UNIDO to collaborate Further with government on Industrialization

The Director General of the (UNIDO) LI Yong recently visited Tanzania with the aim of strengthening cooperation and strategic partnership with the country.

During his visit LI Yong met with the Vice President of Tanzania, H.E. Samia Suluhu and several ministers.

They had insightful discussions on government priorities for industrial development and sustainable solutions that UNIDO can offer to support the efforts being made by the country.

Some of the issues they discussed, among other topics, the need to reinforce multilateral partnerships for inclusive and sustainable industrial development, and the role of South-South industrial cooperation in

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Word from the government:

“...‘I would like to commend the efforts of the young leaders and volunteers from the Youth of United Nations Association of Tanzania for pulling off all this big gathering of vibrant young individuals from Tanzania and abroad...We believe your ideas will contribute to the efforts of implementing the 2030 agenda. We would also like to acknowledge the support provided by all the supporters; specifically, the United Nations.”

Hon Anthony Mavunde, Deputy Ministry of State in the Prime Minister’s Office Responsible for Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Employment, Youth and the Disabled on April 30, 2018 in Dodoma on behalf of Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan.
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strengthening technology and knowledge transfer.

During the mission, a joint declaration to strengthen the cooperation between UNIDO and the Government of Tanzania was signed in support of the implementation of the Country’s Development Vision 2025; the Zanzibar Vision 2020; the Sustainable Industrial Development Plan, and Tanzania’s Integrated Industrial Development Strategy 2025 (IIDS 2025). Other meetings held included those with representatives of the private sector, civil society and the UN Country Management Team.

Following the meetings in Dar es Salaam, Director General LI travelled to Zanzibar where he met with President Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Marketing, Hon. Amina Ali to discuss the need for enhanced cooperation in favour of inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Zanzibar.

As part of UNIDO’s support to seaweed farmers in Zanzibar, over 90 per cent of whom are women, farmer and processor associations received harvesting and processing equipment worth almost Sh180 million (approx. USD 80,000) from the Organization.

IOM returns six imprisoned young women to Ethiopia – 913 prisoners


The main aim of the mission was to verify the identities of migrants with the aim of supporting them to return to their homes through Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR). The mission successfully verified the identities of 919 Ethiopians – of which six were women.

300 migrants were selected for immediate humanitarian returns starting with the six female Ethiopians who have already been safely returned to their country.

The remaining 294 migrants will be assisted to return home by early May 2018.

IOM is trying to secure additional resources to facilitate the safe return of the remaining caseload of 619 verified/registered migrants that are still imprisoned in Mwanza, Dar es Salaam, Bukoba, Tanga and Bagamoyo regions.
The United Nations and the Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF) have signed principles of collaboration which will enhance communication and advocacy for the implementation of the Global Goals in Tanzania. The partnership between TEF and the UN has existed for over 5 years with heads of UN agencies annually meeting with senior journalists and editors. This latest collaboration builds on this partnership with a focus on training journalists at the grassroots level on reporting for development in the context of the Global Goals implementation through the National Five-Year Development Plan and the UN Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP II).

The agreement will see the UN and TEF jointly build the capacity of journalists from regions in all five zones of Tanzania to ensure that implementation of the Global Goals is reported at the grassroots level. This will include field visits to key UN and government projects to highlight best practices & challenges being experienced in the course of Global Goals implementation. The collaboration also establishes new Excellence in Journalism awards for journalists who excel in reporting on selected Global Goals and the UN’s work in Tanzania.

Speaking on behalf of the UN Resident Coordinator at the TEF Retreat, UN Communications Specialist, Ms. Hoyce Temu, highlighted the importance of working closely with the media to inform communities on progress being made on the Global Goals. “We value the important work being done by the media and recognize that they are an important partner in communicating the successes and challenges of Global Goals implementation,” said Ms. Temu. “Your role as editors in highlighting development issues facing the country is immense and commendable. As we continue working closely with the government to improve lives of communities, we look forward to strengthening our partnership with media stakeholders all over the country.”

On his side, Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF) Acting Chairman, Mr. Deodatus Balile said that the agreement will enhance TEF and the UN’s partnership and that the media trainings will assist journalists in the regions.

“We value the important work being done by the media and recognize that they are a key partner in communicating the successes and challenges of Global Goals implementation,”

Ms. Hoyce Temu
UN Communication Specialist
In April, Kigoma District Commissioner, Samson Anga; UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez; and the UN Communications Group (UNCG), officers from 15 UN agencies in Tanzania; and the media visited youth and women who benefitted from a previous UN joint program in Kigoma Town.

The KJP complements humanitarian interventions in Kigoma and builds on previous UN interventions such as a UN joint project supported by ILO, UNIDO, UN Women and FAO on youth empowerment. The joint program was conducted in collaboration with local NGO Nyakitonto Youth for Development Tanzania and the Kigoma Municipality. Over 110 youth were trained on business development services. The youth who were trained are currently running businesses in areas such as agriculture, horticulture and soap processing.

The field visit took place at the production site of one of the youth who were trained by Nyakitonto’s youth center. The youth, who were trained as part of the program, demonstrated some of their entrepreneurial activities such as soap processing. Kigoma District Commissioner, Mr. Samson Anga, congratulated the youth for their accomplishments and thanked the UN for partnering with the government to improve the lives of young people. “We’ve seen how these youths are processing soap and we’ve also seen the challenges that they are encountering – there is a need for us to increase our support to them,” he said.

Speaking during the field visit, UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez noted that “The impact that the previous joint program done by UN agencies in collaboration with Nyakitonto shows the positive impact we can make when working closely with the host communities in the region.”

He added that, “As we continue implementation of the Kigoma Joint Program, we aim to build on this impact and eventually expand the KJP to reach more host communities in the region. In partnership with Norway, KOICA and Sweden, the UN is here to support the government to ensure that humanitarian interventions do not prevent development.”

Last year the United Nations launched the Kigoma Joint Programme (KJP) to link the UN’s current response to refugees and migrants with an increased focus on developing the host communities. It was launched in partnership with the government of the United Republic of Tanzania, members of the Development Partners Group, the media, Civil Society Organizations, refugees and migrants host populations in Kigoma. The KJP consists of 16 UN agencies working together across six themes.
The Kigoma Joint Programme (KJP) Stakeholders workshop was held in Kasulu district in late April. It was attended by Members of the Regional Consultative Council (RCC), senior government officials from the region and programme officers from the 16 UN agencies.

In his opening remarks, Kigoma Regional Commissioner, Rtd. Brig. Gen. Emmanuel Maganga, thanked the UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez and the UN Country Management Team for considering the region as their priority. He also thanked the Governments of Norway, Korea and Sweden.

On the scope and areas of the programme Rtd. Brig. Maganga; appealed to the Development Partners to expand the programme to include other districts in the region and other sectors. “The programme is currently focusing the districts of Kibondo, Kakonko and Kasulu, but the challenges of the region covers all the districts.

As the government is committed to the development of the whole region, we appeal to our partners to consider expanding the programme to other districts and also include other sectors - particularly health which has been a big challenge to the host community,” he said.

On behalf of the UN, Area Coordinator for the KJP, Mr. Evance Siangicha thanked the regional and district authorities for the support and cooperation they have availed since the commencement of the programme. He assured the stakeholders that UN is committed to working with government to ensure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). “The 16 UN Agencies which are part of the joint programme intend to contribute to the government’s efforts in improving the livelihood of Kigoma residents. We believe with cooperation of all stakeholders this will be achieved,” emphasized Mr. Siangicha.

On implementation, the RCC members and participants commended the cooperation of the local authorities which has allowed some tangible results within the first year of the programme.

They urged the UN programme officials to continue cooperating with the officials in the region to ensure the programme is a success and the Kigoma region makes progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

“The 16 UN Agencies which are part of the joint programme intend to contribute to the government’s efforts in improving the livelihood of Kigoma residents. We believe with cooperation of all stakeholders this will be achieved,” emphasized Mr. Siangicha.
In Zanzibar, there are 310 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births and a majority of these deaths result from severe bleeding, obstructed labour, and the consequences of unsafe abortion. For every woman who dies from complications of pregnancy, an estimated 20 to 30 more experience chronic or acute morbidities. Most of these maternal deaths and morbidities are preventable with increased access to emergency obstetric care, skilled birth and family planning.

Making motherhood safer is a human right, and it is at the core of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) mandate. Recognizing the need to improve Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) in Zanzibar, UNFPA began working with the Ministry of Health in late 2016 on a mentorship programme to address knowledge and skill gaps among health care providers. Two senior obstetrician gynecologists were posted to medical facilities in Unguja and Pemba to mentor medical doctors, medical officers, and midwives, with the goal of increasing their skills and capacities.

Dr. Ramadhan, a newly-qualified medical doctor, was posted to the maternity unit of Wete district hospital (Pemba) in May 2017. Upon taking up his position, he felt he lacked the confidence to conduct some procedures. “I would love to conduct caesarian sections but I’m afraid I’m not confident enough to do the procedure myself,” Dr. Ramadhan said at the time.

Dr. Ramadhan received support during clinical practice and over the course of his mentorship, he developed his skills under the watchful eye of a very experienced medical professional. By March 2018 he had successfully performed 40 c-sections without the need for supervision, and has improved his capacity to deliver EmONC. By developing his skills and confidence he has saved lives.

When asked about the difference the UNFPA-mentorship programme has made for him, he said “I feel very empowered in saving the lives of mothers and newborns in Zanzibar. I feel that I’m making an impact however small in reducing maternal and newborn death, this gives me a sense of satisfaction that I’m very useful in serving humanity”.

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Starting off this year’s International Women’s Day national commemorations on March 8, over 20 private sector companies listed at the Dar Stock Exchange (DSE) joined UN Women and the UN Global Compact to Ring the Bell for Gender Equality for the first time ever in Tanzania. A global initiative with over 50 Stock Exchanges participating worldwide, Ring the Bell for Gender Equality aimed to raise awareness about the importance of gender equality to both business and the sustainable development agenda.

Led by UN Women Tanzania and the UN Global Compact Network Tanzania, the campaign emphasizes the critical role business can play in promoting women’s economic empowerment and financial inclusion, linking gender equality and the attainment of Global Goals as a prerequisite. It also promotes women’s full and effective participation, and equal opportunities for leadership, at all levels of decision-making.

Private sector companies and stock exchanges are encouraged to make tangible commitments to advance gender equality; in addition to taking an integrated approach to unlocking the power of women in business and society.

Honoring the occasion, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children, Ms. Sihaba Nkinga, called on all private sector companies listed at DSE to step up their efforts to promote gender equality. She highlighted that their role in job creation, investment and innovation, is indispensable in advancing women’s economic empowerment.

Speaking at the event, the UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez, said, “If we are to make the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality, and leave no one behind, what we need is urgent action on gender equality and the empowerment of women, and especially in the private sector.”

Highlighting on the pace of progress in bridging the global gender pay gap, UN Women Representative, Ms. Hodan Addou said, “We know that even though the private sector recognizes advancing gender equality through business operations and value chains means better talent, higher productivity, more customers, and a stronger bottom line, progress remains slow. Research by the World Economic Forum suggests that, at today’s pace, it would take 217 years to resolve the economic gender gap globally. We simply cannot wait that long to shatter the glass ceiling: The Time is Now.”

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children, Ms. Sihaba Nkinga (centre) rings the Bell for Gender Equality at the Dar es Salaam stock exchange on International Women’s Day! She is flanked by UN Women Representative, Ms. Hodan Addou (right) and (get name and title). Photo | Edgar Kiliba/UNRCO

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The event at the Dar Stock Exchange

FACT ABOUT THE MARKET
In 2016 alone, legal community supporters trained by the programme helped women report 454 cases of violence.

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was followed up by another event the next day at Mchikichini market in Ilala District where UN Women have been supporting female traders since 2015. The Tanzanian organization, Equality for Growth, supported by UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women is implementing the project, “Give Payment, Not Abuse: Protecting Informal Women Traders in Dar es Salaam from Violence against Women”.

The project has supported over 8,000 women traders in local markets all over Dar es Salaam by providing a safer environment for them to trade, free from all forms of violence and harassment. This has enabled them to freely exercise their economic rights and reach their economic potential, in addition to giving them greater financial independence and access to new markets.

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UN Women Representative (OIC), Ms. Hodan Addou dances her way to the podium before delivering her remarks at International Women’s Day commemorations at Mchikichini market. Ms. Addou commended the progress on Gender Equality made at the market where there is now a 50/50 male to female trader ratio. Photo| Edgar Kiliba/UNRCO
Women traders from Mchikichini market in Ilala district, Dar es Salaam celebrate International Women’s Day. UN Women has been supporting female traders in local markets all over Dar es Salaam since 2015. Photo | Edgar Kiliba/UNRCO

Head of Development Cooperation at the Swedish Embassy to Tanzania, Mr. Ulf Källstig explains the importance of Gender Equality in the workplace. Photo | Edgar Kiliba/UNRCO

Entertainers performing during Women’s Day commemorations at Mchikichini market in Ilala district, Dar es Salaam. Photo | Edgar Kiliba/UNRCO
Tanzania International Model United Nations (TIMUN) is an annual youth meeting which brings together over 200 participants from United Nations member countries on a general assembly to discuss chosen topics and themes.

This year’s TIMUN has brought together participants from Tanzania, Uganda, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, India, Somalia, South Sudan, UK and Zimbabwe who spent a week discussing and participating in activities related to ‘Youth Participation on Innovation and Creativity for A Sustainable Future’.

The UN in Tanzania, for several years, has been supporting TIMUN financially and in kind through trainings, presentations and facilitation of the event. It was during TIMUN 2016 that UN Tanzania trained the first 50 youth to become Global Goals Youth Champions who were tasked with Global Goals outreach with a target of reaching other 25,000 youths (face-to-face) annually.

TIMUN 2018 marks two years since this partnership which has now seen over 45,000 youth trained across the country.

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The TIMUN 2018 opening ceremony was graced by Hon. Antony Mavunde, Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister’s Office responsible for Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Employment, Youth and the Disabled.

Speaking during the opening ceremony at the Treasury Square, Hon. Mavunde said “We believe, your ideas will contribute to the efforts of implementing the 2030 agenda. Your support and voice can help to raise awareness and give prominence to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in our communities.”

Speaking ahead of TIMUN 2018, UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez, said that the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda requires the involvement of everyone. “TIMUN 2018 comes at an incredible time...looking at issues of innovation and creativity offers new potential to translate the SDGs into reality particularly for the poor and those left behind” said Mr. Rodriguez. “We will continue to do our very best to support the incredible work you’re doing and I look forward to discussing successes and challenges that you’ve encountered,” he said.

Some of the resolutions put forward by the youth include:

- The government should offer free maternal and child health services in order to reduce maternal mortality rates.
- Affordable skilled training platforms for the youth that will ensure employment in both public and private spheres.
- Calls on all member states to ensure equal empowerment in possession of resources and all assets in relation to gender parity.
Youth Participation on Innovation and Creativity for A sustainable Future

Global Goals Youth Champion, Mr. Lameck Lawrence, conducting Global goals Outreach during the Tanzania International Model UN (TIMUN) 2018. Photo | Grace Mongi/UNRCO

Deputy Minister, President’s Office - Regional Administration & Local Government Authority, Hon. Joseph Kakunda, receives the TIMUN 2018 resolutions on behalf of the government. He encouraged youth to implement the Global Goals before closing the conference. Photo | Grace Mongi/UNRCO

TIMUN 2018 participants attending one of the budget sessions at the National Assembly. They were invited by the Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister’s Office, Hon. Antony Mavunde. Photo | Bunge
UNICEF Tanzania recently handed over a newly constructed building for the Mugeza Mseto Special Needs Primary School in Bukoba that was damaged during the September 2016 Kagera earthquake.

The renovated school, now has a new three-classroom block; four dormitories that can accommodate 192 children with disabilities; two ablution blocks - one for boys and one for girls - both of which have been designed to facilitate use by children with disabilities; and one sickbay equipped with bedding for over-night stay.

Following the devastating earthquake that hit Kagera region, UNICEF was requested by the Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Hon. Professor Joyce Ndalichako, to support the rehabilitation of Mugeza Mseto Special Needs School so that affected children could continue with their learning journey.

The earthquake completely destroyed 840 houses while more than 1,270 houses were left seriously damaged rendering thousands of people homeless and many students, including those of Mugeza Mseto Special Needs Primary School, without classrooms, latrines, dormitories and teacher houses.

“The buildings will enhance the provision of equitable and inclusive access to quality education for 763 children, 397 of whom are girls. Of the beneficiaries, 150 are children with disabilities that include 68 girls. On top of that, the school now has improved access to WASH facilities,” said Maniza Zaman in her handover speech that was delivered on her behalf by UNICEF’s Chief of Education, Cecilia Baldeh.

Acting Municipal Director, Mr. Lukiko, thanked UNICEF and Rotary club for their support and also commended the surrounding community for their collaboration and contribution that made it possible for renovation to take place successfully.
Dodoma Regional Commissioner, Dr. Binilith Mahenge, and World Food Programme (WFP) Regional Director for Southern Africa and Indian Ocean States, Ms. Lola Castro visited WFP activities in Dodoma Sub Office in March and April respectively. Ms. Castro visited WFP-supported nutrition and agricultural project sites and met with various partners and government officials in Dodoma region.

During her visit to the Chawanako Farmers Group under the Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA) in Kibaigwa district, Ms. Castro noted that the programme was working very well in Tanzania and that farmers were eager to get more information, training and capacity-building on good agricultural practices, access to quality inputs, predictable markets and reducing post-harvest losses.

Ms. Castro also visited the Saemaul Zero Hunger Community projects (SZHC) in Suli village which has been supported by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), WFP and Good Neighbours International (GNI). She met with beneficiaries of the goat, poultry and piggy Income Generating Activities (IGAs) and irrigation project. Since 2014, SZHC has served over 12,280 beneficiaries across three villages (Fufu, Suli and Chiboli) in Chamwino district. The irrigation scheme constructions began in 2017 as part of the ‘shamba la ufuta’ – sesame block farms project. The project targets 100 youth, women and vulnerable community members and is one of the seven IGAs growing and selling sesame seeds under the programme.

Prior to Ms. Castro’s visit, the Dodoma Regional Commissioner, Dr. Binilith Mahenge paid a courtesy call to the three SZHC villages to observe irrigation schemes and to discuss the challenges villagers faced in their daily lives. Dr. Mahenge thanked the support given by KOICA, WFP and GNI, adding that these villages were very lucky to have been selected among the 32 villages in Chamwino. He emphasised for active participation and ownership towards the project.
The United Nations has expressed its interest in working closely with the Tanzania Association of Government Communication Officers (TAGCO) in an effort to enhance joint communication, outreach and advocacy initiatives involving the government and the UN. The parties have articulated a partnership which will see them working closely to advocate for the normative values of the government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the United Nations. The intended partnership will also seek to improve communication of the progress being made on the implementation of the Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP II), the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP II) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Speaking at the TACGO capacity-building retreat at Arusha International Convention Centre (AICC), the UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez, said “We would like to work closely with government communications officers on communicating about the implementation of the SDGs as prioritized within the second Five Years National Development Plan (FYDP II) and MKUZA III. I believe that through this partnership we will be able to realize the Tanzania that we envision through positive communication of government’s work and UN’s contribution to the development of Tanzania”.

The UN Resident Coordinator called upon both parties to work together towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He highlighted that areas of cooperation for the UN and the government will include joint communication on commemorations and missions; joint advocacy and drafting of the SDGs communications strategy. The intended partnership intends to increase cooperation between the UN Communications Group (UNCG), a group of focal points from all UN agencies with offices in Tanzania, and government communication officers.

On his side, Chief Government Spokesperson, Dr. Hassan Abbas, revealed that the Ministry of Information, Culture, Art and Sports is working on signing a formal agreement with the UN that will involve joint advocacy and joint communication on implementation of the National Five Year Development Plan II and the Global Goals. He said that the training will cover many things including taking media to the field to actually see the impact of successful projects.
In late April, 11 Journalists from print and digital media were recognized for their excellence in reporting on children issues during the first ever Journalists Awards organized by Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF) with technical support from UNICEF. The award was a result of a year-long partnership between TEF and UNICEF which established the Editors Champion Group for Children’s Rights (ECGCR).

The award ceremony held in Morogoro was graced by UNICEF Representative, Maniza Zaman who commended TEF and the journalists for their commitment and passion that has led to a productive partnership. The awardees are among the 40 journalists who were trained through this partnership.

Ms. Tumaini Msowoya from Mwananchi Communications Limited, emerged the overall winner and was awarded the Overall Outstanding Performance Award for not only being able to publish over 25 stories on children issues but also because her stories were the best in articulating the issues.

“Our stories are a medium of spreading public awareness and taking the voices of the most vulnerable to duty bearers. Children represent half of Tanzania’s population, and currently face a number of challenges. It means a lot to me to be recognized for my efforts in amplifying issues that are affecting children in the country. I am truly humbled, and I take the opportunity to speak on behalf of all awardees today that we are committed to the cause, and will continue to investigate issues that hamper the progress of children of Tanzania,” said Tumaini.

“This award ceremony is symbolic to the significant achievement of the ECGCR. UNICEF is privileged to partner with the group and provide technical support. The cohort of 40 journalists who were trained as part of this partnership have been championing children’s issues in the country and have helped build the momentum. I congratulate all the awardees for their outstanding reportage on children’s issues,” said Ms. Zaman.

On his side, TEF Acting Chairman Deodatus Balile said the partnership with UNICEF has been a huge success and it has helped editors and journalists uncover the magnitude of the issues being faced by children in Tanzania.
Kibaha Town Council (KTC) is constructing a modern bus terminal to serve approximately 600 buses, 1,500 minibuses and up to 96,000 passengers per day. This new terminal is a solution to the people of Kibaha’s outcry for the service as the old Mailimoja roadside stand that they previously used was demolished to give way to the expansion of the main Dar-Chalinze highway.

KTC initially used its own revenue sources and tapped into concessional funding from the government under the Urban Local Government Support Programme (ULGSP). The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) provided technical assistance and seed capital grants to make this project investable. Speaking from the project site, KTC Communications Officer, Mr. Innocent Byarugaba, said “The project will cost approximately USD 1.7 million once completed and will increase KTC own source revenue for effective service delivery to the people of Kibaha.”

The terminal will serve as a transit point for all vehicles moving to and from different regions of Tanzania and neighboring countries of Kenya, Uganda, Malawi and Zambia. It is expected that 40,000 people will be passing through Kibaha town every day.

The project uses local labor in the construction of the terminal and will create jobs related to post-construction operation and maintenance. It is expected to lead to higher household incomes and contribute to poverty reduction in the locality because it will lead to increased economic opportunities.

Furthermore, female traders and entrepreneurs will benefit from the increased circulation of passengers going to and from town. Additional new infrastructure and other services such as road network, water, restaurant, bank ATMs, and electricity will be put in place to support the bus terminal.

The Members of Parliament from Sweden Visit Zanzibar

The UN Sub-Office in Zanzibar recently hosted a delegation of three Swedish Members of Parliament (MPs). The purpose of the delegation’s visit was to get a firsthand account of how the UN supporting the government and people of Zanzibar to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Among other projects, the delegation visited the Furahia Wanawake Seaweed Farmers Group in Paje village – South District of Unguja Island. Here the MPs had an opportunity to interact with women seaweed farmers/entrepreneurs group and observed a variety of different products made by these women who are engaged in seaweed production and semi-processing.

Since November 2017, the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) has been providing support to the Furahia Women Group to finalize the construction of their premises and acquire start-up machines to process seaweed and produce soap.

The support also includes training on the use of the machines and production processes.

The group started in 1998 and became member of the Zanzibar Seaweed Cluster Initiative in 2008. All of its members are women engaged in seaweed farming and value addition, making products such as soap, body cream, juice and cake.
Upcoming Days:

5 June – World Environment Day
8 June – World Ocean Day
16 June – day of the African Child
26 June – United Nations Charter Day

Members of Parliament from Sweden visit Zanzibar and meet with women seaweed farmers who show them firsthand how they harvest seaweed.

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UN Resident Coordinator’s Office
Communications Specialist
hoype.temu@one.un.org
Phone: (+255) 22-219-5021

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