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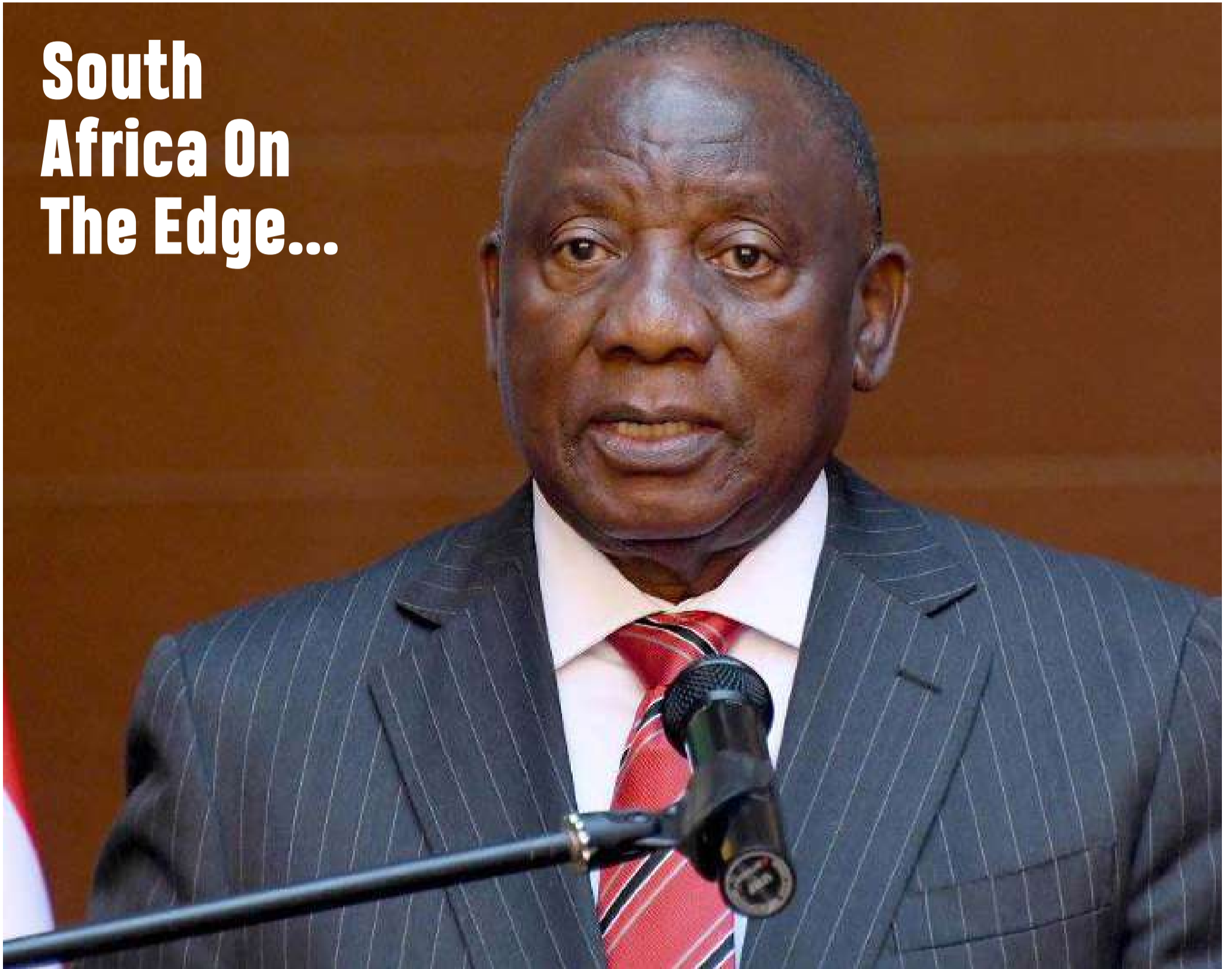
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**South
Africa On
The Edge...**



**Country Assesses The
Long Term Damage That
Phala Phala Scandal
Poses To The Body Politic**



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Week Of High Political Drama As Phala Phala Scandal Engulfs President Ramaphosa

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The Phala Phala scandal is one of the most politically significant controversies in modern South African politics, shaping public perception of President Cyril Ramaphosa and testing the strength of the country's democratic institutions. At its core, the issue revolves around a 2020 burglary at Ramaphosa's Phala Phala game farm in Limpopo, where a large sum of foreign currency was allegedly stolen. What initially appeared to be a straightforward criminal case soon evolved into a national debate about transparency, accountability, and the boundaries between private business interests and public office.

1. Burglary Sparks National Controversy

The entire scandal began with a burglary at Ramaphosa's Phala Phala game farm in 2020. What was initially reported as a criminal theft quickly escalated into a national controversy once the scale of the cash allegedly stored on the property became public.

2. Foreign Cash Storage Questions

One of the earliest concerns involved why large amounts of foreign currency were kept on a private farm. Critics argued that such handling of cash raised questions about financial transparency, regulatory compliance, and proper reporting procedures under South African law.

3. Buffalo Sale Explains Origin

Ramaphosa maintained that the money originated from a legitimate buffalo sale to



South Africa Assesses The Long Term Damage That Scandal Poses To The Body Politic

a foreign buyer. While this explanation was supported by some documentation and statements, critics continued to question whether all financial processes were properly recorded and declared.

4. Conflicting Money Value Claims

Disputes over the amount of money stolen intensified the controversy. Estimates ranged

from hundreds of thousands of dollars to several million, with opposing accounts fueling suspicion and making it difficult for the public to determine the true scale of the incident.

5. Allegations of Cover Up Conduct

Former intelligence official Arthur Fraser accused Ramaphosa of attempting

to conceal the theft. These allegations included claims that suspects were tracked and detained privately, raising concerns about possible misuse of security resources.

6. Parliamentary Impeachment Debate Begins

The matter escalated into Parliament, where opposition parties pushed for impeachment proceedings. The debate

centered on whether Ramaphosa may have violated the Constitution, even if no criminal charges had been formally filed against him.

7. Political Majority Blocks Inquiry

In 2022, the ruling African National Congress used its parliamentary majority to block a full impeachment inquiry. This decision sparked accusations of political shielding and deepened divisions between ruling and opposition parties.

8. Ethics Versus Criminal Liability Debate

A major issue throughout the scandal has been the distinction between legal guilt and ethical responsibility. Even without criminal charges, critics argue that the handling of the situation raises serious questions about presidential conduct and transparency.

9. Constitutional Court Revives Case

In 2026, the Constitutional Court ruled that Parliament had not properly handled the impeachment process. This ruling reopened the possibility of further investigation, reigniting political tension and public debate about accountability mechanisms.

10. Long Term Political Damage Persists

Regardless of legal outcomes, the Phala Phala scandal has left lasting political consequences. It has affected public trust in leadership, influenced internal party dynamics, and become a defining issue in discussions about governance and reform in South Africa.

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This week the Sunday Express is taking a deep dive into the ten things that you missed - with regards to the news that Zimbabwe's farm return decision is a signal of a major economic shift in the country's agricultural policy, and why 67 farms specifically were chosen for return

The 67 farms were previously seized during the land reform programme under former President Robert Mugabe. This batch of farms is understood to be owned by nationals from Denmark, Switzerland, Germany and the Netherlands - and the farms were protected under Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements (BIPPA) - but yet were taken during the fast-track land reform programme that began in 2000. The move has attracted global attention because it touches the heart of Zimbabwe's economic master plan, relations with Western lenders, property rights, and the country's long-running debt problems.

1 International Debt Relief Pressure

The biggest reason behind the decision is Zimbabwe's push to secure international debt relief. Global lenders including the World Bank and African Development Bank have consistently argued that unresolved land disputes remain a major obstacle to financial re-engagement. Zimbabwe owes more than US\$13 billion to international creditors. By returning protected farms, the government hopes to demonstrate respect for international agreements and improve its credibility with lenders and investors.

2 Bilateral Investment Agreements Enforcement

The 67 farms fall under international investment treaties signed between Zimbabwe and European countries. Those agreements guaranteed protection against expropriation without compensation. Ignoring those treaties



Ten Reasons Why Zimbabwe Is Returning 67 Farms To White Farmers After Mugabe-Era Seizures

damaged Zimbabwe's international legal standing for years. Returning the farms is designed to show that Zimbabwe is now willing to honour binding international commitments.

3 Foreign Investor Confidence Restoration

Zimbabwe's leadership understands that investor confidence collapsed after the seizure of more than 4,000 white-owned commercial farms beginning in 2000. Many foreign investors feared their assets could be taken without protection. Returning some farms sends a symbolic message that the government wants to rebuild trust with international business and financial markets.

4 Agricultural Production Recovery Goals

Before land reform, Zimbabwe was regarded as one of Africa's strongest agricultural economies, exporting tobacco, maize and horticultural products across the world. Supporters of the latest move argue that restoring some

large-scale commercial farming operations could help revive productivity, exports and food security. Some returned farms are expected to resume high-value export farming operations.

5 Diplomatic Relations Improvement Efforts

Zimbabwe has spent years attempting to repair strained relations with European countries and Western governments. The farm return decision is likely aimed at improving diplomatic engagement with countries whose citizens lost properties during the Mugabe era. The issue remained a major source of tension in Zimbabwe's foreign relations for over two decades.

6 Compensation Costs Becoming Unsustainable

The government previously committed itself to compensating former white commercial farmers for improvements made on seized land. However, compensation obligations have become financially overwhelming. Returning some

farms may reduce costly legal disputes and future compensation liabilities while creating negotiated settlements with affected owners.

7 Political Transition Image Management

President Emmerson Mnangagwa has repeatedly presented his administration as different from the Mugabe era, particularly on economic management and international engagement. The return of the farms helps reinforce the image of a government pursuing pragmatism rather than ideological confrontation.

8 Food Security Crisis Concerns

Zimbabwe continues to face recurring food insecurity linked to droughts, low agricultural productivity and climate shocks. Some policymakers believe restoring experienced commercial farmers could strengthen agricultural output, improve irrigation systems and stabilise food supply chains. Critics, however, argue that broader structural reforms are still

needed beyond isolated farm returns.

9 International Arbitration Cases Fear

Several former farm owners pursued international arbitration and legal claims against Zimbabwe in foreign courts. The government risks further legal penalties, asset seizures abroad and reputational damage if such disputes continue unresolved. Returning farms may help avoid escalating legal confrontations with international claimants.

10 Economic Isolation Ending Strategy

Zimbabwe's economy has struggled with sanctions, capital shortages, currency instability and weak foreign investment for more than two decades. Analysts view the farm return policy as part of a broader strategy to end international isolation and reintegrate Zimbabwe into global financial systems.

The decision could also trigger disputes involving current occupants who settled on some of the properties after the land reform programme. Managing those competing claims peacefully will become one of the government's biggest challenges.

Why Global Media Is Watching

The story is making international headlines because Zimbabwe's land reform programme became one of the most controversial redistributions of land in post-colonial Africa. Critics blamed the seizures for destroying commercial agriculture, causing capital flight and accelerating economic collapse, while supporters viewed the reforms as correcting colonial land imbalances.

The return of even a small number of farms therefore represents more than a property issue. It signals a possible turning point in Zimbabwe's relationship with global finance, international law and economic

Tapfuma Machakaire

“Hello, the man from Robert Mugabe.” That was Ted Turner’s greeting as he welcomed me into his boardroom for lunch in October 1990, alongside eight other journalists from around the world. Two of us were from Africa.

The other was Solly Phetoe from Bop-TV of Bophuthatswana, a homeland under Apartheid South Africa. The others were Ralitsa Vesselinova Vassileva from Bulgarian TV, Shobi Pereira Torgersen from NRK Norway, Lin Chung Bee and Adeline Tan from SBC Singapore, Iñaki Bizkarra from Euskal Telebista (Basque TV), Yan Radzeitch from TSS Soviet Union, and Enrique Mrak from Monte Carlo TV Uruguay.

Affectionately known as “Uncle Ted” at CNN, he shared his vision with us — the vision that led him to create the International Professional Program. The program brought journalists from around the world together to work at CNN, drawn from regular contributors to CNN World Report.

At the time, I was the ZBC Midlands Correspondent. When my late boss, Anani Maruta, told me about the opportunity to contribute stories to CNN World Report, I adjusted my pieces to give them an international angle in hopes they’d make it on the special program.

Being based far from headquarters, I never expected to be selected for the CNN attachment.

According to Uncle Ted, World Report was designed to improve the flow of international information in all directions. When he launched CNN in 1980, the first 24hour TV news channel he had no intention of broadcasting beyond the U.S.

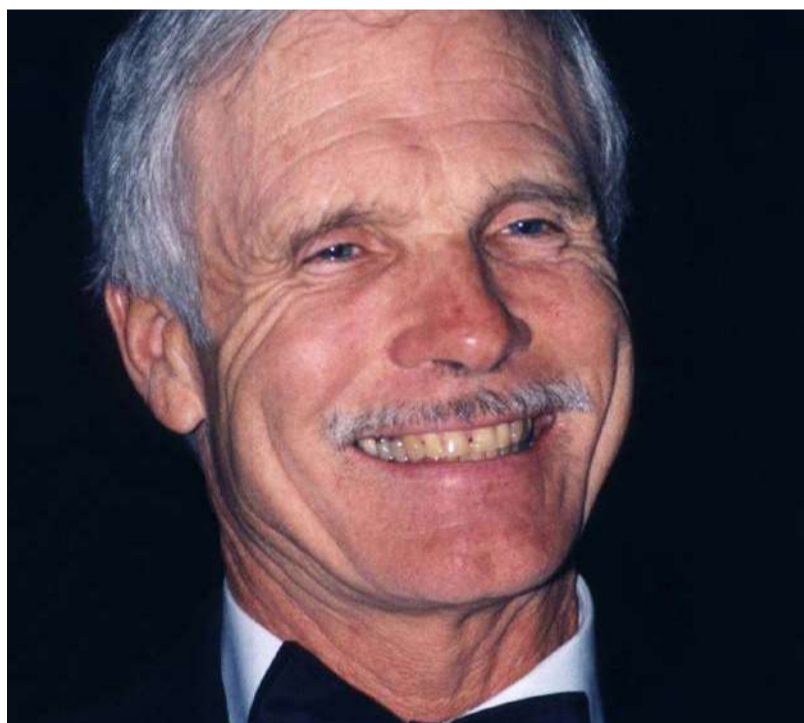
That changed after a 1982 trip to Cuba. “We had a film crew in Cuba and one of them told



Ted Turner meets the writer for lunch in October 1990, alongside other journalists from around the world. During the trip “Uncle Ted” as he was affectionately known at CNN, shared his vision with — the vision that led him to create the International Professional Programme.



Tribute To Ted Turner: A Giant Of World News Broadcasting



me that he had been informed that President Castro wanted to meet me,” Ted recalled.

“I went, despite all the prejudices and preconceived notions most people in the capitalist world had about Cuba. I thought I was entering enemy territory.” But when I got there, I realized Fidel Castro was watching CNN.

He had a satellite dish and said it was important to know

what was happening in the world. I was there for a week and thought: if our greatest enemy isn’t an enemy, then who is?” Turner had shared this same vision earlier, on May 6, 1989, in his address to the CNN World Report Contributors Conference titled “Let’s Call It One World.

We’ve got to Think Internationally. Everybody Loves Their World.” After meeting Castro, he decided to visit

Moscow and build relationships that could become bridges between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

That led to his 1990 visit with then-fiancée Jane Fonda to meet Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at the Kremlin. ZBC signed on to the CNN World Report deal after an earlier visit by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, who had also met Uncle Ted.

My time at CNN transformed my journalism career. More than anything, it gave me exposure I would never have had otherwise — including a tour of the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. There, I stepped into the Space Dome Theater, a 3D theater where we watched footage of real Mars missions.

I also sat in on CNN International’s morning editorial meetings, where bureaus pitched story ideas during the buildup to the Gulf War — Operation Desert Storm — dubbed “The Mother of All

Battles.

”For the duration of the program, the nine of us lived in one house, sharing meals and stories every day. It was a remarkable cultural exchange. I even learned to use chopsticks, thanks to our Chinese colleagues. I will forever be grateful to Uncle Ted. If we had more people like him, the world would be a safer and better place. Rest in peace, Uncle Ted.

Ted Turner the founder of the first 24hour TV news channel CNN which he launched on June 1, 1980 in Atlanta Georgia died this week at his Avalon Plantation in Florida USA.

Today there are hundreds of 24 hour news channels across the globe.

Tapfuma Machakaire is a former reporter with the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC). Contacts +263 0712213371 +263 0774776437 email tapfuma.chihwa@gmail.com

The Resurrection Machine: Part 1: How Alphabet's Q1 2026 Numbers Reveal the Full Stack Empire



Jabulani Simplisio Chibaya, MBA



There is a particular kind of silence that falls over a room when someone walks back in after everyone assumed they were finished. That was the tech industry in late 2022, early 2023, the silence was Alphabet's.

ChatGPT had detonated, Microsoft was riding co-pilot euphoria, and the narrative machine had already written Google's eulogy.

The search giant, disrupted. The innovator, outpaced. The empire, crumbling.

Then came the numbers

On April 29, 2026, Alphabet announced its first quarter results for 2026. The company posted \$109.9 billion in revenue — a 22% year-over-year increase, its 11th consecutive quarter of double-digit growth. Operating income climbed 30% to \$39.7 billion.

Net income surged 81% to \$62.6 billion. Diluted EPS hit \$5.11, up 82% from a year ago. The market cap? \$4.66 trillion.

This is not a comeback story. It never was. This is the story of a company that was always ahead of time, and the world simply caught up.

The Search Engine That Wouldn't Die — It Accelerated

The conventional wisdom of 2023 was that conversational AI would hollow out Google Search the way streaming hollowed out Blockbuster. It was a compelling narrative. It was also wrong. Google Search and other revenues in Q1 2026: \$60.4 billion. That is a 19% year-over-year increase. Not survival. Growth.

The reason is both obvious and instructive once you look carefully. Search was never just a ten-blue-links directory. It was always an intent engine — and generative AI does not diminish intent, it amplifies it.

When AI Overviews surface directly within Search results, queries do not disappear; they multiply. As Sundar Pichai noted, search queries are at an all-time high. The integration of AI experiences into Search has driven usage upward, not cannibalised it.

Google discovered, faster than its critics could admit, that AI is a feature of Search — not its replacement.

This is the first masterclass lesson from Alphabet's numbers: distribution is destiny. Google arrives pre-installed on over three billion Android devices. It is the default gateway to the internet for the overwhelming majority of

humanity.

No AI startup, regardless of how elegant its model or how loyal its developer base, can replicate that. You cannot disrupt a product that is woven into the fabric of daily life. You can only make it better — and that is precisely what Alphabet did.

The Cloud Awakening: \$20 Billion and a \$460 Billion Backlog

If Search is Alphabet's heartbeat, Google Cloud is now its adrenaline. Google Cloud revenues reached \$20.03 billion in Q1 2026 — a 63% year-over-year increase, accelerating sharply from 28% growth in the same quarter a year prior.

The operating margin expanded from 17.8% to 32.9% in twelve months. Operating income tripled from \$2.2 billion to \$6.6 billion.

But the number that stops the room is not the quarterly revenue. It is the backlog: over \$460 billion, nearly doubling quarter on quarter.

A backlog of that magnitude is not a pipeline — it is a runway. It tells you that enterprises are not dipping toes; they are committing, at scale, to Google Cloud as their AI infrastructure of choice.

Every model trained on a TPU, every enterprise AI solution deployed on GCP, every Workspace seat activated adds to a flywheel that is now spinning at a velocity that Amazon and Microsoft are watching very carefully.

Gemini Enterprise paid monthly active users grew 40% quarter on quarter. That is enterprise momentum, not consumer hype. These are CIOs and CTOs signing purchase orders, not developers experimenting on free tiers.

And the first-party Gemini models are now processing more than 16 billion tokens per minute via direct API usage — up 60% from the prior quarter. Sixteen billion tokens per minute. The infrastructure needed to sustain that number is, itself, a moat.

This brings us to the capital expenditure story, which deserves full attention: Alphabet spent \$35.7 billion on capex in Q1 2026 alone, up 107% from the same period last year.

On its own, that number looks alarming. In context, it is a declaration of intent.

This is the infrastructure war — data centers, custom silicon, network fabric — and Alphabet is not conserving ammunition. The company

that invented the modern data center, that gave the world the Transformer paper, that runs its own chip design program through TPUs, is spending like it intends to own the physical substrate of the AI economy for the next decade.

Free cash flow dropped 47% year-over-year to \$10.1 billion precisely because of this capex surge. But the trailing twelve-month free cash flow of \$64.4 billion reminds you that this is a company investing from a position of extraordinary strength, not desperation.

When a company generates \$174 billion in operating cash flow over a trailing year and chooses to reinvest \$110 billion of it in property and equipment, that is not waste — that is compound interest on the future.

The Subscription Empire Nobody Noticed Building

One of the quietest, most consequential shifts in Alphabet's business model has been its transformation into a subscription company of global scale.

Total paid subscriptions across Google One, YouTube, and other products have now reached approximately 350 million. Google subscriptions, platforms, and devices revenue grew 19% year-over-year to \$12.4 billion.

This Is Part One Of: The Resurrection Machine: How Alphabet's Q1 2026 Numbers Reveal the Full Stack Empire. Catch Part Two next week:

Jabulani Simplisio Chibaya: MBA | GRC | FinTech | Data Governance | Open Source Software | TMT | Business Intelligence | Analytics, Data-Ops, PropTech | Distributed Sys | Blockchain | AWS | AI/ML | AML/CFT

Rise Of Mukando: How Cross-Border Traders And Mobile Money Are **Rewriting Our Social Contract**



Paion Tazvy and Irene Bumi



At 4 a.m. on a Thursday in Beitbridge, Mbuya Chiedza, 62, balances a 20 kg sack of rice as she joins the queue at Zimbabwe’s busiest border post. She is not merely a statistic in the informal sector. She is, in many ways, its central banker.

While technocrats in the capital debate the finer points of monetary policy and the ZiG’s elasticity, the real economy has already moved on.

Today, we argue that Zimbabwe’s most resilient economic institutions are no longer found in the boardrooms of Harare but in the mukando savings circles of Mbare and the mobile money wallets of cross-border traders.

A single article cannot capture all the diverse informal sector players. We have chosen Mbuya Chiedza as a lens because cross-border trade sits at the intersection of currency policy, mobile money, gender, and regional commerce – themes central to Zimbabwe’s current economic debate.

However, no single story represents the whole.

Part I: The Numbers We

Cannot Ignore

Let us begin with the facts, not the feelings. The informal sector in Zimbabwe now accounts for a staggering 76.1% of all economic activity. According to the World Bank, out of 204,798 operational establishments in the country, the vast majority operate outside formal regulatory frameworks.

The total value of this shadow economy is estimated at US\$39.8 billion relative to GDP. For the average citizen, this is not a statistic. It is a survival strategy. The Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA) confirms that the informal economy generates approximately US\$14.2 billion annually, with an estimated US\$2.5 billion in cash circulating at any given time.

Yet, here is the uncomfortable truth for policymakers: only 6% of informal players pay taxes. As World Bank consultant economist Abel Gwaindepi noted recently, taxes are paid by a few - mostly in the goods sector - while service providers remain harder to

monitor. This is not necessarily because people are unwilling to contribute. It is because the formal system has, for decades, failed to meet them where they stand.

Part II: The Currency Paradox (ZiG Stability vs. Reality)

There is good news on the monetary front, and we should acknowledge it. Since the introduction of the Zimbabwe Gold (ZiG) currency in April 2024, the country has experienced a degree of exchange rate stability rarely seen in recent history.

Throughout 2025, the inter-bank rate averaged around ZiG 26 to the US dollar, with annual ZiG inflation falling to 15% by the end of 2025, and further down to 4.1% in January 2026.

The parallel market premium - that gap between official and street rates - has narrowed significantly, from over 140% in the pre-ZiG era to roughly 20% today. The multicurrency regime has been extended to

2030, and the Reserve Bank has maintained discipline by refusing to lend to the government.

This is progress. But here is the social science reality check: a 20% premium still means that for every US dollar earned, a cross-border trader like Mbuya Chiedza loses 20% of her value if she converts at the official rate. Consequently, the parallel market - facilitated by WhatsApp groups and mobile money - remains the preferred price discovery mechanism. Until that premium is zero, we will not see mass voluntary formalisation.

Part III: The Mukando Revolution – Formalisation from the Ground Up

This brings us to the most hopeful development of the last several months, one that bridges the gap between economic theory and social practice.

In February 2026, the People’s Own Savings Bank (POSB) launched Huruyadzo/Inkunzi, a mobile-based group savings platform that formalises the traditional mukando

(rotating savings club) system. This is not a Western import. It is a digital wrapper for a practice that has sustained Zimbabwean families for generations.

Why is this award-worthy? Because it solves the trust deficit. For years, mukando groups have lost money to theft and dishonesty - treasurers disappearing with the pool. The Huruyadzo platform, accessible by dialling *223# on any mobile phone (no smartphone or internet required), ensures that no single individual can access group funds without the knowledge and approval of other members.

POSB CEO Garainashe Changunda put it succinctly: “We are formalising Mukando in a secure and transparent manner so that no individual can spend or put the group’s hard-earned savings at risk without the knowledge and approval of other members”. This platform now serves informal traders, civil servants, churches, burial societies, and farmers.

Savings earn interest. There are no monthly fees. It is, in essence, a bridge between the informal reality and the formal financial system - a bridge built on existing social structures rather than imported blueprints.

This is part one of a two part series on: The Informal Anchors: How Cross-Border Traders and Mobile Money are Rewriting Zimbabwe’s Social Contract. Paion Tazvy is an economist, and Irene Bumi is a social scientist. They can be contacted at ptazvy@gmail.com. This article draws on data from the World Bank (2025), National Statistics Agency, Reserve Bank, POSB, ZIMRA, and field research conducted along the Harare-Beitbridge-Johannesburg corridor.

DSE News Network

The countdown is ON... just 2 weeks to go - on a journey of discovering opportunities.

Businessman and Zim Expo founder and CEO Blessed Kapesa told the DSE News Network last night that the South Africa Zimbabwe Business Expo and Property Show: themed **Unlocking Trade & Investment Opportunities in Zimbabwe** - is all set and ready - to go - in Kempton Park.

“As the Zimbabweans in Diaspora Organisation (ZIDO) we are proud to present the South Africa Zimbabwe Business Expo 2026 Series & Zimbabwe Property Show.

“We are building on the success of last year’s edition, these flagship events have become the premier international platform connecting the South African and Zimbabwean diaspora, global investors, government stakeholders, and the private sector with investment-ready opportunities in Zimbabwe.

“Whether you are looking to exhibit, attend as a delegate, build strategic partnerships, or discover new markets, this is the place to be,” said Kapesa, adding that it is now a four week count-down to the two-day event.

The 2026 Expo Series / Property Show is designed to:

Strengthen ties by reconnecting Zimbabweans in the diaspora with economic development initiatives back home.

Promote key sectors by showcasing investment opportunities in mining, agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, energy, real estate, and infrastructure.

Facilitate trade by creating pathways for Zimbabwean products and services to enter South African, UK, European,

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South Africa Zimbabwe Business Expo: Two Weeks To Go

US, and Australian markets. Encourage partnerships by bringing together government leaders and private sector players to drive sustainable economic growth.

Kapesa said that the value

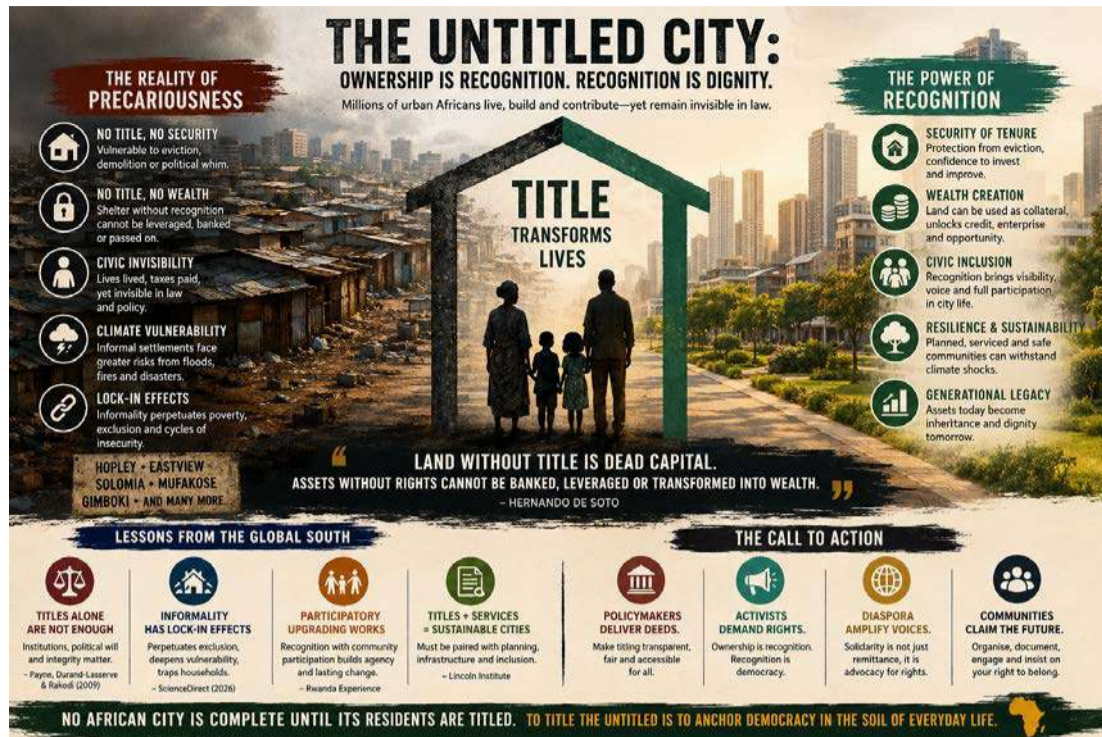
proposition is that diaspora professionals, investors, government officials, and business leaders will have access to real estate developments, land opportunities, housing projects, and property investment opportunities.

This includes gaining direct access to verified investment opportunities and sector insights, and learning about government policies, incentives, and investment frameworks

■ Date: 22-23 May 2026

■ Venue: Radisson Hotel, OR Tambo Airport, South Africa
 ■ Secure your ticket: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/zido/2042804>

Don't miss this opportunity to network, grow, and turn ideas into impact



By Wellington Muzengeza

We inhabit cities that are not yet cities, settlements that masquerade as communities, homes that exist without recognition. Hopley, Eastview, Solomia, Gimboki, Mufakose and many more and these are not simply coordinates on a map, but they are theatres of insecurity and laboratories of exclusion, places where millions of urban Africans live suspended between belonging and banishment.

They are the untitled city: a geography of precarity where the most basic instrument of dignity, the title deed, is withheld, rationed and politicised even.

The absence of title is not a technicality; it is a condition of civic invisibility. Without deeds, residents remain unsafe and unwealthy. Unsafe, because tenure is perpetually precarious, vulnerable to eviction, demolition, or political whim.

Unwealthy, because shelter without recognition cannot be leveraged into collateral, cannot be converted into confidence, cannot be transformed into generational security. Poverty here is not merely about income; it is also about the denial of recognition, the foreclosure of ownership and the refusal of the right to belong.

This is the paradox of African urbanisation: our skylines rise, our populations swell, our informal settlements proliferate, yet millions remain untitled, trapped in

what scholars call “lock-in effects” of informality.

These effects perpetuate exclusion, deepen vulnerability to climate hazards, and reproduce cycles of insecurity. Residents may feel a fragile sense of tenure through social bonds, as Jean-Louis Van Gelder observed, but such “felt security” collapses under the weight of eviction threats or political manipulation.

The untitled city is not simply a humanitarian crisis; it is a democratic crisis. It is the unfinished business of independence, the silent betrayal of urban modernity. To speak of poverty without speaking of title is to miss the essence of urban insecurity.

To speak of development without deeds is to celebrate growth without grounding, and to speak of democracy without ownership is to mistake procedure for substance.

The Politics of Precariousness

Urban poverty in Africa is too often narrated in narrow economic terms, wages, unemployment, or the informal hustle, yet the deeper wound is statelessness within

the state. A family in Hopley may build a house, raise children, and contribute to the city’s economy, yet remain invisible in law.

Their sweat produces shelter, but without recognition, it produces no wealth. Their labour builds community, but without title, it builds no legacy.

This invisibility is not incidental; it is deliberate. It is political risk engineered into urban governance. Title deeds are withheld not because the bureaucracy is slow, but because power is strategic.

They are rationed as instruments of control, distributed selectively to reward loyalty or punish dissent. In this calculus, insecurity is not a failure of administration; it is the very architecture of authority.

The untitled city is therefore not simply a symptom of poverty; it is a strategy of power, a system designed to keep citizens perpetually precarious, perpetually denied the dignity of ownership.

Comparative Lessons

Research across the Global South reveals the paradoxes of informality with striking clarity. Payne, Durand-Lasserre, and Rakodi (2009) cautioned against the “limits of land titling,” reminding us that deeds alone cannot guarantee security when institutions are corrupt, slow, or captured.

More recent reviews, such as ScienceDirect’s 2026 study of informal settlement “lock-in” effects, show how the absence of tenure perpetuates exclusion, deepens vulnerability to climate hazards, and traps households in cycles of marginality.

In Ethiopia, settlers often resort to “bogus contracts”, fragile documents that mimic legality but collapse under scrutiny, exposing the precarious improvisations through which the poor attempt to claim space in the city.

Latin America offers further lessons. Studies from Mexico City and Guadalajara demonstrate that titling can improve recognition, but does not automatically prevent displacement; location, political will, and institutional integrity matter.

The Lincoln Institute’s work

on regularisation underscores that deeds must be paired with service provision and planning. At the same time, Rwanda’s community-driven upgrading illustrates how recognition, embedded in participatory frameworks, can transform informal land into civic agency.

Even amid these complexities, the evidence converges on one truth: land without title is dead capital. Hernando de Soto’s thesis remains relevant; assets without rights cannot be banked, leveraged, or transformed into wealth.

Zimbabwe’s rural poor sit on land they cannot use; its urban poor live in houses they cannot own. Both are trapped in cycles of invisibility, denied the instruments of dignity and the pathways to generational security.

Sociocultural Paradoxes

Jean-Louis Van Gelder (2013) reminds us of a paradox at the heart of informality: residents of untitled settlements often feel secure despite lacking legal documentation.

In places like Mufakose or Solomia, this paradox is visible in the resilience of communities that stitch together belonging through social bonds, mutual trust, and everyday practices of solidarity, yet such “felt security” is fragile.

This is part one of *Precarious Urban Lives: The Struggle for Title in Africa’s Urban Future*

Read the full article on www.dseconnect.com

Wellington Muzengeza is a Political Risk Analyst and Urban Strategist offering incisive insight on urban planning, infrastructure, leadership succession, and governance reform across Africa’s evolving post-liberation urban landscapes. He Writes To The DSE News Network And The Sunday Express In His Personal Capacity.

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Ten Outrageous Reasons How AI Has Ruined The Lives Of Africans

DSE News Network

Artificial intelligence has arrived in Africa with speed, style, and a little bit of chaos. From Lagos to Nairobi, from Accra to Johannesburg, AI is now helping people write speeches, edit photos, answer homework, and even generate romantic messages. But while technology has brought convenience, it has also created some funny habits across the continent. Here are ten serious reasons why everyday African minds are being “corrupted” by artificial intelligence.

Phones Now Think Too Much

Many Africans no longer trust their own brains because their phones now answer every question instantly. Instead of arguing in the market about football scores or politics, people now shout, “Let me ask AI!” Even grandmothers are beginning to suspect that smartphones know more proverbs than village elders.

Homework Done, But Finished Before Thinking

Students once struggled proudly through difficult assignments. Today, AI writes essays so quickly that some students submit homework they do not even understand. One boy reportedly thanked Shakespeare for helping him pass chemistry because AI mixed everything together beautifully.

Romantic Messages Became Suspicious

Love has changed dramatically. Men who once wrote “Good morning, my flower” now send messages sound-

ing like philosophers from ancient kingdoms. Women are beginning to wonder why a man who cannot spell “restaurant” suddenly writes poetry about moonlight and destiny.

Village Gossip Travels Extremely Faster

African gossip has always been powerful, but AI has upgraded it. Fake celebrity news, edited videos, and imaginary stories now spread faster than a motorcycle taxi during rush hour. Before breakfast, an entire neighborhood can believe that a local goat opened a cryptocurrency business.

Everybody Suddenly Became Motivational

AI has created millions of motivational speakers overnight. Every WhatsApp status now contains deep wisdom about success, discipline, and billion-dollar thinking. Even someone borrowing bus fare

will post: “Winners never sleep while opportunity is awake.”

Elders Fear Talking About Televisions Daily

Older generations are deeply confused by artificial intelligence. Some believe smart speakers are possessed spirits living inside electronics. Others suspect televisions are secretly listening to family meetings and reporting directly to foreign governments somewhere overseas.

Small Businesses Became Hollywood Studios

Thanks to AI image tools and editing apps, tiny businesses now advertise like global corporations. A roadside barber can suddenly appear online beside luxury cars, private jets, and waterfalls in Dubai. Customers arrive expecting miracles and leave with ordinary haircuts.

Political Arguments Grow More Dangerous

Politics in Africa was already emotional before AI arrived. Now fake speeches, invented interviews, and manipulated videos make arguments even hotter. Family gatherings become battlefields because nobody knows whether the president truly said something or whether AI created it during lunchtime.

Lazy Thinking Became Fashionable Everywhere

People increasingly avoid deep thinking because AI provides instant answers. Instead of debating ideas creatively, many simply copy whatever the machine says. Some young people now believe wisdom comes from typing prompts rather than learning through life experience and community conversations.

Traditional Wisdom Faces Digital Competition

For centuries, Africans relied on storytellers, elders, and proverbs to teach wisdom. Today, AI competes directly with traditional knowledge. Children who once listened carefully to grandparents now interrupt with, “That’s interesting, but AI says something different.” Artificial intelligence is changing life across Africa in exciting and hilarious ways. While these examples are playful exaggerations, they reveal how quickly technology influences culture, relationships, education, and communication. The challenge for the continent is not avoiding AI, but learning how to use it wisely without losing the humor, humanity, and traditions that make African societies unique.

Stay Connected On The DSE News Network

10 FUN REASONS WHY THE MINDS OF AFRICANS HAVE BEEN CORRUPTED BY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

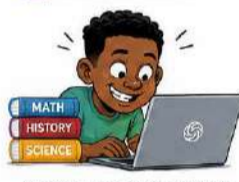
— • IN EVERYDAY LIFE ON THE CONTINENT • —

1 PHONES NOW THINK TOO MUCH



From football scores to life advice, Africans now ask AI first. Even grandmothers trust it!

2 HOMEWORK FINISHED BEFORE THINKING



AI writes essays so fast, students submit work they don't even understand. Shakespeare helps with chemistry now!

3 ROMANTIC MESSAGES BECAME SUSPICIOUS



Suddenly, everyone's boyfriend became a poet. AI is now writing love letters!

4 VILLAGE GOSSIP TRAVELS EXTREMELY FASTER



Fake news, edited videos and imaginary stories spread faster than okada in rush hour!

5 EVERYBODY SUDDENLY BECAME MOTIVATIONAL



Every WhatsApp status is now deep wisdom. Even bus fare borrowers post like billionaires!

6 ELDERS FEAR TALKING TELEVISIONS DAILY



Smart speakers are “spirits” and TVs are “snitches.” Technology is now witchcraft to some!

7 SMALL BUSINESSES BECAME HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS



AI tools make roadside shops look like luxury brands. Customers expect Dubai experience!

8 POLITICAL ARGUMENTS GREW MORE DANGEROUS



Fake speeches and videos fuel arguments. Nobody knows what's real anymore!

9 LAZY THINKING BECAME FASHIONABLE EVERYWHERE



Instant answers have made deep thinking rare. Prompts replaced wisdom!

10 TRADITIONAL WISDOM FACES DIGITAL COMPETITION



Grandpa's stories now compete with Google and AI. Times don change!



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One Continent, Endless Talent, Billions Of Views: Why Tik Tok Has Become The Loudest Corner On The African Internet

DSE News Network

African TikTok has become one of the loudest, funniest, and fastest-growing corners of the internet. Across Lagos, Johannesburg, Nairobi, Accra, and Cairo, creators are dancing, joking, educating, and entertaining millions every day. Stars like Khaby Lame, Wian van den Berg, Elsa Majimbo, Soft Made It, Peller, Blaqboi, Mihlali Ndamase, Jackie Appiah, Asantewaa, and Yasmin Said are proving that Africa's creativity has no limits.

Here are ten fun reasons why African TikTok stars are taking over the world.

Cheap Data Created Superstars Fast

The arrival of cheaper smartphones and internet bundles changed everything. Suddenly, millions of young Africans could upload videos instantly. One funny dance recorded beside a roadside food stall can now reach audiences in London, New York, and Dubai before lunchtime.

Comedy Defeats Everyday African Stress

African life comes with traffic, electricity cuts, loud neighbors, and endless family drama. TikTok creators turned these struggles into comedy gold. Audiences laugh because they recognize themselves in every joke about strict mothers, broke weekends, and impossible landlords.

Dance Challenges Became Continental Olympics

10 REASONS INFLUENCING THE RISE OF AFRICAN TIKTOK STARS
From Lagos to Johannesburg, Nairobi to Accra, African creativity is lighting up TikTok and the world is watching!

- CHEAP DATA CREATED SUPERSTARS FAST**
Cheap smartphones and data bundles put the world in African pockets. One video can go viral before lunch!
- COMEDY DEFEATS EVERYDAY AFRICAN STRESS**
Traffic, power cuts, strict parents and broke weekends – African creators turn pain into punchlines!
- DANCE CHALLENGES BECAME CONTINENTAL OLYMPICS**
Amapiano, Afrobeats, Azonto – Africans dance, the world copies and we all win!
- MOTHERS ACCIDENTALLY BECAME INTERNET CELEBRITIES**
From funny reactions to savage advice, African parents stole the spotlight!
- ENGLISH MIXED BEAUTIFULLY WITH SLANG**
Pidgin, Swahili, Zulu, Yoruba, Arabic and more – our slang makes the jokes sweeter!
- SMALL ROOMS BECAME MOVIE STUDIOS**
No studio? No problem! Creativity, a ring light and a cracked phone can still break the internet.
- AFRICAN FASHION BECAME GLOBALLY TRENDY**
Ankara, streetwear, braids and bold style – African fashion now runs the timeline!
- FOOTBALL ARGUMENTS GENERATE ENDLESS CONTENT**
From match reactions to football banter, TikTok is the new commentary box!
- FAKE LUXURY LIFESTYLES ENTERTAINED MILLIONS**
Rented cars, borrowed drip, expensive hotels – we know it's street, but we still enjoy!
- AFRICAN CREATIVITY FINALLY FOUND GLOBAL AUDIENCES**
One skit, dance or speech can take an unknown teen from the village to international fame!

TOP 10 AFRICAN TIKTOKERS

- 1 KHABY LAME** (Senegal / Italy) 162M+ Followers | Comedy | Silent Reactions
- 2 WIAN VAN DEN BERG** (South Africa) 52M+ Followers | Magic | Illusions | Comedy
- 3 ELSA MAJIMBO** (Kenya) 9.8M+ Followers | Comedy | Relatable Humor
- 4 SOFT MADE IT** (Nigeria) 8.2M+ Followers | Comedy | Lifestyle
- 5 PELLER** (Nigeria) 7.6M+ Followers | Comedy | Live Streams
- 6 BLAQBOI** (Nigeria) 6.3M+ Followers | Comedy | Skits
- 7 MIHLALI NDAMASE** (South Africa) 5.7M+ Followers | Beauty | Lifestyle | Fashion
- 8 JACKIE APPIAH** (Ghana) 4.8M+ Followers | Acting | Lifestyle | Entertainment
- 9 ASANTEWAA** (Ghana) 4.2M+ Followers | Dance | Challenges | Creativity
- 10 YASMIN SAID** (Kenya) 3.9M+ Followers | Lifestyle | Storytelling | Comedy

AFRICA CREATES. LAUGHS. DANCES. LEADS!
ONE CONTINENT. ENDLESS TALENT. BILLIONS OF VIEWS. AFRICA IS THE CONTENT!

Africans love music and movement, so TikTok dance challenges exploded quickly. From Amapiano moves in South Africa to Afrobeats routines in Nigeria, creators compete like athletes. Some dances spread so fast that weddings now look like giant TikTok rehearsals.

Mothers Accidentally Became Internet Celebrities

Many African parents originally hated TikTok. Then creators secretly filmed their funny reactions, village accents, and dramatic advice. Suddenly, strict mothers and stubborn uncles became online legends with millions

of views and unexpected fan clubs.

English Mixed Beautifully With Slang

African TikTok thrives because creators mix English with pidgin, Swahili, Zulu, Yoruba, Arabic, and street slang. This creates humor outsiders may not fully understand but still enjoy. The accents, expressions, and local jokes feel authentic and fresh.

Small Rooms Became Movie Studios

Most African TikTok stars started with almost nothing — tiny bedrooms, cracked phones, and bad lighting. But

creativity defeated expensive equipment. Today, some creators film blockbuster-level comedy sketches beside water tanks, kiosks, and unfinished buildings.

African Fashion Became Globally Trendy

TikTok gave African designers and stylists global exposure. Ankara outfits, colorful streetwear, braided hairstyles, and luxury kaftans now dominate timelines worldwide. Young creators transformed ordinary sidewalks into international fashion runways using confidence and smartphone cameras.

Football Arguments Generate

Endless Content

Africans love football passionately, and TikTok magnified every argument. Fans insult rival teams, celebrate dramatic goals, and create hilarious reaction videos after matches. Entire friendships have nearly collapsed because of TikTok debates involving Arsenal, Chelsea, Barcelona, and Manchester United.

Fake Luxury Lifestyles Entertained Millions

Some TikTok stars rent fancy cars, borrow designer clothes, and film beside expensive hotels to appear rich online. Fans often know it is exaggerated, but they enjoy the entertainment anyway. African TikTok sometimes feels like Hollywood mixed with pure neighborhood confidence.

African Creativity Finally Found Global Audiences

For years, African talent struggled to reach international audiences without big media companies. TikTok changed that completely. Now one funny skit, dance move, or motivational speech can transform an unknown teenager into a continental superstar overnight.

African TikTok continues to grow because it combines humor, resilience, music, storytelling, and culture in ways the world finds irresistible. Behind every viral video is the unique energy of a continent turning everyday life into entertainment.

Stay Connected On The DSE News Network

Creative Industry Leader Richard Philani Dube Gets Nomination At SA-Zim Expo 2026

DSE News Network

Entrepreneur and creative industry leader Richard Philani Dube has been nominated for the prestigious Professional Excellence Award at the upcoming SA-Zimbabwe Business Expo Awards 2026, a recognition that celebrates outstanding achievement, innovation, and leadership within the Southern African business community.



The nomination marks yet another milestone in Richard Dube's growing influence across multiple industries spanning entertainment, property development, construction, hospitality, interior design, and premium lifestyle brands.

Known for his entrepreneurial vision and commitment to excellence, Dube has built a reputation as one of the most dynamic business figures with an expanding footprint across South Africa and the region.

The SA-Zimbabwe Business Expo Awards have become one of the most anticipated platforms recognizing individuals and organizations strengthening economic, cultural, and professional ties between many countries on the continent. Being nominated among the region's top achievers reflects Dube's continued dedication to innovation, business growth, and creative leadership. Richard Dube currently

serves in several influential leadership positions. He is the Entertainment Director at Hard Rock Cafe, where he contributes to the growth of entertainment and lifestyle experiences.

He is also the Creative Director at Gumption Inc Entertainment, a company recognized for its creative productions and event experiences.

Beyond entertainment, Dube has established himself as a respected entrepreneur in the property and construction sectors.

He is Director and Principal at Gumption Property Group and Director at Gumption Steel Construction, companies contributing to infrastructure and development projects. His creative influence also extends into luxury interior spaces through his role as Creative Director and Designer at Gumption Inter-



riors. Adding to his diverse business portfolio, Dube is also the Founder and Director of iDube Spirits & Wines Merchants, a brand reflecting his passion for premium lifestyle experiences and entrepreneurship.

Supporters, colleagues, and members of the public are now being encouraged to rally behind Richard Dube by voting for him in the Professional Excellence Award category. The nomination is not only a personal achievement but also a proud moment for Zimbabwean entrepreneurship and regional business excellence. Supporters can cast their

votes using the official voting platform below:

■ Vote for Richard Philani Dube: <https://zimbusinessexpo.com/vote?code=uZxtjfUp-Jah6AZytHVuNCQ>

The awards ceremony will take place during the SA-Zimbabwe Business Expo Awards Dinner Gala and Business Expo on:

- 23 May 2026
- Radisson Hotel OR Tambo Airport

The event is expected to bring together business leaders, entrepreneurs, investors, creatives, and professionals

from across Southern Africa for an evening of networking, celebration, and recognition of excellence.

Tickets for the Awards Dinner Gala and Business Expo are available online:

■ Book Event Tickets: <https://zimbusinessexpo.com/buy-tickets/>

As momentum builds ahead of the awards ceremony, supporters are encouraged to vote, attend the event, and share the nomination widely in support of Richard Philani Dube's remarkable journey and contribution to regional business excellence.

By Faustine Ngila

It is a closely watched case testing whether social media platforms can be legally classified as public nuisances, potentially forcing sweeping product overhauls, imposing up to \$3.7 billion in penalties and setting a precedent for similar lawsuits across the United States that seek to hold tech companies accountable for alleged harm to children

Meta Platforms returned to court in New Mexico on Monday in a high-stakes case that will test whether its social media platforms can be legally classified as a public nuisance, a designation that could force sweeping changes to its products and expose the company to billions of dollars in penalties.

The proceedings in Santa Fe mark the second phase of a trial brought by New Mexico Attorney General Raúl Torrez, who accuses the company of failing to protect children from sexual predators and misleading users about harms linked to its platforms, including Facebook and Instagram.

A jury in March found that Meta had willfully violated the state's unfair practices law and ordered the company to pay \$375 million in damages tied to the number of offenses. The current phase, a bench trial without a jury expected to run about three weeks, will determine whether the company's conduct amounts to a public nuisance under state law.

Such a finding could trigger sweeping remedies. Meta disclosed in a recent quarterly filing that the state is seeking "approximately \$3.7 billion in abatement costs as well as injunctive relief, which includes requests for extensive changes to the manner in which we provide our services in New Mexico."

The case is one of several in the United States this year targeting social media companies over alleged harms to children, with legal experts

drawing parallels to litigation that curbed the influence of tobacco companies decades ago.

"That was not an instant change, but if one compares the power held by big tobacco companies today, and compares it to the 1980s or even 90s, I mean there's no comparison," said Nikolas Guggenberger, an assistant professor at the University of Houston Law Center. "They really just don't have that position anymore."

In New Mexico, Torrez is pushing for structural changes to Meta's products, including stricter age verification, modifications to recommendation algorithms and other measures that could fundamentally alter how the company operates in the state. He has also called for the appointment of an independent monitor, arguing that "we've known now that Meta can't be trusted to regulate itself, to independently comply and

correct its behavior." Meta has pushed back, saying the proposals are unrealistic. A company spokesperson said the state's demands are "technically impractical, impossible for any company to meet and disregard the realities of the internet."

"While it is not in Meta's interests to do so, if a workable solution to Attorney General Torrez's demands is not reached, we may have no choice but to remove access to its platforms for users in New Mexico entirely," the spokesperson said.

The New Mexico case follows a separate trial in Los Angeles in March in which Meta and Alphabet's YouTube were found liable in a personal injury lawsuit involving a plaintiff who said she became addicted to social media as a child. The companies were ordered to pay \$6 million in damages, with Meta responsible for 70%.

Legal analysts say the New

Mexico proceedings could have wider implications. The case is seen as a potential test of whether public nuisance law, traditionally applied to physical harms such as pollution or unsafe products, can be extended to digital platforms.

"This case will not only determine whether or not there are these big remedies for the state of New Mexico, but it'll be kind of like the first test case for a theory that all these school districts are relying on in federal court that have been filed around the nation, and they're all consolidated into one," said Adam Zimmerman, a professor at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law. A related federal case involving Meta, YouTube, TikTok and Snap is due to begin on June 15 in California, where hundreds of school districts have brought similar claims alleging that social media companies designed addictive

products that harm young users. New Mexico officials point to past public nuisance cases to support their approach. The state reached a \$500 million settlement with Walgreens in 2022 over its role in the opioid crisis, an outcome that officials say helped establish a legal framework for pursuing broader societal harms. "That created or laid the groundwork for using public nuisance in this kind of space," said James Grayson, the state's deputy attorney general. "What we're really trying to do is show statewide harm and the real impact to New Mexicans with this cause of action."

Read the full report on www.dseconnect.com

Faustine Ngila is the AI Editor at Impact Newswire, based in Nairobi, Kenya.

This article is published by ImpactNewsWire

IS META A PUBLIC NUISANCE COMPANY? THE COURT WILL DECIDE
A landmark case in New Mexico could force sweeping changes to social media — and set a precedent for the rest of the U.S.

THE CASE AT A GLANCE

- Who:** New Mexico Attorney General Raúl Torrez vs. Meta Platforms
- What:** Meta is accused of failing to protect children, enabling sexual predators, and misleading the public about harms linked to Facebook, Instagram and its platforms.
- Why it matters:** If Meta is found to be a public nuisance, the court could order major product overhauls and impose billions in penalties.

WHERE THE CASE STANDS

- MARCH 2025 – PHASE 1 (JURY TRIAL)**
A jury found Meta willfully violated New Mexico's unfair practices law and ordered the company to pay **\$375 MILLION** in damages.
- MAY 2025 – PHASE 2 (BENCH TRIAL)**
A judge will now decide whether Meta's conduct amounts to a **PUBLIC NUISANCE** under state law.
- Expected to run about **3 WEEKS** in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

WHAT NEW MEXICO IS SEEKING

- Stricter age verification for young users
- Changes to recommendation algorithms
- Other structural changes to protect children
- Appointment of an independent monitor to oversee compliance

“We've known now that Meta can't be trusted to regulate itself, to independently comply and correct its behavior.”
— Raúl Torrez, New Mexico Attorney General

PART OF A GROWING LEGAL WAVE

- LOS ANGELES TRIAL (MARCH 2025)**
Meta and YouTube found liable in a personal injury case brought by a woman who said she became addicted to social media as a child. Ordered to pay **\$6 MILLION** (Meta responsible for 70%).
- FEDERAL CASE (JUNE 15, 2025)**
Hundreds of school districts have sued Meta, YouTube, TikTok and Snap, alleging their platforms are designed to be addictive and harmful to kids.

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES

- BILLIONS IN PENALTIES**
New Mexico is seeking approximately **\$3.7 BILLION** in abatement costs.
- SWEEPING CHANGES**
Court-ordered changes could reshape how Meta's platforms operate, especially for minors.
- A NATIONAL PRECEDENT**
Could pave the way for similar lawsuits across the U.S. targeting tech companies.

META PUSHES BACK

"The state's demands are technically impractical, impossible for any company to meet and disregard the realities of the internet. If a workable solution is not reached, we may have no choice but to remove access to our platforms for users in New Mexico entirely."
— Meta Spokesperson

“This case will not only determine whether or not there are these big remedies for the state of New Mexico, but it'll be kind of like the first test case for a theory that all these school districts are relying on in federal court that have been filed around the nation.”
— Adam Zimmerman, Professor, USC Gould School of Law

THE BIG LEGAL QUESTION
Do social media platforms get a **free pass** under Section 230, or can their platform design be considered a **defective product** that causes harm?

SECTION 230
Protects platforms from liability over user-generated content.

VS.

DEFECTIVE PRODUCT?
Plaintiffs argue platform design creates addictive, dangerous environments for children.

From opioids to pollution, public nuisance law has been used to hold industries accountable for widespread harm. Now, the question is: **Will it reshape the future of social media?**

Is Meta A Public Nuisance Company? Wait Until The Court Decides

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Dignity, Prestige, And Innovation: Your Funeral In The Sky

DSE News Network

Funerals services provider Zororo Phumulani, a subsidiary of Doves Zimbabwe - announced this week that the company has added a helicopter hearse - to transport the deceased to their final resting place.

Until recently helicopter hearse services were almost for the exclusive use of national heroes of Zimbabwe who would often be ferried by military helicopters and aircraft - but the service of flying bodies on helicopter for civilians - was unheard of - until this week.

Zororo Phumulani marketing manager Tendai Mangoti posted pictures of himself standing next to the new hearse this week, and said that the service was part of the Prestige Mbinga package, which also included luxury vehicles, a limousine and the Pilatto executive model hearses.

“Look Zororo Phumulani is a big brand and we are part of Doves International, which is an even bigger brand. So we have to be on top of the game, and there is no one else who has got the capacity to fly the deceased to their final resting place.

“We all know that this service has not been available to members of the public. But with the Prestige Mbinga VVIP funeral package, you can add a helicopter flight as part of your transport wish. “And with that we will fly you to your final resting place.

You could say that we have introduced the first helicopter hearse service for civilians,” said Mangoti.

Zororo Phumulani said that the premium aerial funeral procession service is aimed at families seeking an extraordinary and dignified final farewell for their loved ones.

According to Zororo Phumulani, the initiative forms part of a broader effort to modernise funeral services while offering clients highly personalised send-offs that reflect status, legacy, and celebration of life.

“This is about honouring lives in a truly exceptional way,” a company spokesperson said during the launch event. “We are introducing a service that combines dignity, prestige, and innovation for families who want something beyond the traditional funeral procession.”

The helicopter hearse service will allow coffins to be transported by air to burial sites, memorial venues, or ceremonial locations, creating a dramatic and memorable tribute for the deceased. The company said the offering will be available under select high-end funeral policy packages and customised arrangements.

Industry observers on the DSE News Network said that the launch positions Zororo Phumulani at the forefront of funeral innovation on the continent, potentially setting a new benchmark in premi-



Flying You To Heaven...

um memorial services. The move has already sparked widespread public interest and debate on social media, with many describing the concept as both bold and symbolic of evolving funeral traditions among affluent families.

Founded as one of the leading funeral assurance and burial service providers, Zororo Phumulani has built its reputation on premium funeral solutions, executive burial packages, and large-scale memorial event management.

With the introduction of helicopter hearses, the company now appears poised to elevate the meaning of a “final journey” — quite literally taking prestigious funerals to the skies.

Stay Connected On The DSE News Service

Aldrine Nyamhuno

On the morning of May 6, 2026, the grounds of Reamogetswe Khaya Disability and Outreach were filled with hope, compassion, and the spirit of togetherness. Families, community leaders, healthcare workers, and volunteers gathered for the Cerebral Palsy Awareness Walk — not only to raise awareness, but to remind every person living with a disability that they are seen, valued, and supported.

Among the distinguished guests was Pan Qingjiang, who joined Morakane Mospuyoe and members of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature in standing alongside the community.

Their presence reflected a powerful message: kindness and unity can cross borders, cultures, and languages. In one of the day's most touching moments, the Chinese Consulate General in Johannesburg donated 25 wheelchairs to elderly and disabled residents. For many recipients, the wheelchairs represented more than mobility — they represented dignity, independence, and renewed hope for daily life. Smiles spread across faces as families watched their loved ones receive support that could truly change their future.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Pan highlighted the deep connection between the South African philosophy of Ubuntu — “I am because you are” — and the Chinese belief in the “brotherhood of man.”

Though these values come from different cultures, both teach the same important lesson: humanity grows stronger when people care for one another.

He described acts of generosity as “seeds of kindness” that, once planted, continue to grow and positively impact entire communities.

His words reminded everyone present that even small acts of compassion can inspire hope



Seeds of Kindness: Chinese Consulate General in Johannesburg Donates Wheelchairs To Gauteng Community



and bring lasting change. The event also demonstrated what is possible when governments, healthcare providers, and community organizations work together with a shared purpose.

It showed that helping the

vulnerable is not the responsibility of one person or one institution alone — it is a shared duty for all of society. Most importantly, the day carried a message that every reader can take to heart: you do not need wealth or power to make a difference.

A kind word, helping hand, donation, or moment of support can completely change someone's life. Communities become stronger when people choose empathy over indifference and unity over division.

As the ceremony came to an end, one message remained clear in the hearts of everyone present: no one should ever feel alone. Through compassion, partnership, and shared humanity, a better and more inclusive future can be built for all.

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They Fought For Two Days...

DSE News Network

10 Interesting Things You Missed From The Fight Between Aurélien Tchouaméni And Federico Valverde

Drama erupted at Real Madrid this week after midfield stars Aurélien Tchouaméni and Federico Valverde became involved in a shocking training-ground altercation that forced club president Florentino Perez to step in.

While the headlines focused on the reported fight and the huge fines handed out, several important details were overlooked as tensions exploded behind the scenes ahead of El Clasico against FC Barcelona.

Here are 10 interesting things many fans may have missed from the incident, as brought to you by the DSE News Network Football News Committee.



- **Real Madrid fines both players €500 000 each**
- **The Actual Injury Could Have Been Caused By A Table**
- **No punches were thrown, but the club is shocked**

1. Fight Happened Across Two Days

The dispute was not a one-off argument. Reports suggest tensions first surfaced during Wednesday's training session before flaring up again on Thursday, when emotions boiled over completely.

2. Valverde Was Hospitalised Afterwards

One of the biggest revelations was that Valverde later required hospital treatment. The Uruguayan midfielder was diagnosed with cranio-encephalic trauma after the confrontation, raising concerns inside the club.

3. Club Held Emergency Crisis Meeting

The seriousness of the incident forced Real Madrid

executives into action immediately. A crisis meeting was reportedly organised at the training ground and led personally by club president Florentino Pérez.

4. Both Players Escaped Suspensions

Despite the scale of the controversy, neither player was suspended. Instead, the club decided to impose financial punishments, meaning Tchouaméni could still feature in Sunday's decisive Clasico showdown.

5. Huge Financial Penalties Issued

Real Madrid handed both players fines worth €500,000 each. The punishment showed how seriously the club viewed the incident while also attempting to avoid further disruption to the

squad during the title race.

6. Tchouaméni Took Full Responsibility

In a lengthy social media statement, Tchouaméni admitted the situation was "unacceptable" and apologised to fans, team-mates, staff and club officials.

He also acknowledged that players at Madrid are expected to set an example for young supporters worldwide.

7. Valverde Denied Physical Violence

Although reports described a physical altercation, Valverde insisted no punches were thrown. According to his version of events, the disagreement became heated but never turned into an actual fistfight.

8. A Table May Have Caused Injury

Valverde claimed the injury that sent him to hospital happened accidentally when he struck a table during the argument. He strongly denied being attacked by Tchouaméni.

9. Pressure Of Trophyless Season Exploded

Both players hinted that frustration from Madrid's disappointing campaign contributed to the tension. With the club under intense scrutiny after a difficult season, emotions inside the dressing room reportedly became harder to control.

10. El Clasico Raised The Stakes

The timing of the incident could hardly have been worse. Madrid head into El Clasico knowing anything less than victory against Barcelona could hand their rivals the La Liga title. That pressure appears to have increased tensions within the squad at the worst possible moment.

While both players have apologised and the club has officially closed its internal investigation, the incident has exposed the frustration growing inside the Real Madrid camp during a turbulent season.

All eyes will now turn to today's El Clasico to see how the squad responds under pressure.

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Arsenal and Paris St-Germain have confirmed their places in the 2026 Champions League final and the countdown to the final is on.

The showpiece between the English Premier League leaders and Champions League holders will take place on Saturday, 30 May at Budapest's Puskas Arena, kicking off at 17:00 BST.

Uefa said the decision to switch from the 20:00 kick-off seen in previous years is to "enhance the matchday experience and benefit fans, teams and host cities". It's Arsenal's first Champions League final in 20 years, while current holders PSG will attempt to defend their 2025 title.

Things To Watch In the Arsenal-PSG Final, according to DSE Football News

Kvaratskhelia's Unstoppable Dribbling

Khvicha Kvaratskhelia has become the most thrilling player in world football, combining flair with ruthless end product. His devastating displays against Bayern Munich exposed defenders repeatedly, particularly Konrad Laimer and Dayot Upamecano. Arsenal's biggest defensive challenge will be stopping his explosive runs down the left flank before they develop into dangerous openings.

Timber Fitness Race Continues

Jurriën Timber could be Arsenal's best defensive weapon against PSG's wide threats, but doubts remain over his fitness for Budapest. If unavailable, Mikel Arteta faces a huge dilemma at right-back. Whoever starts must cope with Kvaratskhelia's trickery while also supporting attacks against PSG's aggressive pressing game.

Saliba's Defensive Concentration



Road To Budapest: Ten Things To Watch Out For At The Puskas Arena

William Saliba has been central to Arsenal's remarkable Champions League defensive record, with only six goals conceded all campaign. Against PSG's fluid frontline, however, he will need perfect concentration. One lapse against the pace of Kvaratskhelia or the movement of Ousmane Dembele could prove fatal in such a finely balanced final.

Safonov Under Aerial Pressure

Matvey Safonov impressed with key saves against Bayern Munich, but his handling from crosses appeared uncertain. Arsenal are among

Europe's most dangerous sides from set pieces and will surely target the PSG goalkeeper with corners and high deliveries. Any hesitation inside the six-yard box could give the Gunners a decisive advantage.

Rice Controlling Midfield Battle

Declan Rice may hold the key to Arsenal controlling possession and resisting PSG's high press. His athleticism and passing range make him ideally suited to handling intense midfield pressure. Whether partnered with Martín Zubimendi or Myles Lewis-Skelly, Rice must dominate transitions if Arsenal are to dictate

the rhythm of the final.

Gyokeres Against PSG Centre-Backs

Viktor Gyökeres offers Arsenal a direct and physical attacking threat capable of unsettling PSG's outstanding defensive partnership of Wilian Pacho and Marquinhos.

His powerful performance against Atletico Madrid showed how destructive he can be when running directly at defenders. Arteta must decide whether his aggression suits this final better than Kai Havertz's movement.

Dembele's Ruthless Finishing Touch

Ousmane Dembélé has delivered repeatedly in decisive Champions League moments this season. His early strike against Bayern Munich demonstrated his clinical instincts, while his performances against Liverpool and Chelsea underlined his importance to Luis Enrique's side. Arsenal may limit PSG chances, but Dembele needs only one clear opening to change the game.

Arteta Versus Luis Enrique

Mikel Arteta and Luis Enrique share a connection dating back to their Barcelona days, and their tactical duel could define the final. Both managers are obsessive strategists who demand intensity and positional discipline. Arteta, however, will seek revenge after PSG eliminated Arsenal in last season's semi-final.

Arsenal's Defensive Blueprint

Arsenal's route to the final has been built on control, structure and defensive discipline rather than attacking chaos. Nine clean sheets and an unbeaten record underline their consistency. PSG's dangerous front three will provide their toughest test yet, but Arteta's side have repeatedly shown they can absorb pressure and strike decisively when opportunities appear.

Pressing Systems Could Decide

The tactical battle between Arsenal's possession game and PSG's aggressive pressing may ultimately determine the outcome. PSG thrive when forcing turnovers high up the pitch, while Arsenal are most comfortable dominating territory through patient buildup play.

If either side succeeds in disrupting the other's rhythm early, momentum in Budapest could swing dramatically.

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