

African Politics and Policy

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Editorial

For the past 20 years, corruption has dominated the agenda. Identified as one of the main obstacles to economic growth and socio-economic development, corruption has been extensively investigated by scholars and practitioners alike.

Considerable effort has been made to devise some indexes to assess, and track over time, the level of corruption. Given the limitations and the problems of the existing indexes of corruption, some practitioners suggested that new corruption indexes should be devised by incorporating the extent to which countries are integrated in the world economy.

The new idea is now that corruption should be measured by factoring in the operations of foreign players and the illicit financial outflows to tax havens. The idea is not terribly sound on methodological grounds. Illicit financial outflows are the result, to some extent, of corruption but they can also be the result of other factors (tax evasion, tax avoidance, ...). Since it is not possible to distinguish the outflows caused by corruption from those caused by other factors, a measure of this type would inevitably provide an imprecise and inefficient measure of corruption.

To equate corruption and illicit financial outflows is an ideologically charged, but methodologically inappropriate move

Less ideology and more methodological rigor would produce better indexes, better data, better analyses and better results.

Riccardo Pelizzo

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Tanzania

From 2014 to 2015 the number of tourists dropped from 1,140,156 to 1,102,619. To stimulate the tourism industry the government plans to fight poachers, invest in tourism promotion and marketing, and to protect the environment.

Angola

On the lecture “Current management of museums in Angola”, Ziva Domingos, National director of museums, says that Angola for better functioning of museums needs the Statute of the museum. The Law, which will regulate the life of a regional museum – personnel, collection, research studies – should be created by the Ministry of Culture together with local museums.

Lugumi Politics: A Real Challenge for President Magufuli?

By Abel Kinyondo

There is no doubt that Magufuli's presidency is nothing short of a phenomenon. His leadership style that is full of simplicity has amazed prominent leaders the world over. Back in Tanzania his excellency president Magufuli is fondly compared to some of the greatest sons of the country such as the late Edward Moringe Sokoine, the former prime minister who dealt a blow to corrupt figures back in 1980s. The love for Mr. President is mostly deserved. After all, the man almost doubled revenue collections in his first ever month in power; suspended countless senior civil servants accused of corruption; in addition to bringing back a sense of discipline in public service just to mention but a few domestic achievements.

Dr. Magufuli commands ultimate respect among his peers in East African region. Whereas his predecessor was vastly loathed in the region due to various reasons such as the lingering perception that he prioritized relations with the Western world rather than the region, Dr. Magufuli has so far been an instant hit. Indeed, the region bestowed him with the Chairmanship almost immediately after he was sworn in as a president by the same heads of states who were so frustrated with his predecessor that they formed a break away community, the so called 'Coalition of Willing' within the region which basically alienated Tanzania from potential economic activities. Chief among these activities was a pre-agreement between Uganda, Kenya and Rwanda that Mombasa would be the main port for the three countries and that a railway system connecting the three countries would be constructed to intensify economic integration among the countries. Uganda entered a separate pre-agreement with Kenya to construct an oil pipeline from Uganda to the Kenyan port of Lamu. Fast forward a few months afterwards, Tanzania managed to sidestep Kenya by entering into a contract with Uganda to redirect the construction of the pipeline to Tanga port in Tanzania. Rwanda has since declared that linking its railway system with that

in Tanzania is 'much more economical' than doing the same with Kenya's. In fact, president Kagame who took a particular dislike of president Magufuli's predecessor calls Magufuli, "a brother". In turn, 'the brother' reciprocated the love by making Rwanda the destination for his first ever presidential visit.

The presidential honeymoon though seems to be gradually giving way. At the centre of this development is the alleged Lugumi scandal that has swept the country over the past month or so. Apparently, the company (Lugumi) was supposed to install finger print devises in hundreds of police stations. To date, it is alleged that less than 20 stations have these electronic devises installed in them with up to 99% of agreed payment made to Lugumi. Attempts by the Parliamentary Accounts Committee to get hold of the contract that the government entered with Lugumi have since proved to be fruitless. Efforts by the parliament to form an ad hoc committee to look into the matter have also been unsuccessful as several weeks after its formation the committee is yet to start its work. Lack of resources has been rumored to be the reason behind this debacle. The funniest part of this is that, a few weeks ago the parliament returned to presidency 6 billion shillings citing the fact that the parliament was cutting out 'unnecessary spending'. All that the presidency has done is to wage war against business people who 'have been sabotaging the economy by hiding away sugar' which, to be fair, has become a vastly scarce commodity ever since the government banned its importation. While popular, the move raises more queries as to why the government would like to divert people's attention from Lugumi saga so much so that each day the media is full of news about citing of sugar hideouts by law enforcement agencies.

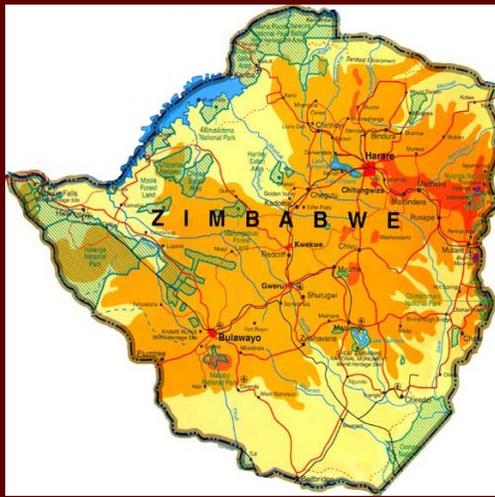


Protecting cultural heritage in Ethiopia

As noted by the residents of South Omo Zone in one of the nine ethnic divisions of Ethiopia, the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples State, the after-May-28-1991 period with new government and democratic constitution, opened for them a new chapter in Ethiopian history, where the cultural values are promoted, the identity is preserved, and local languages can be used.

The administration of the region also highlights their future contribution to the development of the region: construction of airport in Jinka Town, agricultural Research center, sugar factories and hotels to boost tourism.

The Zonal Culture and Tourism Office, in its turn, is very active in protecting and promoting fascinating cultural heritage of the region where 16 nationalities live.



Zimbabwe People First: ZANU (PF)'s lifeline and a threat to the

Had it not been for Simba Makoni's surprise entry into the presidential race in 2008, many analysts believe that Morgan Tsvangirai stood a better chance to defeat Mugabe. As required by law, Tsvangirai needed 51 percent plus one vote to assume power. Makoni got 8.31 percent of the vote, Mugabe 43.24 percent and Tsvangirai 47.87 percent. It was that 8.31 percent that denied Tsvangirai outright victory.

Simba Makoni was able to win the urban vote mostly because he represented to them a much more focused and stable leadership that had the potential to steer the country's economy back into track. This was against the backdrop of Morgan Tsvangirai's flip-flopping and inconsistencies in his political rhetoric.

Looking ahead into the 2018 elections, Joyce Mujuru and her Zimbabwe People First party fit perfectly well into Makoni's place. Joyce Mujuru before her 'expulsion', like Simba Makoni, represented a moderate voice in Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front), (ZANU (PF) and was tipped to succeed Mugabe as ZANU (PF)'s next leader. Her participation in the 2018 elections will most likely cost the Movement for Democratic Change-Tsvangirai, (MDC-T) victory as happened in 2008, by dividing the MDC-T vote. ZANU (PF) has also created an image of a perennial loser in Morgan Tsvangirai through his controversial defeat in the 2002 presidential election, 2008 and 2013

harmonized elections. The magnitude of his popularity at present is debatable.

It is the MDC-T vote that stands to be dived by Mujuru's participation come 2018 and another crushing defeat could for ever seal the fate of the MDC as an alternative centre for power. ZANU (PF) is guaranteed of votes from its 'supporters'; they vote as per instruction and not as per choice. The opposition thus has to come up with even better strategies to win an election in 2018, bearing in mind the possible impact Joyce Mujuru's party might have on voter behavior.

Stephen N. Machaya

Ethiopia needs seeds

In a country, where more than 10 million people are food insecure, ensuring that farmers and farming families have enough seeds to plant crops is a humanitarian priority.

Commenting about seed security, food security and other humanitarian priorities, FAO noted that 1.7 million farmers in Ethiopia are seed insecure, which means that they do not have enough seeds to plant in the meher season—which usually secures about 85 per cent of the country's food supply.

A disappointing meher season would dramatically worsen Ethiopia's food crisis. It is essential to intervene now. FAO believes that 10 million US dollars could be enough to provide farmers with the seeds that they need to support themselves and their families.

Africa is rising

Business leaders in Kigali believe that Africa is still rising, but that the continent's potential may be undermined by political risk and instability.

Political development, the development of proper institutional frameworks, of proper institutions, and of proper policies is essential for the political stabilization of the continent.

Africa needs to invest in political development and institutional capacity building to secure sustainable growth and proper socio-economic development for many years to come.



Collaborators

of the Newsletter of African Politics and Policy

Abel Kinyondo, Director of Strategic Research, REPOA, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Stephen N. Machaya, correspondent, Harare, Zimbabwe
Riccardo Pelizzo, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University, Astana, Kazakhstan

Call for papers

The editorial board of African Politics and Policy decided to launch a call for papers. Papers up to 3000 words can be submitted as research notes, while manuscripts from 3000 to 7500 words will have to be submitted as articles. African Politics and Policy is interested in publishing on a wide range of policy and political issues.

Scholars, practitioners and researchers who may wish to submit their notes and articles for publication, should register themselves as authors (<http://www.africanpoliticsandpolicy.com/ojs/index.php/APAP/user/register>) and can then proceed to submit their papers.

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