

Africa in the 21st Century: Prospects for Secure Sustainable Development

Educational Divide Reform, 6 Manassas Ave. Cambridge, MA, USA
Friday April 8, 2016

Cosponsored by EDR, Academy of International Business (USA North East Chapter), and the PhD Program in Global Governance and Human Security at UMass Boston

Abstracts

Abigail Kabandula, *The African Union: An Emerging Institution of Global Human Security Governance?* UMass Boston

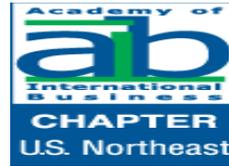
Abstract

The African Union (AU) has developed multifaceted, interrelated, overlapping and unprecedented security institutions – the African Peace and Security Architecture, to address both state and human security challenges in Africa. APSA embraces an expanded and comprehensive agenda for peace and security. The AU has received significant traction at the global level from the United Nations and European Union. On the continent, its peace and security approach embodied in the Pan-Africana slogan “African solutions to African problems” has been welcomed by many state actors and Regional Economic Communities. The AU has embarked on a number of peacekeeping operations on its own, in partnership with the RECs, UN and EU. However, recent events in Burundi have brought the AU human security culture under scrutiny. Amidst high cost to human life at the hands of the state and ethnic conflict, why did the AU not send peacekeepers to Burundi? Part of the answer to this question lies in the AU security regime that continues to privilege state security over human security.

Jeremiah Asaka, *Transformations in Conservation Governance and Implications for Human Security*. UMass Boston

Abstract

For most of the 20th century, wildlife conservation was state-centric and science oriented. People, particularly conservation area communities, were excluded from protected areas designed to safely contain and protect ‘nature’ from the threat of human beings (with the



exception of tourists and park rangers). However, in late 20th century, a shift towards 'destatisation', 'decentralisation', 'hybridisation' and 'indigenisation' began to emerge particularly in the Global South. This shift continues to take shape even today in places like the northern rangelands of Kenya with implications for both wildlife and people particularly those living around wildlife conservation areas. Relying on a theoretical triangulation of liberal and gender perspectives, this proposed PhD seeks to analyse 'conservation governance' at the global and local levels. In part, to understand how conservation is governed at those two levels and how such governance has transformed since 1980; and also in part, to understand local human security implications of the noted transformations. It will employ a mixed methods research design relying on document review, key informant interviews, survey, observation, global positioning system and digital photography to collect qualitative, quantitative, geographical and visual data. Further, the proposed PhD will rely on Nvivo 11, SPSS, QGIS 2.14 Essen and Preview version 6.0.1 (765.6) to analyse qualitative, quantitative, geographical and visual data respectively.

Keywords: Conservation Governance, Transformation and Human Security

Tapang Ivo Tanku, *Growing Closer: Media, Positive Peace and Conflict Transformation in sub-Saharan Africa*. State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo

Abstract

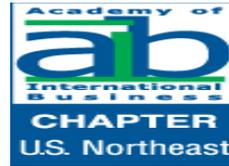
This paper adopts a holistic approach in investigating the impact of a free media on positive peace and conflict transformation within countries in sub-Saharan Africa, defining free press by its ability to give all parties a voice, while upholding balance, accuracy, and fairness in coverage. The study exploits the uses and gratification of the media, arguing empirically that there are statistically significant claims that media, positive peace and conflict transformation grow closer. I hypothesize that peace journalism – truth-oriented, people-oriented, solution-oriented, and peace and conflict oriented, will have a significant positive outlook on countries' conflict transformation and peace processes. The Ordinary Least Square method of statistical analysis, supports the hypothesis with statistically significant results. The regression analysis also reveals that an independent, fair and accurate media has a wider capacity of improving conflict risk status for countries classified among the most fragile on the State Fragility Index, than for countries that are less fragile. The work has plausible practical and research implications. First, it postulates that media, positive peace and conflict transformation are growing closer in sub-Saharan Africa. Second, the regression analysis corroborates that African countries that have more risk of conflicts would likely become more stable by making their media more truth-oriented, people-oriented, solution-oriented, and peace and conflict oriented. This means that promoting peace journalism, firstly through a free press, is an important strategy for fragile states

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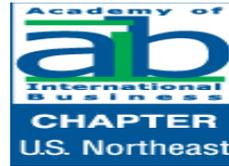
in particular which provides the necessary and sufficient conditions for peace. Policy wise, a credible media would be a reliable instrument for durable peace in sub-Saharan African countries.

Key words: Media, Conflict, sub-Saharan Africa, Peace journalism, Positive Peace, Conflict Transformation

Sarah Katz-Lavigne, *Peace, Conflict, and the Governance of Mining on the Congolese Copperbelt, 2000-present*. Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada

Abstract

In the early years of the new millennium, high demand and (until recently) high commodity prices have resulted in increased interest and investment in mining globally by multinational corporations (MNCs). Due to the geographical distribution of mineral resources, many of these resources are located in areas of SSA characterized by “limited statehood” (Risse, 2011) and/or affected by armed conflict. There is a narrative, if not reality, of increased competition from traditional and emerging corporate players. Alongside the narrative of rampant competition between unscrupulous companies is the perception of unchecked, often violent contestation over natural resources at the local level, pitting artisanal miners and communities against companies. And yet, empirical evidence from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) suggests that while violent incidents receive a great deal of publicity, they are relatively rare. Violent incidents are less frequent than persistent, lower-level conflict, but they do occur. Why do some cases of large-scale mining in Africa result in conflict, including violent conflict, at certain times and certain sites and not others? Local contestation over resources is a reality, but the evidence suggests that it is managed and contained in a manner that often ensures that the most violent forms of conflict are avoided. Contestation is managed at the local level, and there is a need to understand the distributional consequences of that management. The question of how conflict occurs and is managed at the local level is an important one, which involves exploring the ways in which governments, MNCs, and local actors interact to create a governance regime, and assessing the distributional and conflict impacts of that regime. A systematic comparative study of a range of mining sites in the DRC will help to fill gaps in the recent literature on large-scale mining, which often focuses on individual case studies, particularly easier-to-approach Western companies



Sudeshna Chatterjee, *Regional Cooperation to Combat Trafficking in Persons in Africa: Institutional structures and initiative.* UMass Boston

Abstract

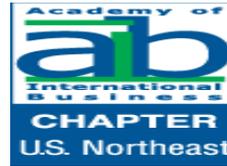
With human trafficking and irregular migration emerging as major security challenges to the region, recent decade has witnessed a series of efforts by regional (African Union) and sub-regional institutions (ECOWAS, SADC, ECCAS) to combat the trafficking in persons and transnational organized crime, more broadly. This paper aims to uncover and analyze the trends that emerge from these structures and initiatives. In doing so, three questions are being attempted to be answered: one, how is authority distributed among actors across the spectrum of governance and deliberation over policy implementation? Second, what mechanisms and strategies are used? How far are they consistent with global policies on one hand and sub-regional and national policies on the other? Third, how do discourses on gender, development and rights play out in these policy documents and initiatives? The methodology being used is qualitative content analysis of policy documents and other available resources on regional cooperation to combat trafficking in Africa. The aim of this paper is not to homogenize governance initiatives in the continent as a whole; rather, it is well cognizant of the shortcomings of such hasty generalizations, especially in governance. Rather, the paper aims to uncover trends emerging from regional and sub-regional cooperation initiatives, which would include how it speaks to and are influenced by distinct governance practices and instruments at the national/local level on one hand as well as global structures and connections on the other. This would contribute to not only a more holistic literature on anti-trafficking regional initiatives in Africa but also to knowledge on how global anti-traffic policies are implemented and probable obstacles to the same.

Debra Butler, *Environmental IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons): Comparative State Mitigations in Africa and the United States.* UMass Boston

Abstract

The African Union has promoted the protection of human rights (Constitutive Act of the African Union, Article 3-h) through adoption of the Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa via the Kampala Convention. This commitment is a critical step toward recognition and assurance of certain “rights” for vulnerable populations.

The Guiding Principles therein assist national and regional entities to develop legal and policy frameworks to address the challenges associated with internal migration and displacement due to civil unrest, industrial, economic and environmental catastrophes.



The scientific community has reached consensus that climate change is the most significant threat to human existence. In 2010, 38 million people were displaced by sudden-onset weather-related natural disasters. The impact of slow-onset events--sea level rise, fresh water scarcity, desertification and deterioration of agricultural land --will stress and overwhelm organizations that manage health, food security and ecosystem services (Nasen, 2011).

In the United States, since the disasters of Hurricane Katrina and the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf region, “state” governance has not developed long term, comprehensive organizational strategies to mitigate displacement of affected populations that, under international guidelines, qualify as internally displaced persons. The goal of my research and the objective of this paper are critical examination of organizational responses to environmental migration due to climate change impacts in the United States. I argue that the Kampala Convention serves as an exemplar model for an analytical framework.

I begin with a definition of internally displaced persons, (IDPs) and the historical and theoretical placement in which these definitions were developed. Studies on the displacement, the diasporas of conflict and environmental refugees are exhaustive. The United Nations and other international humanitarian organizations, NGOs and governing entities have developed significant procedures and guidance lines for their protection, relief and assurance of the continuity of cultural, national, ethnic and religious identities. However, internally displaced persons (IDP) who are citizens of the state in which they are displaced, and who therefore have not crossed international borders, are not included guidelines established the UNHCR, United Nations High Commission on Refugees protocols. (UNHCR 2014) Relative to the legitimacy of their governments, IDPs have no “in situ” assurances of protection, security and basic human rights.

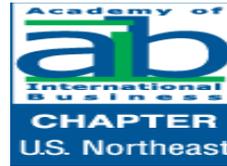
Secondly, I argue that state power acts to create neo-colonial relationships inherent in environmental and forced migration, punitive dispossession, the social, racialized, economic and political relationships between displaced persons and the recipient communities where they re-settle. A selection of historical cases is not purposed to re-visit environmentally displacing episodes, but to place into context, the long standing patterns of structural “othering” that occurs.

Lastly, a broad survey of organizational management literature and interdisciplinary journals offers space for inquiry for organizational imagination, innovation and additional conversations about the challenges climate change presents to organizations and the process of organizing.

Jason McSparren, *Questioning the Resource Curse in the West African Sahara-Sahel: A case study of Mali before and after gold exploitation*. UMass Boston



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Abstract

Does Mali suffer from the ‘resource curse’ or are other structural challenges the catalyst for weak economic development? Basedau (2005) questions the accuracy of the ‘resource curse’ theory and argues that the negative externalities associated with resource abundance and resource dependence (two different concepts) are based on correlation, not causation. In short, Basedau argues that context matters when analyzing whether or not natural resource extractive industries harm or help economies. The political economy analysis of a country’s natural resource sector should include a comparison of contextual factors as they stood before and exist after exploitation was initiated. Using Basedau’s framework, this study will compare the political economy of the Mali before and after gold exploitation became a major contributor to the country’s economy. The assumption is that structural constraints likely already existed prior to gold exploitation. Nonetheless, constraints remain and the mining industry is either contributing to this persistence or not. It is important to better understand the factors that constrain socio-economic development in low income, natural resource rich states such as Mali where poverty may contribute to political unrest.

Nichole Wissman Weber, Michael Roy, and Miranda Chase, *Barriers and Pathways to Climate Adaptation in Djibouti and Ethiopia: Coordinating the Social, Economic, and Ecological*. UMass Boston

Abstract

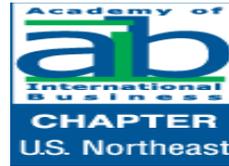
Least developed countries (LDCs) often face institutional barriers, such as limited capital investment and infrastructural deficits, to adequately prepare for the effects of climate change (see Jackson & Rosberg, 1982). The Conference of Parties 2015 (COP21) understood this challenge, and addressed these barriers by committing monetary support to LDCs that will fund climate change preparedness projects. However, determining which projects, and how to implement funding to help LDCs is challenging. Deflation, inequality, general instability, corruption, and lack of infrastructure have been significant deterrents to investments and productive use of development aid (Moyo, 2009). Most adaptation efforts remain at the strategy and policy level with a lack of understanding of efficacy of institutional structures and actual implementation. Therefore, we present a case study that offers a new, innovative solution to past top-down only approaches to international aid. Focusing on Ethiopia and Djibouti, we interviewed nongovernmental entities, academics, government officials, and business leaders to obtain a view of climate adaptation strategies, identify coalition formations, and understand needs of LDCs in allocating climate adaptation funds. A view of social inclusion in climate adaptation efforts takes links disparate social conditions to meet community needs to increase accountability, stability, and longevity of climate adaptation efforts (see Gupta, Beninger, &

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Ganesh, 2015). Through the interview process, the necessity of coordinating climate adaptation efforts through social, ecological, and economic efforts emerged. Our framework presents a novel approach to climate adaptation funding that creates sustainable and stable institutional arrangements with longevity to address the needs of developing countries.

Shingirai L. Taodzera, *A Critical Analysis of Decentralisation and Participation in Extractive Natural Resource Governance*. University of Ottawa

Abstract

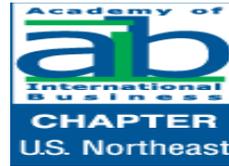
Given the unimpressive record of the state's management of extractive natural resources in sub-Saharan Africa, yielding control to local, indigenous communities through decentralization and participation is often regarded as the best alternative. South Africa's Royal Bafokeng community is frequently cited as one of the best examples of community based mineral resource ownership that ought to be considered as a "template" for other countries to follow. This paper conducts a critical analysis of the Bafokeng's case, focusing on historical factors that led to this ownership structure. It also analyses the circumstances under which the indigenous community controls mineral revenues independent of the state, also using its indigenous institutions and systems of governance in doing so. It finds that firstly, decentralised ownership structures should not be viewed as an alternative to the state, since they do not automatically guarantee more benefits than state control. It also shows that the Bafokeng's mineral ownership structure is a result of unique historical factors; best described through the concept of "longue duree," not deliberate policy choices. It also argues that this ownership structure is not easily transferrable, mainly because of the difficulties with usurping power over resource revenue from the state. Overall, it questions the idea of decentralization and participation as the best way to manage extractive natural resources

Samuel Urkato, *Emerging Economies' Industrial Firms' Self-induced Environmental Innovation Decision Processes: A response to the Porter hypothesis*. Addis Abba University

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Abstract

Porter hypothesis¹ (PH) that tests the empirical linkages between environmental regulations and industrial firms' environmental innovations to affect their productivity is not testable in emerging economies like Ethiopia where there is no well-established command-and-control or market oriented environmental policy instruments. Based on Ethiopian National Innovation Survey Data for 402 randomly selected manufacturing and service firms in Ethiopia and using logistic regression analysis, we characterized the industrial firms' self-induced environmental innovation propensity and tested key parameters from firm level, market level and macroeconomic context that are eligible to drive firms' innovation practice at least in terms of process and product innovations. We empirically tested that industrial firms characterized with larger, privately owned, operating in government priority sector, facing several constraints to undertake innovation, exposed to diverse information sources, committing their resources to R&D activities, and applying and receiving patent have positive propensity to conduct environmental product and process innovations in Ethiopia. We didn't find any regulatory enforcement governing the industrial firms to engage into environment-friendly innovations except firm's self-commitment to meet the demand side for their products. Ethiopian government is highly supporting small and medium scale firms, but the effect is not visible at least through environment-friendly product, process, market or organizational innovations when compared to larger firms. We suggest effective environmental regulation in place to influence industrial firms to undertake environment-inclusive innovations while meeting economic productivity in the context of sustainable development.

Key Words: Emerging economies, firm, environmental innovation, Porter Hypothesis

Jel Classification: C1, C5, O3, 026

Melanie Jansen, *South Africa's Participation in the Fuel Cell Industry – Moving Beyond its Platinum Deposits*. Queen's University

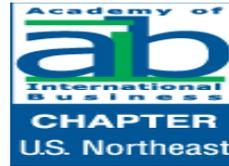
Abstract

¹ At present, professor of Harvard Business School, Cambridge, USA. Professor of industrial firms' competitiveness analysis.

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Due to unique geological formations, the Republic of South Africa has the world's largest known deposits of platinum, a metal increasingly being used in emerging sustainable technologies. With the rise in global environmental challenges comes a sense of urgency for a 'green transformation'², including the development and implementation of these sustainable technologies. By extension, added pressure on the platinum mining industry is expected. This qualitative research focuses particularly on the emergence of a fuel cell industry within the deeply politicised structures of South Africa's platinum mines, bringing into question the assumed sustainability of such systems which are heavily dependent on platinum for their electrochemical reaction. Government policies and plans of transitioning to a knowledge-based economy will be brought into the discussion, outlining the opportunities and challenges for South Africa to participate in, and benefit from, this technological shift. A political ecology framework is used to guide the analysis, drawing on the political framings and sustainability narratives of both industry and government in their desire to shift toward a fuel cell industry. Historical struggles within the mining sector remain prominent today, manifested through material, structural and discursive expressions of power. Challenging these dynamics is crucial for shaping South Africa's participation in this innovative technological transformation, which has direct implications within the platinum mining sector. This could serve to enhance socio-economic conditions and contribute to the sustainability of a fuel cell industry, while setting a positive example for other African countries.

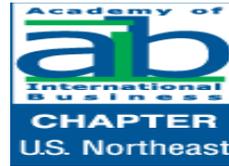
Keywords: South Africa, platinum, fuel cell technology, sustainability, knowledge-based economy.

Rose Nyaondo, *Women's Political Leadership and Development*. UMass Boston

Abstract

Leadership is critical for any nation seeking any form of development. Political leadership is particularly fundamental because decision making on public resource distribution happens at this level. Historically, political leadership has been a male dominated field, and in many ways, it remains a male dominated field. Kenya has gradually sought to increase the presence of women in political leadership. Scholarship suggest that women leaders bring different perspectives onto decision making tables and that communities led by women have better resource distribution mechanisms than communities led by men hence social development. This study evaluates the

²Scoones, I., Leach, M., & Newell, P. (Eds.). (2015). *The Politics of Green Transformations*. London: Routledge.



role of women legislators in the pursuit of social development in their communities in Kenya. Using survey data from Afro-Barometer 2008 and the World Bank this research seeks to investigate the impact of women leaders on their communities, the perceptions of Kenyans on their quality of life in relation to the existing political leadership. The assumption is that women's political leadership leads to better life quality for Kenyan citizens. Findings suggest that in Kenya, the impact of women's leadership is not as significant as suggested by studies in other countries. There are various explanatory factors that account for these findings, some of which are historical, political and sociological in nature

James Muchira, *A Mixed-methods Evaluation of Outcomes, Facilitators and Barriers in Providing a Nurse-led Cardio-metabolic Group Medical Visit in a Community Health Center in Central Kenya*, UMass Boston

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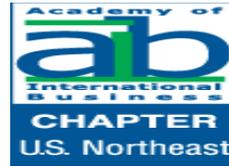
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Abstract

Background: The double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCD) such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes in Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries pose a threat to the social, economic and cultural fabric of the SSA population. 21 million people have diabetes in SSA and is estimated that 65% have undiagnosed diabetes. The prevalence of hypertension is increasing, with some estimates as high as 50%. The Kenya *Heart and Sole* academic-clinical partnership implemented a nurse-led, peer-facilitated cardiovascular-metabolic group visit (CMGV) in a government community health center.

Objective: To examine the outcomes, barriers and facilitators associated with implementing a CMGV in a resource-constrained setting.

Design: Mixed methods. Survey measures: Clinic records, lifestyle behaviors questions from WHO World Health Survey & BRFSS, Interview guide for barriers & facilitators and Diabetes Attitude Survey Scale (DAS).



Results: N=50, mean age 59 (SD±12.8). 80% females, 82% HTN, 66% DM, 48% dual diagnosis. 58% primary school education, 70% subsistence farmers. Increased adherence for: physical activity, red meat, fat, sugar, smoking & alcohol (94%, 62%, 83%, 84%, 100%, 96% respectively). Lower adherence reported for fruit & vegetable (58%) with high adherence for those with ≥85% sessions (p=0.04). Enhanced access to medications & care (BP, glucose monitoring, foot, eye exams). Key barriers were resources and staff time. DAS scores >3.

Conclusion: Adherence to healthy lifestyle behaviors and positive attitude was high in participants who attended the sessions and patients valued the access to care, information and support. CMGV is feasible in low-resource areas and has implications for practice and policy.

Key words: Cardiovascular-metabolic group visit, hypertension, diabetes

John Wambui, *The Tale of Two Slums*. University of Delaware

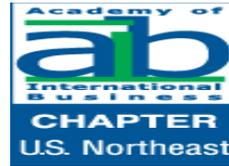
Abstract

Far from the vibrancy and virtuosity of the glowing mega-cities of the Global South, where the margins of the formal urban bureaucracies and politics end, the contours of informal bureaucracies and politics start to take shape in the forsaken canvas of the sinister undercities commonly known as slums. These undercities as Roy (2011) posits, have become the common itinerary through which the emerging Global South Megacities are recognized. The purpose of my presentation is to review the current paradigms within the urban planning framework that focus on the issues of these undercities so called slums. My proposition is that there is a disconnection within the current paradigms as it pertain to the ideology of slums as geographic and infrastructural spaces within the broader urban framework and slums as social entities within the larger urban social institutions. Such disconnection has significant implication not only on how slums are perceived and defined, but also on how slums' challenges are addressed within the larger urban policy framework. Identifying where such digression occurs is the initial step into finding a new theoretical agenda towards the urban slums, and especially those within the Global South Megacities.

Alvine Sangang, *Is African Youth an Asset or a Social Threat to the Continent? Perspectives on addressing youth employment in Sub-Saharan Africa*. UMass Boston

Abstract

More than half the population of Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is 25 years of age or younger and during each of the next ten years, 11 million young Africans are expected to enter the labor



market (World Bank, 2014; McCowan, 2014). In addition to sustaining an 8% annual growth rate in university enrollment over the past couple of years (UNESCO, 2010), Sub-Saharan Africa will be home to the world's largest workforce by the year 2040, outnumbering that of China and India (McCowan, 2014). Yet, high unemployment prevails among university graduates. On the other hand, investment in higher education in Africa has been on the rise in the past few years (Kellogg and Hervy, 2010; Friesenhan, 2014). In my doctoral dissertation, I explore this issue, focusing on the SSA country of Cameroon. Given its unique position in Sub-Saharan Africa as a country that has both Anglophone and Francophone education systems, Cameroon offers an unrivaled opportunity for comparison across these systems. This qualitative study utilizes policy documents, focus groups with students, and semi-structured interviews with four categories of respondents: employed graduates, unemployed graduates, employers, and university administrators/faculty/ policymakers. The lessons learned from the Cameroonian context will provide valuable insights for African policymakers, enabling them to harness their increased labor force through improved policy planning in higher education institutions. Furthermore, the international development community and education donors will find much of interest in the findings from this study.