

Zambia: The world has lost a river

On 18 February 2025, a dam at the Sino-Metals Leach Zambia Mine near Kitwe collapsed, spilling 50 million litres of acidic waste into the Kafue River. This led to widespread environmental degradation, resulting in massive fish kills, destruction of fields and contamination of drinking water supplies. The river's role as a source of livelihood for farmers was severely damaged as the river's livestock died en masse. Scientists are currently analysing the ongoing environmental damage to the river as the current situation ravages the river. 10.04.2025

Niger: Change of official language

'The national language is Hausa' and "the working languages are English and French", according to a new charter published on 31 March. According to the new charter, nine other local languages, including Zarma-Songhay, Fula, Kanuri, Gourmanche and Arabic, are now officially recognised as 'the spoken languages of Niger'. Hausa is the most widely spoken language in Niger, especially in the regions of Zinder, Maradi and Tahoua. Until now, French was the official language, but Hausa was the lingua franca and commercial language. 09.04.25

Rwanda: Strong words on genocide Memorial Day

At the start of the commemoration of the genocide of Rwanda's Tutsi in 1994, President Paul Kagame called on his compatriots not to give in to any external pressure. 'No one should dictate how you should live,' he declared at the central commemoration ceremony in Kigali. To his critics who are threatening Rwanda with sanctions, he said: 'I will say to everyone's face: go to hell.' The European Union, the US and several other countries imposed sanctions and suspended aid, accusing Rwanda of supporting the M23 rebels. The UK, Canada and Germany have also suspended some aid and restricted export licences for trade. 09.04.2025

DRC-Congo: Anthrax kills hippos

At least 50 hippos and other large animals have died from anthrax poisoning in Africa's oldest national park, Virunga National Park. The motionless animals are floating along the Ishasha River. The river flows north to Lake Edward, one of Africa's great lakes, where more dead animals have been reported. The exact cause of the poisoning is unknown, but tests have confirmed the presence of anthrax. With an area of 7,800 km², Virunga National Park is one of the most biologically diverse, but also one of the most dangerous national parks on the continent. The park is a popular tourist destination but has also been affected by the conflict between rebel groups and the Congolese army in recent years. 09.04.2025

Zimbabwe: Mnangagwa cosies up

President Emmerson Mnangagwa has announced that he will suspend tariffs on goods imported from the US in order to build a 'positive relationship' with President Donald Trump's administration. The move comes days after Trump imposed 18% tariffs on Zimbabwean exports to the US. 'This measure is aimed at facilitating the expansion of American imports into the Zimbabwean market while encouraging the growth of Zimbabwean exports to the United States,' said Mr Mnangagwa. 08.04.

Mali: Airspace closed

Algeria has closed its airspace to all flights to and from Mali as a dispute over a drone shot down near their

shared border escalates. Algeria has recently deployed troops along its borders to prevent the infiltration of fighters and weapons from jihadist groups operating in Mali and other countries in the Sahel region of West Africa. The Malian armed forces are fighting ethnic Tuareg separatists in the north. They have a stronghold in the town of Tinzaoutin, which lies on the border between Mali and Algeria. 08.04.2025

West Africa's biggest floating solar project

Ghana has commissioned the largest floating solar project in West Africa, taking an important step towards expanding its renewable energy capacities. The country has set itself the target of increasing its share of renewable energies from the current 1% to 10% by 2030. The floating 5-megawatt solar plant is located on the Black Volta River. The plant also helps to save water by reducing evaporation from the surface. Other notable solar power plants that have been successfully commissioned in Ghana are the Kaleo Solar Power Plant (13 megawatts), Lawra Solar Plant (6.5 megawatts) and Navrongo Solar Plant (2.5 megawatts). The costs for the three projects totalled 50.8 million euros. 08.04.2025

Libyen: 10 internationale NGOs suspendiert

The Libyan authorities ordered 10 international aid organisations to stop their work and close their offices in the country. They accused the organisations of violating local laws by helping African migrants. Libya, which borders six countries and has a long coastline along the Mediterranean Sea, is a major transit country for migrants. The International Organisation for Migration estimates that around 787,000 migrants and refugees of various nationalities will be living in Libya by 2024. The list of aid organisations announced by the agency includes Médecins Sans Frontières, the Norwegian Refugee Council, the Danish Refugee Council, Terre des Hommes, Care, Acted, Inter SOS and the Italian organisation Cesvi. Many of these organisations provided vital emergency aid during the devastating floods in the country, which killed thousands in 2023.

Tunisia: Migrant camp dismantled

Around 20,000 migrants had pitched their tents in fields in the eastern regions of El Amra and Jebeniana, and now the camp has been dismantled. Tunisia has become one of the most important departure points in North Africa for migrants making the dangerous crossing across the Mediterranean in the hope of reaching Europe. 07.04.2025

Severe flooding in Kinshasa

Heavy rainfall in Kinshasa has caused catastrophic flooding on one of the most important rivers, the Ndjili River, which runs through the city of almost 17 million inhabitants. Around 30 people lost their lives and houses and roads were destroyed. The floods come at a time when the country is facing increasing instability due to the conflict in the east of the country. The Rwandan-backed M23 rebels have stepped up their attacks there since the beginning of the year, killing more than 7,000 people and displacing millions in recent months. 07.04.2025

More Info: <https://netzwerkafrika.de/>

New interim chief administrator of Tigray regional state