

MEMORANDUM

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AFRICA FINANCE FORUM, See page 19

SUMMARY

World Bank contracts: Who's winning and where are they going?	Page 2
China sells 300 buses to Mozambique	Page 4
Mega projects in East Africa lure equipment manufacturers	Page 4
Namibia feeling effects of S/Africa's downgrading	Page 4
FEMISE study looks into impact of migration on trade growth in the Euro-Med region	Page 6
Mozambique, Netherlands ink €20m deal	Page 6
The Unbearable Cost of Drought in Africa	Page 7
Nigeria receives 500,000 doses of vaccines for meningitis	Page 9
Cholera spreading in Somalia with 50,000 cases expected	Page 10
Passengers registered at Dakar airport up 5.8pc in Feb. 2017	Page 11
South Sudanese refugees struggling to survive in Uganda's cities	Page 12
Ethiopia to train Tanzanian pilots, aircraft engineers	Page 14
Kenya needs two million homes to curb slum explosion, World Bank says	Page 14
Tanzania inaugurates \$4.4m university hostels	Page 15
Kenya: KenGen suspends Meru wind farm project	Page 16
Messages as Nigerians celebrate Easter	Page 16
Radisson RED hotel set to open soon in Cape Town	Page 17
Ethiopia annuls over 50 mining licences	Page 18

WORLD BANK CONTRACTS: WHO'S WINNING AND WHERE ARE THEY GOING?

Next week, thousands of delegates will converge on Washington, D.C., for the [World Bank](#) spring meetings to discuss issues of global concern, including the world economic outlook, poverty eradication, economic development and aid effectiveness.

Even as emerging multilateral development banks such as the China-led [Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank](#) appear [poised to shake up the development finance landscape](#), the World Bank remains the biggest source of donor financing — and development business — in the world.

Each year, the World Bank's lending across the developing world generates thousands of contract opportunities to support the bank's [14 global practices and five cross-cutting areas](#). Amid [strong demand](#) from borrowing countries facing sluggish growth, in the fiscal year 2016, the bank's contract spending reached \$14.4 billion, covering operations in nearly 130 countries and territories.

Since 2006, World Bank contract spending has jumped a staggering 75 percent and the rollout of an [ambitious new procurement framework](#) last year does not seem to have slowed the bank's contracting. Borrowing country governments generally have responsibility for issuing and awarding procurements for goods, works and services for World Bank-financed projects. Many of these procurements — especially those valued above \$200,000 — are awarded through international competitive bidding procedures.

To help our community better understand key sectors, regions and other trends in World Bank procurements, Devex dug deeper into the bank's [database of major contract awards](#). Devex members can stay on top of the latest World Bank procurements through our [funding dashboard](#).

It is important to note that World Bank contracts are only a subset of the bank's overall lending portfolio. Counting loans that do not contract out activities, World Bank lending reached \$45.9 billion in fiscal 2016.

Transportation, water and sanitation, and energy claim majority of contracts

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Since fiscal 2006, the majority of the bank's contract spending has been concentrated in three sectors: transportation; water, sanitation and waste management; and energy and extractives.

On average, the transportation sector has garnered 37 percent of the bank's annual contract spending since fiscal 2006 — more than any other sector. Over the same period, energy and extractives attracted an average of 19 percent of total contract funding, while water, sanitation and waste management followed with an average 18 percent.

In fiscal 2016, transportation claimed its highest share — 42 percent — of the bank's contract spending since fiscal 2008. The increase is attributable to the \$1.7 billion civil works contract for the [Quito Metro Line One](#) in Ecuador which was awarded to a consortium led by two engineering giants, Brazil's Odebrecht SA and Spain's [Acciona](#).

Other [priority sectors](#) of the bank have received relatively small proportions of contract spending. Since fiscal 2006, health and other social services have averaged 9 percent each year, followed by public administration (6 percent) and agriculture, fishing and forestry (5 percent).

Significant geographical distribution

The World Bank's contract spending has been more geographically distributed and diversified over the past decade. Between fiscal 2006 and 2016, sub-Saharan Africa, on average, garnered 25 percent of the bank's annual contract spending, followed by South Asia (18 percent), East Asia and Pacific (18 percent), Europe and Central Asia (17 percent) and Latin America and Caribbean (15 percent).

As the chart indicates, there have been marked fluctuations in regional spending. Case in point: After receiving just 10 percent of the World Bank's contract spend the year before, in fiscal 2016, the Latin America and Caribbean region claimed the highest share (23 percent) of bank contracts, buoyed by the \$1.7 billion award for the Quito Metro Line One. With the exception of the Middle East and North Africa, each of the World Bank's regions has claimed the lion's share of the bank's annual contract spending at least once over the past decade.

From the country-level perspective, our analysis finds that three of the BRICS economies — India, China, and Brazil — were the top recipients of World Bank contract spending over the past decade. Between fiscal 2006 and 2016, India claimed 11 percent of the bank's total contract spending, followed by China (10 percent) and Brazil (5 percent).

Civil works dwarf consultancy and goods contracts

Contracts for civil works dominate the World Bank's contract spend over the past decade. Since fiscal 2006, civil works have accounted for 60 percent of the bank's annual contract spending, compared with 25 percent for goods and 14 percent for consultant services. Nearly all of the World Bank's civil works contracts involve building, installation, maintenance, rehabilitation and other infrastructure-related works and construction services.

Meanwhile, the World Bank's consultancy contracts have been principally geared toward only three activities. Since fiscal 2006, management and technical advice has claimed 24 percent of the World Bank's annual contract spending on consultants, followed by project management (17 percent) and construction supervision (13 percent).

Borrower country suppliers are winning big, and not just in their home countries

At a time when many of its peers in the donor community are only beginning to "go local," the World Bank is known to have a long history of working with local suppliers. According to a [2014 analysis](#) by the [Center for Global Development](#), nearly 60 percent of all World Bank contracts dating back to 2007 had been won by local suppliers, or those based in the borrower country. A [2015 Devex analysis](#) found that as much as 100 percent of the bank's contract spending had gone to local suppliers during its post-earthquake reconstruction efforts in Haiti.

So it may come as no surprise that we found that most of the World Bank's top suppliers over the past 10 years have consistently been from borrower countries. In fiscal 2016, seven of the top 10 supplier countries were borrower countries, the same figure as in fiscal 2006. With the exception of one year, China has been the top supplier country to the World Bank over the past decade.

As a 2015 [Brookings Institution](#) analysis also [pointed out](#), borrower country firms from emerging economies have been increasingly winning bids for World Bank contracts outside their home countries. According to our analysis, 45 percent of bank contract spend won by Chinese firms each year since fiscal 2006 have been for activities outside of China. That same figure stands at 20 percent and nine percent for Indian and Brazilian firms respectively.

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(Dev 14-04-2017)

CHINA SELLS 300 BUSES TO MOZAMBIQUE



The transport director of Maputo city Levy Marrengula, has said the Maputo Municipality will acquire a further 300 buses for public passenger transport from China by September this year under a public-private partnership deal with a view to minimise shortage of public transport in the capital, APA can report on Thursday.

Addressing a media briefing in Maputo late on Wednesday, Marrengula did not reveal who the private partner is and how much the buses will cost.

He said the fleet of new buses will be placed on routes from the central part of Maputo to the outlying neighbourhood of Albasine and from Maputo to the neighbouring city of Matola.

Currently, there are only 75 publicly owned buses in Maputo but a further 80, donated by China last year, are expected to arrive in June.

Marrengula admitted that even this significant increase will not be enough to solve Maputo's transport problems, but it would at least "minimize" them. (APA 13-04-2017)

MEGA PROJECTS IN EAST AFRICA LURE EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS

Konza Tecno city is one of the mega projects in Kenya

[Mega](#) projects in East Africa have triggered Heavy machinery manufacturers to stream to the region to benefit from the ongoing multimillion-dollar projects.

Andy Pert from [DMG Exhibition](#) reveals that majority of top construction projects in East Africa are in Kenya. This has attracted scores of construction equipment manufacturers to set up sales and aftersales facilities in the country.

This year's regional construction equipment and technology event dubbed 'Big 5 Construct East Africa 2017' is set to be held between November 1 and 3 coinciding during the National Construction Week.

According to [National Construction Authority](#) (NCA) communications manager Wangui Kabala the exhibition will enable building contractors, governments and construction equipment manufacturers to network as well as ink deals.

During the 2016 event, Volvo sold SDLG Wheel Loaders with other companies recording good deals. Others inked deals for establishment of local franchises and partnership deals.

“With East Africa being the fastest growing region on the continent, the Big 5 Construct East Africa 2017 is now a hub for global construction products’ manufacturers to network and do business,” says Pert. Currently there are 43 mega projects currently underway in Africa with a total value of US\$27.4bn. According to the latest 6W research commissioned by The Big 5 Construct East Africa, 4 of the top 10 projects in East Africa are taking place in Kenya.

The biggest of these projects, Kenya’s Konza Smart City, is worth US\$14.9bn and is expected to be completed by 2030. The city will include the development of a central business district, a university campus, a residential community and parks over 5,000 acres of land.(CRO 14-04-2017)

NAMIBIA FEELING EFFECTS OF S/AFRICA'S DOWNGRADING

Namibia is already feeling the impact of South Africa’s downgrading to ‘junk status’ by rating agencies, according to lipumbu Shiimi, Governor of the Bank of Namibia.



However, the country will not delink the local currency from the Rand, he added.

“South Africa is a very important neighbour. All neighbours are important, but South Africa is too important. If things go wrong there, we are going to definitely feel the impact.

‘We are already feeling it now on the exchange rates. With weak Rand – oil becomes expensive and such commodities move everything. Food becomes expensive, cost borrowing also goes up and everything just becomes expensive,” Shiimi was quoted as saying Thursday by the Windhoek Observer.

The Bank of Namibia on Wednesday maintained the Repo rate at 7 percent, to maintain economic growth, and maintain the one-on-one link between Namibian Dollar and the South African Rand.

Delinking the dollar from Rand “for now is off the table”, Shiimi declared, adding that the current arrangement protects Namibia from the market forces of exchange rate fluctuation.

The Rand weakened further after S&P Global Ratings on April 3 downgraded South Africa’s investment status to negative, following a cabinet reshuffle and the subsequent sacking of finance minister Pravin Gordham by President Jacob Zuma. (APA 13-04-2017)

FEMISE STUDY LOOKS INTO IMPACT OF MIGRATION ON TRADE GROWTH IN THE EURO-MED REGION



A study on “The role of vicinity linkages in the Euro-Med region for trade growth” has been produced by the EU-funded Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Economic Institutes (FEMISE) in the framework of the project “Support to economic research, studies and dialogue of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership”. The research addresses the effect of historical bilateral ties and how they ensure a higher number of social interactions between migrants and natives, increasing the size of the pro-trade effects of migrants. In this context, the effect of other variables in shaping trade-migration linkages are explored, including the role of immigrants’ characteristics and social integration issues at destination countries. Two case studies are used in the study, namely France (as a country of destination) and Egypt (as a country of origin).

The study shows that the stock of migrants in France has been increasing since the 1960s, with two decades of stabilisation. The most recent stock of migrants has reached 7.6 million in 2013. This means that roughly 220,000 individuals entered annually during the period of analysis 2000-2013, with 51% coming from Africa, and 34% from Europe. Family reunification represents the main motivation for immigration to France.

Egypt data shows 4 million people living around the world. Egyptians living in the Arab countries mostly migrate in response to economic and material factors while migrants in Western countries seek professional development and escape from the perceived corruption and social prejudices existing in Egypt.

Trade figures for France show that the main destinations of exports are EU countries with exported commodities being mostly manufactured goods. In regard to import flows, EU countries again occupy the top of the ranking as main providers together with the USA. Exports and imports to and from MENA3 countries (Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia), show a particular share of around 1% of total exports and imports although exports have significantly grown in volume over the period of analysis.

Similar figures for Egypt between 2000 and 2013 show that export partners of Egypt have shifted towards Arab countries from an emphasis on the EU. For imports, in 2013 The UAE and Kuwait take a leading role as providers replacing Western countries. Trade flows between Egypt and Arab countries include bilateral exchanges of manufactured goods and some imports of natural resource (petroleum) based products. Trade flows with the EU, USA, Canada and the remaining commercial partners show exchanges of manufactured goods and some exports of food products.

FEMISE is an Association that receives EU-funding, aiming through its activities to contribute to the reinforcement of dialogue on economic and financial issues in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Union for the Mediterranean. More specifically, it seeks to improve understanding of the priority stakes in the economic and social spheres, and their repercussions on the Mediterranean partners in the framework of their implementation of EU Association Agreements and Action Plans. (FEMISE 14-04-2017)

[Download the study](#)

[FEMISE – Socio-economic research](#)

MOZAMBIQUE, NETHERLANDS INK €20M DEAL

Mozambique’s Zambezi Valley Development Agency and the Netherlands government have signed a four-year funding agreement for the second phase of a programme on sustainable and inclusive development in the river basin.



The agreement was initialled by Dutch ambassador Pascale Grotenhuis and Zambezi Valley Development Agency director general Roberto Albino late on Thursday.

Speaking after signing the agreement, Grotenhuis said the first phase of the programme ran from November 2012 to December 2016.

The second phase is expected to run until 2021.

"The first phase of this programme ended in December last year and covered some 39,000 farmers," the diplomat said.

He said the process facilitated the establishment of the Zambezi Valley Development Agency and some strategic partners in the four provinces covered by the Zambezi Valley, namely Tete, Manica, Zambézia and Sofala.

The diplomat said the implementation of the first phase allowed increased production and agricultural productivity and incomes of farmers, as well as job creation.

Albino said he hoped for economic growth in the targeted regions, noting that food security "is our priority."

At the end of the second phase, according to the official, it is expected to produce 70,000 tonnes of processed rice and about 150,000 tonnes of vegetables.

The Zambezi Valley Development Agency operates in over 35 districts in the four provinces and has the support of the Indian and Chinese Export and Import Banks, the World Bank and the governments of the Netherlands and Norway. (APA 14-04-2017)

THE UNBEARABLE COST OF DROUGHT IN AFRICA



People living in the Melia IDP camp, Lake Chad, receiving WFP food. Most of the displaced come from the Lake Chad islands, that have been abandoned because of insecurity

Nearly 50 per cent of all emergency multilateral food assistance to Africa is due to natural disasters, with advancing droughts significantly threatening both livelihoods and economic growth, warns the African Union through its ground-breaking extreme weather insurance mechanism designed to help the continent's countries resist and recover from the ravages of drought.

The mechanism, known as the [African Risk Capacity \(ARC\)](#) provides participating African states with quick-disbursing funds in the event of drought, and assists countries in developing drought response contingency plans to implement timely and effective responses.

"The result is significant economic and welfare benefits for participating countries and vulnerable households."

As currently structured, ARC [reports](#), the cost of responding to extreme weather events in Africa, particularly droughts, is borne largely by the international community.

To give an order of magnitude using [World Food Programme \(WFP\)](#) operations as a proxy for international aid flows, in 2012 WFP assisted 54.2 million people in Africa, spending US \$2.7 billion –66 per cent of WFP's global expenditure that year, it adds.

Droughts significantly threaten record Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in sub-Saharan Africa, ARC warned, while explaining that 1-in-10 year drought event could have an estimated adverse impact of 4 per cent on the annual GDP of Malawi for example, with even larger impacts for 1-in-15 and 1-in-25 year events.

"Such decreased productivity detracts from economic growth, causes major budget dislocation, erodes development gains and resilience, and requires additional emergency aid from the international community in the future." One dollar spent on early intervention through ARC saves 4.40 dollars spent after a crisis unfolds.

Devastating Effects for Households

The African Union's extreme weather insurance mechanism also informs that at the household level, the consequences of drought can be devastating in countries with low resilience where large sectors of population rely on rain-fed agriculture for their livelihood.



A mother holds up an empty cooking pot as she crouches alongside her daughter inside their makeshift home at a settlement near the town of Ainabo, Somalia, Thursday 9 March 2017

Experts from Oxford University and International Food Policy Research Institute conducted a cost-benefit analysis (CBA) to examine household coping actions when faced with a drought, and the likely long-term cost impacts of these actions, according to ARC.

The study estimated the economic benefits of early intervention and thus protecting a household's economic growth potential –that is, intervening in time to prevent households' negative coping actions such as reduced food consumption, livestock death, and distressed productive asset sales, which, in the absence of external assistance, have increasingly pronounced negative consequences.

"The CBA calculated that the economic benefit of aid reaching households within the critical three months after harvest could result in nearly 1,300 dollars per household assisted in terms of protected economic gains."

A further analysis shows the potential benefit of ARC outweighs the 4.4 times compared to traditional emergency appeals for assistance, as a result of reduced response times and risk pooling.

Lake Chad Basin – Extreme Emergency

The ARC report about the impact of droughts in Africa came out shortly before the United Nations [Food](#)

[and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#) chief's visit to some of the affected areas in North-Eastern Nigeria, where conflict has forced an estimated 2.5 million people to leave their homes and livelihoods.

The Sub-Saharan Lake Chad Basin, which is the main source of water in the region, between 1963 and 2013 lost 90 per cent of its water mass, with massive impact on the population, according to FAO.

Across the region, (encompassing parts of Nigeria, Cameroun, Chad and Niger), which is currently faced with one of the largest humanitarian crises in the world, some 7 million people risk severe hunger during the lean season and require immediate food and livelihood assistance.

"There are fifty thousand people on the brink of famine in the region, on a scale from 1 to 5, where 5 is famine, they are already at level 4", FAO director general Graziano da Silva warned.

Following three years of drought, agriculture including livestock and fisheries can no longer be left unattended, he said.

Agriculture produces food and sustains 90 per cent of the local population. Many of the people in the area have already sold their possessions including seeds and tools and their animals have been killed by the armed groups.

"Pastoralists and fishers need to be supported as well for animal restocking. Otherwise if internally displaced persons don't have their animals and their jobs back, they will remain in the refugee camps, " the FAO DG emphasised.

Contribution to Long-term Resilience and Growth in Africa Low resilience households must grow by more than 3 per cent annually in real terms to withstand a 1-in-5 year drought.

For many countries in Africa, a small shock in terms of a rainfall deficit or elevated food prices can precipitate a call for a major humanitarian intervention and emergency response. The resilience in such countries is significantly low such that they struggle through most years, let alone during a drought.

For example, in a country such as Niger, where households currently display very low resilience, the ARC team has calculated that to event, the income of the most vulnerable households would have to grow by an annual average of 3.4 per cent over the next five years in real terms to build sufficient resilience in order to adequately cope without requiring external assistance.

In the meantime, insurance is not the 'correct' tool to deal with this chronic risk. In order to improve such countries' resilience to natural disasters, thereby enabling sustained growth on the continent, two key elements are required: risk management and investment.

Drought, a complex and slowly encroaching natural hazard with significant and pervasive socio-economic and environmental impacts, is known to cause more deaths and displace more people than any other natural disaster, according to the [UN Convention to Combat Desertification \(UNCCD\)](#).

By 2050, the demand for water is expected to increase by 50 per cent, it reports, adding that as populations increase, especially in dryland areas, more and more people are becoming dependent on fresh water supplies in land that are becoming degraded.

"Water scarcity is one of the greatest challenges of the twenty-first century. The Global Risks report published by World Economic Forum ranks 'water crisis' as the top risk in the coming decade and it has a place in the Sustainable Development Goals where a specific goal has been dedicated to water."

Drought and water scarcity are considered to be the most far-reaching of all natural disasters, causing short and long-term economic and ecological losses as well as significant secondary and tertiary impacts, UNCCD informs.

The African Risk Capacity was established as a Specialized Agency of the African Union to help Member States improve their capacities to better plan, prepare and respond to extreme weather events and natural disasters, therefore protecting the food security of their vulnerable populations.(IPS 12-04-2017)

NIGERIA RECEIVES 500,000 DOSES OF VACCINES FOR MENINGITIS

Nigeria has received 500,000 doses of meningitis C containing vaccine to combat the epidemic in the country, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has said.



The doses were sent by the International Coordinating Group (ICG) on Vaccine Provision, an organisation that coordinates the provision of vaccine during emergencies.

Dr. Wondimagegnehu Alemu, the WHO Country Representative to Nigeria, said this in a statement in Abuja on Friday.

He said the vaccines, funded by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, have been administered in Zamfara and Katsina States where the disease was most endemic.

Alemu said an additional 820,000 doses of the meningitis C conjugate vaccine donated by the UK Government to WHO was currently being sent to Nigeria.

He said in the last week, the ICG also sent 341,000 doses of the meningitis C-containing vaccine to Niger Republic.

He said this was because over 1,300 suspected cases of the disease had been found in the region, particularly in districts that border with Nigeria and in the Niamey region of the country.

"A vaccination campaign is underway in Nigeria to contain an outbreak of meningitis C, a strain of meningitis, which first emerged in the country in 2013.

"In 2013, the outbreak was initially limited to a few areas in Kebbi and Sokoto States. However, in 2015, more than 2,500 cases of the disease have been reported across 3 states in the country.

"Since the beginning of this year, the country has reported 4,637 suspected cases and 489 deaths across five states," he said.

He said that these organisations were also carrying out intensified surveillance, capacity building for case management and risk communication.

Alemu said in addition to the use of vaccinations to prevent the transmission of meningitis, 20,000 vials of antibiotics have been sent by the ICG to treat people who had the disease in Nigeria.

He said that most vaccines currently being used for meningitis C outbreaks in Africa were polysaccharide vaccines, adding that they were in short supply as they were being phased out in other parts of the world. (APA 14-04-2017)

CHOLERA SPREADING IN SOMALIA WITH 50,000 CASES EXPECTED

More than 25,000 people in famine-threatened Somalia have been struck by cholera and the deadly epidemic should double by this summer, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said on Thursday. The UN is already racing to avoid a repeat of famine in the drought-hit Horn of Africa nation where more than 250,000 people died of starvation in 2011.

Cholera, which is endemic in Somalia, is an acute diarrhoeal disease that can kill within hours if left untreated. Malnourished children under five years are especially vulnerable.

Already 25,424 infected people have been identified since the start of the year, WHO spokesman Tarik Jasarevic said by e-mail, adding: "These numbers are projected to increase to 50,000 by summer." The case fatality rate for the disease, spread by contaminated food or water, is already 2.1% in Somalia, twice the emergency threshold, he said. At least 524 deaths have been recorded.

Cholera can be successfully treated with oral rehydration solution. Severe cases will need rapid treatment with intravenous fluids and antibiotics, according to the WHO.

Death rates among Somalis infected with cholera now reach 14.1% in Middle Juba and 5.1% in Bakool, UN spokesman Jens Laerke told a news briefing. "We still have 2.9-million people in level 3 and 4, level

4 being the step just before we declare a famine," Laerke said, referring to the UN classification. "So almost 3-million at these critical and crisis emergency levels."

The centre of the cholera outbreak is Baidoa, David Akopyan, UN Development Programme (UNDP) deputy country director for Somalia told the briefing. Thirteen of Somalia's 18 regions are affected, he said.

Some 500,000 Somalis have been internally displaced, many in search of water, as well as some 3-million pastoralists who have lost 70% of their livestock due to drought, he said. Akopyan, asked about famine, replied: "We are not exactly there, but the fear is that in two months if things are not scaled up we will get there ... Hopefully famine will be prevented." (Reuters 13-04-2017)

PASSENGERS REGISTERED AT DAKAR AIRPORT UP 5.8PC IN FEB. 2017



The number of passengers registered at Leopold Sedar Senghor International (LSS) Airport in Dakar increased by 5.8 percent in first two months of 2017, compared to the same period in 2016, APA learned Friday from the Directorate of Forecasting and Economic Studies (DPEE).

Using data provided by the Agency for the Safety of Air Navigation in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA), the DPEE said total passengers recorded in the first two months of 2017 was 375,721 against 354,980 in 2016, representing an increase of 20,741 passengers.

This increase is due both to passengers in transit and departures, whose numbers increased by 10.5 percent to reach 26,359 and by 6.4 percent or 180,483 passengers respectively.

The number of passengers recorded for arrivals also showed an increase of 4.6 percent or 168,879 arrivals.

Concerning registered cargo, it fell by 7.2 percent to 6,488 tonnes compared to 6,991 tonnes during the first two months of 2016.

This situation is due to the cargo recorded for departures, which went down by 14.2 percent to 3,523 tonnes compared to 4,106 tonnes in 2016.

Cargo recorded on arrival at LSS airport increased from 2,885 tonnes in February 2016 to 2,965 tonnes in 2017 representing a 5.8 percent increase.

In terms of aircraft movement, it was down by 6.1 percent with 5,544 aircraft registered compared with 5,904 aircraft during the first two months of 2016. (APA 14-04-2017)

SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES STRUGGLING TO SURVIVE IN UGANDA'S CITIES



If you are a refugee, then Uganda is one of the better places to be. Refugees and asylum seekers are entitled to work, have freedom of movement, and can access social services – a progressive policy much-lauded by the international community.

But while in theory refugees don't have to remain trapped in vast camps on the country's borders, the reality is that many don't have the skills or wherewithal to find work or set up businesses outside of sprawling refugee settlements.

Uganda is now sheltering over a million refugees and asylum seekers. More than **800,000** are South Sudanese, and 572,000 of that number are new arrivals who have escaped their country's civil war and growing food crisis since July last year.

The vast majority are housed in refugee settlements [in Uganda's north](#). There they are allocated plots of land and given materials to build a basic home, as well as food aid and access to basic health and education services.

"The refugee policy in Uganda is that you get assistance when you are in the settlement," explained Moses Nsubuga from the Refugee Law Project, a Kampala-based NGO. "The moment you leave the settlement and choose to live in an urban centre like Kampala, they expect you to fend for yourself."

Time to run

Kampala is now home to 90,000 refugees and asylum seekers mainly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi and Somalia. According to the government, numbers have increased by more than 20 percent since last year.

South Sudanese, who through 60 years of turmoil have long had links to Uganda, number around 10,776, according to the prime minister's office.

Joyce Keji* fled South Sudan for Uganda with her four children when fighting between forces loyal to President Salva Kiir and then First Vice President Riek Machar re-ignited in July 2016.

The final straw was when her home in the capital, Juba, was looted by government soldiers, and her life was threatened.

"They went inside and broke the wardrobe, took things from my children's rooms, the mattresses and took the keys for the car," she recalled. "They took everything."

While her husband, an engineer, stayed behind in Juba, Joyce headed to the Ugandan capital with her children. But it's been tough to establish herself in Kampala. Living with a friend, she does cleaning jobs to get by, but it's hardly enough.

"At the time I arrived it was hard for me. I didn't know the place, and everything was difficult," she told IRIN. "Now at least I am getting used to it [but] we are suffering. The security is fine, but hunger is there."

Salon skills

Keji was a market trader in Juba, so has a business background. To break through in Kampala, she is pinning her hopes on a hairdressing training programme she has enrolled on, run by the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS).

Inside the cramped JRS training salon, groups get to grips with plaiting and weaving techniques while others volunteer to be models for the latest styling lesson.

"My hope is to do the course, and when I succeed and have finished learning, I want to open my own salon and earn some money," said Keji. But without capital, it remains a long-term goal.

Training courses can help new arrivals to take advantage of the country's progressive refugee policy. But any notion that it's easy for urban refugees to get on their feet would be a mistake. "The fact is that the majority of refugees in Uganda live at subsistence level," according to [David Kigozi](#) of the International Refugee Rights Initiative.



Trying to get ahead

Mean streets

The challenges of surviving the city are something Keji's fellow student, Beatrice Taban*, who came from South Sudan last year with her aunt, is acutely aware of.

Her mother and sisters live in a refugee settlement and the 25-year-old has not seen them in almost a year. But she says it would be too difficult for them to join her.

"There is a problem if they meet us here," said Taban. "Here you have to pay bills and it is very difficult. If I get work and I feel comfortable, they can come and see me."

The conflict across the border is hurting Uganda's economy. The ministry of finance has warned of a slowdown in the traditionally strong export market because of the collapse in demand in South Sudan. Meanwhile, a drought has seen a hike in food prices. With [22 percent of youths jobless](#), sustaining a life in the city is becoming harder.

"Ugandans already do not have jobs, and so it is hard right now for refugees to get work," said Nsubuga of the Refugee Law Project.

Alongside the economic hardships, Kampala's South Sudanese population have to deal with occasionally frosty locals, some whom have negative perceptions of their northern neighbours.

"[Those] who come here are very rich and they stay in hotels and they do not leave," said a motorbike taxi driver, describing the pre-civil war stereotype of aggressive and flashy South Sudanese.

It's a perception based on the ministers and military commanders who, after independence in 2013, bought property and relocated their families to Kampala to take advantage of the comfortable lifestyle.

But, said Augustine Gatwal, a South Sudanese who has lived mainly in Uganda since 2007, such stereotypes definitely don't fit the profile of the refugees fleeing the current crisis.

"I can estimate that almost 50 percent of South Sudanese households in Kampala have gone to refugee camps because they can no longer afford to pay rent and take their children to school," he told IRIN.

Bigger problems

Gatwal runs Young-adult Empowerment Initiative, a charity aimed at helping women and young people from his country to acclimatise to life in both the settlements and Kampala.

"We work on issues to do with peace because when they come they are very hostile," he explained. "To adapt to a peaceful environment is very difficult and many have post-war trauma and have seen a lot of issues that have disturbed them."

But there is a larger threat to Uganda's [open-door refugee policy](#). Last month, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi [warned](#) that the scale of the flow of refugees out of South Sudan risks overwhelming Uganda and that there is an urgent need for more financial support from the international community.

UNHCR has appealed for roughly [\\$501 million](#) to cover its operations in Uganda this year. So far it has received only \$73 million - just 15 percent. "We are at breaking point. Uganda cannot handle Africa's largest refugee crisis alone," said Grandi.(IRIN 12-04-2017)

ETHIOPIA TO TRAIN TANZANIAN PILOTS, AIRCRAFT ENGINEERS



Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) will send 28 pilots and aircraft engineers for training at institutions operated by Ethiopian Airlines in Addis Ababa, Ethiopian officials told APA on Friday.

'Training a pilot in Ethiopia will save 500 US dollars per hour compared to the amount currently paid for such teaching in the United Kingdom and Canada,' the managing director of ATCL, Ladislaus Matindi, explained to Ethiopian officials in Tanzania.

It is against this backdrop that the national carrier will in the middle this year send 18 aircraft engineers and 10 pilots for training in Addis Ababa, Matindi announced, after a meeting with Ethiopian Airlines officials based in Tanzania.

"We are now waiting for approval from the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCCA) before we send them; it is a requirement for the aviation regulator to certify training institutes for our experts."

Matindi added that the ATCL director for technical services and operations, Captain Richard Shaidi, will travel to Ethiopia next week to finalize the deal between the two airlines.

"Ethiopia Airlines has well-equipped training and maintenance facilities, and we can benefit from their expertise. The training will be for new pilots and those in service through recurrent teaching," he continued.

Ethiopia Airlines area manager for Tanzania, Dahlak Teferi, speaking at the meeting said the deal will be a win-win for the two airlines. It is not the first time that the two companies are co-operating to improve the capacity of their workforce and operations; he added.

Bilateral co-operation has heightened following discussions between President John Magufuli and the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Hailemariam Desalegn, during Desalegn's recent visit to Tanzania. (APA 14-04-2017)

KENYA NEEDS TWO MILLION HOMES TO CURB SLUM EXPLOSION, WORLD BANK SAYS

Kenya needs to build two million affordable city homes to meet its housing deficit and stem the growth of its sprawling slums, already home to six out of 10 urban households, the World Bank said on Wednesday.

Investment in housing would also create jobs, improve economic growth and strengthen the east African country's financial sector, it said.

"Many Kenyans are unnecessarily living in slum dwellings, because of limited supply and lack of affordability," the World Bank said in a report.

"The problem will only become more acute over the next decades without a serious focus on housing and the finance of housing for the average Kenyan."

Africa has the fastest growing cities in the world, with 40 percent of its one billion people in towns and cities, but most new homes target the middle and upper classes as it's easier to make a profit from high-end sales.

Although only one in three of Kenya's 44 million people live in cities, its population growth is largely urban. Most Kenyans will live in cities by 2033, the World Bank predicts.

Kenya needs to produce 244,000 homes a year to meet demand but less than a quarter of this number are being built, it said.

With rapid urbanisation, the situation is worsening as Kenya's cities are growing by 500,000 people a year, it said.

Nairobi is one of Africa's most expensive cities for housing, with 2013 prices almost triple those of 2000, it said.

The cheapest home formally built by a developer in 2012 cost more than \$15,000, it said, more than 10 times the average annual income of \$1,340.

One of the main problems is a shortage of finance.

There are fewer than 25,000 mortgages in Kenya as banks have limited access to long-term funding, it said.

Less than 10 percent of Kenya's housing credit is in the form of bank mortgages, with most people borrowing from savings and loan cooperatives, funded by members' deposits, it said.

More Kenyans could own their own homes if the private sector set up a mortgage refinance company to provide cheap, long-term funding to mortgage lenders from the capital markets and other investors, it said.

This could increase the number of outstanding mortgages in Kenya to 140,000 by 2022, with one-third of borrowers having low or informal incomes, it said.

The World Bank also called on the government to improve access to land, provide basic infrastructure and speed up mortgage registration and title transfers.

(\$1 = 103.3000 Kenyan shillings) (News Trust 12-04-2017)

TANZANIA INAUGURATES \$4.4M UNIVERSITY HOSTELS



Tanzanian president John Magufuli has on Saturday led thousands of people at inauguration of twenty hostels for University of Dar es salaam

The event took place on Saturday in Dar es Salaam.

The (\$4,425,940) Sh10 billion project which took some eight months to be completed will now benefit at least 3840 student.

Addressing the audience, Dr Magufuli commended Tanzania building Agency and other relevant ministries of education, works and defense for supervising the construction of the facilities.

"Today I feel very proud to participate in this historic event. I can let you be assured that my government will continue to implement its promises," he said (APA 15-04-2017)

KENYA: KENGEN SUSPENDS MERU WIND FARM PROJECT

The first phase of the 400MW [Meru](#) wind farm that was planned for completion in December this year, has been put on hold.

In explaining the setbacks in the construction of the project, [KenGen's](#) managing director, Albert Mugo, mentioned land rows as the cause.

"As you see in the documents, we await land arbitration so that we can deal with the legitimate land owners," Mugo said.

The \$6.6 million Meru wind farm is intended to contribute to the nation's economic development and mitigating climate change, reported the press.

The Meru Wind Farm project is also visualized to contribute towards the sustainable national energy matrix by producing clean safe electrical energy while avoiding the generation of carbon emissions. In efforts to hasten up the demarcation process of the disputed land, it is reported that government has set aside a budget of US \$58,000.

The process was estimated to be finished within two months to let the firm to build the plant this year, media stated.

However, this has faced a huge blow after Meru Governor Peter Munya put an embargo to bring to a standstill the process.

"Those claiming to be committee members have not been gazetted. Whatever they are doing in the land is unlawful. If we let them to carry on with the unlawful process, the poor will be deprived of their land," Munya said.

The governor said he will only let the process to go on once a comprehensive land committee is constituted.

According to the media, Munya said the legitimate land owners should be given a two-week notice before meeting to select a committee that will supervise the subdivision of the land.

It is reported that the region has been in a clash of interest from many shareholders since the power company branded it for the mega project.

The project will sit on an 18,700-acre-piece of land in Tigania East Sub County, a region which is situated few metres from the Isiolo international airport that is also seen as an avenue for the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia-Transport (Lapsset) Corridor project.(CRO 12-04-2017)

MESSAGES AS NIGERIANS CELEBRATE EASTER



As Nigerians celebrate Easter on Sunday, messages have continued to pour in, including President Muhammadu Buhari's plea for peace.

Buhari's message which came in the heat for clamour for sovereign state of Biafra, urged Nigerians to live together in peace and harmony.

"I urge all Nigerians to live peacefully with one another and do their utmost to make Nigeria a beautiful place to reside", Buhari said in a special message signed by him to mark Easter..

"It is in our collective interest to live in peace because without peace, no meaningful and sustainable development can take place."

Lack of peace, he said, would affect all parts of the country.

"Our people must rediscover the values of peaceful co-existence, social justice, religious tolerance, dignity of labour and patriotism."

President Buhari who will mark the second anniversary of his administration next month also seized the occasion to assure Nigerians of his commitment to repair the economy and battle corruption, insecurity and terrorism.

"In the almost two years of this administration, we have worked hard to meet the expectations of Nigerians by improving security, especially in the North-East, sustaining the campaign against corruption and revitalise the economy", he said."

He congratulated Christians on the celebration of this year's Easter.

He rejoiced with them the historic occasion signifying the triumph of good over evil, light over darkness, redemption over condemnation, and hope over despair.

The Oba of Benin, Oba Ewuare II, has enjoined Christians to imbibe and exhibit the qualities and virtues of Jesus Christ in their daily living and dealings with others.

The monarch; in a statement signed and issued on Saturday by his Chief Press Secretary (CPS), Mr Desmond Agbama, said that should people exhibit those qualities enumerated above, they would pave way for a better society.

Oba Ewuare II while felicitating with the entire Christian community as they celebrate Easter, urged them to see the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ as symbols of the Christian faith.

Mr. Abdulahi Ejiga, the Chief Imam of Aduge community in Lokoja, has felicitated with Christians on the celebration of Easter, calling for love and tolerance among religious groups.

He noted that Jesus paid the ultimate sacrifice for everyone and therefore, need us to sacrifice for each other, things that could help us live a meaningful life. (APA 15-04-2017)

RADISSON RED HOTEL SET TO OPEN SOON IN CAPE TOWN

[Radisson RED hotel](#) which is going to be the first in Africa is set to open at the V&A Waterfront's newly revamped Silo District, Cape Town in the third quarter of 2017.

This is a spectacular initiative as RED hotels was successfully launched in Brussels, Belgium, and Minneapolis, in the US, and with RED hotels in Campinas, Brazil, and Glasgow, Scotland, soon to follow, plans to settle its 252-room hotel in Silo Six at the waterfront, next to the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, which will open on September 27 this year.

Cape Town Radisson RED Hotel V&A Waterfront curator Dale Simpson confirmed the news and said that Radisson RED is set to ignite the African hospitality experience with state-of-the-art facilities.

"Radisson RED is set to ignite the African hospitality experience; it is going to be a revolution. From keyless entry to multifunctional social spaces, we have reinvented everything. We have made new rules," said Mr. Dale Simpson.

The new development will boast a fully equipped gym and four events and games studios for up to 90 guests, as well as super-fast free Wi-Fi and 24/7 entertainment tech throughout the property. It will also allow pets under 8 kg and this will be a plus for pet lovers.

There will be a RED Roof which will offer an "early to late hangout" space to customers with a pool and views of Table Mountain, while food and drinks will be offered at the OUIBar and Ktchn.

"The response to the launch of these properties has been overwhelming and we have no doubt that Cape Town RED will be embraced by locals and unshackled global travellers alike," Simpson concluded. (CRO 11-04-2017)

ETHIOPIA ANNULS OVER 50 MINING LICENCES



Ethiopia's ministry of Mines, Petroleum and Natural Gas has cancelled more than 50 mining and exploration licences.

The public relations and communications director at the ministry, Bacha Faji, told journalists on Saturday the action followed failure by several licence holders to commence operations on schedule.

"We cancelled over 50 mining licences recently, mainly because the companies have not started operations on time as per their agreement," Bacha announced.

The law requires a company to commence exploration or mining within 90 days after signing a contract with the ministry.

Bacha said the ministry had registered 530 mining companies so far, including the active, cancelled, transferred and under evaluation/investigation licences owned by local and foreign entities, as well as joint ventures.

The ministry's statistics indicate a total of 211 mining licences have been cancelled since 2004.

They include 130 owned by foreign firms, 49 joint ventures and 32 fully local-owned licences.

Recent reports show Ethiopia is endowed with many natural resources, including gold, iron, natural gas and oil. (APA 15-04-2017)

The Memorandum is supported by the ACP-African, Caribbean, Pacific Secretariat, Chamber of Commerce Tenerife, AHEAD-GLOBAL, Business Council for Africa, Corporate Council on Africa, ELO - Portuguese Association for Economic Development and Cooperation, Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce and Development, HTTC - Hungarian Trade & Cultural Centre, NABA - Norwegian-African Business Association, NABC- Netherlands Africa Business Council, SwissCham-Africa and other organisations.

The Memorandum is also made available by AHEAD-GLOBAL, BCA, Chamber of Tenerife (by posting it at the Africa Info Market), CCA - Canadian Council on Africa, CCA - Corporate Council on Africa (USA), ELO, HTTC, NABA, NABC (by posting selected news) and SwissCham-Africa to their Members.



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Please note, private meeting scheduling is only for registered AFF attendees.

H.E. Abdoulaye Bio Tchane, Senior Minister of Planning and Development Republic of Benin

H.E. Abdoulaye Bio Tchane is Senior Minister in charge of planning and development of Benin. Mr. Bio Tchane built a thirty-year career in finance and development across Africa. He has held high level positions at the WAEMU Central Bank and was the former Director of the Africa Department at the International Monetary Fund as well as the President of the West African Development Bank (BOAD). Moreover, he is also widely acknowledged as the finance minister of Benin who spearheaded clear and transparent reforms and actively fought against corruption. He has also led the design and launch of the WAEMU stock market.

**Alain Ebobisse, CEO
Africa50**

Mr. Ebobissé is the Chief Executive Officer of Africa50. Prior to joining Africa50, Mr. Ebobissé served as the Global Head for the World Bank Group's Global Infrastructure Project Development Fund ("IFC InfraVentures") where he oversaw a team of highly skilled and experienced infrastructure specialists and led the development of and investment in several infrastructure projects in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America.

Africa50 is an infrastructure fund owned by African governments, the African Development Bank and institutional investors. Its mission is to mobilize long term savings from within and outside Africa and private sector funding to promote infrastructure development in Africa.

Ignacio Temerlin, Head, Sub-Saharan Africa Debt Capital Markets
Citi

Ignacio Temerlin is responsible for African DCM coverage across sovereigns, financial institutions and corporates ex-South Africa.

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Staci Warden, Executive Director, Center for Financial Markets
Milken Institute – Center for Financial Markets

Staci Warden is the executive director of the Center for Financial Markets at the Milken Institute, where she leads initiatives on strengthening capital markets, access to capital, financial education and financial-markets solutions, among others. Warden is chair of the Rwandan Capital Market Authority. The Center for Financial Markets promotes financial market understanding and works to expand access to capital, strengthen—and deepen—financial markets, and develop innovative financial solutions to the most pressing global challenges.

[View the Full Agenda](#)

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For more information, please contact Biova Kabine on bkabine@corporatecouncilonafrica.com or 202-835-1115.

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