

## Irish govt commends Tanzanian students for innovative capacity

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

THE Irish government has commended two Tanzania secondary school students for their innovative capacity to come up with an automatic fire alert system by using mobile networks.

The Irish President Michael Higgins said that the creativity which is being displayed by African youth provides a wide range of solutions to socio-economic challenges and paving the way for rapid economic development.

The duo, Prosper Gasper and Erick Simon from St. Jude secondary school in Arusha Region emerged the overall winners in the Young Scientists Tanzania (YST) exhibition held last year in Dar es Salaam with their project titled 'The using of mobile networks as a fire alert system'.

The President said that Africa is incredibly important area as it contains young people who are enthusiastic and passion to take their society at high level. He made the remarks during the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition 2018 exhibition held in January this year in Dublin, Ireland that attracted more than 5,000 visitors including from Tanzania and Kenya.

According to him, youth in Africa have got a huge scientific ability to demonstrate how science is important to life. "Science is crucial as it delivers solutions to deal with global challenges,"

"The world depends on young generation who are able to influence changes in the society, it is this generation which is showing enthusiasm for the great global challenges of sustainable development to respond to climate change," the president insisted.

The students had also emerged the winner in the innovation and technology category with their project in the Eskom Expo for Young Scientists that took place in October last year at the Birchwood hotel and conference centre in South Africa. For her part, external relations manager for Shell Exploration and Production Tanzania Limited, the main sponsor for YST, Patricia Mhondo said that they are delighted to see young Tanzanian are becoming best innovators in science and technology.

"It is one of the greatest achievements in the country as it provides hope for availability of reliable experts who will take part in the oil and gas industry," she said.

Mhondo added that the Shell Tanzania is intending to recruit local experts in the country as part of the initiative to cut-off cost for

importing foreign experts, purposely to improve internal capacity.

She urged youth to invest their time in learning and developing their talents for future development and main sponsor for Young Scientist Tanzania,

The manager for Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation (KJF) that provides scholarships for science winners, Devatha Rubama said that the institute is eager to support and improve the level of science and technology in the country for the purpose of obtaining future experts

She applauded the winner for their recognition saying that it is a chance for them to cultivate the experiences and skills they have obtain to develop their talents in order to achieve their goals.

The students expressed their warm appreciation for the generous support and contribution provided to them together with the scholarship they receive from KJF.

Commenting, community relations manager for Songas Limited Nicodemus Chipakapaka applauded the initiatives by YST in nurturing young generation in science and technology.

"The effort will help the government to obtain the reliable experts who are needed in the industrialisation sector," he said.

He said through science and technology the student will be able to prosper at high pace due to the growing demand of experts in the lucrative sector.

The students got chance to know how gas is used to produce electricity and how gas is converted to electric power.