

WORLD

One of five malnourished lions dies in Sudan park

Khartoum

One of five sick and malnourished lions held at a park in the Sudanese capital died yesterday, an official said, amid a growing online campaign to save the animals.



The lioness received intravenous fluids for several days but died early yesterday

The lioness received intravenous fluids for several days but died early on Monday, Brigadier Essameldine Hajjar, a manager of Al-Qureshi Park in Khartoum said. "One of the two sick lionesses died today... Yesterday the doctor gave the two some medicines after which they were given food," Hajjar said. "One recovered but the other died. We are now diagnosing the cause of death." Park officials said the conditions of the five creatures had deteriorated in recent weeks,

with some losing almost two-thirds of their body weight. The five lions suffered from a shortage of food and medicine for weeks, the officials said. Hajjar said on Sunday that park officials often paid for food for the lions with their own money.

Guide saw wall of snow carry away Korean trekking team in Nepal

Pokhara | Nepal

Rescuers intensified an increasingly desperate hunt yesterday for four South Korean trekkers and three Nepalis swept away by an avalanche in the Himalayas as a guide told how he saw people carried off by the snow.



View from a helicopter of the avalanche site

Krishna Hari Subedi was helping a Chinese trekker on the trail near the Annapurna base camp when the wall of snow hit on Friday.

"We were descending when an avalanche came rumbling down. Three people were swept down by it in front of my eyes," Subedij said.

"I ducked down and my guest followed, we were safe. If we

had moved forward, there was a cliff edge, we would have been swept down."

Subedi said he saw three people carried away but did not know how many others had been hit in the line of trekkers on the route.

"When we began heading down again, we heard a cry for help," he added.

"One of them survived and was walking up. It was nearly 300 metres down. When he saw us, he fainted... he was taken to a hospital."

The fate of the other two remains uncertain.

Families' anxious wait Soldiers have joined a team using drones and helicopters and digging in deep snow at 3,230 metres (10,600 feet) where the avalanche struck.

Small helicopters were being used to drop rescuers at the site, Shanta Bir Lama, president of the Nepal Mountaineering Association, said.

"The narrowness of the area

makes the search difficult," explained Lama.

"There is also a lot of snow. But teams today will try to remove the snow and search. Devices are also being used," he added.

A nine-member army team has joined the operation while the South Korean embassy also sent an official to assist.

"The snow from the avalanche is piled four to five metres (13 to 16 feet) deep at the site. No signs of the missing have been reported as of Monday," an official of the South's foreign ministry said.

Experts say there is a very low chance of survival for those buried in an avalanche for more than two hours.

Climate change pushing Australia's platypus towards extinction: researchers



The platypus is one of the world's strangest animals

Sydney

Prolonged drought and other effects of climate change are pushing Australia's unique platypus population towards extinction, scientists warned in a study published yesterday.

The river-dwelling animal has already disappeared from up to 40 percent of its historical range on Australia's east coast due to the drought, land clearing, pollution and building of dams, which fragment their habitat, the researchers said.

They predicted that if the current threats persist, platypus numbers will fall another 47-66 percent over the next 50 years.

If projections about worsening climate change are taken into account, the numbers of the duck-billed, egg-laying mammal could plummet up to 73 percent by 2070, they wrote.

The platypus is listed as "near threatened" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

But the scientists from the University of New South Wales' Centre for Ecosystem Science said damage to river systems caused by years of little rainfall and high tempera-

tures had worsened prospects for the animal.

"These dangers further expose the platypus to even worse local extinctions, with no capacity to repopulate areas," said Gilad Bino, lead author of the study.

The scientists said there is an "urgent need" for a national risk assessment to determine if the platypus should be downgraded to "vulnerable" status and to lay out conservation steps "to minimise any risk of extinction".

The study is the first across all platypus habitat zones to establish a so-called "metapopulation" model while also projecting the impacts of climate change on the species going forward.

The survey estimated the total platypus population had fallen by 50 percent since European settlement of the continent two centuries ago.

An earlier study published in November 2018 estimated the population had fallen by 30 percent over that period, to around 200,000.

"Under predicted climate change, the losses forecast were far greater because of increases in extreme drought frequencies and duration, such as the current dry spell," Bino said of the latest report.

INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 September 2019 (Reviewed)



INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 September 2019 (Reviewed) USD 000's

	Reviewed 30 September 2019 USD '000	Audited 30 June 2019 USD '000
ASSETS		
Balances and placements with banks	5,030	10,175
Investments	111,135	110,982
Investments in associates and a joint venture accounted under the equity method	22,686	22,701
Murabaha financing to investee companies	29,200	30,406
Wakala contract receivable	10,672	10,672
Receivables	2,381	1,976
Funding to project companies	5,293	5,695
Other assets	25,353	26,678
Property and equipment	7,398	7,480
TOTAL ASSETS	219,148	226,763
LIABILITIES		
Islamic financing payables	110,748	109,692
Employee accruals	962	1,440
Other liabilities	5,982	13,145
TOTAL LIABILITIES	117,692	124,277
EQUITY		
Share capital	190,000	190,000
Statutory reserve	5,859	5,859
Foreign currency translation reserve	(71)	(71)
Accumulated losses	(94,332)	(93,302)
Total equity	101,456	102,486
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	219,148	226,763

OFF-BALANCE SHEET ITEMS

Equity of investment account holders	1,867	1,887
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Extracted from the interim financial statements reviewed by Ernst & Young and approved for issue by the Board on 15 January 2020

Abdullah Marafie
Chairman

Abdullah M. Janahi
Board Member and Chief Executive Officer

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

Three month period ended 30 September 2019 (Reviewed) USD 000's

	30 September 2019	30 September 2018
REVENUE		
Income from investment banking services - net	1,045	-
Gain on sale of investment	701	201
Finance income	526	1,720
Dividend income	-	79
Rental and other income	285	677
TOTAL REVENUE	2,555	2,677
OTHER GAINS		
Fair value gain on investments carried at fair value through profit or loss - net	87	194
	2,642	2,871
EXPENSES		
Staff costs	854	1,388
Travel and business development expenses	69	93
Legal and professional fees	78	247
Finance expense	1,230	1,442
Depreciation	82	89
Other expenses	1,012	1,033
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,525	4,292
LOSS BEFORE IMPAIRMENT PROVISIONS AND SHARE OF LOSS OF ASSOCIATES AND JOINT VENTURE	(869)	(1,421)
Provisions for credit losses - net	(332)	-
Share of losses of associates and joint venture - net	(15)	(35)
NET LOSS FOR THE PERIOD	(1,030)	(1,456)

INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Three month period ended 30 September 2019 (Reviewed) USD 000's

	2019 USD '000	2018 USD '000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net loss for the period	(1,030)	(1,456)
Adjustments for:		
Share of loss of associates and a joint venture accounted under the equity method	15	35
Provisions for credit losses - net	332	-
Fair value gains on investments carried at fair value through profit or loss	(87)	(194)
Gain on sale of investment	(701)	(201)
Depreciation	82	89
Dividend income	-	(79)
Operating losses before changes in operating assets and liabilities	(1,389)	(1,806)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Investments	(1,309)	6,186
Investments in associates and a joint venture accounted under the equity method	-	(53)
Receivables	(711)	26,986
Funding to project companies	572	(1,041)
Other assets	1,325	(19,352)
Employee accruals	(478)	-
Other liabilities	(7,163)	11,358
Net cash (used in) from operating activities	(9,153)	22,268
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Dividends received	-	727
Proceeds from sale of investment	1,734	201
Property and equipment - net	-	(46)
Net cash from investing activities	1,734	882
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Murabaha financing to investee company	1,206	267
Islamic financing payables	1,056	(6,681)
Net cash from (used in) financing activities	2,262	(6,414)
NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(5,157)	16,736
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period	10,175	7,326
ECL reversed (charged) on balances and placements with banks	12	(14)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE PERIOD	5,030	24,048
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS PER THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
Balances with banks	2,169	2,953
Placements with financial institutions	2,861	21,095
	5,030	24,048

INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

Three month period ended 30 September 2019 (Reviewed) USD 000's

	Share capital USD '000	Statutory reserve USD '000	Foreign currency translation reserve USD '000	Accumulated losses USD '000	Total USD '000
Balance at 1 July 2019	190,000	5,859	(71)	(93,302)	102,486
Net loss for the period	-	-	-	(1,030)	(1,030)
Balance at 30 September 2019	190,000	5,859	(71)	(94,332)	101,456
Balance at 1 July 2018	190,000	5,859	(71)	(30,330)	165,458
Transition adjustment on adoption of FAS 30 as of 1 July 2018	-	-	-	(4,791)	(4,791)
Restated balance as of 1 July 2018	190,000	5,859	(71)	(35,121)	160,667
Net loss for the period	-	-	-	(1,456)	(1,456)
Balance at 30 September 2018	190,000	5,859	(71)	(36,577)	159,211