【3.27】

**3.27每日一篇 | 外刊精读**

Climate **adaptation** in Africa: Sink and swim  
   
Sierra Leone **illustrates** the continent's struggle to adapt to climate change  
   
【1】Standing on the shores of Nyangai, a small island off the coast of Sierra Leone, Melvin Kargbo points to his old football field, now below an **expanse** of seawater. Never large, Nyangai has **shrunk** from around 700 metres in length a decade ago to about 90 metres now. Most of its **mango** and **coconut** trees have been **felled** by the waves. The remaining residents live in a tight **cluster** of houses that flood frequently. Even so, they want to stay put. “We cannot leave this land,” says Mr Kargbo, a 35-year-old teacher. “I do not think there is a better life for us anywhere else.”  
   
【2】He will probably be forced to find one. Global sea levels are rising as **glaciers** **melt** in the warming climate. **storms** are becoming more **erratic**, **accelerating** coastal **erosion**. Some 15 years from now, Nyangai is likely to be under water.Panda Foreign Magazine Intensive Reading:Respect for Originality, Piracy Must Be Punished  
   
【3】It is not just Nyangai. Africa has **contributed** just 3% to global carbon-dioxide **emissions** since the **industrial** revolution, but it will be hit harder than other places by the effects of the warming climate: longer **droughts**, deadlier heatwaves and less **predictable** **storms** and floods. With no power to slow warming, adapting is the only option. But money is short.  
   
【4】For Mr Kargbo and his family, adapting will mean moving. The UN **estimates** that climate change may **compel** up to 113m Africans, 5% of the continent’s population, to leave their homes by 2050. Many will end up in cities such as Freetown, Sierra Leone’s capital. Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr, the **mayor**, says politicians need to “**buckle** up” to ensure cities remain **habitable**.Panda Foreign Magazine Intensive Reading:Respect for Originality, Piracy Must Be Punished  
   
【5】Ms Aki-Sawyerr has made a start. Her team has **installed** cooling covers on Freetown’s **busiest** and sweatiest markets. They have **planted** **mangrove** trees on the edges of flood-prone **slums** to serve as **buffers** against the rising sea. Earlier this month, Ms Aki-Sawyerr held a “heat **summit**” for **mayors** from six cities across west Africa to discuss how to keep their residents cool, for instance by planting more trees and installing cooling roofs on public buildings.  
   
【6】How they will pay for it is not clear. Adapting to climate change in Africa will cost between $30bn and $50bn a year over the next decade, **estimates** the UN, around 2-3% of the continent’s GDP. African governments do not have the money. Most of the **funds** for Freetown’s **adaptation** efforts come from **bilateral** aid and aid-**funded** **multilateral** organisations. As America and other rich countries continue to cut aid, especially for projects **responding** to climate change, nobody else is likely to step in.  
   
【7】That will **ultimately** make **adaptation** more expensive. The earlier it happens, the more money it saves by reducing damage to **crops** and infrastructure. According to one **estimate** by the World Bank, every dollar **invested** in infrastructure saves $4 in **reconstruction** costs. Effective **adaptation**, the UN **reckons**, could also **shrink** by about a third the number of people forced from their homes by climate change.  
   
【8】For some, it is already too late. The sandbags that Mr Kargbo wants the government to ship to Nyangai will not keep the sea at **bay** for long. But money to move and **rebuild** on the mainland could help him keep his head above water, even as the island is **swallowed** by the sea.

**①短语**：1.原文：Even so, they want to stay put.

词典: **stay put 留在原地**

例句：Once alarmed, most insects **stay put**.

一旦警觉起来，大多数昆虫会静止不动。

2.原文：Africa has contributed just 3% to global carbon-dioxide emissions since the industrial revolution, but it will be hit harder than other places by the effects of the warming climate: longer droughts, deadlier heatwaves and less predictable storms and floods.

词典: **contribute to 做出贡献；有助于；促成**

例句：Both parents **contribute to** the maintenance of their children.

双方父母都给孩子们提供生活费用。

3.原文：Many will end up in cities such as Freetown, Sierra Leone’s capital.

词典: **end up in 最后到了**

例句：So she **ended up in** a startup.

因此，她最终进入了一家创业公司。

4.原文：Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr, the mayor, says politicians need to “buckle up” to ensure cities remain habitable.

词典: **buckle up做好准备**

例句：But if we have a Lula-Bolsonaro contest, as one analyst put it, **buckle up**. The show is only just beginning.

但正如一位分析人士所说，如果卢拉真的和博尔索纳罗竞争，那我们要做好准备。演出才刚刚开始。

5.原文：Ms Aki-Sawyerr has made a start.

词典: **make a start开始行动**

例句：There is nothing more important than insulating people's homes and **making a start** on cutting the emissions.

没有什么比为人们的房屋隔热和开始减少排放更重要的了。

6.原文：The sandbags that Mr Kargbo wants the government to ship to Nyangai will not keep the sea at bay for long.

词典: **keep... at bay阻止，遏制（令人不快的事物）**

例句：So, for example, washing your hands can **keep** infections **at bay**, or exercising can keep heart disease at bay.

因此，例如，洗手可以预防感染，锻炼可以预防心脏病。

7.原文：As America and other rich countries continue to cut aid, especially for projects responding to climate change, nobody else is likely to step in.

词典: **step in介入，干预，插手（棘手问题）**

例句：There are circumstances in which the State must **step in** to protect children.

有些情况下，国家必须出面保护儿童。

8.原文：But money to move and rebuild on the mainland could help him keep his head above water, even as the island is swallowed by the sea.

词典: **keep one’s head above water（尤指财务上）勉强应付过去，惨淡经营**

例句：A company seeks to keep its head above water during economic hard times.

公司在经济困难时期寻求避免负债。

**②长难句**

1. 原文：**The UN estimates** **that** climate change may compel up to 113m Africans, 5% of the continent’s population, to leave their homes by 2050.

分析：本句包含一个宾语从句。主句为“**The UN estimates** **that**...”；“**that** climate change may compel up to 113m Africans to leave their homes by 2050”为宾语从句。

译文：**联合国估计，到 2050年，气候变化可能会迫使多达1.13亿非洲人（占非洲总人口的 5%）背井离乡。**

1. 原文：**The sandbags that** Mr Kargbo wants the government to ship to Nyangai **will not keep the sea** at bay for long.

分析：本句包含一个定语从句。主句为“**The sandbags will not keep the sea** at bay for long”，“**that** Mr Kargbo wants the government to ship to Nyangai”为限制性定语从句，修饰先行词The sandbags。

译文：**卡格博希望政府向尼扬盖运送沙袋，但沙袋无法长期抵御海水侵蚀。**

**③写作技巧：**

Africa has contributed just 3% to global carbon-dioxide emissions since the industrial revolution, but it will be **hit** harder than other places by the effects of the warming climate: longer droughts, deadlier heatwaves and less predictable storms and floods.

**自工业革命以来，非洲的二氧化碳排放量仅占全球的3%，但受气候变暖影响却比其他地区更为严重：干旱期延长、热浪更加致命，风暴和洪水愈发难以预测。**

生词：hit v.（用手或器具）击，打；碰撞；击中，命中

n. 打，击；很受欢迎的人（或事物）

**Hit一词有很多用法，作动词时表示“（用手或器具）击，打；碰撞，撞击（造成损伤）；产生不良影响，危害；攻击；到达（某水平）；使突然想起”。**

**Hit作名词时表示“打，击；很受欢迎的人（或事物）；风行一时的流行歌曲（或唱片）”。**

**Hit相关的词组有：  
hit it off (with sb) （和某人）投缘**

**be/make a hit(with sb) 给（某人）留些很好的第一印象**

**be hit by... 受到……冲击**

**take a hit 遭受损失、破坏或不利影响**

例句： The airline industry took a hit last year.

去年航空业受到了严重冲击。

**④背景知识：**

据欧盟气候监测机构哥白尼气候变化服务局（Copernicus Climate Change Service）监测报告，2025年1月是该机构自1940年有记录以来监测到的最热1月，2月是有记录以来全球气温第三高的2月。哥白尼气候变化服务局副局长萨曼莎·伯吉斯表示，2月延续了过去两年观察到的创纪录或接近纪录的高温趋势。

2024/2025年冬季，全球平均气温总体偏高。欧洲、俄罗斯、北美洲北部等地气温偏暖最明显，但季内阶段性起伏大，如美国在1月初经历强寒潮和强降温过程；我国冬季平均气温较常年同期偏高，但也在1月底发生了影响范围广、降温幅度大的强寒潮过程。在降水方面，全球降水空间分布不均。东亚东部、非洲中北部、北美洲南部等地降水异常偏少，部分地区出现较严重的气象干旱，而印度、马来西亚、印度尼西亚等地降水异常偏多，部分地区遭遇较严重的洪涝灾害。

国家气候中心气候预测室正研级高级工程师顾薇表示，每年全球各个地区的气候都会表现出不同的异常特征，而导致气候异常的成因非常复杂，既包括人为活动导致的全球变暖，也包括海洋、大气等自然条件的波动，例如厄尔尼诺/拉尼娜事件、北太平洋年代际涛动、北极涡旋等。2024/2025年冬季，我国南方地区、非洲中东部等地的干旱少雨现象主要体现出拉尼娜状态的典型影响。

历史资料分析表明，在多数的拉尼娜年，冬季欧亚中高纬大气环流经向度较大、影响我国的冷空气活动较常年更加频繁，我国冬季易出现气温偏低的情况。顾薇介绍，“在全球变暖的影响下，近年来拉尼娜发生后我国出现冷冬的概率显著减小。我国冬季究竟是偏冷还是偏暖，除了厄尔尼诺-南方涛动（ENSO）事件和全球变暖因素以外，北极海冰、欧亚积雪等其他因素也会产生一定作用。”顾薇解释，2024/2025年冬季，尽管大气环流在一定程度上体现出拉尼娜年的特征，导致我国的冷空气过程较为活跃，出现了10次冷空气过程，但受全球变暖的持续影响，我国冬季平均气温仍然偏高。此外，北极涡旋等一些中高纬度环流系统的阶段性变化是导致冬季气温出现阶段性起伏的主要原因。

国家气候中心预测，就我国而言，在今年的春夏季，多雨区容易出现在北方地区；就全球而言，印度、印度尼西亚等国家可能因降水偏多而导致洪涝灾害，阿根廷东部等地区则可能由于降水偏少而出现干旱。

段落大意：

【1】尼扬盖岛受气候变化影响严重，居民生活艰难却不愿离开。

【2】尼扬盖岛未来可能被海水淹没，面临生存危机。

【3】非洲受气候变暖影响大，适应变化是唯一选择，但资金匮乏。

【4】气候变化或致大量非洲人背井离乡，需做好准备。

【5】弗里敦市长采取多种措施，积极应对气候变化。

【6】非洲适应气候变化费用高，资金来源不明，援助或减少。

【7】适应气候变化宜早不宜迟，可节省资金、减少流离失所人