



# TECHNOPOLICY

## AFRICA

This is the official newsletter of the African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS)



**Africa's Innovation Gap and the Imperative of Intelligent Science, Technology and Innovation Policy for Africa**

**ATPS Ranked Best Think Tank For the Third Year in a Row According to a Global Report**

**ATPS Renews Cooperation with IDRC, Receives a Grant**

**ATPS Vision:**

To become the leading international centre of excellence and reference in science, technology and innovation systems research, training and capacity building, communication and sensitization, knowledge brokerage, policy advocacy and outreach in Africa.

**ATPS Mission:**

To improve the quality of science, technology and innovation systems research and policy making in Africa by strengthening capacity for science and technology knowledge generation, communication and dissemination, use and mastery for sustainable development in Africa.

**Overall Objective:**

To develop Africa's STI capacity (knowledge basis & infrastructure, knowledge circulation & networks, knowledge conditions & policies) today for sustainable African development tomorrow.

**ATPS Motto:**

Building Africa's capabilities in science, technology and innovation policy research, policymaking and policy implementation for sustainable development.

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## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the first edition of the ATPS Technopolicy Newsletter in 2017. The year 2016 was a significant year for the ATPS, most remarkably, was the Stakeholders' Forum which was held on 29th July with an aim to review the current ATPS Phase VII Strategic Plan. A lot of things have changed since its first launch in 2013 and as management, we felt that there was need to review and align our new Strategic Plan with the current continental and global agenda in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI). Key among these agenda are the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA-2024) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our aim is to serve our numerous stakeholders better and meet their overall goals and aspirations. We have been receiving inputs from various stakeholders and experts and I am glad to report that this year we will launch the new ATPS Phase VIII Strategic Plan (2017-2022). The new plan will offer a clear roadmap towards Africa's sustainable development through STI research, policy and practice.

The ATPS Phase VIII Strategic Plan will have both thematic/sectoral and programmatic priorities to enable ATPS achieve its mandate of building Africa's capabilities through STI. The thematic/sectoral priorities include: agriculture, food and nutrition; environment and climate change; energy; and health innovations while the programmatic priorities include: STI policy research, policymaking and advocacy; Training, sensitization and capacity building; Youth and gender empowerment; Knowledge brokerage, management and commercialization; and Intra-Africa and global collaboration and partnerships.

There is no doubt that STI has transformed the world today, industrial revolution witnessed in the late 1700s was mainly through science and technology that led to positive changes in the field of agriculture, medicine, communications, medicine and in industries. There is need for governments to increase funding in R&D in science, technology and innovation, and ensure that research corresponds to national needs. Countries that have invested more in R&D like USA, China and Japan are developed and more self-reliant unlike other countries who have invested less in R&D.

The goal of attaining progressive development in African countries is only possible if scientists, innovators, researchers, policy makers and other experts in the field come together towards building Africa's STI capacity to address Africa's endemic and emerging problems such as poverty, hunger, disease, climate change, and illiteracy among many others.



**Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak**

The private sector needs to come on board to identify local needs and jointly support innovative ventures that offer solutions to people through a public-private partnership. There is also need for more collaboration between the government and academia on research activities so as to ensure a more robust, available and adequately funded research and development (R&D) system that will be able to get goods and services from innovative R&D activities.

On behalf of the board, I take this opportunity to thank all those who supported us last year through development grants, linkages and partnerships. We welcome new partners to join us in our work as we develop Africa's STI capacity for sustainable development.

Thank you!

**Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, PhD, FKIM, FAAS FASI, FTWAS, MBS  
Director, Division for Africa, Department of Technical Coop.  
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Vienna, Austria  
Chair, ATPS Board of Directors**



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to this first edition of the ATPS Technopolicy Newsletter in 2017. An overview of the ATPS in 2016 shows a remarkable progress against the previous year as we continue to embark on our rebranding and repositioning journey to better serve the science, technology and innovation (STI) community in Africa and beyond. There were notable key features (achievements and challenges) of ATPS in 2016. On the achievement side, ATPS carried out numerous activities under the thematic priority areas of the Phase VII Strategic Plan.

Specifically, ATPS received grants to implement the following projects among others:

1. Documentation of the impacts of ACCFP Fellows on climate change adaptation and mitigation in Africa since inception. This project was funded by the African Climate Change Fellowship Program (ACCFP) hosted at the Institute for Resource Assessment (IRA), University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
2. Drafting of the 2017 Africa Capacity Report (ACR 2017) on Building Capacity in STI for Africa's Transformation funded by the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), Zimbabwe.
3. Development of the ATPS Phase VIII Strategic Plan (2017-2022) supported by the Ford Foundation East Africa, Commercial Bank of Africa, and the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC).
4. Capacity Building for Extension Agents and Contact Farmers on the use of LandInfo mobile app to improve agricultural productivity, climate change resilience and land-use planning funded by the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Service (AFAAS).
5. A policy scoping study on harmonization of registration requirements for veterinary products for mutual recognition among East African community partner states funded by the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed).

ATPS signed many Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with like-minded institutions among which include: the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC); the African Agribusiness Incubator Network (AAIN); and the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS). Staff of the ATPS attended many international conferences within Africa and globally. We also strengthened many ATPS National Chapters through visits, appointment of new Coordinators, or through joint implementation of projects.

ATPS received the coveted Climate Information Prize for the out scaling of the LandInfo mobile app technology used to determine the potential of any given piece of land in



supporting crop and pasture production through the climatic and soil information it gives instantaneously. ATPS was also rated the best Think Tank in Africa in 2016 for the second time in a row by the Global Go To Think Tank Index Report conducted by the University of Pennsylvania, USA.

On the other hand, ATPS experienced funding challenges that made it difficult to implement most of its proposed activities to meet the growing demand and aspirations of our target beneficiaries in STI research, policy and practice. One of the strategies adopted to raise more funds for ATPS's programs is the development of a new ATPS Phase VIII Strategic Plan 2017-2022 that repositions the ATPS with clear focus on thematic/sectoral and programmatic priorities and action plans based on client and donor priorities. In 2017 therefore, ATPS shall focus on launching this new strategy and implement programs and projects already identified through consultative processes with ATPS stakeholders at national, regional, continental and diaspora levels. We shall work together with like-minded institutions to implement our programs and projects in order to achieve our mission of building Africa's STI capacity for sustainable development through research, policy and practice. We shall continue to solicit for funding supports from donors in form of core funds, program/project funds, and consultancy funds to enable us achieve our mission in 2017 and beyond. Already, the African Development Bank (AfDB), International Development and Research Centre (IDRC), British Department for International Development (DFID), and the National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa have committed to support the ATPS in the coming years. We pledge to deliver desired results and value for money at all times.

**Dr. Nicholas Ozor,  
Executive Director, ATPS**

# AFRICA'S INNOVATION GAP AND THE IMPERATIVE OF INTELLIGENT SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION POLICY FOR AFRICA



*Prof. Osita Ogbu making his presentation during the 2012 ATPS Annual Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.*

**By Osita Ogbu**

**Professor of Economics and Director, Institute for Development Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka**

I have argued elsewhere, in several forums and through several media, the centrality of activist science, technology and innovation policy, the type propagated by the ATPS in advancing Africa's quest for agricultural revolution, industrialization and the spread of shared prosperity. Indeed, I have canvassed that any definition of economic transformation must include a clear indication that the country has mastery, a command, if you like, of the production architecture of a few goods and services or a set of goods and services. By this, I explained, that the science and technology of production of these few goods and services must be under the complete control of that country- she can produce it, adapt it, modify it and redirect it to produce profitable goods and services. I was inexplicably defining an Innovation Economy- an economy that creates things. Any other definition of economic transformation would be partial at best. In essence while I appreciated the necessity made in Africa, the destination must be made by African, using Africa's knowledge and technological capital. And any transforming African nation should have the benchmarks for moving towards this destination.

ATPS has been championing for the creation of innovation

economies in Africa through its many activities from its headquarters in Nairobi and through her national Chapters across Africa. In spite of ATPS's many strides as a recognized global think-tank in science and technology policy, African countries are still not establishing benchmarks for true economic transformation and for creating innovation economies. In 2014, the Global innovation ranking of the following African countries and comparator nations out of 143 is instructive: Zimbabwe (130), Ethiopia (126), Zambia (121), Mali (119), Cote D'Ivoire (116), Cameroon (114), Malawi (113), Nigeria (110), Rwanda (102), Egypt (99), Senegal (98) Ghana (96), Uganda (91), Indonesia (87), Morocco (84) Kenya (85), Tunisia (78), India (76), Brazil (61), Costa Rica (57), South Africa (53), Turkey (54), Panama (52), Chile (46), United Arab Emirates (36), Barbados (41), Mauritius (40), Malaysia (33), China (29), South Korea (16), Israel (15), and Finland (4). This index, while not perfect, clearly underscores our innovation gap and points to the sets of issues that African leadership should address in the drive to transform their economies and provide prosperity for all. It provides greater impetus for supporting the brokerage and advocacy roles of ATPS, as an effective platform for constantly reminding African leadership and citizens of the importance of science, technology and innovation for Africa's sustainable development.

To transform is to turn the corner permanently in your scienc-

e and technological trajectory, championed by an intelligent government, owned and promoted by a business class, an entrepreneurial and innovative class. Entrepreneurship cannot be discussed or promoted in isolation. It must be promoted concomitantly with innovation. The new growth and prosperity promoting entrepreneurship must be creating and inventing things: a new drug, a new computer panel, a new water purification machine, a longer lasting solar panel, a new way of gathering intelligence, production of goods that make goods, or even a new business model. Otherwise, you may just be trading in goods, deriving temporary cash value from sub-soil assets and claiming to create wealth as financial experts using other people's knowledge capital with heavy user charges and heavy fees paid as royalties for patents. This is the kind of wealth creation that does not spread long-lasting prosperity for the majority of the citizens; the kind that reflects in growing macro-aggregates, without a strong microeconomic foundation which an innovation economy exemplifies.

To transform is to diversify the economy. But diversification is not a natural phenomenon as many of our leaders' pronouncements tend to suggest. It must be caused to happen through organized public actions that direct and incentivize the private sector. Development and inclusive prosperity is, therefore, about diversification and structural change, the creation of new things on a competitive basis from both the traditional and non-traditional sectors, involving value-addition. It is technology-led development which is a leadership endeavor. Leaders and their governments must provide the vision, the strategy and the infrastructure, both human and physical that underpins any industrial or technological advantage. The government must, therefore, do more to support private initiatives other than providing an enabling environment in the traditional sense as understood by most macroeconomists. By providing the strong pillars of innovation, the assets required for creating and manipulating technical knowledge etc., it can signal where the entrepreneurial class can compete and where the nation's competitive advantage would lie in the future. These public actions underscore that initial conditions are not "manifest destiny" and comparative advantage is dynamic.

The more underdeveloped a nation is, the more the government is expected to do something more positive about it. And let me emphasize that no nation has ever diversified without active government brokerage and intervention, often couched in terms of industrial and technology policy or what may be termed as industrial policy by other means – the sort that industrialized countries engage in and the sort ATPS researches and promotes. The pillars of government's intervention include industrial training, training of critical mass of high quality scientists and engineers, significant and



Photo: The Conversation

purposeful research and development spending, creation of incentives for invention and patenting, nurturing and encouraging venture capitalists that can support a start-up culture and, sometimes, acting as the venture capitalist through an Innovation Fund, creation and support of dynamic business clusters, bolstering firm-level competitive behavior that encourages learning and innovation, investing in specialized infrastructure and institutions, acting as a broker between knowledge generating institutions such as Universities and other research institutions and business and entrepreneurial entities that have the capacity to translate ideas and promising research results into goods and services.

There is more. The leadership must be entrepreneurial and visionary with a strong sense of purpose. It must have the capacity and the moral authority to change the citizens' and other layers of governments' "mental model" including self-doubt, reward for production rather than consumption, resolution of coordination failure between the national government, states and local governments and their understanding of their role in innovation and job creation, tap into diaspora knowledge, access and network, and to address cultural traits that inhibit innovation such as risk-averseness, fear of failure, paternalism and hierarchy, gender inequity, poor attitude and work ethics.

The leadership must imbue citizens with the right innovation orientation: to grow their insights, to build interpersonal trust and cooperation, to continually learn in order to improve productivity and competitiveness and incentivize and challenge them to dare. When President John F. Kennedy on May 25, 1961, stated that America would land a man on the moon, he did not have all the facts. He knew that it was going to be a challenging technological achievement. His goal was to demonstrate technological superiority over the Soviet Union and that leaders set goals. That mission statement from a respected leader galvanized NASA and the American scientific community and mission was accomplished by 1969. Israel has been described as "start-up" centric, with more business



start-ups per capita than any other nation, with half of her exports in the high tech sector. They have turned their desert to forest. But the government of Israel including her early leaders such as Ben-Gurion and Shimon Peres worked tirelessly to build the foundation for their technological revolution. Finland, the home of Nokia, was a natural resource based economy, exporting forestry based products such as paper a few years ago. Thanks to the foresight of her government and leaders in the 1990s, they created institutions and used active technology policies to transform their economy, moving from investment driven to innovation driven economy. Today, Finland is one of the most competitive in the world and her major exports are in high tech. The story of Nokia, a large technology company, a former rain boot manufacturer is a story of effective partnership between an intelligent government and an innovative private sector.

In his 2012 State of the Union Address, President Barack Obama spoke about how to motivate what he called “an economy built to last”, an economy with a strong manufacturing base and an economy that generates quality jobs but more importantly, Obama outlined strong and intelligent policies that would underpin this economy, and the robust relationship between the government and the private sector that gives birth to this economy. Such government interventions, according to him, include training skilled workers, strengthening education especially in science and engineering, supporting innovation and “using public resources to develop technologies that industries use.” He went further to illustrate this when he said that “it is public research dollars, over the course of 30 years, that helped develop technologies to extract all this natural gas out of Shale rock...government support is critical in helping businesses get new energy ideas off the ground”. It is therefore, clear that both in developed and developing countries where structural transformation has taken place or is taking place, it is government’s business to support business innovation and competitive edge. But it must be done in an intelligent and strategic manner. And it requires leadership at the highest level and credible institutions that can tie the hands of the leaders.

So what is Africa’s model for an innovation economy? What kinds of assets and benchmarks are we building? Which institutions can be used to create an innovation economy, one that would create wealth and spread prosperity? Is late industrialization possible after China? Can Africa develop without a robust manufacturing sector that has historically been the engine of growth and development for the industrialized and industrializing countries? What is the role for the African Union, Regional Economic Commissions, Think-tanks, the African Development Bank and the African Export-Import Bank?



*Solar panels have contributed to an industrialised innovation economy.*

Yes, Africa can still industrialize after China if innovation imagination meets common purpose, in a manner that exploits Africa’s cheap labor, youth bulge, technological and knowledge spillovers to create tradable goods. Any talk of by-passing the manufacturing sector to services is largely uninformed because services are a byproduct of the manufacturing sector even the post-industrial States are now providing incentives for domestic manufacturing in a more rigorous way.

The regional institutions identified above must work strategically and collaboratively to promote innovation in Africa. Consequently, I would like to suggest that they create an African Innovation Fund. This fund would be critical in supporting critical research and development, reverse engineering, specialize industrial training, invention and innovative ideas that create goods and address other Africa’s peculiar developmental challenges in health, education, and agriculture.

In all of these, ATPS, a globally recognized think-tank must be supported and encouraged to intensify its authentic knowledge and brokerage roles, acting as a catalyst for bringing knowledge generators and knowledge users together. It should use its national chapters to coordinate and disseminate innovation activities within nations and among African countries, serving as a platform for bridging public and regional initiatives that support innovation and the entrepreneurial class that use knowledge capital in the private sector in a manner that creates shared prosperity.

# ATPS RANKED BEST THINK TANK FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW ACCORDING TO A GLOBAL REPORT

By Sharon Anyango

**A**TPS emerged tops again for three consecutive years as the best Think Tank in Africa and 14th globally according to the 2016 Global To Go Index report released by the University of Pennsylvania under the Think Tank and Civil Societies Program in 2017. ATPS was ranked as the Best Transdisciplinary Research Think Tanks, Best Advocacy Program, and Think Tank with the Best Use of Internet in Africa.



## 2016 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report

emerged second as the Best Managed Think Tank, Best Institutional Collaboration involving two or more Think Tanks, Top Science and Technology Think Tank, and Top Global Health Policy in Africa.

### ATPS ranking at a glance

	Relevant Criteria	ATPS Ranking Worldwide	2016 Ranking ATPS Ranking in Africa
1	Best Think Tank Network	14	1
2	Best Use of Internet	22	1
3	Best Advocacy Campaign	19	1
4	Best Transdisciplinary Research Think Tanks	11	1
5	Best Managed Think Tank	22	2
6	Best Institutional Collaboration involving two or more Think Tanks	22	2
7	Top Science and Technology Think Tank	13	2
8	Top Global Health Policy Think Tank	26	2
9	Think Tank with the most Significant Impact on Public Policy	30	2
10	Top Think Tank with Annual Operating Budget of less than \$5 million USD	6	2
11	Best Regional Studies Centre	14	2
12	Best Independent Think Tanks	80	3
13	Think Tank with the most Innovative Policy Ideas/Proposals	30	3
14	Top Domestic Health Policy Think Tank	32	3
15	Top International Development Think Tank	45	4
16	Top Domestic Economic Policy Think Tank	81	4
17	Top Think Tank (US and non-US)	103	6
18	Top Think Tank in Sub-Saharan Africa	N/A	31
	Number of Think Tanks ranked in the World 2016	6,846	
	Number of Think Tanks in Sub-Saharan Africa	615	
	Number of Think Tanks ranked in Kenya	53	



Overall, ATPS ranked 103 amongst top Think Tanks worldwide (US and Non-US) and 6th in Africa. The total number of Think Tanks worldwide who presented their work were 6,846 and 615 from Sub-Saharan Africa. South Africa has 86 Think Tanks which is the largest number in Africa. Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana and Uganda have 53,48,37,28 Think Tanks respectively. Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leon have only one Think Tank in their countries which is the lowest in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The report marked the 10th anniversary since the inception of Global To Go rankings by the University of Pennsylvania

to highlight the crucial roles Think Tanks play to governments, civil societies and the public in an effort to improve their capacity and performance around the world.

The ATPS Board extends its gratitude to the entire 1500 network members and stakeholders' spread across 51 countries in 5 continents for their great support and strategic guidance received in 2016 notably, during the Stakeholders' Forum. We look forward to your continued cooperation in 2017 as we continue to champion for STI for Africa's sustainable development.

## ATPS PARTICIPATES IN AGRIFOSE WORKSHOP



By Hillary Ragen

**T**he African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) participated in the Agriculture for Food Security – AgriFose 2030 workshop which was held from 27th-28th January at Westwood Hotel, Nairobi. The conference was organized by Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and drew participants from various sector actors in science, policy and practice in the Continent.

The theme of the workshop was translating science into policy and practice. It is against this backdrop that the workshop aimed at bridging policy and science through fostering stakeholder dialogue between science, practice and policy.

The theme is aligned to ATPS strategic priority area of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition which aims to enhance Africa's capacity for Agricultural sustainability through science,

technology and innovation.

Dr. Nicholas Ozor, ATPS Executive Director made a presentation on strengthening linkages amongst research, policy and practice in sub-Saharan Africa for sustainable development. He shared lessons from ATPS's past experiences and its significant contributions to STI policy sphere in Africa. The presentation enlightened participants and enriched discussion on policy and policy research nexus.

The workshop included notable presentations by experienced researchers from university and research institutions in various fields of research, policy actors, practitioners, and other experts.

# HOW INDIA TRANSFORMED ITS ECONOMY THROUGH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: A LESSON FOR AFRICA



A doctor explaining X-Ray results to the relative of a patient who is admitted at the hospital.

Photo: BBC

**By Yusuff Utieyineshola,  
Senior Research Officer,  
NACETEM, Abuja, Nigeria**

**M**edical tourism to India has witnessed a massive boost in recent times due to high level of patronage from Africa. Why are Africans seeking medical tourism in India? India is known to cater for the average African “customer” who cannot afford to purchase high-end products/services from developed countries like Germany, United States and United Kingdom.

In a report titled, “India-Africa partnership in healthcare: Accomplishments and prospects.” Nigeria tops the chart of African countries who seek medical care in the fast developing South Eastern nation. The report also indicates that there was a significant growth on India’s pharmaceutical exports in form of bulk drugs and formulation from USD 247.64 million in 2000 to USD 3.5 billion between 2000- 2014. India’s export of formulation to Africa is almost five times higher than that of the bulk drugs.

## African Tourist Arrival in India for Medical Treatment in the year 2013

Africa Region	Foreign Tourist Arrivals (Numbers)	Medical Treatment (per cent)
Nigeria	34522	42.4
Tanzania	23345	18.5
Kenya	40484	9.2
Sudan	8778	9.1
Mauritius	27418	5.1
Egypt	15062	1.1
South Africa	58023	0.9
Others	67639	13.9
Total	275271	14.2

**Source: RIS Report (2015)**

## India’s Government Support Towards Science and Technology

Dr. Manmohan Singh, India’s Prime Minister pledged substantial support for Africa, including the pronouncement of Africa-India Science & Technology Initiative during the 2008 India-Africa Forum Summit in New Delhi.

The Department of Science & Technology in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Federation of Indian





Doctors at Narayana Hospital, India attend to a patient.

Photo: KUOW

Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) have broadly outlined the contours of their collaborative engagements in consultation with the African Union. These include organising India-Africa Ministerial S&T Conference, strengthening of the S&T institutions in Africa, technology transfer of appropriate technologies, training and provision of CV Raman Fellowships to promote human capacity building through scientific and technological cooperation between Africa and India.

India initiated various signature program within the S&T enclave in Africa; the Pan Africa e-network Project (PAENP) which was launched in 26 February 2009 aims to connect India's institutions with 53 countries in Africa through satellite and fibre optics links and provides tele-education and telemedicine services to them. India will be responsible for maintaining facilities created in each country for a period of 5 years after commissioning 48 African countries which signed the agreement with Telecommunication Consultants India Limited (TCIL). Why is healthcare in Africa still under-developed?

### India's Health Sector Competitiveness

The Indian Government under Jawaharlal Nehru after independence in August 1947 set up the task of transforming the country through a process of central planning. Science was given considerable importance in the development "plans", as its significance in national development was recognized. India is leveraged on a well-positioned National Innovation

System (NIS) and good coordination of its S&T institutions, policies and organisations. The link between industrial policy and, science and technology policies resulted into three strategic phases namely; the Initial Growth Phase (1947-68), the Restrictive Phase (1969-1980) and the Liberalized Phase (1980-1990 and 1991 to date).

### Lessons for Africa

Africa leaders must realize that if the intentions of AU Agenda 2063 which seek to make Africa a knowledge-based economy; and the determination of the Science Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024) aimed at driving Africa's development using Science Technology and Innovation as a weapon are to be achieved, adequate measures as adopted by the Indian government should be taken into consideration. Adopting the Indian approach will entail re-defining and localising it to suit the peculiarity of our system in Africa. Furthermore, African leaders must show genuine determination and commitment to S&T development and involvement in realising its socio-economic objectives for the people.



# ATPS RENEWS COOPERATION WITH IDRC, RECEIVES A GRANT



*Dr. Julia Kemp (DFID), Dr. Lisa Phillips (DFID), Dr. Stephen McGurk (IDRC), Dr. Beverley Damonse (NRF), Dr. Simon Carter (IDRC), Dr. Ann Weston (IDRC), and Dr. Aldo Stroebe (NRF) during the first forum of SGCI in Sub-Saharan Africa which was held in 2015 Nairobi, Kenya.*

**By Dr. Nicholas Ozor**

**T**he African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) has renewed its cooperation and working relationship with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). This falls in line with the ATPS new Management's two-pronged agenda aimed at rebuilding and strengthening relationships between ATPS and its stakeholders including the National Chapters, Donors, partners, staff and ex-staff, and the entire members of the ATPS network and the general public that ATPS is meant to serve on the continent and beyond; and raising funds to implement ATPS activities. The implementation of these activities is designed to be all inclusive, participatory, goal oriented, and building on the achievements of the previous administrations.

The renewed cooperation between ATPS and IDRC was achieved through series of dialogues between the Executive Director of ATPS and Senior Personnel of IDRC at the Regional Office in Africa and from the IDRC Headquarters in Ottawa, Canada. It is important to recall that in 1994, the ATPS was established as a Secretariat within the East and Southern Africa Regional Office of the IDRC and became an autonomous international organization in 2001 as a premier institution working on transdisciplinary science, technology and innovation (STI) for sustainable development in Africa. On this occasion, the ATPS and its partner, The Scinnovent Centre has received a grant from the IDRC totaling CAD 928,800.00 under the Science Granting Council Initiative (SGCI). The project aims to build partnerships and networks among Science Granting Councils (SGCs) and other science system actors in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) in order to achieve increasingly coordinated and networked Councils.

The specific objectives of the project are to:

- i) Support and consolidate the voices and views of Councils to effectively contribute to key STI policy debates at the regional and continental levels;
- ii) Provide an intra and inter regional platforms for interaction, information sharing, experiential learning, and collaboration among Councils and other science system actors to contribute to the implementation of the African Union Commission's (AUC's) Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA) 2024;
- iii) Commission state-of-the-art and publication quality research papers/ reviews on key STI themes in order to share innovative lessons and good practices, and disseminate knowledge as a global public good; and
- iv) Promote and disseminate the scientific work, innovations and technologies produced by Councils to key stakeholders such as policymakers, private sector actors, academia, practitioners, and other key stakeholders during Annual Regional Meetings (ARMs) and Annual Forums (AFs).

In order to achieve the above objectives, the following activities have been planned:

- i) Organize in consultations with the Councils, SGCI, regional economic communities, AUC/ New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Annual Forums and Annual Regional Meetings for the Councils and other science system actors;
- ii) Commission state-of-the-art and publication quality papers and reviews on selected STI themes in consultation with the SGCI to be shared and discussed at each AF;



ATPS's Senior Researcher, Dr. Ernest Acheampong (**fifth from right**) participates as a resource person during the Regional Science Granting Councils meeting held from 1-4 November 2016 in Zimbabwe.

- iii) Organize results, reviews and reflection (R3) workshops as part of each ARM and AF in consultation with a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Expert; and
- iv) Organize results, reviews and reflection (R3) workshops as part of each ARM and AF in consultation with a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Expert; and
- v) Liaise with the host country Councils to effectively engage government, academia, private sector and other key stakeholders during the ARMs and AFs.

Expectations from the project are that through the ARM and AF platforms there will be increased interchange of knowledge and ideas between and amongst the Councils, as well as other key STI stakeholders. The project will create opportunities for on-site peer learning and subsequently lead to the establishment of Community of Practice (CoP), which can further strengthen the Councils' partnerships and collaborations beyond the project's lifetime. Again, the ATPS's institutional structure, with its national chapters embedded within the STI community in all the 15 SGCI participating countries (**See box 1**), provides a unique opportunity to sustain the project outcomes beyond the life of the project. Other significant outputs from the project include: three commissioned state-of-the-art papers on relevant STI themes, three journal publications in internationally peer-reviewed journals, and three policy briefs among others.

#### Box 1: SGCI Member Countries

Botswana, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Ghana, Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi, Namibia, Zimbabwe.

Besides, thematic discussions during the annual meetings will lead to common positions, priorities and approaches on STI issues in the region/continent, leading to enhanced cross-country collaboration among Councils and other science system actors. The project will lead to enhanced profiles of the Councils within the political system and a better understanding of their roles in policymaking and science system strengthening. The project will also support the goals of the African Union's STI Strategy for Africa (STISA-2024) and contribute to shaping regional STI plans as well as national development goals.

Networking Africa's Science Granting Councils is one of the four thematic objectives of the SGCI. The SGCI is a 5-year Initiative which aims to strengthen the capacities of Science Granting Councils (SGCs) in sub-Saharan Africa to support research and evidence-based policies that will contribute to economic and social development. The thematic objectives of this Initiative are to strengthen the ability of Councils to (i) manage research; (ii) design and monitor research programmes based on the use of robust STI indicators; (iii) support knowledge exchange with the private sector; and (iv) establish partnerships between Councils and other science system actors. The Initiative is jointly funded by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC), and South Africa's National Research Foundation (NRF). The SGCI theme on Networking Africa's SGCs is being implemented by the African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) in partnership with The Scinnovent Centre. We request all ATPS network members and stakeholders in the participating countries to support and participate actively in the implementation of this project to ensure that the desired objectives are realized.



# REVOLUTIONIZING AFRICA'S ECONOMY THROUGH AGRIPRENEURSHIP



**By Chibuzo Okpokiri,  
Lecturer, Agribusiness and Management - Michael  
Okpara University, Nigeria**

**M**any African countries have been hit hard by the present economic lacuna. Economic recession is the headlines in Nigeria, Zimbabwe is plunged in debt exacerbated by lack of a diversified export base and declining terms of trade that make it difficult for the country to adjust to changing world demand for tradable goods. In a bid to match its present economic and financial situation, Egypt devalued her currency. In 2015, Ethiopia faced one of the worst droughts in 30 years caused by El Niño which led to poor harvests and shortage of livestock forage. The fall of oil price has left Angola struggling with the reins of its economy. This begs the question which way Africa?

Agriprenurship is the solution. Agriprenurship is a union between agriculture and entrepreneurship; an agriprenur is a risk-taker, opportunist, initiator who deals with uncertainty in the agricultural business environment. The managerial, technical and innovative skills of entrepreneurship applied in the field of agriculture may yield positive results and well trained agriprenurs may become role models to all disheartened farmers. Upcoming agricultural entrepreneurs aim to reduce agricultural burden, generate employment opportunities for rural youth, control rural to urban migration, increase national income, support industrial development in rural areas and reduce pressure in urban cities. Most African countries have comparative advantages of producing agricultural produce more than other countries yet they have nothing to show for it. Nigeria is the highest producer of cassava in the world but exports little to nothing.

Cote d'Ivoire is the highest producer of cocoa in the world yet they have no local chocolate company that can compete globally and capitalize on the availability of raw materials; Ethiopia which is the major producer of oilseeds, grains and spices, now accounts for nearly \$750 – \$800 million in export revenue. Lack of local processing and packaging ensure that food products exit the country as cheap raw products and enter local western markets as more valuable processed goods after being processed in a local environment or in another western country.

There is a need for African countries to step up to their full potential which is a carved out niche in the global market for themselves. Agribusiness report 2013 opined that African countries have big opportunities to export into international markets. Almost all successful cases of African agricultural exports involve commodities like; cocoa, coffee, cotton, tobacco, tea, groundnuts, cashews, rubber, and more recently horticultural crops that tend to be grown in restricted areas with specialized agro-climatic characteristics which limits global supplies. Many of these commodities also require large amounts of labor/land for production or processing, which gives a clear advantage to African producers with plentiful low-cost labor and/or land. In the long run, given the more favorable outlook for world markets, African countries with relatively good land and water resources and low population density should be able to tap booming markets in rice, maize, soybeans, sugar, palm oil, biofuel, and feed-stocks and emerge as major exporters of these commodities on world markets, following recent successes in Latin America and Southeast Asia.

The time for Africa is now as Asian countries are crowded, their is high competition and it is very expensive for most agribusiness firms to thrive; Agriprenurship is the catalyst that will help Africa achieve this great fete. African governments should encourage and create an enabling environment for Agriprenurship to foster by encouraging financial institutions and banks which provide finances to agriprenurs to create special cells for providing easy finance to agriprenurs at concessional rates of interest and on easy repayment basis. Rural entrepreneurs should be ensured of proper supply of scarce raw materials on priority basis. Subsidy may also be offered to make the products manufactured by agriprenurs cost competitive and reasonable; training which is essential for the development of entrepreneurial skills. This enables the rural agriprenurs to undertake the venture successfully as it imparts required skills to run the enterprise.



# IS POPULATION CENSUS LOSING RELEVANCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY?



By Sharon Anyango

**P**opulation census is really critical especially when it comes to making and implementing policies that affect the society. Census is the process by which the government(s) acquire and record information about members of a given population. Information is usually collected from people about their date of birth, geographical position, family composition, living standards amongst others. Most African countries conduct their census after every ten years.

The history of census in Africa dates back to the pre-colonialism era. Africans conducted their own census mainly through head counts and different items like colours were used to distinguish variables. Counts were mainly for military and taxation purposes and also when chiefs deemed it necessary. Modern census gained momentum in the 21st century. Data collected during census is essential as it helps government(s) improve services to its people in terms of healthcare, education, standards of living, agricultural production amongst other roles. Researchers can use the data in their research studies while private and public companies can use the data collected for audience segmentation so that they can know the correct strategy to reach their current and target clients.

Census provides information about a country and its people however, data storage and updating real time information has been an issue. If today, one wants the accurate population of Kenyans in real time, he/she may not get the correct number of figures but an estimation because the last census was conducted in 2010 and since then changes in populatio-

ns have not been updated. Many African countries too are grappling with the same situation.

There has also been doubts raised about data collected during census. In 2006, census results conducted by National Population Commission in Nigeria indicated that Kano is the most populous state with 9.4 million residents, followed by Lagos with 9.0 million. Overall, Nigeria's total population at that time was 140 million. The pan-Igbo sociocultural organization Ohanaeze Ndigbo argued that the census artificially reduced Ndigbo to a minority while Mr. Bola Tinubu, former governor of Lagos State called for a recount on account of false figures. Nigeria has previously had such incidences in 1962, where results of the first post-independence were withdrawn. In 1963 there were allegations about the credibility of the process and in 1973 the results were refuted and were not even published.

In Africa, data is usually collected through the manual system by census workers however, not all information they receive is usually true as some households give false information hence inaccuracies may result.

In Kenya, National Bureau of Statistics does the compilation of data collected in the field and releases its finding to the public. A big challenge that needs to be addressed is updating real time information on the population database. A lot of changes are usually witnessed during the ten year window period hence the need for regular updates.

Mr. Patrick Muraya, has developed the Birth, Marriage and

Death Integration Management System (BMD), which aims to address problems of data collection and storage. According to him, Africa's population is changing daily in terms of the number of births, marriages and deaths. It is difficult to update census information in the National Bureau of Statistics main database because information is kept separately; most government administrative bodies store information manually separate from other different government offices in charge of registration of BMD.

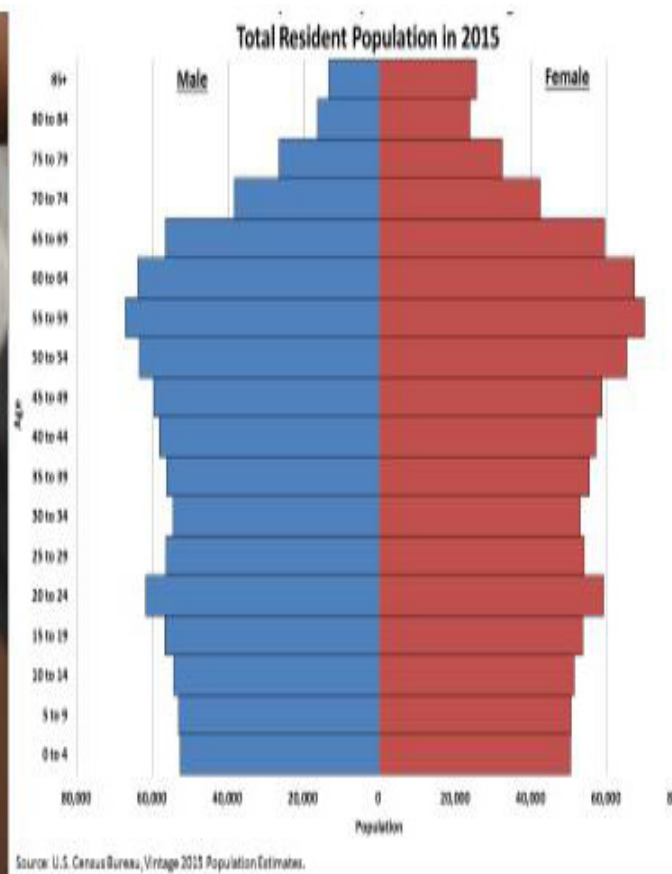
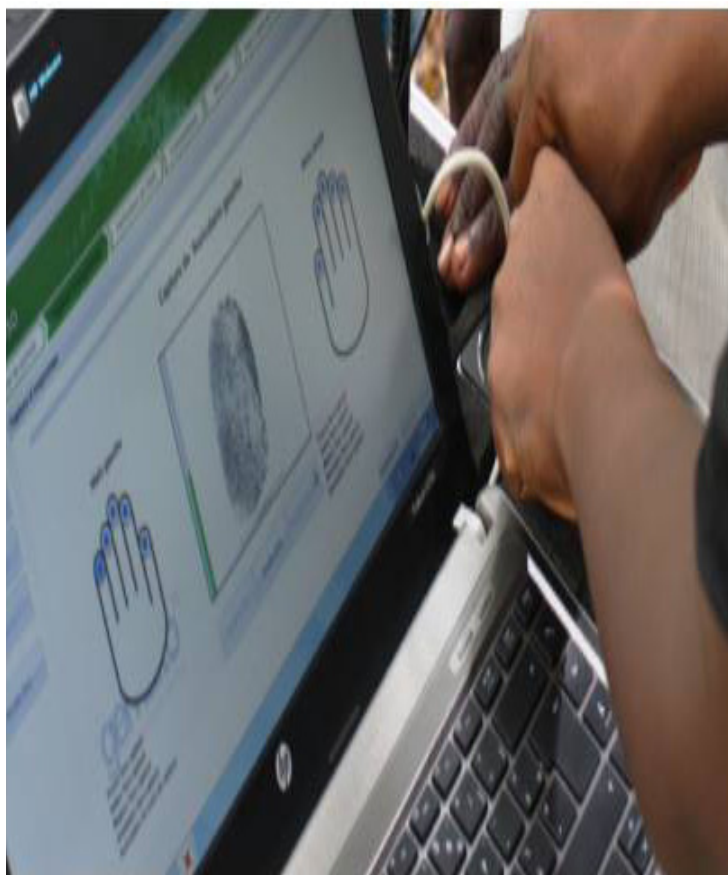
BMD system strives to ensure that all human information is kept electronically for governments to be able to plan well for their countries in terms of food, education and shelter.

BMD system will ensure human information regarding their date of birth, marriage and death is stored electronically. "BMD System is the solution to poor planning by African governments. The system can be replicated and be used by any country to collect information required by any state government thus making it universal and very promising," says Mr. Muraya.

Mr. Muraya is optimistic that if the BMD system is adopted by African governments, it will help reduce costs and time spent during census. The system will create job opportunities thus meeting the global goal of job creation.

## BMD (Birth, Marriage and Death Management System)

**Mr. Patrick Muraya is the innovator of the Birth, Marriage and Death Management System (BMD), an electronic system which can capture essential human information such as births, marriages and deaths so as to assist government(s) in terms of planning and implementing good policies which will be beneficial to its citizens. The BMD System was selected by the Hill Justice Accelerator for the justice innovation which aims to find and support innovations that help to improve efficiency and transparency in the existing legal system. Mr. Muraya is currently an IT Consultant.**



Birth, Marriage and Death Management System (BMD).





## Interview with Mr. Patrick Muraya

### 1. What is BMD Integration Management System?

BMD is an electronic system which is able to store data on birth, marriage and death statistics of a given population with an aim to help governments have real time information about its population and plan effectively for its people.

### 2. What is the niche behind the BMD System?

African countries take approximately ten years before they conduct another census. The BMD System is able to provide real time information about the total number births, deaths and marriages within the shortest time possible. The human race is increasing daily and the vicious circle continues to make the BMD system to be in a position to provide real time data for government(s).

### 3. What inspired you to come up with the BMD system?

There is poor planning by government(s) for its people due to inaccurate statistical data available. This inspired me to come up with a system that will help analysts think and plan far beyond. BMD System will help government(s) know what they require to prioritize in as much as public resources are concerned. Corruption scandals have been reported in most government(s) because of failure to prioritize citizens' needs in retrospect to the taxes they pay.

### 4. How does the BMD works?

BMD System simply collects data of people electronically after birth. Maternal health services will be given a gadget that is customized to key in the data as per the normal manual way as done before. Each child will be given a unique code that he/she will use throughout their life. After data is put in the system for instance birth of a child, the system will automatically synchronize the information into one central database. The same applies to the marriage through the Attorney General's office who issues out certificates and as well as to the morgue

officers who issue out death certificates. The System works through algorithms and match technique through the database so as to avoid any double entries of the same unique Birth ID given. The government also does not need to give national identity cards as the unique number will be given during birth.

### 5. How does the BMD system bring harmonization of data from different organs of government which are related?

The presence of a unique ID prevents double entry thus making it is secure and when the data is being tallied to one central database it causes the information to be added up on real time basis and incase of death, the subtraction arithmetic takes place in the system.

### 6. Is there a backup system in case there is failure from one organ of the government and does it affect other organs?

Yes, there are back up systems set in place which are very secure and operate 24/7, in case of system failure the backup picks up and restores in seconds

### 7. If a country implements the BMD system, is there a reason for conducting census since with the use of BMD system data is fed in real time continually? Please explain further

The country will no longer need to do census again with this kind of system put in place because the same goal objective is already achieved on a continuous basis of providing the government with information in an advanced way.

### 8. What aspects about population does the BMD collect?

The BMD system has several data fields namely, gender, age, tribe, religion, education level, basic income estimates and range, home owner or rental and other fields that can be modified depending on the needs of the government.

### 9. What are the uses of data collected by the BMD system?

The data is mainly used to improve services to the people, one is able to know the pressing issues affecting citizens like education, healthcare hence the government may consider it as a priority and start planning for its people, this will be easier as they know the exact number of people whom they are budgeting for.

### 10. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the BMD?

The process for conducting census is very expensive, the BMD System will help reduce cost. The disadvantage is that it is electronic and it may not be 100% sure but atleast it will be 80% due to the emergence of new fields of data that are added up daily and yearly.



**11. What is the benefit of the BMD to the government, citizens, researchers, students and policy makers?**

The system will ease up their work since the information they are getting from the BMD System is in real time hence easy to plan for the population. Researchers in the agricultural field whose focus is on production can get to know what to do so as to feed the whole population the country, in case of shortage the government is able to device a way to supplement what is unavailable to the remaining population.

**12. Last year, you were shortlisted for the Innovative Justice Award which aims to promote the rule of law and to find the best innovations across the world. How was the journey and what are the major lessons learnt?**

The journey and experience was good and challenging, I have learnt a lot and I am improving day by day.

**13. How far have you gone with your innovation?**

I am currently in the implementation stages, next will be the pilot project to test out the system.

**14. Have you patented your innovation?**

Yes, I have done it both locally and internationally.

**15. What are some of the challenges you faced while coming up with the BMD System?**

Resources is a big challenge, as one has to buy expensive softwares and computers for the System.

**16. What are you currently working on?**

My focus right now is to improve the BMD System and see how the implementation stage will work. I am also seeking for partnerships from various organisations to help me achieve this dream.

**17. Your advice to upcoming innovators?**

Never give up do it again and again with focus till you achieve.

## POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT-PATHWAYS TO IMPACT



*A cross-section of some ATPS Board members and National Chapter Coordinators.*

**By Chuma Ikenze,  
Financial Management & Business Intelligence  
Solutions Expert and ATPS Board Member**

**B**efore I started writing this article, I did a quick google search on "African Government Development Policies." To my surprise, all information that popped out on the first two pages of the search result concerned South Africa. Of course this google search result cannot be used as a basis for declaring that developmental policies are not formulated by governments in the other other African countries. It does however, gives some

credence to the conclusions in the World Bank report titled, "2015 Africa Country Policy and Institution Assessment (CPIA) Factsheet," published in June 2016.

The CPIA is an objective attempt to quantify the progress Sub-Saharan African countries are making in strengthening the quality of their policies and institutions. The CPIA evaluates countries on a scale of 1–6 (with 6 as the highest and 1 as the lowest) using 16 indicators in four areas to determine a country's final score. These areas include economic management, structural policies, policies for social inclusion and

equity, and public sector management and institutions. The World Bank uses the CPIA scores to measure the institutional context in which development programs are implemented as well as to determine the allocation of zero-interest financing for countries eligible for support from the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank Group's concessional fund for the world's poorest countries. Amongst other findings, the World Bank study reported that:

*An analysis of development policies and institutions in 38 Sub-Saharan African countries shows that while some countries have increased support for growth and poverty reduction, most saw no change or a decline in their Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) scores. The average 2015 CPIA score for Sub-Saharan Africa was 3.2 out of 6, which is the same as 2014.*

Classical development theorists recognized that long-run economic growth is a non-linear process that covers many stages, one of which is a low income level trap. Countries caught in the low income level trap show low levels of physical capital, productivity, infrastructural development and explosive population growth. Theorists also argue that centralized, rapid industrialization programs as practiced by many countries in Africa often results in technological and financial failures, soon after their immediate launch with high expectations. Closer studies of these failures show a high degree of policy coordination failures that manifest in investments based on individual goals, rather than coordinated, simultaneous investment programs. For instance, investing in rice milling plants, without a simultaneous, or preceding investment in increasing domestic paddy rice production, and storage systems.

There is no gain saying that the nature and direction of government's investment in the economy and society depends on whose interests the government represents, even in the developed economies of Europe, it was only when control over economic policies by the landed feudal elites was weakened that land institutions were changed to provide adequate incentives for small farmers, and that the government's actions led to a wider diffusion of the benefits from growth. History thus shows that governments controlled by an oligarchic few can only achieve narrow-based growth without development.

Another report published by the OECD titled "Better Policies for Development 2014" stresses on how policy coherence for development provides a tool to better understand the challenges involved, their inter-linkages, and how it can help steer a transformational shift towards inclusive and sustainable development.



Studies have also shown that institutional and policy flexibility are key to sustained economic development in the long run. Institutions and policies that were good for initiating economic growth are generally not appropriate for its continuation. In pre-independence African countries, foreign dominated political institutions were a powerful force for market-oriented institutional change that initiated strong primary export expansion but the institutions that were good for export-growth brought about neither systematic agricultural improvements nor consistently rising standards of living. For ultimate success, the domestic economic institutions have to be transformed so that widely shared growth could ensue and a domestic market for manufactured good could emerge. Unless political institutions and policies are adapted to provide support for the economic needs of a rising domestic commercial and industrial class, the translation of the initial impetus from exports into long term economic development will remain stymied in most post-independence African countries.

Government policy and policy goals are important to economic development. Most African countries have adopted a self-serving, or simply misconceived economic policies and/or institutions which can generate economic disaster. Non-activist government would be preferred to a strong government promoting bad policies. Without belaboring the point, the foregoing has perhaps made a case for the need for cultivating and strengthening effective and coordinated policy formulation skills in all African countries. This is the primary mission of ATPS.



# THE FATE OF AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (AGOA)



Members of AGOA during a past event.

Photo: Umaizi

**By Deborah Carey,**  
**International Relations- American University**

**O**n May 18th, the US and 39 Sub-Saharan African countries will celebrate the 17th anniversary of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), the “cornerstone of the trade and investment relationship between the United States and Sub-Saharan Africa”. This act has been subject to debate over the years. Is it effective? Should the requirements for African nations be more stringent? Does it invite too much investment in oil exports? This year, a new question has surfaced: Will it be favorable to the Trump administration? President Trump’s recent rejection of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and broader platform favoring bilateral agreements have created uncertainty for existing partnerships, including AGOA.

## Overview of AGOA

AGOA was signed by President Clinton in 2000, with the objective of bolstering trade between the U.S. and Sub-Saharan Africa. Since then it has been considered the “cornerstone of trade policy” between the U.S. and Africa. There are currently 38 beneficiaries of AGOA, which are able to import 6,500 different products into the U.S. duty-free. Each country benefits differently. Nigeria alone accounted for 32% of AGOA trade in 2013, but other smaller nations and industries are scaling up to tap into U.S. markets. Throughout its implementation, there have been multiple reviews of the program. A performance overview was completed by the US Trade Representative in 2014, before President Obama led the U.S.-Africa Business Summit. Overall, they report that both the U.S. and Africa (as an aggregation of all beneficiaries

have benefitted from the partnership. The highest years for trade were 2008 and 2009, before the global slowdown resulting from the 2008 recession. Over time, a trade deficit (for the U.S.) has resulted, as more African industries tap into the benefits of duty-free exports. This report, and subsequent statements by African leaders, also highlight the existing challenges in the agreement. Most prominent among these are the rules of origin and product list.

## Existing Challenges of AGOA

The existing Rules of Origin for AGOA state that a country must add 35 percent value to a good in the benefiting country for that good to enter U.S. markets tariff-free. This is a very high standard for smaller countries that may be producing one item in a large, global supply chain. As a result, one of the major criticisms of AGOA is the indirect manner that it incentivizes petroleum exports. Petroleum products, unlike manufactures, easily qualify under the Rules of Origin. Policymakers in the U.S. and Africa have been developing methods to mitigate this issue. The African Union’s “AGOA Forum” began in 2002 for nations to share ideas and strategies to bolster their industries and benefit from more duty-free products. Some countries have developed individual-country strategies, and favor industries like textiles that could qualify for AGOA with the construction of factories. The U.S. has been partnering on diversification projects to diminish the rules of origin barrier. USAID’s “Trade and Investment Hubs” were created to assist countries in Africa to organize themselves around AGOA. In certain countries, such as Kenya, AGOA has inspired the development of “Export Processing Zones” (EPZ) that build-up infant industries. Richard Kamajugo of Trade





Workers at EPZ Kenya.

Photo: Business Daily

Mark East Africa underlines the importance of these endeavors: "Repealing the Act would wipe out the EPZ sub-sector that employs about 40,000 Kenyans, and greatly reduce trade as textile and apparel products account for about 80 per cent of Kenya's total exports to the US." When renewal was being discussed, scholars suggested the rules of origin be adapted to encourage regional integration. For example, by stating that products could benefit from duty-free entry if a region, East Africa contributed 35 percent value to a good collectively, private companies and governments in the region would direct supply chains to include regional counterparts. This suggestion was never operationalized, but remains a leading idea for the 2025 renewal.

The product list has also been a point of contention, and alternative strategies are not as flexible. While AGOA offers 6,500 products, many agricultural products that are essential to countries such as Tanzania whose agricultural sector accounts for 80 percent of GDP do not qualify. Sugar and groundnuts are at the top of this list, and remained excluded even after the renewal of the act. U.S. agricultural subsidies are rumored to be the underlying cause for exclusion of "import sensitive products," defined as U.S. products that are "susceptible to competition."

### Politics of AGOA

U.S.-African economic policy has been uncharacteristically bipartisan. President Bush quadrupled aid to Africa during his administration, and Obama has introduced specific initiatives such as PEPFAR, Power Africa, and Trade Africa throughout his two terms. When the AGOA renewal act passed Congress, it was attached to a larger act—the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015—which included Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) to mitigate the costs to workers affected by trade policies. Democrats had initially disputed the TAA on a stand-alone act, but with AGOA included, the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015 passed in the House of Representatives, 387-32 and Senate, 97-1.

With its highly bipartisan nature and remaining 8-year lifespan before renewal, policy analysts had minimal apprehension that AGOA would be questioned by the new Admin-

istration. However The New York Times recently obtained a list of "Africa-related questions" that were sent to experts at the State Department. One of the many inquiries included AGOA. The Administration asked: "Most of AGOA imports are petroleum products, with the benefits going to national oil companies, why do we support that massive benefit to corrupt regimes?" Analysts, such as Witney Schneidman of Brookings Institute, are now apprehensive about AGOA's future. Schneidman contends "AGOA could easily be the first [trade] casualty under Trump." Analysts, investors, policy-makers, and trade ministers alike are conspiring—what would the U.S.-Africa trade partnership look like without AGOA?

### Impact if AGOA is Ended

The impact of AGOA has exceeded the statistics of trade balances. Many government programs, private initiatives, and factories have been constructed around AGOA's existence, since it creates demand for African imports in the U.S. One of the largest socio-economic contributions has been the inclusion of women. Women have been employed in regions where they had minimal involvement in the formalized economy. The existence of AGOA also increased investor confidence in Africa, which has led to both public-private partnerships with government enterprises and greater amounts of foreign-direct investment (FDI).

If tariffs toward AGOA-qualifying products are re-instated, these smaller-scale industries like clothing factories will not be able to compete with large corporations. Some analysts believe that investors, who have observed the market potential in Africa through AGOA programming, will fill in the gap. Others contend that China or the European Union will offer trade promotion programs in the absence of AGOA. Regardless of this speculation, the objective evaluations of AGOA have demonstrated the positive effects of its implementation. Economies in Africa would survive in the absence of AGOA but trust between the benefitting nations and the U.S. would undoubtedly deteriorate.

Policy-makers and representatives on both sides of the political aisle should vocalize their support for AGOA preemptively, before the fears of AGOA revocation materialize. Those benefiting from AGOA in Africa and supporting its implementation in the US should specify the unique qualities of this U.S.-African partnership, so it will be evaluated alone. Lumping AGOA together with other seemingly ineffective trade policies would be a mistake. While AGOA may not be the long-term policy prescription that underlines all U.S.-African trade policy, its benefits have incited the creation of many industries across the continent. The U.S. has undoubtedly benefitted from this multilateral partnership, especially in terms of economic growth and strengthened relationships with African governments. As we look forward to a more fairer, growing global economy, Africa must be included; AGOA has facilitated the beginning of what could be a mutually prosperous future for the U.S. and Sub-Saharan Africa alike.

# ATPS STAFF PARTICIPATES AT THE WILSON CENTRE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



ATPS Communications and Outreach Officer Ms. Sharon Anyango (right), Mr. John Tomaszewski (IRI), Ms. Alison DeSchryver (NDI) and Ms. Elizabeth Ramey (Wilson Center) engage with the audience on the Role of Media in Promoting Peace during Elections: Lessons from Kenya.

## By Sharon Anyango

**A**TPS Communications and Outreach Officer Ms. Sharon Anyango has been undertaking her Southern Voices Network for Peace Building (SVNP) fellowship program at the Woodrow Wilson Centre in Washington DC. The award is for three months (February to April). Ms. Anyango's research topic is on the Role of Media in Promoting Peace during Elections: Lessons from Kenya.

Election related violence is a common phenomenon. Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Zimbabwe, Cameroon, Gambia, Guinea and Sierra Leone are some of the countries which have had election-related violence. In all these instances despite being in different countries the media has its own share of blame. The media was largely blamed for the 1994 Rwandan genocide and Kenya's 2007 post-election violence in which 1,113 people were killed, 2500 people sexual assaulted and 300,000 people displaced from their homes. Kenya's economy also dropped from 7.1% in 2007 to 2.5% in 2008.

Kenya has previously had post-election violence in 1992 and 1997, the Kiliku Parliamentary Committee and Akiwimu Commission were formed respectively to investigate the root cause of violence in order to avoid future incidences. The Kiliku report was rejected by Parliament due to insufficient evidence while Akiwimu report was released in 2002 after a court battle. Both recommendations were neither adopted nor implemented. In 2008, after the end of post-election violence, the government formed the Krieglitz and Waki Commission to find out what went wrong in 2007; it is from the implementation of the Commission's findings and recommendations that led to Kenya's peaceful elections in 2013.

Ms. Anyango's research paper aims to look at the strides Kenya has made and what led to its peaceful elections in 2013 and the challenges various stakeholders are facing as Kenya prepares for its general election in August. The findings will be useful to other countries as they can borrow a leaf on efforts by the Kenyan government and various stakeholders to ensure there is a peaceful election.

A current upcoming trend that is still debatable is the closure of internet during elections. Uganda, Ghana, Ethiopia, Congo and Chad are some of the countries who have taken this move. The reason is majorly fear by governments that citizens can easily organize protests to remove the government of the day in power. After the rise of Arab Spring when Egyptians ousted out their former President Hosni Mubarak. However, On July 1, 2016, the United Nations passed a resolution by consensus that condemned intentional internet shut-down as a violation of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, arguing that freedom of expression offline should also be applicable online.

The Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding Program is a consortium of research and policy organizations across Africa. Its focus is on inclusive governance and leadership, conflict prevention, peace building and security, trade investment and sustainable development and Africa's evolving role in the global arena. Since 2011 SVNP has sought to address deficit areas in the US policy formation towards Africa. ATPS is one of the institutions which is affiliated to the SVNP Program. Other scholars who have benefited from the program include, ATPS research officers Dr. Ernest Acheampong and Dr. Ayodutun Oluwafemi Bobadoye.



## ATPS MOURNS THE DEATH OF DLAMINI



ATPS is saddened by the loss of Mr. Obed Mfayana Dlamini, Swaziland's fifth Prime Minister. Mr. Dlamini passed away on 18th January 2017 while undergoing treatment at Milpark Hospital in South Africa. He served as Prime Minister in 1989-1993 and at the time of his death he was a Swazi National Council (SNC) member now Liqoqo which is the King's Advisory Council.

In 2011, Mr. Dlamini attended ATPS meeting which was held in Mombasa where he made remarks based on his political experience regarding the state of science and research in Africa. He raised key pertinent questions; How can Africa harness science, technology and innovations in order to add value to products, process and services? How much money is allocated to research in order to attract scientists to conduct responsive research? Who really sets the agenda for researchers, academic institutions or industry? In his concluding remarks, he noted that scientists are likely to conduct research that does not respond to the current needs of the people.

Mr. Dlamini was an active member of the ATPS Swaziland Chapter. He attended Chapter meetings despite his busy schedule and often challenged scientists especially those in the agricultural sector. He did so out of his heart as a farmer. Dlamini was viewed as a great person who could help harness science, technology and innovation.

**May his soul rest in peace.**

## MRS. KONAN ADJOUA THERESA PASSES ON



ATPS is saddened by the loss of Mrs. Konan Adjoua Theresa, wife to Prof. Arsene Kouadio who is the ATPS National Chapter Coordinator, Cote d'Ivoire. Mrs. Theresa passed on 11th March 2017 in Paris.

**May her soul rest in peace.**

Son Eminence Bishop Benjamin Boni Président de la Conférence de l'Eglise Méthodiste Unie Côte d'Ivoire ;  
Son Excellence Isaac Bodjé Secrétaire de la Conférence de l'Eglise Méthodiste Unie Côte d'Ivoire ;  
Le très Révérend Pasteur Fulgence Koffi Inspecteur Général de l'Eglise Méthodiste Unie Côte d'Ivoire; et toute l'inspection  
Le très Révérend Michel Lobo Surintendant du District Abidjan nord;  
Le Révérend Pasteur Adou Gnagne, Pasteur de l'EMUCI des 220 Igtis ;  
Le Révérend Michel Gbatté Koudou;  
Nanan Kalou Diby II, Chef de tribu à Gbadahou-Koffikro, S/P de DJEBONOUA;  
Monsieur Yao Djé, Chef de famille à Gbadahou-Koffikro commune de Djébonoua;  
Monsieur Yao Firmin dit Allangba, Chef de la grande famille Adjoua Yobouessou/Yamoussoukro ;  
Monsieur Kouadio Koffi dit Koffi Sèrè à Yamoussoukro ;

Monsieur Kouadio Konan Arsène,  
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La Grande Famille de Feu Kouadio Denis à Abidjan, Bouaké Toumodi et Oumé;

Monsieur et Madame Yao Konan Théodore  
Monsieur et Madame N'Zi Kouadio Severin, enfants et famille à Bouaké, à Abidjan et USA

Monsieur Yao André Sholmès N'driet famille à Yamoussoukro, Oumé et Abidjan;  
Docteur Diomandé Labia Jérémie, Madame et enfants à Abidjan ;  
La communauté méthodiste Unie Jérusalem 220 Igtis et son Conseil Paroissial;  
Les familles alliées et amies: Goèh-Akue, Kra, Cassy, Oba, Sahué, Gauly, Traore, Blessy, D'Almeida, Seyo, Gatellier, Kadjo, Doukpon



## GRANTS RECEIVED BY THE ATPS DURING THE QUARTER

S/N	Title of the Project	Donor	Project Description	Grant Amount Received
1	Networking Africa's Science Granting Councils	International Development Research Centre (IDRC), National Research Foundation, & Department For International Development (DFDI)	To strengthen the capacities of Science Granting Councils (SGCs) in Sub-Saharan Africa in order to support research and evidence-based policies that will contribute to economic and social development by building partnerships and networks among SGCs and other science system actors in Sub-Saharan Africa.	US \$ 696,180.00

## NEW APPOINTMENTS



Rachel Maluki Joined ATPS as a Finance and Administration Assistant on 1st February 2017. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree (Finance option) from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA) and CPA K. She is responsible for entering financial information and maintaining all financial records for projects and for the Organisation, timely preparation of budgets and budgetary controls, ensuring that all financial reporting is completed on time and submitted to the donors. She also provides financial inputs for proposal development, project management, human resource management policies, logistics, travel and other areas of administration. She brings a wealth of experience from Export Promotion Council (EPC) and National Bank of Kenya, where she served as a Finance and Admin Intern.



## SCHOLARSHIPS

### Sussex SPRU 50th Anniversary Scholarship

The University of Sussex, United Kingdom is currently receiving scholarship applications, as it prepares to celebrate its fifty years of shaping science, technology and innovation research, teaching and policy.

#### ELIGIBILITY

In order to be considered for the SPRU 50th Anniversary Scholarship you must meet all of the following criteria:

- Achieved or expect to achieve a 1st class honours degree (or equivalent if from an overseas institution). However 2:1s or equivalent international classification with excellent supporting statements are also eligible.
- Have applied for and been offered a place to study full time on one of SPRU's five MSc programmes: Energy Policy Msc, Project Management Msc, Science and Technology Policy Msc, Strategic Innovation Management Msc, Sustainable Development Msc.
- You must apply for an eligible Masters course and receive and accept an offer
- You must meet all the University's general entrance requirements
- Scholarship value is £10k which is used to offset the cost of fees or to support maintenance. Any remaining funds after the offset of fees are paid as a stipend to support maintenance.

**DEADLINE:** 1st July 2017

For more information please visit: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/spru/about/50years/scholarships/asapply>

### Pan African (African Union) University 2017/2018 Scholarships

The Pan African University is looking for young, talented and enterprising applicants to enroll for masters or PhD programs at its four institutes namely:- Jomo Kenyatta University-Kenya, University of Ibadan-Nigeria, University of BUEA-Cameroon, and University of Tlemcen, Algeria. Candidates with the desire to play transformative leadership roles such as academics, professionals, industrialists, innovators and entrepreneurs are encouraged to apply. The maximum age for male applicants is 35 years while for female applicants is 40 years.

**DEADLINE:** 31st May 2017

For more information about the scholarship please visit: <http://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/call-for-applications-pan-african-african-union-university-20172018-masters-phd-scholarships-for-africans/>

## OPPORTUNITIES

### Innovation Africa 2017

The 7th Innovation Africa Ministerial Summit will take place from 23rd-25th 2017 in Maputo, Mozambique under the official patronage of the Ministry of Science & Technology, Higher & Technical Education and the Ministry of Education & Human Development.

Innovation Africa is a high level forum which hosts Africa's top leading decision makers, audience and industry partners who enjoy pre-scheduled meetings and committed engagement with ministers, and senior government officials from African Countries. Companies are able to participate in exhibitions and present their innovative work so as raise their company profile and target potential partners from over 40 African countries.

For more information about the event please visit: [innovation-africa.com/2017](http://innovation-africa.com/2017)

### Ghana to Host Africa Innovation Prize

The 6th Africa Innovation Prize will be held at Ghana in July (date to be confirmed). The theme for this year is, "African Innovation: Investing in Prosperity", the aim is to provide a good platform for African innovators and innovation enablers to network, share knowledge, explore business opportunities and boost collaboration. Applications for the call were received from 27th September 2016 - 3rd January 2017 in the following categories: Agriculture and Agribusiness, Environment, Energy and Water; Health and well-being, ICTs; and Manufacturing and Service Industries.

For more information please visit: <http://innovationprizeforafrica.org/>

### Science Forum South Africa

The Science Forum 2017 will be held from 7 – 8 December at the CSIR International Convention Centre in Pretoria, South Africa. The objectives of the Forum are to create a platform for a vibrant debate on the role of science, technology and innovation in the society; to promote international science, technology and innovation partnerships; and to create a platform for key science, technology and innovation actors, including senior government leaders, academics, scientists, industry, civil society, and for students to interact amongst each other.

For more information please visit: <http://www.sfsa.co.za/>



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