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Zimbabwe Battling to Promote Sustainable Economic Growth



Analysis by Jeffrey Moyo

HARARE (IDN) – Clad in faded trousers and shirt and an old pair of shoes dotted with a mixture of patches and holes, 38-year-old Jemitius Simango trudges along First Street in the Zimbabwean capital with a huge sack containing empty plastic bottles hanging on his back as he rummages through dustbins in search of valuables.

Simango holds a Marketing Diploma from Zimbabwe's Harare Polytechnic College and at first glance many take him for a lunatic, although he is an ordinary man at 'work' trying to earn a living against the backdrop of this Southern African country's faltering economy. After failing to secure employment, many like Simango have turned to doing various substandard jobs to sustain themselves. (P 17) [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [SPANISH](#) | [SWAHILI](#)

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World's 'Big Six' Advertisers Support UN's 2030 Agenda



By Jaya Ramachandran

BERLIN | CANNES | NEW YORK (IDN) – Nearly six months before Ban Ki-moon relinquishes his post after ten years as UN Secretary-General, his unrelenting efforts underway since January to engage corporate leaders and entrepreneurs for the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) are beginning to bear fruit.

Speaking at the Lions Festival of Creativity, Cannes, on June 24, Ban said the world's six biggest advertising and marketing services groups – [Dentsu](#), [Havas](#), [IPG](#), [Omnicom](#), [Publicis](#) and [WPP](#) – had decided to launch a first-of-its-kind initiative, the *Common Ground* initiative.

The initiative seeks “to beat ultra-competitors, poverty, inequality and injustice” by supporting a 15-year anti-poverty, pro-planet action plan, adopted by 193 Member States in September 2015. (P16) [ARABIC](#) | [GERMAN](#) | [JAPANESE](#)

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Zimbabwe Makes Headway in Achieving Gender Equality



Analysis by Jeffrey Moyo

HARARE (IDN) - Despite the hurdles women continue to face in Zimbabwe, this country has made significant headway in achieving gender equality in line with Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be attained by 2030.

There is improved women parliamentary representation and increased numbers of girls in university than their male counterparts now – and this as more women have also taken up once male-dominated jobs.

According to UN Women, the United Nations organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women, women's representation in Zimbabwe's Parliament more than doubled from 17 per cent following the 2008 general elections, to 35 per cent in the elections on July 31, 2013. (P15) [ARABIC](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [SWAHILI](#)

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Conference Adopts Global Education Action Agenda to Implement SDGs



Analysis by Ramesh Jaura and Katsuhiro Asagiri

GYEONGJU, South Korea (IDN) - Five months after the international community began implementing [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) endorsed by world leaders in September 2015, representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and academia have

finalized and adopted a global education action agenda.

The agenda affirming the importance of Sustainable Development Goal 4 – ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong opportunities for all – is spelt out in the [Gyeongju Action Plan](#).

It was agreed at the 66th [United Nations Department of Public Information \(DPI\) / NGO Conference](#) that concluded on June 1, 2016 after three days of deliberations in Gyeongju, a city on South Korea's southeast coast. (P14) [ARABIC](#) | [GERMAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [KOREAN TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [PORTUGUESE](#) | [SPANISH](#) | [TURKISH](#)

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Humanitarian Summit in Perspective: Disaster Prevention is Feasible



Analysis by Jacques N. Couvas

ISTANBUL (IDN) - The gaping absence of a large number of world leaders, including



those of most of the Group of 7 (G7) industrial nations, undoubtedly caused profound disappointment. But the first World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) in the 70-year existence of the United Nations will not go down in history as a shameful debacle for international diplomacy, nor will it be the last conference of its kind, according to experts.

While G7 leaders were conspicuous by their absence, with the exception of German Chancellor Angela Merkel, some 9,000 participants from 173 countries joined the event in Istanbul. They included some 60 heads of state and government, mostly from the developing world. (P 13) [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [PORTUGUESE](#)

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The Forgotten Humanitarian Crisis in the Balkans



Analysis by Vesna Peric Zimonjic

BELGRADE (IDN) - The violent split up of former Yugoslavia is more than two decades old. Peace was established in the region back in the 1990s. Yet for those who hardly know about the brutal violence and humanitarian disaster that accompanied the political breakup, little would appear to have changed.

"There is no more arms rattling, but the political rhetoric and lack of profound economic recovery keep people stuck in recent past, with poor view on better future," prominent sociology professor Ratko Bozovic says. "There are new generations all over the former Yugoslavia who know nothing else but how this or that war was fought."

The professor explained that no real insight into causes, accompanied by little perspective, creates a fertile ground for further confusion among the young who should take their nations into the future. (P12) [GERMAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [PORTUGUESE](#)

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UN Expert Praises Media Initiative Focusing on Homelessness



NEW YORK (IDN) – Media can play an important role in bringing the issue of homelessness to the forefront of discussions and encourage civil engagement. With this in view, the United Nations human rights expert on housing has commended a large media initiative in the U.S. city of San Francisco.

Leilani Farha, the United Nations [Special Rapporteur on adequate housing](#), said in a [statement](#) issued by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR): "The portrayal of homeless people in the media has a significant impact on public perception and empathy. I believe the San Francisco media push will encourage other media to report on homelessness in new ways, with a view to assessing accountability and offering solutions."

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Progress in Achieving Gender Equality No Cause for Complacency



By J Nastranis

NEW YORK (IDN) – [UN Women](#), United Nations organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women, has drawn attention to three “historic firsts” achieved this year in combatting sexual violence in conflict. At the same time, the organisation’s Deputy Executive Director Lakshmi Puri has stressed that “realizing

gender equality has a deadline, and it is 2030”.

In run-up to the first *International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict* on June 19, United Nations organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women said all three historic firsts were “long overdue and all had one thing in common: the unstoppable force of women’s voice and leadership”.

According to the statement, in February 2016, a national court in Guatemala [convicted two former military officers](#) of committing sexual violence during the country’s civil war – the first time that a national court anywhere in the world considered charges of sexual slavery during armed conflict.

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UN Shows the Way Out for 168 Million Child Workers



By Jaya Ramachandran

GENEVA (IDN) - Child labour is rampant around the world: some 168 million children working in various sectors of the economy – ranging from agriculture to mining, from manufacturing to tourism – are producing goods and services consumed by millions every day.

Marking the [World Day against Child Labour](#) on June 12, the United Nations International Labour Organization (ILO) has drawn the focus on the plight of children toiling in some of the most hazardous jobs.

“That child labour has no place in well-functioning and well-regulated markets is evident. But the reality is that today, child labour remains widespread in supply chains,” said ILO Director-General Guy Ryder in a [statement](#) that focussed on child labour and supply chains.

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If Wildlife Crime Makes You Wild – Get Wild for Life



By Dr Bradnee Chambers *

BONN (IDN) - Unless the science fiction of Michael Crichton’s “Jurassic Park” becomes science fact sometime soon, extinction will continue to mean gone forever; and if we want to avoid losing more species, we must start learning from the mistakes of the past; unfortunately the evidence suggests that all

too often we seem determined to repeat them

Humans have hunted animals for food since time immemorial and taking “one for the pot” was not sport but quite simply the only way to feed one’s family. The

the pot was not sport but quite simply the only way to feed one's family. The artisanal methods using bow and arrow or nets made from home-spun twine and the level of the harvest meant such hunting was entirely sustainable. But now things have changed. In addition to other threats, man-made and natural, such as climate change, habitat loss, collisions with vehicles, power lines and wind turbines, wildlife faces another totally avoidable danger: illegal wildlife trade.

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