

Soaring To New Heights: Analyzing The Low-Altitude Economy And Namibia's Collaborative Path With The World UAV Federation

The 21st century has been characterized by an relentless pursuit of innovation, pushing the boundaries of what is technologically possible and economically viable. While much attention has historically been directed towards cyberspace, outer space, and traditional terrestrial industries, a new frontier for economic development is rapidly emerging

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News>>Kindiki: Community Health Promoters Crucial To SHA Success

P. 12. Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has assured Community Health Promoters (CHPs) that the government is working hard to improve their terms of engagement.

United Opposition Makes 21 Demands To IEBC

⚡ The United Opposition has released a list of demands to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), arguing that it believes the electoral body has breached constitutional provisions. In a letter to the Commission, the Opposition said that the demands are essential to ensure that IEBC is fulfilling its mandate and disclosing the information will help bolster electoral justice ahead of the 24 by-elections scheduled for November 27, 2025.



United Opposition. File photo

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Vice Chancellors Meeting With President Ruto

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyetimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

President William Ruto yesterday hosted Vice Chancellors of Public universities at State House, Nairobi, for a consultative meeting. The meeting, also attended by several senior government officials, led by Deputy President Kithure Kindiki and Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Migos was meant to review progress in the management of the institutions, including the implementation of the new funding model that is student-centred. The budgetary allocation for the new funding model has increased to KSh82 billion this financial year from KSh44 billion in 2022. The meeting noted among other things that so far, 10 out of the 23 universities that had been declared insolvent in 2022 are on a steady financial recovery.



Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times

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NEWS IN BRIEF



The Principal Secretary for Medical Services, Dr Ouma Oluga yesterday called on global investors in the healthcare sector to consider Kenya as their destination of choice, citing the country's unique opportunities and growing competitiveness. Addressing a high-level breakfast event organised by Kenya Vision 2030 in partnership with Dalberg, Dr Oluga set out Kenya's ambition to become Africa's foremost hub for vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing. He emphasised the government's commitment, highlighting the establishment and investment in the Kenya Biovax Institute as a flagship initiative that demonstrates Kenya's determination to build local capacity for the production of vaccines and essential medicines.



Nandi County Government has embarked on an ambitious programme to rehabilitate community cattle dips, a move expected to revitalise livestock development and ease the burden of disease control for thousands of farmers across the region. The County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Agriculture and Livestock Development, Dr Benard Lagat, said the rehabilitation programme is a strategic investment in the backbone of Nandi's rural economy. He explained that once the dips are fully operational, farmers will have affordable and reliable access to disease control measures, reducing the heavy costs incurred in treating livestock. Dr Lagat stated that the initiative is designed to restore more than 20 communal dips that had fallen into disuse due to years of neglect, dilapidated infrastructure, and lack of maintenance. By revamping these facilities, the county aims to improve the fight against tick-borne diseases such as East Coast Fever, which have been a major threat to dairy and beef production.

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen yesterday launched the Jukwaa la Usalama grassroots engagement forum in Kisumu County. He chaired a security meeting, inspected mobile ID and civil registration services at the Huduma Centre compound, and later addressed a town hall with National Government Administrative Officers (NGAO) at Tom Mboya Labour College. He was accompanied by Interior PS Dr Raymond Omollo, Deputy Inspector General Gilbert Masengeli, and other senior government officials. Photo/Robert Ojwang'.



Smart Applications International Limited has been recognised as a Superbrand, affirming its position as one of Africa's most trusted and innovative healthcare technology companies. The honour underscores the firm's two-decade journey of pioneering digital solutions that are transforming healthcare access and administration across the continent. Founded in 2003, Smart Applications International Limited operates in 12 African countries including Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Somalia, Somaliland, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Zambia, Malawi, and Mauritius. Its systems are today used by more than 1.6 million people through a network of over 9,000 healthcare facilities, making it one of the most extensive healthcare technology networks in Africa. Speaking on Wednesday during the recognition ceremony in Nairobi, Group Managing Director of Smart Applications International Limited, Harrison Muir, said the accolade is both an honour and a responsibility to continue driving innovation.



History was made yesterday at the official unveiling of the World Taekwondo Under-21 Championships 2025! Principal Secretary-State Department for Tourism John Ololua joined his Sports counterpart Elijah Mwangi and Kang Hyung-Shik, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, to launch the event. As the first African nation to host this championship, Kenya is ready to welcome over 140 countries to Nairobi's Kasarani Sports Centre. PS Ololua termed the event as a major tourism opportunity, allowing a global audience to experience Kenya's world-class hospitality and culture, further cementing our status as a premier multi-sport hub just weeks after successfully hosting CHAN 2024. Also present at the launch were Colonel Nahashon Randiek-deputy president of NOCK, Rtd Major Suleiman Sumba Kanyanya- Chairman Kenya Taekwondo association, Senior government officials and Sports officials.



Zetech University Wins Top Award For Student Innovation At CEIL Summit

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyatimes

Zetech University has been recognised for excellence in student-led innovation after clinching the Best Student-Led Club Award at the Commercialisation and Entrepreneurial Institutional Leaders (CEIL) Summit 2025.

The award, presented by the Kenya National Innovation Agency (KeNIA), celebrates the outstanding impact of Zetech’s Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Technology (iZET) Hub, the University’s centre for research, entrepreneurship and innovation.

The iZET Hub has spearheaded initiatives such as the Wezesha Incubation Programme, hackathons, mentorships, and community projects, enabling students to design practical solutions to real-world challenges. The Hub has also built strong industry partnerships, preparing students with critical digital and entrepreneur-



From right, Zetech University Vice Chancellor, Prof. Njenga Munene, receives the best student-led innovation club award from Head of Public Service, Mr. Felix Koskei, during the CEIL Summit 2025.

ial skills.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Njenga Munene welcomed the recognition, saying, “This award affirms the resilience, creativity and ingenuity of our students. The iZET Hub shows how universities can act as engines of

innovation, preparing young leaders to solve national and global challenges.”

The CEIL Summit, themed “Catalysing Innovation and Entrepreneurial Ecosystems”, brought together universities, government, and indus-



From right, Zetech University Dean of Research, Innovation and Postgraduate studies, Dr. Benjamin Muindi, Head of Research, Ms. Esther Mwangi, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Njenga Munene, Assistant Librarian, Ms. Tecla Jebet, and Dean, School of Business and Economics, Prof. Peter Kibas at the CEIL Summit 2025.

try leaders. During the event, Head of Public Service Felix K. Koskei endorsed the creation of Student-Led Innovation Clubs across 11 universities, including Zetech, as part of a national push to nurture grassroots innovation.

The accolade reinforces Zetech

University’s status as a hub for transformative education and innovation, with a focus on entrepreneurship, leadership, and sustainable development.

NEWS

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Kenya Launches First-Ever 10-Year National Bamboo Development Strategy and Action Plan

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- Dr. Barasa described the unveiling of the strategy as a milestone that signaled a new beginning for the bamboo sector.
- “For many years, Kenya’s bamboo potential was recognized but underutilized. With this Strategy, we now have a clear roadmap. It makes this year’s World Bamboo Day not just a commemoration, but a turning point,” she said.



Cabinet Secretary for Environment Dr Deborah Barasa with other officials holding bamboo plants.



Environment Cabinet Secretary Dr Deborah Barasa with other officials during the launching of the Bamboo Strategy yesterday. Photos/Courtesy.

Kenya yesterday marked World Bamboo Day with the launch of its first-ever National Bamboo Development Strategy and Action Plan (2025–2035), a historic blueprint aimed at transforming bamboo from a little-known plant into a driver of climate resilience, green jobs and sustainable industrial growth.

The celebrations took place at the University of Kabianga in Kericho County and were presided over by the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Dr. Deborah Barasa, who was joined by national and county leaders, researchers, investors, and community groups. Dr. Barasa described the unveiling of the strategy as a milestone that signaled a new beginning for the bamboo sector.

“For many years, Kenya’s bamboo potential was recognized but underutilized. With this Strategy, we now have a clear roadmap. It makes this year’s World Bamboo Day not just a commemoration, but a turning point,” she said.

Kenya’s indigenous highland bamboo, *Oldeania alpina*, already covers about 133,000 hectares in ecosystems such as the Aberdares, Mt. Kenya, the Mau Complex, Mt. Elgon and the Cherangany Hills. More than 40 exotic species have also been introduced through the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), with at least a dozen thriving in different ecological zones. Over the years, bamboo has grown from being used mainly for fencing and cottage crafts to becoming a raw material for construction, furniture, textiles, energy, and even food products. Private companies like Green Pot Enterprises and African Plantation Capital have set up commercial plantations, while community-based groups such as Eco Green Kenya are driving grassroots cultivation.

The new strategy seeks to expand bamboo coverage to 150,000 hectares nationwide, establish a National Centre of Excellence and 20 county incubation hubs, create 750,000 green jobs within the first two years through restoration efforts, and mobilize KES

15 billion to boost commercialization, value chains and carbon trading. The government also hopes to position bamboo as an alternative to timber, pulp, paper and other conventional materials.

Research institutions like KEFRI have been instrumental in seedling propagation, training and technology transfer, while international partnerships with organizations such as the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR) and the Dutch-Sino East Africa Bamboo Development Programme have connected Kenyan farmers and enterprises with global expertise and markets.

According to Dr. Barasa, the Bamboo Strategy is aligned with Vision 2030, the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), and the Presidential Directive on achieving 30 percent tree cover by 2032, while also directly supporting the #15Billion-Trees programme. “This year’s World Bamboo Day is not just another commemoration. It is the year we match awareness with action, and aspirations

with a concrete plan. By embracing the Bamboo Strategy, we will unlock livelihoods, restore degraded lands, and establish Kenya as a regional leader in the bamboo value chain,” she noted.

Her sentiments were echoed by Forest Development Secretary George Tarus, who spoke on behalf of the Forestry Principal Secretary, and praised the progress already made in building a bamboo industry that creates jobs for youth and supports community-based organizations.

Also present were leaders from the Kenya Forest Service and the Kenya Forestry Research Institute, alongside private sector players such as Earth Lungs, Transfo Green World, EcoUmoja Sustainability and Innovation Centre, and the Bamboo Association of Kenya. The event brought together a wide range of partners who pledged to work with the government to elevate bamboo into one of the pillars of Kenya’s green economy.

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Waiguru Expands Water Access, Ending Years Of Shortage And Reaching Over 30,000 Kirinyaga Residents

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- In a statement, Waiguru said the program will include drilling and solar powering boreholes, installing water tanks, extending pipe networks, and rehabilitating intakes to ensure every household, school, and farm has reliable water.
- She added that the county is also investing in environmental conservation and climate resilience through the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) Program, which aims to build local resilience to climate change by empowering counties and local communities to undertake own climate resilience programs and projects.
- “Every home deserves safe water, every farmer needs irrigation support, and every child deserves to go to school without worrying about unsafe water. That is the future we are building for Kirinyaga,” the Governor said.

Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru has reaffirmed her administration’s commitment to expanding access to clean and reliable water, announcing plans to implement 42 new water projects in the current financial year.

The projects, spread across all 20 wards, are expected to benefit more than 30,000 residents, with each serving between 300 and 500 people.

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“Every home deserves safe water, every farmer needs irrigation support, and every child deserves to go to school without worrying about unsafe water. That is the future we are building for Kirinyaga,” the Governor said.

The county has made significant progress in the past year. In the 2024/2025 financial year, Kirinyaga completed 37 water projects, including the Kiorugari Water Project in Nyangati, Rukenya Irrigation Project in Kabare, and Kugeria Water Project in Murinduko. The county has also drilled six boreholes since last year and is adding five more this year to expand supply.

According to County Executive Committee Member for Environment, Water and Irrigation, James Kinyua, the ongoing water programs are easing pressure on communities and boosting agricultural production.

“The Jiinue Rupingazi Water Project is among many others transforming livelihoods. Families now have water for both domestic use and irrigation,” Kinyua said.

The impact of the projects is already visible across villages, schools, and marketplaces. At Kamucege Primary School in Gathigiriri Ward, Kamucege borehole is serving 420 learners, drastically cutting absenteeism linked to waterborne diseases.

“Before this borehole, learners were constantly missing school due to bilharzia and stomach infections from contaminated water. Since clean water was made available, attendance has improved and learning hours are



Flora Mbogo, Beneficiary of Kamucege Water Project in Mwea.

no longer lost,” said Principal Charles Weru.

Florence Muthoni, a Kamucege resident, said more than 700 households in Bahati and Kamucege villages now have direct access to clean water. “We used to fetch water from canals using donkeys or carry it on our backs. Now we have taps at home. Women are less tired, our homes are cleaner, and our kitchen gardens are thriving,” Muthoni explained.

John Wachira, a trader from Kibingo in Inoi ward, noted the project’s economic benefits. “This borehole serves more than 1,200 people. Even during the dry season the supply is steady. Customers at the market appreciate the fresh produce grown with clean water,” Wachira mentioned.

Beyond boreholes, the county has also distributed 20 water tanks of 10,000 litres each to community groups to promote rainwater harvesting. The initiative is helping families establish kitchen gardens, improve nutrition, and cut household food expenses.

Governor Waiguru reiterated that the water agenda remains a priority as her administration works to improve health, promote farming, and give Kirinyaga residents a dignified life.



Kibingo Market water project



Jiinue Rupingazi Water project borehole under construction

KALRO Board Inaugurated as Digital Agricultural Technologies Take Centre Stage



CS Mutahi Kagwe with KALRO officials yesterday.



CS Mutahi Kagwe addressing the forum yesterday



KALRO Board Chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge at the forum yesterday.

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyetimes

Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock Development, Mutahi Kagwe, has inaugurated the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) Board while also being briefed on the institution’s operations.

KALRO is the largest national agricultural research body in East, Central, and Southern Africa, with 16 research institutes and 64 centres

across Kenya dedicated to various agricultural value chains.

In his remarks, the CS praised KALRO for its pivotal role in transforming Kenya’s agriculture through research, innovation, and technology transfer. He singled out the development of drought-resistant crops and advances in climate-smart agriculture as critical contributions to the country’s food security and economic growth.

Reaffirming that agriculture remains a central pillar of the Government’s agenda, the CS challenged KALRO to evolve from a national institution into a continental leader in agricul-

tural innovation. He emphasized that achieving this will require attracting top talent, offering career growth opportunities, and embedding technology into its core — a vision he pledged to champion.

The CS also promised to scale up support for KALRO through enhanced funding, partnerships, and policy backing.

He paid tribute to Dr. Eliud Kireger, the retiring Director General, lauding his 11 years of transformative leadership, and urged the incoming Board, under the chairmanship of Dr. Thuo Mathenge, to boldly drive the creation of a resilient, modern, and

inclusive agricultural sector that benefits every Kenyan household.

“As a ministry, we are committed to supporting KALRO with the necessary policy and funding environment to ensure it fulfils its mandate of transforming research into tangible impact for our farmers.”

The CS further urged KALRO scientists to leverage Artificial Intelligence (AI) to modernize agriculture and make the sector more attractive to young people. He also emphasized the need for effective communication and outreach to ensure that research outputs are translated into practical solutions that improve the liveli-

hoods of smallholder farmers.

On his part, Dr Mathenge, welcomed the CS’s visit as a strong signal of the government’s commitment to agricultural innovation and research-driven growth.

“This visit reinforces the vital role KALRO plays in supporting national priorities in food security, climate resilience, and rural development,” Dr. Mathenge said.

At the same time, Dr. Kireger reaffirmed KALRO’s dedication to working closely with the Ministry to transform agriculture into a modern, profitable, and globally competitive sector.

Murang’a Records Fifth Mpox Case

By: Bernard Munyao and Catherine Kamunyo
@themtkenyetimes

Murang’a County has confirmed a fifth case of Mpox as the County Department of Health intensified emergency measures to contain the outbreak, which has so far recorded no deaths.

The County Emergency Operations Centre reported that the latest case involves a 68-year-old woman from Gatara in Murarandia Ward, Kahuro Sub County who is currently admitted to Kigumo Sub County Hospital, where she remains in isolation.

The cumulative cases are now distributed across three sub counties including three in Kiharu, one in Kahuro and one in Kigumo.

According to the centre manager Chris Mwangi, 18 samples have been tested so far, with one still pending.

Yesterday, Mwangi told journalists

that no fatalities have been reported since the outbreak began.

“We have identified six contacts, five of whom are still under follow-up but none has shown symptoms,” Mwangi said, adding that one health worker has also tested positive and is being managed under home-based care.

The county has activated its Public Health Emergency Operations Centre to coordinate response efforts.

Mwangi said several measures have already been implemented, including the distribution of information, education and communication materials to sub-county rapid response teams and the sensitisation of 1,510 health workers across different cadres.

A week ago, the County Director of Health issued reminders to both health workers and the public on the importance of strictly observing infection prevention and control measures.

Planned activities in the coming days include additional training of rapid response teams and health workers



on case detection and management, intensified community health education, stakeholder engagement, continued contact tracing, regular situation updates and assessment of infection prevention and control commodity levels in county health facilities.

Mwangi urged residents to remain

calm but vigilant, emphasising that the county has maintained a zero-case fatality rate since the onset of the outbreak.

“We continue to monitor the situation closely and will ensure the public remains informed as we strengthen our response,” he said.

The county health official further noted that collaboration with communities, strict adherence to preventive guidelines and support from partners will be key to containing the outbreak and preventing further spread.

United Opposition Makes 21 Demands To IEBC Ahead Of By-Elections

By: Moses Kinyanjui
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Details of all contracts with service providers for upcoming by-elections, particularly those providing technology equipment, have also been requested.
- Likewise, the Commission has been requested to give all records relating to the firm Smartmatic and any other entities providing technology consultancy, services, equipment, infrastructure, or related goods and services to the IEBC.
- “This includes procurement processes, due diligence, evaluations, audits, minutes of relevant meetings, technical reports, and assessments of their competency and suitability both locally and internationally,” read the letter in part.
- Smartmatic is the entity that supplied, delivered, installed, tested, commissioned, supported and maintained the Kenya Integrated Elections Management System (KIEMS) kits for the 2022 elections.



Wiper party chief Kalonzo Musyoka welcomes opposition leaders to his Tseikuru home in Kitui on May 29, 2025. Among them are DCP leader Rigathi Gachagua and his DAP-K counterpart Eugene Wamalwa. PHOTO | COURTESY.

The United Opposition has released a list of demands to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), arguing that it believes the electoral body has breached constitutional provisions.

In a letter to the Commission, the Opposition said that the demands are essential to ensure that IEBC is fulfilling its mandate and disclosing the information will help bolster electoral justice ahead of the 24 by-elections scheduled for November 27, 2025.

In its long list of demands, the opposition wants all minutes of the plenary sessions and committee meetings from the swearing-in date to present, and also those of staff meetings since January 2022 to be laid bare.

It also wants records of meetings on the scheduled by-elections scheduled, including the criteria used to select staff overseeing each by-election, to be availed.

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Likewise, the Commission has been requested to give all records relating to the firm Smartmatic and any other entities providing technology consultancy, services, equipment, infrastructure, or related goods and services to the IEBC.

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Smartmatic is the entity that supplied, delivered, installed, tested, commissioned, supported and maintained the Kenya Integrated Elections Management System (KIEMS) kits for the 2022 elections.

KIEMS is the integrated elections management system that the IEBC is required by law to deploy in all elections.

The opposition therefore, wants the Commission to declare its position on Smartmatic’s performance in past elections, particularly on compliance with constitutional and legal requirements, including any withholding of information on the refus-

al to grant the Supreme Court and Raila Odinga access to the National Tallying Centre (NTC) servers.

It also wants IEBC to disclose the terms and conditions on the printing of election materials, including ballot papers and result forms.

“This should encompass all tender and contract records for entities handling election materials, procurement processes, due diligence, any contract variations or extensions, and the authority and procedures governing such changes,” added the letter.

Further details to be laid bare include voter registers, identification processes and the procurement plan and performance records from 2022 to date.

It also wants the number of gazetted polling centers and polling stations for the by-elections, including their geolocation data.

Additionally, it seeks detailed information regarding the criteria and parameters the Commission follows when auditing the voter’s register.

This, it says, should include the measures undertaken to ensure that the voter register retains its original

integrity after auditing, and the maximum number of times a register can be audited without compromising its original status.

The opposition wants the information to be availed within 14 days.

Meanwhile, the IEBC has announced that eight by-elections are in limbo due to a lack of funds.

Speaking when he appeared before the National Assembly Public Accounts Committee on Wednesday, IEBC Chairperson Erastus Ethecon intimated that the commission will spend Ksh.1 billion to prepare for the by-elections.

IEBC CEO Marjan Hussein Marjan said that 16 by-elections are funded and the Treasury has only availed Ksh.788 million.

The United Opposition comprises Wiper party chief Kalonzo Musyoka, People’s Liberation Party (PLP) leader Martha Karua, Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) boss Rigathi Gachagua and DAP-K leader Eugene Wamalwa.

Other notable persons include former Interior Cabinet Secretary (CS) Fred Matiag’i and ex-Public Service CS Justin Muturi.

Mudavadi In New York To Attend The 80th UN General Assembly

By: Jacob Ng'etich
@themtkenyatimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Dr. Musalia Mudavadi arrived in New York, the United States of America yesterday to join Kenya's delegation to the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

Mudavadi will accompany President William Ruto who will represent the country in the annual congregation of World leaders.

This year's Assembly is being held under the theme "Better Together: 80 Years and More for Peace, Development and Human Rights."

The UNGA brings together Heads of State and Government, Foreign Ministers, and leaders of international organizations to deliberate on pressing global issues ranging from peace and security to sustainable development and climate action.

During the Assembly, the Prime Cabinet Secretary will hold a series of high-level bilateral meetings with his counterparts, Ministers for Foreign Affairs, and other global leaders.

Kenya's priorities will focus on; championing peace and security in Africa and beyond, including conflict prevention, mediation, and peace-keeping efforts; strengthening economic diplomacy to attract greater trade, investment, and partnerships to advance Kenya's development agenda.

Other areas will include advocating for sustainable development and climate resilience, ensuring that the voices of African countries and vulnerable communities are effectively represented in the global response to climate change.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary will also represent Kenya in strategic engagements with development partners, reinforcing the country's position as a reliable and committed partner in multilateral cooperation, while highlighting Kenya's unique

role as the host of the United Nations headquarters in Nairobi.

In addition, Kenya will continue lobbying for its candidatures within United Nations agencies, underscoring its leadership, expertise, and long-standing contribution to the multilateral system.

This engagement reaffirms Kenya's global leadership and enduring commitment to multilateralism, peace, prosperity, and sustainable development. It also reflects the Government's vision of positioning Kenya as a key voice in shaping solutions to global challenges while advancing the collective interests of the African continent.



Prime Cabinet Secretary, and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Musalia Mudavadi arrives in New York ahead of the 80th United Nations General Assembly celebrations, on the left is Ambassador Erastus Ekitela Lokaale, Kenya Permanent Mission to the UN Representative. Photo/Courtesy..



HEALTH

Leaders Renew Call To End Maternal Deaths

By: Violet Otindo
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Kenya’s maternal mortality ratio stands at 355 deaths per 100,000 live births—equivalent to 20 women dying daily while giving life.
- “Policy gaps are not the issue but rather weak systems. We do not lack policies. The real question is: why are our outcomes still lagging? Without strong governance, adequate human resources, functional referral systems, and accountability, no amount of money or strategies will succeed,” emphasised Dr James Nyikal, Chair of the Parliamentary Health Committee and member of Parliament, Seme Constituency.

Health experts and policymakers have renewed calls for urgent investment in health systems to contain maternal and newborn deaths in the country.

They told the national advocacy forum on reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health (RMNCAH) in Nairobi that it was time a more elaborate strategy was employed to ensure preventable fatalities were minimised as the country accelerates her journey toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Vision 2030.

The forum, held under the theme “Accelerating Policy Reforms for RMNCAH+N”, was marked by a moving account of a 31-year-old mother who nearly lost her life during childbirth, underscoring the urgency of action.

“We checked everything. The uterus was well contracted, the tear was sutured, but the bleeding would not stop. We asked for a balloon tampon—none was available. So we improvised with a catheter and a condom. That is what saved her life,” recalled Dr Kireki Omwana, President of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Association of Kenya.

He said the woman survived only because the hospital had what he described as the “five survival pillars”: skilled staff, essential medicines, blood, basic equipment, and ICU care. “Remove any one of those five, and she would not have lived. Sadly, in most hospitals across Kenya, these pillars do not exist together. That is why we continue to lose about 6,000 mothers every year,” he added.

According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Kenya’s

maternal mortality ratio stands at 355 deaths per 100,000 live births—equivalent to 20 women dying daily while giving life.

“Policy gaps are not the issue but rather weak systems. We do not lack policies. The real question is: why are our outcomes still lagging? Without strong governance, adequate human resources, functional referral systems, and accountability, no amount of money or strategies will succeed,” emphasised Dr James Nyikal, Chair of the Parliamentary Health Committee and member of Parliament, Seme Constituency.

“Advocacy brings everything else together. Training, commodities, infrastructure—none of it moves without leadership. And leadership is built through advocacy,” said Dr Edward Serem, Head of RMNCAH+N at the

Ministry of Health.

Civil society leaders echoed the call, saying, “We already have the policies. The challenge is putting them into practice. Every mother counts, every child counts, and the future of our nation depends on them,” said Lisa Mshega, Project Lead for Maternal Health at HENNET.

From the counties, Dr Emmy Chesire Cheboi, First Lady of Baringo, outlined practical approaches being implemented to encourage facility-based deliveries, promote exclusive breastfeeding, expand immunisation, and address adolescent health challenges such as early pregnancy and female genital mutilation.

“If we want to save lives, we must ensure mothers deliver in health facilities. We must prioritise incentivising mothers to deliver in hospital. Things

as simple as offering a basin or even drinking chocolate to carry home are key. But facilities must be adequately equipped, accessible, and welcoming. No mother should die while giving life, and no child should be lost to preventable causes,” she says.

The forum closed with leaders affirming a shared commitment to accelerate progress toward zero preventable maternal and newborn deaths by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and Vision 2030 – just five years away from now.

“Women are not dying because of diseases we cannot treat. They are dying because we have not yet made the decision that their lives are worth saving. It is time to act,” concluded Dr Omwana.



Kindiki: Community Health Promoters Crucial To SHA Success

By: DPCS
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Speaking yesterday when he hosted over 3000 CHPs from Embu County at Irunduni, Tharaka Nithi County, the Deputy President appreciated the work done by the health promoters in early detection of diseases and SHA's uptake.
- "We are grateful for the work the Community Health Promoters are doing. You are the foot soldiers of our flagship Universal Health Coverage project. You are our infantry on the frontline in our pursuit of better health-care," DP stated.
- With the SHA registration picking pace, currently at over 26 million and projected to reach 30 million by December, the DP said this would not have been achieved without the tireless efforts of CHPs.

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has assured Community Health Promoters (CHPs) that the government is working hard to improve their terms of engagement.

Prof. Kindiki said the ruling administration is aware of the challenges facing them as he lauded the CHPs for doing an excellent job in promoting better healthcare.

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With the SHA registration picking pace, currently at over 26 million and projected to reach 30 million by December, the DP said this would not have been achieved without the tireless efforts of CHPs.

"SHA registration would not have been a success if it was not for the support of CHPs. You are our SHA heroes. We appreciate what you are doing. We are focused on improving your working conditions," he reiterated.

In 2023, the national government, in collaboration with the 47 counties, recruited over 107, 000 CHPs and equipped each of them with requisite medical equipment that has made it easy to detect diseases and make referrals for better treatment. They are located in all the counties and receive a monthly stipend co-shared by both levels of government.

"The decision to recruit CHPs is one of the most consequential healthcare interventions since independence. What you are doing is great. You have saved the lives of many Kenyans who have known their health condition early and been treated before it got worse," DP insisted.

He said their work has been appreciated by millions of Kenyans who have benefitted from their services.

"They visit homes, take basic medical tests for blood pressure, diabetes and the like, advise on diet, refer patients requiring medical attention to hospitals and follow up daily to ensure those on medication adhere to prescribed regimen," he added.

The DP also highlighted the progress made in rolling out development projects in Embu County touching on infrastructural upgrading in a bid to



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki, Embu governor Cecily Mbarire and other leaders join artists when he hosted CHPs..

improve the lives of residents.

Many stalled roads have been revived and on course to completion and 12 modern markets are underway in the county.

The government has also allocated Sh1.2 billion for last-mile electricity connection up from Sh576 million after the leaders pressed upon the President for higher allocation.

"We are grateful to Embu Governor Cecily Mbarire and aligned MPs for supporting our agenda. We will support you 100 percent. I will do whatever I can to support the development of Embu County. I am available 24/7 to do this," DP assured.

Governor Mbarire, who was present during the engagement, said CHPs are a cornerstone upon which SHA

has been founded and strengthened.

"CHPs have done a great job in promoting better healthcare among our people. These are the people who have pushed SHA uptake at the grassroots. These are the true ambassadors of SHA," said Governor Mbarire.



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki addressing the CHPs from Embu yesterday. Photos/Courtesy.

Kenya Showcases Culture, Conservation And Community At Ura Gate Cultural Festival

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyatimes

Drums, dance, and dazzling tradition set the stage yesterday as the 7th Ura Gate Cultural Festival roared to life at the eastern entrance of Meru National Park.

The four-day celebration, themed “Embracing Culture as a Tool for Wildlife Conservation & Socio-Economic Development”, is more than a display of music and costumes. It has become a bridge between people and nature, showing how culture can power tourism, jobs, and conservation.

The opening ceremony drew top government officials led by Tourism and Wildlife Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano and Kenya Wildlife Service Director General Prof. Erustus Kanga, who joined residents, performers, and local leaders in a vibrant showcase of song and dance.

Miano praised the community for keeping the festival alive since 2015 and pledged new government support, including a borehole for the Ura Gate community, a cultural centre within



two years, and programs to empower youth and women in the creative economy. She also revealed that more than KSh37 million has recently been paid to families in Meru and Tharaka Nithi affected by human–wildlife conflict. “This is not just a festival, it is an economic engine. If marketed well, it can draw visitors from across Kenya and the world,” Miano said.

Prof. Kanga echoed her words, stressing that the survival of Meru and Kora National Parks depends on the wellbeing of surrounding communities. “This festival is a strategic opportunity to link heritage with wildlife tourism,” he noted.

Beyond the speeches, the festival is already making an impact: youth are finding work as guides, rangers, and performers, cultural groups are earning income, and visitors are getting a rare taste of both traditional heritage and the wild beauty of Meru National Park—home to elephants, rhinos, and the elusive pancake tortoise found only in Tharaka Nithi.

As the festival that started on Wednesday runs through tomorrow, locals and visitors alike are invited to join in the celebration of culture, conservation, and community spirit.



Kenya Launches Landmark Partnership To Secure The Future Of The Black Rhino

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

The government has launched a partnership with the Kenya Rhino Range Expansion Initiative KRREI to secure the long-term future of the black rhino, one of Kenya’s most iconic and endangered species.

Kenya’s black rhino population, once reduced to just 381 individuals due to rampant poaching and habitat loss, now stands at over 1,050 thanks to decades of conservation efforts and strategic partnerships. However, this conservation success has created a new challenge: the country’s existing sanctuaries are now full, underscoring the urgent need to expand and create new habitats for the growing population.

“We are not just expanding rhi-

no habitats; we are advancing our nation’s most ambitious commitments,” said tourism and wildlife cabinet secretary Rebecca Miano. “This initiative directly supports Kenya Vision 2030 and the National Wildlife Strategy 2030, putting conservation at the center of sustainable development.”

Under the partnership, Kenya is preparing a new sanctuary in Tsavo West National Park and connecting over 3,000 square kilometers of habitat in Central Kenya to form one of the world’s largest rhino landscapes. These efforts will also reintroduce rhinos to areas where they have been absent for more than half a century, marking a historic milestone in the country’s conservation journey.

The initiative carries ambitious targets for the next decade. By 2030, it aims to add more than 600 black rhinos to the population, restore 700



square kilometers of degraded land, and support 18,000 jobs for young people in surrounding communities. Beyond wildlife protection, the program is expected to generate livelihoods, create economic opportunities, and empower rural communities living alongside conservation areas.

“Through wildlife protection, we are not only securing our heritage but also creating jobs, improving livelihoods, and empowering communities,” Miano emphasized. “Kenya is making history in rhino conservation by ensuring the long-term survival of our national pride—the black rhino—and I am proud to affirm our Ministry’s unwavering support for this partnership.”

The Kenya Rhino Range Expansion Initiative is expected to serve as a model for balancing conservation with community development. By linking wildlife protection to economic empowerment, the program aligns with Kenya’s broader development goals while ensuring that future generations inherit a thriving black rhino population.

Vision Of A Sculptor / Teacher



A sculptor sees the masterpiece, before the
first strike,
He foresees the beaut that lies within the
stone
He removes the unwanted, with gentle, careful
strikes
Later it reveals the hidden form fully

He shapes with chisel and hammer and molds
with care,
Removes the excess, to bring forth what is
inside
This foresight is a gift, that guides his skilled
hand
It stands for a long time As art is long

teachers too see potential, in their students'
eyes,

They chisel out the flaws, and shape their
future
They mould and mentor, with patience and with
love,
Teachers guide them for a brighter path

The teacher-sculptor, sees the end product
clearly
Creates a good citizen, with values, and
character
the student blooms into a noble soul,
The teacher's heart blooms with pride and
makes them happy

This is the vision, of a sculptor's mind,
To see the masterpiece, before it is started
It is a gift to reveal, what's hidden deep inside,

Brinda. D
GRADUATE TEACHER,
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPAKKAM
CUDDALORE, Tamilnadu, India
creativewritersmag@gmail.com

Ritu Solanki: Emerging Educator And Author In The Field Of Education



New Delhi, India:

Ritu Solanki, a rising educator and researcher, is quickly establishing herself as a promising contributor to the field of education. With an impressive academic background and a passion for innovative learning, she is dedicated to shaping modern teaching practices.

Ritu began her journey with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) from Delhi University, later completing her Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) and Master of Education (M.Ed.) from Maharshi Dayanand University. She also holds a Master of Arts in

Economics from IGNOU. Currently, she is pursuing her Ph.D. in Education at NILLM University, where her research focuses on integrating innovative methods into teaching to make learning more effective and engaging.

Alongside her research, Ritu has authored books that have gained attention in academic circles. Her work "Learning & Teaching" simplifies complex concepts with mind maps, flowcharts, and diagrams, offering clear preparation pathways, updated question patterns, and comprehensive explanations for students. Another book, "Contemporary India and Education," widely used by B.Ed. students, explores the link between India's education system and the nation's socio-political and economic environment.

Speaking about her vision, Ritu said, "Education must evolve with time. My focus is on making learning practical, accessible, and relevant to students and educators alike."

With her growing contributions, Ritu Solanki stands out as part of a new generation of educators determined to bring progressive changes to India's education system.

Ritu Solanki

Dare To Dream



I am the sky, you wish to touch,
I am the song, you wish to sing.
I am the music, you wish to play.
I am the smile, you wish to wear.
I am the love, you wish to have.
I am the light that guides your way,
I am the hope that never fades,
I am the heartbeat of your tomorrow...
So close your eyes... oh dear Ones! For I am
your dream, and I will be there, till you dare to
dream...

Vidhya. S. Nair

Last Book Lament



why it whispers in silence every day. This is the lament of the last book!

Books once inspired people, shared knowledge, and changed their lives. Their pages contained emotions, pain, sorrow, and joy. The keys to a wonderful, magical world were hidden within their pages. People found their identity there. Unfortunately, now people are absorbed in their phones and computer screens. They have simply forgotten the taste of paper. People who are captive to the virtual world are no longer interested in the magical, mysterious world. The book whispered softly with pain; "I have held people's smiles, joys, tears and pains in my arms for centuries. I have saved every verse for them. I have brought light to their hearts. When they took me in their arms, I would take them to my world. They would find peace and comfort in me. But do they no longer need me? Have people forgotten me?" Its pages still contain that painful silence. This silence speaks when the reader takes it in their hands.. When someone remembers it and turns the pages, the pages come to life again, whispering with joy. But no one notices it!

The last book lament is actually the lament of humanity. We cannot forget this lament, we cannot ignore it. Because forgetting it means forgetting one's identity, history, and humanity, and abandoning one's soul. One day, people will pick up the book again, leaf through its pages. The pages will return to them the forgotten humanity, bring light into their lives, and call for goodness. The words in the book will never die! They will remain in the hearts of people forever. Someday, people will listen to the lament of the book again. I believe in it!

Morning. The sun is smiling in the sky, behind the clouds. The fragrance of flowers is spread all around. The golden rays of the sun are embracing the dew on the surface of the flowers and leaves, shining like diamonds. A gentle breeze wafts around, mixing with the scent of flowers. Life is in full swing, everyone is in a hurry somewhere. Someone is running to work, someone to study. A huge, but forgotten and dilapidated library on the outskirts of the city. No one is in a hurry here, does not notice, does not remember. No matter how majestic it is, there is nothing in this library except old and empty shelves. Only on one of the empty shelves there is still a thick, dusty book. The cover of the book is old, the pages are yellowed, but its heart – that is, every line is still alive! However, no one turns the pages, does not read the lines. That is

The Power Of Teacher



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Speculators of sacrificing souls
Soldiers in all social struggles

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Wiser of the wonderful world
Controller of cruel concepts
Influencer of every intelligence

Demonstrator of all our dreams
Developer of dignified diedums
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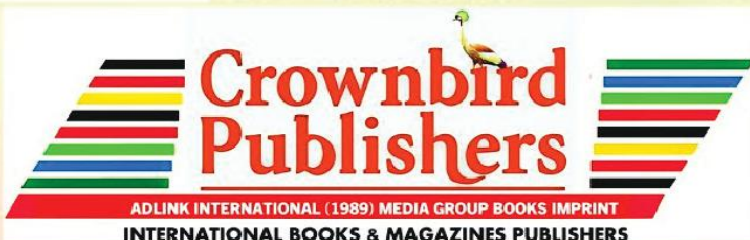
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Boost For SMEs As New Funding, Investment Opportunities Unlocked In Kenya-Gulf Pact

By: John Kamau
@themtkenyatimes

The partnership between Africa and the Gulf countries has been taunted as a major milestone towards promoting businesses and triggering economic growth in African countries.

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are set to be the major beneficiaries with eased access to financing as well as investment opportunities to grow and sustain the ventures.

Partners under the Gulf-Africa Investment Nexus (GAIN) maintain that African start-ups and SMEs will access funding through collaborations with Gulf investors noting that the Gulf region is the market of liquidity while Africa is the center of resources.

GAIN CEO Dr Princess Mutisya averred that Kenya-Gulf partnerships are benefiting SMEs by providing crucial access to financing, markets, and specialized technical support, including digitalization training.

She spoke during a Gulf-Africa investment summit involving industry leaders and chambers of commerce in a Nairobi hotel yesterday.

Dr Mutisya noted that these collaborations aim to overcome financing barriers, enhance operational capacity, foster sustainable business practices, and facilitate integration into global value chains, ultimately promoting growth and economic transformation for Kenyan SMEs.

She however noted that for African and especially Kenyan businesses to secure funding from the Gulf, trade barriers and majorly trust issues between the two regions must be addressed so as to unlock financing and investment opportunities.

Dr Mutisya, an International Trade Lawyer, revealed that GAIN will launch a Gulf Enterprise Fund in November to enhance accessibility to financing solutions for Kenyan start-ups adding that there are also investors who are ready to finance business investments.

“With adequate funding, proper training and sensitization, the country’s growth will stir up as remittances will grow significantly and trade increase in diverse fields including infrastructure, real estate among others,” Dr Mutisya said.

Michael Gathu, the Chief Representative of Dubai International Chamber East Africa noted that the partnerships will address other trade barriers including lack of information and also ensure that Kenyan businesses are provided with market



Gulf-Africa Investment Nexus (GAIN) CEO Dr Princess Mutisya.



Michael Gathu, the Chief Representative of Dubai International Chamber East Africa.

intelligence as well as linkages with international firms and partners.

He averred that Gulf countries provide a huge market that should be exploited by Kenyans.

He however noted that Kenyans and especially those in the Agribusiness sector must embrace latest technologies as well as value addition for their products to be enter the Gulf markets.

Gathu also advised SMEs and Kenyan firms to consider creating and or joining consortium so as leverage on the global market.

Similar sentiments were echoed by

Samchi Group of Companies CEO Dr Esther Muchemi who reiterated that there’s adequate funds for fintechs, start-ups and SMEs in the Gulf which will only be unlocked by addressing trust deficits between the two regions.

She also called on the government to create better policies to promote investments including reviewing the country’s tax regime, lowering tariffs as well as create an enabling environment for manufacturing to thrive in the country.

“The government must make interventions that will promote manufac-



Samchi Group of Companies CEO Dr Esther Muchemi speaking at teh sidelines of the Gulf investment summit.



Martin Chomba, the Chairman of Petroleum Outlets Association of Kenya.

turing in the country and ensure that there’s a friendly environment for investments,” she said.

Dr Mercy Mwangela highlighted that the Government must address critical gaps that hinder business and investments growth in the country. She quipped that adequate investments must be made in the energy sector, which is a vital recipe for manufacturing.

She also pointed out graft and bureaucratic in the government as a thong in the flesh for most Kenyans and key sectors in the country noting that this has killed many dreams and start-ups, even before they takeoff.

Martin Chomba, the Chairman of Petroleum Outlets Association of Kenya, hailed the partnerships as transformational noting that partners will provide technical assistance, such as financial readiness training, and support in areas like supply chain management and bookkeeping to improve SME operations.

He reiterated that these collaborations foster stronger market linkages and help to create new opportunities for businesses to grow and connect with global value chains.

Development Of Every Child Matters



By: Wanjohi P. Mugambi
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- For a child to effectively develop, their educational needs must be fulfilled. This is just one of the many responsibilities of parents, caregivers as they need to ensure all activities are age and stage appropriate. Parents should understand that all children have agency and curiosity to learn and will interact with other people and the world around them in different ways. Understanding these different ways of knowing about the world boost the children's development process.
- The child's early experience must be central to the thinking of every part. Parents should understand that babies, toddlers or young children thrive when they are loved, and well cared for. Children that lack the effective basic needs tend to develop differently with those whose basic needs are fully provided for. Parents should at least be able to do something on this.

The development of each child is more important as it not only affects their learning in the classroom but also in the future. It should be understood that all children develop in different ways and their development can never be said to be linear or automatic. It varies and it is unique. The development depends on each unique child having opportunities to interact in positive relationships and an enabling environment. The environment plays a vital role in the development of the child as it encourages their engagement hence one is able to recognize their strength.

For a child to effectively develop, their educational needs must be fulfilled. This is just one of the many responsibilities of parents, caregivers as they need to ensure all activities are age and stage appropriate. Parents should understand that all children have agency and curiosity to learn and will interact with other people and the world around them in different ways. Understanding these different ways of knowing about the world boost the children's development process.

The child's early experience must be central to the thinking of every part. Parents should understand that babies, toddlers or young children thrive when they are loved, and well cared for. Children that lack the effective basic needs tend to develop differently with those whose basic needs are fully provided for. Parents should at least be able to do something on this. High quality care is consistent. Parents need to enjoy spending more time with their children rather than just being busy. Children's time is more effective in their growth. A child whose parent is ever present will grow and develop differently from them that parents are ever absent. Emotionally the children are affected and this brings about emotional imbalance as they grow up. Let it be understood that toddlers learn to be independent as they develop and due to this at times they get frustrated.

In addition all children deserve to have an equal chance of success. The government hence should stand in the gap and offer high quality early education for all children. This is especially important for children mostly from the disadvantaged areas. It is evident town life and rural life is different but when young children start school in Pre primary, children from the disadvantaged backgrounds tend to start it late at an average of 4 months or even a year behind their peers. We as education practitioners need to do something more to narrow

the gap. It should also be noted that children who have lived in difficult experiences begin to grow stronger when they experience high quality early education and care as they develop.

An enabling environment should be offered to every child. Children learn and develop well in them. The environment teaches the young children a lot. Support can be given where it is necessary in order to give them a chance to grow and develop. Some children will benefit from extra support and expert advice in order to get more and the most out of the opportunities for learning and belonging that their early years settlements can afford. Parents and guardians therefore should learn how to offer this support through observation, consultation with the Early Years Practitioners and most importantly be careful in listening.

The family, school, or general environment a child lives and interacts with generally affects their growth and development. In the early formative years, children pick up things from their environment, learn how to solve problems, habits, and behaviors, socialize, and general functioning. Consequently, studying the main environmental factors affecting the growth and development of a child is necessary. These include the social, emotional, economic, and physical environment.

The physical environment is the



space and location in which the child grows, affecting their health, learning, and behavior. In addition, research shows that effects of the physical environment, such as housing, exposure to pollution, and neighborhood quality, all affect the psychosocial aspect of the child. For example, assume a child with disabilities getting access to a ramp to help them access various areas of their home quickly. This example depicts the impact of the physical environment on growth.

Understanding that development matters is important. Understanding that children as unique human being still matters. You can't be an adult without being a child but you can be a child and never be an adult. This includes considering them in relation to others is also important. Finding out about each child and what they enjoy doing with the support of others is

an important aspect of understanding children's development and this support their learning process.

In conclusion, early children have a right to play. One great Philosopher Maria Montessori advocates education via play and play things. Young babies have a right to place and this boosts the well being and the development needed in them. They should hence be allowed to play both indoor and outdoor. Indoor play will help the parent in understanding their children. In play children can become deeply involved as they take things they already know and combine them in new ways so that their understanding broadens. In play also, the environment should be conducive and safe for the young children. Play gives the children the freedom to develop and learn across all areas.



Soaring To New Heights: Analyzing The Low-Altitude Economy And Namibia's Collaborative Path With The World UAV Federation



By: Silas Mwaudasheni Nande
@themkenyetimes

Introduction: The Uncharted Skies of Economic Growth

The 21st century has been characterized by an relentless pursuit of innovation, pushing the boundaries of what is technologically possible and economically viable. While much attention has historically been directed towards cyberspace, outer space, and traditional terrestrial industries, a new frontier for economic development is rapidly emerging: the low-altitude economy. This sector encompasses commercial and industrial activities conducted within the airspace below 1,000 meters, primarily driven by the exponential advancements in unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) technology, commonly known as drones, and the advent of electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft. Far from being a niche interest, the low-altitude economy is poised to revolutionize various sectors, from logistics and agriculture to infrastructure inspection and emergency services, offering unprecedented efficiencies, cost reductions, and access to previously inaccessible areas. As nations grapple with challenges such as sustainable development, resource management, and improving connectivity, the strategic adoption of low-altitude technologies presents a compelling pathway to accelerate national growth and enhance societal well-being.

For a country like Namibia, with its vast and often sparsely populated landscapes, rich natural resources, and a strategic vision for economic diversification, the low-altitude economy represents an particularly fertile ground for innovation and investment. The nation faces unique geographical and logistical challenges that conventional infrastructure development struggles to fully address. From delivering vital medical supplies to remote communities, monitoring wildlife in expansive conservation areas, to optimizing agricultural yields across extensive farms, UAVs offer practical, scalable, and environmentally conscious solutions. Recognizing this immense potential, the recent interest from organizations such as the World UAV Federation (WUVF) in collaborating with Namibia signals a pivotal

moment. This collaboration is not merely about importing technology; it is about co-creating a sustainable ecosystem for the low-altitude economy that is tailored to Namibia's specific needs and aspirations. This article will delve into a comprehensive analysis of the low-altitude economy, exploring its multifaceted applications and inherent challenges. Furthermore, it will critically examine how Namibia can strategically leverage this sector, forging a robust partnership with the World UAV Federation to unlock new avenues of economic prosperity, foster technological advancement, and establish itself as a regional leader in this dynamic aerial frontier.

Deconstructing the Low-Altitude Economy: A Global Perspective

The low-altitude economy is a mosaic of technologies, applications, and business models that leverage the lower airspace as a new dimension for economic activity. It's a departure from traditional, large-scale aviation and a step into a future of democratized airspace.

Core Technologies and Their Evolution

At the heart of this sector are the technologies that make low-altitude flight both possible and practical.

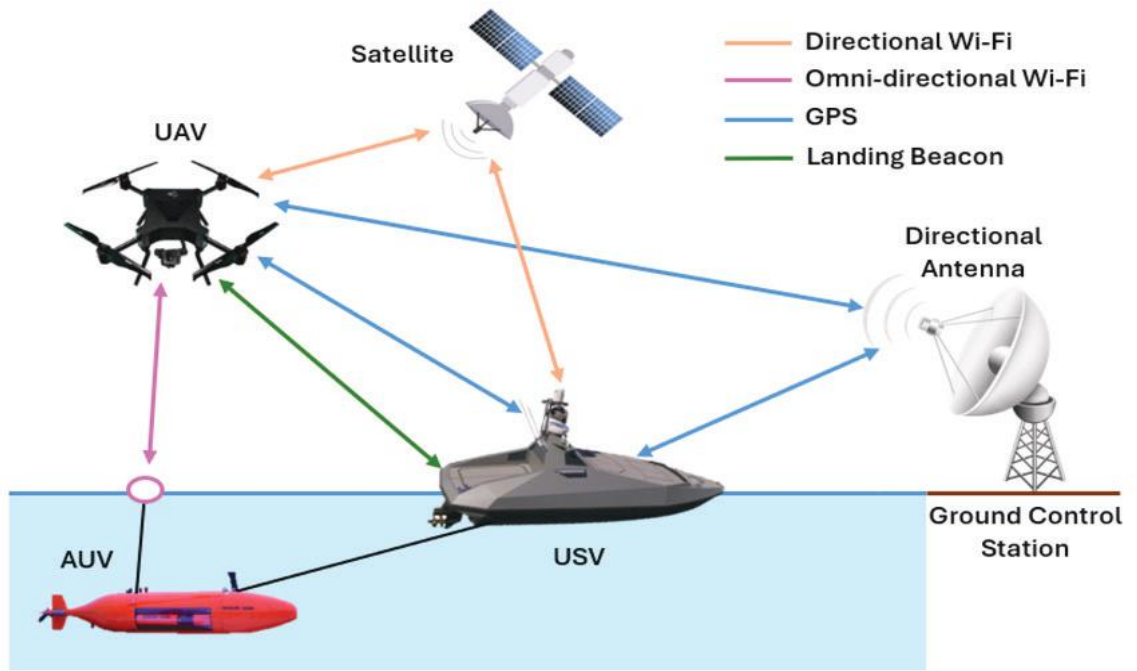
Drones (UAVs): These are the workhorses of the low-altitude economy. They come in various forms, each suited for different tasks.

Multi-rotor drones (e.g., quadcopters, hexacopters): Known for their vertical take-off and landing capabilities, stability, and precision. They are ideal for aerial photography, detailed inspections of structures, and light-payload delivery. Their flight time is often limited, making them best for short-range missions.

Fixed-wing drones: Resembling small airplanes, these drones are more efficient for long-distance flights and large-area mapping, such as in agriculture or surveying. They require a runway or a hand-launch mechanism and cannot hover, but their extended flight time makes them invaluable for covering vast territories.

Hybrid drones: Combining the best of both worlds, these vehicles can take off vertically and then transition to horizontal, fixed-wing flight. This offers a blend of long-range capability with the flexibility of vertical landing, perfect for complex logistical operations.

Electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing (eVTOL) Aircraft: While still in the developmental phase, eVTOLs represent the future of human transportation in the low-altitude space. Often referred to as "flying cars," they are designed to carry passengers or significant cargo in an



urban air mobility (UAM) context. These aircraft promise to bypass traffic congestion, dramatically reducing commute times and transforming city logistics. The challenges for eVTOLs are immense, including regulatory hurdles, battery technology limitations, and the need for new urban infrastructure like "vertiports."

Sensors, AI, and Data Analytics: The true value of these flying platforms lies not just in their movement but in the data they can collect. High-resolution cameras, thermal imaging, LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging), and multispectral sensors are all integrated into drones. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning algorithms then process this massive influx of data, turning raw information into actionable insights - identifying a struggling crop, detecting a fault in a power line, or locating a missing person in a vast landscape.

Communication Systems: Reliable communication is critical for controlling UAVs and transmitting data. The rollout of 5G networks, with their high speed and low latency, is a significant enabler for the low-altitude economy, as is the growing accessibility of satellite connectivity for operations in remote areas.

Key Application Verticals and Their Global Impact

The applications of the low-altitude economy are diverse and transformative.

Logistics and Delivery: The "last-mile" problem is a major challenge for e-commerce and logistics companies, especially in areas with poor road networks. Drone delivery offers a solution by bypassing ground traffic and delivering packages, food, and, most critically, medical supplies. In Rwanda and Ghana, Zipline's medical drone delivery

service has become a global benchmark, transporting blood and vaccines to remote clinics within minutes, saving countless lives.

Agriculture and Agri-tech: Drones are at the forefront of the "Fourth Agricultural Revolution." They enable precision farming by providing farmers with detailed, real-time data on crop health, soil conditions, and water stress. Drones equipped with spraying systems can apply pesticides or fertilizers with pinpoint accuracy, reducing chemical usage and environmental impact while maximizing yield. This is particularly relevant for Namibia's large-scale agricultural operations.

Infrastructure Inspection and Maintenance: Inspecting critical infrastructure like power lines, pipelines, and wind turbines is often a dangerous and expensive task. Drones can perform these inspections quickly and safely, capturing high-resolution images and thermal data to detect faults or wear and tear long before they become catastrophic. This not only improves safety but also significantly reduces maintenance costs and downtime.

Environmental Monitoring and Conservation: The low-altitude economy is a powerful tool for environmental stewardship. In African countries, drones are being used for anti-poaching surveillance, providing real-time intelligence to rangers to protect endangered species. They are also used to monitor deforestation, assess land degradation, and conduct wildlife census counts, offering a non-intrusive way to gather crucial data on ecosystems.

Public Safety and Emergency Services: During disasters, drones can provide a live aerial view of a situation, helping first responders locate trapped individuals, assess damage, and coordinate rescue efforts. In search and rescue missions, ther-

mal cameras on drones can quickly locate people in dense forests or at night.

Economic Drivers and Value Proposition

The economic appeal of the low-altitude economy is rooted in its ability to offer solutions that are faster, safer, and more cost-effective than traditional methods. The global drone services market is projected to be worth tens of billions of dollars, creating new jobs for pilots, engineers, data analysts, and software developers. It fosters innovation and can become a significant contributor to a nation's GDP.

Challenges and Constraints

Despite the immense potential, the sector faces significant hurdles.

Regulatory Frameworks: Airspace is a national asset, and its management is a complex task. Many countries, particularly in Africa, have restrictive regulations that were not designed for the large-scale use of UAVs. Issues of air traffic management, pilot certification, drone registration, and privacy laws must be addressed to allow the sector to flourish.

Talent Development: A skilled workforce is essential. There is a need to train a new generation of drone pilots, data scientists, and maintenance technicians.

Infrastructure: While drones don't require roads, they need a supporting ecosystem, including charging stations, reliable data networks, and a clear regulatory map of the airspace.

Public Perception and Privacy: The

ODM Prepares Week-Long Festivities To Mark Two Decades Of Struggle And Service

By: Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyetimes

The Orange Democratic Movement has begun laying the groundwork for its 20th anniversary celebrations with the party's top leadership meeting in Nairobi yesterday.

The session, chaired by ODM national chairperson Governor Gladys Wanga, brought together members of the party's National Executive Committee who reviewed plans for a week-long programme of events set to take place in Mombasa and Kilifi counties later this month.

"This year marks two decades of resilience, struggle and service to the people of Kenya. We intend to cel-

brate not only our history but also the values that keep the movement alive," said Edwin Sifuna, ODM Secretary General in a statement sent to newsrooms.

According to Sifuna, the activities will include a football tournament featuring four of the country's most prominent clubs AFC Leopards, Bandari, Gor Mahia and Shabana, as well as a youth summit, a women's convention and a special breakfast for persons with disabilities.

Other events on the programme will honour past leaders of the party and those who lost their lives in the struggle for democracy. The party has also lined up an inter-faith prayer meeting and a four-day free medical camp.

In the run-up to the festivities, ODM will host regional gatherings in Wajir



ODM @20 Preparations.

on September 20 and in Kisii on September 26.

The committee also reviewed the progress of the ongoing grassroots

elections, praising the National Elections Coordinating Committee for what it described as a smooth and transparent exercise so far.

The party leaders used the meeting

to reaffirm their readiness for upcoming by-elections, saying the party remains confident of fielding strong candidates.

Strategic Nest Unveils 2025 Business and Leadership Award Winners

By: Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyetimes

Strategic Nest Corporation a research-driven communications and public relations firm, has announced the winners of the Strategic Business and Leadership Awards 2025 (SBLA 2025), a program aimed at recognizing outstanding leaders and organizations shaping Africa's future.

The announcement was made during a press briefing in their headquarters in Nairobi, where the firm stressed that Africa's real wealth lies in its people. According to the organizers, the awards seek to spotlight individuals and institutions whose impact is felt in communities, economies, and society at large.

Speaking during the launch, Samuel Njari, Strategic Nest Corporation CEO & Head of Secretariat, highlighted that they collect data, which takes probably like six to seven months, but mostly they try to limit it to six months.

"We bring a lot of pools of people together, then, we now narrow down to about a workable number, depending with the different metrics that is used by our company. We majorly depend on what we research about you, not you telling us what you want to hear," he highlighted.

He further continued to say that they try to limit the nomination process because they believe that at times the nomination process is very corrupted.

"These people who nominate themselves, they do so because they need the award and most of the time that they will lobby, they might look for ways to try and find their way on the winners list. But for us, it's different because you will never know that you are being celebrated until the list is published," the SNC CEO explained.

The selection process began in December 2024 and combined in-depth research with input from community voices. From nearly 300 CEOs and more than 360 corporates evaluated, the secretariat submitted finalists to the SNC Board of Directors, which vetted and confirmed the honorees.

"This year's winners include 20 CEOs, 20 corporates, and 10 recipients of special recognitions. They will be honored at a gala ceremony on November 7 at Villa Rosa Kempinski, Nairobi," underscored Rogers Kinoti, Head of Research SNC.

CEO winners include Eric Muriuki Njagh of LOOP DFS, recognized for Finance and Banking, Morris Mbetsa of Numeral IOT, awarded in Technology and Innovation, Mwende Musunga of Lancet in Healthcare, Esther Muchemi of Samchi Group in Retail and Consumer Goods, and Wawira Njiru of Food4Education in



In the middle, Strategic Nest Corporation CEO & Head of Secretariat Samuel Njari, during a press briefing at the SNC headquarters in Nairobi.

Social Enterprise and Impact Ventures.

Corporate honorees include I&M Bank (Finance and Banking), Ruai Family Hospital (Healthcare), SafariLink Aviation (Logistics and Transport), Villa Rosa Kempinski (Hospitality), Airtel Kenya (Telecommunications), Vivo Fashion Group (Fashion and Lifestyle), and Glovo (E-Commerce and Digital Platforms).

Special awards went to a diverse group of leaders and creatives. Sena-

tor Crystal Asige was recognized for advancing diversity and inclusion, comedian Timothy Kimani (Njugush) was named Creative Entrepreneur of the Year, musician David Mathenge (Nameless) received the Entertainment Legacy Award, and Dr. Jennifer Riria was honored with the Lifetime Achievement in Leadership award. Journalist Jeff Koinange and business leader Rita Kavashe were also among those celebrated.

"The Nest was created as a space to recognize and nurture Africa's excel-

lence. Recognition builds legacy. It inspires the next generation to dream bigger and lead with purpose," stated Joy Gitonga, Communication Specialist SNC.

The November gala is expected to bring together business leaders, innovators, and policy makers for an evening that not only celebrates achievement but also reinforces Africa's growing culture of leadership and excellence.

Soaring To New Heights: Analyzing The Low-Altitude Economy And Namibia's Collaborative Path With The World UAV Federation

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sight of a drone flying overhead can raise concerns about privacy and security. Building public trust and ensuring that regulations protect citizen rights is crucial for the sector's long-term viability.

Namibia's Unique Landscape: Opportunities and Imperatives for Low-Altitude Adoption
Namibia's physical geography and economic structure make it a perfect candidate for leveraging the low-altitude economy.

Geographical and Demographic Context
Namibia is the driest country in Sub-Saharan Africa and one of the most sparsely populated nations in the world. Its vast land area, diverse landscapes (from the Namib Desert to the Caprivi Strip), and dispersed population present unique logistical challenges. Conventional infrastructure, like roads and power lines, is expensive to build and maintain across such a large territory. This is where drones can provide a cost-effective and agile alternative.

Economic Pillars and Their Potential for Transformation
Namibia's economy is primarily driven by mining, agriculture, and tourism. The low-altitude economy has the potential to act as a catalyst for innovation and efficiency in all three sectors.
Agriculture: Drones can revolutionize farming in Namibia. They can be used to monitor crop health in real-time, helping farmers to optimize irrigation and identify pest infestations early. For the country's extensive livestock farming, drones can be used to monitor herds over large areas, track animal health, and even deter predators. Pilot projects like those in the Otjisa rural community have already shown the potential for using drone technology to address challenges posed by irregular rainfall and poor soil quality, enhancing food security and farmer resilience.
Mining: Namibia is a major producer of diamonds, uranium, and other minerals. Drones can be used for aerial surveying, creating highly accurate 3D maps of mining sites, and calculating stockpile volumes. They can also perform safety inspections in hazardous or hard-to-reach areas, reducing risk for human workers.

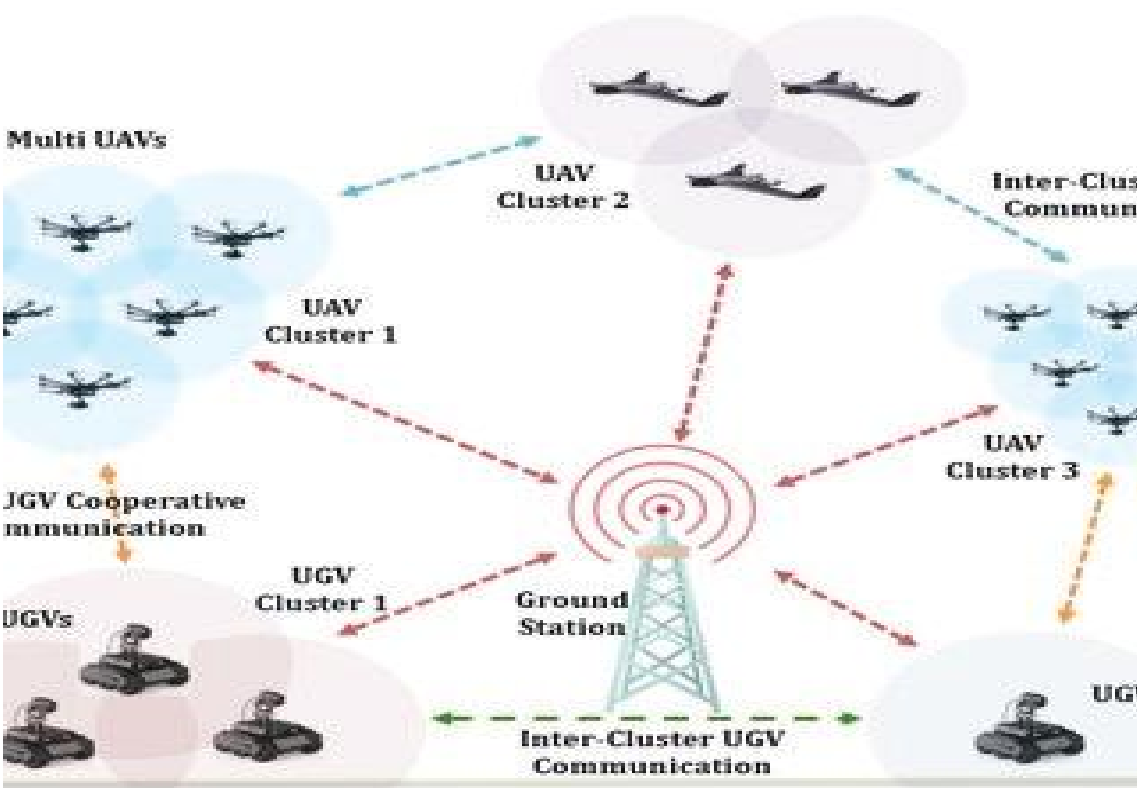
Tourism and Wildlife Conservation: Namibia's national parks, like Etosha and Namib-Naukluft, are a major draw for tourists. Drones of-

fer a non-invasive way to monitor wildlife, assist with anti-poaching patrols, and conduct ecological research. However, this application requires a sensitive approach and strict regulations to prevent disturbance to wildlife and ensure a quality experience for tourists, as highlighted by existing regulations that require permits for drone use in national parks.
Logistics and Supply Chain: The distribution of goods and services to Namibia's remote communities is a persistent challenge. Drones could be used to deliver essential medicines, vaccines, and blood supplies to rural clinics and hospitals, bypassing impassable roads and saving critical time. This could have a monumental impact on public health outcomes.

Socio-Economic Development Goals
The strategic adoption of low-altitude technology aligns perfectly with Namibia's national development plans. By improving access to healthcare and education in rural areas, enhancing food security, and creating new job opportunities, this sector can contribute directly to the country's sustainable development goals. The World UAV Federation's Chairman, Yang Jinchai, has specifically mentioned collaborations in the Ministries of Agriculture, Safety and Security, and Education, which indicates a shared vision for using this technology for broad societal benefit.

The Strategic Partnership: Namibia and the World UAV Federation
The collaboration between Namibia and the World UAV Federation is a critical step in unlocking the country's low-altitude potential. It provides a structured framework for development, moving beyond isolated pilot projects to the creation of a national ecosystem.

Understanding the World UAV Federation (WUVF)
The WUVF is a global organization dedicated to promoting the development and application of UAV technology. Its mission extends beyond commercial interests to include the establishment of international standards, safety protocols, and ethical guidelines. A partnership with the WUVF offers Namibia more than just access to technology; it provides a roadmap based on global best practices, technical expertise, and a network of international partners. It represents a way to "leapfrog" some of the common pitfalls experienced by countries in the early stages of drone adoption.



Framework for Collaboration
The partnership can be structured in a multi-phased approach to ensure sustainable growth.

Phase 1: Needs Assessment and Policy Development: The first step is to collaboratively identify the most pressing needs and opportunities for low-altitude technology in Namibia. This would involve a joint task force with representatives from relevant Namibian ministries (e.g., Environment, Agriculture, Transport) and WUVF experts. A key outcome would be the development of a modern, forward-thinking regulatory framework. The current regulations, which often require extensive lead times for permits (e.g., 60 days for recreational flights), need to be streamlined to foster innovation while ensuring safety. The WUVF can provide guidance on best practices for airspace management, pilot licensing, and data privacy.

Phase 2: Pilot Projects and Technology Transfer: Following the regulatory groundwork, the collaboration would move to implementing targeted pilot projects. For example, a project could be launched to test the efficacy of drone-based medical delivery in the Kunene Region or a large-scale precision agriculture initiative in the Kavango Region. This phase is crucial for demonstrating the tangible benefits of the technology, building local confidence, and refining operational protocols. The WUVF can facilitate the transfer of appropriate, high-quality UAV technologies and software, ensuring that the solutions are robust and well-suited to Namibia's unique

conditions.
Phase 3: Human Capital Development and Local Ecosystem Building: A critical element of sustainable growth is local capacity. The partnership should focus on establishing training programs for Namibians. This includes certified training for drone pilots, but also for maintenance technicians, data analysts, and even entrepreneurs who can build local businesses around low-altitude services. This phase could involve partnerships with institutions like the Namibian University of Science and Technology (NUST) and the Namibian Training Authority (NTA) to create a national drone academy. The goal is to move beyond being a consumer of technology to becoming a developer and exporter of expertise.

Phase 4: Investment and Scaling: With a clear regulatory environment and a trained workforce, Namibia can become an attractive destination for investment. The WUVF can assist in attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) from its global network of companies and investors. This would enable the scaling of successful pilot projects into commercial enterprises, creating a self-sustaining ecosystem that contributes to the national economy and creates long-term jobs.

Mutual Benefits of the Partnership
The collaboration is a win-win scenario. For Namibia, it represents a chance to accelerate its economic development, diversify its economy, and address persistent challenges. For the WUVF, it provides an op-

portunity to demonstrate a successful, large-scale implementation of the low-altitude economy in a developing African nation, strengthening its global standing and contributing to global sustainable development goals.

Towards a Vision 2030: Realizing the Low-Altitude Dream in Namibia
To fully realize the potential of the low-altitude economy, Namibia needs a clear, strategic roadmap.

Strategic Roadmap and Key Milestones
A phased approach would guide the nation from foundational work to a mature, thriving sector.
Short-Term (1-3 years): The focus should be on establishing a clear and streamlined regulatory framework, conducting the initial pilot projects in priority sectors (e.g., health and agriculture), and launching basic training programs.
Medium-Term (3-7 years): This phase would involve scaling up successful applications, expanding training to include advanced skills, and beginning to foster local manufacturing and maintenance capabilities. The goal is to create a vibrant domestic industry.
Long-Term (7-10 years): The ultimate vision is a fully integrated low-altitude economy. This would include the potential for eVTOLs for urban and regional travel, a robust domestic market for drone services, and Namibia's emergence as a re-

Regional Election Observers Urge Malawi To Consider Diaspora Voting

By: Xinhua
@themtkenyatimes

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) has called on the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) to consider allowing Malawians in the diaspora to participate in the country’s General Elections.

Themba Nhlanganiso Masuku, head of the mission, made the call in the Malawian capital of Lilongwe yesterday when the SEOM presented its preliminary report on the elections.

Masuku, who is the former deputy prime minister of the Kingdom of Eswatini, said allowing Malawians living outside the country to vote will provide them with a chance to exercise their right to vote, “just like everyone.”

The mission also commended private media institutions in Malawi for fair reporting and coverage of the campaign period, voting, and count-

ing processes.

The SEOM described the manner in which the election processes -- from political campaigns to voting and counting -- were conducted as “orderly and peaceful.”

The mission has since called on all stakeholders to continue promoting peace, tolerance, and calm across all available platforms, while the country awaits the final results of the elections.

The law allows the MEC to release the results of the presidential election within 8 days from the voting day, while the results for parliamentary and local government elections are expected to be released within 14 days and 21 days, respectively.

A total of 17 presidential candidates, including incumbent President Lazarus Chakwera, former President Peter Mutharika, and former Reserve Bank Governor Dalitso Kabambe, are contesting the race.



Soaring To New Heights: Analyzing The Low-Altitude Economy And Namibia’s Collaborative Path With The World UAV Federation

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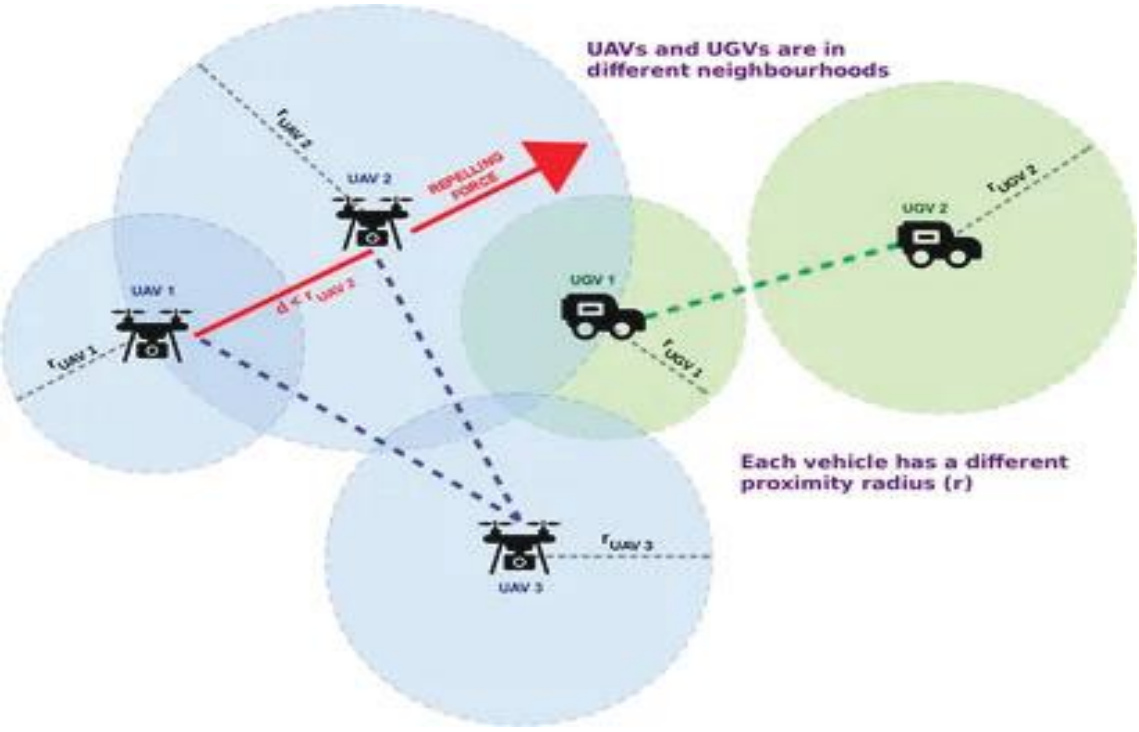
gional hub for low-altitude technology and expertise.

Addressing Potential Hurdles and Mitigation Strategies

The path is not without its challenges. Political and bureaucratic inertia can slow progress. This can be mitigated by creating a dedicated, high-level task force with a clear mandate. Funding remains a concern, which can be addressed through public-private partnerships, grants, and attracting investment. Finally, public acceptance and privacy concerns must be proactively managed through public awareness campaigns and a transparent, rights-based regulatory framework.

Conclusion: Charting a Course for Prosperity from Above

The low-altitude economy is more than just a technological fad; it is a fundamental shift in how we utilize and value airspace. For Namibia, it presents a golden opportunity to overcome long-standing geographical and logistical challenges, diversify its economy, and create a more connected, efficient, and prosperous society. The strategic collaboration with the World UAV Federation provides a clear, credible, and expert-led pathway to realizing this vision. By developing a robust regulatory framework, investing in human capital, and strategically implementing low-altitude solutions in its core economic sectors, Namibia can not only transform its own future but also serve as a model for other nations in Africa and beyond, demonstrating how to chart a course for prosperity from the skies above.



SPORTS NEWS

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Sports >> *Faith Kipyegon and Beatrice Chebet, who have won world titles in the 1,500 and 10,000m in Tokyo this week, will face off in the 5,000m for the chance of a championships double.

‘Besties’ Kipyegon, Chebet Line Up 5,000m Clash For World Double



(From L) Silver medallist Kenya’s Faith Kipyegon and gold medallist Kenya’s Beatrice Chebet react after the victory ceremony for the women’s 5000m final of the athletics event during the Paris 2024 Olympic Games at Stade de France in Saint-Denis, north of Paris, on August 6, 2024. (Photo by Martin BERNETTI / AFP)

Faith Kipyegon and Beatrice Chebet, who have won world titles in the 1,500 and 10,000m in Tokyo this week, will face off in the 5,000m for the chance of a championships double.

The Kenyan pair safely negotiated their 5,000m heats at the National Stadium on Thursday, with the final scheduled for Saturday.

It will be Kipyegon and Chebet’s first clash since last year’s Paris Olympics.

“I had my season best,” said Kipyegon, who set a world record in the 1,500m in Eugene this season. “It was my first 5,000m race of the season so I’m happy.

“I have recovered well from the 1,500m win, so everything

is good. I hope for great things on Saturday and am looking forward to it.”

Chebet, the double Olympic champion, became the first woman to cover 5,000m within 14 minutes with her world record of 13:58.06, also at the Eugene Diamond League meet in July.

The 2022 silver medallist and a bronze medal winner a year after that, Chebet will be keen to complete her set of world championships medals when she takes on Kipyegon, her idol and the defending champion.

Kipyegon, 31, hasn’t raced in the 5,000m since the Paris Olympics, where she took silver behind Chebet.

Chebet and Kipyegon will have

reinforcement from team-mate Agnes Ngetich, third fastest of all time.

Ethiopia will be represented by Gudaf Tsegay, who won bronze in the 10,000m. She won the world 5,000m title in 2022 and the world 10,000m crown in 2023.

She will be keen to make further amends after coming away from the Paris Olympics without a medal.

“It was good for me to have a tactical race after competing in the 10,000m final” on Saturday, said Tsegay.

“I’m also happy that Faith Kipyegon was successful getting to the final. She is an amazing person and athlete.

“It’s possible to break the 1,500m record, but to do it one, three, five times - it’s something fantastic. I’m so glad we will be in the 5,000m final together.”

Tsegay added: “I have no idea what to expect. I’m going to discuss it with my coach and decide whether it should be tactical or a fast race.

“The field is really strong and very open.”

AFP

Sports >>> *Benfica appointed Jose Mourinho as their coach yesterday, with the Portuguese returning to work in his homeland, 21 years after leaving Porto for Chelsea.

Mourinho Appointed At Benfica As He Returns To Portugal



FILE: Roma's Portuguese coach Jose Mourinho looks on during the warm up ahead of the Italian Serie A football match between Juventus and Roma at the Allianz Stadium in Turin, on December 30, 2023. (Photo by Isabella BONOTTO / AFP)

Benfica appointed Jose Mourinho as their coach yesterday, with the Portuguese returning to work in his homeland, 21 years after leaving Porto for Chelsea.

The 62-year-old, who also coached Real Madrid and Manchester United among other clubs, was sacked by Turkish side Fenerbahce in August after Benfica beat them in the Champions League play-offs.

Mourinho has signed a contract "to run until the end of the 2026/27 season", Benfica said in

a statement, with an option for either party to end the deal at the end of the current campaign.

The two-time European champions sacked Bruno Lage after a shock defeat in their Champions League opener against Azerbaijani minnows Qarabag on Tuesday.

Mourinho will soon face reunions against former sides Chelsea and Porto, in the Champions League on September 30 and in the Primeira Liga on October 5 respectively.

After starting out his coaching

career as an assistant to Bobby Robson and then Louis van Gaal at Barcelona, Mourinho made the step up to head coach at Benfica in September 2000.

He quit after just 11 matches and then, after impressing at Uniao de Leiria, he joined the Eagles' fierce rivals Porto and guided them to back-to-back league titles and the Champions League crown in 2004.

That set him on the path to a successful career coaching Chelsea, Inter Milan and Real Madrid be-

fore his fortunes dived after joining Manchester United in 2016.

More modest stints then followed at Tottenham, Roma and Fenerbahce.

AFP

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The Resilience And Determination Of Dr. Meleeka Clary

A Journey Of Triumph Over Adversity



By: Anila Bukhari
@themkenyatimes

Dr. Meleeka Clary's life is a testament to the human spirit's capacity for resilience and determination. Born in Boston, Massachusetts, to Andrew Lee Clary, Sr. and Larriana Clary, Meleeka's journey has been marked by challenges, obstacles, and triumphs. From her early days as a "mommy's girl" to her current pursuit of a PhD in Clinical Psychology, Meleeka's story is one of perseverance, hard work, and dedication.

Early Life and Challenges

Meleeka was born into a relatively large family in Mattapan, Massachusetts, with seven siblings and two step-siblings. Her childhood was marked by occasional tough times, with her father's struggles with substance abuse and her mother's nervous breakdown and depression. Despite these challenges, Meleeka's parents instilled in her a strong sense of independence and business acumen. Her father, a dreamer with a great mind and wisdom, encouraged his children to succeed to their greatest abilities.

Discovering Her Passion for Dance and Acting

Meleeka's creativity and talent were evident from an early age. She began taking dance classes at Vicki's School of Dancing and Acting at the age of 8, where she developed her craft in tap, ballet, and jazz. At 13, she was discovered and cast as Harriet Tubman in her middle school play, and later selected to participate in a nonverbal drama role, where she excelled.

Overcoming Adversity

As Meleeka grew older, her parents' health began to decline, and her older brother, Andrew Lee Clary, Jr., took on a significant role in raising her through high school. Meleeka faced difficult situations, including moving out on her own at 17 and dropping out of high school to focus on work. However, she later re-enrolled in high school, determined to get her diploma, which her father had always wanted for her.

Pursuing Education and Career

Meleeka's determination and perseverance paid off as she earned her high school diploma, became a real estate investor, and bought her own home at 21. She continued to pursue her acting and dancing career but eventually left the industry due to sexual harassment threats. Meleeka then focused on her education, earning an associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Newbury College, a Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from Curry College, and a para-legal degree from Northeastern University.



Dr. Meleeka Clary

Personal Life and Challenges

Meleeka became a mother at a young age and had two more children, including a son born after a difficult pregnancy. She faced challenges as a single mother, caring for her children and mother while pursuing her education and career. Despite these challenges, Meleeka continued to push forward, determined to succeed.

Current Pursuits

Today, Dr. Meleeka Clary is pursuing her PhD in Clinical Psychology at Walden University, driven by her desire to understand the human mind and help others. She has resumed her acting and mod-

eling career, with several projects in the works, and is determined to succeed once again.

Conclusion

Dr. Meleeka Clary's story is a testament to the power of resilience, determination, and hard work. Despite facing numerous challenges and obstacles, she has persevered and achieved significant success in her education and career. Her journey serves as an inspiration to others, demonstrating that with dedication and perseverance, anyone can overcome adversity and achieve their goals.

Worth Noting:

- As Meleeka grew older, her parents' health began to decline, and her older brother, Andrew Lee Clary, Jr., took on a significant role in raising her through high school. Meleeka faced difficult situations, including moving out on her own at 17 and dropping out of high school to focus on work. However, she later re-enrolled in high school, determined to get her diploma, which her father had always wanted for her.
- Meleeka's determination and perseverance paid off as she earned her high school diploma, became a real estate investor, and bought her own home at 21. She continued to pursue her acting and dancing career but eventually left the industry due to sexual harassment threats.