

Nyanzaga investment signals economic upside

By DAILY NEWS Reporter

THE \$23 million US dollars (about 135m/-) Nyanzaga Gold Mine project in Sengeru, Mwanza, is expected to deliver significant economic benefits to Tanzania, with projections indicating at least 16 years of gold production and sustained revenue generation for both local communities and the national

economy. With an estimated reserve of four million ounces of gold, the project is poised to become a key contributor to the country's long-term economic growth.

The management of Percus Mining has reaffirmed its commitment to sustainability, local development, and lasting economic contribution as the project moves closer to production, which is

scheduled to begin in January 2027.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday, the company's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Craig Jones, described Nyanzaga as a "world-class" gold project currently under construction and progressing on schedule. He noted that reaching first gold production will mark a significant milestone in Tanzania's mining

sector. Jones emphasized that the project aligns closely with Tanzania Development Vision 2050, ensuring that the mining industry continues to play a central role in national economic transformation.

He added that Percus Mining's approach encompasses environmental management, workforce safety, local employment, and broader economic participa-

tion, with a focus on delivering fair and equitable returns to all stakeholders, including the Government of Tanzania and surrounding communities.

Percus Mining holds an 80 per cent stake in the project, while the government owns the remaining 20 per cent. Construction is currently about halfway complete, with approximately 250 million US dollars (about

648m/-) already invested. Chief Financial Officer Lee-Anne de Bruin highlighted the strong local workforce presence at the site, noting that more than 3,000 employees and contractors are currently engaged, with 97 per cent being Tanzanians.

"Our focus is on employing, uplifting and up-skilling Tanzanians, particularly those from the local region," she said, adding that the com-

pany is also prioritising procurement from local suppliers to boost domestic economic participation.

Independent Non-Executive Chairman Rick Menell underscored the company's responsibility in managing Tanzania's natural resources.

"The treasure that has brought us here belongs to Tanzania," he said. "We take our responsibility as stewards and custodians of this treasure very seriously."

He added that the company envisions Nyanzaga evolving beyond mining into a hub for skills development.

"Our hope is that Nyanzaga becomes a technical training centre to refill the pipeline of the future. We also hope that the partnerships we build and the example we set will benefit many more people and communities beyond ourselves."

Youth-focused climate programme launched in Kilimanjaro

From HECKTON CHUWA in Kilimanjaro

A NETHERLANDS-based non-governmental organisation, Green Manjaro, in collaboration with the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) and its Roots & Shoots programme in Kilimanjaro Region, has launched an environmental initiative targeting students and youth to promote long-term climate change mitigation efforts.

The programme, known as Kili Kids Climate Days (KCDs), aims to equip young people with knowledge and practical skills to address climate change and environmental conservation.

Speaking during the launch, Green Manjaro Chairperson, Marjolijn Praaning, said the initiative seeks to empower the younger generation by raising awareness on climate change impacts and the importance of protecting the environment.

"At the heart of climate change challenges lies a clear mission to amplify young voices and inspire collective action for a sustainable future. This is why we are launching this programme," she said.

She explained that under the theme "The Future is in Our Hands," participating students will receive extracurricular learning materials designed to provide practical knowledge on climate change and ecological responsibility.

Praaning added that the programme is intended to deepen students' understanding of environmental issues and encourage them to actively promote climate action within their communities.

"Historically, environmental conservation efforts have largely been driven by organisations rather than young people at the community level. This programme seeks to change that by empowering students as future leaders in climate action," she said.

Kili Kids Climate

Days Coordinator, Dumas Mlaki, said the initiative launched at Mukuja B Secondary School in Mochi is currently being implemented as a pilot project.

"Our long-term plan is to expand the programme to more schools so that climate and environmental education can reach a wider group of young people for the benefit of the country's future," he said.

Mlaki noted that during the launch, students participated in practical learning sessions, including tree planting and conservation techniques under a segment dubbed "The Secret of Trees."

He added that students were also introduced to recycling concepts through the "Plastic Fantastic" module, which teaches waste management and recycling practices using simple technologies.

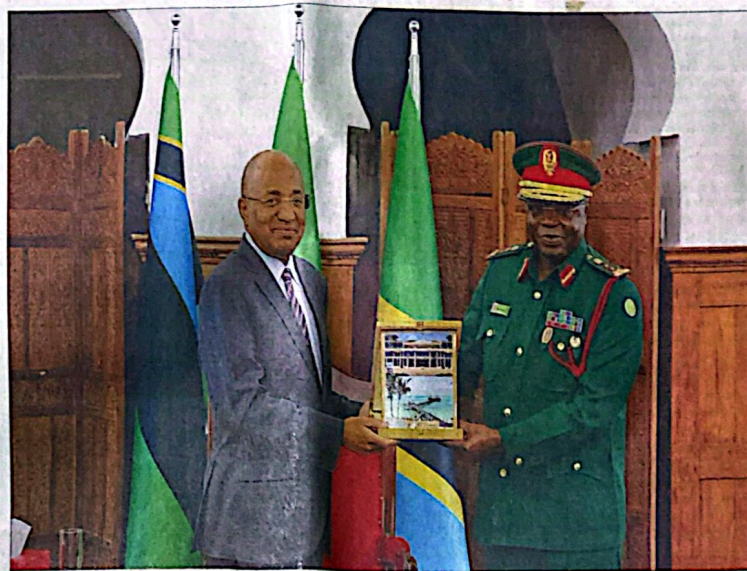
In addition, participants learned about the impact of climate change on wildlife through a module known as "Wildlife Footprints."

"Wildlife plays a crucial role in the national economy through tourism. It is important for the younger generation to understand this so they can continue protecting these resources in the future," he said.

The launch also featured interactive activities and a screening of the environmental film "Chameleon Corridor," which highlights how communities in Tanzania's Eastern Arc Mountains are working to restore biodiversity while adapting to climate change.

The film was introduced through a partnership between Green Manjaro Foundation, JGI's Roots & Shoots programme, and the African Schools of Storytelling (AFRISO).

Narrated through the perspective of a chameleon, the short film illustrates how both communities and wildlife adapt to environmental challenges, reinforcing the importance of conservation for future generations.



ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Mwinyi, presents a gift to Major General Ambassador Wilbert Ibage, the Commandant of the National Defence College Tanzania (NDC), after a meeting with senior directing staff, 72 students from 17 countries, and senior government officials at State House, in the Isles yesterday. (Photo by Zanzibar State House)

Experts call for dedicated environmental experts act

By DAILY NEWS Reporter

SENIOR government officials, environmental experts, and regional stakeholders have renewed calls for the establishment of a comprehensive Environmental Experts Act in Tanzania.

They argue that the country urgently needs a statutory body dedicated to the registration, regulation, and continuous professional development of environmental practitioners, distinct from the current framework under the National Environment Management Council (NEMC).

Speaking at a Tanzania environmental experts' gathering held in Dar es Salaam recently, the Deputy Minister in the Vice-President's Office (Union and Environment), Reuben Kwagila, said that environmental professionals are central to Tanzania's long-term development ambitions.

He represented the Minister responsible for Envi-

ronment under the Vice-President's Office Engineer Hamad Masamu. He said environmental experts constitute what he described as the "critical enforcement corps" of the country's Vision 2050.

He noted that while the country's economic and social development pillars rely on engineers, economists, and social service professionals, the environmental pillar depends largely on cross-cutting specialists tasked with safeguarding sustainability, ensuring compliance, and strengthening climate resilience.

The deputy minister warned that the increasing complexity of development projects requires a more structured environmental governance system.

Experts at the meeting observed that Tanzania currently relies heavily on the regulatory oversight of NEMC. While effective in enforcement, the council is not structurally designed to function as a professional

licensing and continuous

development body. This institutional gap, they noted, has contributed to inconsistencies in professional standards and limited career progression for environmental experts.

Founding Trustee of Umoya Conservation Trust (UCT) Bryan Toshi Bwana highlighted what he described as a persistent "skills leakage crisis" across Africa. Citing regional and international labour assessments, he said that despite baseline studies indicate that up to 67 per cent of donor-funded environmental consultancy work in Africa is undertaken by foreign firms, leading to an estimated annual outflow of 300 million US dollars in consultancy revenues.

He added that although Tanzania has served as a regional training hub for environmental professionals since independence, it continues to lose skilled graduates to neighbouring countries and international markets.

Mr Bwana argued for a dual-institution model in

East Africa, where one body handles regulation and enforcement (such as NEMC), while another independent statutory authority is mandated to register environmental professionals, accredit training programmes, enforce ethical standards, and provide continuous professional development.

Such a framework, he said, would ensure that environmental experts are effectively deployed across sectors including mining, tourism, energy, agriculture, and infrastructure, while also being continuously upgraded to meet evolving global standards in climate change mitigation, green construction, and biodiversity conservation.

Chairperson of the Tanzania Environmental Experts Association (TEEA), Emmanuel Hanai noted that the proposed Environmental Experts Act would establish a national register of certified practitioners, define professional standards, regulate conduct, and institutionalise mandatory continuous learning systems.

Over 6,000 illegal immigrants nabbed in Kagera

From MEDDY MULISA in Bukoba

THE Immigration Department in Kagera Region has intensified border surveillance, resulting in the apprehension of over 6,000 illegal immigrants for entering and residing in the country without valid residence permits.

Kagera Regional Immigration Officer, Assistant Commissioner of Immigration (ACI), Petrus Malima, said that the illegal immigrants were rounded up during an operation conducted between January to March, this year.

He said that during the month of January a total of 1,949 illegal immigrants were arrested. 2,037 were arrested in February while 2,066 were arrested in March.

Giving a breakdown, ACI Malima said Burundians accounted the highest number with 5,056 illegal immigrants, Rwanda (498), Uganda (376), DRC (64), Kenya (4) and South Sudan (1).

He also said about 53 Tanzanians were also arrested

for aiding the aliens. "A big number of the illegal immigrants have already been repatriated back to their countries of origin while others were arraigned in court the charges," he said.

Mr Malima strongly warned people who collude in hiding illegal immigrants that stern action would be taken against them including prosecuting them in court.

"I would like to warn Tanzanians and all other individuals who conspire with illegal immigrants to enter and stay in the country contrary to the laws of the land that they will be arrested and arraigned as per law, we must work together to address this problem and avoid violating immigration laws," he said.

He appealed to citizens in the region to report aliens to authorities for necessary measures.

Illegal immigration is one of the offences caused by civil wars, political instability, and economic hardship, which occur in some countries.

Risk management capacity building to boost tax collection

By DAILY NEWS Reporter

THE Tanzania Revenue Workers Union (TAREWU) has entered into a strategic partnership with the Institute of Risk Management Tanzania (IRMT) aimed at strengthening risk management capacity among Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) staff, in a move expected to enhance efficiency in tax collection.

The two institutions signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Tuesday in Dar es Salaam, marking the beginning of a collaborative effort to equip

revenue workers with critical skills in identifying, assessing and mitigating risks in their day-to-day operations.

The initiative is widely seen as a catalyst in supporting the implementation of the National Development Vision 2050, which targets transforming Tanzania into a one trillion US dollar economy.

Speaking during the signing ceremony, IRMT President, CPA Pius Maneno, said the partnership underscores the importance of fostering a strong working relationship that prioritises proactive risk management.

He explained that

strengthening the capacity of stakeholders and workers to anticipate and manage risks would significantly reduce the occurrence of disasters, which often derail economic progress.

"This collaboration is about ensuring that both employees and institutions are able to avoid risks before they escalate into disasters. When risks are minimised, the economy becomes more stable, the country progresses and national development goals are achieved," he said.

"The country is determined to move away from the cycle of disasters. By focusing on risk management,

we will be able to cut down the costs associated with emergencies and redirect resources towards development priorities," he said.

CPA Maneno further highlighted emerging challenges such as climate-related risks and cyber threats, noting that institutions must keep pace with rapid technological advancements.

"We are operating in a dynamic environment where risks are constantly evolving, including those related to climate change and cyber security. It is therefore essential for institutions to collaborate and stay aligned with techno-

logical growth," he emphasised.

On his part, TAREWU Chairperson, Lutufyo Mufya, said the union's strategic plan for 2026-2030 prioritises capacity building among its members, with risk management identified as a key focus area.

He said the decision to partner with IRMT was informed by the need to equip members with relevant skills that align with institutional and global standards.

Mr Mufya noted that the TRA had previously conducted risk management training in 2011, which led to the establishment of a

dedicated risk control department, demonstrating the importance of the discipline within the authority.

"TRA is currently implementing International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) standards in quality management. As employees, we must keep pace with the institution's direction by enhancing our competencies in areas such as risk management," he said.

The agreement, which will be implemented over a period of five years, is expected to reach more than 7,000 TAREWU members across the country.

TAREWU Secretary

General, Mr Michael Marere, expressed optimism that the partnership would lead to increased efficiency and improved revenue collection.

He said equipping staff with risk management skills would help seal loopholes that often lead to revenue losses, thereby boosting government collections.

"Efficiency will certainly improve and revenue collection will increase because many of the existing loopholes will be addressed through this training. This will ultimately support the government in achieving the Vision 2050 targets," he said.

Mr Marere added that

one of the core mandates of TRA is to promote voluntary tax compliance, noting that improved systems and well-trained staff would further enhance compliance levels among taxpayers.

He said the training programmes will be delivered through both physical sessions and online platforms to ensure wider reach within a short period.

"Our goal is to ensure that all members benefit from this initiative within the five-year period. The use of online training platforms will make it easier to reach participants across the country," he said.

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