permanent houses and devoid of essential infrastructures and essential amenities motivated me to working extra hard while in high school in order to escape the horrendous life occasioned by the floods. By the grace of God and encouragement of my parents and siblings, I made it to university. Upon Employment, I constructed a descent house for my parents in the Village as a reward to them and a fulfillment of my childhood dream. The experience of my early life in the flood plain of Budalang'i, conditioned me to

believe that with hard work, determination and by the grace of God, one can overcome all odds and succeed in life.

The plight of Budalang'i Flood Residents

Although I have waded successfully through many life challenges to reach where I am today, my heart feels troubled when I look back into Budalang'i flood plain and see very few schools (Both Primary and Secondary) and majority of which are under staffed. There is a very high school drop-out rates in the area coupled with low examination performance. Floods are still being experienced in the area leading to crop destruction and displacement of residents from their homes. This was even witnessed early this year in Bunyala South when dykes were submerged by the River Nzoia waters and by the water backflows from Lake Victoria.

There is urgent need for finding a permanent solution to the devastating perennial floods of Budalang'i by damming of excess River Nzoia waters or otherwise. Construction of more public schools, adequate deployment of teachers, upgrading of road network and aggressive Electricity Connectivity in the area is also of great essence. These development interventions will render the area accessible and habitable. The academic standards of the schools in the flood plain will progressively improve and so will the Economic investment opportunities. My humble appeal and prayer to all stakeholders; Public and Private, Local and international, Elected and all well-wishers is to collaboratively develop Sustainable flood mitigation strategies and avail the much needed resources for transformation of Budalang'i. This will lead to improved socio-economic status of the residents as envisioned in the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and Kenya Vision 2030.

Conclusion

Budalang'i flood plain has great economic and academic potential. The residents are resilient and industrious. What they desperately require is financial, infrastructural and Technical support for effective and sustainable Development. ■

God Bless Budalang'i. God Bless Kenya

BRIDGES TO OPPORTUNITIES FROM KENYA'S BRAIN DRAIN



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Introduction

Brain drain is the movement of people with particular talent, skills, competencies, and education from one particular geographical region to another. For example, the physicists, engineers, doctors, business managers, technicians, technologists, service personnel and economists among other professionals are educated and trained locally but with time, they move to other geographical regions in search of better opportunities. They often acquire competitive skills and excel in their competencies but end up living and working in market environments that meet their desired expectations of high pay and good living standards. The human movement is always instigated and accelerated by a mixture of push factors from the sending state to pull factors by the receiving state. The movement could be prompted by lack of opportunities in the sending state and/or availability or perceived availability of opportunities in the receiving state.

Migration Waves. Kenya has had her own share of brain drain from a pool of migration waves that have occurred at varied intervals. This was accelerated further during the post-independence period. According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there are over three million

Kenyans living and working abroad. However, there is no statistical evidence about the skill mixture of the diaspora population. Despite lack of available data, it is certain that survival of the Kenyan diaspora across the global strata requires that they should be endowed with some skill for a living. This may easily translate into an approximation of one out of five Kenyans in diaspora being skilled or semi-skilled.

Global Distribution of Kenyan Professionals. Over a period of time, Kenya's schools of higher learning including tertiary and technical schools have consistently incubated critical mass of skilled graduates. Subsequently, these persons have moved to different countries and taken up strategic positions enabling host countries to benefit from their competencies. In some areas, they have championed the strategic transformation of the host countries. Some of the professionals across the globe belong to the second and third generations of Kenyan descent. Regionally, the talent from the Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) sector was instrumental in the establishment of vibrant ICT sector in Rwanda. The professionals were part of the team that championed the setting up and transformation of Rwanda into a regional and world class ICT hub. Similar situation was witnessed when a section of professional Kenyans migrated to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries especially Malawi and Namibia where they tremendously transformed the agricultural and health sectors and in Botswana where they took lead in the health and teaching sectors while in South Africa where they were instrumental in varied sectors of the service industry. Many nursing professionals from Kenya have found opportunities in the health sector of Namibia while English speaking teachers from Kenya have moved to Mauritius and Seychelles to take up teaching jobs.

Kenya became conspicuous in exporting skilled and semi-skilled labour force such as health care personnel to Britain, United States of America, North and South America, Western and Northern Europe as well as in Australia. A substantial number of ICT professionals have taken lead positions within the global major powers. A critical number of Kenyan skills and semi skills were exported to Middle East, Asia, Far East countries and the Arab world. Russia and the East European countries were never left behind as they have absorbed a critical population of Kenyan professionals. It is not a wonder that Kenyans are driving the economies of different countries across the globe. Some of the best brains in strategic and leadership positions are certainly people of Kenyan descent. They have excelled in all socio-economic, political and religious spheres. In addition, their contributions keep growing in skill, influence and competencies.

Transition. The transition period of the brain drain is often riddled with uncertainty, anxiety, expectations and fear of the known. While the past and present is well known and can be accounted for, the future opportunities remain in the realm of the unknown. There is always physical and emotional separation with loved ones. There is also hope and optimism at the point of departure from home country to the host country abroad.

Opportunities in Brain Drain

The wealthy states and organizations offering best job opportunities with well-equipped working environment end up attracting highly trained and skilled citizens of Kenya. As a result of such an arrangement within the international system, it is highly assumed by one school of thought that Kenya is deprived the critical skill that would otherwise contribute to socio-economic development of the country if the skill was retained locally. However, this does not reflect accurate

position since there are many accruing benefits associated with movement of professionals from Kenya. It is now certain that the brain drain is actually a bridge to international opportunities.

Brain Circulation. Migration of professionals set a foundation on which exchange of knowledge and ideas become visible and possible. With time, it creates a critical mass of talent that is beneficial for globalization as well as transforming successive talents from the home country. The country opens up to new realities and citizens constantly look at issues from an informed global perspective. The population that migrates become conduits of transmission and infusion of skills across the globe.

Economic Development. Kenya's economic development agenda is anchored on trade patterns, investment opportunities and diaspora remittances as well as transfer of skills, knowledge and network sharing among others. Because of the trade and contacts established, facilitation of the same is easily achievable by matching producers of goods and services in Kenya and consumers of the same in the receiving countries. In essence, contacts of diaspora provide market intelligence, information sharing and opportunities for producers and consumers.

Investments. The diaspora community often play a dual role in investments. This is achievable by either engaging in direct investments in their countries of origin or linking up with potential investors to influence their decisions and grow their interests to invest in Kenya. In addition, they often lobby non diaspora investors in receiving states to consider investing directly in countries of origin. The diaspora has an advantage of information and market intelligence that is crucial to potential investors.

Diaspora Remittance. Remittances from the talented persons working in countries abroad are the most tangible, traditional and visible link between migration and quick benefits from the migrant. Remittances is an essential resource flow and it has gradually exceeded the Official

Development Assistance (ODA). According to the Central Bank of Kenya, Kenyans abroad remitted to the country USD 2.546 billion in 2019.

Business Incubators. Working in foreign countries exposes the talented diaspora members to new business platforms, business ideas, information and skills transfer as well as experience sharing. This enables incubation of new business ideas which can be easily transferred to home country for domestication, execution and implementation.

Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I). Some of the ICT professionals leaving Kenya have ended up working in environments and in developed countries or regimes embracing latest technologies and innovations. This creates an avenue for further opportunities towards strengthening their competencies occasioned by exposure to latest and next generation use of Science, Technology and Innovation. Subsequently, the acquired skills and competencies make them key transmitters of the sophisticated skills and competencies acquired. Absorption of the same by Kenyans in the home country relies on established contacts and networks as well as the framework enabling such skills transfer and knowledge sharing.

Diaspora Savings. The Kenyans working abroad have opportunities to make financial savings. This often enables them to build critical monetary base and credit facilities. Whenever the money is put to prudent use and investment, it translates into significant monetary base that the diaspora utilizes towards transforming the economy of the home country. Therefore, the savings could easily facilitate capital markets and impact significantly on the socio-economic development of Kenya.

Humanitarian Assistance. It is a common practice to have some professional groupings coming together to pool resources towards a certain cause in the home country. Some groups pool resources to support particular communities such as in the construction of schools, churches, community projects as well as providing supplies to schools or hospitals, helping vulnerable population like youth, women

and the physically challenged persons.

Positions of Influence. Some of the Kenyan professionals abroad have ascended to powerful positions in those host countries and also in organizations where they have the ability to work with, motivate, and inspire people around them and those they are connected to directly or indirectly. The Art of influence offers insightful underpinnings to others who aspire to achieve greater success in life. In most cases, their insights are practical and easy to apply in everyday life. The professionals abroad can provide mentorship opportunities as well as become role models to the population in the home country for purposes of raising their levels of aspirations so much so that they desire to build own businesses, strengthen career growth or enable them reach any position in the world. Former President Barack Obama of the United States of America was born out of Kenyan descent and became President of the USA. He inspired many to believe that it is possible to achieve the desired aspirations in one's life.

Knowledge Networks. The Kenyan diaspora has established professional associations and business networks. Some of them exist at local, national or international levels. Some of them may be informal and weak while others are formal and strong. With varied ICT platforms, professionals across the globe are able to engage regularly on different topical issues. Therefore, there is good opportunity for the Government of Kenya to tap into these knowledge networks for exchange of information and collaborative research and development projects between these networks and actors in the home country.

Technical Assistance. The professionals are able to provide technical assistance to each other and also to relevant disciplines from their countries of origin. This can be done on individual or collective basis. They often organise conferences and investment forums with their counterparts globally and at home. Given the nature of exposure, these professionals often coalesce together to pool together the knowledge and provide technical

assistance, mentorship and become role models to the population in the home country. The contributions range from trade, investments, and businesses as well as financial investments, skills, knowledge and network transfers.

Kenyan Diaspora Alliance (KDA). The Kenya diaspora community with support from the Government of the Republic Kenya established a Kenya Diaspora Alliance. The Diaspora Investment Club (DICL) is a business and investment arm for Kenya Diaspora Alliance. KDA is registered as a limited liability company, presently with start-up businesses nominally worth US\$ 4 million in real estate, capital markets, tech-novation (mobile apps), and business/investment consultancy. DICL and KDA are desirous to up-scale their online presence through innovative, content-rich, interactive, and captive internet as well as web platforms.

Change Agents. Professional Kenyans working and living abroad are a recipe for change of the home country. They have international exposure and have the ability to assist the population in the home country to transform in many aspects of life. They are catalysts for change and they are capable of making changes happen through inspiring and influencing others. Such personalities often promote, enable, support and champion changes in their home countries based on experiences gained abroad. Using their contacts as well as networks among themselves and with the home country, the change agents abroad interact, inspire and influence key individuals to make appropriate changes necessary for the transformation. Such may include desires, attitudes and behaviors.

Role of Government in Reversing Brain Drain

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has an obligation to create favourable environment towards maximising from the reverse benefits of Brain Drain. Creating an enabling environment is instrumental and it is an exceptional determinant in maximising benefits brought about by the brain drain.

Government Incentives and Related Policies. Government support and facilitation of the talented diaspora, their professional associations and networks is what enhances and attracts more participation. This builds professional confidence and recognition of the Kenyan diaspora.

Strengthening Professional Networks. Government engagement through common platforms or through conferences and meetings strengthens networks and promotes more common activities on transfer of knowledge and sharing of ideas. This kind of engagement reinforces harmonised contributions of time, experience, contacts, knowledge and skills for broader achievement of the network mandate. The networks boost human capital in the home country and this augment productivity as well as promotes technology transfer and knowledge sharing.

Diaspora Bonds. The Government can use specific investment incentives such as diaspora bonds to trigger Foreign Direct Investments as a means towards generation of wealth. This can also be looked at as an instrument for savings that taps effectively in the diaspora wealth.

Government Institutions Abroad. Kenyan Embassies and Consulates abroad are strategically positioned to build bridges between the country and professionals across the globe. Therefore, these government offices should be equipped with the right and competent staff, relevant information and adequate leadership for effective facilitation in all outreach programs. Government institutions abroad must also be well serviced by dedicated Ministries, Departments and Agencies in the home country such as Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Labour and Social affairs, Ministry of Youth and Department of Immigration, among others.

Governments Initiatives. Kenya Government should constantly design strategies to mobilize resources from the professionals across the globe by

encouraging their participation in different programs like humanitarian assistance, housing, pension and microfinance programs. This is a one window shop that conveniently facilitates accessibility to available opportunities and information of the home country.

Kenya Development Plans. The Kenya Vision 2030 embeds prominent role of the diaspora in the economic pillar as a flagship project. The recognition prompted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to generate a blueprint called Diaspora Diplomacy which has become a key pillar of Kenya's foreign policy. In addition, Kenya Constitution 2010 recognises Kenyan nationals across the globe and gave constitutional recognition for dual citizenship. According to the Second Medium Term Plan (Mt.P) 2013-2017, the government has a duty to mainstream and integrate into the national development agenda, the diaspora activities leading to the crafting of the National Diaspora Policy. Consequently, a National Diaspora Council of Kenya (NADICOK) was established to be an advisory body to the government on diaspora issues.

Conclusion

For purposes of harnessing full benefits from the brain drain, the Government of the Republic of Kenya should explore strategies that integrate and mainstream contributions of skilled and semi-skilled professionals living and working abroad. This contributes directly to the country's development agenda in all sectors where such diaspora competencies could be deployed. From the discussions, professionals migrating from Kenya have become bridges to opportunities. The brain drain is indeed a bridge to filling the brain gaps that may be in existence. Certainly, the potential of professionals with Kenyan descent across the globe has not been fully embraced and there is no reason to lag behind when the low hanging opportunities exist. It is therefore incumbent upon the Government of the Republic of Kenya to fully harness, attract and facilitate professionals living abroad to effectively contribute to the national development agenda of the country. ■

CHALLENGES FACING SMALL SCALE MINING IN TANZANIA



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TANZANIA

Broadly speaking, small-scale mining refers to mining by individuals, groups, families or cooperatives with minimal or no mechanization, often in the informal (illegal) sector of the market. Despite many attempts, a common definition of Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) has yet to be established. In some countries a distinction is made between 'artisanal mining' that is purely manual and on a very small scale, and 'small-scale mining' that has some mechanization and is on a larger scale. In some West African countries (for example, Mali), small-scale mining is

differentiated from artisanal mining by the presence of permanent, fixed installations that are established once an ore body is confirmed. Throughout this publication, the terms artisanal and small-scale mining are used interchangeably.

In many developing countries, Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) is largely a poverty-driven activity which plays an important economic role. It is estimated that in the order of 13 million people in about 30 countries are directly engaged in small-scale mining, a significant proportion of who are women and children. A further 80 to 100 million people across the developing world could depend on small-scale mining for some aspects of their livelihoods. Small-scale mining can be extremely environmentally damaging and often has serious health and safety consequences for workers and surrounding communities. This is generally due to poor practices in mining and processing target minerals. Governments in many countries regard ASM as an illegal activity. The consequent lack of an adequate regulatory and policy framework can prevent formalization of this sector. This, in turn, makes improvements in the livelihoods of miners and their dependent communities difficult

to achieve. Absence of formalization also makes improvements in environmental performance much more problematic. Many of the potential economic benefits of the small-scale mining sector are lost through poor practice in mining, processing and marketing the target minerals. The absence of adequate legal frameworks and secure rights for miners and communities exacerbates this problem. Local governance structures and institutions are typically underdeveloped. Artisanal and small scale miners are often marginalized and there can be very serious disputes with communities, government agencies and large-scale mining interests. Conflicts over access and land-use can be a particular issue in areas where indigenous or tribal peoples have traditional land rights or land-use patterns. These and other problems commonly associated with ASM (such as child labour, access to health care and education) present a major challenge to the government and regulatory authorities in countries where these activities take place, as well as to the wider development community.

Tanzania is among the countries having abundant mineral resources. The data base indicates that the minerals found in Tanzania are grouped into the following major categories: Metallic Minerals, which include gold, iron ore, nickel, copper, cobalt and silver. Gemstones, which include diamonds, tanzanite, ruby, garnets, pearl etc. Industrial Minerals, which include limestone, soda ash, gypsum, salt and phosphates; Energy source Minerals, such as coal and uranium; and Construction minerals, such as aggregates, gravel, sand and dimension stones. However, these resources have not been transformed into wealth and welfare of the citizens. The contribution of the mining sector to the national economy and social development has not met the expectations of the people.

Access to credit and finance to small scale miners has also become a big challenge to them. In Tanzania small scale miners are unable to secure loans from banks and other



Small Scale Miners in Nyarugusu in Mara Region-Tanzania

financial institutions for their starting capital and this is especially the case for female miners and for miners who operate without licenses. This is also due to lack of collateral and the possible inability and unwillingness of the miners to pay back their loans. Lack of equipment and machinery; one of the reasons why small scale miners are classified as small-scale miners is because of the kind of equipment and machinery they use. In most mining sectors in Tanzania, small-scale miners use traditional techniques and low level equipment in excavation or digging while as in South America, miners use rudimentary tools, manual devices or simple portable machines. These tools are often not sufficient to carry out their activities and thus, they often do not perform to their maximum capabilities. This lack of equipment is worsened by the fact that miners do not have starting capital in order to acquire the tools they require. More so, miners have no access to credit from formal financial institutions for them to finance their operational requirements. Poor technologies used by small scale miners also pose a danger to the miners themselves who are constantly harmed and even killed due to poor occupational safety standards. The absence of machinery means work has to be done manually, thus resulting in fatalities. Also, many mines are not carefully planned due to the fact that they are illegal and therefore, structures are made in such

a way that they are easily concealed. In many countries across the world, including Tanzania, measures for prevention of mining accidents and other fatalities either do not exist or are not properly enforced.

Lack of skills on the mining sectors, has also been seen as a big challenge to small scale miners. Most miners lack the technical know-how to improve their capacity in this specialized economic area. As a matter of fact most activities to support mining sectors have focused on large scale mining operations, mainly to improve their productivity, legal status or environmental performance. As a result the small scale miners earn very little raw materials. Lack of market information and access to it is another challenge facing small scale miners in different mining regions in Tanzania. Most miners lack education hence have inadequate knowledge of pricing their products, this can clearly manifest itself in how the miners sell their stones and the prices they sell it for, in comparison to the real value of the stones. Apart from 'obtaining finance' as the number one issue affecting small scale miners. Environment, safety, technical assistance, obtaining equipment, need for training, obtaining permits and occupational health. Their are also some other challenges facing SSM like transport, tax regime, job security, child

labour, working conditions and selling arrangement.

Conclusion

The isolation of SSM in Government policy and actions from development planning, and from wider social and environmental policies such as health care and natural resource management is quite significant. The Government and its development collaborators (particularly the civil society) needs to facilitate a change in attitudes and perceptions and thus a change in Government practice towards SSM. Also, ensuring that AS miners access training and efficient working tools including equipment by increasing site-based demonstration centres (a process that has already been initiated by Government), to cover most AS mining areas. Related to this is supporting the Vocational Education Training Agency (VETA) in its plans to establish a training programme aimed at training artisans that can service the ASM sub-sector and small-scale miners. Also, encourage miners to establish "Miners Associations" that they can easily associate with rather than the current regional organizations that hardly cater for their needs. Smaller organizations whose members have similar interests can organize training through interaction with various institutions. ■

that people and the ways they come to rough consensus are necessarily at the center of community resilience building. Although many resilience frameworks and tools for building community resilience are now available, no single approach will likely work for all communities and their varied social and economic contexts. However there are six foundations that are essential in building community resilience, rather than achieving resilience as a fixed goal as resilience building is an ongoing process.

People; the power to envision the future of the community and build its resilience resides with community members. The people living within a community are the crucial of social resource that drive local relationships and that make things happen. They are often the most knowledgeable about the community's opportunities and challenges, and best-suited to act on them through existing economic, political, and social relationships. Citizen participation is widely believed to be a fundamental element for community resilience. Citizen Participation is the engagement of community members in formal organizations, including religious congregations, school and resident associations, neighborhood watches, and self-help groups. *Nyumba kumi* initiative involves community in decision making. The membership includes representatives from the community, resident associations, Community Based Organizations, Faith-Based Organizations, the Private Sector- and law-enforcement agencies. The lowest cluster is the block, which brings together a number of households, generally recommended at between 5-10 households (*Nyumba Kumi*). The block and the village/ zone only comprised of community members without any representation of the law enforcement agencies or other stakeholders. The committees at the block and sub-location levels are to meet twice a month, while those at higher levels meet once a month.

Systems thinking; Systems thinking is essential for understanding the complex, interrelated crises now unfolding and what they mean for our similarly complex communities. Communities are subject to larger sociological and economic forces.

Our communities are also complex systems in their own right, with innumerable components constantly changing and interacting with each other, the larger whole, and outside systems. Local economic activity, relationships among different social groups and local cultural patterns all influence the community from the inside out. Over the years, there has been a paradigm shift with regards to policing in many countries in the world. This is as a result of the developments as well as challenges faced in the security sector. This has necessitated the need for new approaches to deal with insecurity such as community policing. The *Nyumba Kumi* Community policing initiative was introduced in Kenya in 2013. It is a strategy of anchoring community policing at the household level. It is borrowed from the Tanzanian Usama Policy informed by the African Ubuntu philosophy of social connectedness epitome in the saying, 'I am because we are and because we are so I am'.

Adaptability; a community that adapts to change is resilient. But because communities and the challenges we face are dynamic, adaptation is an ongoing process. Communities generally adapt as the world around them changes. *Nyumba Kumi* Initiative is a strategy implemented by the government to complement community policing initiatives. County and national governments work together with the citizens in groups of 10 houses. In cases where security problems arise, the 10 neighbors come together to solve them before the issues get out of hand. Information of serious human security threats are forwarded to the administrative leaders from the village to national level. The requirements to lead and to participate in the committees are solely based on moral characteristics of an individual in the community such as high integrity and respect. People who hold political and elected positions are specifically prohibited from holding positions at different levels of the Committee. This is meant to emphasize the apolitical characteristic of the committees. Furthermore, the committees are required to be sensitive to the representation of youth, people with disabilities and women. It is expected to give the committees the

legitimate authority based on moral leadership, as well as a broad-based composition.

Transformability; some challenges are so big that it is not possible for the community to simply adapt; fundamental, transformative changes may be necessary. The *Nyumba Kuma* Initiative is guided by principles inter alia equal representation of members. As its name suggests it is a combination of two Swahili names roughly translated to ten households. This was conditioned and framed by ideas of decentralization and the delegation of responsibilities from the state to the community level. The initiative encourages locals to interact and share information about each other. They are also expected to monitor security threats and provide information to the local administration and security organs. Using measured levels of neighborhood, this was to ensure safety and public satisfaction. Although the police are still responsible for vigorous and impartial enforcement of law and life threatening emergencies, community policing is a joint police and society wide focus.

Sustainability; Community resilience is not sustainable if it serves only us, and only now; it needs to work for other communities, future generations, and the ecosystems on which we all depend. The *Nyumba kumi* initiative has embedded police officers to the community where they became more understanding of the local situations and promotes a positive image of the police that is credible and can be trusted by the community. This dynamic association between the police officers and citizens to battle crimes of any nature and improve group security, which is core of the *Nyumba kumi* initiative.

Courage; as individuals and as a community, we need courage to confront challenging issues and take responsibility for our collective future. Individuals need courage to speak out about their views and needs, and make themselves personally vulnerable. Communities, too, need courage to create space for difficult conversations and make changes. The *nyumba kumi* initiative needs to cultivate courage in both individuals and

BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH NYUMBA KUMI SECURITY INITIATIVE IN KENYA

Introduction

Resilience is the ability of a community, people, state, or region to adopt new processes, norms, and strategies for conducting their lives and new societal relationships in response to a violent shock or uptick in aggression and brutality in order to prevent, mitigate, or recover from violence. These innovative ways of relating and functioning demonstrate the capacity of a social system to self-organize, the implication being that certain parts or subsystems may become irrelevant or transform as a community seeks to establish a new peaceful equilibrium. Adaptation in the face of change may drive



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not only new structures and relationships within the system but also new functions. Resilience is the ability of a system (like a community) to absorb disturbance and still retain basic function and structure. Building resilience means intentionally guiding the system's process of adaptation in an attempt to preserve some qualities and allow others to fade away, all while retaining the essence or "identity" of the system. In a human community, identity is essentially determined by what people *value* about where they live. However, what a community of people collectively values is open to interpretation and subject to disagreement. This suggests

the community as a whole to confront challenging issues and take responsibility for their collective future. Courage to work with other people, share in taking responsibility for the community to tackle the complex, systemic issues we face. Courage to learn from experience and adapt our thinking and methods.

Conclusion

Resilience is, in a way, the original aspiration of human communities. Since the dawn of civilization we have banded together for long-term mutual well-being and betterment in the face of future stresses and shocks. *Nyumba kumi* initiative has been a great strategy in combating crimes and has provided feasible solutions on problems relating to the safety of residents in various parts of the country. It has also enhanced resilience among communities to withstand forces and pressures that could have led to criminal activities. *Nyumba Kumi* initiative was actually introduced to be a mechanism for local surveillance and it has proven to be instrumental to its course and indeed built a society that is resilient on matters of security threats.

The fact that the initiative relies much on citizen involvement, a lot of people are

well contented and satisfied with its way of operation. With increased acceptance by the people, *Nyumba Kumi* initiative style will thrive. The best form of awareness will equally come when the people witness changes from the police service officers conduct and operations within their community. However there is need to strengthen the initiative to address other emerging challenges that could face the communities.

Recommendations

The recognition that police cannot do everything, be everywhere and must rely on the support of the public to tackle complex issues and increasing sophistication, diversity and pace of change in threat and in communities' calls for a rethinking of community policing strategies. Community policing as a philosophy provides organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder and fear of crime. Building resilience has become relevant especially in relation to setbacks that are difficult to predict, such as harms associated with terrorism, pandemics and climate

change. Resilience policing also signifies a shift in the mentalities of the police, community and other security agencies to something that is more collaborative and underpinned by self-organization. The relevance and adaptability of *nyumba kumi* structure has been seen in the wake of COVID 19 outbreak whereby the communities have become deliberate in terms of ensuring their members comply with government guidelines on prevention and control of the pandemic.

Crime prevention through building community resilience encompasses approaches for dealing with everyday stresses as well as greater policing needs related to catastrophe. Resilience policing focusing on establishing community resilience through, for instance, community and volunteer involvement, capacity building and technology transfer, in order to make communities stronger in protecting themselves from or recovering from disasters. Resilience adaptive capacity for communities could also be enhanced through disaster drills, risk mapping, evacuation planning and risks communication. ■

REVISITING THE IN-LAWS: WHY AFRICA MUST RENEGOTIATE



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It has been dubbed the Bible's original love triangle (Isbouts, 2019), dating back to the second millennium BC. It is the story of a man named Jacob and two women named Rachel and Leah. Found in Chapters 29 and 30 of the book of Genesis, the story tells of deception and unjust exploitation, but it also tells of the courage to pursue restitution and restore pride and glory. It is the story of a man who got a raw deal, but went back to his father-in-law to seek redress. A story with striking parallels to the African post-independence experience, as well as critical lessons for the continent's renaissance.

Jacob, also known as Israel, is a significant figure in Abrahamic religions, including Christianity, Islam and Judaism. He was the grandson of Abraham and is regarded as the patriarch of the Israelites. Nonetheless, long before this greatness in history was recognized, the man had fallen victim to the trickery of his uncle-turned-father-in-law, Laban. As the story goes, Jacob fell in love with Laban's daughter called Rachel, and he laboured seven years for Laban in exchange for Rachel's hand in marriage. And when the seven years were over, Laban threw a feast, and in the night he handed Jacob his bride. But alas, morning came and Jacob discovered that he had the wrong bride. Laban had



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actually brought his other daughter, Leah, and not Jacob's beloved Rachel.

It was the height of duplicity, the kind that could start a bitter fight. In today's world, it would possibly result in a headline-grabbing lawsuit, and we would read books and watch films about it. Without a doubt, it was scandalous even in the mid-18th Century BC, and Jacob must have been in a dilemma. On the one hand, he had already consummated his marriage with Leah and he could have accepted his fate and settled in life. On the other hand, he suffered the agony of getting shortchanged and would have been raring to fight for his right. Jacob was pragmatic and he courageously returned to his father-in-law to renegotiate. The fresh deal ended up costing him seven more years of labour, but Jacob got what his heart had desired. He got his first love, Rachel.

After centuries of laborious struggle, African countries jubilated in the late 1950s and early 1960s at the prospects of self-governance. Indeed the European "uncle", under whose oppressive regime Africans had hitherto labored, threw the continent a string of parties and offered the continent its bride – independence. The decline of European colonialism represented a promise of peace and the hope for

social, political and economic prosperity in Africa. However, after a rather long wedding night, Africa appeared to have awakened to the realization that it took the wrong bride. A skewed development agenda in the post-colonial era meant that Europe continued to develop, while Africa with its growing population remained underdeveloped and gravitating towards economic stagnation. Thus newly "independent" African countries found themselves going back to their former colonial oppressors for financial aid. This kind of relationship – characterized by dependency and neo-colonialism – was not what Africa had bargained for. This was not the 'happily-ever-after' the continent had dreamed about. It was not Africa's Rachel.

The reality of Africa's raw deal at independence was articulated five decades ago by the Pan-Africanists Walter Rodney and A.M. Babu, in the seminal discourse titled "How Europe Underdeveloped Africa". Rodney and Babu (1972) argued that Africa had lost its power to Europe (and later the United States of America) due to a wealth drain, lopsided terms of trade and debilitating loans. These conditions were responsible for perpetuating the colonial relationship between the West and Africa long after Africa's perceived

independence. It was as though Africa had fought for independence without fully grasping the true nature and demands of independence or self-governance. Africa was in bed with the wrong bride.

Through the years, numerous studies would point out that Africa had fallen into the traps of classical modernization frameworks, which prescribed a linear development path modelled after European experiences and preferences. Development strategies for Africa were determined by the economically and technologically powerful European metropolises. So too was the financing – in form of aid. According to Babu (1972), Africa blindly and religiously bought into development ideas prescribed by its own oppressors. These counterproductive "solutions" included increased exports of primary products, increased aid and loans from the "developed" countries and population control in the African countries. Aid in itself spawned a multi-billion dollar industry overly beneficial to European enterprises, which Hancock (2009) called "Development Incorporated". But no matter how good, this aid could not deliver development (Bolton, 2008).

Prescriptions for ways out of Africa's predicament also came early. According to Rodney (1972), the way out of neo-colonialism was through revisiting pre-colonial foundations and formulating deliberate strategies and tactics for African emancipation and development. A decade before Rodney, Frantz Fanon had made a call to Africa to arise and shrug off victimhood. He decried any attempts by Africans to imitate or "catch up" with Europe by creating states, institutions and societies that drew their inspiration from the former colonial powers. Fanon (1963) believed that Africans could invent new concepts to inform their own development. Both Rodney and Fanon were calling for Africa's break with the exploitative neo-colonial system and the establishment of a new order favorable to the continent's development. They were challenging Africans to ask, and answer, the question of how Africa would re-develop itself. On his part, Babu (1972) called for a process of mental decolonization.

Back to the biblical story. The manner

of discovery was in itself a serious indictment on Jacob's state of mind on his wedding night. It is baffling that Jacob only discovered he had the wrong bride in the morning. After seven years of anticipation, could he not tell the difference between Leah and Rachel for a whole night? Could it be that Jacob did not fully comprehend what his heart desired by the end of his seven years of hard labour? Some possible explanations advanced by scholars and commentators include that it was dark and Jacob could not see Leah, that Jacob was drunk following a night of feasting, and that there had been limited interaction between Jacob and Laban's daughters. Whatever the true reason for Jacob's seeming ineptitude, we find in this incident one of the conspicuous parallels with the African situation.

In spite of the early warnings, it was not until the dawn of the 21st Century that the full awakening for Africa came. The most vivid signs of the continent's drive towards renewal were the establishment of the African Union (AU) in 2002 and the adoption of the aptly named "Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want" in 2015. Looking at the seven aspirations of Agenda 2063, it is evident that Africa is fully cognizant that it had been shortchanged and it is now looking for home-grown solutions to its development challenges. This inward looking approach crystallized further at the signing of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in March 2018. In promoting production for the African market, AfCFTA will be nurturing capacity for a self-sustaining growth, which according to Babu (1972), is a precondition for development. Just like Jacob of Genesis, Africa had chosen the pragmatic path. Not a path of fighting back or merely crying foul, but acting decisively to build on the existing achievements and attain that which was the original goal.

In spite of the early warnings, it was not until the dawn of the 21st Century that the full awakening for Africa came.

The successes made in a difficult global environment must be protected, but then regional integration and trade among African countries must be enhanced in order to scale back the continent's economic and political dependence on the manipulative West. Intra-Africa trade is a major avenue towards the continent's economic development. However, even as the continent adopts prudent development agenda and begins taking concrete steps to grow from within, it must also consider emulating Jacob's bold step to confront the devious in-laws. Just like Jacob, Africa finds itself in an extraordinary context, where reverence to the in-laws must be momentarily desecrated. To effectively secure the original bride, Africa must confront he who robbed it of its right in the first place. It must robustly negotiate new trade agreements with major trading partners, particularly Europe and the USA, and demand concrete benefits to African countries.

In 2000, 48 Sub-Saharan countries were among 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries that signed the Cotonou Agreement with the European Union (EU). This set in motion new trade agreement talks at regional level, referred to as Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs). In the two decades ensuing from the Cotonou Agreement, it has become evident that Africa has its work cut out if it is to secure a reversal of oppressive and exploitative trade terms with Europe. The European Union has been pushing for "reciprocal" trade preferences, which require African (and other ACP) countries to open their markets to EU exports in return for tariff-free access to the EU market. The EU also aggressively pushed the 2013 World Trade Organization's Trade Facilitation (TF) Agreement, which primarily aimed at minimizing regulations and other non-tariff barriers (NTBs) thus easing the cross-border movement of goods and services.

Generally, Africa did not immediately embrace the EPAs, due to the fear of cheap European products destroying young industries on the continent, and the significant loss of revenue due to tariff cuts (Ighobor, 2014). Neither was there much enthusiasm about the TF Agreement on the continent. The perception was that trade facilitation would immediately

benefit export-ready countries. Since majority of African countries have few exports, greater efficiency in goods movement would only result in increased imports, thereby worsening trade balances for African economies (Kanyimbo, 2013). These initial attitudes represented a reassuring development on the continent. African countries resisting trade deals based on perceived disadvantages to the local economies was a refreshing change from the hitherto witnessed wholehearted acceptance of foreign prescriptions. Nonetheless, the continent was unable to put up a strong fight against European and American pressure due to divisions in Africa's position (Ighobor, 2014).

Whereas increasingly individual African political leaders have spoken out against unfavourable trade deals with the West, they have been unable to consolidate these views into a unified African voice that would be more compelling in the global trade arena. African countries and African Regional Economic Communities (RECs) have made separate attempts to secure binding financial commitments from the EU in return for opening up African markets, but to no avail (Ighobor, 2014). Differences among African countries and perceptions of unequal gain, including among countries in the same Regional Economic Communities (RECs), have often denied Africa the chance to test the effectiveness of a unified continental voice. Thus trade agreements have largely been implemented – either fully or provisionally – with no obvious remedial gains for African countries.

In some cases, ratification has stalled due to rifts among African countries. An example is the East African Community (EAC), where discordant positions held by member states have prevented conclusion of the EPA with the EU to date. Whereas Kenya and Rwanda have already signed the deal, Tanzania, Burundi and Uganda have refused to sign it for various reasons. With this kind of disharmony at REC level, it is improbable that Africa as a continent can command a strong voice in global affairs. To turn the tide, African countries must close ranks and approach trade negotiations from a bold and united standpoint. The continent must fast-track continent-wide integration and prioritize deliberate

strategies to overcome perceptions of unequal gain among countries in external trade deals.

Negotiations are ongoing for an agreement to replace the Cotonou Agreement, which lapses in December 2020. This is an opportunity for Africa to reclaim its lost right to determine its own path to development. The continent must not miss an opportunity to reclaim its rightful bride and pride. This will be achieved by uniting the continent and negotiating as a bloc for substantially improved terms. It is particularly important that the AU makes deliberate efforts to bring on board the North African countries that have hitherto not participated in the EU-ACP protocol, but which already have bilateral agreements with the EU. An all-of-Africa standpoint will no doubt carry greater persuasive power than the current segmented approach. A call to this effect was made by the AU Commission's Chairperson Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma in June 2014. Dr Zuma called for a transformation of Africa's partnerships with the rest of the world, in order that the continent would reap better benefits from them. In her words, "when we are clear about what Africa wants and we coordinate our efforts, we can ensure that we have outcomes which do not undermine our continental agenda" (African Union, 2014).

In spite of his tribulations at the hands of the exploitative father-in-law, Jacob prospered and ultimately became a Hebrew patriarch. His story is a great lesson for Africa on the value of sticking to the goal and staying the course. More importantly, it is a lesson on not settling for less. There is one last remarkable facet in the biblical account to prove that Jacob's struggle was worth his while. After a long wait, the coveted Rachel bore Jacob a son named Joseph, who became Jacob's favourite and eventually the most powerful of his 12 sons. Joseph rose to become the second most powerful man in Egypt – right in Africa – during which time he also relocated his father's starving family from Canaan to Egypt. Just as pride came at last for Jacob, it is not too late for Africa to salvage its opportunity to procreate a prosperous offspring. The continent must not relent until it secures fair terms and equal-partner status. For that is Africa's beloved Rachel. ■

HARNESSING SPORTS FOR DIPLOMACY AND COMMUNITY STABILITY

Sports is indisputably one of the world's most popular leisure activities and it describes a fascinating phenomenon. People from all over the world play, attend, watch, listen to, talk about and experience sport at all levels of performance from amateur to professional. Sports is often described as a language that everyone in the world can understand and can bring together and unite groups and communities. Hence, it is safe to say that Sports diplomacy can tap into areas where traditional forms of diplomacy do not reach because sports has the further advantage of a worldwide audience and speaks a universal language.

The United Nations notes that community security is an effective approach to greatly enhancing human security and contribution to greater development and peace goals.¹ The idea of sporting activities as a way of promoting social cohesion and peace amongst the community is gaining currency and has the potential of increasing opportunities for governments to engage openly with other stakeholders from private sectors to upstage security and development aspirations.

Developed nations have used sports as a representation of their might and power for nearly 100 years. Triumphs at the Olympic Games, holding the title of the fastest man, or victories over rivals on the football pitch were used for propaganda in the last century to promote a nation's image. Sports provides an important dimension that appeals to everyone involved and can be a means for promoting unity and peaceful relations in communities, as well as a way to express and promote peace.

Notable examples of sports and politics colliding was seen at work in the Olympics boycotts of the 1970s and 1980s, the Football

United Nations Development Programme. *UNDP Support to the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals*, United Nations, (2016), p. 15



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War between Honduras and El Salvador, and Ping Pong Diplomacy between the US and China in the 1970s. Pakistan and India often forget their political differences when engaged in cricket matches. However, first we must examine how sports can be used to carry out the foreign policy of a country. The following example shows how sports diplomacy was used during apartheid in South Africa and how it contributed to the dismantling of the apartheid regime.

Football was a highly contested space during the struggle for national liberation in South Africa. The anti-apartheid movement campaigned for the exclusion of South Africa from global sporting events and won an early, crucial victory when South Africa was suspended from FIFA in 1961, which kept the country out of international football until 1992.

Football is gaining greater currency, especially considering the fact that sport has comparison to principles necessary for peace and conflict resolution. Football provides a game with rules which are both an unbiased towards individuals and each other thus ensuring to an extent they work together. It can provide a framework for teaching people about ways of improving on conflict resolution.

Football Club Barcelona announced in



Source: Andreff, Wladimir. Sport in Developing Countries, Edward Elgar Companion to the Economics of Sports, (2006).

2007 that the club would print and put the UNICEF logo on their team's match day playing shirts, therefore moving away from the normal norm of top football clubs using the logo of commercial sponsors such as the Fly Emirates. Barcelona Football Club's association with UNICEF is well renowned and the contributions made have focused on ways football can help in disagreement and peace building. The Barcelona Foundation pays 1.5 million Euros annually to UNICEF to facilitate and support its programs around the world. Cornell and Hartmann argue that while the Olympics is often the biggest political example of using sports for diplomatic means, cricket and association football, as well as other sports in the global arena, have equally been used in this regard. In the case of apartheid, football was used to isolate South Africa and bring about a major change in the country's social structure. While ethnicity and race can cause division, sports can also help blend differences.

Sport has the power to attract large audiences and can play a major role in communicating positive cultural awareness messages on key issues.



Source: Annan, Koffi. Universal language of sport brings people together, teaches teamwork, tolerance, Secretary General says at launch of International Year. UN Press Release SG/SM/9579, (2004).

In addition, through football tournaments and competitions, people have a chance to interact with members of other communities. Sport constitutes an easy, low-cost opportunity for people to socialize and strengthen community ties thereby stabilizing communities.

Africa's inability to compete in military power beckons the need to acquire and use soft power such as sports to gain international prestige. South Africa's success in the bidding process to host the FIFA 2010 World Cup was a remarkable achievement in itself. African states have over time been using sports to promote their ideas and to express their displeasure over issues. Despite their strategic use of sports in international relations, studies have shown that they did not use it as a diplomatic tool but it was purely coincidentally. Over many decades Kenyan athletes have shone all over the world thus increasing Kenya's prestige at the world stage and affording an opportunity that could be used for positively projecting the country's image. Few if any of the African states has sports diplomacy outlined in their foreign policy document and it is for this reason that sports diplomacy is under used if used at all by these states.

Football for Peace² coaches have introduced the concept of 'teachable moments', a space to encourage children to learn how to solve disputes in a constructive way. Another example of the use of sport to foster peaceful resolution of conflicts comes

<https://footballforpeace-global.org> accessed on 10 Aug 20 at 2024



Source: Draper, Catherine. Impact of the Little Champs programme on Cognitive Function in Preschool Children in Alexandra Township, Johannesburg, UCT/MRC Research Unit for Exercise Science and Sports Medicine, (2010).

from Mali where the Football for Peace Methodology (*Metodología Fútbol por la Paz*) has been instrumental in creating opportunities for dialogue via sport, among at-risk youth in disadvantaged communities.

Football plays a major role within the daily lives of the many of the just about one billion folks in the African continent. From the tiny areas between mud huts in Nairobi's Mathare slums, to the historic grounds of the eighty-year recent Alexandria arena, to the brilliant lights and technology of Johannesburg's tournament final arena, spectators across the continent have shared within the highs and lows of their sporting heroes. As fans of Cameroon's Roger Milla have passed the baton to those following Gabon's Aubameyang, the planet of sport has developed into an arena for displaying talent. Sport teaches African youths the importance of cultural identities in a language that exists outside the boundaries of race and faith. Sport provides society with a platform, formed by the intrinsic values of honest play, equity, respect for others, respect for rules, and cooperation, to push and defend diversity.

In the Kenyan context, devolution has seen football being introduced to most if not all counties in the country and most football clubs in Kenya are also moving their base of operations to the Counties. For example Gor Mahia in Kisumu County, AFC Leopards Kakamega County, Tusker FC to Meru County, Sofapaka to Machakos county. Through this, many youths get involved with these teams at the youth level. The FKF in itself has stated youth tournaments in the various age categories

for children and youth to participate from all over the country. An example is the Copa Coca-Cola and the KPL under 20 tournaments, which enables teams from each part of the country to participate. Through these initiatives, youth have equal chances in competition even if they come from different or warring communities.

In the Kenyan perspective the subsequent adoption of the National Sports Policy combined with the enactment of the Sports Act 2013 were meant to bring in new ways of running the sector in the country. The new legal regime was intended to assist the country harness football as a resource for enhancing community stability and national development.

It is worth appreciating that Kenya as a democratic country can utilize football to retain its place of strategic importance between the acting and target nations, and within each nation individually. Relationships therefore make culture feel human, and therefore more credible and compelling than an isolated cultural experience. Football can offer a counter-narrative in which diverse citizens of Kenya and their traditions can co-exist, strengthening each other through mutual understanding, and building new values together.

The KDF, Police, Prisons, National Youth Service and other government parastatals that are actively involved in football activities have fairly well established sports facilities and organization in which many people are employed as sports and recreational managers, coaches, and trainers. Neighbouring communities to encourage sporting activities can utilize these facilities. Sports is linked with politics and both are mutually linked with each other, to the extent that some countries now use sports as part of foreign policy. Countries vie with one another to host sport events as sports evolves and becomes part of community stability. The Kenya Government ought to draft and adopt a Sports policy, which will provide legal and practical framework to promote the use of sports as an instrument for enhancing community security, especially at the County level. ■

IS COVID-19 REALLY AN EQUALIZER OF ALL?

The Corona Virus Disease of 2019 (COVID-19) was first identified in Wuhan, China in December 2019 and has since spread to all continents of the world. World Health Organisation (WHO) declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30th January 2020 and a pandemic on 11th March 2020. As of 14th August 2020, there were a total of 21.3 million cases in the world with 767,000 deaths as per the John Hopkins University of Public Health. In Kenya, which reported its first case on 13th March 2020, the current data as per the Ministry of Health stands at 29,849 cases and 472 deaths.

COVID-19 has been said to be equalizer of all, that it does not discriminate based on socioeconomic status, race, sex, religion or colour. Globally, the disease has been reported among presidents, prime ministers and here in Kenya, among high ranking government officials, key community and religious leaders and media personalities. The fact that the virus can be transmitted to anyone is the basis of the idea that it equalises everybody, but does it?

Infectious diseases are transmitted through various ways of exposure to the infecting agent. For COVID-19, the virus is transmitted through droplet from an infectious person within six feet reach or touching a contaminated surface and transferring the virus to one's mucosal lining in the mouth, eye or nose. With exposure to the right dose of viable virus, irrespective of who you are, based on the disease probability of transmission, one is likely to get infected.

The question therefore is, is the likelihood of exposure equal for everyone? Exposures happen in places where people get close to each other for example workplaces with no social distancing, markets, living environments, eateries, meetings among others. The chance to get exposed is



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definitely not the same for every one based on various factors and the most outstanding one being the socio-economic status. For someone with low income, living in one of the informal settlements and working in informal (Jua kali) sector, there is no much space for social or physical distancing. Compare this to someone with middle to high income, living in their houses or apartments, and working in offices with proper social distancing. The first individual has more opportunities for exposure which he or she may not be able to modify immediately.

One may argue that common places like shopping malls, supermarkets and open-air markets are areas with equal chances of exposure for everyone irrespective of social economic class. Even so, these are modifiable exposures where one can decide when to go, which one to go to or opt to buy online which reduces the opportunities for exposure while people living in the informal settlements may not be able to change their living conditions immediately. In Nairobi, 60% of the population live in the informal settlements.

During the pandemic period, WHO and Ministry of Health have advised people to stay home and save lives. Most formal employers who are not providing essential services have allowed their employees to work from home. This is not applicable

to workers in informal employment who have to work daily in-order to get the payment for the day and put food on the table for their families. This was illustrated during the lock down of Eastleigh, one of the business areas of Nairobi, between 7th May and 7th June 2020. Most complaints were from the low-income earners who had no savings to fall back on and due to the prevailing circumstances, could not move, find work and put food on the table for their families. This exemplifies how COVID-19 disrupted the livelihood of low-income earners.

In addition to social distancing, the other first line of defense against COVID-19 is the washing of hands. Again, in the informal settlements and businesses in these areas, access to running water daily is hard to come by. Even with provision of containers and soap from various Non-Governmental Organizations, the community may not be able to keep the containers filled with adequate water for use all the time, keeping in mind that COVID-19 is projected to be around for the near future. In households and communal plots where more than one family lives in a shared compound, the common areas and surfaces may not be washed or cleaned in between users or as frequently as required. Buying and use of hand sanitizers then become a luxury when you cannot even afford daily meals. In the informal settlement, COVID-19 containment measures are considered secondary to primary needs by the families.

Once an individual is confirmed to have COVID-19, it is critical to isolate and treat. With the increased number of asymptomatic patients, the government has put in place a homebased care protocol where the asymptomatic cases are expected to isolate in one room in their households at least for fourteen days. The low-income earners living in informal settlements do not have the luxury of a spare room to isolate themselves or not to go out and work to put food on the table for their families. This increases probability of viral transmission to others living and working in the same environment. Once one household member is positive with the virus, the rest of the members are expected to also quarantine themselves but this may not be practical in an area

where amenities like bathroom and toilets are shared among several households. Being a disease spread via droplet, in the long run, there will be more cases of COVID-19 in these crowded areas thus affecting the low-income earners more than the middle to high income earners.

As the number of cases increase, there are fewer beds available both in public and private hospitals. Most health insurance companies are not willing to pay for COVID-19 related expenses in private hospitals. This means that most people will rely on care provided at public hospitals apart from the few who can afford to pay cash for care at the private hospitals. There are also reports of various individuals buying ventilators and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds to set them up in their houses just in case they get infected and need critical care. Again, COVID-19 continues to expose the differences in purchasing power among Kenyans of different social economic status. Not so equal after all.

In addition to social distancing, the other first line of defense against COVID-19 is the washing of hands.

COVID-19 does not have equal effect on everyone in the society. Education is one of the most affected sectors where academic year was cancelled and learning institutions closed. Various private schools and universities have developed remote learning modules where pupils and students learn using various online platform. For public schools, Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development has developed various curriculum on radio with an assumption that each child in Kenya has access to one. Parents have to buy a computer or smartphones for their children to follow the lessons online. Several parents may not afford a separate computer for each child and this is pronounced in rural areas where there are no reliable and affordable

internet connectivity in addition to lack of necessary equipment and electricity. This is made worse in areas with low literacy levels among parents with no capacity to supervise the learning of their children at home.

The situation is not better in the urban informal settlements. Most of the children in public schools have not benefited from online learning due to these challenges. A university student in a remote village in Northern Kenya may not be able to access all available online lessons. There is a likelihood that when school resumes in January 2021, there may be two sets of students with different levels of syllabi coverage in the same class, solely because they belong to households with different economic capabilities. Public schools also provide other basic needs for the children. These include feeding programme which allow children to have access to meals and a programme that provides sanitary towels for girls. The closure of the schools has made children in arid, semi-arid areas and urban informal settlement to miss out on these basic needs and hence may suffer nutritional deficiencies.

The economic capabilities of households have been made worse by COVID-19. People working in informal sector and small businesses are affected more than people with formal employment and established businesses. Job losses are more common in informal sector making the day to day livelihood difficult while small businesses are reported to have closed down especially during the cessation of movements out and into Nairobi.

While the number of infections among male is twice that of female, during this pandemic period, girls and women are affected more in many ways. This is illustrated by the increased reports of teenage pregnancies in various counties in Kenya, reported increase in gender-based violence with women being the victims and reported increase in application for divorce. Ministry of Health has reported reduction in seeking of the essential health services by women including vaccination for their babies, antenatal care, child birth, post-natal care among others and this will have effect on their health and that of their babies in future. In the households where

men get sick or lose their lives, then the burden of fending for the family also falls on the women.

Looking beyond Kenya, for example, in the United States of America, COVID-19 has affected Blacks, Asians and Hispanics more than the Caucasians both in the number of cases, deaths and socioeconomic effects. This is attributed to low income leading to poor living conditions, informal employments where they have to be

on job even during lock downs, lack of health insurance and high prevalence of underlying diseases.

From the above, it is clear that COVID-19 is not equalizer of all. The likelihood of exposure depends on where you live, where you work and your income level. The individuals in moderate to high income brackets have means to modify their chances of exposure by staying home, working from home, shopping online and

joining online classes. For low income earners, ability to protect themselves from COVID-19 is severely restricted, as resources are needed to support social distancing, stay at home and put food on the table for their families among other needs. The effect of COVID-19 is more pronounced among the poor. The only thing equal for all is that once exposed, irrespective of your status, one can get infected with the virus and that is where the equality ends. ■

KENYA'S CONTRIBUTION TO REGIONAL MIGRATION POLICY FRAMEWORKS



DAN ODHIAMBO OPUN (PHD)
DIRECTORATE OF
IMMIGRATION SERVICES

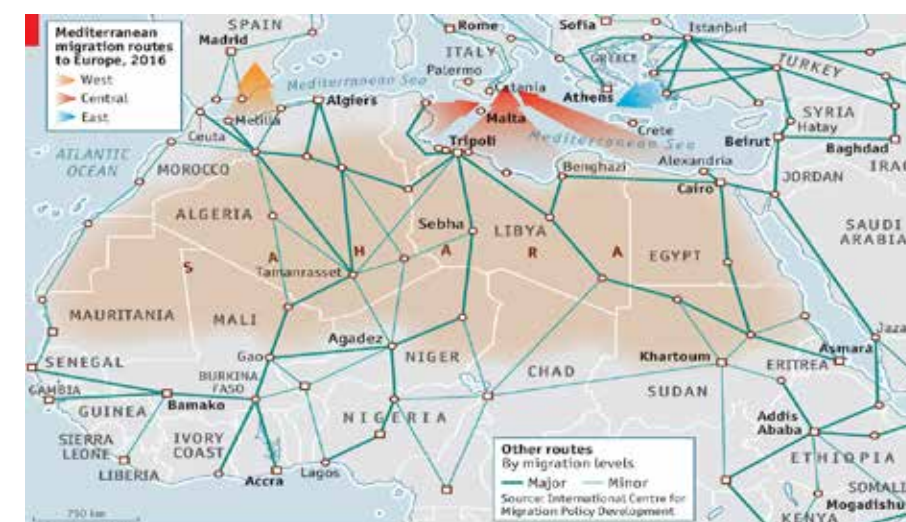
family of population health, mortality and migration.

It is an irony, therefore, to imagine that the thought and the initiative to develop and introduce curriculum for Post Graduate Diploma in Migration Studies at the (PSRI) originated from the industry (The Directorate of Immigration Services) to find its way to the University of Nairobi. The Kenya Institute of Migration Studies (KIMS), currently hosted by the PSRI under the auspices of the University of Nairobi and Kenya Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, acting through the Directorate of Immigration Services, is a regional migration training center for the IGAD

region. It admitted the first cohort of participants from the IGAD region on full scholarship in May 2019.

The broad objective of this initiative (curriculum development and introduction of Post-Graduate Diploma in Migration Studies) was to promote the positive contribution (opportunities) of migration to national, regional and global development and to reduce the negative consequences (challenges) of migration such as unplanned, irresponsible, disorderly, chaotic and irregular migration riddled with exploitation, human rights abuses and transnational criminal enterprises (human trafficking, migrants smuggling, international terrorism, proliferation of small arms, money

Migration has been a neglected realm of study not only by its major field of academic discourse, Demography, but also by the wider social science researchers seeking solutions to population opportunities and challenges. In Africa and many other developing countries, there are few, if any, universities with distinct departments dedicated to migration studies, some of which include the Center for Migration Studies (Ghana) and the Population Studies and Research Institute (University of Nairobi) with a thriving research area in Demography. Moi University also has the Institute of Forced Migration, but still, migration remains what Professor John Ouko refers to as the stepchild of Demography in the



Source: United Nations Migration, (2018)

laundering among other clandestine illicit cross border criminal activities). Human beings are born (population health), they move to meet their wants (migration), and they finally die (mortality). A deliberate affirmative action is required to elevate migration to the highest level of academic scholarship in Africa and this is part of what Kenyan contribution, through its national institutional coordination mechanism.

The twenty first century human mobility from place of domicile and to settle in new lands is considered to be as old as mankind which is continuously becoming an important element of study in International Relations. This is due to the fact that the concepts of asylum, migration and refugees are thought of as phenomena growing in scope, complexity and impact. It is worth appreciating from the onset that international migration can be viewed both as an opportunity and a challenge, depending on the stakes, states involved and the reigning international political economy. Thus any good migration policy must be able to strike a delicate balance between national security and development interest of the state.

Global migration has become a priority

to the international community mainly because it is coming more sophisticated and complex in pattern with bigger impact of many states, corporations, households, facilities, clans and the community as a whole. Migration which is a global phenomenon is currently having an impact on the national security status of many nations, since when migrants are perceived as a security threat they put social and economical pressures to the host country. It is a copying mechanism against adverse effects of climate change, marginalization and disenfranchisement of all kinds including wanton human rights abuses. It is worth noting that the Migration Policy Framework for Africa aims to actively promote the absolute (free) movement of people within Africa to reverse the negative impact of brain drain and to reduce the catastrophic migration across the Sahara Desert. The map below shows the key migration routes in Africa.

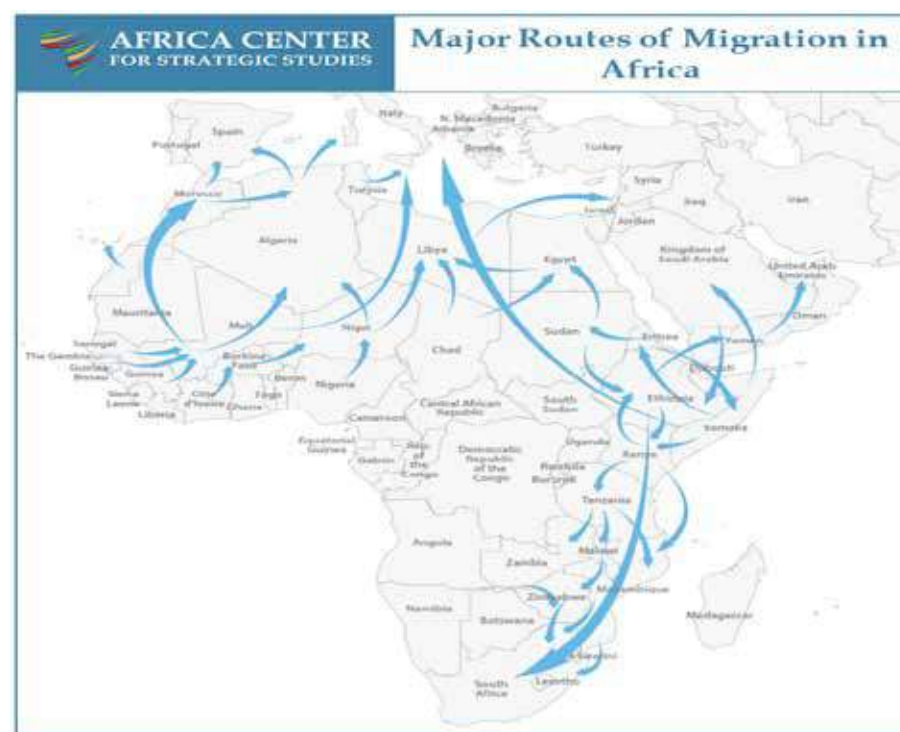
The increased immigration is further fueled by inadequate human and economic development of the origin state unplanned urbanizations, demographic increase, prolonged conflicts, dictatorship, social unrest and environmental degradation. The migration policy is considered a tool on key policy inputs that enrich

migration governance within the state. It is worth noting that there are several policy frameworks related to matters of migration within the African continent. Some of the migration policy frameworks have been originally birthed by the African Union member states, in conjunction with the European Union and other concerned stakeholders.

It is worth postulating that in recent time's deterioration the social, political and economic realm, together with environmental conditions, as well as state and non-states conflicts, displacement plus forced displacement have been on an upward trend in the African continent. It is because of these emerging trends that migration is a serious concern in the 21st Century. Migration has increasingly become a key phenomenon in the African continent and the African Union has been at the fore front in recognizing the conspiring the continental body to adopt the Migration Policy framework for Africa.

In recent years Africa has witnessed changing patterns of migration, a phenomenon that has become both dynamic and extremely complex. This is reflected in migration issues paying attention to female migrants, due to an increase in youth migrants, combined with an upsurge in irregular migratory flows that include child trafficking, human trafficking and migrant smuggling. Yet if managed in a coherent manner, nations and regions can reap the benefits of the linkages between migration and development as the continent strives towards the ideals of Agenda 2063; and the Migration Policy Framework for Africa (2018 – 2030) is one the Continental frameworks that provide the Continent with a great opportunity to achieve its development aspirations through migration.

The emerging issues of immigration have shaped the ever-growing debate on free movement across the member states borders. Whereas, regional integration envisions a community where people can move and establish residence in their partner state territory, policy challenges inherent in immigration continue to hamper the realization of meaningful integration.



Source: United Nations Migration, (2018)



Source: United Nations Migration, (2018)

Africa has had its fair share of migratory movements, both voluntary and forced, that have contributed to its contemporary demographic landscape. Migration has increasingly become a key phenomenon in the African continent and the African Union has been at the fore front in encouraging the AU member states to adopt the Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA) at national and regional migration level and to make efforts for its implementation in accordance with their own priorities and resource capacities.

It is work acknowledging that the revised Migration Policy Framework for Africa (2018 – 2030) is the overarching continental framework that provides the continent

with a great opportunity to achieve its development aspirations through migration and, in particular, labour migration as captured in target 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Explicit reference is made to migration in Target 10. 7 calling for safe, orderly and regular migration while it remains implicit is many other Goals.

The migration Policy Framework for Africa (2018 – 2030) reflects on the current migration dynamics in Africa and offers a revised framework to the African Union member states on the management of emerging issues in migration. In addition it provides comprehensive and integrated policy guidelines to the African Union

member states on the best way to manage and address migration challenges affecting the continent. For instance labour migration is one of the areas covered in the framework, border management, irregular migration, forced displacement, human rights migrants, internal migration, migration data management, migration and development and state cooperation plus partnerships on matters migration. The border management in the Kenyan side shows the one stop border post, border management secretariat and border management committees. This is a multiagency border governance approach Kenya has contributed as best practice to the East African Community, IGAD Regional Migration Framework and to the Migration Policy Framework for Africa.

Owing to its location on irregular migration route, Kenya is a destination country for both regular and irregular migrants and hosts large population of asylum seekers and refugees. Kenya has thus ratified and domesticated ILO Convention No. 143 on Migrant Workers, and Convention 97 on Migration for Employment. In addition, the country is a signatory to the East African Community Common Market Protocol among other regional and international migration conventions.

It is worth acknowledging that in order to address the emerging migration issues within the East and Horn of African region, Kenya maintains strong partnerships and seeks cooperation on migration issues with other states through Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs). For instance, the East African Community (EAC) adopted the EAC Common Market Protocol, which came into force in 2010, and allows the free movement of EAC nationals across member states' borders. Kenya is also a member of the Northern Corridor Integration Programme (NCIP), which allows the use of identity cards for travel within the partner states of Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda. Kenya subscribes to the cross-border regional migration arrangements in the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). In early 2020, the IGAD member states held a high level ministerial meeting in Khartoum, Sudan, to adopt the Free Movement of Persons

Protocol in the IGAD Region.

It is postulated that through its National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM), a government-led inter-agency coordination platform, the Government of Kenya enhances both horizontal and vertical policy coherence on migration. The NCM facilitates inter-agency coordination, regional and global cooperation, collaboration and information-sharing on migration at the local, regional and global levels. The NCM also includes over 30 membership from state (Ministries, Departments and Agencies) and non-state actors (International Organizations, Non-governmental Organizations, Civil Society, the Academia, and the Private Sector). Representatives from the Council of Governors, who are from County Governments, are also included in the NCM to facilitate outreach programmes to raise awareness around migration

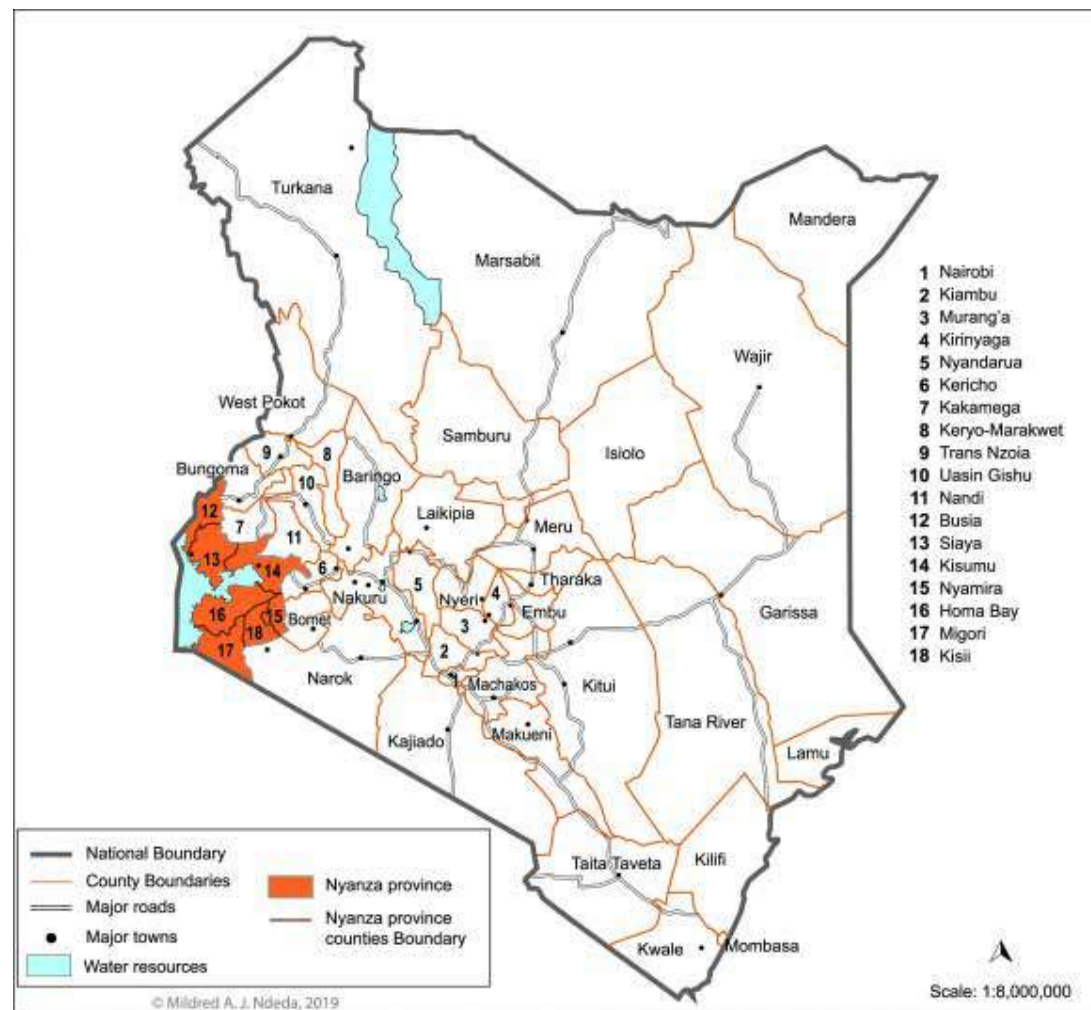
issues and how to mainstream them into development processes at the national level.

Kenya has sound migration policy, legal and regulatory frameworks, among which are: the draft national migration policy, Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act 2011, the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Regulations, 2012, the One Stop Border Post Act, 2016 which are implemented by the Directorate of Immigration Services and the Kenya Diaspora Policy, administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act, 2011 was amended in 2014 with a view to establishing the Border Control and Operations Co-ordination Committee (BCOCC), which aims to enhance inter-agency coordination for effective and efficient border management.

The Kenyan Government through the

National Coordination Mechanism on Migration convened a national validation-consultation meeting on its draft Migration Policy. The draft policy provides a form of guideline on how best to mitigate migration effects and challenges and is informed by the relevant international, regional, national and local frameworks including the Strategic Development Goals by the United Nations, the Big Four Agenda, the Kenya Vision 2020, the Global Compact for Migration, Migration Governance Framework and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development regional migration policy framework intended at promoting safe, secure, orderly and humane migration.

The Directorate of Immigration Services issues various categories of work permits and passes for different aspects of the labour force, including prospecting for minerals and mining, investing in agriculture and animal husbandry, investing in specific trades or businesses, and missionary work. A major provision in the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act, 2011 is dual citizenship which allows Kenyans to retain their foreign acquired citizenship besides their birth right. On the same vein, Kenya is a champion in the fight against statelessness by its recent generous gesture to register over 1,000 members of the *Makonde* community as citizens of Kenya. In conclusion, Kenya has made immense contribution of good practices in the regional migration framework by looking at migration in its totality, harnessing its associated opportunities and mitigating its challenges. ■



Source: The Ministry of Labour, (2017)

MY BODA BODA FRIEND AND THE LOCK-DOWN



BRIG. J.M. SSEMWANGA
UGANDA PEOPLE'S DEFENCE FORCES

Dennis is a young man in his early thirties who dropped out of school just after completing his Ordinary level grade citing hard economic times. His relatively large monogamous family had become burdensome to his aging father. By African standards, a family of seventeen children from three wives and one father can be taken as large especially so when the head of the family is a peasant farmer. Peasant farming is the fending for home consumption and if there are any surpluses, selling them off to meet other pressing domestic requirements. This was Dennis' background. His father had argued he could only afford him an education thus far to create room for his other younger siblings.

His father gave him a small piece of land to try and cultivate some crops for sale to help support the family and to also help Dennis forge a future. In Dennis' culture, it is a norm for the father to provide some form of start-up for the boys coming of age. But this practice is only relevantly possible with availability of land. With the exponentially increasing population in many African countries, the practice is slowly dying. Dennis earnestly began cultivating the piece of land, growing a variety of vegetables which he hoped to sell

to the local market to make ends meet. He had big dreams of saving the proceeds. In the first harvest, Dennis did not earn much. There was a long dry spell which affected his crops. In most of our African societies, it is unfortunate that we still depend on the dictates of nature to practice agriculture. Most times, the weather will do us in with dire consequences. Dennis thus suffered a major setback in his first attempt at forging a future; a future in which he had only been partially educated, imparted with little or no life skills; a future so uncertain now having seemingly hit a dead end with the poor harvest.

When Dennis father fell ill one day, it was the 'normal' cough and fever that is normally associated with the period of harvesting maize. The people associated the harvest season with such illnesses which go away with a little concoction of local herbs or even nothing at all. Harvest seasons were always associated with merry making. Falling sick was therefore more of an inconvenience that would normally pass unnoticed. But this time, the old man became gravely ill. The whole hamlet was concerned. When the local medicine man was consulted, he assured the folks that Dennis' father would be alright in three days' time but only after fulfillment of some demands from the 'angry ancestors'. The usual demands included provision of a white cock, a he goat and some money. There was no need for taking the ailing senior citizen to hospital. The folks complied with the medicine man's directives. Dennis' father died the following day. He had succumbed to severe malaria which would have been easily diagnosed and treated in any medical facility. The fallacy of traditional voodoo appears to still reign supreme in many rural communities even today.

The death of Dennis' father was devastating. It hit the young man like a numbing blow that sent him landing with a heavy thud. Being the heir apparent, Dennis was expected now to shoulder

the responsibilities hitherto held by his deceased father. The only asset left by his father was the piece of land. He had sixteen siblings that depended on that land for their survival. Besides, his step mothers were still around and culture gave them permission to stay for as long as they wished but only if they chose not to remarry. Dennis had his own dreams; work hard and acquire a piece of land of his own, enjoy a good life with beautiful wife and a home. After the burial of his father and after fulfilling the cultural obligations required of an heir, Dennis had to make a choice. A hard choice; continue farming on the small piece of family land and hope that the weather would be favourable for him to grow and harvest a good crop or look for some employment in some town or city. His friends had told him about Kampala and the job opportunities therein. He could easily get a job at a supermarket as an attendant or as a pump operator at one of the numerous fuel stations in the city's outskirts. He spent the next few weeks mulling over this new and exciting idea. But the task of managing his father's small estate was bothering him.

Could he do it while in the city? Who would take care of his mother? What about his younger siblings? Would they continue with school? Hard questions for a young soul reminiscent of many young people in African societies growing up in poorly developed communities, deprived of the basic social amenities, devotedly believing in archaic voodoo to cure ailments, compelled to take an education that is literally inconsistent with their needs and finally getting exposed to the harsh realities of life to which they have very few answers for.

Dennis moved to the city in search of a blue collar job. On the day he left the village, he bade farewell to his mother who had connected him to her brother. The uncle was a resident in Katanga, one of the notoriously dangerous slums on the outskirts of the city. Only the uncle

knew this. Back home he had made people believe that he was living in up market Kampala. Whenever he would go to the village, he would be revered. He was a village hero. In the first few days, it was job hunting on the menu and when Dennis finally landed himself a job as a fuel pump operator, he was elated. When he broke the news to his mother later in the day, the entire homestead jubilated. Their own had made it in the city. Or had he? Soon Dennis had made a few friends at his work place. Timothy, their supervisor became his best friend. Timothy had listened to Dennis' story and deviously knew that he would exploit Dennis' naivety to his advantage.

'Timo', as his peers used to fondly call him, convinced Dennis to join the bodaboda industry and earn good money. When Dennis pointed out his inability to raise the \$1200 needed to buy a motorcycle, Timo had the answers. Land was the ideal commodity which could be sold to buy the motorcycle. Since he had some land, he was as good as having a motorcycle. What convinced Dennis even the more was that he could earn enough money in record time and buy back his land whilst retaining the motorcycle to make more money. This was too tempting for the young naïve peasant mind. Timo didn't allow him to ask any more questions. Instead, he tutored him on how to sell the family estate and buy the motorcycle. Such manipulations are a common occurrence to which many of our young people fall prey. The ability to differentiate between assets and liabilities when determining investment opportunities wasn't Dennis's cup of tea. And Dennis is not alone. There are many young culprits out there.

The land buyer was quickly procured by Timo. The price was way above the \$1200 required to buy a motorcycle but this

'Timo', as his peers used to fondly call him, convinced Dennis to join the bodaboda industry and earn good money.

information was kept away from Dennis. All he knew was that the proceeds from the sale were to buy a motorcycle. His family was embarrassingly evicted from the land and although there was a protracted attempt by the family court division in the Police to try and save the family, it failed. Fast forward and Dennis starts a new life in the transport industry, guilt written all over him as his family were now destitute. He soon forgot about them and found himself a young wife. She moved in with him and in their first year of cohabiting, the young couple got their first child; a baby girl.

Dennis was earning enough money to sustain his young family. On a good day, he could make over \$25 as take home. He worked hard every day. Life seemed to be getting better. The daily earnings for which he wasn't paying any 'visible' tax blinded him ignoring the practice of 'saving for the rainy day.' After all, he could make more money every other day. He could afford to pay his landlord in time and fend for his family. He lay in that comfort zone for quite a while. His colleagues in the same industry held similar beliefs and seemed not to worry about savings. The transport industry is one of the most vibrant in Africa employing a big number of young people with assurances of the next meal. This has been so until recently when reality hit Dennis and his ilk real hard.

It started as a rumor that a certain ailment was hitting China and the Chinese were dying in their numbers. It made no sense to Dennis then. China was very far and hence none of his concern. This was December 2019 and in that festive season of merry making, Dennis strove to make enough money to take his young family for a day out to the source of the Nile in Eastern Uganda. Then in March of the coming year, he planned to start a small business for his wife. Somehow the rumors persisted and soon cases of the 'Chinese' disease were reported in Uganda. It would be foolhardy to think that Dennis had ever heard of the term 'globalization.' How could the poor chap have ever known that the world had now become increasingly interconnected such that events in one part of the world can have effects on people and societies far away? It had never occurred to him that things like pollution, environmental

Here was a young man who had received very little formal education that could barely help him face the realities of life.

degradation, chronic ailments like AIDS, are global risks whose effects are felt far and wide.

When the government announced measures to try and curb the marauding disease, Dennis and his colleagues had hopes that the transport industry could be spared. They were in for a rude shock when two weeks later, the government decided on a total lock-down that brought the transport sector to its knees. The chilling truth, as Dennis narrated to me his story, was that he only had \$18 on him. He was however optimistic that sooner than later, the situation would return to normal. He was wrong. The lock-down was hard and frustrating. Dennis had not saved any money, he didn't have any other source of income to turn to and he had no village to go to. When the government provided a window of opportunity for those willing to return to their village homes to do so, Dennis wasn't one of them. He had to stay put in the rented house in the city and hope against hope that the country would open again. These were desperate times indeed.

I was on my way to a security meeting when I found Dennis hustling to line up and get some free food that the government was distributing to the vulnerable communities in the city and its suburbs. I had known him for quite a while since he used to do some errands for me. I only got to know him better when he narrated his ordeal. He needed food to take to his starving family. His little daughter could do with a little porridge albeit without sugar. Such was the young man's fate that the helplessness and hopelessness in him spoke volumes about the humongous tasks that governments face in liberating their people from the abyss of ignorance, poverty, dependence and hunger. The

social and economic effects of the global pandemic were taking their toll.

Here was a young man who had received very little formal education that could barely help him face the realities of life. When I asked him if he could apply anything he studied in school to the current predicament that he was faced with, he couldn't. Here was a young man who had sold his ancestral land in order to come to the city and ride a motorcycle. In doing so, he had displaced his family further depriving them of the only factor of production they had at their disposal. When the situation got really bad, he could not even think of returning to the village because he had no village home to return to. This points to so many vulnerabilities in our young population.

Is the corona pandemic going away anytime soon so that Dennis and his colleagues can return to the road? Is life ever going to be the same again? No. Certainly a 'new normal' is upon us and this implies the need to instigate a paradigm shift in governance, education, social services provision and mentoring of the young minds in order to remain relevantly safe and productive. The biggest challenge today that the corona pandemic is leaving in its wake is unemployment amongst the young people. Dennis and his ilk are a big security threat to any country. They must be incorporated again into the money economy otherwise countries will run into serious trouble.

Are we doing enough to mentor the young brains in order for them to be ideologically upright and hence think big? Are we ready to act in conformity to the dictates of the 'new normal and harness nature using the innovative and technologically savvy environment around us?' Or should we wait for things to get better for life to continue normally. These are questions I pondered over as I listened to Dennis' story; a story that represented the fate of many young people whose future is being threatened by this global pandemic. The struggle to disentangle ourselves from this new global threat lingers on. Is the end in sight? ■

LUANDA MAGERE - THE LUO LEGEND

Introduction

The Luo are interrelated to Nilotic ethnic groups culturally and by language who reside in an area starting from South Sudan and Ethiopia, through Northern Uganda and eastern Congo (DRC), into western Kenya, and the Mara Region of Tanzania. Their Dholuo languages belong to the western branch of the Nilotic language family. The Kenyan Luos migrated from lower savanna grasslands of Sudan over 500 years ago to their present location around the eastern shores of Lake Victoria.



CAROLYN A. OGUTU
NIS

Luo warrior 1800

As a result of the migration, their traditional emphasis on cattle was supplemented with farming and an increasing importance of crops in their economy. The Luos gradually interacted with the Bantu agriculturalists with whom they exchanged many customs. Most Luos uphold strong economic, cultural and social links to western Kenya and practice fishing as an economic activity even as they engage in farming for food and cash crops. They are conversant with at least three

languages, the two national languages of Kenya i.e. Kiswahili and English and their indigenous language, Dholuo.

Like most Kenyans, the Luos are steeped in their culture. Their children are given names that correspond to where they were born or even the time of day. Additionally, the names given to children often reflects the conditions of the mother's pregnancy or delivery and sometimes they are named after the seasons in which they were born.



Luo warrior 1800.

Others are named after their grand or great grandparents, who more often than not, are long dead. Proverbs, riddles, legends and stories are an important part of Luo culture and these are traditionally recited in the grandmother's hut, where boys and girls gather in the evenings after dinner has been taken. This is where they are taught life lessons, morality, discipline and more often than not, these teachings are infused with folklore and other interesting tales. As a result, the legend of Luanda Magere and several other traditional stories, have been told and retold in several Luo households.



Source: africanexploremagazine.com2018

The story of Luanda Magere

Folklore of the Luo talks of a mighty warrior known as Luanda Magere. Luanda belonged to the Sidho clan, which lives in the area called Kano, on the shores of Lake Victoria. This is part of the sugar belt at the foot of the Nandi escarpment. He was born in about 1720, to Abonyo Wuod Omolo and his mother Nyabera who, the story says, died during Luanda's birth. He was therefore, brought up by his grandmother Rapondi. Luanda Magere, loosely translated means "the rock that builds", "the rock on which I shall build" or "the fierce rock". Indeed, he lived up to his name, standing as an inspiration of hope to the Luo community. It is told that his father died in one of the frequent wars with their Nandi neighbours when Luanda Magere was barely a teenager.

Luanda Magere's Potency

Luanda Magere was possessed of unearthly powers and his flesh was said to be as hard as stone. Arrows, spears and clubs simply bounced back from his body, making him indomitable during war. He was famously known for his capability

to single handedly tear apart an entire army. The known Luo enemies at the time were the joLang'o (Luo reference for the Nandi community), the Highland Nilotes, who traditionally engaged them in fierce bloody battles, most of which emanated from the stealing of their livestock. The tactful Nandi warriors, always came to the battlefield with victory in their minds, not imagining at any one moment that they could be defeated by the Luos.

As earlier mentioned, Luanda was in possession of unearthly powers and no weapons could pierce his body. He was a ferocious warrior who could not be killed in the battle field and thus, the Nandi were very afraid of him. Luanda would tear each Nandi warrior apart without any assistance from his fellow warriors. When they went to war and found that Luanda was in the battlefield, the Nandi's would retreat back home and plan the fight for another day. Luanda would go to the Nandi homesteads after victory, take their cattle and other items without any resistance. This he did during the day and those who attempted to stop him were killed as they could not match his power.

The Nandi tried on several occasions to spear him but their weapons only got bent. This is when they started wondering what substance Luanda was made of as they had tried all they could to kill him but failed. After some time, they concluded that he was God's creation and therefore they could do nothing about it.

The Nandi Strategy

The Nandi were now tired of being defeated by the Luos in every other war and decided to make peace with the Luos by giving Luanda Magere, one of their daughters' hand in marriage. They looked for the most beautiful girl in the land and chose one who was indeed, a sight to behold, with her smooth calves and beaded ears and neck – regal amongst her tall proud people. They then took her to Luanda telling him that they had accepted defeat and the only price they could pay was to offer him their beautiful daughter in marriage so that he could stop raiding their homes and taking their cattle. Given that cows were sacred to the Nandi, a person who could take their cows was seen as sacred.



Nandi Warrior

The Luo elders advised Luanda not to accept the girl's hand in marriage but he did not heed their advice and she joined his homestead. She performed wifely duties obediently, acting as a second wife who had little say in the home. The Nandi, on their part, had a hidden agenda. The girl's role, after being accepted by Luanda, was to find out his weakness and report back to her people so that they could strategize on how to defeat him in battle.

Luanda Magere's Downfall

Luanda Magere's ultimate downfall came at the hands of his Nandi wife. It happened that whenever he was sick, his first wife would care for him, bring herbs and administer these so that he could get healed. On this particular day, the first wife was away and so he called the Nandi wife to prepare his medication. Luanda instructed her to cut his shadow with a knife and apply the medicine on it. It was certainly a strange way to cure an illness but she did as instructed and was surprised when she cut his shadow and saw it bleed.

In no, time Luanda was well and strong again and his wife was impressed by his complete recovery. Unbeknown to him, she sent word to her people and thereafter, she ran away from Luanda's home and was received with elation when she narrated to them what had happened. She told them that her husband's weakness was



Source: kenya Geographic.com/Luanda-Magere-stone-legend

his shadow, which was made of flesh and therefore, vulnerable to attack.

The news spread quickly among the Nandi and they knew that the Luo would not expect them to attack as Luanda had married their daughter, therefore making them kinsmen. Among the Luos, the family from where a man marries is held in high esteem, and therefore, it is unheard of for one to attack his in-laws. The Nandi's took advantage of this and attacked the Luo on a moonlit night. Even though it was a surprise attack, the Luos fought fiercely and Luanda killed many of the Nandi warriors who decided to retreat back home as they thought they were not going to win the war.

One of the Nandi warriors, realized that they were going to lose the battle again and by sheer luck while standing atop a hill, saw Luanda and remembered that

his strength was in his shadow. From that vantage point, the Nandi warrior flung his spear at Luanda's shadow and Luanda Magere fell down and died. He disappeared from the battlefield after he was stabbed and the Kano people, for whom he fought, went home wailing terribly as their hero had been killed.

The Aftermath

When Luanda died, there was a strong wind everywhere with a thick cloud covering the sky over the whole of Kano plains and Nandi hills. There was a two-year drought in the land before Luanda appeared in a dream to two old men giving them directions to where he was. However, they could not reach him as he was in a bush a few metres from River Nyando, where nobody could find him. It rained heavily after Luanda Magere's body (the rock) was discovered and the community offered sacrifices to pay their respect.

Legacy

A site in Sidho with a stone is still revered as the spot where Luanda Magere died and people come from far and wide to conduct rituals and prayers. Hunters around this place believe that they would be easily successful in their hunting haunts if they sharpen their spears on the rock. While travelling about 12km from the Awasi-

Chemelil road and you come across a brownish rock shaped like a curved back of a human being which is partly sunk into the ground, then you are by the Luanda Magere Stone.

It is claimed that skeletons of warriors killed in the wars fought here around the 18th century are still being found. The villagers also claim to see a spear and shield placed under a native tree adjacent to the rock which they say belonged to Luanda Magere. There is a traditional smoking pipe on the same tree which, according to the people, is the one that Magere smoked in times of war while a clay pot and a calabash that always has water, is also said to be at the site. It is not known who draws water but it is believed the water comes from a stream near River Nyando.

There are residents who claim that Magere appears to them in dreams where he tells them to prepare for planting well ahead of bumper harvests. Rainfall and fertility of this area is testimony that it is a referred and sacred place. It is here that they pray for rain, wisdom and strength. Luanda Magere is still celebrated among the Luo through song and dance. This folktale has been told to generations and is still being told to children up to date. ■

KENYA DEFENCE FORCES MISSION READINESS IN THE FACE OF COVID-19 AND BEYOND

The Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak was first detected in Wuhan, China in December 2019. Due to effects of globalization, the disease continues to exponentially spread across borders leaving in its wake devastation and dire socio-economic consequences to states. As a result of various containment measures in place to curb its spread including but not limited to confinement, closure of businesses, institutions of learning and discontinuation of social gatherings to limit human contact that has been found to accelerate spread of the disease, uneasy anxiety over the uncertain future piles on. The unfolding COVID-19



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phenomenon causing huge strains on health systems and widespread economic downturn has attracted concerted world responses aimed at eradicating the disease whilst containing the spread. As unrelenting efforts in medical research, monitoring and surveillance progress alongside enhancement of mitigation and containment measures, rising infections with steadily rising numbers in fatalities remains a stark reality.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), transmission occurs between people through direct, indirect (contaminated objects or surfaces), or close contact (within one metre) with

infected people via respiratory droplets of saliva or and nasal secretions released from the mouth or nose when the infected person coughs, sneezes, speaks or sings. The highly infectious disease is caused by the novel Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) named as such by the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV) on 11th February 2020. The ICTV constitutes a panel of virologists and scientist responsible for naming viruses based on their genetic structure to facilitate the development of diagnostic tests, vaccines and medicines. The nomenclature SARS-CoV-2 was selected because the virus was found to be genetically related to the coronavirus responsible for the SARS outbreak of 2003. The ICTV observes that while related, the two viruses are different and SARS-Cov-2 continues to mutate.

Taking into account cases of human to human transmission beyond China and concerns over the impact of the virus spreading to countries with weaker health care systems, on 30th January 2020, WHO declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). On 11th March 2020, COVID-19 was categorized as a pandemic cognizant that it stretched beyond a public health crisis as it was affecting all sectors. WHO urged countries to adopt whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to formulate all-inclusive strategies to prevent infections, save lives and minimize impact through detection, testing, treating, isolating, tracing and mobilizing populations to fortify response.

Kenya's first COVID-19 infection was confirmed on 14th March 2020. In anticipation of likely spread of COVID-19, Kenya stayed ahead of the game, promptly instituting various response strategies. His Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) established an *ad hoc* Cabinet Committee on Health and an Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee on Government Response to the Coronavirus Outbreak. Vide Executive Order No. I of 2020 dated 28th February 2020, the National Emergency Response Committee on Coronavirus (NERC) was established subsuming the two committees.

The Ministry of Health led NERC, was assigned the responsibility of coordinating Kenya's preparedness, prevention and response to the threat of the Coronavirus. The Committee was further tasked with the responsibility to coordinate capacity building of medical personnel and related professionals to enable the country respond efficiently to cases of infection. The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Dr (Amb) Monica K Juma and Director of Medical Services Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) are members of NERC. Further, KDF personnel constitute a substantial part of the National Multi-Agency Command Centre answerable to the NERC tasked with coordinating Kenya's counter COVID-19 strategy and development of protocols to contain the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kenya continues to impose and review various containment measures that constitute a different way of doing things referred to as; the '*new-normal*'. The raft of measures in place have seriously disrupted routine operations for most organizations. They range from temporary closure of territorial borders, partial lockdowns in specified counties, temporary closure of businesses, restriction of movement, limitation of social gathering, imposing

social distancing measures and curfews to facilitate contact tracing. Similarly, militaries globally are now contending with the challenges surrounding safely operating and maintaining mission readiness in the *new-normal*; the COVID-19 inundated with various restrictions.

KDF soldiers on, determined to surmount the bottlenecks aimed at the very least, mitigating the possible negative effects on mission readiness and capability. The current protocols limiting public human interaction, imposing mandatory social-distancing devoid of touch and partially restricted movement complicates matters. Majority of KDF's operations and engagements such as training and logistics are not only contact-heavy but involve group interactions at close-quarters as well as movements both domestically and across borders. With the ongoing pandemic, routine activities such as recruitment, deployment, manning of duty stations, training, occupation of quarters in barracks and procurement processes can potentially spread the virus on a massive scale with adverse effects on KDF's personnel and medical resources.

The KDF's primary constitutional mandate articulated at Article 24(3) of the Constitution of Kenya (CoK) is responsibility for the defence and protection of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic. Additionally, in situations of emergency or disaster, KDF is required to assist and co-operate with other authorities; and report to the National Assembly whenever deployed in such circumstances. In the midst of the raging COVID-19 pandemic and the obtaining PHEIC status, detailed plans with foresight incorporating lessons learnt so far as well as current and future operations must be developed in order to generate proactive solutions to enhance mission readiness capabilities. It is imperative, now more than ever, to project KDF's mission capability at its optimal readiness to execute tasks in support of the ongoing whole of Government, nation-wide and global efforts to curb the spread of the COVID-19, preserve the health of Kenya's populace and restore affected sectors of the economy, that are core to Kenya's national interests.

The Defence White Paper 2017 identifies emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases as a threat to national security. The policy recommends strengthening national surveillance and response systems to effectively control outbreaks. The policy envisages Ministry of Defence collaborating with both local and international healthcare agencies and research institutions to develop appropriate capacity for intervention. KDF is assigned the responsibility of assisting in the management of crisis, during which, the expectation is to robustly demonstrate their immediate readiness to execute the assigned tasks. KDF has supported the nation-wide efforts by providing additional healthcare workers, assistance to civil authorities in evacuation of its citizens, contact tracing, water distribution and fumigation of vulnerable areas and neighbourhoods such as ambulances and police stations.

As the multi-sectoral fight against COVID-19 continues unabated, KDF remains cognizant of the fact that other prevailing threats to Kenya's sovereignty, peace and security such as terrorism and violent extremism remain imminent. This pandemic raises pertinent concerns as its effects, if not well contained, may expose KDF's

mission readiness and capabilities to detrimental vulnerabilities. Chief of the Defence Forces (CDF), General Robert Kibochi, places a premium on re-energizing KDF's mission readiness. To this end, effective and efficient continuous joint training, equipping personnel appropriately, providing comprehensive healthcare as well as adoption of an appropriate defence posture have been identified as enablers. The CDF affirms support towards achievement of mission readiness for all the three Services through filling of gaps in capabilities and welfare matters so that personnel successfully undertake all tasks as assigned, envisaging mission readiness that prioritizes sharpening of the arrowhead, that is, the troops fighting in Somalia and across Kenyan borders.

KDF's mission readiness and capability to deliver on assigned missions and tasks in the present unprecedented times, demands swift implementation of readily available strategies with the future in mind. The sensitization campaign; *#Komeshacorona* educating personnel on COVID-19 and advocating recommended practice of sanitization, wearing of masks and maintaining social distance in shared spaces has successfully roped in all personnel on board the preventive measures. In championing strict adherence to basic hygiene and sanitation, scientifically proven as effective in neutralizing the virus, KDF continues to avail hand washing facilities, provision of at least 70% proof alcohol-based hand sanitizers and regular fumigation of common user areas in all units, formations, bases, training institutions and extended to family quarters within barracks as well as all other shared spaces within KDF precincts was implemented from the onset. Detailed guidance to field missions on COVID-19 containment was implemented and is being practiced.

Force protection measures focused on containing COVID-19 have been fully instituted including kitting medical personnel with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), limiting access to military

camps to essential services as well as production and issuance of masks. The protection measures are augmented by various medical assistance activities such as, mass and targeted tests, use of telemedicine protocols, designating isolation and quarantine centres to process personnel that test positive, resuming duty from leave or have a history of contact with infected persons. The medical interventions incorporate deliberate aspects to take care of the mental wellness and health of KDF personnel and their dependants. Efforts to building capacity for mental health workers and complementary psycho-social support personnel are underway. Further, two fully equipped COVID-19 treatment centres have been established in Nairobi and Mt.ongwe, Mombasa to reinforce the treatment centres at each Unit.

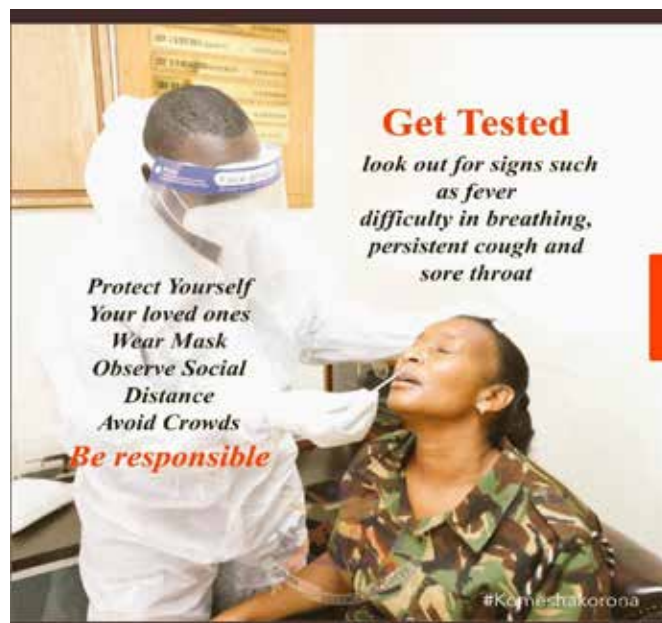
To manage occupation health in line with COVID-19 containment measures, regular temperature checks are undertaken at various key points of entry and exit, reconfigured dispositions of routine work stations, accommodation, feeding and messing areas, guard duties, meeting and training facilities to enforce social distancing. All non-essential group activities such as ceremonies incorporating families, sports and social events are temporarily halted while information and communication technology incorporating relevant cybersecurity measures is being harnessed to enable virtual activities substantially reducing cases on new infections.

Institutions undertaking collective training involving huge numbers requiring close physical contact such as the Kenya Military Academy and the Recruits Training School, in addition to strict practice of sanitation and hygiene, stringent restriction of movement measures and routine testing is undertaken in order to contain the virus. Personnel resident in the training institutions camps who for any reason require to leave, upon return, they are subjected to testing and mandatory quarantine to ensure the



Source: KDF Public Affairs





Source: KDF Public Affairs

trainees and their instructors are not exposed to the virus which would be fertile ground for wide spread transmission.

KDF's recruitment attracts huge attention of the public that throng recruitment centres in masses with hopes of getting enlisted. Cognizant of the rising trend of community infections and the statutory requirement espoused at section 28(2) of the Kenya Defence Forces Act to undertake recruitment across the forty-seven counties of Kenya, the recruitment may have to be restructured. Typically, recruitment entails constitution of several mobile recruitment teams comprising at least twelve personnel that move around recruitment centres designated in respective counties to select recruits. The process presents fertile ground for cross-infections likely to exacerbate the spread. The United States of America, the United Kingdom and India, have opted to suspend regular recruitment substituting it with online recruitment. For virtual recruitment to be considered as an option for KDF should the pandemic persist various requirements will have to be considered and addressed. First, appropriate legislative and policy adjustments will have to be made. Further, limited internet reach coupled with connectivity challenges in remote recruitment areas may be counterproductive to the national security principle that requires regional and ethnic diversity be reflected in recruitment.

To bridge the gap in maintaining optimal strength of mission ready personnel and management of natural attrition, options to be considered should the pandemic endure to temporarily bridge the gap include interventions such as extension of service and engaging personnel on retired re-employment contracts or existing reserve liability. Accurate statistics and careful planning will be required to forecast shortfalls, as should the need arise, the financial implications of extension of service and contracting services will require financial allocation.

Procurement processes are at the heart of both acquiring capabilities to enhance mission readiness particularly urgent purchases of vital medical supplies, laboratory reagents and



accessories to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. Ensuring swift and seamless management of the procurement under the circumstance must uphold transparency and accountability in the utilization of public funds. Likely disruptions are to be expected in supply chain management owing to containment measures that in general slowed down production globally. The Ministry must therefore anticipate inflated prices, scarcity of essential goods and consumables as well as contracts being frustrated. Leveraging existing contracts and continually engaging contractors for flexible terms could assist in mitigating pitfalls. Renegotiating prices, deliveries timelines, payment terms and where exigencies permit terminating non-essential contracts should be considered. Similarly, procurement undertakings have financial implications and especially when terminating contracts and accordingly must be factored in the financial allocations.

Heavy reliance on technology to maintain social distance will increase exposure to cyber-attacks. Upgrading security measures and reinforcing the culture of good practices in internet use will be key intervening measures. There is also need to secure remote connections, put in place redundancy measures and counter-measures against cyber-criminals' gimmicks. In circumstances where technology cannot be harnessed such as specific training such as field exercises, the protocols in place on sanitization and distancing will have to be meticulously followed through.

In conclusion, the old adage 'extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures' has never been more appropriate as in the present COVID-19 times. However, with well thought through contingency plans in place and the culture of resilience in problem solving, the pandemic shall be contained and rendered to the past. The foregoing notwithstanding, to contain the pandemic in order to deliver defence, the KDF's role in the plan is to avail a mission ready and capable force in support of the ongoing responses in the country. It is therefore incumbent each and every one to stay safe, vigilant and maintain the aim in sharpening the arrow head. #KomeshaCorona. ■

MY STAY IN CHALBI DISTRICT

Chalbi district is one of districts of Marsabit County, it borders the Republic of Ethiopia to the North, Wajir to the South East, Loingalani District to the South, Lake Turkana to the West, Moyale to the North East. It is inhabited mainly by the Gabra community, a small section of the Dasanash community, who live in Illeret ward on the shores of lake Turkana. It has a population of 125744 inhabitants according to the Kenya population and housing census 2019 and covers an area of 38,953km square. The main economic activity is rearing of livestock, mainly camels, goats and cattle. The socio-economic and cultural way of the inhabitants is greatly influenced by the environmental conditions.

In my tour of duty I was posted to Chalbi from Migori County in the month of March 2018. The journey from Nairobi to Isiolo, which is the gateway to northern Kenya is uneventful. From Isiolo the journey to Marsabit, a distance of 255 kilometres, starts on the newly tarmacked Isiolo Moyale road. The road is in very good condition and the traffic is light, one is tempted to cruise but road signs reminds one of crossing domestic and wild animals and if lucky you may see some elephants and giraffes. Young Samburu herds boys and girls stand on the roadside asking motorists for water even during the rainy season on the stretch between Archers Post and Merille trading centres. After three hours' drive you get to Marsabit Town on the slopes of Mt. Marsabit, 1,825m above sea level.

The town is surrounded by Marsabit National Park which is home to Ahmed, the only individual elephant to have been protected by a presidential decree pronounced by the late President Mwai Kibaki. He ordered the protection of an elephant with giant tusks named Ahmed in 1970. Ahmed of Marsabit was, and still is, the most famous elephant ever to have roamed the African continent. It was very cold having passed through some near desert conditions after Isiolo.



STEPHEN KAVULU
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

We were spoiled for choice of a hotel to spend the night but settled for an out of town. After breakfast of camel milk tea and anjera we went looking for the County Commissioner's office. It had rained heavily during the night so it was chilly and cold. I reported to the County Commissioner's office and given the go ahead to report to Maikona the headquarters of Chalbi District, a distance of 100 kilometers.

We were provided with a guide who advised us to buy supplies since some commodities are not readily available in Maikona.

Five kilometres from Marsabit you leave the greenery and start seeing some near-desert conditions, the temperatures rise, the road becomes dusty rocky. After four hours we got to Maikona tired and dusty.

Maikona is an oasis town at the edge of Chalbi desert. Chalbi is a Gabra word meaning bare and salty and is the only true desert in Kenya. It covers an area of 948km square, a large depression of a drainage system that receives runoff from the surrounding lava and basement surfaces of Mt. Marsabit, Hurri Hills, Mt. Kulal and the Ethiopian plateaus. (Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries, 2017: *Climate Risk Profile for Marsabit County: Kenya County Risk Profile Series*) The vast desert was formerly covered by a lake

which was formed by damming from lava flowing from volcanic activities in the Mt. Marsabit area. The plains around this area consist of an extensive lava plateau and volcanic hills. sand dunes, grey ridges, broken clusters of tiny huts and inselbergs of varying sizes and shapes dot the landscape.

The bleached stretch of coarse sand enlivened up with immense clay and pure rocks are frequent with desert storms. The temperature conditions of Chalbi Desert vary from over 36 degrees in February the hottest month to as low as 18 degrees during July the coldest month. Temperatures are very high during the day and get extremely chilly at night. You can find herds of Oryx, ostrich or even the endangered gravity Zebra in Chalbi area.

Of the people who live in Chalbi district 90% are Gabras, a small tribe of nomadic pastoralists living on the Kenya-Ethiopia border, others being Dasanach and the Wayu who are remnants of a hunter gatherer tribe and who have since been assimilated by the Gabra. The Gabras are able to survive in these very harsh conditions; by having a well-knit social system that allows each person to gradually assume responsibilities and play their role in the society. They have some culture rich in a complex body of rituals, songs and ceremonies full of symbolism and poetry.

Most of the land in Chalbi is furrowed with sandy and strong water courses known as Lagas - dry river bed, some short and steep while others are long and broad. The most important of these is Laga Balal which carries water from the Tertale mountains in Southern Ethiopia to the Chalbi desert. A laga by definition only has water during the rainy season and becomes a dry bed in the rest of the year. As there is not a single permanent river in the whole of the district, the people have traditionally relied upon springs and hand-dug wells, often very deep. Most of the land is arid and barren save for Badda Hurri where lush trees and grass abound and the vast rubble-strewn

Thus they have a way of reckoning time based on the earth's regular 365-day circuit of the sun, an unwritten solar calendar.

plains are virtually treeless, save for water courses that pass through them, which have trees outlining them. During the dry season a visitor cannot help think they have landed on a lunar landscape, but once the rains fall the tumultuous rushing of streams in full flood, the sudden, almost miraculous, shooting up of grass and myriad colourful flowers, the hillsides and plains are suddenly clothe in a cloak of many greens.

The Gabras are pastoralists who keep camels, cattle, sheep and goats, gathered in small groups usually of ten to fifteen families they live day and night with their herds and flocks moving whenever it becomes dry to search for fresh pastures and water in their vast semi desert territory. These mobile villages are called Foora and they are constructed in a line called Dir, all facing west so the incessant wind is to their backs, behind the houses are camel kraals. The Gabra movements are predicated on balancing the need for grazing the livestock with the need for water, indispensable for both humans and animals. During the rainy season when pasture and water are available everywhere, the villages move away from the wells to certain traditional grazing areas. Other factors intervene in the decision of where and when to move: fear of attacks by rival tribes, infestation by ticks and flies, the proximity of trading and administrative centres among others. When a marriage scheduled to take place, the whole village of the groom or at least a considerable part, will move to the bride's village, which may be hundreds of kilometres away. The Gabras also move when making pilgrimage to their sacred sites where they do prayers and rituals. This is done after seven years and marks the transition of one age set to another. Each section or phratry has its own site

where they conduct their prayers and rituals. The Gabras are divided into five phratries; Algaana, Gaara, Galbo, Odoola and Shaarbana which are also socio-political units. Each phratry has its own sacred village called Yaa where the custodians of that phratry and their sacred objects live.

Seasons follow the rhythm of the year, and are of utmost importance to the Gabra; how much longer will the dry season go on, how soon can the rains be expected. Thus they have a way of reckoning time based on the earth's regular 365-day circuit of the sun, an unwritten solar calendar. Ceremonies too are of great importance to the Gabra and they link most of their ceremonies to the months and to the phases of the moon. Thus they have a lunar calendar, consisting of twelve moons. But the twelve moons do not make a solar year, the Gabra use both calendars together, calculating them perfectly independently, without any attempt at coordinating them.

There are ceremonies for the rites of passage both on a social and personal levels. There are transition rites for the generation-sets and the rites of passage for the individual and there are ceremonies for the calendar themselves. Important events are held in certain months consequently often referred as sorio months. The celebrations of marriage and memorial rites for the dead, circumcision and clitori dectomy are performed in the sorio months, as are branding and castration of camels, their gifting and loaning. Certain days of the moon, whatever day of the week they fall on determine important events such as marriage and moving a village takes place only on auspicious days.

When giving a child a personal name, it is formally announced by the father on the morning after its birth having performed prayers and conducted sacrifices. The name will have been selected according to definite ideas as to what constitutes a suitable name. The Gabra feel that the most proper name to be given to a child is the name of the day of the week on which he/she is born. The reason for this preference is the belief that each child has got its own Ayyana, a spiritual quality, which passes to the child on that

day. Thus there are fourteen very common names; seven for boys and seven for girls. Beginning from Sunday; the names for boys are Ibrae, Mamo, Isaaqo, Ali, Umuro, Aadano and Abudo while those for girls are Aado, Midina, Taalaso, Arbe, Kame, Gumaato and Sabdio. (*The Gabra Camel Nomads of Northern Kenya*, (1999), Paolo Tablino).

The Gabras value the camel so much that camel raids are common against other neighbouring communities and even beyond into southern Ethiopia. When Gabra camels are raided, it becomes a tribal affair and measures are quickly put in place to recover them. Camels are transferred from one person to the other as gifts, on a basis of short term loan, through trade or long term loan known as 'trust'. In this trust system, a camel owner trusts out most of his camels to other Gabra and he lives on camels trusted in from the other Gabra. Trustees can, in turn, trust out offspring to another Gabra. Trustors and trustees are recognized as a jal, connected through trusting of camels. This jal chain creates multiple networks in the Gabra society. In the trust transfer, the owner transfers his personal camel to someone without the right of possession. Therefore, ownership of the camel does not change from the trustor to the trustee after having trusted. Trustees can keep a trusted camel as long as the owner does not ask for its return.

The trustee has the right of use of the trusted camel and what it produces, most importantly milk. The rights of possession of female offspring's of a trusted camel belong to the owner of the trusted camel. However, the rights of possession of male offspring's of trusted camel belong to the trustee of the trusted camel. As a result, all trusted camels are female.

While in Chalbi one can enjoy car drives across the desert, hiking the sand dunes, cool springs of Kalacha and if lucky attend the Kalacha festival where the different cultures of the different communities found in Marsabit county are show cased, visit the Dasanach at Illeret and take a dive at lake Turkana and at the same time visit Sibiloi National park to see the cradle of mankind at Koobi Fora. ■

SYOKIMAU: YESTERYEARS KAMBA HEROINE OF KENYA

The Akamba people are considered a Bantu ethnic group that is predominantly found in East Africa. It is generally considered that the Kamba live mainly in Kenya in an area stretching from Nairobi to Tsavo and north to Embu in the southern part of the former Eastern of Kenya. The land occupied by the Akamba is called Ukambani and mainly constitutes of Makueni, Kitui and Machakos Counties respectively. It is worth noting that apart from Kenya, the Kamba people are also found in some parts of Uganda, Congo and Tanzania.

The Kamba are best known as very skilled craftsmen with special interest in iron and metals, in drum making, ornaments, as well as their knowledge in herbal medicine. In addition the Akamba people traded in commodities such as sugarcane, brass amulets, ivory, skin, tools, weapons, millet and cattle in the 17th and 18th Century (Kenya National Museum, 2019). It is worth appreciating that long before Kenya as a country came into existence and any of her land had been surveyed and registered as titled property, the bearer of the name Syokimau ruled supreme. Although facts, fiction and myths have intermixed to create a legend, there is universal agreement that the name refers to an ancient Kamba medicine woman, Syokimau who lived in the 1800s.

Syokimau was a traditional Kamba medicine woman (foreseer) who was also a witch and a prophetess. The Kamba people believed that her ability to prophesize came when she was attacked by a *maimu* (a benevolent spirit when she was just a young girl). The Akamba warriors listened to her and prepared for the battle well in advance, increasing their chances of victory against the enemy (Kenya National Museum, 2019). She would conduct prayers for the warriors under a designated tree that acted as a shrine, called the *ithembo*, where she would also make sacrifices for the warriors to come home unhurt.

Syokimau dedicated her life to the Kamba warriors as she could predict an attack by the Maasai long before they came, giving her backyard community ample time to get ready for defense. As result, Akamba would take the war to the enemies and stage attacks to as far as Magadi. Such raids were used as a way of acquiring cattle that at the time were a form of currency and symbol of wealth. She is also remembered for correctly predicting of the coming of the colonialists and the establishment of the railway, saying she had foreseen and forewarned her people about the coming of the white man.

In the African context in those days, fortune telling was valued, and taken as a very important practice of predicting information about a person's life. The scope of fortune telling is in principle identical with the practice of divination. Fortune telling grows out of folkloristic reception. This was critical for the community at that time, especially when it came to the Kamba people, the terms for a person who sees the future is considered to be a prophet. For instance one day after supper, Syokimau was sitting on her three legged stool. People were gathered around her. They loved listening to her stories. Within no time she started screaming as



Source: Kenya National Museum, (2019)



SAMMY MUTHAI
NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
SERVICE

she stated that people with red colored skis would be coming.

Syokimau the heroine is highly credited with predicting (foreseeing) a long snake belching fire and smoke, moving from water to water. In it she also said to have seen people with light skin who spoke unintelligently and carried fire (guns) in their pocket. It is thus worth postulating that her prophecy came to pass in the twentieth century after the final completion of the original Kenya-Uganda Railway that ran all the way from Mombasa to Kisumu.

In her vision, she saw a long snake belching fire and smoke as it moved from waters to other waters. In it, there were people with skin like meat who spoke unintelligibly like birds and carried fire in their pockets. The people she saw were white people who spoke English and carried matchboxes in their pockets. Among the Kamba people, she was also credited with the continuous victory among the warriors because she predicted impending attacks from other communities such as the Maasai and Gikuyu giving Kamba warriors ample time to prepare for the defense. For her great prophecy, Syokimau Railway Station and Syokimau estate in Machakos County were named after her (The Standard Group, 2017).

Syokimau the heroine always took time to part in various community rituals and offered sacrifices plus advise on behalf of the Akamba warriors whenever they were about to go for war far away from home. Sometimes the Kamba warriors would stage wars to enemies as far away as Magadi. Thus such raids were used as a strategy for the community to accumulate wealth, through cattle raids and other heroic communal activities.

Syokimau healed the sick using herbs and exorcised evil spirits. She unfortunately died without any children, as nobody could marry such a powerful woman. The echoes of her past will haunt Akamba land many years to come: inspiring awe and despair in equal measure, for anybody whose property was demolished recently will find the name unspeakable. Such is the power of a name



Source: Kenya National Archives, (2016)



Source: Kenya National Museums, (2019)

Syokimau told her people that foreigners would come travelling in the bowels of birds (aeroplanes) and would speak like birds (in English) Tihihhi. While on land, they would ride on a snake with many legs (a train). In Athi River, a local prophetess, Syonguu, was so impressed by Syokimau that she named a village in her territory after her. To date, Syokimau in Athi River where the colonialists had constructed a railway station still bears the prophetess's name. This gave birth to the inauguration of Kenya's first commuter train in Nov 2012- The *Syokimau Railway Station* along Mombasa Road. This train came as a savior to many commuters who have over the years dreaded the long traffic jam on Mombasa road.

One of the primary reasons why Syokimau is highly venerated by the Kamba community is her ability to predict the future. The prophetess predicted several known historical events which came to pass years after her death. The story of Syokimau the heroine clearly illustrates that fortune telling is as old as mankind and it is used to predict fortunes, harvest, charts a baby's future and even to correct certain circumstance. This "art" and "science" has crossed all cultures at all times in many strange, wonderful and curious ways, some far more charming than others. ■

YOUTH ENGAGED IN VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND SOFT POWER INITIATIVES IN EAST AFRICA



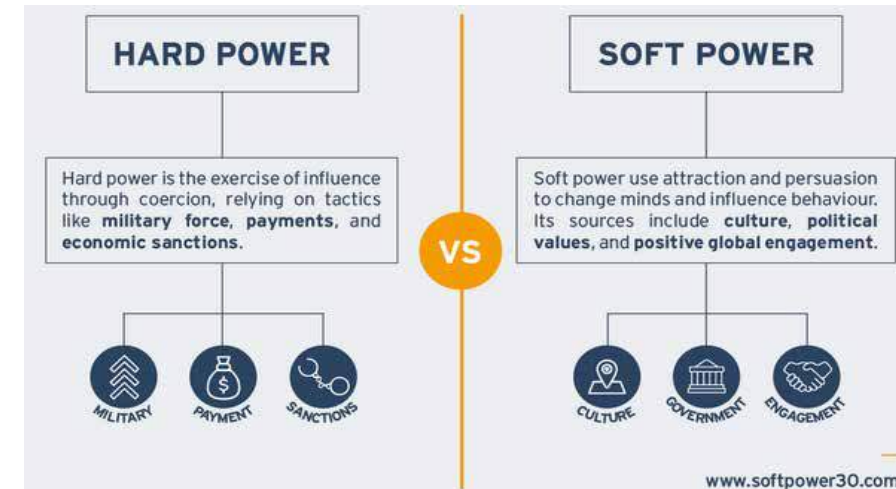
COL SWALEH NZARO SAIDI,
KENYA ARMY

The youth violent extremism that afflicts communities in the world today is generally thought to be fuelled by radicalization and extremist tendencies. Though there is no universal definition of violent extremism, it is fundamentally considered as the repudiation of values for tolerance, inclusion and diversity that underpin modern human life in the twenty first century.

It is worth noting that at the moment violent extremist and terrorism is on the increase, many states, institutions, societies, households and individuals

have experienced some form or morphing forms and different degrees of threats linked with terrorism. Governments are confronted by a myriad of challenges in dealing with violent extremism like first of all detecting potential hotspots for violent extremism to emerge topping attacks and rehabilitating those who have already been radicalized. Addressing different aspects of these vices has been a priority for states, including United States, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Serbia, Germany, Austria, Italy and Turkey.

In countries that have experienced terrorist attacks or countries neighboring



Source: Nye, Joseph. *Power in the Global Information Age: From Realism to Globalization*. London and New York: Routledge, (2014), p. 19.

them chances are that counter terrorism legislation are bound to be on the increase and governments are likely to squeeze civil liberties in the name of protecting their citizens. More government agencies are likely to be created just to combat terrorism and this will add to the complexity of the system. The soft power approach so far has been dominated by the United States models but a localized understanding of the problem of terrorism is needed before tackling it in any form of way in order not to alienate the citizens or create sympathy for the perpetrators of these crimes. The common hard power approach to counter terrorism has not had much success as has been seen in the past in places like Somalia, Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya. In this chapter an evaluation of soft power will be undertaken as the researcher looks into the role of education, religion and international cooperation in making it possible

Violent extremism is borderless in its effects; thus almost all states consult and work continuously to counter violent extremism to stifle it from maturing into terrorism. At the moment violent extremist and terrorism is on the increase, many states, institutions, societies, households and individuals have experienced some form or morphing forms and different degrees of threats linked with terrorism.

Young people are critical to the prevention of violent extremism and must be involved as partners in developing and implementing policies which effectively counter the growth of extremism, according

to a new report by the United Nations Development Programme. In addition any states are confronted by a myriad of challenges in dealing with extremism like first of all detecting potential hotspots for extremism to emerge topping attacks and rehabilitating those who have already been radicalized. Addressing different aspects of these vices has been a priority for states, including United States, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Serbia, Germany, Austria, Italy and Turkey.

In light of the growing threats from violent extremism around sub Saharan Africa (SSA), Counter-terrorism is focused on eliminating the causes of terrorism as well as on preventing it through use of various approaches. Counter-terrorism basically is the efforts employed by security agencies to neutralize threats.

Governments' failure to undermine the ideology's appeal to youth stems from its failure to mount a serious and sustained strategy. Preventing extremism in sub Saharan Africa is of crucial importance, not only because of the often serious consequences of an attack in terms of loss of human life and material damage, but equally because of the damage which an attack or a threat can cause to the democratic process, peace, stability and legal order.

Violent extremism challenges emanating from the Horn of Africa should be of special concern to every East African state. A big part of the reason that al-Shabaab exists is the instabilities of the

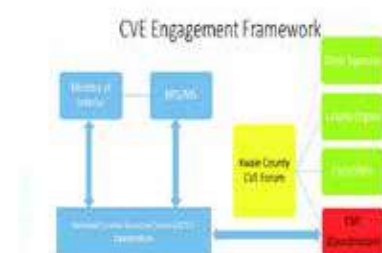
horn of Africa region. In many countries countering violent extremism strategies are one of prevention but rarely is there any country with a policy on how to de-radicalize those who have already fallen for extremist ideology. Since terror groups nowadays operate using cells which for the most part are autonomous, neutralizing the heads of these organizations is not sufficient to inflict defeat.

The 'soft' approach aims to neutralize terror groups by debunking their ideology. Soft power is a persuasive approach through appeal, persuasion and attraction, in dealing with challenging situation. It is worth noting that there are many definitions to radicalization and extremism but almost all of them tend to end with the fact that radicalization's end result is terrorism. Defining radicalization is difficult since defining terrorism is difficult too. When a state's policies are perceived as legitimate by others, it is soft power and thereby, acceptance, are enhanced.

Soft power could be used to debunk extremist beliefs and attitudes. It is crucial for governments to understand the thought process an individual goes through to become radicalized in order for a government to be able to nip radicalization in the bud because eventually it leads to terrorism, which has scarred and traumatized individuals and families around the world. In the Kenyan context the National Strategy on Countering Radicalization and terrorism is intended to be a "flexible framework to guide countering-based initiatives towards resisting radicalization. In particular, the strategy is adaptable to an environment where the threat of terrorism is constantly changing, as well as the means through which the threat is expressed." It is supposed to educate the public on how to recognize danger signs of youth being radicalized and countering such efforts in their early stages.

In the Kenya perspective security is at a cross-road as it is considered a defining feature of economic, community, social, political, stability and national cohesion. Therefore the increase in domestic, regional and transnational conflicts have outstretched the security situation posing

major challenges to stability of the Kenya and Somalia. In additions the counter violent extremist programmes in Lamu County are based on theories of change on how people transform from being peaceful citizens to becoming extreme in their ideology and vice versa.



Source: Ministry of Interior, (2019)

Counter violent extremism involves policy programs and interventions which are intended to stop people from committing violent acts which are linked to radical ideologies either of the political social or religious kind. From past experiences it seems to appear that soft power might be a more effective tool to counter radicalization.

Branded a violent extremism organization by several United Nations members, and known to be the Somalia affiliate of Al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden's global terrorist network, *Al-Shabaab* has gained sufficient notoriety to merit the deployment of an African Union military force, one of whose



Source: Smith, James. Strategic Analysis, WMD Terrorism, and Deterrence by Denial, in *Detering Terrorism: Theory and Practice* 159, Andreas Wenger and Alex Wilner eds., (2012), p.9

briefs is to stop it in its tracks. Still, many Kenyans have kept on asking whether it poses a credible threat to Kenya.

In Kenya in order for soft power programmes to work government must closely engage with community leaders and civil society and their engagement must be seen to be sincere. Spread of violent extremism might as well be explained by theory of contagion and thus soft power attempts to counter it by focus on breaking the cycle of its ideological spread. The soft power approach to counter terror does not get much attention from the media which always seems to sensationalize terrorist activities and counter terror activities for ratings. Neither has soft power approach to countering terror been studied nor researched as much as hard power approaches. There have been a few

studies done on soft power conducted by the Kenya and Somali government on Al-Shabaab activities.

A 'soft' approach to Counter-terrorism "seeks to undo the radicalization process by engineering the individual's return to moderate society, usually by providing them with a stable support network, probing their original reasons for radicalizing, and divorcing them from their extreme beliefs in order to defeat radicalization and violent extremism it is necessary to and social contacts." Therefore understand and refute the ideology behind it, rather than simply strive to eliminate every terrorist on sight.

In conclusion it is generally assumed that the best way of reaching youth to keep them away from violent extremism is through programmes involving sports, arts, cultural events, social media, broadcast media, and peer-to-peer groups. But it must be remembered that the security of the activists doing these outreach programmes is paramount. For soft power programmes to work government must closely engage with community leaders and civil society and their engagement must be seen to be sincere. Spread of terrorism might as well be explained by theory of contagion and thus soft power attempts to counter it by focus on breaking the cycle of its ideological spread. ■

of someone who has the disease, or by touching a contaminated surface and then touch one's eyes, nose or mouth.

Since the onset of COVID-19, the pandemic continues to spiral globally, regionally and in individual countries. According to World Health Organization, (2020), the number of infections globally is approaching thirty million, deaths are approaching one million while over nineteen million cases have recovered. This calls for urgent intervention focussed on containing the spread to enable the world return to normalcy.

In China, Italy, USA and other countries, national security forces have been mobilized to engage in activities that defend the population against COVID-19. In China the army constructed hospitals and deployed medical experts and volunteers in hospitals and treatment centres to fight the virus. In Italy, the military was called in to enforce the lockdown in the hardest hit areas to ensure people's compliance with national executive orders.

It is worth noting across the Africa continent, the military has not been very active when it comes to matters to do with the pandemic. This could be because the military is sometimes not best designed to respond to the scale of the pandemic of a magnitude as that of the Corona virus. In spite of this, the military is still capable of bringing in expertise, important capabilities and competences including disaster planning, command and control, logistics, surveillance and specialized medical support.

However, in instances where it has been deployed, the military is making effort to combat COVID 19 through emphasis on teamwork, advanced protective gear, innovation, creativity and protecting personnel. The use of new technology and building coalitions with various stakeholders involved in addressing the pandemic. Defence forces differ widely in terms of capacity, capability and, perhaps most importantly, their relationship with the government. Some will be more involved than others in countering COVID-19. But in most cases, the governmental response is unlikely to be military-led, except in countries already under military rule. In the East Africa context the military is likely to remain in a supporting role during the pandemic except in countries where weak civilian institutions, sometimes compounded by poor political leadership, have failed to prevent the uncontrolled spread of the virus.

The COVID-19 pandemic is first and foremost a public health crisis, whatever its immediate strategic knock-on effects, or longer-term geopolitical implications. In the Kenyan perspective, the fight against the virus has adopted a whole of government approach with the Ministry of Health as the lead agency.

The Kenya Defence Forces remains focused on its core mandate of protecting the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity and is fully seized on protecting the country's airspace and maritime space, is ready to assist civil authority on order, provide limited capacity to

transport emergency supplies, provide limited sealift for emergency supplies and production of essential food commodities. In the COVID-19 crisis, almost every country has brought the military to bear in some capacity.

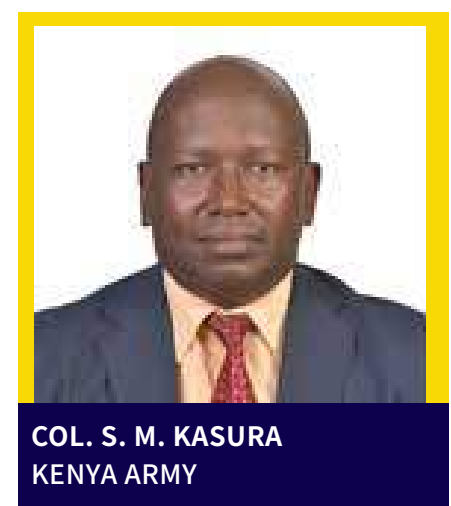
It is acknowledged that while armed forces may find it difficult to distance themselves from what is perceived as their primary mission, the coronavirus pandemic largely challenges society's vision of their role. This has been showcased through the vital contributions of the military to civilian authorities' responses to contain and stop the spread of the corona-virus (COVID-19). Exchanging guns for bags of food supplies and disinfectant spray, military personnel have been among the first responders in the coronavirus pandemic. Trained to react quickly in highly dangerous conditions, the military carried out missions of evacuation of ill citizens and transported medical supplies and protective equipment.

In Kenya, national laws impose severe restrictions on defence forces intervention in internal affairs during peace time, more so in the security realm than in that of safety. Defence forces are hindered from enforcing domestic laws. This situation might change during a state of emergency, but parliament must authorize it. So far, police forces have been able to cope with the deterioration of the security situation, even in the most pressing situations like those that occurred in the north of Italy. So far, there is no information on soldiers' engagement in the control of civil unrest and maintenance of public order. But if lockdowns continue, governments may have to rethink their options.

Disaster response activities provide assistance to maintain life, improve health and support the morale of the affected people. The Government of Kenya has put in place multi-sectoral systems, tools and mechanisms to ensure disaster preparedness and timely response.

Operating in a supplementary role, defence forces' participation in internal security tasks aims at mitigating the shortfall of security forces' manpower, releasing them for more demanding tasks. While acting in support of civil protection

THE ROLE OF THE MILITARY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID 19



COL. S. M. KASURA
KENYA ARMY

The Coronavirus was first reported in the City of WUHAN, CHINA in December 2019. The disease is associated with animals and has high rate of transmission in human beings. The virus that causes that causes the COVID-19 comes from a family of viruses called Coronaviridae. It is believed to have zoonotic origins and has close genetic similarity to bat coronaviruses, suggesting it emerged from a bat-borne virus. There is no evidence yet to link an intermediate animal reservoir, such as a pangolin, to its introduction to humans. COVID-19 is spread through contact with

infected persons and is highly contagious. The symptoms of the disease manifests after an incubation period of between 1-14 days. The main symptoms are coughing, sneezing, runny nose and fever among others.

The Corona virus that causes COVID-19 is generally transmitted through droplets spread when a person who is infected sneezes, coughs and or exhales. These droplets are usually too heavy to hang in the air and quickly fall on the surface. A person can be infected by inhaling the virus if one is at close proximity



Source: The World Health Organization, (2020)



missions, they reply to requests from the civil protection authorities or agencies. In both cases, a clear definition of the command and control relations between military and police forces is required.

The militaries of many countries are actively braving the global COVID-19 storm. Admitting and treating patients, developing vaccines and delivering necessities for the people, the Ethiopian defence force for example, have been active in all aspects of fighting the epidemic. The military are some of those who are clustered among groups with the greatest exposure risk due to their nature of work. It is postulated that the Armed Forces have played and shall continue to play an important role during and post disaster scenario. The discipline, training,

resources and professional approach make them a key player in the whole scheme of Disaster Management. When disasters occur over large areas making access impossible, cutting off various mode of communication, armed forces with their equipment, resources and personnel are called upon to render help in rescue and relief measures. Their main asset is training, equipment, professionalism and above all a minimum response time in a war or in a COVID-19 management.

The military has first to be free of the disease before they can be deployed to offer any assistance. The military has therefore instituted strict measures in all the barracks which include sensitization, sanitizing, temperature measurements using thermoguns for all personnel

entering the barracks to detect the people who seem to have signs of fever (that is, have a higher than normal body temperature) and to restrict movements

Should the need arise to deploy the military, the Kenya Defence Forces can perform the following tasks: manning of points of entry, ensure sufficient physical infrastructure i.e. set up military field hospitals & provide medical equipment such as ventilators and Intensive Care Unit beds in designated areas; provide military physicians, provide ambulances, provide transport, distribute water and provide security to quarantine areas, among others. It is worth noting that Kenya Defence Forces was among the first responders to the virus outbreak by deploying its doctors to sensitive security areas like JKIA and establishing a Multi-agency command and control centre.

The military is also requiring its personnel to wear masks at all times. The prolonged use of medical masks may seem to be uncomfortable, but it is considered the first line of defence against the virus. In addition the military has provided social areas where the general public can safely wash their hands, as they exercise social distance. The military is also helping in public awareness, it is preaching community messages on how people can stay safe, especially through maintaining social distance.

Infection in far flung security challenged areas may require Kenya Defence Forces to be the lead agency. In other words, governments used their militaries as a source of supplementary logistical, infrastructural, and medical capacity and in some cases in policing duties for isolation and quarantine, but did not broaden its role. Multi-agency approach has paid dividends for Kenya's security. The Kenya Defence Forces synergy approach being promoted by the government has been termed as the most effective methodology in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.

All in all it is every individual's responsibility to be safe and curb the spread of COVID-19 by washing hands regularly, wearing masks, sanitizing and keeping social distance. ■

THE EFFECT OF SECULAR MUSIC AND MEDIA ON YOUTH DELINQUENCY

Introduction

Music influences people's culture and identities. Daily, people listen to reggae music, gospel music, hip-hop music jazz music, traditional music and other genres of music. This article discusses how these diverse music types and exposure influence the behaviour of the youth in Kenya. It is to be acknowledged that Kenya's liberal democracy enshrines in the 2010 Constitution makes a strong case for protection and promotion of music as a form of cultural expression as well as a property whose owner has to be protected from unlawful deprivation. This article therefore investigates the impact that the lyrical content inherent secular music and media have on Kenyan youth. It therefore investigates the relationship between local secular music and media have on the behaviour, aspirations and fashions of the youthful audiences as well as impact the performers of this genre of music made on them as role models.

Music

According to Webster dictionary, music is an art of sound in time that expresses ideas and emotions in significant forms through the elements of rhythm, melody and harmony. Accordingly, the Kenya music policy, music refers to the use of sound to express and reflect ideas, attitudes and emotions, collectively and individually, in acknowledged fora. It embraces traditional and contemporary idioms of sacred and secular genres of song and instrumental expression. Music is arguably the most consumed commodity in the world. A World bank commissioned survey in 2004 put the economic worth of the music recording industry in Kenya at about Kshs.11.52 billion per annum. Music exists everywhere and there is no part of the world or society, where music is not used or made in one way or the other. It is the oldest of all the arts and all societies have developed a system for organizing sounds into culturally acceptable art which they refer to as their music. Global societies use music as a means of expressing their emotions and social sentiments because



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music has the power to create feelings and emotions.

Statement of the problem

While music is an integral part of Kenyan society like all other societies, it has been abused and misused by composers, producers and promoters particularly the secular music. Due to technological advancement and less stringent democratic society characterized by expanded rights and freedoms, all moral boundaries have been lowered or erased. Consequently, this has exposed underage children and youth to hitherto taboo adult content that has negatively affected youth's behaviours leading them into crime, drug abuse and other anti-social behaviours which were completely unfathomable a while ago. The gravest and disturbing concern at the moment is the particular glorification and glamorization of drugs, crime and sex in complete contravention of existing laws.

There is an undisputable global reality that "sex sells" hot like "drugs" that is why secular music is blended with sexually explicit content and glamorizes drugs as a "cool" thing which appeals to the young souls. Majority of music videos and lyrical content in Kenyan music is iced with sexually appealing images and vulgar, lewd and obscene content which is popular among Kenyan youths of school going age.

Uses of Music

Music is consumed because it provides pleasure to people of all ages. According to Lull, music promotes experiences of the extreme for its makers and listeners, turning the perilous emotional edges, vulnerabilities, triumphs, celebrations, and antagonisms of life into hypnotic, reflective tempos that can be experienced privately or shared with others. This article describes three major uses of music which include; Affective uses, social uses and the uses of lyrics.

Affective Uses

For majority of Kenyan people and mostly youth, consumption of music is driven primarily by the motivation to control mood and enhance emotional stress. It is because of the affective use of music that youth utilize it to control their moods and seek reinforcement for certain moods. This is the efficacy of music which is occasionally abused by Kenyan youth to engage in deviant behaviours which exposes them to vices such as drug abuse and pre-marital sex which subjects them to vulnerability of diseases and early unwanted pregnancies. Media images portray sex as stunning and thrilling which may be linked with the beginning of permissive sexual attitudes. Because of these youth in Kenya form attitudes that are often unrealistic and potentially unhealthy.

Social uses

Music is used to create social circles and define socialization process among the youth. Those who can sing and dance to the current popular music are considered as of higher standards than those who do not. This has a great influence on how youths relate with each other. Music categories socialize youth groups into different sub groups who identity and belong to them. The social uses and meanings of music provide the real key to understanding its niche in the lives of youths.

Use of Music Lyrics

The more important music is to youths,

Secular music in Kenya is characterized by increased complaints about the composition and lewdness, vulgarity and profanities.

the more interested they become to the music lyrics. According to music policy in Kenya, for better or worse, then lyrics are often attended to, processed, discussed, memorized and even taken to heart. Given the controversy surrounding antisocial themes that are sometimes present in heavy metal and rap lyrics, it is important to note that heavy metal and rap fans report much higher levels of interest and attention to lyrics. According to Christenson, the more defiant, alienated and threatening to mainstream music, the more closely its fans would like to follow the lyrics. It is noteworthy to realize that; attention to lyrics is highest among fans of oppositional and controversial music.

Characteristics of Kenyan Secular Music

Secular music in Kenya is characterized by increased complaints about the composition and lewdness, vulgarity and profanities. The Kenyan music is characterized by some offensive stage names which are offensive and derogatory to adults. Majority of popular Kenyan music songs are characterized by vulgar and explicit content. One qualitative study found that; sexual portrayals in the media were attended to when girls were interested in personally learning about relationship norms, strategies for establishing relationships and tips on how to get sexually attractive. The study found out that some girls had pampered their rooms with images of media models which they lusted after or aspired to be. These types of girls were fascinated by nudity in advertisements found in such media outlets.

A quick review of Kenyan secular videos revealed that a significant majority of them contained suggestive and provocative dancing styles with some showing a man

mounting a woman in bed touching private parts. Majority of women in these videos are semi-nude with extremely suggestive dancing style where scenes of men rubbing women behinds and crotches are evident.

Effects of Kenya's secular Music on youths

According to Kenya music policy, the effects of obscene music on children, youth and community were not only shocking but also distressing. From the findings established by a study commissioned by the government of Kenya, it was clear that many adults with the responsibility of caring for youth (Parents, Guardians) have continued to suffer the indignity of the indecent music in silence without any clear means of the addressing the menace. The effects of lewd and vulgar secular music can be summarized into four main categories. They include; societal discomfort, prevalence of promiscuity, substance abuse and alcoholism and moral decadence among the Kenyan youths.

Increased Promiscuity and Moral decadence

The increased numbers of teen pregnancies in Kenya are attributed to engagement in pre-marital sex which has been exacerbated by lewd lyrics and obscene videos which promote sexual promiscuity among young Kenyan youth especially teenage girls. Many parents acknowledge increased promiscuity among the youths and school-going children as a result of propagation of vulgar and sexually explicit content in the secular music. Nudity is one aspect which has been highlighted as a necessary evil contained in Kenyan secular music as well as international music videos which in respect have a profound effect on young people's minds.

The use of vulgar and profane words propagated by secular music is common among Kenyan children and youths. The use of such words leads to moral decadence among the youngsters which they find fashionable but quite offending to their superiors. The quality of secular music in Kenyans does not promote acquisition of self-discipline but rather increases delinquency and moral decadence which results into poor performance in schools.

Increased Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

Majority of current secular songs in Kenya is laced with drugs as the current coolest thing in town. The glorification of Marijuana which is referred to in many songs with different street names (Vela, Ngwai, Moshi, Ndom, Weed, Kaya, Umbithu Among other names) which entice youths in the country to experiment with drugs and substances. Smoking of marijuana among the youth has been glamorized in the media particularly by the secular songs which are performed by some of the notable musicians in the country. While possession of Marijuana in the country is legally prohibited, majority of the youths seem to have thrown out the towel in great disregard to the law by engaging in the vice carefree and mindlessly.

Social Disorder and discontent

Kenyan social fabric is premised on certain norms, ideals and moral expectations which for long have held the Kenyan society in harmony and respect. The advent of secular music featuring explicit content has disgraced such harmony and instead brought discomfort in its place. It is highly traumatizing for a parent to board the same public service vehicle (P.S.V) with a son or daughter when the vehicle is blazing extremely explicit music which is not only disrespectful but also obscene. Push comes to shove when the child is singing the lines to the explicit song word by word to the amazement of the parent who is not only offended but also ashamed. Such music is a threat to societal norms and taboos which hold the Kenyan population is accustomed to.

Conclusion

Whereas, music is the oldest of the human arts, it has been infiltrated by vulgar and explicit content which has compromised social upbringing of Kenyan youths. While music should be used for aesthetic value which promotes good values, it can be used to propagate hate, violence and other vices if not properly regulated. The case is ripe in Kenya in regards to the quality and content of music spewed in public for the intervention of government to regulate it. Therefore, this article argues that secular music in Kenya has facilitated delinquency among the youth. ■

UNDERSTANDING THE COMPLEXITY OF ORGANIZED CRIME

Organized crime has been described differently by different authors: According to Block and Chambliss (1983), organized crime is both a social system and a social world. The system is composed of relationships binding professional criminals, politicians, law enforcers, and various entrepreneurs. Organized crime is part of a social system in which reciprocal services are performed by criminals, their clients and politicians. Organized crime is understood to be the large-scale and complex criminal activity carried out by groups of persons, however loosely or tightly organized, for the enrichment of those participating and at the expense of the community and its members. It is frequently accomplished through ruthless disregard of any law, including offences against the person, and frequently in connection with political corruption.

Paul Nesbitt (Interpol) 1993 describes organized crime as "any group having a corporate structure whose primary objective is to obtain money through illegal activities, often surviving on fear and corruption".

Organized Crime can therefore be defined as any continuing unlawful activity by an individual, singly or jointly, either as a member of an organized crime

syndicate or on behalf of such syndicate, by use of violence or threat of violence or intimidation or coercion, or other unlawful means, with the objective of gaining pecuniary benefits, or gaining undue economic or other advantage for himself or any person or promoting insurgency.

Genesis of organized crimes

Modern organized crime is generally understood to have begun in Italy in the late 19th Century. From the 1920s to the present, organized crime has either been organized within ethnic groups or across ethnic lines. Modern organized criminal enterprises make money by specializing in a variety of crimes including extortion, blackmail, gambling, loan sharking and political corruption. Extortion in particular is a time-tested aspect of organized crime which involves the acquisition of property through use of threats or force.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, 2002) in many countries across the world, there exist organized criminal groups which vary in activities, and may be similar in their consequences. Common to all countries is that these groups are a threat to peace, stability and development and therefore there is need to control and/or eradicate their activities.



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UNODC (2002) provides a useful framework for understanding organized criminal groups comprising of ten factors namely: Structure; size; activities; Identity; Level of violence; Use of corruption; Political influence; Penetration into the legitimate economy; Level of cooperation with other criminal groups; Level of trans-border operations.

UNODC affirms that organized crime is a multi-faceted phenomenon and has manifested itself in different activities, among others, drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings; trafficking in firearms; smuggling of migrants and money laundering. In particular drug trafficking is one of the main activities of organized crime. Other activities include gambling, prostitution, bank robberies and blackmail.

Criminals are known to orchestrate these activities in various forms which include: racketeering syndicated crime and even gang criminality.

Organized crime is not a preserve of a particular or some societies. In this contemporary world, organized crime is not confined to the boundaries of any one country and has become a transnational problem. The world over, most countries have had organized criminal gangs which have had devastating effects and threatened national security.

What is Organized Crime?



Adopted from Market Business News

Organized Crime Cartoons



Criminal gangs seek to expand their activities beyond their borders to secure monopoly throughout the area in which they operate. They do not hesitate to use violence to eliminate competition, silence informers, persuade potential victims, or enforce their edicts. Often the large gangs import gunmen from other areas to do this work for them and to make detection of their crimes more difficult.

For their survival, they adopt measures to protect the group and guard against the interruption of its activities. These include maintenance of arrangements with doctors, lawyers, politicians, judges, policemen and other influential persons and use of bribery and other forms of corruption to secure political favors and to avoid arrest and punishment. Though they do not have written rules, the established code of conduct and methods of operation is strictly enforced and severe penalties are imposed upon the violators.

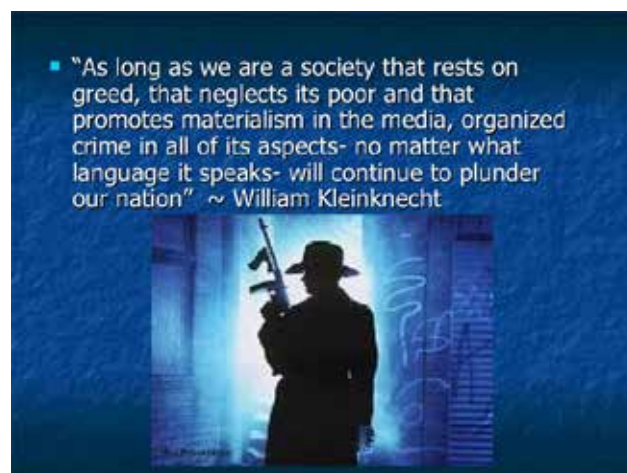
Causes and Effects of Organized Crime in Society

According to UN Habitat (2007) the following are causes of crime: poverty, unemployment, growing gap between the rich and the poor, the transition towards political democratization, the speed of urbanization and poor urban planning, design and management. Cloward and Ohlins have categorized the causes of

organized crime as follows:

- Social factors:** Cloward and Ohlin's assert that societal structures, as they now exist, block the opportunity of many individuals to achieve "success". Some individuals, who are identifiable by their socioeconomic characteristics, cannot achieve success by means generally accepted by society; they are blocked from legal success and reach for success by criminal means. Political structure of society divides people into competitive groups and that crime is a product of this competition. Crime becomes a symptom of a struggle between the people in power and those who are not in power.
- Geographical factors:** For a variety of reasons, cities seem to produce and nurture considerably more crime than rural areas. Suburban crime rates are higher than rural rates but still considerably below urban rates. One reason that has been advanced for the high urban rate is the presence of slum or ghetto areas with the population poor, unemployed and overcrowded resulting to crime.

- Economic factors:** Following Karl Marx's ideas of economic determinism which leads to conflict, it has been postulated that private ownership of property results to poverty which distinguishes those who own the means of production from those whom they exploit for economic benefit. Hence the latter turn to crime as a result of this poverty.
- Opportunity factors:** Traditionally crime is related to socio economic or socio demographic variables. For a crime to occur there must be both an offence and an opportunity to commit that offence. This is akin to the crime triangle model.
- Demographic Factors:** Demography is about the population growth and change. It includes age structure of a population, fertility and mortality patterns, migration and mobility patterns, and the ethnic composition of society. The relative proportion of males to females in the population, race, age or sex is also linked to actual crime rates.
- Ecology:** The ecological system has been described as having five elements: population, organization, environment, technology, and social-psychological factors. Today nobody can deny that knowledge of every individual criminal is necessary to determine the causes of crime. Human nature is immensely complex. Environmental conditions are also immensely complex. Between these two complexities, man's individuality either develops or deteriorates. If an individual is unable to adjust him/her



to society, he/she is deemed to be a failure, and a failure of life may turn out to be anything; insane, criminal, pervert, introvert and so on.

Overview of Organized Criminal Gangs in Kenya

Trends in organized crime throughout East Africa, specifically Kenya, are constantly evolving and mutating for the sole purpose of avoiding detection by security forces. With advancements in global technology comes advancement in criminality too. In Kenya, challenges posed by organized criminal gangs include terrorism, maritime piracy, human/arms/drugs trafficking and cyber crime. Many of the problems that face Kenya on a criminological and development level are, for the most part, identical to those facing the surrounding countries in East Africa.

In Kenya, the organized criminal gangs have been associated with their native communities, thus gaining protection and making them complicated. Today, a relatively new and threatening trend in East Africa is the attacks by pirates off the coast of Kenya. Young adults, who are generally poor and uneducated, are recruited by crime lords in Somalia and Kenya in an attempt to extort money from commercial and private ships in the Indian Ocean. The immense coastline and porous borders of Kenya make it a prime location for trafficking in humans, weapons, and drugs.

Internally, Mungiki has been one of the most violent and widely talked about organized criminal gang in Kenya. Mungiki is a politico-religious group that was outlawed by the government of Kenya following atrocities committed against its victims. The members of Mungiki claim it is a 'homegrown' religious organization committed to upholding the traditional 'African way of worship, culture and lifestyle.' It began as a local militia to protect Kikuyu farmers in disputes over land with the Kalenjin and draws some inspiration from the bloody Mau Mau rebellion of the 1950s against British colonial rule. Besides the running battles with the police and killings committed by the sect, Mungiki is known to have been engaging in other anti-social activities such as stripping women wearing miniskirts and trousers



in public, forcibly imposing female circumcision and raiding police stations to free their own members who were under police custody. Lately, the sect has been assuming a new modern face, using AK-47 assault rifles instead of clubs, machete and swords. Other organized criminal gangs in Kenya such as Sungu Sungu, Chinkororo and Taliban have followed in the footsteps of Mungiki in unleashing their terror.

In October 2010, the Minister of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security following the enactment of the Prevention of Organized Crimes Act in August, 2010, issued a Gazette Notice banning 33 organized criminal groups on October, 18, 2010. These were: Al Shabaab, Amachuma, Angola Msumbiji, Banyamulenge, Baghdad Boys, Charo Shutu, Chinkororo, Coast Housing Land Network, Congo By Force, Dallas Muslim Youth, Forty Brothers, Forty Two Brothers, Jeshi La Embakasi, Jeshi La Mzee, Jeshi La King'ole, Japo Group, Kamjesh, Kamukunji Youth Group, Kaya Bombo Youth, Kenya Youth Alliance, Kosovo Boys, Kuzacha, Makande Army, Mombasa Republican Council, Mungiki Movement, Mungiki Organization, Mungiki Sect, Republican Revolutionary Council, Sabout Land Defence Force (SLDF), Sakina Youth, Siafu, Sungu Sungu and Taliban..

A 2010 study commissioned by the Panel of Eminent Persons conducted in Nairobi, Central and Nyanza provinces identified 32 illegal groups, of which 27 were not listed in the 33 banned criminal groups. Further, the study indicated that the illegal groups were taking a low public profile

and speculated the leaders of the groups were seeking to shed their negative image and present themselves as candidates for public office. These illegal groups were found to be spread throughout the country although more common in urban environments and particularly in Nairobi's large slum areas.

CONCLUSION

Organized crime has remained a thorn in the flesh despite the efforts made by law enforcement officers. All people want the same thing: power money and security, all of which are easily available with organized crime. This, plus the consistent influx of terror networks and continued youth radicalization in Kenya, organized crime will continue to be a problem for quite sometimes. Organized crime varies from country to country and from one area to the next in the same country. Due to the high gains in terms of money and the accompanying accrued benefits, organized crime will continue attracting many people. Some Politicians and other prominent members of society have been reported to be roped in into the game either for patronage, or as financiers cum protectors. Sometimes it is very difficult also to detect some of the organized crime perpetrators because of the high sense of secrecy they maintain and kind of mutation they undergo once detected

To defeat organized crime, we need to: Improve the law system; Invest in education; Improve the security system to be ahead of the criminals and develop new social programs to improve the quality of life of poor communities. ■

THE STORY OF Mt. KENYA AND ABERDARE ECOSYSTEMS: THE HEARTBEAT OF KENYA



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Introduction

Water is life and water supports fauna and flora. Water natures the environment and make habitats appealing. Most of the communities across the country and the world at large live along or near water sources. It is important to note that it is not different in Kenya. The story and position of two mountain ecosystems juxtaposed against each other have really inspired me for a long time since I recognized the importance of water in our lives. I was born and brought up in the western slopes of the Aberdares and from a young age I used to

enjoy the flow of crystal clear streams and rivers where we used to fetch water for domestic use. During weekends we used to go fishing as trout was a prevalent fish in most of the rivers. At times we could go swimming and thus the rivers other than being a catalyst of livelihood improvement was a centre of recreational activities. A journey in Aberdare Forest with cows and sheep had a key denominator where the animals had to pass by the river to drink water as we headed home. Women collecting firewood from the forest had to stop by the river as they left the forest. This shows that the sound of water and the flow of the river is therapeutic too. When I met young and old people from all over the two mountains, the story was the same; water is key and important for survival and we used to share interesting stories from different areas where rivers were found.

After college I started my career in Mt. Kenya and for more than twenty years I have enjoyed working close to water sources as well as witnessed the death of great rivers in Mt. Kenya and Aberdare forests due to human activities and other factors. This made my resolve to protect the river sources considering the fact that water is not permanent. The story of these

two mountains is phenomenal since their presence and importance reverberates hundreds of kilometres away where many people do not know that without the two ecosystems their lives were at risk. We should passionately protect the two ecosystems since their existence is our existence. I cannot imagine Kenya without the two iconic water towers.



Figure 2 Source: KWS Mt. Kenya N.Park

Historical Background

Kenya became independent in 1963 and the country got its name from the second highest mountain Kenya, Mt.. Kenya which stands at 5199m above sea level and an area of over 3000km square. The name Mt.. Kenya existed even before Kenya became independent and it is believed to be the corruption of the word Kirinyaga (Kikuyu or Kinyaa (Kamba) as the colonial settlers and explorers could not pronounce the name correctly in the local dialects.

Aberdare ranges on the other hand is Block Mountain with parallel drainage that straddles across 4 counties with the highest point, Oldonyo Lesatima standing at 4001 metres above sea level and an area of more than 3000km square. The two ecosystems support both biotic and abiotic life forming a complex system whose impact resonate hundreds of kilometers away and where they support the life of millions and millions of Kenyans. The two alpine ecosystems have great impact to the Kenya's economy and without them we can say the economic scenario of the country would have been different. Other than wildlife the two ecosystems supports life across other ecosystems like Uaso Nyiro, Tana River and Lake Naivasha.

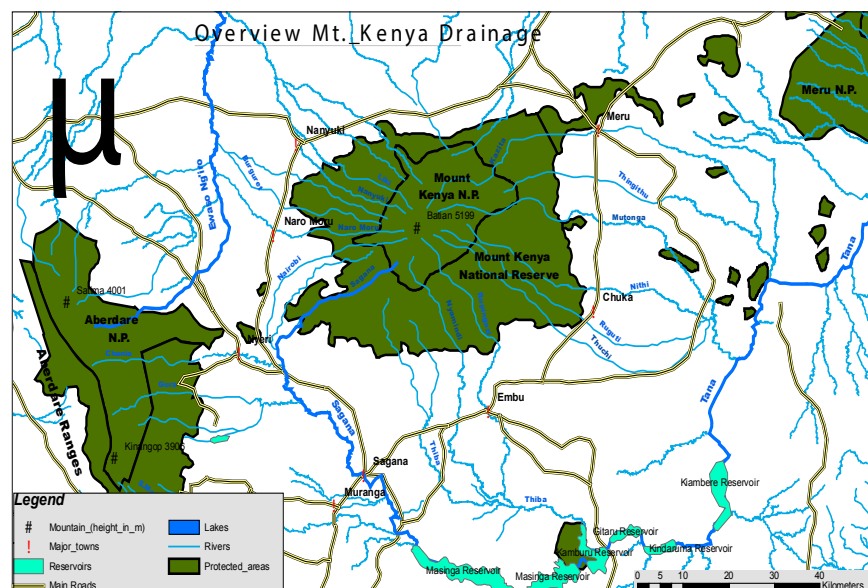


Figure 1 Map source; KWS Mt. Kenya Ecosystem Integrated Management plan 2010-2020

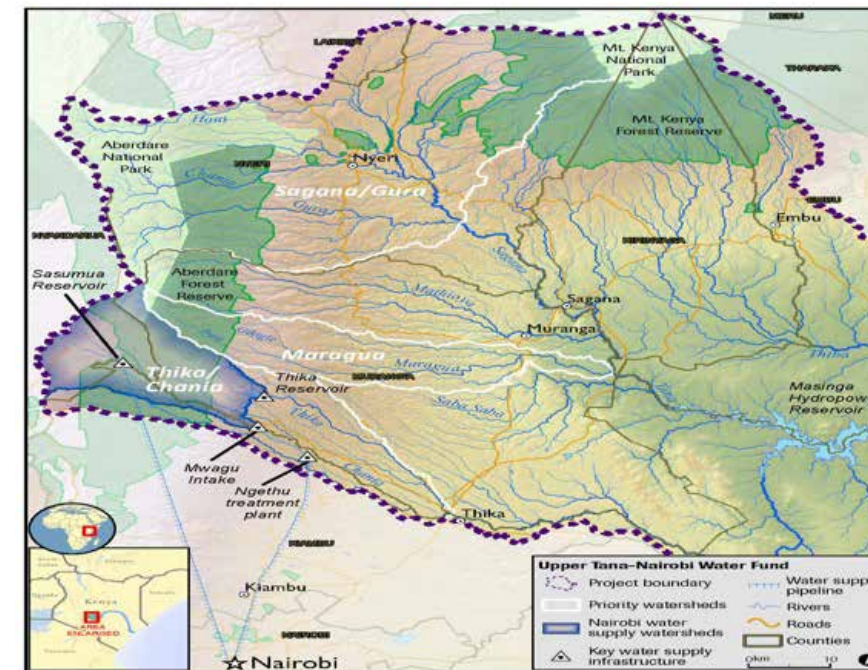


Figure 3 Main water catchment HEP

Why are the two ecosystems important?

Kenya's economy is driven by agriculture and tourism. We cannot ignore that the two ecosystems support the two sectors in a great way since water is a key resource in where wildlife and agriculture are major economic activities. Water from the two major water towers stimulates economic growth in main urban centres all around the two mountains.

The two alpine ecosystems support key wildlife species that make Kenya famous. For instance, some of the key species supported by the two ecosystems include over 5000 elephants in Mt. Kenya and Aberdare, the largest population of the rare and endangered Mountain Bongo in wild in the world is found in Aberdare National Park, the biggest population of rare gray zebra is found in Laikipia and Samburu.



Mt. Kenya Ecosystem

The Kenya is a UNESCO World Heritage site and a MAB Biosphere Reserve. The mountain is co-managed by Kenya Wildlife Service and Kenya Forest Service where the KWS manages the National Park and National Reserve while KFS manages the Forest Reserve. The Forest and National Reserve (2124 Km square) is under duogazette notice. Mt. Kenya has over one hundred rivers flowing from the glacier and snow rugged peaks as well as the moorlands and upper forest belt through a radial drainage that distributes water across 6 counties namely Kirinyaga, Meru, Nyeri, Embu and Tharaka Nithi and Laikipia. The water supports millions of people in these counties as well as settlement areas beyond these counties. In the East the water supports agriculture and domestic activities in Kitui, Wajir and Tana River Counties before draining its water into the Indian ocean. As a result of the water from Tana River major towns like Garissa, Hola, Garsen and Kipini emerged. The water supports Bura and Tana delta irrigation schemes while major wildlife habitats like Kora, North Kitui, Rabole Bisanadi and Tana river Primate reserve have depend on the same river.

On the western side the mountain several rivers join the Uaso Nyiro River whose source is Aberdare Ranges. The

water from the river supports domestic and economic activities in major urban centres like Nanyuki, Nkare Nyiriro and Archers Post. The river line ecosystem of this rivers is a major wildlife habitat as it snakes through major conservancies like Oljogi, Mpala, Loisaba, Olmaro, Kirimon, Samburu National Reserve, Buffalo springs, West Gate, Nanapa, Ngoteiya, and Shaba. The habitats are a home to key wildlife species like elephants, Rhinos, Zebras, Giraffes, lions, Cheeter, leopard, wild dogs, Buffaloes, Common and Grevy's zebra, Eland, Oryx, impalas and many other species.

In Laikipia and parts of Meru the water from Mt. Kenya supports key agricultural activities like horticulture and floriculture. This industry contributes a lot to the economic development of the country as well as creating employment to thousands of people working in the farms and urban centres. Major agricultural urban centres around Mt. Kenya include; Timau, Meru, Nkubu, Chuka, Runyenjes, Embu, Kerugoya, Ngurubani, Kianyaga, Karatina and Naromoru. The urban centres are supported by agricultural economy. Other than these towns there are many other small market centres that emerged as a result of agricultural activities relying on benefits of ecosystem services.

Kenya has relied on Hydro Electric Power as a source of electricity and the main power generation plants were the Seven Forks Power Scheme. However, the country later started to generate power from other smaller projects like Turkwell Gorge and Sodu Miriu HEP projects. In the recent past several other smaller HEP projects have emerged in Mt. Kenya. The Seven Forks power project contributes 543.2MW of the 677.3 MW HEP produced in Kenya. This translates to 80.2 % of all the HEP generated in the country. It is good to note that the water that forms Tana River and which is used in the Seven Forks Power generation project comes from Mt. Kenya and Aberdare Ecosystem with most of the water coming from Aberdare rangers.

Mt. Kenya is a key tourist destination. The fact that the mountain is the second highest mountain in Africa after Kilimanjaro in Tanzania puts Mt. Kenya in the Seven Summits second highest mountain fame.

Globally mountaineering experts would like to summit the highest mountain in every continent as well as the second highest. Over the years this classification has attracted visitors to Mt. Kenya where they use the hike as an acclimatization exercise before they move Mt. Kilimanjaro. Mt. Kenya attracts over 20,000 visitors annually. Tourism activities are basically run by tour operators supported by more than 1500 guides and porters. The hotels and all other visitor facilities are crucial in the tourism business chain where they support agricultural activities.

The most important contribution of this ecosystem is carbon sequestration and stabilization of weather around the mountain where rain patterns are more or less stable. This ensures that millions of farmers who cannot depend on irrigation water can rely on rain seasons. The fact that most of the people in the rural areas are peasant farmers, adequate and reliable rainfall ensures that the issue of food security is not a challenge

Tree growing is another major activity where most famers especially on the eastern side of the mountain practice agro-forestry. The woodlots in the settlement areas supplement the commercial timber industry controlled by KFS from the plantation forests. This has reduced pressure on logging from Government managed forests.

The other user benefits from the community forest associations include fishing, grazing of livestock in the forest especially during the dry spells, collection of firewood by millions of people around the forest (including tea factories), herbs, honey, cultural and historical sites where elders from the communities conduct annual prayers and most importantly the aesthetic values of the forest.



Figure 5 The moorland and the forest. Source; KWS. Aberdare National Park

Aberdare ranges is the third highest of major mountains and water towers in Kenya. The range is a rich water catchment that supports millions of settlements across five counties that include Nyandarua, Kiambu, Muranga, Nyeri, Laikipia and Nakuru. The ecosystem is rich in wildlife where the four of the big five are found. It is the only mountain ecosystem where we still have the endangered black rhino and eastern mountain Bongo. The alpine moorlands of this great water tower is one of the most beautiful in east Africa and extends from the north to southern flanks of Kinangop peak.

Like Mt. Kenya, the mountain has major rivers like Honi, Chania, Gura, Mathioya, Maragua, Gikigii and Thika which all feed Tana River contributing a lot of flow to sustain the seven Forks Hydro Electric Power project. The rivers are some of the few rivers that have sustainable water flow throughout the year.

Other than HEP generation Aberdare supplies water for both for domestic and commercial use from several reservoirs namely Sasumua in Nyandarua and Ndakaini in Muranga.



Figure 6 Wildlife viewing in Aberdare National Park

Economists have argued that 60% of Kenyas GDP is in Nairobi. Hundreds of businesses in Nairobi and adjacent towns in Kiambu, Machakos and Kajiando Counties get their water from Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company. This means that Aberdare ecosystem contributes to a large extent to the growth of Kenyas economy.

Just like Mt. Kenya, Aberdare ecosystem is surrounded by peasant and commercial farmers in the five counties. The biggest contribution is the supply of water to Lake



Figure 7 Ndakaini dam, source of Nairobi water Source; KWS Mt. Kenya 2019

Naivasha which is a hub for Floriculture and Geothermal Power generation. Geothermal contribute 28% to the national grid and it is important to note that most of the water used in the wells comes from underground water enriched by flows from Aberdare via lake Naivasha. The lake supports over 300,000 people living and working around Lake. This translates to substantial contribution to the national economy.

Conclusion

The contribution of Mt. Kenya and Aberdare ecosystems to the National Economy, environment and overall climate stabilization cannot be underscored. We cannot imagine the absence of the two ecosystems which directly or indirectly support life across the region. Without them Kenya will come to a halt as a result of lack of all the resources derived from the mountains. The resources are both consumptive and non-consumptives. It is on this premise that we can say that the two ecosystems which are found at the central part of Kenya are the "heart beat of the nation" and truly the country will grind to a halt if they do not exist. We should passionately endeavour to protect the two ecosystems to ensure that the resources are sustainably managed to support generations ahead and for many years and benefits reverberate across our beloved country. Like human beings, mountains have a life and reason Kenyans should passionately protect the two ecosystems. ■

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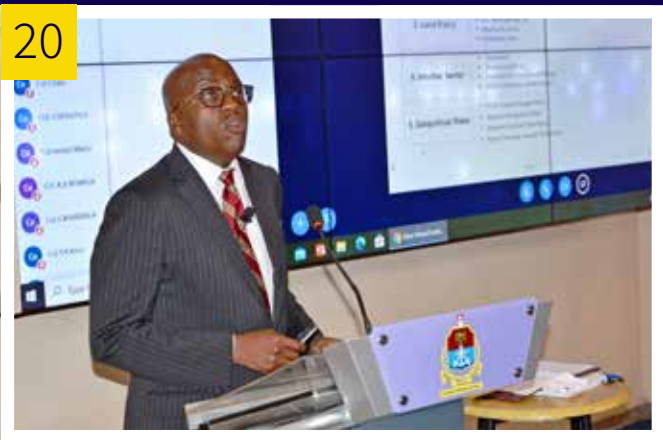


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10. Celebrating Nepal National Day ; 11. NDC Course 23 orientation at the IPSTC Research Complex on research; 12. Exchange of gifts at IPSTC; 13. Celebrating Uganda's Independence Day; 14. Celebrating Zambia Independence Day.

PICTORIAL



15. Work out on Wednesday afternoon; 16. Seminar A in session; 17. Seminar B in session; 18. Seminar C in session; 19. NDC Course 23 briefing by the College Coordinator, Col. Chelimo; 20. Lecture on opportunity by Mr. Polycarp Igathe.



NDC Course 23 Leadership, (from left): Col. Melanyi, Brig. Okumu, Col. Saidi, Col. Oduor, Col. Sitienei, Col. Karanja, Mr. Nguji, Brig. Joseph Ssemwanga (UPDF), Col. Nyamao, Col. P. Githinji, Dr. Dan Opon, Col. Kasura.



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