



# CHINA STANDS WITH AFRICA – XI JINPING

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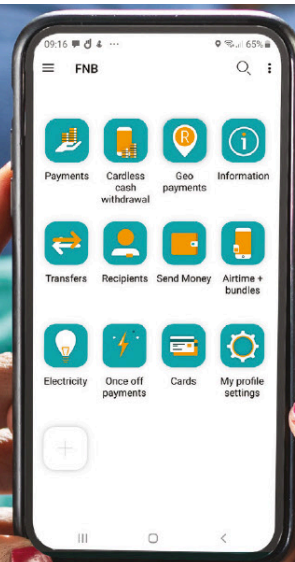
- China to build the Africa CDC headquarters in Ethiopia
- Africa-China Friendship hospitals on the cards
- China to cancel the debt of relevant African countries

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**Echo is published by**
**YMH Publishing**

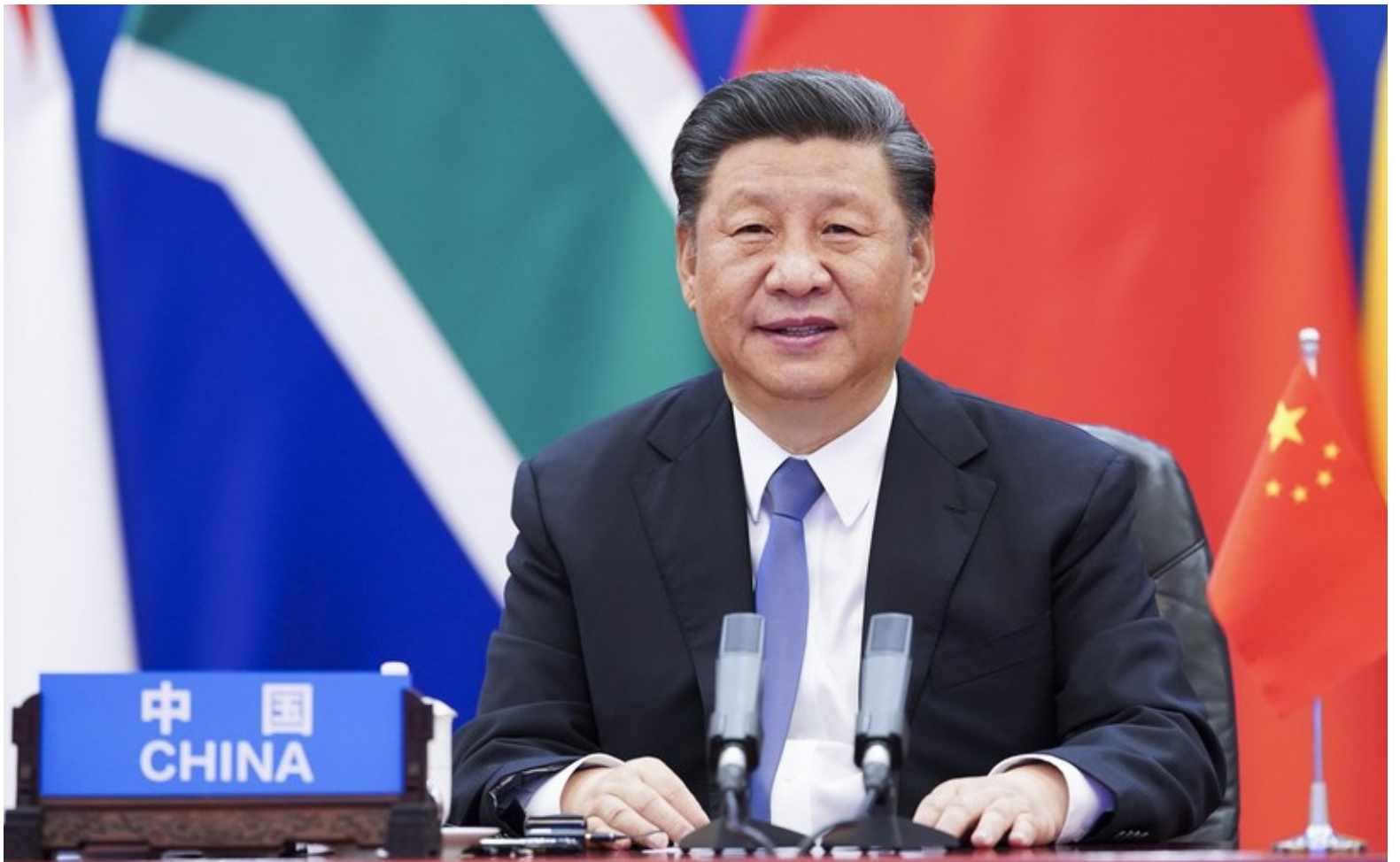
YMH Publishing,  
Unit 3, Kgale Court, Plot 128,  
GIFP, Gaborone  
Postal address:  
P O BOX 840,  
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# CHINA STANDS WITH AFRICA – XI JINPING

- China to build the Africa CDC headquarters in Ethiopia
- Africa-China Friendship hospitals on the cards
- China to cancel the debt of relevant African countries

One of the World's great powers, China has made commitments to assist African nations in the fight against covid-19 and stabilising their economies. President Xi Jinping affirmed his country's commitment to building a China-Africa community of health for all during the Extraordinary China-Africa Summit on Solidarity against COVID-19 held via video link on Wednesday last week.

The Summit was attended by 13 African heads of state and government, among them Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa and also Chairperson of AU, and President Macky Sall of the Republic of Senegal-also the Co-Chair of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).

The Extraordinary China-Africa Summit on Solidarity Against COVID-19 is a joint initiative between China, South Africa in its capacity as the Chair of the African Union (AU), and Senegal in its capacity as the Co-Chair of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).

Xi said China and Africa have in the face of the pandemic managed to enhance solidarity and strengthened friendship and mutual trust.

"Let me reaffirm China's commitment to its longstanding

friendship with Africa. No matter how the international landscape may evolve, China shall never waver in its determination to pursue greater solidarity and cooperation with Africa," he said.

He highlighted that the resolve to stand in solidarity with Africa racks behind China's decision to start the construction of the Africa CDC headquarters this year, ahead of schedule. The headquarters will be built in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

"China will work with Africa to fully deliver the health care initiative adopted at the FOCAC Beijing Summit and speed up the construction of China-Africa Friendship Hospitals and the cooperation between paired-up Chinese and African hospitals," Jinping told the African leaders.

He further pledged that Africa will be among the first to benefit from the covid-19 vaccine once its development and deployment has been completed.

In a move aimed at cushioning the economic impacts of the pandemic Jinping announced also that it is important to strengthen Belt and Road cooperation and accelerate the follow-ups to the FOCAC Beijing Summit

"Greater priority needs to be

given to cooperation on public health, economic reopening and people's livelihoods," he noted.

To further buttress this solidarity, he said China will cancel debts for some deserving African countries in the form of interest free government loans that are due to mature at the end of the year.

"For those African countries that are hardest hit by the coronavirus and are under heavy financial stress, China will work with the global community to give them greater support, by such means as further extending the period of debt suspension, to help them tide over the current difficulty," Jinping said.

Meanwhile Chinese Ambassador to Botswana Zhao Yanbo told media in Gaborone after the Summit that China supports Africa's efforts on the African Free Trade Area and to enhance connectivity and strengthen industrial and supply chains.

"Trade and infrastructure connectivity are core components of China-Africa Belt-and Road cooperation. Our two sides will take the opportunities brought by African Continental Free Trade Area and Belt and Road to strengthen trade and economic relations," Yanbo highlighted.

In a joint statement of the Extraordinary China-Africa Summit on Solidarity Against COVID-19, the African countries in attendance expressed appreciation of the support and commitment by China for the fight against the pandemic.

"We reaffirm the commitment to take active measures to protect the health and security of each other's nationals and uphold their legitimate rights and interests and promote the use of Chinese and African traditional medicine. African countries express profound gratitude and appreciation to the Chinese institutions and companies that have provided medical supplies and material assistance in the effort to combat the COVID pandemic," the statement reads.

They further called on the international community, especially developed countries, and international financial institutions, to take concrete measures to ease the debt burden of African countries.

The United Nations Secretary General, Antonio Guterres of the United Nations (UN) and World Health Organisation Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom were also in attendance as special guests.





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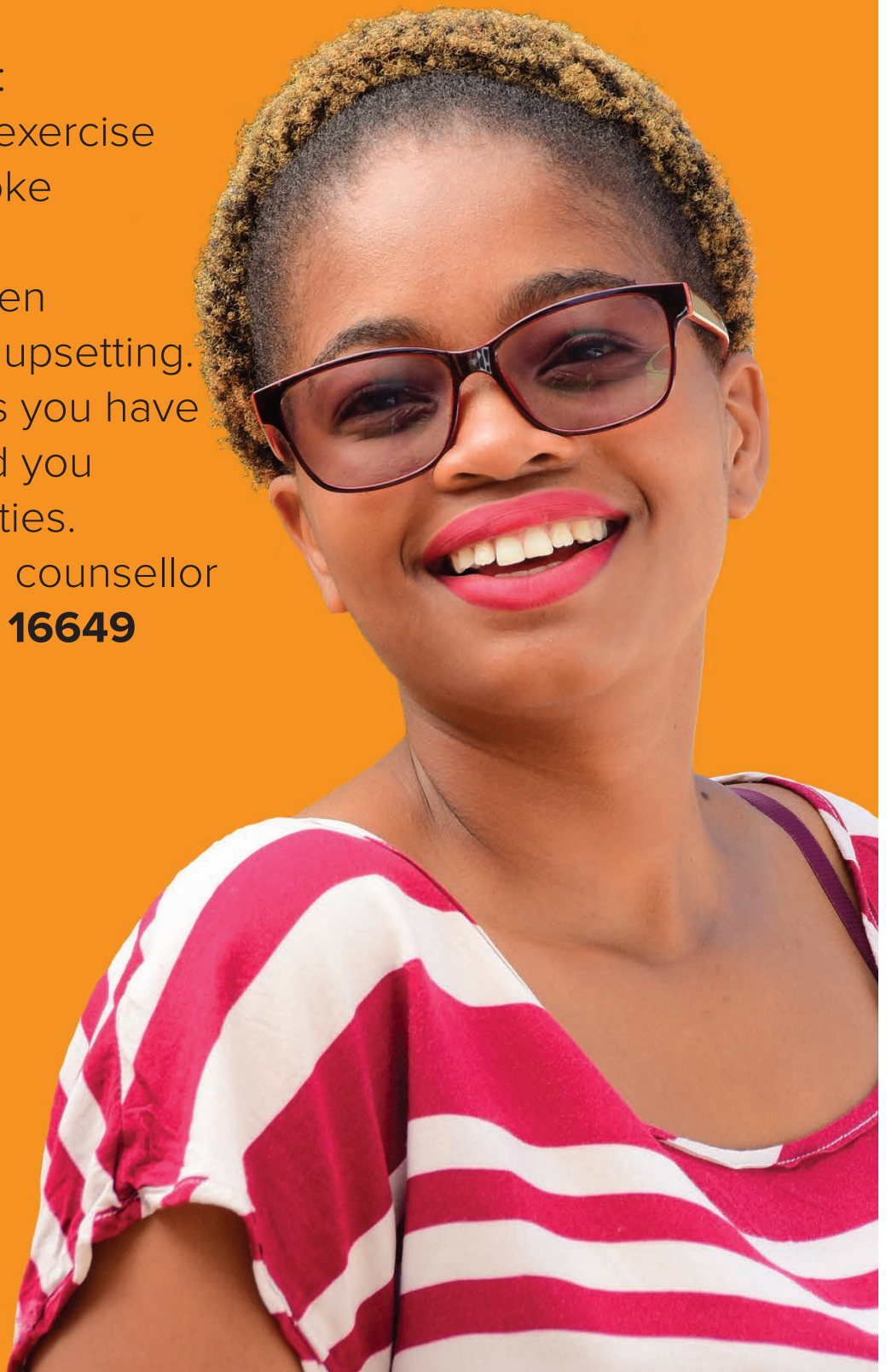
- Talk to people you trust.
- Keep in touch with loved ones through phone calls, texts, social media and video conferencing.
- Maintain a healthy lifestyle that is: proper diet, plenty of sleep, and exercise
- Do not use drugs, alcohol or smoke to deal with your emotions.
- Get the facts, do not watch or listen to media coverage you perceive upsetting.
- Learn a new skill or draw on skills you have used in the past that have helped you to manage previous life's adversities.
- If you feel overwhelmed, talk to a counsellor or **call COVID-19 Call Centre on 16649**

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# WHO concerned over COVID-19 impact on women and girls in Africa

Humanitarian crises, including health emergencies affect men and women differently. As COVID-19 continues to spread in Africa, there are concerns over its impact on women and girls, with vulnerabilities feared to worsen as the pandemic overwhelms health systems. Although overall in the African Region, women account for around 40% of COVID-19 cases, this ranges from 35% in some countries to over 55% in South Africa.

Women and girls is profound. Women are disproportionately affected by lockdowns and this is resulting in a reduced access to health services,” said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for Africa. As efforts are focused on curbing the spread of COVID-19, essential services such as access to sexual and reproductive health services have been disrupted. According to preliminary data, in Zimbabwe, the number of caesarean sections performed decreased

by 42% between January and April 2020 compared with the same period in 2019. The number of live births in health facilities fell by 21%, while new clients on combined birth control pills dropped by 90%. In Burundi, initial statistics show that births with skilled attendants fell to 4749 in April 2020 from 30 826 in April 2019. Recent analysis published in the Lancet Global Health suggests that a reduction in maternal health services of between just 9.8-18.5% could lead to as many as 12 200

additional maternal deaths over six months in low- and middle-income countries. The economic hardship due to COVID-19 is also greater for women according to a World Bank report. Informal workers, most of whom are women, account for more than 90% of the labour force in sub-Saharan Africa. Informal sector jobs are particularly at risk during the pandemic. In addition, women face a higher risk of gender-based violence in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak. A recent

study by UN Women found that reports of violence against women, and particularly domestic violence, have increased in several countries as security, health, and financial worries create tensions and strains accentuated by the cramped and confined living conditions of lockdown. “We are working with governments and partners to find ways to continue to deliver essential services safely, including the provision of personal protective equipment to health workers, many of whom are nurses and are women,” said Dr Moeti. The burden of caring for the sick is also largely borne by women. Most health workers in Africa are women. Over the past four months, with the Colleges of Nursing in Africa WHO has provided targeted virtual trainings to over 1000 nurses and midwives. In West Africa, this training has been cascaded sub-nationally using virtual platforms – thus allowing as many nurses as possible to be trained in case management for COVID-19 and infection prevention and control. WHO works to improve the health of women and girls in Africa by developing guidance on the implications of gender, gender-based violence, and access to sexual and reproductive health.

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# HIV and High Blood Pressure In Pregnancy: Tracing The Connections

The vast majority of women dying from pregnancy-related conditions are in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia. In 2017, about 86% of global maternal deaths occurred in these regions.

The leading cause of maternal deaths is hypertension, or high blood pressure. This condition is also known as pre-eclampsia. It needs to be detected early through regular medical checkups, but developing countries do not always have the resources to offer these to pregnant women.

In South Africa, both HIV and pre-eclampsia are a burden to maternal health. The highest prevalence (41.1%) of HIV infection in pregnant women occurs in the province of KwaZulu-Natal. Pre-eclampsia is also common (12%) here.

Pre-eclampsia is the development of hypertension after the 20th week of pregnancy in a woman who previously had normal blood pressure. According to the latest guidelines of the International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy, a diagnosis is based on a blood pressure reading greater than 140/90 mmHg. This is why it is vital that blood pressure is monitored throughout the pregnancy.

If left untreated, pre-eclampsia progresses to eclampsia. This can lead to severe high blood pressure associated with seizures. The baby has to be delivered as an emergency - which is why timely diagnosis is vital.

I am conducting research on HIV-positive women with pre-eclampsia. My findings should expand on the current science of high blood pressure in pregnancies complicated with HIV. As well as contribute to early detection of this condition in pregnant women.

Pregnancy changes every organ in a woman's body. Most of these changes are associated with the placenta, which is attached to the wall of the uterus. The placenta is a network of blood vessels that provide oxygen and nutrients to the foetus and remove waste.

When the placenta develops normally, new blood vessels sprout from existing ones. Cells of the placenta infiltrate the vessels allowing them to become wider. As a result, there is a larger space for blood to flow. The process of creating new blood vessels is called angiogenesis and it's put in motion by special proteins called angiogenic factors. These proteins include the vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and placental growth factor (PlGF).

In pre-eclampsia, the blood vessels of the placenta remain narrow as there are not enough

cells for invasion. There is less oxygen available and a reduced blood flow causes stress to the placenta. In response, the placenta produces excessive amounts of proteins known as anti-angiogenic factors.

These proteins are released into the mother's blood and become

harmful. The sFlt-1 protein is partly responsible for vessels not developing normally, leading to an increase in blood pressure as there is limited space in which the blood flows. At this point, both the mother and baby are at risk.

There are now higher levels of

the protein sFlt-1 in the maternal blood than the proteins involved in normal vessel formation. This is known as an angiogenic imbalance.

We assume that in the case of women with HIV, an additional factor interferes with the normal development of blood vessels.

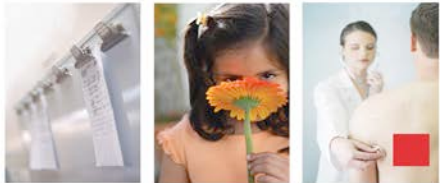
That is a protein called Tat. When the HIV virus enters the bloodstream in pregnant women, the Tat protein is able to recognise another protein similar to itself, VEGF. The Tat protein binds on to VEGF and VEGF can no longer perform its function. This lowers VEGF levels necessary for healthy vessel formation for normal blood flow.

Scientists investigate specific genes to determine if they are related to developing a disease. In the case of pre-eclampsia,



## Internal & External Advert

### Therapeutic/Diagnostic Radiographers in Oncology & Radiology Departments



#### Introduction:

Some opportunities exist in our Oncology and Radiology Departments for both the Therapeutic and Diagnostic Radiographer positions. The positions are based at Life Gaborone Private Hospital and the Westgate Branch of Radiology Department. The successful candidates will contribute to the effective functioning and management of the departments and ensure quality care to all patients.

Preference will be given to citizen applicants.

#### Critical Outputs:

Diagnostic Radiographers	Therapeutic Radiographers
<i>The successful candidate(s) will be expected to perform:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>General x-ray procedures</li><li>Fluoroscopy investigations</li><li>Mammography</li><li>Bone densitometry- DEXA</li><li>CT Scanning and MRI Scanning</li><li>Adhere to all quality control standards</li><li>Adhere to departmental protocols and procedures</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conduct basic radiation therapist duties as allocated by the department</li><li>Set up treatment of patient on the linear accelerator</li><li>Familiar with quality assurance and its implication</li><li>Have knowledge of treatment planning, CT and MRI Scanning</li><li>Adhere to all quality control standards</li><li>Simulation of patients in preparation for treatment</li><li>Adhere to departmental protocols and procedures</li></ul>

#### Requirements:

- The positions require graduate Diploma/Degree trained Radiographers with at least three (3) years work experience in a busy Oncology and Radiology practice(s).
- Must have a valid registration with Botswana Health Professions Council (BHPC).

#### Competencies:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Problem-solving, analysis and judgment</li><li>Resilience</li><li>Engaging diversity</li><li>Verbal &amp; written communication and presentation</li><li>Self Drive &amp; energetic</li><li>Excellence orientation</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Building relationships</li><li>Customer responsiveness</li><li>Organisational awareness</li><li>Willingness to share knowledge</li><li>Ethical behavior</li></ul> |
|--|---|

#### Closing date:

Interested candidates who meet the requirements are invited to apply by emailing or forwarding comprehensive CVs and application letters before close of business @ 12h00 on the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to the Hospital Human Resources Manager, Private Bag BR130, Gaborone Tel: +267 368 5605 Email: [Careers.Gaborone@lifehealthcare.co.za](mailto:Careers.Gaborone@lifehealthcare.co.za).

Please consider your application as unsuccessful if you do not receive any feedback within 2 weeks from the closing date of this position advertised.

Life Healthcare is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

# Growing Small Business in Africa: Simplifying Customer Payment Solutions

By Emmanuel Allotey

Customers are the key to the growth and success of Small Businesses in Africa. The ability to increase revenue collected from customers enhances the success of a business. Cash remains the most prevalent means of transacting by customers, however this trend is gradually diminishing as digital adoption and use of non-cash transactions continue to increase. Small Businesses can boost sales by offering a variety of payment options that make it simple for customers to purchase products and services.

Simplifying customer payment solutions is intended to improve already existing payment solutions. Customer Payments solutions vary and come with advantages and disadvantages. Businesses should assess their customer behaviour and business requirements such as Cash flow management, Security, Reporting and Efficiency when deciding which payment solution to implement.

Thanks to the increasing advancements in technology, multiple ways to complete transactions with business. The list below highlights some possible options.

**POS machine:** The average amount of Cash carried by customers are reducing. Customers are increasingly using debit and credit cards to perform transactions. Point of Sale (POS) Machines cater to customers who are willing to purchase a product or service but are not carrying cash. The recent introduction of Mobile POS has made the use of a POS machine even simpler. A POS can be used in any location where customers are present.

**Mobile Wallet:** Africa has the highest penetration of mobile wallets in the world. The success of mobile wallets for individuals can be replicated for Businesses. This technology although at nascent stages has the potential to grow exponentially. Mobile wallet payment allows customers to pay for goods and services using their mobile wallet without having to carry cash.

**Online Payments:** Online shopping and online payment processing are fast becoming the new normal, however only a handful of Small businesses have an online presence. Despite the low adoption, websites if utilised allow businesses to break through the geographical barriers and become accessible from anywhere in the world to potential customers that has an Internet connection.

As Small Businesses plan

how to grow their business, consideration should be given to expanding customer payment processing capabilities to suit the needs and preferences of your customers. The adoption of innovative payment solutions will contribute to the growth

aspirations of small business. Contact your financial service provider to explore which payment options are suitable to your business.



## Internal/External Advert

### Permanent & Sessional Registered Nurses Life Gaborone Private Hospital



#### Introduction:

Some vacancies exist for **Permanent & Sessional Registered Nurses including specialties in Operating Theatres, Renal Unit, Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Intensive Care Unit** based at **Life Gaborone Private Hospital**, reporting to **Unit Managers of the respective departments**. The successful candidates will contribute to the effective functioning and management of the units and ensure quality nursing care to all patients.

#### Critical Outputs:

- To provide quality patient care by;**
  - Providing quality basic and specialized nursing care
  - Continual communication with the patient and family with regards to the patients condition
  - Administering of medication in accordance to ethical, legal framework
  - Review and comply with internal policies and protocols
  - Ensuring quality management systems and initiatives are conducted according to the unit specification
  - Advocate the patient by motivating acuity to the case management and notify the doctor of any limitations
- Provide effective people management while interacting with a multi-disciplinary team;**
  - Interacting and communicating with a multi-disciplinary team
  - Provide effective cost management by;
  - Managing all stock used according to unit specific policies and protocols
  - Control and manage staff hours leave in accordance with the company policy
- Provide effective Infection Prevention and Health and Safety by;**
  - Maintaining a safe and holistic patient environment in order to enforce infection prevention.
  - Promoting a safe and healthy working environment by completing SHEQ alerts and incident reports to the QSSS.
- Ensuring effective relationships with internal/external stakeholders by;**
  - Conducting in-service orientation on doctor specific preferences
  - Execute doctors requests and prescriptions after patient rounds
  - Assisting in multi-disciplinary team members with the execution of their duties
- Ensuring the effective functioning of equipment and instrumentation;**
  - Educate and supervise staff and doctors on the correct utilisation of specialised equipment and instrumentation
- Ensuring effective record keeping by;**
  - Ensuring records are accurately completed and stored in accordance with legal and ethical requirements.

#### Requirements:

- Qualified General Nurses with current registration with the Botswana Nursing Council.
- Post Basic Certificate in specialised nursing with minimum of two year experience post -qualifications.
- Computer proficiency, sound Knowledge of English for effective communication.
- Candidates must be compassionate with a desire to serve patients and possess a sincere interest in healthcare industry; able to work under pressure and flexi-hours.

#### Competencies:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Problem-solving, analysis and judgement</li><li>• Attention to detail</li><li>• Resilience</li><li>• Motivating and developing people</li><li>• Engaging diversity</li><li>• Verbal &amp; written communication skills</li><li>• Influencing skills</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Building relationships</li><li>• Customer responsiveness</li><li>• Organisational awareness</li><li>• Excellence orientation</li><li>• Ethical behaviour</li><li>• Action orientation</li></ul> |
|---|---|

Interested candidates who meet the requirements are invited to apply by emailing or forwarding comprehensive CVs and application letters before close of business @ 12h00 on the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to the: Hospital Human Resources Manager, Private Bag BR130, Gaborone Tel: +267 368 5605 Email: [Careers.Gaborone@lifehealthcare.co.za](mailto:Careers.Gaborone@lifehealthcare.co.za) .

Please consider your application as unsuccessful if you do not receive any feedback within 2 weeks from the closing date of this position advertised.

**For internal candidates - before applying, you are requested to discuss your application with your line manager.**  
Life Healthcare is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



# Agile Strategies for Business survival during COVID-19

By Emmanuel Allotey

Business survival during unprecedented times of COVID-19 pandemic require the adoption and implementation of an agile strategy to navigate through the volatile operating environment.

The rapid change in operating environment renders established business strategies, processes, and decisions somewhat ineffective. To ensure resilience, businesses need to re-evaluate the effectiveness of their inherent operating model ranging from decision making processes to customer servicing channels.

Agility is the ability of a business to adapt to changes in the internal and external environment. This includes flexibility to respond to changing customer demands whilst maintaining profitability, efficiency and quality.

Agile strategies for survival involve;

**Refining Goals and Objectives:** businesses should reassess their outlook of what can be achieved during unprecedented times. Businesses should be willing to redefine business goals and targets in response to the evolving circumstances. COVID19 has stalled the growth projections of many economies with direct ramifications on domestic businesses. In a downturn, double digit growth becomes an unrealistic goal and should be reviewed.

**Streamlined Business Operations:** with a clearly defined target, business operations should be adapted to the new operating environment. For example, technology and digital channels have emerged as a necessary channel for interaction with customers. The speed of introducing digital options to customers can have an impact on business resilience. As events evolve, businesses need to reconsider their regulations and processes to avoid having obsolete and ineffective procedures that may lead to failure in business operations.

**Customer Engagement:** flexible and agile businesses need to increase visibility and demonstrate their availability to listen and help their customers during trying times. Different methods of communication, email, SMS, direct calling among others should be used to reassure their customers of support. In addition, businesses should be willing to expand and adjust customer delivery services to meet and adapt to customer expectations. Engaged customers will respond with their loyalty and business referral.

**Employee mobility:** staff in

businesses should be involved in developing an appropriate sales strategy during challenging operating environment. Due to the health impact of COVID-19, staff should be aligned with the sales and operating strategy being implemented. Staff are closer to customers and are able

to offer insightful opportunities to deliver on business objectives.

Agile business strategies play a crucial role in mitigating the effects of COVID-19 in the operating environment. Businesses should revisit their strategic plan and implement the necessary options to survive.



PRESS RELEASE

19<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020

## BITC donates masks to the Botswana Informal Sector Association

In a bid to assist and reduce the burden on the informal sector, Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) this morning, donated 1500 masks to the Botswana Informal Sector. The masks branded #PushaBW, were handed over to the association at the Gaborone Main Mall, on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

Through this initiative, BITC acknowledges and appreciates the role that the informal sector plays in the country's economy. While assisting sector with something they can use on a daily basis, this is also to encourage the nation to keep safe and prevent the possible spread of COVID19.

The masks, will be distributed to the informal sector in Gaborone at places such as Main Mall, BBS, Bus Rank, Gaborone West and Old Naledi, as well as surrounding villages targeting vendors such as food caterers, airtime distributors, cobblers etc. A total of 150 masks have been distributed to the Francistown informal sector through BITC's Francistown Office and some are to be distributed by BITC to other parts of the country.

These masks were procured from ten local SMMEs; Fleet Ridge, Power Trends, Easy Line, Brilliant Results, HSP Clothing, Pace Beat, Branded Mask, Kay Lights Atoms and Mask. This initiative is part of the BITC's CSR and efforts to encourage Batswana to support local SMMEs, by buying their products and services.

The organisation also challenges other entities to assist the informal sector with other Personal Protective Equipment and other implements they can use to protect themselves and their customers in this COVID19 new normal i.e. sanitisers, thermometers etc.

For more information contact:

**Kutlo Moagi (Ms.)**  
Director, Corporate Affairs  
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## Abiy put Ethiopia on the road to democracy: but major obstacles still stand in the way

It's two years since a surprise leadership change took place in Ethiopia. Introducing himself with a historic speech to the nation, the new Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed preached democracy as the only future for the country of more than 110 million.

The initial reforms were breathtaking. So much so that imagining democracy became justifiable. But Abiy's administration inherited an extraordinary set of problems.

Apart from the challenge of democratising an authoritarian state, it had to deal with ethnic violence and conflicts. And massive internal displacement of citizens.

Two years later, the government seems to have controlled the issue of internally displaced people. Resettlement programs appear to have been mostly successful.

And there's been considerable progress in ensuring peace and stability. News of violence is now mostly confined to two areas where the Oromo Liberation Army operates.

Beyond domestic politics, the volatile Horn of Africa also posed major challenges to Abiy's leadership. But Ethiopia's former arch-rival, Eritrea, is no longer a regional adversary.

In addition, Abiy played a major role in the Sudanese transition from chaos to some political promise. And the fact that he changed the loud silence between Somaliland and Somalia into potentially history-making meetings also

deserves recognition.

But, looking back over this period, Abiy's major achievement could be viewed as the dismantling of the 28-year-old Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front and the birth of a nationally unified political organisation, the Prosperity Party. This is not without its challenges too, however.

These developments have reinvigorated opposition groups afresh. In particular, the Tigray People's Liberation Front, a regional political organisation that had major dominance over the old revolutionary front, has now emerged as a major political foe to Abiy's Prosperity Party.

This poses a menace to Ethiopia's path to reform. As a result, Ethiopia's road to democracy and national elections, which were due to be held in August, is now facing two challenges: a global pandemic, and deteriorating relations between the Tigray regional state and the Prosperity Party, which is in charge of the federal government, and the remaining eight regions and two city administrations.

National elections

In its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, Ethiopia has so far done a promising job. But cases continue to grow – slowly but alarmingly.

Abiy cited the pandemic as a reason to postpone the national elections. The current administration's five-year tenure was set to expire come September 30, 2020. Debates on

the legitimacy of the government after that date have dominated national discussions.

The government proposed a number of options. One was to dissolve parliament and declare a state of emergency. Another was to request a special constitutional interpretation of the challenge. Yet another was to extend the tenure of current incumbents.

The opposition was consulted and the issues were discussed in parliament. The decision that was finally taken was to ask for a judicial review process to provide a constitutional interpretation. These are done through the Council of Constitutional Inquiry, which then submits its recommendations to the House of the Federation for discussions and a decision.

The House of the Federation is the upper house of Ethiopia's bicameral legislative branch. Its legislative authority is limited to powers on budgetary allocations, powers to interpret the constitution, and to safeguard the federal constitutional framework.

Based on House's decision, the chamber postponed the national election.

The decision was not received well by the Tigray People's Liberation Front. The regional parliament in Tigray has since defied the federal government's decision, and announced it will hold its own elections.

High stakes

This decision has wide-ranging implications. By holding an election without the supervision

of the National Electoral Board, the Tigray People's Liberation Front is undermining Ethiopia's federal constitutional system.

Going it alone is a reflection of the front's loss of power since the demise of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front coalition. This has weakened its resolve to maintain Ethiopia's constitutional system.

The decision poses a threat to Ethiopia's promising democracy. It has ignited an unprecedented level of tension between the Tigray region and the federal government. If this situation deteriorates further, the country's fledgling democracy could regress.

So far, Abiy's administration has ignored the threat from the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front. This could lead to undesirable repercussions.

The federal government's reluctance to address the crisis in Tigray might lead to renewed violence. This could in turn harm government's response to the public health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finally, unless addressed, the deteriorating relations between the federal government and the Tigray region could further unravel Ethiopia's dangerously designed federal system that in any case, is in need of major revision.

For democracy to take root in Ethiopia, the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front's defiance to the country's constitutional order must be resolved.

(TheConversation)

## Chamber of Mines says Zambia Mining Revenues have dropped 30% due to COVID-19



Mining companies in Zambia, Africa's No.2 copper producer, have suffered a 30% drop in revenue over the three months to April due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the fallout could last for at least 12 months, the Chamber of Mines said on Thursday.

Severe global restrictions on movement have hit mining supply chains and hindered the export and sale of copper, the mining industry association said, hurting company revenues and government coffers.

The metal is Zambia's main foreign exchange earner and a key driver of tax revenues.

"The fall in mining revenues is mirrored exactly in the fall in mineral royalty payments, as royalties are levied on each tonne of copper that is sold," the chamber said.

Royalty payments are estimated to have come in at \$60 million to \$65 million over the three months from February to April, around two-thirds of the \$90 million that was expected.

A plunge in copper prices has also dented companies' revenues.

Mining companies have also seen costs increase as they implement COVID-19 prevention measures to ensure the safety of workers and surrounding communities, the Chamber of Mines said.

"Zambia's miners have been battling ever higher costs for years, and we are concerned about the potential consequences of such a big hit to earnings occurring now," it said.

The chamber said mining firms would likely be grappling with revenue pressures due to the pandemic for at least 12 months.

Mining companies operating in Zambia include First Quantum Minerals, Glencore, Barrick Gold Corp and Vedanta Resources.

(Reuters.)



# West African Ministers Propose Phased Re-Opening Of Borders

West African government ministers have proposed re-opening borders between their countries in the first half of July and allowing in travellers from other countries with low or controlled levels of coronavirus spread by the end of July.

Countries across the 15-country ECOWAS trade bloc have imposed varying levels of travel restrictions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with many shutting their borders entirely.

The new proposal, contained in an ECOWAS summary of a virtual meeting last week of foreign ministers and trade ministers, called for coordinated efforts to re-open cross-border trade that has been crippled by coronavirus restrictions.



*The ministers' recommendations will be presented to ECOWAS heads of state at a forthcoming summit, it said.*

It said a first phase consisting of opening up domestic air and land transport should be implemented this month. Many governments in the region have already begun to do so.

A second phase, involving the opening of land, air and maritime borders within the region, should happen by July 15 at the latest.

A third phase, involving the opening of air and land borders to "countries with low and controlled levels of COVID-19 contamination rates", should occur by July 31 but will depend on the evolution of the pandemic, the report said.

The ministers' recommendations will be presented to ECOWAS heads of state at a forthcoming summit, it said.

African governments have struggled since the start of the outbreak to strike a balance between containing the virus and maintaining the day-to-day economic activities that millions of their citizens depend on to survive.

African countries have registered relatively few cases compared to hotspots elsewhere in the world, but the World Health Organization warned last week that the pandemic was accelerating on the continent.

(Reuters)



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## Announcement

### BBS LIMITED ADVERTISEMENT FOR AN INDEPENDENT BOARD PERFORMANCE ASSESSOR

The Board of Directors of BBS Limited has put in place a "Peer to Peer Review Process" to assess the performance of its Directors individually. This is in addition to the assessment of the Board and its 4 Sub- Committees. Therefore, BBS Limited seeks to engage a suitably qualified and experienced independent assessor to facilitate the process at the end of each BBS Limited financial year which is 31 December. The BBS Limited Constitution allows for up to 9 Board Members, 7 of which are Non-Executive Directors and 2 are Executive Directors. Currently, it has 6 Directors, 5 of whom are Non-Executive and 1 is an Executive.

#### Qualifications of Board Performance Assessor

The candidate, or entity, should not be a service provider to BBS Limited and will work with the Company Secretary to facilitate the performance assessment of individual Directors to enhance their performance and effectiveness on the BBS Limited Board. The exercise will include the Board and its Sub- Committees to ensure a comprehensive assessment.

#### Requirements

- At least 10 years' experience working in a financial services, auditing or banking environment.
- Sound knowledge of Board affairs, Board administration and corporate governance.
- Solid experience in Board Directorships.
- Professional qualification in finance, risk, compliance, audit or law.

#### Tenure

The assessor will be appointed for an initial three year period beginning in 2020.

Qualified candidates or entities should submit their details curriculum vitae or profiles, certified copies of qualifications, fees structure and submit applications to BBS Limited marked "BBSL Board Independent Assessor" no later than 15 July 2020.

Company Secretary  
BBS Limited House, Broadhurst  
Fourth Floor  
Corner of Lemmenyane Way and Segoditshane Road  
Or email to [showas@bbs.co.bw](mailto:showas@bbs.co.bw)  
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Only shortlisted candidates or entities will be contacted.



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# Flame of Africa offering dream safaris in Chobe

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the magnificently flooded Chobe River, which offers clients an up close and personal experience of the best Chobe has to offer. **Photography** The calmness of the boat cruise

and the proximity to wildlife makes one of these cruises a photographer’s dream. Time of day is your choice, regardless of whether you are chasing the sunrise scenes or the sunset reds.

Most of the boat excursions depart from Cresta Mowana. You are then thrust into jaw dropping scenes. To get the most of the spectacular scenes flame of Africa offers The Chobe

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**The Raft**

The Raft is a floating restaurant. Eating at the Raft immerses you in the quintessential safari environment. You are literally surrounded by the river ecosystem. The Raft is a novel way to experience lunch and engage with the guides on the folklore of the area in the middle of the Chobe floodplains at the very border separating Namibia and Botswana.

**A world of Activity**

The lodges of Kasane are incredible retreats and are a great experience. When you are done relaxing, however, Flame of Africa has the activities to make your holiday an unforgettable experience. Aside from boat cruises at varying times and durations, you can go on game drives. You can also take a day trip to the Victoria Falls and experience the sublime majesty of “the smoke that thunders”. If you are into fishing, Flame of Africa has the perfect watercrafts to help you reel in the best catch. They also offer all day fishing excursions.

## African tourism has been put on ice by coronavirus – here’s how some countries are reviving it



In the Gambia, teams of young tourism guides in their first holiday season are doing something very different from what they learned in training. They have been redeployed to act as coronavirus guides for their local communities, raising awareness and explaining to their fellow Gambians how to prevent the spread of infection. On the beaches, the normally busy fruit seller huts are empty and everything is quiet. Such is the situation in many African tourist resorts in 2020, with tourism reduced to almost nothing. Globally, tourism could lose around 120 million jobs as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, according to the World Travel & Tourism Council. The number of holidaymakers travelling abroad is forecast to halve in 2020 as more than US\$3 trillion (£2.4 trillion) gets wiped off global tourism GDP. This will be keenly felt by the many countries whose people depend on tourism. Two examples on opposite coasts

of Africa are the Gambia and Kenya. Tourism accounts for 9% of Kenya’s GDP and 20% in the Gambia. It provides a living to around 10% of Kenyans and nearly a fifth of Gambians, while acting as an important source of foreign exchange. In both countries, the pandemic is damaging hotels and tour operators, putting people out of work, reducing GDP, and affecting thousands of small businesses in the tourism supply chain, such as providers of food, transport, and souvenirs. There are also wider consequences that may be less obvious. Poverty alleviation initiatives tied to tourism through youth and women’s empowerment programmes are being set back. Tourism can also support conservation. In Kenya, the Ol’Pejeta Conservancy to the north of Nairobi is home to the world’s last two northern white rhinos. In 2018, Ol’Pejeta spent US\$2.6 million on wildlife conservation and community

development, much of it protecting endangered species from poaching. Kenya’s 51 million population is more than 20 times bigger than that of the Gambia. Tourism is usually the number-one source of income after agriculture for those in rural areas, especially on the coast and in places rich with wildlife. But for a country that specialises in high-end safari and beach holidays for rich westerners, the crisis has hit hard. Early in the crisis, tourism associations advised their members on keeping clients and staff safe, as well as holiday cancellation policies. They negotiated with the government, tax authority and banks on how to protect businesses. Tourist businesses have now cut back to skeleton staff and business partners have been giving one another 12 months’ grace on debts. The government is providing some financial support to industry workers through an economic stimulus programme.

It has also mobilised tourism-association leaders into a taskforce to oversee reopenings. In the Gambia, tourism had already suffered in recent years from political unrest, Ebola and the collapse of Thomas Cook. It is also over-dependent on a few tour operators selling winter-sun holidays, and charter flights that find it more profitable to fly to the Mediterranean during the European summer. This imposes a “season” that limits the potential to bring in tourists all year round. As well as deploying the youth tourism guides to help fight coronavirus, the Gambia Tourism Board has worked with the ministry of health to develop safety measures for hotels. The government is working with the UN to kickstart recovery efforts to safeguard livelihoods. Meanwhile, those in the industry have called on the government to provide tax breaks, moratoriums on loans and support packages for wages and economic stimulus. In both countries, the emphasis during the crisis has been on collaboration. But this needs to happen internationally, too, since neither has the “fiscal space” for the economic stimulus seen in advanced economies. A Mandinka proverb says that “rice fields with the same borders share the same waters”. We’re all in this together, in other words. In March 2020, the World Economic Forum called on the US Federal Reserve and other central banks propping up their economies with quantitative easing (QE) – creating new money to buy their government’s debt – to

help developing countries by also buying their debt. There is no sign of this happening. Some bigger developing countries such as South Africa have launched their own QE programmes, but for many others dependent on tourism, the lack of international support is making the crisis worse. The crisis is also an opportunity to develop more sustainable tourism. The Gambia has already shown a way forward by developing an alternative to “sun, sand and sea” packages known as The Ninki Nanka Trail. The trail enables visitors to discover the Gambia’s rich natural and culture heritage while experiencing the important oral legend of the mythical Ninki Nanka dragon said to reside in the creeks of the River Gambia. Launched in February 2020 and set up with the help of an EU-funded Youth Empowerment Project, the trail aims to do two things: help the Gambia to reduce poverty in rural areas by diversifying into community-based tourism, while extending the season into the “green/tropical” months of July/August. The Ninki Nanka Trail shows how tourism can be used to celebrate culture and facilitate meaningful engagement with communities, but there is much more that could be done in Kenya and the Gambia to target tourists that bring environmental and social benefits as well as economic ones. With stronger international support and a good vision for the future, it is a good moment to build something better than what was there before. (TheConversation.)



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**CERTAIN:** piece of land being Plot 1319 Kumakwane.

**SITUATE:** At Kumakwane in Bakwena Tribal Territory

**MEASURING 1417m2 (One thousand four hundred and seventeen Square Metres)**

**AS WILL MORE FULLY APPEAR:** from diagram D.S.M No.1981/2013 surveyed in June 2013 by Land Surveyor I.M. Kimengi and approved by the Director of Surveys and Mapping on the 25th July 2013.

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds within three weeks from the last date of publication of this notice.

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**SITUATE:** In the Bakwena Tribal Territory;

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## Rugby-PR014 targets August return with shortened season

The PRO14 has targeted a return date of Aug. 22 with a series of local derbies as part of a shortened 2019–20 season that will shed six rounds of group play, organisers said on Thursday.

The competition, which features club sides from Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Italy and South Africa, has been cut to two final rounds of group matches, all local derby games in the respective countries, followed by semi-finals and the final on Sept. 12.

The matches that were postponed from March when the season was halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic have been declared 0–0 draws, which leaves the Irish duo of Leinster and Ulster as the top two teams in Conference A, with Scottish side Edinburgh and another Irish club Munster leading in the other pool.

South Africa’s Cheetahs and Welsh club Scarlets have an outside chance of making the top two, with the former potentially creating the biggest headache

for organisers with uncertainty over whether international travel will be allowed.

“We are very fortunate to be in a position where everyone involved is confident that we can conclude the season on the field of play,” tournament director David Jordan said in a statement on Thursday.

South African Rugby chief executive Jurie Roux provided a more cautious outlook though.

“The COVID-19 pandemic is still rife in our country and the health and safety of South

Africans remains the most important priority, which is why we continue to work with government and all the various stakeholders,” he said in a statement from that union.

“We’ll only be able to play in local derbies, but nothing can happen before we can travel internally.”

South Africa has eased its lockdown restrictions in recent weeks, but the staging of sports events, even without fans in the stadium, remains prohibited. (Reuters.)

AFRICAN  
SPORTS BRIEFS

## Excitement as Tanzanian Premier League resumes

After a three-month stoppage due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Tanzanian Premier League resumed this weekend with the country’s giants Simba, Yanga and Azam battling for supremacy in the business end of the campaign.

Leaders and defending champions Simba SC kept their hunt for a hat-trick of league titles alive despite being held to a 1–1 draw at home by Ruvo Shooting on the second day of action.

Shiza Kichuya gave the Wekundu wa Msimbazi an early lead, but they couldn’t hold on for long as Fully Maganga levelled the score for Ruvo eight minutes before halftime.

Despite dropping two points, Simba retain a healthy lead in the standings with a 15-point buffer between them and second placed Azam with nine rounds of matches remaining.

The 2014 league winners Azam were 2–0 winners over struggling Mbao at their Azam Complex home turf with goals from Richard Djodi and Shaban Chilunda retaining them at second.

Meanwhile, Yanga kept the push to try and finish second when they won by a slim 1–0 margin against Mwadui, Balama Mapinduzi notching the lone goal on the opening day of the league’s return on Saturday.

Yanga have played a match less than Azam and can bridge the gap with victory on Wednesday against JKT.

To avoid any further spike of the virus, the TFF and the government undertook stringent precautions and health protocols in all the matches.

Fans were asked to seat at least one meter from each other, and everyone had their body temperature taken before accessing the stadium. At the same time, sanitizers and running water was availed at all entry points to ensure high levels of hygiene.

The players as well had their temperatures taken before going into the stadium while substitutes on the bench had to observe strict social distancing guidelines and wore their masks at all times.





# Meet The Former Referee Still Pushing Boundaries

“At a time when everyone is still struggling with the pandemic, I would like to offer my support to sportspeople around the world and in particular to the wider family of referees, to which I belong,” said former Beninese referee Rosalie Tempa Ndah “I’d also like to offer my sincere thanks to FIFA and CAF for having chosen me.”

The fact is, however, that the 47-year-old Tempa has no need to thank anyone for her incredible refereeing career. “I used to watch football on TV when I was a child,” she explained. “There was hardly any women’s football in Benin and I played with the boys when I was at school. It was really tough, though, and I soon gave up. And then, when I grew up, I saw that women were refereeing games.”

That surprise discovery showed Tempa where her future lay. Pulling her boots on again, she went back among the boys on the pitch in her neighbourhood. “People didn’t think it was right and even my family refused to support me,” she said. “It was really hard. In the end, the coach suggested to me that I referee the team’s matches in training.”

Her experiences prompted her to find out if she could do some training in Benin, which is when she discovered the Central Referees’ Commission and decided to take one of their courses. “That’s when I really

started to learn the laws of the game. When I was doing the course, I put into practice all the things I learned on the pitch and I trained with the male referees. They were very happy to see a brave woman come and join them.”

Tempa needed to be brave in taking charge of matches played on poor pitches, with no fencing, and often in a very hostile environment. “You got stones thrown at you and people coming on to the pitch screaming and shouting and even getting physically violent,” she said, managing to keep a smile on her face.

In 2003, after eight years of hard work, she finally achieved her goal. Having caught the eye of CAF experts at a training camp, she became a FIFA assistant referee: “I was so happy. The newspapers were talking about me and I silenced all the doubters. My parents were very proud to see me make it (laughs).”

And that was only the start. That same year, Tempa, who is also a qualified hairdresser, officiated at the African Games in Nigeria, taking charge of matches in the women’s tournament, including the final. She performed so well that she then got the call to referee at the Women’s Olympic Football Tournament Athens 2004.

“It was absolutely amazing,” she said. “It was my first long-haul flight. I was very proud to

be representing my country and Africa in front of the whole world. I learned so much just by being around other match officials from all over the world.”

Tempa went on to officiate at six FIFA Women’s World Cup™ competitions (U-20 and senior), two more Olympic Games and six CAF Africa Women’s Cup of Nations. “I have lots of great memories,” she added, “but if I had to pick one out, it would have to be the match for third place between Germany and Japan at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games (a 2-0 win for the Germans).”

“I retired in 2017 to become a referee instructor,” she explained. “I was still in shape but I wanted to make way for

the youngsters, to give others the opportunity that I’d had and to devote my energies to the development of women’s and African refereeing.”

Asked to explain what has brought her the most satisfaction in her career, Tempa replied: “To see women making their way in the game. Women’s football took a while to get going in Africa and it hasn’t developed as quickly as elsewhere. That’s why, in my eyes, there’s no better sight than a woman with a ball at her feet or a whistle in her mouth. Women who play sport can only become even more intelligent and dynamic. It also helps them to break free, travel, discover things and make friends.

“Real change is happening

here in Benin,” she continued. “The example I set has inspired lots of girls who have met with me and spoken to me. I give training courses and we talk a lot. The best piece of advice I can give them is to not lose heart and to work hard towards their objectives. They also need to ignore people who think that women in Africa are only there to have children and cook.”

As well as her football activities, Tempa runs a hairdressing college and a charity by the name of ACAL-DR. It organises open-air movie screenings in rural communities to raise awareness about development best practice and other issues, such as schooling for girls, violence towards women, birth registrations, child abuse and bullying.

**This article is part of FIFA’s ‘Women in Football’ series, in which it offers a different behind-the-scenes look at some of the protagonists of the women’s game.**

(Fifa.)







Jwaneng Galaxy FC have been declared champions after the Botswana Football Association (BFA) made the decision to annul the season due to the challenges posed by COVID-19.

A meeting of the BFA Executive Committee held on June 14, made the decision to end the campaign with the league standings remaining as they were when the season was halted in March.

"Having considered the prevailing circumstances

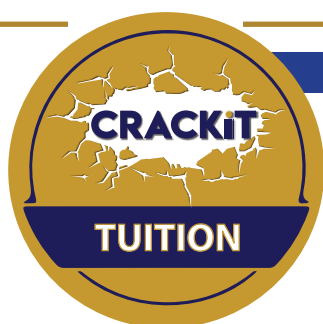
in Botswana, the guidelines provided by the BFA Medical Committee, FIFA and CAF and the financial resources needed to return to play, the Botswana Football Association National Executive Committee unanimously agreed to end the football season," a statement from the FA stated.

Galaxy led the standings with 41 points, one ahead of second placed Township Rollers and third placed Orapa United with 10 rounds of matches left.

At the same time, TAFIC, Molepolole City Stars and SC Serowe will be relegated.

Meanwhile, BFA have announced that a committee will be formed to deal with the modalities of the promotional play-offs.

"The lives and health of the players and the nation at large was prioritised above all as it is currently too risky to return to play," further stated the statement.



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