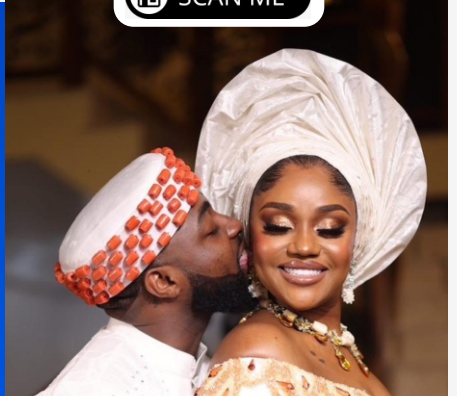




A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF CUSTODIAN GLOBAL CONSULT



BEYOND THE GLAM AND GLITZ: WHAT NO ONE WILL TELL YOU ABOUT CHIOMA AND DAVIDO'S WEDDING

I'm not usually one for elaborate weddings, but Chioma and Davido's #Chivido2024 wedding was something special. It was particularly significant on so many levels—politically, culturally, and even on a deeply personal level. As you move up in life, you start to see the purpose

Continue on page 13

Lagos Governor, Sanwo-Olu Inaugurates Cyber Security Board With 1 Billion Naira Grant

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, marked a significant step forward for innovation and cybersecurity in Lagos by inaugurating the Lagos State Science, Research and Innovation Council (LASRIC) and the Cybersecurity Advisory Board in June. The event, held at Lagos House in Ikeja, was led by Deputy Governor Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat, who announced a N1 billion take-off grant for both boards.

Governor Sanwo-Olu emphasized his administration's unwavering commitment to fostering innovation through the LASRIC Seed Fund. This initiative is part of the administration's broader THEMES Plus Agenda, which prioritizes sustainable development through advancements in science and technology. Since its inception, LASRIC

has supported over 70 projects, resulting in a remarkable 250% increase in innovation across Lagos State.

The Governor outlined key responsibilities for the LASRIC board, which include securing increased funding, fostering collaboration, building capacity, and promoting a culture of innovation throughout the state. He praised the board members, who are drawn from a diverse array of sectors, and expressed confidence in their ability to achieve the ambitious goals set forth by the state.

Meanwhile, Governor Sanwo-Olu inaugurated the Cybersecurity Advisory Board, which is tasked with establishing a robust digital protection ecosystem. This initiative aims to enhance the

Continue on page 7

HPV Vaccination Campaign Aims to Reduce Cervical Cancer in Borno and Yobe States, Nigeria

With cervical cancer remaining a significant health threat, especially among women, the Borno and Yobe State Governments, supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) and

Continue on page 12



'THE BOLD', YINKA ODEAJO BECOMES FIRST BLACK MALE PRESIDENT OF ROTARY CLUB OF CRAWLEY, UK

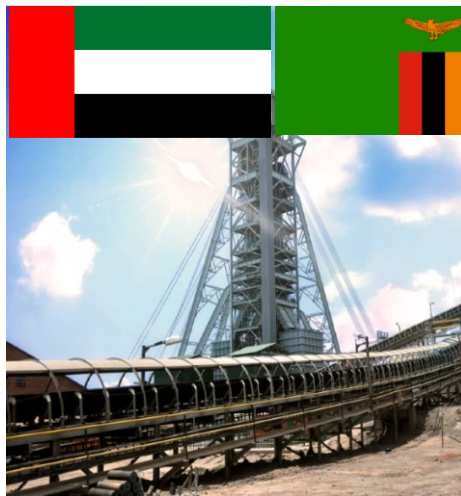
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UAE'S INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES HOLDING IN TALKS TO ACQUIRE STAKE IN ZAMBIA'S KONKOLA COPPER MINES

International Resources Holding (IRH), the mining investment arm of Abu Dhabi's International Holding Company (IHC), is in discussions to acquire a stake in Vedanta Resources' Zambian copper assets, according to Chris Griffith, Vedanta's chief executive for base metals.

IRH, which manages approximately \$244 billion in assets, is particularly interested in Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) and is currently conducting due diligence on the assets. Although IRH did not immediately respond to inquiries, the company previously expressed strong interest in KCM, emphasizing its commitment to expanding its presence in the copper mining sector.

The KCM assets have also attracted interest from other potential investors, Griffith noted during a mining conference in London, though he did not disclose specific names. Vedanta, owned by Indian billionaire Anil Agarwal, is looking to sell a stake in KCM to raise about \$1.2 billion to



revive operations and increase copper output.

Vedanta recently concluded a protracted legal battle to regain control of the KCM mines and smelter, which were seized by Zambia's former administration under President Edgar Lungu, who accused the company of not investing sufficiently in expanding copper production. Vedanta currently owns an 80% stake in KCM, with the remaining 20% held by Zambia's state-owned ZCCM-IH.

Griffith mentioned that Vedanta might sell up to 30% of its shareholding in KCM but noted that IRH is looking for a more substantial stake, potentially around 51%. In April, IRH offered over \$1 billion for a 51% stake in the KCM assets, as part of its strategy to bolster its copper mining operations in Zambia, following its acquisition of a similar stake in Mopani Copper Mines for \$1.1 billion.

Several long-term investors are also evaluating the potential of investing in KCM. Griffith indicated that Vedanta has advanced discussions with multiple partners who are in the process of conducting due diligence.

Vedanta plans to gradually increase copper production at Konkola over the next five years and is close to securing an additional \$270 million needed to settle outstanding KCM debts and fulfill social commitments. While Vedanta is open to selling a stake in KCM, it intends to retain a majority shareholding.

Liverpool Target Atalanta Star Ademola

Lookman Amid Premier League Interest

Premier League giants Liverpool have reportedly shown keen interest in securing the services of Atalanta star Ademola Lookman. According to reports from CalcioMercato, Liverpool are among several top-flight clubs in England eyeing the Nigerian international.

The report indicates that both Chelsea and Manchester United are also monitoring Lookman's situation closely. Atalanta, however, are reluctant to part ways with the talented forward but may consider a transfer if a bid exceeding £50 million is tabled.

Lookman has made a significant impact at Atalanta, scoring 32 goals across two seasons since his move from RB Leipzig. His previous stint in the Premier League with Everton saw him struggle for consistency, scoring just four goals in 48 appearances for the Merseyside club.

The 26-year-old showcased his prowess on the European stage by scoring a hat-trick in Atalanta's commanding 3-0 victory over Bayer Leverkusen in the Europa League final. His impressive performances have attracted attention from top clubs

looking to bolster their attacking options ahead of the upcoming season.

Liverpool's pursuit of Lookman underscores their ambition to strengthen their squad as they aim to compete for domestic and European honors next season.





CAF Announces Major Schedule Changes for Afcon and Wafcon Tournaments

UEFA Champions League match rounds, presenting a new challenge amidst the Premier League's traditional festive fixture list. CAF's move addresses previous scheduling conflicts and underscores a commitment to enhancing player welfare amid a congested international football calendar.

Meanwhile, the 2024 Wafcon, also set to take place in Morocco, has been postponed to July 2026. Originally scheduled for July 2024, this delay was necessitated by logistical complexities and the participation of key teams in other international events, including the Paris Olympics. This decision has sparked discussions about CAF's prioritization of women's football, especially following the cancellation of the 2020 edition due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Speaking on these developments, CAF President Patrice Motsepe highlighted the organization's dedication to advancing African football's global

standing while navigating complex negotiations with international football bodies and European clubs. "We are committed to ensuring that African football remains competitive on the global stage," he affirmed, emphasizing CAF's ongoing efforts to protect the interests of African players.

The upcoming qualifying phase for the 2025 Afcon will commence with the group draw on July 4, with matches scheduled for September through November 2024. Hosts Morocco, already assured of qualification, will see one additional team from their group securing a place in the finals.

As preparations for both tournaments unfold, the spotlight remains on CAF's ability to manage evolving challenges while fostering growth and inclusivity across African football. The decisions surrounding Afcon and Wafcon reflect broader efforts to navigate global football dynamics and elevate the sport's profile on the continent.

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) has unveiled significant adjustments to its tournament calendars, affecting both the Africa Cup of Nations (Afcon) and the Women's Africa Cup of Nations (Wafcon) in the coming years. The 2025 Afcon, slated to be hosted by Morocco, will make history by commencing on December 21, 2025, and concluding with the final match on January 18, 2026. This marks the first time in Afcon's history that the tournament will span the festive Christmas and New Year period.

The decision to shift Afcon to December aims to synchronize with the European club season breaks and

NAMIBIA'S URANIUM

BOOM DRIVES WATER

DEMAND SURGE AMID

DROUGHT CONCERNS

Namibia, the world's third-largest uranium producer, responsible for 11% of the global supply, is witnessing a surge in exploration activities and acquisitions within the uranium sector, leading to increased water demand. Companies from Australia, Canada, and Russia are flocking to Namibia's uranium industry, attracted by the nation's rich resources and favorable market conditions.

The surge in critical minerals exploration, mining activities, and Namibia's ambitious green hydrogen plans, which aim to produce 10-12 million metric tonnes of hydrogen

equivalent annually by 2050, is putting significant pressure on the country's underground water reservoirs.

In the Erongo region, Namibia's mining hub near Swakopmund and Walvis Bay, mining operations have heavily depended on two groundwater aquifers and desalinated water from the Orano Desalination Plant, which was commissioned in 2010. However, these sources are now strained, providing just under 30 million cubic meters of water per year.

"Our ambitious development plans, combined with increased mining activities, industrial demand, agriculture, and food production, have pushed projected water demand beyond what these sources can deliver," said Minister of Agriculture,

Water and Land Reform Calle Schlettwein.

Despite expectations for Namibia's economy to grow by 3.7% in 2024, the central bank has warned that ongoing drought and water supply interruptions along the coast pose significant risks. In May, President Hage Geingob declared a national state of emergency due to the worst drought the country has experienced in a century.



Only 23 Percent of Passwords Across the Globe Strong Enough to Resist Hacking, Experts

In June 2024, cybersecurity experts at Kaspersky conducted an extensive study analyzing the resilience of 193 million compromised English passwords, which were readily available on the darknet. The findings are sobering: 45% of these passwords (87 million) could be cracked by cybercriminals in less than a minute. Only 23% (44 million) exhibited enough resistance to withstand brute force attacks for more than a year.

The research highlights the critical importance of robust digital hygiene and timely updates to password policies. Kaspersky's telemetry from 2023 showed over 32 million attempts to attack users with password stealers, underscoring the urgent need for stronger security measures.

Vulnerability Breakdown

Kaspersky's analysis provides a detailed breakdown of the time it takes to crack the compromised passwords:

- 45% (87M): Less than 1 minute
- 14% (27M): 1 minute to 1 hour
- 8% (15M): 1 hour to 1 day
- 6% (12M): 1 day to 1 month
- 4% (8M): 1 month to 1 year

A mere 23% of passwords were deemed strong enough to resist cracking attempts for more than a year.

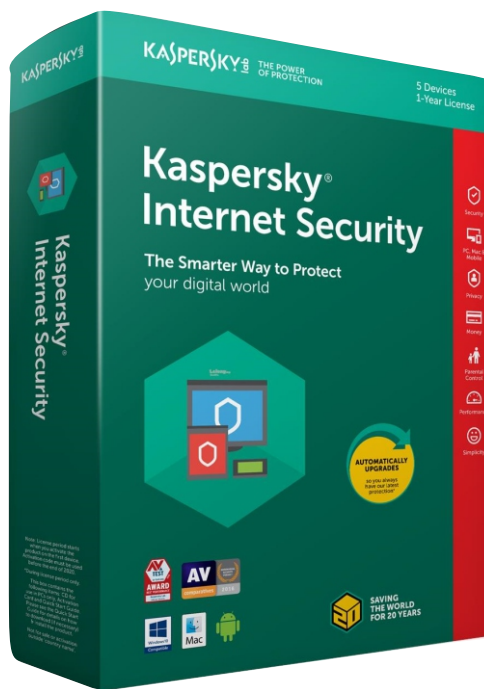
Common Password Patterns

The study revealed that 57% of the passwords contained dictionary words, significantly reducing their strength. Common patterns included:

- **Names:** "ahmed", "nguyen", "kumar", "kevin", "daniel"
- **Popular words:** "forever", "love", "google", "hacker", "gamer"
- **Standard passwords:** "password",

"qwerty12345", "admin", "12345", "team"

Only 19% of passwords exhibited strong characteristics, such as a mix of lowercase and uppercase letters, numbers, and symbols. However, 39% of these so-called strong passwords could still be guessed by smart algorithms within an hour.



The Ease of Password Cracking

Cracking passwords does not require advanced knowledge or expensive equipment. A powerful laptop can brute force an 8-character lowercase password in just 7 minutes, while a modern video card can accomplish the same task in 17 seconds. Smart algorithms further expedite this process by considering character replacements (e.g., "e" with "3", "1" with "!", or "a" with "@") and popular sequences (e.g., "qwerty", "12345", "asdfg").

"Unconsciously, human beings create 'human' passwords containing dictionary words, names, and numbers. Even seemingly strong

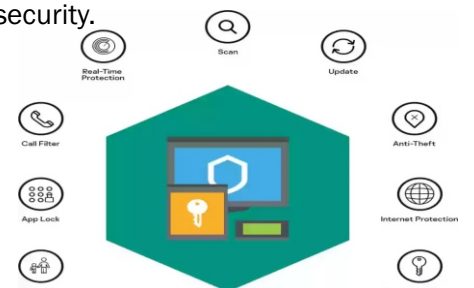
combinations are rarely completely random, making them susceptible to algorithmic guessing. The most dependable solution is to generate random passwords using reliable password managers," explained Yuliya Novikova, Head of Digital Footprint Intelligence at Kaspersky.

Here Are Tips for Stronger Passwords

To enhance password security, users can follow these simple guidelines:

- **Use unique passwords for each service:** This prevents a domino effect if one account is compromised.
- **Create unexpected passphrases:** Use unrelated words in unusual orders to increase complexity.
- **Avoid easily guessable information:** Steer clear of using birthdays, family names, or pet names.
- **Utilize password managers:** Tools like Kaspersky Password Manager securely store and generate strong passwords.
- **Enable two-factor authentication (2FA):** Adds an extra security layer by requiring a second form of verification.
- **Deploy comprehensive security solutions:** Products like Kaspersky Premium monitor the web for compromised credentials and recommend changes when necessary.

The Kaspersky study starkly illustrates the vulnerability of common password practices and the need for heightened security measures. By adopting stronger passwords, utilizing password managers, and enabling two-factor authentication, users can significantly enhance their online security.



PRESIDENT RUTO'S DIALOGUE AND INTERVENTION AIMS TO RESOLVE KENYA'S TAX PROTEST CRISIS

Kenyan police set up roadblocks on streets leading to the presidential palace as some protesters pledged to "occupy State House." This comes despite President William Ruto's significant intervention to address the nation's concerns over proposed tax hikes, which had sparked a week of demonstrations.

President Ruto, recognizing the widespread public discontent, made the decisive move to withdraw the finance bill on Wednesday. This action came a day after clashes resulted in the tragic loss of at least 23 lives and a brief storming of parliament. By retracting the finance bill, Ruto demonstrated his responsiveness to the people's voices and his commitment to addressing their grievances.

The president's intervention marks a pivotal moment in his two-year-old administration, which has faced growing youth-led protests. These protests, which began online as condemnations of the tax hikes, have evolved into mass rallies demanding political reforms. Despite lacking a formal leadership structure, the movement has unified many Kenyans in their call for change.

Prominent social justice activist Boniface Mwangi emphasized the importance of peaceful demonstrations and cautioned against invading State House. Mwangi's call for non-violent protests aligns with President Ruto's efforts to ensure that the nation's discourse remains constructive and avoids further violence.

In a proactive step towards resolving the crisis, President Ruto has expressed his willingness to engage in dialogue with the youth and explore austerity measures. He emphasized the need to cut Kenya's high debt, which has strained the economy, while

also acknowledging the public's overwhelming rejection of the finance bill.

Unlike previous demonstrations often driven by political figures and ethnic lines, these protests have united Kenyans across the nation, reflecting widespread frustration with rising living costs and endemic corruption. From big cities to rural areas, Kenyans have



William Ruto
President of Kenya

voiced their desire for a better future, even in President Ruto's hometown of Eldoret.

Medical officials reported that at least 23 people were killed nationwide, and 30 are being treated for bullet wounds. Despite these challenges, President Ruto's commitment to dialogue and austerity measures offers a pathway to addressing the nation's economic and political issues.

By withdrawing the finance bill and promising to cut the budget of the presidency, President Ruto has taken significant steps to address the concerns of the Kenyan people. His approach aims to foster unity and create a more sustainable and just economic future for all Kenyans.

As the situation develops, President Ruto's intervention and willingness to engage in dialogue are critical in navigating the current crisis and building a more inclusive and responsive political landscape in Kenya.

Protests Erupt in Nairobi Over Proposed Finance Bill

Demonstrators clashed with police in Nairobi on Tuesday as officers deployed tear gas to disperse crowds protesting against Kenya's proposed 2024/2025 finance bill. Youth-led protests against the government's plan to raise additional revenue through new taxes are expected to escalate as lawmakers prepare to vote on amendments to the bill.

Background on the Finance Bill

A finance bill, typically introduced before the start of a new fiscal year (July to June), outlines the government's fiscal strategy. The 2024/25 bill seeks to generate \$2.7 billion in additional taxes to reduce Kenya's budget deficit and state borrowing. The country's public debt stands at 68% of GDP, surpassing the 55% recommended by the World Bank and the IMF. Facing liquidity challenges and uncertainties in accessing capital, Kenya has turned to the IMF, which has urged the government to meet revenue targets for additional funding.

Protesters argue that the proposed tax hikes will harm the economy and increase living costs for already struggling Kenyans. This opposition mirrors resistance to previous finance bills, such as last year's, which introduced a housing tax and increased the top personal income tax rate, leading to widespread anger and protests.



Kenya during anti-tax hike protests

Contentious Tax Measures

The new bill includes levies on basic commodities like bread, vegetable oil, and sugar, as well as a motor vehicle circulation tax and an "eco levy" on manufactured goods, including sanitary towels and diapers. Additionally, the bill proposes raising existing taxes on financial transactions.

Despite some concessions, including the removal of taxes on car ownership, bread, and locally manufactured goods, critics argue that these measures are insufficient and demand the entire bill be scrapped.

Upcoming Parliamentary Vote

Parliament is scheduled to vote on the proposed amendments on Tuesday. Once passed, President William Ruto will have 14 days to sign the bill into law or return it to parliament for further revisions.

Ongoing Protests

President Ruto has acknowledged the protests and promised dialogue, though it remains unclear when this will occur or how the protests will evolve if the bill passes. The leaderless, social media-driven protests have seen significant youth involvement, with many pledging to continue demonstrating.

Recent arrests of activists and ongoing clashes with police have fueled skepticism about the government's intentions. Despite some tax proposals being withdrawn, protesters view these actions as insufficient.

Economic Implications

The finance bill aims to address Kenya's budget deficit, which is targeted to drop to 3.3% of GDP, down from 5.7%. However, scrapping some taxes may necessitate borrowing more than planned, especially from domestic investors. Economists warn that lower revenue collection and

spending pressures could widen the budget shortfall to about 5% of GDP.

Alternative taxes, such as increasing the levy on fuel for road maintenance and hiking import taxes, may be introduced to compensate for the withdrawn proposals. Balancing the budget per IMF directives remains a significant challenge amid rising socio-political pressures.

Broader Impact

Protests have spread across Kenya, uniting diverse groups over common grievances, such as rising living costs and corruption. This movement has become the most serious crisis of Ruto's presidency, challenging traditional ethnic and class divisions in Kenyan politics.

As the situation continues to develop, calls for political overhaul grow louder, with many Kenyans expressing frustration over a political system seen as failing to address their needs.

POP STAR DAVIDO AND CHIOMA ROWLAND MARRY IN STAR-STUDED CEREMONY

June 25, 2024 marked a significant milestone in the love story of Nigerian pop star David Adeleke, popularly known as Davido, and his partner, Chioma Avril Rowland, a chef and an influencer, as the couple married in a luxurious and beautiful ceremony in Lagos, Nigeria.

As the media buzzed with captivating videos and pictures of the day, their love journey is worth reflecting on. Davido and Chioma met in 2013 as students at Babcock University. They started as friends and began dating in 2015, though their relationship wasn't made public until 2017. Davido's love for Chioma was evident when he wrote a song for her and featured her in the music video "Assurance." Their love has blossomed over the years, overcoming challenges.

Davido and Chioma's wedding attracted high-profile guests, including former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, Ooni of Ife, His Royal Majesty, Oba Adeyeye Ogunwusi Ojaja II, Governor of Osun State who doubles as the groom's uncle, His Excellency Ademola Adeleke, Governor of Lagos State, His Excellence Babajide Sanwo-Olu, Governor of Ogun State, His Excellency Dapo Abiodun, Victor Osimhen, Seyi Tinubu, Obi Cubana



Davido and Chioma during their traditional wedding

Priest, celebrities, actors and actresses who graced the occasion.

In a video from the event, the couple received a brand-new white car as a gift, adding to the day's glamour. Davido arrived in a 2023 Mercedes Maybach, known for its luxury, and shared the moment on social media, receiving an outpouring of support from fans.

Fans of the "Unavailable" crooner have expressed overwhelming support and

excitement for the couple, whose love story has captivated the public like a novel. Celebrities from within and outside Nigeria stormed the high-profile, invitation-only event.

Their relationship, which has faced public scrutiny remains a testament to their enduring love. As they celebrate their grand wedding today, Davido and Chioma continue to captivate and inspire their fans.

Continued on page 1

Lagos Governor, Sanwo-Olu Inaugurates Cyber Security Board With 1 Billion Naira Grant

quality of life for Lagos residents by safeguarding their digital interactions and ensuring a secure cyber environment.

Mr. Tobosun Alake, the Commissioner for Innovation, Science and Technology, highlighted the administration's ongoing efforts to advance technology and digital solutions in Lagos. The chairmen of the newly formed boards, Professor Olumuyiwa Odusanya (LASRIC) and

Dr. Osakwe Fene (Cybersecurity), pledged their commitment to promoting science, technology, and cybersecurity in the state.

These initiatives are poised to transform Lagos into a smart, livable, and cyber-protected city, further solidifying its position as Africa's 5th largest economy. By fostering innovation and enhancing cybersecurity, Lagos State is paving the way for a sustainable and

technologically advanced future.



Lagos Cyber Security advisory Board

South Sudan's Ongoing Fight Against COVID-19 and Efforts to Boost Vaccine-Preventable Disease Immunization



COVID-19 vaccination in South Sudan

Despite the World Health Organization (WHO) declaring the end of the COVID-19 global health emergency on May 5, 2023, South Sudan remains committed to battling the virus and protecting its population from vaccine-preventable diseases.

In a determined effort to vaccinate over 80% of its population aged 18 and above by the end of 2024, the Ministry of Health has integrated COVID-19 vaccination into its regular healthcare services. This strategic move has made COVID-19 vaccines readily accessible across numerous centers, aiming to reach a broad swath of the population.

To ensure the success of this initiative, South Sudan has implemented a robust system for real-time monitoring of vaccination rates and disease spread. The Ministry of Health has also launched targeted campaigns to raise awareness about vaccinations, particularly among high-risk groups. These campaigns aim to dispel myths and educate the public on the benefits and safety of vaccines, thus ensuring higher acceptance rates.

Early 2024 saw a successful COVID-19 vaccination campaign across several states, including Terekeka in Central Equatoria State, Kapoeta South, Kapoeta North, and Ikwotos in Eastern Equatoria State, Ezo and Tambura in Western Equatoria State, Aweil East and Aweil North in Northern Bahr El Ghazal State, and Gogrial West and Tonj North in Warrap State. This campaign vaccinated over 51% of the targeted population, significantly boosting overall vaccination rates.

Alice Lajara, a community leader in Isoho village, played a pivotal role in these efforts. "My team and I went door-to-door, spreading the word about the importance of vaccines and ensuring everyone had the opportunity to get vaccinated," she said. Her efforts not only educated the community but also alleviated fears and misconceptions about vaccinations.

"Alice's visit changed everything for us. I was so scared for my children, but she explained everything clearly and kindly. Now, I feel confident

that we are protected," said Lucy Nabal, a young mother who overcame her fears about vaccinations. Thanks to community leaders like Alice, the campaign achieved an impressive 86% COVID-19 vaccination rate in Isoho village of Ikwotos County, Eastern Equatoria State.

"Vaccines save lives," said Dr. Humphrey Karamagi, WHO Representative for South Sudan. "By integrating the COVID-19 vaccine alongside essential vaccines such as the oral polio vaccine, pentavalent, measles, and tetanus toxoid, we can significantly enhance the overall immunity of our population and improve the health of our vulnerable communities. This comprehensive approach ensures that our children and adults are protected against multiple diseases, paving the way for a healthier future."

With generous funding from the World Bank, South Sudan's successful vaccination campaign demonstrates the power of collaboration between government institutions, community leaders, and international organizations in safeguarding public health. It highlights the effectiveness of comprehensive vaccination strategies, real-time monitoring, targeted awareness campaigns, and community involvement, paving the way for a healthier and more resilient future for the nation.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Symptoms

High fever
Cough
Shortness of breath

Note: These symptoms are similar to other illness such as cold or flu.

Preventive measures to reduce the risk of infection

Washing both hands with soap and water regularly and thoroughly (especially before eating/feeding; before touching your nose, face, after going to the toilet, after exposure with any dirt/dust).

Sneeze or cough into your elbow in the absence of a disposable tissue or handkerchief.

Avoid close contact with people who are unwell (with symptoms) and confirmed case.

Clean all "highly-touched" surfaces everyday.

Eating thoroughly cooked food especially meat, eggs and thoroughly washing fruit/vegetables.

Self-isolate and seek immediate medical care if you feel sick.

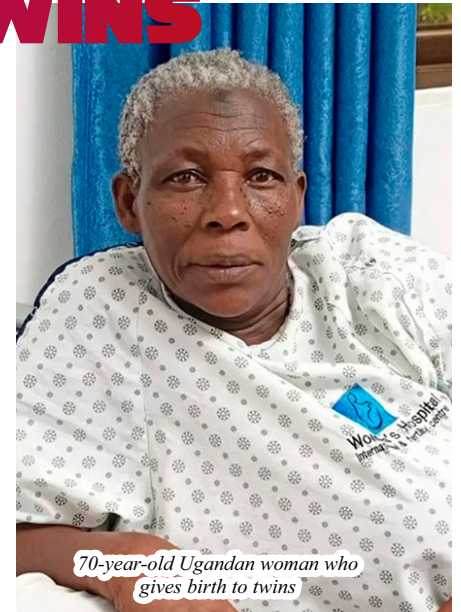
MIRACLE BABIES: MEET THE 70-YEAR-OLD UGANDAN WOMAN WHO GAVE BIRTH TO TWINS

70-year-old Ugandan woman, Safina Namukwaya shocked the world after she returned home with her newborn twins after undergoing in vitro fertilization (IVF). The twins, a boy and a girl, were delivered via cesarean section at the Women's Hospital International and Fertility Center in Kampala, Uganda. The babies were discharged about a week later, each weighing over 5 pounds, as confirmed by Namukwaya's fertility specialist, Dr. Edward Tamale Sali.

Dr. Sali expressed joy over

Namukwaya's new role, noting, "She can't stop staring at them." He described her as a "loving" and "playful" mother. Namukwaya named her daughter Shakira Babiye Nabagala and her son Kato Shafique Kangave, with Babiye and Kato as their nicknames. In her rural village, she will now be known as Nalongo, meaning mother of twins, while her husband, Walusimbi Badru, will be called Salongo, or father of twins.

At a press conference outside the hospital, Dr. Sali humorously noted Namukwaya's quick recovery, stating,



70-year-old Ugandan woman who gives birth to twins

"She's now almost playing football." He emphasized her excellent health, saying, "She's fit, her blood pressure is normal, she's not diabetic — she's a very healthy woman and the whole of Africa is rejoicing for her."

Namukwaya's resilience and health were highlighted by her ability to walk on the same day she delivered her twins. "If you want another child, we're here," Dr. Sali joked during the press conference.



The Twins Ugandan Woman Gave Birth To After IVF Treatment

Dr. Gloria Lunyolo, the babies' pediatrician, described the twins as "miracle babies," and mentioned that they are being nourished with a combination of formula and breast milk. Namukwaya, through an interpreter, expressed her joy two days after giving birth, saying, "Some might argue that 70 years is old, but God decided that I get to have twins at 70. There is no one that can put a limit on God's authority and power."

Namukwaya, who also has a 3-year-old daughter, acknowledged the strong support network she has, stating, "Some households will be helping me with washing and the babies because of my

advanced age."

The journey to motherhood at such an advanced age involved IVF, where Namukwaya used donor eggs and her husband's sperm. Dr. Sali explained, "We implanted four embryos, and then of course, she conceived the twins."

While Namukwaya's story is celebrated in Uganda, it has sparked debate in the medical community. In the United States, the upper age limit for IVF is generally in the mid-50s, and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) discourages embryo transfer in women over 55. Dr. Brian Levine from New York City's fertility clinic CCRM commented, "It is irresponsible to impregnate a 70-year-old woman," citing elevated health risks for both mother and children.

Despite the controversy, Dr. Sali defended his decision to treat Namukwaya, stating, "It's her human right. It's her body. She's physically fit."

What I Went Through to Pull Off My Role as Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti', Kehinde Bankole Reveals

Known for her versatile performances and the depth she brings to her characters, Kehinde Bankole's latest role as Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti in the biopic "Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti" has garnered widespread acclaim and solidified her status as a leading actress in Nollywood. Her portrayal of Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti stands out as a powerful tribute to one of Nigeria's most influential women.

Speaking with New Telegraph, the 2024 Best Actress in a Lead Role at the Africa Magic Viewers' Choice Awards (AMVCA) shared her experiences and the challenges she faced while bringing the iconic Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti to life. Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti, a pioneering political leader, women's rights activist, and the mother of Afrobeat legend Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, left an unforgettable imprint on Nigeria's history. Bankole's portrayal of such a towering figure demanded not only exceptional acting skills but also a deep understanding of Ransome-Kuti's legacy.

Bankole's journey to embody Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti was both surreal and challenging. Filming took place in Egbaland, Ogun State, where Ransome-Kuti's activism began. "Was the role challenging for me? Yes, because I was playing the character of Nigeria's first female political leader, women's rights activist, educator, matriarch of the renowned Kuti dynasty, and mother of Afrobeat legend, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti," Bankole shared. Despite the challenges, she delivered a performance that resonated with audiences and critics alike.

Bankole revealed that she found personal resonance with Ransome-Kuti's traits, particularly her stance against injustice and corruption.



"One of such is that I detest injustice and corruption, and the late Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti equally frowned at that. The qualities she possessed were just a personal call for me to speak up more and partake in whichever area of nation-building requires our voices to be stronger," Bankole explained.

The biopic, directed by Bolanle Austen-Peters, centers on Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti leading the Abeokuta Women's Revolt, a resistance movement against unfair taxation by the Nigerian colonial government in the late 1940s. Bankole described the project as a significant educational tool for younger generations about the contributions of heroines like Ransome-Kuti.

Every moment on set was memorable for Bankole, from working with over 100 women to filming alongside Peter Thomas, the Deputy Head of Mission at the British High Commission in Lagos. The

presence of the Kuti family and the experience of engaging in local culture in Abeokuta added layers of authenticity and joy to the production.

Bankole, who also has a strong background in stage performance, discussed the differences and challenges between stage and screen acting. "Stage is very disciplined and challenging because you don't have a second take. What you give at that time is what the people are going to get," she noted, contrasting it with the repetitive nature of film takes.

Despite her success in film, Bankole remains committed to her craft as an actress and is not looking to delve into production or directing. "Well, if I have the opportunity to produce something, it doesn't have to be a film; it could be telling a serious story through a documentary," she stated.

Kehinde Bankole's portrayal of Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti is more than just a role; it is a powerful homage to a woman who fought for justice and equality. Through her performance, Bankole not only brings history to life but also inspires future generations to understand and appreciate the sacrifices made by those who came before them.

Reflecting on her AMVCA win, Bankole expressed her gratitude, stating, "Winning the AMVCA is an indication that people are indeed watching and looking out for me. I can only appreciate the various directors and producers that have engaged me in their respective productions; it's a collective win for all of us."

Continued on page 1

'The Bold', Yinka Odeajo Becomes First Black Male President of Rotary Club of Crawley, UK



Yinka Bold giving his speech during a black book lunch organised by Africa Community in Surrey and Sussex

Yinka Odeajo, popularly known as "Yinka Bold" has been appointed as the first black male and 71st president of the Rotary Club of Crawley, UK. Known for his extensive experience in business, education, and community service, Yinka brings a fresh perspective and a strong commitment to his new leadership role within the club.

Reflecting on his journey, Yinka shared, "I was brought into Rotary some years ago, and the essence of coming into Rotary is to serve. As a student of power, it is a huge honor for me to become the first black male and 71st president of the Rotary Club of Crawley. I've always been a whispering voice to power, providing support to the people in power, but now, I've become one to be whispered to, and I am privileged to serve in every true sense of the word."

A Vision for Diversity and Mental Health Advocacy

Yinka's vision for the Rotary Club of Crawley is to reposition it as a multicultural hub and the best club in the district in terms of community outreach. "I want to reposition the Rotary Club of Crawley in terms of making it a multicultural club. I also want it to be the best club in the district

in terms of reaching out to the community, and I'm confident that my fellow Rotarians will support me in doing this," he said.

A major focus of Yinka's presidency will be mental health. "The mental well-being of people is very important. People are falling into mental health issues because of the pressure of life and the cost of living, and we really need to pay attention and help ourselves as that is

one of the bases of humanity," he emphasized. Yinka plans to bring together agencies and stakeholders, collaborating with organizations like Alliance for Better Care to support this cause.

Yinka's journey began in Nigeria, where he attended Surulere Baptist Primary School and Government College Lagos, before graduating from the University of Jos. He is also a researcher in United Kingdom at the University of Kent.

Understanding the unique challenges faced by the black community, Yinka is currently involved in research concerning the mental well-being of this demographic at the University of Kent. Through his research, he aims to initiate meaningful dialogue and inspire actionable change within both the community and broader society.

A Multifaceted Professional and Community Leader

Yinka's professional journey is marked by impressive accomplishments and leadership positions. As the managing partner of Custodian Global Consult Limited, a well-respected consultancy firm, Yinka has demonstrated his expertise in strategic media solutions

and business management. He has overseen international events, including the Duchess International Women's Day Conference, which connects, empowers, and celebrates African women globally.

Yinka is also the creative force behind Bold and Beautiful Magazine International, a platform dedicated to showcasing and uplifting individuals through inspiring stories of resilience and triumph. As the editor-in-chief, Yinka curates impactful content that resonates with a diverse global audience.

In his role within the African Community in Surrey & Sussex (ACISS), Yinka works tirelessly to empower and assist the African diaspora. Through his leadership, ACISS bridges cultural divides and promotes mutual understanding among diverse groups. His mission to champion initiatives that promote fairness and inclusivity underscores his dedication to creating a just society where everyone has equal opportunities for success.

Leading the Rotary Club of Crawley

As Yinka takes on the presidency of the Rotary Club of Crawley, he brings with him a wealth of experience and a deep-rooted commitment to service. His leadership is expected to inject fresh ideas and a renewed sense of purpose into the club's activities, elevating its impact on the community and paving the way for positive changes and growth.

The Rotary Club of Crawley is dedicated to community service, fostering development, and promoting peace and goodwill. With a rich history and a commitment to diversity and inclusivity, the club strives to make a positive impact locally and globally.

The Rotary Club of Crawley is excited about the transformative impact of Yinka's tenure and looks forward to a promising future under his capable leadership.

Continued on page 1

HPV Vaccination Campaign Aims to Reduce Cervical Cancer in Borno and Yobe States, Nigeria

funded by Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance, have launched an ambitious HPV vaccination campaign to mitigate the risk of cervical cancer.

Globally, over 660,000 cases of cervical cancer were reported, and approximately 350,000 deaths occurred among women in 2022 alone. In Nigeria, cervical cancer is the second leading cause of cancer among women, with at least 95% of cases attributable to Human papillomavirus (HPV) infection.

This alarming statistic underscores major inequities driven by inadequate access to national HPV vaccination, heightened awareness, cervical screening, and treatment services. To address these disparities, the WHO and Gavi have stepped in to support comprehensive vaccination efforts in Borno and Yobe states.

The state-wide intervention aims to cover at least 750 public and private schools and reach at-risk populations in hard-to-reach and underserved locations. The Borno State Honourable Commissioner for Health and Human Services, Professor

Mallam Gana, represented by the Special Adviser on Health, Dr. Abubakar Hassan, emphasized the initiative's focus on protecting vulnerable populations, particularly women and children. "We will strategically monitor the overall exercise thoroughly and ensure high quality of service is sustained," Dr. Hassan stated.

Dr. Hassan also praised the WHO for its ongoing support and leadership in global health. "WHO's leadership and technical support in ensuring access to healthcare services, especially this vaccination, is quite commendable. We are optimistic that this campaign will be a success, and that the collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) will be sustained, thereby strengthening the health system."

In Yobe State, the wife of the Executive Governor, represented by the State's Commissioner for Women's Affairs, Hajia Ya-Jalo Badama, reiterated the commitment to the campaign, stating, "The HPV vaccine is free, safe, and effective, and we will ensure at-risk populations are provided with the



opportunity to protect themselves against cervical cancer."

Hajia Ya-Jalo also acknowledged the WHO's relentless support in coordinating and orienting healthcare workers for the campaign. "All hands and resources are on deck to ensure the success of this campaign and we would like to appreciate the relentless support received from the World Health Organization (WHO)."

The vaccination campaign targets children aged 9 to 14, with more than 447,000 children in Borno and at least 350,000 in Yobe expected to be vaccinated. This effort is crucial in preventing HPV infection, cervical cancer, and other HPV-related cancers.

Dr. Walter Kazadi Mulombo, WHO Nigeria Country Representative, highlighted that this support aligns with the fourth WHO-Nigeria Country Cooperation Strategy (CCSIV), which aims to enhance health and well-being and promote universal health coverage. "This strategy falls within the Government's vision for the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) to achieve health for all Nigerians," Dr. Mulombo stated.

WHO State Coordinators for Borno and Yobe, Drs. Ibrahim Salisu and



HPV Vaccination in Borno State

Continue on page 14

Continued on page 1

Beyond the Glam and Glitz: What No One Will Tell You About Chioma and Davido's Wedding

behind grand events like this one. For those with influence, these events aren't just about celebration. They're about building and strengthening connections, making political statements, and shaping public perception - call it PR if you like.

Think back to Obi Cubana's mother's burial too, a lavish event that completely shifted how the public viewed him. Similarly, #Chivido has done wonders for Davido's image, especially in light of some negative press he's faced recently. It's a brilliant reminder of how these events can be powerful PR tools, subtly but effectively changing the narrative. Take the presence of the creme de la creme at #Chivido2024 for example. Irrespective of their political leaning, they registered their connection and reflect how rich the family is in social currency.

Talking about connection, when you look at Davido and Chioma, it's hard to miss the genuine connection they share. Their relationship has seen its share of ups and downs, and it's that authenticity that resonates with so many people. Critics might not understand the depth of their bond, often missing the nuances of romance. History is filled with examples of women loving flawed men and men doing the same. This kind of love can be surprising to outsiders and potentially risky for those involved, but for powerful yet flawed individuals, it can offer the stability they need—as long as it's not taken for granted.

The Adeleke family has consistently demonstrated cosmopolitan values and holds significant social and political influence. Their support for Davido and Chioma's wedding is a proof of their standing in society.

This wedding wasn't just about two people coming together, it was about celebrating values, reinforcing alliances, and marking a cultural milestone.

Now, about the event itself. It was a grand affair, filled with the kind of opulence you'd expect from a high-profile Nigerian wedding. The guest list was a who's who of the entertainment and political worlds, each presence adding another layer of significance to the occasion. The fashion was impeccable, the music electrifying, and the overall atmosphere charged with excitement and joy. It was a perfect blend of tradition and modernity, showcasing Nigeria's rich cultural heritage while embracing contemporary trends.

Davido and Chioma's love story is one for the ages. From their first meeting to their engagement, and now their wedding, it's a story that has captivated fans around the world. They've faced challenges and triumphs, all in the public eye, and have come out stronger for it. Their wedding was not just a personal victory but a public declaration of their passionate love for each other



and of their shared future.

You can't help but feel the genuine connection between them, despite what critics might say. Newsflash: romance doesn't always follow a script or make sense to outsiders. I know it's not always easy, and sometimes it's downright dangerous for the person wearing their heart on their sleeve. But here's the thing: powerful, flawed individuals need that kind of all-in love to keep them grounded. It's a reminder that they're human, too.

The couple's relationship is a beautiful mess, with ups and downs like any real love story. They're not perfect, but their love is real, and that's what matters. So, the 'social media judges' should stop judging and start celebrating genuine connections, flaws and all!

Moreover, the wedding was a statement of unity and strength. It showed that despite the challenges they've faced—both personal and public—they are determined to move forward together. It was a reminder that love, in its purest form, is about weathering storms together and coming out stronger on the other side.

In a broader sense, #Chivido2024 is a reflection of the changing dynamics in Nigerian society. It highlights the growing influence of the entertainment industry and its power to shape public discourse. It also underscores the importance of cultural events in reinforcing social bonds and creating new narratives.

So, as we celebrate Davido and Chioma's union, let's also recognize the deeper significance of their wedding. It's a celebration of love, yes, but also a powerful reminder of the role grand events play in our lives. They are moments of connection, celebration, and strategic importance. Here's to Davido and Chioma—may their marriage continue to inspire and resonate far beyond their immediate circle, reminding us all of the power of love and the beauty of grand celebrations.

Japan Supports Mental Health

Training in Amhara Region,

Ethiopia Amid Crisis



Dr. Medhin Selamu
WHO Ethiopia's Mental Health Officer

In a collaborative effort to address the pressing mental health needs exacerbated by the ongoing conflict and drought in Northern Ethiopia, the Government of Japan, alongside the World Health Organization (WHO), has provided crucial support for a capacity-building training program for primary care workers in the Amhara Region. This initiative, part of the mhGAP Humanitarian Intervention Guide (HIG) Training of Trainers (TOT) program, was conducted from June 3-7, 2024, in Bahir Dar.

The conflict and severe drought in Northern Ethiopia have inflicted widespread psychological trauma, overwhelming the region's psychosocial support systems. With over 813,856 internally displaced people (IDPs) and 111,741 individuals affected by the conflict in Sudan, the demand for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) has surged dramatically.

Dr. Addisalem Yilma, WHO Ethiopia Bahir Dar hub field coordinator, remarked, "In response to this crisis, the WHO's Mental Health Gap Action Program (mhGAP) aims to enhance the capacity of general healthcare workers to manage Mental, Neurological, and Substance use (MNS) problems. This training initiative was requested by the Regional Health Bureau and the Amhara Public Health Institute."

Kalkidan Haile, Mental Health Coordinator from the Amhara Public

Health Institute, emphasized the training's primary objective: "The mhGAP-HIG TOT training was designed to enhance the accessibility and quality of mental health services in primary healthcare facilities, particularly in areas affected by conflict and drought. It aims to address the knowledge and skill gaps of non-specialized health professionals and establish referral linkages across the Amhara region."

A total of 21 healthcare workers were trained in the mhGAP-HIG TOT program, enabling them to further train healthcare providers in the region. Yalew Mebre, a psychiatrist from Dese Comprehensive Specialized Hospital, highlighted the importance of the training, noting that it empowers healthcare providers to deliver quality mental health services and cascade the training. He stressed the need for continued support, acknowledging that healthcare workers are also affected by the heavy workload and the challenging circumstances.

The training sessions included modules on the Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PRSEAH) and self-care, stress, and burnout management for healthcare providers. These sessions aim to equip healthcare providers with the necessary skills to prevent and address sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian settings and to manage their own well-being

effectively.

Dr. Medhin Selamu, WHO Ethiopia's Mental Health Officer, noted, "The impact of the conflict is widespread. A review by WHO shows that community members are heavily impacted; however, the impact is intense among vulnerable groups such as women, children, older people, healthcare workers, and fighters who are affected by the ongoing situation."

The five-day training in Bahir Dar involved interactive presentations, group discussions, case studies, role plays, video displays of various mental health conditions, and experience-sharing sessions. Participants' performance was assessed daily, with pre- and post-tests indicating significant improvement.

The WHO expressed its gratitude to the government and the people of Japan for their support. Following the training, additional sessions, supportive supervision, mentoring, and coaching are planned in the participants' respective areas over the coming months.

LAGOS STATE ADDRESSES CHOLERA OUTBREAK INVESTIGATION

The Lagos State Government has addressed recent reports linking a cholera outbreak in the state to the consumption of an unregistered tiger nut drink sold in Eti-Osa Local Government Area. The Director of Public Affairs at the state's Ministry of Health, Tunbosun Ogunbanwo, clarified that no definitive conclusion has been reached regarding the outbreak's cause.

Earlier news reports had cited an interview with the Special Adviser to the Governor on Health, Kemi Ogunyemi, suggesting that the tiger nut drink was responsible for the outbreak. However, Ogunbanwo stated in a telephone interview with PREMIUM TIMES that Ogunyemi was misrepresented, and that investigations are ongoing into various potential sources of the illness.

In the interview, Ogunyemi noted that many cholera patients in Eti-Osa had consumed a tiger nut drink before presenting symptoms. She explained, "We carried out a survey and found that a common factor among those

affected was a tiger nut drink. We took samples for testing and discovered that the drink was not registered with the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC)."

Despite finding empty bottles with a name and phone number, authorities have not been able to trace the producers, as the phone number was unreachable. Ogunyemi emphasized that while this drink is being investigated, other sources, including water and food, are also being tested.

Lagos State has been significantly affected by the cholera outbreak, with over 20 fatalities and nearly 500 suspected cases reported across 20 Local Government Areas (LGAs). The state's Commissioner for Health, Akin Abayomi, announced an increase in fatalities and confirmed that cases have been reported in Lagos Island, Eti-Osa, Kosofe, Agege, Badagry, Ikeja, Mushin, Ajeromi-Ifelodun, Epe, Ikorodu, Ojo, and Alimosho.

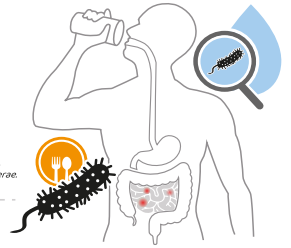
Ogunbanwo reiterated that no

Cholera

Information for health workers

Sources of infection

Foodborne and waterborne, transmitted by consumption of contaminated food and drink contaminated with the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*.



Types of exposure & prevention



Direct contact with bacterium in water. It can spread very quickly, especially in conditions created by emergencies. Cholera can be fatal.

Staff at health facilities should assess levels of dehydration and diarrhoea.

- Signs of mild and severe dehydration include:
- o Restlessness
 - o Ill-tempereness
 - o Sunken eyes
 - o Loss of skin elasticity
 - o Lethargy
 - o Unconsciousness

Instructions for treating patients



It is recommended that mothers continue to breastfeed regularly even if they have been diagnosed with cholera

Antibiotics are for severe cases only. For mild cases, give oral rehydration salts

Practise hand hygiene and only drink clear water

Use intravascular fluids to hydrate patients

Give zinc to children

Actions to take in case of symptoms:



If you are a health care worker and are experiencing symptoms of cholera, seek medical advice immediately. Inform your supervisor, take rest and continue your course of treatment until fully recovered.



official conclusion has been made regarding the outbreak's cause. "Neither the Special Adviser on Health to the Governor nor any official of the state government gave any such conclusion. The state is investigating everything including water, food, and drinks. There is no conclusion yet," he said.

As the investigation continues, Lagos State authorities urge residents to report any symptoms of cholera, such as diarrhea and vomiting, to the nearest health facility and to follow public health advisories to prevent further spread of the disease.

Continued on page 12

Alhassan Dama, reiterated the organization's commitment to the campaign's success. "Cervical cancer is preventable, and this vaccination campaign is aimed to protect at-risk populations against HPV," they said. "WHO is ensuring the success of this exercise as it is one of the must-win supports in the states."

The coordinators added that WHO will continue to champion a comprehensive approach to eliminating cervical cancer,

ensuring a healthier future for the states.

This vaccination campaign demonstrates the power of collaboration between government institutions, community leaders, and international organizations in safeguarding public health and highlights the importance of comprehensive vaccination strategies in protecting vulnerable populations.



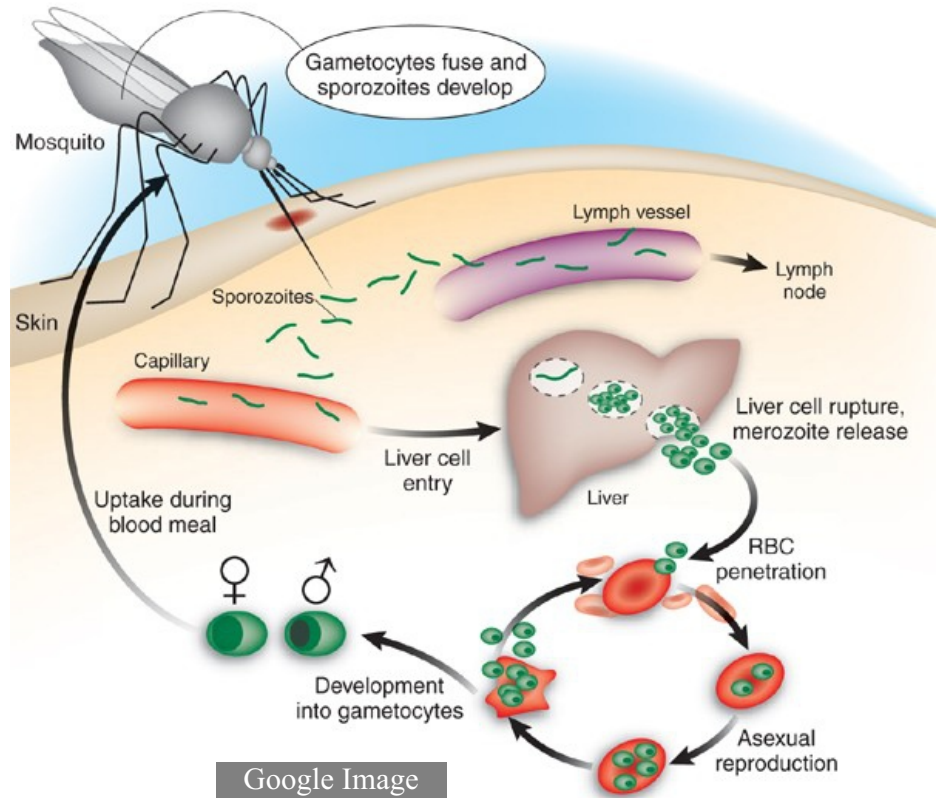
DR. WALTER KAZADI MULOMBO
WHO Nigeria Country Representative

NDDC Urges Decisive Action Against Malaria at World Malaria Day Event

The Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) emphasized the urgent need for decisive action against malaria during its World Malaria Day Enlightenment Campaign held in Akure, Ondo State. Representing the NDDC Managing Director, Dr. Samuel Ogbuku, the Executive Director of Corporate Services, Hon. Ifedayo Abegunde, highlighted the deadly impact of malaria, which he stated kills faster than HIV and AIDS.

"Malaria is a major public health concern in the tropical area of the Sahara, and Nigeria has recorded about 68 million cases of malaria leading to over 194,000 deaths," Abegunde said. "Therefore, there is an urgent need to take more decisive measures in addressing the problem."

Abegunde underscored the NDDC's commitment to providing free and accessible healthcare in the region, noting the recent free medical outreach conducted by the Commission. "NDDC has just recently conducted a free medical outreach across the region where over 20,000 patients benefited through free medical consultations,



Google Image

diagnosis, treatments, and even surgeries."

Emphasizing the need for collaboration, he added, "It is our firm

belief in NDDC that a more collaborative approach with relevant stakeholders would yield far-reaching results, especially in the quest to eradicate malaria from the region, and from Nigeria at large."

The Director of the Ondo State Office of the NDDC, Mr. Victor Asonye, praised the current leadership for its commitment to public health awareness. "The World Malaria Day Enlightenment Campaign is part of the NDDC's efforts in addressing the healthcare needs of our people through the provision of timely sensitization and awareness," Asonye said.

The event concluded with a call for the people of the region to seek medical attention promptly upon experiencing any symptoms of malaria.



World Malaria Day: Seek Orthodox Remedy, Avoid 'agbo', NDDC, Delta Govt Urge Residents

KENYAN WOMAN WINS AFRICA PRIZE FOR ENGINEERING INNOVATION WITH AI PEST DETECTION TOOL



Esther Kimani
Kenyan Innovator

The Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation, Africa's most prestigious award for engineering excellence, celebrated its tenth anniversary by awarding Esther Kimani, a Kenyan innovator, for her groundbreaking work in reducing crop losses for smallholder farmers. Founded by the Royal Academy of Engineering, the prize recognizes and supports African innovators and entrepreneurs making significant impacts in their communities.

Kimani's innovation, a solar-powered AI pest detection tool, has proven transformative for small-scale farmers. Utilizing machine learning-enabled cameras, the device identifies agricultural pests and diseases early, helping farmers reduce crop loss by up to 30% and increase yields by as much as 40%.

For her remarkable achievement, Kimani received a prize of £50,000 (KSh 8.3 million), the largest sum ever granted in the prize's history, marking its decade milestone. Her win makes her the third woman and the second Kenyan

entrepreneur to secure the Africa Prize.

"My parents would lose up to 40% of their crops each farming season, which affected our standard of living," Kimani shared on the award's official page. "We are empowering smallholder farmers, many of whom are women, to increase their income. We aim to scale to one million farmers in the next five years."

Kimani's device not only detects pests and diseases using advanced machine learning and computer vision algorithms but also determines the type of infection or infestation. Farmers receive notifications via SMS within five seconds of detection. The tool is designed to be cost-effective, leasing for just \$3 a month, making it significantly cheaper than traditional detection methods such as drones or agricultural inspectors.

In Kenya, around five million smallholder farmers suffer an average crop loss of 33% due to pests and diseases. Kimani's innovation also provides customized intervention suggestions and alerts

government agricultural personnel to infestations, aiding broader agricultural management efforts.

The Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation, established in March 2014, aims to encourage, recognize, and reward innovation and entrepreneurship across Sub-Saharan Africa. Over the past decade, it has offered essential training, mentorship, and communication services to 149 firms in 23 countries. With a robust alumni network, 71% of Africa Prize alumni are actively earning revenue, having secured \$39 million in grants and equity.

The Africa Prize has supported nearly 150 entrepreneurs across 23 African countries, generating over 28,000 jobs and benefiting more than 10 million people through innovative products and services.

USYK TO VACATE IBF HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE,

PAVING WAY FOR JOSHUA VS. DUBOIS CLASH

Undisputed heavyweight world champion Oleksandr Usyk has confirmed he will vacate one of his four titles, the IBF belt, allowing Anthony Joshua and Daniel Dubois to vie for it on September 21.

The 37-year-old Ukrainian, who became the first heavyweight to hold the IBF, WBO, WBA, and WBC belts simultaneously after defeating Tyson Fury in a split decision in Saudi Arabia last month, made the announcement in a video posted on social media.

"Anthony and Daniel, listen. I know the IBF title is important to you. It is my present to you on September 21,"

Usyk stated.

Usyk was initially set to face mandatory challenger Daniel Dubois, but with this development, Dubois is now expected to meet fellow Briton Anthony Joshua for the IBF title.

This move by Usyk places him among the ranks of legendary undisputed champions such as Jack Dempsey, Joe Louis, Floyd Patterson, Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier, and Mike Tyson.

Boxing fans are eagerly anticipating the Joshua vs. Dubois bout, which promises to be a thrilling contest for the prestigious IBF heavyweight title.





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