

Rwandan Medical Workers Deploy Robots To Minimise Coronavirus Risk

page 3

WHO urges caution as countries in Africa ease lockdowns

page 4

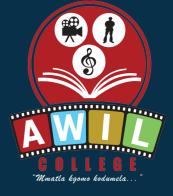






DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Film
Performance
Television
Music
Business



FORMERLY KNOWN AS **AFDA BOTSWANA** 

Email: info@awilcollege.ac.bw - Tel: (+267) 310 2542, (+267) 310 2553

2 Echo Report Echo Newspaper 01 - 07 June 2020



## News, Finance, Travel and Sport

Telephone: (267) 391 2305 E-mail: newsdesk@echo.co.bw

#### **Advertising**

Telephone: (267) 3922 655 E-mail: sales@echo.co.bw

## Sales & Marketing Manager

Ruele Ramoeng ruele@ymhp.co.bw

#### **Editor**

Bright Kholi kholib@ymhp.co.bw

## Head of Design

Ame Kolobetso ame.kolobetso@ymhp.co.bw

#### **Distribution & Circulation**

Mogapi Ketletseng ketletsengm@echo.co.bw

## Echo is published by YMH Publishing

YMH Publishing, Unit 3, Kgale Court, Plot 128, GIFP, Gaborone Postal address: P O BOX 840, Gaborone, Botswana Telephone: (267) 3922 655 E-mail: info@echo.co.bw www.echo.co.bw

## **DISCLAIMER:**

Echo Newspaper welcomes concise letters from readers. Letters must carry the full name and address of the sender. Letters must conform to the laws of Botswana and to the Press Council of Botswana's Code Of Ethics. Letters will also be edited for length, libel and language.



Read more Echo stories on our Facebook page by scanning the QR code below with your mobile phone





# Hundreds Of Batswana In Diaspora Arriving Home

Morethan one hundred Batswana in diaspora are expected to arrive in Gaborone this week on board a chartered Ethiopian Airways flight. President Mokgweetsi Masisi announced Saturday night that the citizens will connect through Addis Ababa and that, the Ethiopian Airliner has been engaged to facilitate their arrival home.

This will be an addition to more than four hundred Batswana resident in South Africa and other neighbouring countries who have since returned home through government's facilitation after they were caught in the travel restrictions as a result of the covid-19 pandemic.

Masisi highlighted that those coming home are Batswana who are in a position to pay for their flights home, adding that government will continue to assist those in dire need and desperate to return home amid the covid-19 travel restrictions.

"Our expectation is that the chartered Ethiopian Airlines flight will arrive in Gaborone on 3rd June 2020 with more than one hundred (100) of our citizens on board. Furthermore, Namib Air has also been engaged

to assist in the transportation of Batswana from London and Frankfurt," Masisi noted. He further highlighted that majority of Batswana in South Africa and willing to return home continue to be assisted with the assistance of the Southern African government.

To further assist Batswana who were caught up outside the country, Masisisaid government has been exploring various ways through which they can cope with the impacts of the pandemic in their various areas, and a decision was taken to assist those in need financially.

"The process to administer this financial assistance through our diplomatic missions is at an advanced stage. I must emphasise though that such assistance is as I said, temporary and comes at great cost we will have to forego other things we had planned for, to achieve this," Masisi told the nation.

The assistance for those identified as deserving according to Masisi, will be limited to the months of May and June, adding that government sponsored students, students on scholarships provided by foreign governments and other

institutions, and privately sponsored students are among those who will be assisted.

"It must be appreciated therefore, that our on-going efforts to safeguard the future of Botswana in the face of this pandemic will be costly and require that hard choices be made to prioritize the limited resources at our disposal. That is why even though we value all our citizens in the diaspora, the priority for any interventions will be limited to only those in dire circumstances and are unable to sustain themselves during this difficult time."

Meanwhile as the country emerges from a 49 day of extreme social distancing,



economic activity has gradually been taking shape. With the schools across the country opening this week – June 2, and various pundits having doubted the readiness of government for such a move, Masisi has indicated that the education system is ready to adapt to the new normal.

He indicated that as part of this new normal, classes have been halved from what they initially have been with schools operating in shifts. He said this was in line with ensuring the system adheres to the health protocols of social distancing.

"Our teachers are the frontline staff in schools to ensure that social distancing and all other measures to contain the spread and transmission of the virus in schools are in place and are effective," he said.

This will be an addition to more than four hundred Batswana resident in South Africa and other neighbouring countries who have since returned home through government's facilitation after they were caught in the travel restrictions as a result of the covid-19 pandemic.

Echo Report 3 **Echo Newspaper** 01 - 07 June 2020

## **Rwandan Medical Workers Deploy Robots To Minimise Coronavirus Risk**

between patients infected with the coronavirus and doctors and nurses, Rwanda has deployed three robots to carry out simple tasks like taking temperatures and monitoring patients.

At the Kanyinya COVID-19 treatment facility a short distance from Rwanda's capital Kigali, Akazuba, Ikizere and Ngabo report for duty, but these are no ordinary health care workers.

In a bid to minimise contact treatment centre, Nyamata, in south east Kigali.

Officials said the robots will be programmed to carry out additional tasks.

"In the future if they are programmed to take even blood pressure and the (blood) sugar, that definitely would be so helpful," said Turatsinze.



We know you better



Francine Umutesi, a bio-medical engineer who works as a health technology operations specialist at the ministry of health, said the robots were a first for Africa and had the potential to offer even more support to medical teams.

The sleek white robots, with big bright blue eyes and a rather human appearance, were donated by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and are helping frontline workers tackle the coronavirus crisis in the East African nation which so far has 355 confirmed cases of the COVID-19 disease.

"The three robots that we have are part of the treating team," said David Turatsinze, a doctor at the 75-bed facility, which housed 65 patients the media team visited.

By relaying messages to doctors and helping the team assess the effectiveness of their clinical decisions, the robots cut the number of bedside visits that doctors have to make.

Francine Umutesi, a biomedical engineer who works as a health technology operations specialist at the ministry of health, said the robots were a first for Africa and had the potential to offer even more support to medical teams.

"It doesn't remove the tasks the doctors are supposed to do, it's just complementing their efforts," she said.

Rwanda already uses drones to deliver blood and enforce restrictions designed to slow the spread of COVID-19. There are two more robots at the country's other COVID-19



Type of deposit account	Nominal interest rate (Lowest -Highest)		Mini num opening Balance Lovvest-Highest)
Current	Nil	Nil	Nil
Call	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ordinary savings	0.20%	0.20%	100
Special savings	0.30% - 0.65%	0.30% - 0.65%	500
Letsibogo	0.30% - 0.85%	0.30% - 0.85%	0
Tlamelo mortgage savings	1.50%	1.50%	250
Lerako savings	1.00% - 2.75%	1.00% - 2.75%	25000
Paid up deposit	1.10%	1.10%	200
Subscription deposit	1.75%	1.75%	200
Fixed term deposit	0.75%-3.85%	0.75% -3.85%	1000
12months fixed deposit	0.75%-1.05%	0.75%-1.05%	1000-200,000
24months fixed deposit	1.20%-2.80%	1.20%-2.80%	1000-200,000
Over 24months	1.70%- 3.85%	1.70%- 3.85%	1000-200,000
Prime lending rate		5.75%	



"Working together towards a common goal"



4 Echo Report O1 - 07 June 2020



# WHO urges caution as countries in Africa ease Lockdowns

Three months after the first case of COVID-19 was detected in sub-Saharan Africa, the region has made progress in tackling the virus. Many countries implemented lockdowns and key public health measures early and these appear to have helped slow down the spread of the disease. However, there are concerns that if these measures are relaxed too quickly, COVID-19 cases could start increasing rapidly.

Thirteen countries in sub-Saharan Africa implemented lockdowns along with other public health and social measures nation-wide, while ten more instigated partial lockdowns in hotspots. Preliminary analysis by the World Health Organization (WHO) found that the doubling time - the number of days for case numbers to double in a given country – increased during the lockdown period in most of the countries of the region. (5 days to 41 in Cote d'Ivoire, 3 days to 14 in South Africa). Sevehelles started implementing public health and social measures before the notification of its first confirmed cases and seven weeks have passed since its last reported case.

"Three months since the first case of COVID-19 was reported in sub-Saharan Africa, it appears that the swift actions taken by African leaders and communities has slowed the spread of the virus," said Dr. Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa. "These actions came at great social and economic cost, particularly for the most vulnerable and there is an understandable push to lift the

measures as rapidly as they were implemented. However, WHO urges countries to follow a step by step approach."

So far, a number of countries have begun easing their lockdowns, and according to WHO's initial analysis, the impact on doubling time appears to be varying depending on the timing and duration of the confinement measures. For example, Burkina Faso started implementing a partial lockdown of 17 days after the notification of its first confirmed case and recorded an increase in number of cases during the lockdown period by 253%. The confinement measures were implemented for 38 days and resulted in a significant reduction of daily

South Africa, which following a robust testing programme reported a particularly high number of COVID-19 cases has seen its doubling time remain stable at around two weeks since the confinement measures have started to be relaxed.

"We must all remain vigilant. As more countries begin to ease confinement measures, it is vital that effective testing and surveillance systems are in place to detect any spike in cases," said Dr Moeti. "Ending a lockdown is not an event, but a process, and it's important to have a clear view of local conditions so informed decisions can be made about how to relax these measures."

WHO has issued interim guidance to Member States, which encourage a gradual adjustment of public health and

social measures, while constantly assessing risks. Beginning with the re-opening of international airports, with a mandatory 14day quarantine of all travelers, the guidelines progress through a series of steps for countries to take to regain some normalcy. As countries open up, good hand hygiene, coughing and sneezing etiquette, physical distancing and the use of masks will remain part of the new normal. The steps will need to be constantly adapted according to the trends in the data and maintained until the pandemic is contained or there is a vaccine or treatment for COVID-19 which is accessible to everyone.

As countries ease restrictions,

health authorities will need to ensure continuity of essential health care services while also resuming the full gamut of routine health services. This challenge will be compounded by ongoing global supply bottlenecks, shortages, and the necessity of repurposing staff for the COVID-19 response.

"Now more than ever is a time for international solidarity," said Dr Moeti. "There is a critical shortage of COVID-19 tests, personal protective equipment and other medical supplies in Africa. We hope that as restrictions on movement are lifted, these goods will start flowing to the places and people that need them most."

Over the past three months, WHO has supported the delivery of nearly two million pieces of personal protective equipment for health workers, including surgical masks, as well as more than 100 000 screening kits. The organization is working with partners to ramp up the delivery of key supplies over the coming months.



South Africa, which following a robust testing programme reported a particularly high number of COVID-19 cases has seen its doubling time remain stable at around two weeks since the confinement measures have started to be relaxed.

Since the outbreak began, WHO has developed national response plans to mobilize over US\$300 million for public health interventions. More than 900 WHO staff have been repurposed to support the response in the region, and WHO has trained more than 10 000 African health workers in a variety of topics relating to COVID-19, such as infection prevention and control, treatment, logistics, laboratory testing and risk communication.

WHO is working with many partners to respond to COVID-19. Together with the World Economic Forum, the organization held a virtual press conference today with Dr Moeti, Dr. Kailesh Kumar Singh Jagutpal, Minister of Health and Wellness, Government of Mauritius, Hon. Dr Zwelini Mkhize, Minister of Health of South Africa and Hon Dr Jane Aceng, Minister of Health, Government of Uganda.



**Echo Report Echo Newspaper** 01 - 07 June 2020 5



## Limkokwing University Contributes P1.2 Million Towards Botswana's Covid:19 Relief Efforts

Limkokwing University of Creative Technology donated a total of P1200 000.00 towards the Botswana Covid:19 Relief efforts. The donation which is a personal contribution by the University's Founder and President Tan Sri' Dato Sri Paduka Limkokwing was officially handed over to Office of the President on Wednesday 20th May, 2020 by Vice Chancellor Dr. Gape Kaboyakgosi and received by the Vice President His Honor Slumber Tsogwane as part of the University's endeavors in assisting, expressing empathy and solidarity to the Government and people of the Republic of Botswana in the fight towards the global Corona Virus Pandemic. When receiving the donation, the Vice

President thanked the University for the generous donation stating that it will go a long way in assisting Batswana during this difficult time.

The P1.2 million contribution consisted of P500 000 .00 (five hundred thousand Pula) cash donation towards the Covid:19 Relief Fund account, P 300 000.00 (three hundred thousand Pula) worth of Covid:19 relevant Creative Content, P200 000.00 (two hundred thousand Pula) worth of Face Masks, and scholarships to the underprivileged for the 2020 New Academic year worth P 200 000.00 (two hundred thousand

#### Tan Sri Limkokwing donates Face Masks towards **Botswana's Covid:19 Front Line Service Providers**

Founder and President of Limkokwing University Tan Sri Dato' Sri Paduka Limkokwing donated masks worth P200 000.00 to support front liners in Botswana who are currently serving the nation during the COVID-19 outbreak.

This personal gesture by Tan Sri Limkokwing is part of his global philanthropic campaign

under the Let's Heal the World Foundation which also strives to make the world a safer place especially for the front liners who are dedicating their lives to saving the lives of others.

"We want to contribute in whatever way possible to lessen the impact of the pandemic and to show our appreciation to the brave front liners for their sacrifice, dedication and contribution during Botswana's hour of need," said Tan Sri Limkokwing. "It is times like this that we really need to step up and be united, putting aside our differences, and work together in our collective fight against Covid-19.

The Founder/President of Limkokwing University also said that he is fully committed to support the Botswana government in the fight to end Covid-19.

#### **Global Humanitarian efforts** to instill peace and goodwill

For the past 50 years Tan Sri Limkokwing, through the Limkokwing Foundation of Global Peace has undertaken many humanitarian efforts to bring about hope and peace to many parts of the world. The Heal the World peace campaign is powerhouse movement driven by Limkokwing University and its students to alleviate the suffering of war-torn countries or countries facing natural disasters such as those in the African continent and other countries such as, Palestine, Haiti, Pakistan and Philippines.

Among his global humanitarian efforts, is directing the election campaign for the late Nelson Mandela and the ANC in South Africa's first ever multi-racial election in 1994, designing the STOP EBOLA campaign in Sierra Leone to bring about awareness of the dangers of the disease and initiating the Global Humanitarian Appeal for Bosnia-Herzegovina to raise funds for the reconstruction of a country devastated by war.

#### Let's Heal the World global campaign

Tan Sri Limkokwing has dedicated his life to uplifting the lives of others. In Africa and Asia, through the 12 universities established there, he has provided access and opportunities for education on a philanthropic model. Over the years, he has established partnerships with UNICEF, UNESCO, UNDP, UNHCR, The Commonwealth and other world organizations to promote world peace and understanding across the 160 countries where the University's students come from. The University is a member of the UN Academic Impact.

#### **Scholarships worth P200 000.00 for the August 2020 Intake**

Limkokwing is committed to increasing access to tertiary education for the youth of this Botswana and as a result the Tan Sri Limkokwing found it befitting to donate scholarships to selected groups of potential students who were unable to get government sponsorships worth P 200 000.00 for the 2020 new academic year. Limkokwing University has in past donated scholarships worth over 15million to people living with disabilities, the creative industry and the media fraternity in Botswana.

#### Covid:19 Relevant **Information Creative Content**

As the Botswana only University of Transformation, Limkokwing also produced creative content

in the form of 2 Public Service Announcement Videos in English and Setswana, aimed at teaching the public about safety measures to take in curbing infections by the virus as well as a video titled 'Heal the World' which encourages unity and lends support to those in the frontlines to flatten the curve during this difficult time.

With Covid:19 threatening global peace and security, the video features Limkokwing students from across the world in a rendition of hope and harmony in these challenging times. The PSA Video has been airing on Botswana Television and many mainstream media platforms while the 'Heal the World' video has been uploaded on all Limkokwing University official social media platforms for global exposure.

#### Students remain our greatest priority

The university remains committed to assisting all students with support platforms for teaching and learning and is working round the clock to ensure all precautionary measures are in place for returning students as well as new students to commence physical learning soon. Limkokwing continues to offer innovative programmes that shape careers of the future and create the most unique environment that fulfils the creative needs of young people. An environment that is professionally equipped for the 21st century learning where government, industry and academia collaborate to focus and empower the next generation of creative thinkers through creativity and innovation.

## Take your career to new heights

Come spread your wings and take on a global outlook by joining Limkokwing University Botswana as we continue our journey across the world. Our campuses are now located in Kuala Lumpur, London, Gaborone, Maseru, Beijing, Phnon Penh, Jarkata and Kuching in Borneo. It is an exciting adventure and we want you on board to help us bring

BOTSWANA —

our vision of merging the best of east and west to empower a new generation of global graduates with competencies to move the world foward into the future. We seek enthusiastic, energetic and well-qualified academics to work alongside and bring our vision into reality. Come build your career and grow with us.

## **LECTURERS**

## The University is looking Forward To Fill Lecturers Position Within the **Below Faculities**

**Business Globalization & Tourism Hospitality, Design Innovation, Creative Multimedia, Information Communication & Technology, Communication Media & Broadcasting, Architecture And The Built** Enviroment.

## **WORKING EXPERIENCE.**

Preferably Masters Degree with a minimum of 3 years experience in relevant field.

## **Multimedia Domain**

- Creativity
- 2D / 3D Animation skills
- Video Production and Editing
- Graphic Design skills
- Web Design and Development
- Sound Production
- Music Design
- Project Management

Salary: A Competitive Remuneration Package. Candidates should note that shortlisting will be done within two (2) weeks from the closing date and if you don't hear from us consider your application to be unsuccessful.

## **POSITION REQUIREMENTS:** QUALIFICATIONS

**Masters in the Following:** 

Manufacturing, Design Engineering, Furniture Manufacturing and Design, Design and Technology, Masters in Industrial Design, Art and Design/Visual Arts, Graphic Design, Masters of Technology/Fine Arts, Fashion Design/Textiles Event Management Broadcasting and Journalism, Digital Film and Television, International Business, Entrepreneurship, Tourism Management, Finance & Banking, Accounting, Marketing, Administration, Economics, Tourism Management, Hospitality, Software Engineering with Multimedia, Information Technology, Mobile Computing/Technology, Electronic Commerce, Commerce, Tourism and Hospitality, Architectural Technology, Interior Architecture, Web Design, Music Sound Technology, Interactive Design / Multimedia, Creative Multimedia

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Certified true copies of all, Academic Certificate, Certified copy of national identity card nd/or Resume, Letter of motivation why you are applying for the position and Work related

Applications can be hand delivered to Limkokwing Applications can be hand delivered to Limkokwing HR Department or emailed to recruitment @limkokwing.ac.bw or by post to Human Resource Department, Limkokwing University of Creative Technology, P/Bag 0092, Gaborone, Botswana.Block 7, Plot 59140, Gaborone, Botswana Tel:+(267)3180135 Fax:+(267)3180208

Plot 59140, Block 7, Gaborone, Botswana 🗨 Tel: +(267) 318 0135 🖾 Fax: +(267) 392 2356 👔 Facebook.com/limkokwing 🕥 Twitter.com@limkokwing\_BW

6 Echo Report Echo Newspaper 01 - 07 June 2020



## How a post-COVID-19 Revival could kickstart Africa's free Trade area

The African Continental Free Trade Area was launched two years ago at an African Union (AU) summit in Kigali. It was scheduled to be implemented from 1 July 2020. But this has been pushed out until 2021 because of the impact of COVID-19 and the need for leaders to focus on saving lives.

Studies by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and others state that the free trade area has the potential to increase growth, raise welfare and stimulate industrial development on the continent. But there are concerns. Some countries, particularly smaller and more vulnerable states, could be hurt. For example, they could suffer revenue losses and other negative effects from premature liberalisation.

The impact of COVID-19 will only worsen these structural weaknesses. The Economic Commission for Africa has reported that between 300,000 and 3.3 million people could lose their lives if appropriate measures are not taken. There are several reasons for this level of high risk. These include the fact that 56% of urban dwellings are in overcrowded slums, 71% of Africa's workforce is informally employed and cannot work from home and 40% of children on the continent are undernourished.

Africa is also more vulnerable to the impact of COVID-19 because it is highly dependent on imports for its medicinal and pharmaceutical products and on commodity exports. The latter include oil, which has suffered a severe collapse in price.

Other contributing factors are high public debt due to higher interest rate payments than Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries, a weak fiscal tax base, and the negative impact on Africa's currencies due to huge stimulus measures taken by OECD countries.

The COVID-19 crisis has brought these weaknesses into sharp relief. But it also provides an opportunity for African countries to address them. For example, they could accelerate intra-regional trade by focusing on the products of greatest need during the health crisis. Countries could also start building regional value chains to advance industrialisation, improve infrastructure and strengthen good governance and ethical leadership.

These are all vital to guiding African countries through the current crisis.

These goals can be achieved if African states adopt a "developmental regionalism" approach to trade integration. This would include fair trade, building regional value chains,

cross-border investment in infrastructure and strengthening democratic governance.

A number of conditions need to be met for a free trade area to succeed.

Firstly, African states vary widely in size and economic development. As a result some may warrant special attention and specific treatment. In particular, among Africa's 55 states 34 are classified by the United Nations as least developed countries. These are low income countries that have severe structural problems impeding their development.

Building trade agreements in favour of small and less developed economies will contribute to fairer outcomes of the free trade deal.

Secondly, African governments should include their stakeholders – businesses (both big and small), trade unions and civil society organisations – in the national consultation process. This will require effective institutions that enable the fullest participation.

Additional steps countries should take to cope with the fallout from COVID-19:

Reduce tariffs on vital pharmaceutical products (such as ventilators), personal protective equipment and food products;

Stimulate intra-regional trade by prioritising these products for an immediate or early phase down in the free trade area.

African countries are

increasingly connected to the global economy, but tend to operate at the lowest rung of the ladder. They are mainly supplying raw materials and other low-value manufactured outputs.

The current crisis creates an opportunity for African countries to build value chains on medical equipment, pharmaceuticals and personal protective equipment.

The clothing and textile sector could also be restructured to meet the needs of the health sector while taking advantage of the breakdown in supply chains from China and Europe.

As more countries lock down their economies and apply movement controls, agricultural and processed food supply chains are disrupted. This creates opportunities to build regional supply chains and partner with retailers.

There are also opportunities to build infrastructure to support the health response: hospitals, water and sanitation, schools, low-cost housing and alternative energy.

African countries can also benefit from the growing interest in environmental tourism.

Since most African countries are less developed, and many are small, intra-regional trade will require them to cooperate to improve their infrastructure. This includes physical ports, roads and railways as well as customs procedures, port efficiency and reduction of roadblocks.

Progress is already being made. Examples include the Mombasa-Nairobi Corridor; the Addis to Djibouti road, rail and port connection; and the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor, which handles more than two-thirds of West African trade.

The free trade area could become a landmark in Africa's journey towards peace, prosperity and integration. The COVID-19 pandemic, notwithstanding its devastating impact on the health and economies of Africa, could be an opportunity to advance the free trade area in a more developmental, inclusive and mutually beneficial way for African countries.

(TheConversation).



Echo Newspaper 01 - 07 June 2020 Echo Report 7

## Institute Of Development Management Re-Opens For Business

Following the outbreak of Covid19 and subsequent shutdown of Education Service Providers (ETPs), the Institute of Development Management (IDM) is facilitating gradual opening of its business since Monday 18th May 2020. The Institute's learners have also resumed learning through e-learning platforms.

IDM Botswana Country Director, Dr Onalenna Seitio-Kgokgwe says they are enhancing infusion of information technologies in teaching and learning processes in order to improve quality and efficiency of program delivery.

"Prior to Covid19, we tested our e-learning platforms and successfully delivered training through them. We were at the same time conservative because there was an opportunity and luxury to deliver programs face to face. Covid19 has however thrown us into a completely different situation where we need now to enhance the use of technology for business continuity in the different scenarios that the disease presents i.e. during periods of lockdowns or in campus adhering to social distancing requirement. To that effect we have enhanced IT educational technology platform and made significant investment in IT infrastructure including bandwidth. This should give us a competitive advantage as our students will be able to learn wherever they are, and our teaching staff will also be able to engage with the students as needed," said Dr Kgokgwe.

She further revealed that in line with Covid19 protocols and the current health requirements to curb the spread of the virus, IDM will not bring all the students back to campus at the same time.

She added: "We have therefore arranged our students according to priority groups of those completing; the first year students as well as those attending franchised courses of CIPS and AAT to resume face to face classes from the 2nd June 2020. This date was revised from 8th June 2020 as we worked hard to increase our readiness levels and expedite their return to class".

Dr Kgokgwe further highlighted that IDM has developed plans to support all students who may encounter limitations to ensure that none of their students is disadvantaged and that as they are aware of challenges around technology infrastructure in some parts of the country and the potential lack of readiness by some of our students to continue their studies.

"As an institution mandated to support the human resource development of this country, IDM is committed to ensuring that students achieve their dreams to succeed in their studies, at the same time contributing towards rebuilding the economy of our nation," she concluded.





## CENTRE FOR CONTINUING PROFFESIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## UPSKILL YOUR SHE OFFICERS WITH IDM'S CENTRE FOR CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CCPD) COURSES FOR JUNE – JULY 2020

The world today needs well trained Safety, Health and Environment Officers to ensure compliance with safety and health standards. IDM's Centre for Continuing Professional Development has attractive programmes to upskill SHE Officers and those with desire to join the profession. Find below our training schedule for our registered and BQA accredited courses tenable at our Gaborone Campus. Apply now for the limited spaces.

Course	Duration	Date
1.Occupational Health and Safety Management	5 days	15 – 19 June 06 – 10 July
2.Professional Business Writing	5 days	22 – 26 June 13 – 17 July
3.Change Management	3 days	16 – 18 June 22 – 24 July

IDM ensures adherence to the COVID-19 social distancing standards.

#WashyourHands #WearAMask





Institute Of Development Management



www.idmbls.com/bw

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Gaborone Campus
Institute of Development Management

P O Box 1357 Gaborone Plot 21222, 21254 Mabuto Road village For more information, contact the following: Tel: (+267) 71426278 / 72527257/ 71724616 Fax: (+267)3913296 Email: rlekoko@idmbls.ac.bw enkala@idmbls.ac.bw / jbatlhophi@idmbls.ac.bw Be Part of The Legacy.





I has a clear legacy of 40 years of shaping the careers and futures of many Batswana with its broad range of course offerings, IDM Botswana has campuses in Gaborone and Francistown. Someone you know has been to IDM in those 40 years: your mum, your aunt or your friend's aunt. Dare to ask them.

8 Echo Report Echo Newspaper 01 - 07 June 2020



# A Layman's Introduction to Cybersecurity -Part 2

# Understanding cyberattacks on computers, networks and data.

By Theo Bogatsu

Socialisation pundits have spoken; the post COVID-19 era is bringing in a 'new normal'. Part of this new normal is increased digital interconnectedness. In the new normal, people are expected to fulfill their professional and life vocations remotely through the use of cyber technology. Communications networks will be right at the centre of this transformation.

As handy as it is becoming, cyber technology requires a high sense of enlightenment and caution on the part of the user for impact to be made. Cyber space is infested with all kinds of security threats that, if not tackled appropriately, can cause damage to data, networks, computers or any gadgets used to access technology.

Cybercrime, cyber terrorism cyberbullying and misinformation are among the leading threats to sustainable use of the internet.

As many are expected to increase their usage of communications networks through remote connectivity, either at homes or mobile, it is crucial that one applies the necessary measures to prevent cyberattacks. Computer and network security should longer just the preserve of institutional settings anymore. Home networks and mobile

gadgets are and will increasingly become targets, particularly in the anticipated highly digitalized 'new normal'.

This article therefore seeks to raise awareness on cybersecurity threats and outline measures that one can apply to protect their networks and gadgets

How to ensure protection against each of these and other forms of cyberattacks

In the context of organizations protecting a network is a whole topic in itself as a layered approach is required where security is concerned, there is no one thing that will protect you from all types of attacksbut making reference to the type of attack mentioned above called Phishing I will highlight on the need for user security awareness training for all staff members from the cleaners to the CEO as this is the cheapest form of defense and yet can defend against the most common type of attack, it's common knowledge that the weakest link in Security is "The human element" technology can only do so much which is why Phishing is very common because in essence It's easier to "ask" someone to install malware for you than it is to break/hack into a computer system and install it yourself.

If you are working from home always use VPN software to connect to the Office Network.

In Home Networks, which are generally very small, usually

with just a modem connecting you to the outside world - its' imperative that you protect your endpoints - this being all laptops, computers and cellphones connecting on your home network. Firstly, you need to have some form of antimalware or endpoint protection software on all your home machines or commonly referred to as an antivirus. You could get good antivirus software to share with your family members for an annual subscription of 4 - 5 hundred Pula which is a small price to pay for the risks of not having one or

if you are really low on budget, at least install a free version, but like they say - there is no such thing as free but better to have something rather than nothing.

Ensure that your Operating System is patched to the latest software/security patches. It's just best to set your computer to auto install the latest updates whenever they are available. Also ensure that your antivirus software is updated regularly as well, which is what you get from the annual subscription.

Backing up your data is best practice everywhere, invest in a portable hard drive and keep all your important data backed up on a hard drive not only to protect yourself should your computer crash but to also to protect yourself from ransomware attacks- because if you have the data backed up you do not need to pay any ransom should your computer be attacked and its data is encrypted.

On your home wi-fi modem-change your password regularly so the device itself is not hacked and have an attacker sniffing all your personal data. Always insist in entering the wi-fi password for your friends and family. Don't just give them the password.

Most modems have some basic firewalling features so if you are feeling adventurous you can read up and play around with these. You can also ask someone with basic IT knowledge to help you set up the modem such that only devices that you know can connect to the wi-fi by using MAC filtering.

Always Use strong passwords for everything that you access.

There are arguments both for and against password manager applications like LastPass or Vault etc, but personally I use a password managers except for my online banking passwords which are always stored in my head because honestly it's a little impractical to use unique passwords for everything that you access and to change these passwords regularly and still be expected to remember ALL these unique passwords, so rather remember one really strong password for your password manager that you change regularly which encrypts and stores all you other passwords except your banking passwords. But never ever write these passwords down, whether on your phone or in your diary.

Where possible always use 2 Factor Authentication if it is supported by the site you are accessing.

\* Theo Bogatsu is a Network Security Engineer at BOFINET



## Lesotho's New Leader Faces Enormous **Hurdles Ensuring Peace And Political Stability**

Tom Thabane (81), the embattled veteran Lesotho politician, has finally bowed to pressure to resign as the Prime Minister of the politically volatile southern African nation of 2.2 million. This comes at least two years before the end of his term.

But, will his replacement by Moeketsi Majoro (58), enable Lesotho to move in a more progressive direction? Majoro is an economist, former executive at the International Monetary Fund as well as the country's former finance minister. He was recently appointed to lead the governing coalition of the majority All Basotho Convention, and the Democratic Congress of Lesotho, ahead of Thabane's resignation.

The Thabane saga, revolving around allegations that he was party to a conspiracy to murder his then estranged wife, and that his new wife interferes in state matters, has been dragging on for more than a year.

But, setting Lesotho on a significantly different political trajectory will not be easy.

Majoro's installation as Prime Minister is welcome. But it does not guarantee much needed political stability in an era of complex coalition politics in which none of Lesotho's parties has a clear majority. Nor does it guarantee internal peace when the military and police both remain significant political players, with linkages to different political parties

Questions have correctly been posed whether Majoro, a technocrat with a great deal of international experience, has the political skills to hold his governing coalition together. For the moment, Thabane remains leader of the All Basotho Congress, and cannot be guaranteed to lend his support to the new government.

Thabane can be expected to use his position to try to secure immunity for himself from prosecution for his alleged role in the murder of his estranged wife, Lipopelo Thabane (58).

Majoro must know that if he concedes this immunity, he will lose a great deal of domestic and global credibility. But if doesn't show some leniency he may lose the support of a disgruntled element of his party which continues to back Thabane.

Beyond the immediate political problems, there are three major issues which need to be confronted. One is whether the country's electoral system can be restructured to render the political landscape more predictable. Another is whether a recent tendency for the judiciary to be politicised can be reversed. A third is whether the political entanglements of the police and military can be neutralised.

To appreciate how difficult this may be, it is necessary to recall that Lesotho is governed by a small elite, whose members' knowledge of each other and their families often goes back decades.

In a country where poverty is intense and resources are so few, personal feuds can easily translate into political issues.

The real issue still to be resolved is how to form political parties which are genuinely constructed around political programmes rather than personal ambitions.

Lesotho's political parties have often sought to resolve their problems by directing them to the courts. Most recently, the battle for control of the All Basotho Convention led to Thabane throwing his weight behind Acting Chief Justice 'Maseforo Mahase, whose curious rulings in Thabane's favour were to be thrown out by the Court of Appeal, amid popular accusations of her political bias.

It seems unlikely, with Thabane out of the way, that Mahase will now be confirmed in her position. But, Majoro will need to avoid the temptation of securing the appointment of a crony as the Chief Justice. Prior to Thabane's politicking, the judiciary had more or less been kept above the political

fray. This neutrality now needs to be restored.

Yet the major problem confronting stability in Lesotho is presented by the military and police. They have been a major factor in the country's politics, stretching back to 1970, when the then Police Mobile Unit backed Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan to overthrow the adverse results of the first post-independence election.

The military's penchant for direct intervention in the political arena has been curtailed by the insistence of South Africa, Southern African the Development Community, and the African Union that the legitimacy of coups will not

be accepted. But this has not stopped governments seeking protection from political opponents by forging strong links with the senior military.

In an era of unstable government coalitions, this has itself become a source of major tension, with incoming governments seeking to counterbalance military leaderships left  $over \, by \, the \, previous \, government$ by cosying up to the police. Determined efforts to neutralise the military have been made via training programmes carried out by, among others, South Africa, the Southern African the Development Community, India, Britain and Zimbabwe. None have yet succeeded.

For all that Majoro may want attend to tackling Covid-19 and the economy, his biggest headache may yet turn out to be the army.





## AN OPEN INVITATION TO ALL BHC TENANTS WHO ARE IN FINANCIAL DISTRESS AND UNABLE TO MEET THEIR RENTAL OBLIGATION DURING THE EXTREME SOCIAL DISTANCING PERIOD

All Botswana Housing Corporation (BHC) valued customers who are experiencing some distress during the Extreme Social Distancing period and are unable to meet their monthly rental obligations are encouraged to contact the Corporation as a matter of urgency.

The Corporation aims to engage in flexible mutual arrangements particularly with tenants in distress. This engagement will be done at an individual level.

The Corporation is aware that the Covid-19 pandemic has presented Botswana with unprecedented economic challenges. Some Batswana, including BHC tenants, have unfortunately been left without income to meet their obligations. The Corporation remains committed to assisting all its customers through these trying times.

Please contact the officers below for assistance from Tuesday, May 12th, 2020;

Regional Director, South Region (Gaborone)

Mr. Kesebonye Khimbele Email: kkhimbele@bhc.bw

Call: 72318675

Regional Director North Region (Francistown) Ms Bridget Mtonga Email: bmtonga@bhc.bw

Cell:72267399



















## Impact of COVID-19 on Small Businesses in Africa – Surviving the downturn

By Emmanuel Allottey

The World Health Organization (WHO) first declared COVID-19 a world health emergency in January 2020. This outbreak has also caused a global economic slowdown for most economies in the world. Trade, investment, growth, and employment are

all affected in many African markets. African governments are forced to intervene through monetary and fiscal policies to sustain economic activity.

Over 90% of Small Businesses operations will be affected by the implementation of widespread restrictions on social contact to stop the spread of the virus. The impact of COVID-19 on Small

Businesses include insufficient cashflow to keep the business operational in the next 3 months, reduction in revenue and inability to meet short-term and long-term obligations.

To survive the downturn, Small businesses need to consider taking the following

Re-organise the Business cash

flow: the downturn has created a mismatch in business revenue to expenses. It is important to ensure the business has adequate cash to meet its short-term obligations as well as longer term commitments. Businesses need to engage their Financial providers, Suppliers, Landlords and other creditors to negotiate on the terms of their obligations.

Financial Institutions are offering relief packages to businesses affected by COVID-19 and this offer should be explored.

Intensify Sales Opportunities: this is the time to explore alternative channels to distribute products or services to customers. This could be through the use of digital marketing tools such as Online presence, Social media or through collaboration with another business to jointly sell your products.

Prepare for the Future: Economies and businesses operate in cycles. Economic activity will resume, and business will begin to boom again eventually. Businesses need have their operations ready for the next cycle. This could be through future looking, supplier agreements, delivery arrangements and even having potential future employees that are available to join the business to support increased activity. This downturn will come to an end and businesses that are well positioned will be at an advantage. The need for preparation is crucial to avoid disappointment of customers and inability to fulfil orders.

There is no way to tell exactly the extent of the economic damage from the global COVID-19 novel coronavirus pandemic will be; Small Businesses in Africa can survive the downturn by taking making the right decisions. Consult your financial service provider to explore how to position your business to survive.

## South African wine industry on its knees as lockdown set to ease



Two years ago, South Africa's first black female winemaker Ntsiki Biyela watched anxiously as the worst drought in a century scorched vineyards across Western Cape.

After surviving that, Biyela's small business Aslina Wines recovered and was poised for growth this year - until the new coronavirus pandemic struck, threatening a bitter harvest as domestic and export sales tanked during nine weeks of lockdown.

"We are 30 percent down in terms of exports, but also (local) sales we are down," she told Reuters at the cellars of Delheim wine estate in Stellenbosch where Bivela makes and bottles her own red and white wines.

"I am anxious that we are not going to grow ... but as long as we can survive for the time being," she said. "Everyone is struggling to survive."

Aslina's woes reflect a broader struggle in one of the world's top ten wine producers. According to domestic industry body Vinpro, it was unlikely to make up the nearly 3 billion rand (\$172 million) in direct revenue lost during lockdown, with export losses alone amounting to 200 million rand a week.

As well as strangling exports, South Africa's lockdown, one of the toughest in the world, includes a local ban on the sale of alcohol, although under looser restrictions announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa, booze will be sold for home consumption at certain times starting next week.

Biyela is one of an increasing number of black entrepreneurs breaking into an industry traditionally seen as the preserve of wealthy white landowners who have thrived since South Africa produced its first wine

Aslina Wines, named after Biyela's late grandmother who helped raise her in the rural village of KwaVuthela on the east coast, was founded in 2016 and sells around 36,000 bottles a year mainly to the United States, Japan and the Netherlands.

Its first export since lockdown started in late March is scheduled to leave from Cape Town to the United States on June 1, Biyela said, but demand is down and instead of the usual container load "they are only taking about five pallets which is like half".

Rico Basson, managing director at Vinpro, said: "It is our estimation that around 80 wineries, with almost 350 producers, could be out of business ... that equates to some 15 to 20 percent of the sector."

Across the entire liquor industry in Africa's most industrialised economy, which includes craft brewers, job losses stood at 117,600, he said.

It is unclear whether opening up after two months of zero revenue is enough to save the year. "The implications already are irreparable," Basson said.

(Reuters.)

## Gaborone University College of Law & Professional Studies

# ninen a Valla o



## SPONSORED PROGRAMMES:

## **DEGREE:**

- Bachelor of Law (LLB) (Hons)
- Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) in Purchasing & Supply Chain Management
- Bachelor of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship
- Bachelor of Commerce in Accountancy
- Bachelor of Business Administration in Occupational Health & Safety
- Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion & Disease Prevention
- Bachelor of Technology in Construction Engineering
- Bachelor of Arts in Public Health
- Bachelor of Arts in Law & Public Administration
- Bachelor of Education Early Childhood Education (BED) (Hons)
- Bachelor of Commerce in Travel & Tourism
- Bachelor of Arts in Human Development & Family Studies

## **DIPLOMA**

- Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT)
- Diploma in Court Administration
- Diploma in Occupational Health & Safety and Environmental Law
- Professional Diploma in Procurement & Supply
- Diploma in Transport Planning & Management
- Diploma in Water & Environmental Engineering
- Diploma in Motor Vehicle Engineering
- Diploma in Electronics



 $\operatorname{PSL}_2(\mathbf{R})$  $\overline{\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbf{R})}$ q

**Mmopane Campus** 

**Francistown Campus** 

Lot 6398, Lejara Road **Broadhurst Industrial** Tel: (+267) 318 5596 Fax: (+267) 318 6018 Cell: (+267) 72469089

**Main Campus** 

Plot 1283/4, 1st Floor Along Old Lobatse Road Tel: (+267) 390 1531 Fax: (+267) 390 1535 Cell: (+267) 75965611

**Delta Campus** 

Plot 13142/3 **Professional House** Tel: (+267) 391 8420 Fax: (+267) 391 8421 Cell: (+267) 76177224

**BBS Campus** 

Plot 169, Queens Road Sreeram Home Tel: (+267) 318 5660 Fax: (+267) 318 5661 Cell: (+267) 76230414

**Main Mall Campus** 

**Mmopane** Tel: (+267) 396 0520 Fax: (+267) 396 0519 Cell: (+267) 76667708

A B C D E F

Lot 13393/4/5 Botswana Life Building St. Patrick Street Tel: (+267) 241 7295 Fax: (+267) 241 7294 Cell: (+267) 74736605

Lot 351 Tel: (+267) 241 5405 Fax: (+267) 241 5402 Cell: (+267) 74001331

P.O. Box 201095 Gaborone, Botswana, www,guc.ac.bw, enquiry@guc.ac.bw

For God & Country

12 Art Echo Newspaper 01 - 07 June 2020



# A Tricky legacy: How Fela lives on in pop stars like Wizkid and Wyclef

Fela Kuti remains Nigeria's most famous musician. He pioneered Afrobeat – a genre blending jazz, funk, psychedelic rock, traditional West African chant and rhythms – into conscious music in the 60s and 70s. Fela's music continues to live today across the continents.

Famous for pairing his music with politics and with human rights activism, Fela, who passed in 1997, stood against Nigeria's military dictators, often at great personal cost to his family and band members. His art has become fuel for a new generation of creators who are tapping into his music, and the spirit behind it, to make new records.

Principal among the new creators are Wizkid and Wyclef Jean. Wizkid is a Nigerian pop act with a string of hit records and awards, especially in Africa.

Wyclef Jean is a Haitian – American rapper who transitioned from a successful career with the 1990s hip hop group Fugees to a solo career.

Both artists have made records infusing elements of Fela's Afrobeat. As part of my research into the legacy of Fela, I examined two songs – and their videos – demonstrating the complexity inherent in his musical legacy. Fela Kuti (2017) by Wyclef Jean and Joro (2019) by Wizkid.

While Wyclef and Wizkid have infused Fela's work in their new creations, they interpret his legacy in very different ways, which fans can judge for themselves.

Wizkid - Joro

Wizkid's hit Joro, released in 2019, incorporated elements of Afrobeat in its production, but the essence of Fela's message was not infused. For lyrics, he looked elsewhere.

Amid criticisms across social media that the lyrics in both of his 2019 singles are below par, Wizkid proceeded to tell interviewers that: "Joro means enjoy.

Wizkid is one of the world's most prolific adopters of Fela's works. For the chorus, he also draws from Fela's 1977 Zombie (in which Fela sings "zombie way na one way ... joro jara joro"). Wizkid adapts what is just a chant, "joro ja joro", rather brilliantly to communicate the one-way, utterly loyal nature of the love he professes in Joro.

Perhaps a more effective way to engage with Joro would be to shelve the motley texts and look to the visuals. In 1982, Michael Jackson released Thriller, the best-selling album of all time. Probably the world's most famous music video, MJ's Thriller drove the album doubling its sales and transformed music videos into an art form.

A common theme in the videos of Thriller and Joro is love between a young man and woman. In Joro, Wiz dances in a candle-lit room in Lagos, a deliberate and double signifier to depict Fela's synonymy with the 'shrine', and to show how deeply his love for the subject of his affection – played by dancer Georgia Amodu Curtis – drives him. In Thriller, MJ is accompanied by zombies through extensive dance routines.

Considering that Joro is adapted from Fela's Zombie, Wiz's motivations for taking a 'zombie' route to express this love become apparent. While the video of Joro is not as horrorengaging as MJ's spectacle, it is without doubt as enchanting as the love affair of Thriller. Joro or 'Enjoy' is a thrilling excursion through generations.

Wiz is an Afrobeats superstar with a Lagos heritage who is able to access Fela's catalogue and tweak selected texts for the enjoyment of his audiences.

Wyclef - Fela Kuti

What is curious in Wyclef Jean's case is how a pop act with no deep African background appropriated Fela.

From his time with the Fugees through a solo career, Wyclef made a mark on pop music winning three Grammy Awards. In 2017, he released Carnival III: The Fall and Rise of a Refugee, his 8th studio album of which its first single is titled Fela Kuti.

Within a month of the audio

release, he put out an official lyric video in which he shows how he samples Fela's lyrics, "sibi ti mo le f'orile". Wyclef's Fela Kuti (2017) hinges on the instrumental of Fela's Eko Ile (1973) – a track from Fela's Afrodisiac album. In Eko Ile, Fela pays tribute to Lagos, saying that irrespective of where his travels take him, he would always return home. Hence his submission, "Ko ma sibi ti mo le f'orile, ko si o" (There's just nowhere I can make my home, nowhere at all) – other than Lagos, that is.

Femi Kuti also has a record titled Eko Lagos (2001). Femi's message here is on the distance between his dream for a prosperous world, and the reality of the hardship of

66

While Wyclef and Wizkid have infused Fela's work in their new creations, they interpret his legacy in very different ways, which fans can judge for themselves.

Lagos once he awakes. Wyclef's adaptation of Eko Ile may also be processed along this frame.

Fela Kuti's work also influenced Wyclef's state of mind when making The Fall and Rise of a Refugee. Speaking about it, he said he was personalising Fela Kuti's struggle, and drawing parallels with his life.

To gain more understanding, we conducted an audience selection of Fela's and Wyclef's music. Respondents were at least 25 – old enough to have consciously watched and listened to both artists. The exercise revealed that Eko Ile isn't a favourite among audiences who otherwise consider themselves Fela enthusiasts. Many said they see through Wyclef's 'tribute' to Fela in the twilight of his career and reckon that it is an afterthought, and a ploy to mask a creative deficiency.

(TheConversation).



Echo Newspaper 01 - 07 June 2020 Travel 13

# Thamalakane Flooding: Opportunity For Travel Boom

The Thamalakane River in Maun has received its fair share of water from the Okavango River System after a dry spell, bringing hope and prospects to the tourism industry in the area. The industry has been on pause because of the covid-19 pandemic restrictions.

The arrival of the water downstream has aroused travel excitement for locals who are eager to visit the tourism location for leisure, to enjoy water-based activities and game drives post covid-19 restrictions. Thamalakane has flooded and is currently filling up, and more good news is that the water has now travelled further downstream and reached the Nhabe and Boteti Rivers junction, 20 days since its arrival in Maun. The water two rivers are now flowing in their different directions towards Lake Ngami and Lake Xao respectively

With the second push of the Okavango flood on its way, it remains to be seen if this year the water will flow down the Boteti River all the way past to nourish its ecosystem, further enhancing travel prospects of the area.

The same is needed for the iconic Lake Ngami, another wetland with great tourism value.

All these changes in the system will undoubtedly see domestic travel boom, and an opportunity to develop and solidify it at a time when global travel remains paused due to the pandemic. It is evident that travellers are eager to take their next trip. It would also look like during the lock downs, mother nature rejuvenated itself. It is not only the Okavango system that got nourished, the Chobe ecosystem also received floods.

For Botswana, there is no doubt that domestic travel trends will lean more towards the Northern parts of the country.

Maun is all bliss for the hospitality facilities on the Thamalakane River front – and water-based activities like Mekoro, boat cruises, sport fishing and bird watching are in abundance with adherence to health protocols to ensure social distancing.

With national parks and game reserves now open, Moremi Game Reserve and Makgadikgadi National Park provide an opportunity for game drives from Maun and Boteti. The industry can also tap into regional travel by luring travellers from the SADC region once regional border travel restrictions are eased.

The industry players in these tourism locations have huge opportunity to capitalise on the apparent domestic travel demand. Locations that have been perceived expensive to visit can also take this opportunity and come up with permanent domestic rates to encourage domestic travel to those prime

areas.

It is clear that world travel will take time to fully recovers, and these gives Botswana and other African countries with unique product offering have to drum up domestic travel with the right policies and patronage.





The Local Enterprise Authority (LEA) has embarked on a national initiative to register informal and formal SMMEs operating in Botswana. The main objective of the registration exercise is to develop a centralized database of all trading SMME businesses countrywide; which will inform the development of targeted support programmes and policies that will effectively benefit the SMME sector.

Register your business online at:

https://smeregistration.lea.co.bw OR simply dial \*165# on your mobile phone and follow the instructions.

In order to facilitate decision making on availing COVID-19 relief, informal sector businesses are required to have registered by 31st May 2020. In future, SMME business development support by Government will only be availed to those registered on the SMME database, therefore SMMEs are encouraged to continue registering beyond 31st May 2020.

For any enquiries regarding SMME business registration, contact the following numbers: 71696870, 77423708, 75016935, 71667681 **OR** email **Botsalea@lea.co.bw** 













14 Sports Echo Newspaper 01 - 07 June 2020



## Rugby-World Rugby rejects plan for invitational tournament

World Rugby has rejected a proposal for an unofficial World Cup event next year aimed at boosting the game's finances after the coronavirus stoppage. Former Rugby Football Union CEO Francis Baron had put forward a plan for a six-week 16-team invitational tournament in the UK and Ireland which he said could raise up to 250 million pounds (\$306.5 million) shared among all unions involved.

"World Rugby does not intend

to pursue such a proposal," the governing body said in a statement on Wednesday.

"All stakeholders continue to progress productive discussions regarding the immediate global COVID-19 financial relief strategy and international rugby calendar optimisation, both of which will further the success of Rugby World Cup 2023 in France," the statement added. The global rugby calendar is in a state of flux due to the

pandemic which has seen most cross border and domestic club competitions suspended since March.

Scheduled tours to the southern hemisphere are all cancelled and the postponements have placed financial strain on most rugby nations, with even the leading countries predicting multi-million dollar losses in 2020 due to reduced television, commercial and ticket revenue. New Zealand has confirmed

that a domestic competition for its Super Rugby teams will start next month, while South Africa and Australia are making similar plans.

The All Blacks were due to host Wales and Scotland in July but may now look at playing more games against neighbours Australia later in the year with COVID-19 cases in both countries having been reduced to a trickle.

(Reuters.)



## Cricket-South Africa hopeful of home India series in August

South Africa are optimistic about hosting India for three lucrative Twenty20 Internationals in late August, but are trying to find new dates for their proposed tour to the West Indies.

Cricket South Africa (CSA) has already had to postpone a limited overs series in Sri Lanka, but has earmarked the visit by India to raise much-needed revenue. CSA director of cricket Graeme Smith says the body is in constant contact with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

"We have been talking to them and the commitment is there to get the three T20s done," Smith said at a news conference on Thursday.

"There is an element of guesswork, no-one knows what things will be like at the end of August.

"But we believe we are a socially-distanced sport and that we can play behind closed doors."

The Proteas were due to tour the West Indies in late July for two test matches and five Twenty20 internationals, and Smith confirmed they are looking at all options for those matches, including playing at neutral venues or in South Africa.

"We are exploring all options. Sport has to think like a business now and not just an events company. We need to get together and work out how to get cricket up and running," he said.

"We are trying to understand things like quarantine regulations. There are so many things up in the air, but the key is to be ready

(Reuters.)

## AFRICAN SPORTS BRIEFS



## Gym closures force Kenyan sports champions to train by roadside

Kenya taekwondo champion Vincent Ochieng usually trains in school sports halls in Kisumu, but now he is working out with hundreds of other people on the gritty surface of the western city's biggest highway flyover. The government closed sports facilities in March as part of measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus, leaving athletes like Ochieng, who was looking forward to representing Kenya at the World Taekwondo Championships in China in October, with nowhere to train. "We are planning to represent the country in October ... in China Taekwondo World Cup, but unfortunately this COVID-19 is with us and we don't know when it's going to end. We just hope it ends before the tournament time," Ochieng told Reuters as he trained with other sportsmen and women. Ochieng, a six-times national champion who trains with his daughter, has represented Kenya in tournaments in South Korea, Rwanda, Ethiopia and Sudan.

Working out alongside him is Evelyne Akinyi, a welterweight boxer and national team member who started the sport five years ago and has competed in Morocco and Senegal.

"Two days after our return from Senegal we got news that coronavirus had hit Senegal," Akinyi said after doing sit-ups and practising punches with her coach.

"That did not stop me from training. I am training, should there be a match soon."

The early morning sessions attract about 400 other residents, including football and basketball players and musicians.

Some people disapprove, however, saying the training sessions violate government orders to avoid gathering in groups.

--

Sports 15



# Kenya announces financial support to players

The Kenyan government on Tuesday announced that 12 needy Kenyan premier League clubs are set to receive a monthly stipend of 100USD (Ksh10,000) for the next two months with the possibility of an extension to three, in a bid to aid them cushion from the effects of the COVID-19 endemic.

Sports Cabinet Secretary Amina Mohamed says they picked 12 needy clubs from the 18-team league to kick start the process which will be reviewed for any case of improvement.

"We are going to release Sh10,000 per month for 30 players and 5 technical officers. This will be a total of 420 beneficiaries. The stimulus package will be for the next two months with a possibility of extension of a third month should we be able to mobilize more funds from well wishers

and our partners," Amina said.

She added; "We have agreed that we are starting with KPL because we know the difficulty they are going through. After verification, we have come up with a final list of those footballers suffering the most. We will begin with them and continue rolling out the program for the next 15 days while taking stock."

relief for clubs especially those who do not have sponsors. While some clubs enjoy solid corporate sponsorship, a massive section of the top flight have community based clubs who are struggling to raise money to pay salaries at a time when football has been

The move will come as a huge

The Kenyan Premier League announced the cancellation of all

stopped.

leagues due to the virus and this means there will be no football until at least August when the

new season is scheduled to start..

(Cafonline.)



## Tunisia announce Roadmap for return to competitions in August

The Tunisian Football Federation (FTF) has sent out a guideline to all Ligue 1 and some Ligue 2 clubs, in preparation to resuming the football season.

The Tunisian football league has been suspended since mid-March 2020 due to COVID-19.

FTF has ended the secondtier Ligue 2 season with the exception of teams concerned with promotion and relegation.

The federation has announced playoff tournaments to determine relegation to Ligue 3 and promotion to Ligue 2.

As far as Ligue 1 is concerned, FTF earlier proposed a plan has now received the green light from Tunisian authorities. The plan includes resuming individual training sessions as of June 4th and group sessions the following ten to 15 days.

They have also set strict guidelines including practice sessions and games taking place behind closed doors. Thorough health precautions are required as well, such as proper sterilization of equipment, hands, and keeping access to the stadium to the bare minimum will be required.

The schedule set out by FTF will see games returning in August

2020 and the new 2020/2021 season kick off in late October 2020.

"Our objective is to apply a strategy that ensures both return of practice and football season, as well as the health and safety of all parties involved in the process during the COVID-19 crisis," the FTF said in a statement. .

(Cafonline.)

Ugandan legend Kirunda passes on



Uganda legend Jimmy Kirunda passed away on Monday, the Federation of Uganda Football Associations (FUFA) has confirmed. The 70-year old collapsed whilst walking in Bwaise, a suburb of the capital, Kampala, and was pronounced dead moments later.



"It is saddening that we have lost Uganda's best ever footballer. He served the beautiful game with all his heart. This is heartbreaking, " said Paul Ssali,

Kirunda was captain of the Uganda team that reached the final of the 1978 Africa Cup of Nations, losing to host Ghana. He also featured at the 1974 and 1976 in Egypt and Ethiopia respectively during the tenyear period he captained the national team.

"It is saddening that we have lost Uganda's best ever footballer. He served the beautiful game with all his heart. This is heartbreaking," said Paul Ssali, goalkeeper of the Cranes Class of 1978, in a glowing tribute to his former teammate.

Revered as one of the best players ever have come out of Uganda, he featured for local sides Express, KCCA and SC Villa, as well a stint with Abu Dhabi Sports in the United Arab Emirates. He also served as Uganda coach between 1989 and 1996.

(Reuters.).



# 





At its meeting on Thursday (28 May 2020) via video-conference, the CAF Emergency Committee has approved the immediate distribution of financial grants to Member Associations (MA) to support the management of football at the domestic levels hugely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

A total of USD 10.8 Million will

be transferred to the 54 MA's on the continent as part of a relief plan to ease the financial burden on the African football community during these unprecedented times.

"Due to the fast-spread of COVID-19, African MA's have suspended all domestic competitions, which has brought about huge financial burdens on their shoulders. CAF has thus decided to wave the eligibility requirements to access the annual grants, so all MA's can benefit during this difficult period," said CAF President Ahmad Ahmad.

Also, CAF is assessing the opportunity of additional financial support to MA's for the resumption and organisation

of their domestic competitions.

Twoweeksago, CAFannounced the distribution of USD 3.5 Million to the participants of the Interclub competitions for the 2019/20 season. The two club competitions, Total CAF Champions League and Total CAF Confederation Cup, were suspended after the quarter-final matches due to COVID-19.

Meanwhile, CAF is monitoring the situation closely and working with the relevant authorities including the Wealth Health Organization (WHO), FIFA amongst others on the impact of the virus on the continent, and will announce developments to our competitions at the appropriate time.

(Cafonline.)

