African Renaissance
and Australia
Abstracts

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Maimouna Saidi Abass

Coleoptera and Ant Assemblages in a degraded Urban Remnant; indicators of Restoration Success?

Restoration success in a degraded urban environment can be measured by return of original composition of fauna assemblages. Coleoptera and Ants have been used in several studies as indicators of restoration success due to their abundance, ease of identification, and overall sensitivity to various environmental stresses among other indicator qualities. The objectives of this study are; to aid Town of Victoria Park's future restoration works by establishing baseline conditions of Coleoptera and Ant assemblages in the different habitat types within Kensington Bushland and Kent Street Sand Pit; relate assemblages sampled to habitat structure and identify potential barriers to invertebrate diversity and restoration recovery; and to identify possible indicator species for restoration works. Invertebrates were collected in three areas of the Kent Street and Kensington Bushland using pitfall traps and the beating tray method. Samples currently being sorted to morphospecies show diversity of groups with high abundance in ants, Collembola and Coleoptera. Data will be analysed using ANOVA to compare assemblages between sites and multivariate statistics will be used to establish relationships between habitat types and suitability of species as indicators for restoration success. The project is ongoing and all results are expected to be compiled by the end of October.

Herbert Abigaba

Integrated Development Approach Of The East African Natural Gas Resource

In the East African coast countries of Mozambique and Tanzania where energy per capita is many times less than the world average, news of up - stream natural gas discoveries have created euphoria and hope of already existent or prospective opportunities. However, unless well managed, these expectations could also result into pessimistic outcomes. Such pessimism is further exacerbated by institutional challenges that face this nascent industry, despite the improvements over recent years. It is important to adopt an integrated development approach that recognizes keen integration of policies and management programs to radiantly develop the sector, and then the holistic national economy. Issues such as strategic investment and development of domestic and export markets; concurrent development of skills and infrastructure; transparent and responsible management of the resource and revenues for strong intergenerational equity; early mitigation of resource curse tendencies; encouragement of local participation over the supply value chain require resolute attention. The paper asserts the approach as the best way to overcome the already evident challenges while maximizing benefits to support the spirit of African renaissance. Appropriate lessons from Australia's own decades of gas resource production and development as well as other global best practices are considered to offer credence to this approach.

Frank Akampa

Community Based Natural Resource Management

Community - Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) has topped agenda in natural resource management (NRM) for two decades since its emergency at the 1992 Rio summit. It is seen as an alternative to command and control system of colonial NRM which was characterized by conflicts between communities and natural resource managers. Wide - scale issues such as poaching, animal poisoning and poor relations between communities and resource managers were considered unsustainable in the light of conservation and management was re - oriented towards communities. CBNRM is argued to promote maintenance of ecological values while providing social and economic benefits to the surrounding communities. This study evaluates the effectiveness of CBNRM in sustainable resource use in Uganda's Bwindi Impenetrable and Kibale Forest National Parks regarding the extent to which it has achieved maintenance of forest ecological values and social and economic benefits to the surrounding communities. Criteria and indicators formulated by Montreal Process were used in the evaluation. The results indicate that despite its achievements such as reducing illegal activities, enhancing economic opportunities and micro - forest - based enterprises and extending social services such as schools and health clinics, CBNRM has inherent limitations such as unequal distribution of benefits and limited participation in resource planning and management among others.

Mamadou Diouma Bah

Back from the Brink: State Resilience to Armed Conflicts in Guinea

Guinea exhibits many of the major risk factors commonly associated with the onset of civil war and/or armed conflicts, including deep ethnic division; an economy dependent on primary commodity exports, combined with extreme poverty; military intervention in political affairs; and a 'bad neighbourhood' with recurrent civil wars in most of its neighbouring countries. Yet, the country has managed to avoid large - scale violent conflict since independence in 1958. This raises the question as to why armed conflict has not been a feature in Guinea despite the contexts since independence. The paper addresses this question by examining four influential theoretical approaches to the study of armed conflicts/and or civil war onset. These schools of thought include arguments focused on: (1) bad neighbourhood effect; (2) protracted military intervention in politics; (3) abundant natural resources with poor economic performance; (4) and deep ethnic division. The paper will reveal why the presence of these conflict risk variables have failed to be associated with the onset of large - scale violence in the country, as much literature has suggested.

Alemken Jegnie Birhanu

Vulnerability to climate variability and effective adaptation strategies: From the perspective of smallholder farmers in North - Western Ethiopia

The paper assessed the vulnerability of North - western Ethiopia smallholder farmers to climate change impact and effective adaptation strategies. This study is entirely based on secondary sources. Countrywide the mean annual temperature has increased by 1.3°C or by 0.28°C per decade during 1960 - 2006 while the average annual maximum temperature and the average annual minimum temperature increased by about 0.1°C and 0.25°C respectively every ten years. Over the past 50 years there was large rainfall variability in the country, thus, the frequency and spatial coverage of drought has increased for the last few decades. The vulnerability of smallholder farmers to the impact of climate change is strongly related with their heavy dependence on rain - fed agriculture and extreme poverty. Climate condition of the area, increasing population density with simultaneous scarcity of resources and food insecurity are principal causes of vulnerability. The study finds drought and floods are the most common climatic hazards. It is investigated that, due to the physical exposure, socio - economic factors and low adaptive capacity; the smallholder farmers are suffer from the impacts of climate change that will be locally specific and hard to predict. Switching planting date and crop varieties, diversifying livelihoods, undertaking natural resource management activities, investment on infrastructure and social protection program are identified adaptation strategies useful for smallholder farmers.

Lawrence G. Boakye

Critical Success Factors for Agriculture Infrastructure Projects from Organizational Control Theory: Insights from Ghana for Africa

Reports of donor funding agencies such as African Development Bank (AfDB) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) on their operations in Ghana indicate that the delivery performance of agriculture infrastructure projects is poor and shows little or no signs of improvement. This continuous poor delivery performance despite well - known research results on success factors of projects, years of individual and collective experience of managing projects and rapid growth in membership of project management bodies suggests a need to look into the success factors of infrastructure projects from organizational theory. Therefore with insights from case studies in Ghana, this project seeks to identify some critical success factors for agriculture infrastructure projects in the developing world. This work will add to the literature about the evidence of success factors of projects from developing countries that are limited and it will also enrich the emerging balance of control literature.

Timothy Sutherland Budge

Paulo and Saul visit the compounds: shared learning for community activists across time and continents

Two thinkers inspire this research: Paulo Freire (1921 - 1997), analysis of colonising education and his alternative model is articulated in Pedagogy of the Oppressed (1970). Secondly, Saul Alinsky (1909 - 1972), widely recognised as the "founder of American community organising", inspiring Bill McKibben,Cesar Chavez and others. Across sub - Saharan Africa (SSA), there are good examples of communities pushing for fairer power sharing and change. Slum Dwellers International (SDI) works in 18 SSA countries to empower poor communities, giving them greater control over their own environments. It is "owned" by members, people living in poor communities (55,000 households in South Africa). This research seeks to bring together the contributions of Alinsky, Freire and SDI activists from Zambian compounds and South African townships in a way that avoids extractive research or a didactic transposition of Alinsky/ Freire's ideas into the practices, context and realties of SSA activists. Issues of participation, identity, tensions between Western/Australian and indigenous research and recognition of indigenous knowledge systems are at the forefront. Despite these challenges, the desired outcome is a process which recognises the power, wisdom and skill of community activists, includes their learning priorities and generates narratives to guide the knowledge and skills of others seeking change.

Claire Burgess

Biofuel Projects and Poverty in Mozambique

Recently there has been an increase in global land acquisitions for fuel and food production predominantly from developing nations in most cases the land is not 'idle'. The large - scale biofuel industry plays a significant role and has expanded rapidly in recent years, particularly in Mozambique. Biofuel promoters argue that biofuel projects can create employment opportunities and rural development leading to poverty reduction. This paper applies the theoretical framework of Accumulation by Dispossession (ABD) to examine whether developing nations such as Mozambique achieve poverty reduction through large - scale biofuel projects. It was found that the majority of biofuel projects in Mozambique through the process of ABD reduce access to livelihood resources and devalue and suppress subsistence livelihood practices, creating a space for enclaves of property - less labourers to develop. Aside from increased vulnerability to food insecurity, labour opportunities have been highly unreliable. At least one third of projects have faced financial problems. Many projects failed to improve infrastructure, to employ workers as promised, and a significant number have either failed to pay workers adequately, and/or have let - go a large number of workers. Introducing large scale biofuel projects in Mozambique as a solution to rural poverty has been problematic at best, and at worst these projects may exacerbate poverty.

Stephanie Carver

Conditioning Natural Resource Management in Resource - Rich African States: A case for Conditionality?

Political conditionality has provided a useful instrument for encouraging policy changes in external, developing African states. One area where conditionality has recently emerged is in environmental conservation. Conditions thus far have applied to environmental issues such as deforestation for which the benefit from reducing deforestation is global, however there may also be benefit attaching conditions to natural resource management of resources such as diamonds or oil. These resources differ from environmental conservation in as much as the benefit from these resources is experienced only by the consumer and producer, and in the case of diamonds the value is socially constructed. However, the revenue raised from these resources can provide much needed stability and economic growth, which would encourage development. This paper will examine how donors might influence policy changes to natural resource management in developing African states through the use of conditionality. Conditions provided an effective tool for promoting good governance, and similarly may prove encouragement in endorsing responsible resource management. This may provide an alternative route to development if these states can capitalise on their natural commodities. This paper will focus on the application of conditionality to oil and diamond management and assess what type of conditions would encourage most compliance.

Susan Dobson

Evaluating Post - Conflict Statebuilding: the changing roles of external and domestic actors

Externally driven neo - liberal policies dominated by the liberal peace agenda have proliferated across Africa since the end of the Cold War, particularly in post - conflict environments. In many cases, this has preserved pre - existing economic, social and political divisions which have supported western - centric political structures implemented in the name of democratization and promotion of good governance. My research explores the evolution of post - conflict statebuilding and the emerging hybridized statebuilding models, which call for a deeper engagement with grassroots post - conflict populations. This represents a shift away from the externally driven, top - down political impositions prescribed by traditional neo - liberal policies. This paper evaluates the role of external actors in post - conflict statebuilding by critically examining hybridized statebuilding models put forward by Richmond and Roberts, which call for a reorientation of peace ontology and the organic legitimization of authority in post - conflict environments. By using Rwanda as a case study, I argue that a contextualized concept of peace alongside support for authority legitimized by the grassroots population should be implemented autonomously, relegating external influence to advisory and financial support. This paper concludes that successful post - conflict statebuilding is based upon locally conceived ideals which remain loosely aligned to traditional neo - liberal policies.

Solomon Peter Gbanie

The diamond of Western Area is land': Narratives of land use and land cover change in post - war Sierra Leone

The impacts of human land use activities on land cover have occupied the research agenda of human - environment interactions for decades. Using different spatial and temporal time scales, these studies have helped establish an understanding of the main drivers of land use and land cover (LULC) change. Although much research has addressed the dynamics of LULC change, mostly in non - conflict environments, narratives that shape LULC during war and post - war periods have received little attention. As a result, a paucity of data exists on post - war land use dynamics. Using a multi - method approach, this study explores LULC change in the Western Area of Sierra Leone between 2003 and 2011. In particular, the study examines trajectories of LULC change over the nine years since the war ended using satellite images from three time steps (2003, 2006 and 2011). Informed by qualitative data, the study further explores narratives that have facilitated LULC change in a post - war context. A key outcome of this study is an improved understanding of LULC change in a post - war context, which remains an under - researched area of human - environment interactions.

Immaculate OnesimoGillo

Tourism and Employment in Tanzania

The paper is about the contribution of tourism to the reduction of unemployment in stone town Zanzibar, Tanzania. Specifically it will: identify tourism related activities in relation to gender and age, assess employment trends for the last five years (2007 - 2011), identify obstacles hindering participation of employees in the tourism sub - sector and finally suggest strategies for promoting employment in the tourism industry. The study done depict that large number of people were engaged in tourism related activities like curio shops, food vending, tour guiding, boat operating, taxi driving as well as tourist hotels. However there is no gender balance on tourism related employments. The paper has proposed several strategies to promote tourism and hence boost employment following an increasing employment trend occurred from 2007 - 2011. The strategies include review of Government regulations, establishment of local tourism committees and reduction of tax for local investors. The above said aim at promoting tourism which in turn leads to increased employment in Zanzibar and stone Town in particular. The paper suggests that government should enhance tourism through possible initiative to support and capacitate local tourism, influence community engagement on tourism and related activities and raise awareness of local communities on tourism.

Thomas McNamara

NGO Presence and the Changing Role of Chiefs in Rural Malawi

This paper will argue that the proliferation of NGO driven development in rural Malawi has made development provisioning the core task by which chiefs are judged. It will detail the evolution of the chieftaincy system in Malawi, focusing on chiefs' roles, how they obtain and maintain legitimacy and how they are perceived by their people. The paper will explore how NGOs and other development actors utilize chiefs in development projects and the liabilities this provides for the chief and developer, with chiefs praised for successful projects and condemned when NGOs impede village life without appropriate recompense. It will show how rural Malawians now place more emphasis on their chiefs' ability to access NGO resources (and their honesty in sharing them) than their general behaviour and dispute resolution skills. Finally, the paper will look at how this has changed the manner in which chiefs are selected by the royal families and how chieftaincies are sub - divided by Group Village Headmen and Senior chiefs. It shows that were previously chiefs would be selected from among the family members who permanently resided in the village, they were now likely to be well travelled and development literate, but with less knowledge of their community.

George Nyongesa Mondo

Major factors preventing release of Bt - Maize variety in Kenya

Maize is the staple food in Kenya, therefore it's production is an important activity by both small and large scale farmers. Maize farming provides; human food, animal feed and income to farmers. Other than erratic rainfall patterns in Kenya, pests are a major constraint to maize production. Maize production in Kenya has declined over the past years due to crop damage by stem borers. The country's maize demand is currently higher than the local production, to bridge the deficit, the Kenyan government has resulted to importing maize grain. This has necessitated the development of an insect resistant maize variety expressing Cry 1Ab toxins (Bt - Maize) by Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and it's partners. However this variety is yet to be released to Kenyan farmers. The release of Bt - Maize in Kenya would be beneficial to farmers by reducing the cost of using pesticides and damage caused by pests especially the stem borer and thus increase maize yields towards attaining food security. This paper will therefore highlight the major factors that are impeding the release of Bt - maize in Kenya and also put forward recommendations that could be adopted to hasten the release of Bt - maize to Kenyan farmers.

Seamogano Mosanako

Media and development in Botswana: An audience's perspective

The role of the mass media in national development is well documented in development communication literature. However, the literature on development communication is dominated by evaluation research, which assesses the success or failure of development interventions. When evaluations of national media systems are performed, there is minimal effort to include the views of media users. This paper aims to fill this gap by employing audience reception studies to review the media's role in development. The study explores audiences' media use in Botswana, and uses a national television service, Botswana Television (Btv), as a case study to explore media users' perceptions of the relationship between media and national development. This qualitative study uses data from focus groups to understand audiences' programme preferences, perceptions of local content, perceptions of the national television's role in socio - economic development, and expectations of the national television system. The study is grounded in the dominant paradigm of development. The findings reflect some level of satisfaction with television programming, and contentment with the status quo regarding local content on prime - time slots. While audiences appreciate coverage of national issues on television, they express misgivings about the lack of representation of their community issues on Btv. This paper argues that the positive perceptions of Btv among the viewers, and the viewers' expectations that Btv will retain the status quo of a top - down communication approach, signal that in some instances, some level of national development needs to have been achieved for media to play a meaningful role in development.

Eric Ngethe

Review of biosecurity system in Kenya with a special focus on food security. Agriculture is undergoing through a tremendous challenge and shift in focus.

In the past, agricultural production was directed at provision of food for the local population. Today, agricultural sectors are transforming to meet the global food demand, while generating foreign currency to the producing countries. To maximize on production, agricultural practices have intensified to meet an increasing demand for quality food. Further, it is expected to provide more employment opportunities, meet other socioeconomic and cultural needs of a growing population while adapting to climate change. Unfortunately, such intensification is threatened by increased biosecurity attacks from pests and diseases incursions. Biosecurity attacks are further compounded by increased movement of goods, products and people, expanding variety of imported products and an increased rate of adoption for biotechnology creating more pathways for the spread of pests, diseases and other biosecurity risks. This paper argues that irrespective of the level of development, countries establish biosecurity systems as a measure to detect, control or isolate biosecurity threats thereby safeguarding their exports and ensuring food security. However, capabilities and effectiveness of such biosecurity systems varies a great deal among developing countries. This paper embarks on a literature review to analyse the gaps that exists between Kenyan and Australian biosecurity. Its main output is focused on identifying the implications of such gaps on food security.

Stephen O'Brien

Bio - medicalization and community mobilisation around HIV in Harare, Zimbabwe

I explore community based mobilisation around HIV and responses to bio - medicalization in the context of Zimbabwe, a country with an intense epidemic, poor socio - economic indicators and problematic State - civil society relations. The paper draws on interviews conducted in 2010 with people living with, and affected by HIV, in four marginalised areas in the capital Harare. This data is analysed through the lens of social movement theory and sociological critiques of the emerging dominance of biomedical strategies for managing HIV (i.e. treatment as prevention, pre - exposure prophylaxis, male circumcision etc.). I discuss two questions. The first of these is: to what extent does the rush to HIV related biomedicine undermine the grassroots mobilisations, which initiated and sustained responses to HIV for many years in a number of countries. Secondly, what are the bio - political and social control implications of adopting highly technologized conceptions of HIV prevention and treatment in a politically problematic country, such as Zimbabwe? I consider these questions from the viewpoint of community based activists in Harare as they negotiate and reclaim their needs and rights in relation to HIV in a difficult political and socio - economic environment.

Austin Okwah

Licensing Strategy and Relinquishment of Oil Licencing Strategy and Relinguisment of Oil and Gas unused acreages in Nigeria and Other World Examples

Petroleum has become an integral part of today's global economy and a key component of Nigeria national economy. While the presence of the petroleum is a gift of nature, harnessing this resource is germane. To exploit these resources efficiently, oil producing countries adopt various licensing strategies, as well as, relinquishment process to enhance their petroleum production and better acreage management. This paper seeks to make a comparative analysis of the licensing strategy and relinquishment process in Nigeria, Australia, United Kingdom and Brazil. The paper shall examine the development of modes of acquisition of oil and gas licence in Nigeria from pre - 1969 (under the Mineral Oils Ordinance) and post - 1969 (under the Petroleum Act). It will analyze the development of concessionary allocation in Nigeria based on negotiation, to the competitive bid licensing round which was premised on payment of signature bonus and work program. Thereafter, the process of relinquishment of acreage in Nigeria will be compared with the processes of allocation and relinquishment of unused oil and gas licences and leases in Australia, United Kingdom and Brazil, with a view to highlighting the pitfalls in Nigeria's relinquishment system, and need for a change of the the of the Nigeria's acreage allocation system.

Aimie Saba

State - Society Relations in Post - Conflict Peacebuilding

Peacebuilding efforts in post - war societies such as Burundi and Liberia tend to focus on power - sharing governance as a way of promoting inclusive democracy and peace. This paper argues for a renewed attention to the 'post - conflict' sociologics through which claims to legitimacy and sovereignty are made and sustained. In particular, it explores the ways in which non - state actors organize and frame a narrative of everyday resistance to the state in peacebuilding sites – a terrain of low - intensity violence and contestation. To make sense of resistance in post - war societies, one needs to understand the microphysics of power and how it is produced. The case of 'post - war' Burundi reveals a number of complex challenges, from the passage of war termination to inclusive democratization, through to socialization of former rebels into administrators and civilian politicians. It also calls for a renewed interest in the relational nature of state power and on states' capacities to project their power into social realms well beyond their own institutional boundaries. The aim is to interrogate the kinds of politics of power relations and ethical issues which are (re)produced when state actors encounter non - state actors in renegotiating needs in society. The paper shows that while the new, post - war institutions have contributed to regulating interethnic conflict, they have failed to bring about civil peace and end the garrison state: the state and its proxy forces has been framing sections of non - state actors (human rights activists, investigative journalists and NGO leaders) as its enemies or as 'delinquents' seeking to diminish the sovereign's power and to increase their own political voice.

Faced with this contradiction, the paper concludes that actors might begin to develop what might be called metaphysics of relations as it paves the way to more complex studies of political capacities, institutions and struggles in pre and post - war eras. A process of mutual recognition and useful interdependency has however, rendered some categories of non - state actors more comfortable with the politico - military shift of responsibility from the ancien régime to the current ruling elites and state actors reluctantly have ceded a province of authority to non - state actors as providers of political stability to society and as 'legitimate spokespersons' of rightless, vulnerable citizens – including through popular dissent.

Hurryvansh Aubeeluck

Institutional Governance and Economic Growth, with special reference to sub - Saharan Africa

This econometric study attempted to provide additional evidence on the relationship between the quality of institutions and economic growth in developing countries. Using a Barro - type growth model, the study also examined whether the growth performance of sub - Saharan African countries was a consequence of institutions of governance. A newly assembled data set consisting of six governance clusters, namely voice and accountability, political stability, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, rule of law, and control of corruption, was combined into an overall quality of institutional governance index (QIGI) based on equal weighting. The empirical results suggested that institutional quality had a positive impact on growth which was at least as strong as that of physical capital. Moreover, the study revealed that government effectiveness, measuring the quality of public service delivery and the competence of bureaucrats, was the most robust predictor of economic growth. It could also be concluded that governance may at best provide a partial explanation for sub - Saharan Africa's growth rates. A major policy implication emanating from the findings was that the development of institutions was crucial to the achievement of sustained economic growth in developing countries and these institutions could not operate effectively without good governance.

Elibariki Henry Shilla

Bio - indicator species for climate change effects in Tanzania: Implications for Policy

Climate change effects are being felt all over the world in different sectors such as agriculture, livestock keeping and biodiversity among others for several years now. In line to international architectures for climate change mitigation and adaptation, governments have been developing various policy initiatives to adapt to climate change effects. Least Developed Countries to which Tanzania belongs are more vulnerable to climate change effects due to poor economy and over dependence on natural resources among others. Ecosystem based adaptation is among the main important adaptation approach. Climate change effects indicator species should be emphasized in developing effective adaptation policies with regard to climate change effects on biota. This study aims at defining terrestrial mammals which are indicator species for climate change and assessing their usefulness in climate change adaptation policy in Tanzania. A desktop analysis is being undertaken to define indicator species for effects of climate change in Tanzania. Additionally, a survey focusing academics and ecologists in Tanzania is underway to capture different views as to what they consider to be indicator species for climate change. Recommendations will be made for improving climate change adaptation policy in Tanzania based on the results of the desktop study, and perceived indicator species from the different stakeholders.

Mohamed Sulaiman

Global Jihad v. Domestic Indices: Acquitting A 'Prime Suspect' in the Boko Haram Insurgency in Northern Nigeria.

The world's attention is turning towards Nigeria where the militant group Boko Haram has since 2009 launched a bloody campaign for the creation of an Islamic state, with devastating human and material costs. Given the fact that terror - related conflicts have not normally been part of the West African security terrain, understanding the real causes behind the insurgency is of critical concern to security stakeholders. Whereas domestic dynamics point to Boko Haram as a creation of the ailing Nigerian state, the Nigerian government's approach has tended to, in both words and action, focus on the broad concept of global jihad. Combining analysis of policy, media reporting, in - depth interviews with key opinion leaders on Nigerian society and current scholarship, this paper assesses these conflicting positions by examining the relative significance of global jihad and domestic indices in the Nigerian insurgency. The paper concludes that giving Boko Haram a jihadi appearance does not only work against a long - term solution; it also meets the rhetorical expectation of the insurgents. The paper therefore recommends a political and socio - economic repositioning of the Nigerian society by responding to the underlying grievances that fuel dissident groups, and a discontinuation of the government's 'terrorist' approach to deny Boko Haram its jihadi appeal.

Ayoola Oluyemisi O, Sekoni and Adeyemi – University of Lagos
Transactional Sex, Condom And Lubricant Use Among Men Who Have Sex With Men In Lagos State, Nigeria

Men who have unprotected sex with men may also have unprotected sex with women and thus serve as an epidemiological bridge for HIV to the general population. This cross sectional descriptive study assessed condom and lubricant use and practice of transactional sex among men who have sex with men (MSM) in Lagos state, Nigeria. Nigeria today ranks second in the world in terms of the number of people living with HIV. Simple random sampling was used to select three community centres and snowball sampling technique was used to recruit 321 respondents. Almost half (50.9%) had received payment for sex while 45.4% had paid for sex in the past. Consistent condom use was practiced by 40.5% of respondents during the last 10 sexual encounters, 85.6% used lubricants mostly with condom, products used were KY jelly, body cream, saliva and Vaseline. There is need for behavioural change to reduce risky practices which predisposes this group of MSM to HIV and sexually transmitted infections.

Bah Mamadou Diouma - University of Waikato
Back from the Brink: State Resilience to Armed Conflicts in Guinea

Guinea exhibits many of the major risk factors commonly associated with the onset of civil war and/or armed conflicts, including deep ethnic division; an economy dependent on primary commodity exports, combined with extreme poverty; military intervention in political affairs; and a 'bad neighbourhood' with recurrent civil wars in most of its neighbouring countries. Yet, the country has managed to avoid large - scale violent conflict since independence in 1958. This raises the question as to why armed conflict has not been a feature in Guinea despite the contexts since independence. The paper addresses this question by examining four influential theoretical approaches to the study of armed conflicts/and or civil war onset. These schools of thought include arguments focused on: (1) bad neighbourhood effect; (2) protracted military intervention in politics; (3) abundant natural resources with poor economic performance; (4) and deep ethnic division. The paper will reveal why the presence of these conflict risk variables have failed to be associated with the onset of large - scale violence in the country, as much literature has suggested.

Buswell Clare - Flinders University
Women and the Sky Cannot be Understood. Troublesome Women and Outraged Men in Colonial Kenya

Gender relations define male and female behaviour and show how access to resources such as food, crops, land and social class is contingent upon being male or female, married or revered as a female or male elder. By examining the historical contexts of gender relations we are able to view moral authorities that act as empowering agents interconnecting relational positions, social standing and place. However, moral authority often has its origins in powerful myths, proverbs, folktales, and religious beliefs. This paper examines women's challenges to those myths and the moral chaos this caused within marriage under colonial occupation in Kenya. The paper argues that such women not only shamed their menfolk into action against their colonial masters, but challenged social notions of womanhood.

Cakir Mehmet & Mark P McHenry - Murdoch University
International Research Collaborations For Enhancing Agricultural Productivity & Strategies For Establishing Effective Global Collaborations In Africa

Globalisation in research and development is progressing rapidly. Particularly through the governments of UK, USA and Australia and private foundations such as Bill & Melinda Gates, substantial investments are being made for agricultural research in Africa through collaborative projects. Strategies must be in place to get the most benefit from these international investments in Africa. The aims of this presentation are to discuss: a) the role of international research collaborations for enhancing agricultural productivity, b) strategies for establishing effective global collaborations between African and non - African scientists. Short term and long term strategies must be in place to increase in agricultural productivity. Short term strategy may involve in training farmers through extension services towards implementing new farming systems. Training farmers with new simple methods should provide an immediate increase in productivity. Human resource and infrastructure capacity building may be viewed as a long term strategy. Africa and African people can only be lifted up with the greater involvement of African scientists and policy makers with enhanced collaborations with international partners from developed nations. Although international funds present great opportunities for the agricultural research in the way to increasing agricultural productivity in Africa, due to the lack of know - how and practical information, fewer African scientists are able to undertake leadership roles in internationally collaborative projects. Therefore it is important that African scientists be trained, for example, in area of grant writing for enabling them to ask critical questions to create best outputs for the African Farmers.

Counsel, Graeme – The University of Melbourne
The Music Archives Of Guinea - Nationalism And Its Representation Under SékouTouré

The audio collection of Radio Télévision Guinée (RTG) has recently been digitised and archived by project funding through the British Library. The project collection of 9,410 songs covers the period of President Sékou Touré (1958 - 1984), when Guinean musicians pioneered the development of new styles of African music. Sékou Touré saw the development of national culture as key to the progress of his nation, and through the cultural policy of authenticité Guinean musicians were instructed to modernise their local musical traditions via the new Western instruments which were a feature of their state - sponsored groups. Guinean music blossomed under authenticité, and Guinea's musicians and ensembles toured the continent as the cultural ambassadors of their nation. But how representative were these national and regional orchestras, ensembles and dance troupes? How did they express concepts of nationalism through culture, and what role did the state play?

Dalby Mat – Curtin University
Resettlement Service Complexities For African Refugees In Melbourne

Volunteer African refugee organisations play an important role in assisting the successful resettlement of humanitarian arrivals in Australia. The provision of volunteer resettlement services, either independently or collaboratively, are widely supported, but not well understood. The following presentation discusses the complexities of independent and collaborative service delivery by African refugee volunteer organisations within Melbourne's Flemington public housing estate. Semi - structured interviews with 15 African refugee volunteer organisation leaders, paired with participant observations, reveal three broad themes: operational challenges for volunteer organisations; contrasting service delivery methods by volunteer and mainstream service providers; and, partnerships between volunteer and mainstream providers characterised by power imbalances. Operational challenges identified by interviewees include a disparity between funding body priorities and locally determined needs; and, poor service co - ordination amongst providers. An inspection of service delivery methods suggests that volunteer organisations are providing more informal, flexible and culturally competent services than their mainstream provider counterparts. Lastly, interviewees were critical of selected partnerships with mainstream resettlement service providers, suggesting they offered limited agency and compromised their political legitimacy. In conclusion, the paper reflects on how these themes may be translated into policy to guide changes within volunteer and mainstream organisations, enhancing the sustainability and efficacy of resettlement service provision for humanitarian arrivals.

Doepel David, Mark McHenry and HudsonMthega - Murdoch University
The Africa Mining Vision

The Africa Mining Vision and Action Plan articulate a vision for the "transparent, equitable and optimal exploitation of mineral resources to underpin broad - based sustainable growth and socioeconomic development" across the African continent. The history of the development of these documents is best understood against the backdrop of significant disappointment with regard to the poor outcomes of exploitation of natural resources and sometimes crippling social and environmental legacies. At the same time these documents express a determination to build capacity and capability to ensure exploitation of mineral and energy assets can lead to positive structural transformation. This panel will discuss the AMV and Action Plan's 9 programme clusters in the context of an African Renaissance to explore how Australia has and can further engage with pan - African institutions and other partners by examining three potential mechanisms in detail.

Gondwe Mzamose -
University of Western Australia
African Science Heroes

The consensus in the research literature suggests students do not like science because it bares no relevance to their personal experiences. Often students equate science to Einstein, lab coats and goggles; failing to see themselves or the knowledge within their own communities as examples of science. This disconnect could explain why students fail to engage deeply with science. These contextual factors similarly influence science performance of students in Malawi, Africa and in Australia. Linking science to community, family and out of school activities empowers students to see science as accessible and relevant to their everyday lives. This presentation addresses issues of science disconnect by discussing the role and impact of a practicable class activity involving student generated films on science and culture. Three schools, two in Australia and one in Malawi participated in this study, where students were taught filmmaking and invited to make films on science and culture. We found filmmaking enhanced relationships between students, their community, their family and the school by giving voice to and legitimizing community knowledge. Filmmaking motivated and engaged students however scaffolding and guidance should be provided on how to investigate the connections between science and culture.

Gondwe Mzamose Student Generated Films On Science And Culture; A Cross-cultural Case Study Of Malawian And Australian Schools

The consensus in the research literature suggests students do not like science because it bares no relevance to their personal experiences. Often students equate science to Einstein, lab coats and goggles; failing to see themselves or the knowledge within their own communities as examples of science. This disconnect could explain why students fail to engage deeply with science. These contextual factors similarly influence science performance of students in Malawi, Africa and in Australia. Linking science to community, family and out of school activities empowers students to see science as accessible and relevant to their everyday lives. This presentation addresses issues of science disconnect by discussing the role and impact of a practicable class activity involving student generated films on science and culture. Three schools, two in Australia and one in Malawi participated in this study, where students were taught filmmaking and invited to make films on science and culture. We found filmmaking enhanced relationships between students, their community, their family and the school by giving voice to and legitimizing community knowledge. Filmmaking motivated and engaged students however scaffolding and guidance should be provided on how to investigate the connections between science and culture.

Hawker Geoffrey –
Maquarie University
The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative: African Lesson For Australia

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is the most prominent of the "transparency measures" that national governments, multilateral organisations and NGOs have forged over the last decade to deal, it is said, with the excesses of private development, especially in the resource sectors of the South. The states of the North have not regarded themselves as candidates for scrutiny through the EITI, but now the Australian government is supporting a domestic trial with Australian companies, and recently hosted the 6th 'global conference' of the organization in Sydney (May 2013). Critical observers argue that a 'vibrant' civil society is a pre - requisite for addressing the central concern of the EITI protocols – corruption in business and government. A review of African experience of the EITI has lessons for Australia of a similar vein: the agency of individuals and groups is indeed essential. Corruption, however, needs to be understood more broadly than the proponents of the EITI in business, government and civil society alike have allowed to date. The limits of the EITI will surely be tested in Australia. The African and by extension of this Nigerian short story is overdue for serious critical attention. While much discourse covers the dearth of novels, little focus is given to acknowledging the attempts communicated by short stories. In effect, short stories powerfully cover a particular subject or bone of contention in a very short time span, requiring and presenting creative finesse. In the case of Nigerian women's short stories, this paper will attempt to disclose how their works convey a form of female dialogue of justice critiquing modern day Nigeria – the effects of its neo - liberal policies, the involvement of Nigerians and victimization of its women in organised crime, as well as the position of contemporary Nigeria within a transnational, global context. Selected stories from Flora Nwapa's Wives at War and Other Short Stories (1992), Promise Okekwe's House of Chaos (1996), Unoma Azuah's The Length of Light: A Collection of Short Stories (2008), Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's The Thing Around Your Neck (2010) and Sefi Atta's News from Home: Short Stories (2010) will thus unveil the success of the short story form in dispensing literary subjectivity, a key tool in forging new developments in the field.

Kenny Christina -
Australia National University
'There's this belief that they can't lead, that's why they didn't stand up': Women's experience of civil and political rights at the 2013 Kenyan General Elections

In the lead up to the 2013 General Elections in Kenya, public expectations of Kenya's new democratic institutions and processes reached a high water mark. For women, the pre - election emphasis on the constitutionally enshrined '2/3rds gender principle' and women's representative seats contributed to an already complex and confusing political environment. Nevertheless, many Kenyan women were hopeful that the new regulatory frameworks created by the 2010 constitution would provide new opportunities for women to attain elected public office. This hope was not realised. No women were elected to the positions of Member of Parliament, or Senator.

Khan Katy -
University of South Africa
Communicating The Popular In Niyi Osundare's 'Soetry': Moonsongs Reconsidered

NiyiOsundare is undoubtedly one of the finest of Nigerian and by extension, African poet, with several volumes to his name. Most of Osundare's creative works have been appreciated as distinctively poetic work of an educated artist who received the western poetic traditions that he adopted for his Nigerian context. But Osundare's background is also distinctively influenced by his Yoruba tradition from which genres of the song, and myth have been mined and creatively reworked. In MOONSONGS, poetry, myth and song are yanked together to produce a popular genre of art that I describe here as 'soetry'. The clear features of soetry are manifest in the fact of poetry in the song and the song in the poetry. This may not be new to African folkloric genres but my concern in this paper is to unearth some of the meanings that are released at the moment of the transvaluation of 'written' poetry rendered in the performed or perfomative song. I argue that both poetry and song are constitutive of the popular genre of soetry. If MOONSONGS is analysed using the theoretical richnesses of multi., inter and transdisciplinary perspectives, the idea of soetry manifests the power to name, and mean multiple African realities in ways that approximate popular culture. This aspect of the popular is, in the case of Osundare's soetry produced by the elite though the same popular resonates with the world view of the Nigerian ordinary men and women.

Kilimo Miriam - Dartmouth College - Western Discourse in Legal Approaches: A History of Female Circumcision in Kenya

Since 2008, the UNFPA and UNICEF have carried out a joint campaign to agitate against female circumcision on the African continent, where 3 million girls are estimated to be at risk of undergoing the practice. These efforts reflect an ongoing involvement of Western countries in eliminating the cultural practice in African countries. In Kenya, these efforts began in the colonial period and continue on to the present day. In this paper, I illustrate how these efforts reflect shifting Western feminist discourses on female circumcision, which have in turn influenced the formulation of local Kenyan laws against the practice. These discourses range from the civilizing mission of the colonial period, to the current human rights debates. Indeed, as Western views on Africa change, so do the feminist views that influence the efforts against female circumcision. However, I emphasize the paradoxical effect of these feminist debates on female circumcision in Kenya, showing how Kenyan women activists do not internalize these feminist discourses, namely, the civilizing mission, the human rights debate and the use of the term female genital mutilation (FGM). Instead, I argue that Kenyan activists use these frameworks to spearhead their own brand of advocacy against female circumcision in the country.

Laryea Emmanuel - Monash University – Africa And The Global Economy: Imperatives Of International Economic Law

The paper will examine the importance of international economic law (IEL) in Africa's development. Despite its abundant natural resources, Africa is the least developed of all continents. Many economies on the continent are now growing faster than their developed counterparts, but from a very low base the growths are fragile. The paper argues that the nature and content of IEL, its understanding by stakeholders on, and for, the continent, and use by policy makers are important to harnessing the available resources for sustained growth and development of the continent's economies. The paper will draw on examples from Asia, which has used IEL better than Africa. Ironically, in the early 1960s, Africa was largely seen as a more promising and prosperous continent than Asia, which was then mired in seemingly irredeemable poverty and ravaged by wars—extensive destruction in World War II, Chinese Revolution, Korean War, bloodbath in Indonesia and the Vietnam War that spilled over into Laos and Cambodia. But Asia emerged from these troubles to achieve remarkable economic successes that are widely acknowledged today. A major part of the successes have been by policies that engendered effective use of foreign investments and exports. For better and more effective economic growth in Africa, it is important for the continent to deepen its understanding and make use of the IEL. And this might be an opportune time for Africa to do so, for reasons to be outlined in the paper.

Lucas David and Barbara Edgar, Australia National University, African Australians in Australia in 2011: their demography and human capital

The 2011 Population Census shows that around a third of a million (337,826) Africa - born were enumerated in Australia, with a majority born in South Africa or Zimbabwe. The overall increase between 2006 and 2011 was 40% but this masks a variety of growth rates for individual countries. This paper firstly considers inter - censal changes in birthplace data for each Africa countries between 2006 and 2011. Further analysis using the ABS 2011 Census TableBuilder software enables comparisons to be made between the South Africa - born and the Zimbabwe - born, and those born in Sudan (and South Sudan), and in the Horn of Africa. Since many of those from Sudan and the Horn of Africa came to Australia as a part of the humanitarian intake, often via refugee camps, their children may have been born in third countries, so ancestry may be used as an additional variable. The analysis focuses on human capital variables such as education and labour force participation, showing the advantaged position of the South Africans and Zimbabweans. A final section considers the future of Africa Australian youth.

Macdonald Catherine - Social Sustainability Services PTY Business Ethics - Business Models And Social Needs: Trends In Social Impact Assessment (Sia) For Mining Projects, African And Asian Examples

In its 2011 handbook, Social Responsibility in the Mining and Metals Sector in Developing Countries, the Australian Government signalled its expectation that Australian mining companies operating in developing country contexts should do so in a socially responsible manner. Companies need to ensure that their actions and those of their personnel, subcontractors and suppliers meet international standards for the protection of human rights and the environment, and enable those people affected by project developments to benefit from them. The main global standards for corporate social impact assessment are the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standards on Social and Environmental Sustainability, first issued in 2006. The presenter has undertaken social impact assessment work for mining companies since 2003, primarily in Africa and Asia. She has witnessed the evolution of this field of research and the influence of the imposition of global standards on the nature of the work. This paper will examine whether the trends in SIA practices have developed to meet social needs or those of business, using direct experience of African and Asian examples.

Makinda Sam, Prof and Prof Dave Mickler, Murdoch University Intervention in Mali: Evaluating the Role of the African Peace and Security Architecture

The international and regional response to the political and security crisis in Mali has been a key event in this fiftieth anniversary year of the O/AU. In 2012, in what had previously been one of the more stable and democratic countries in West Africa, a Toureg separatist insurgency in the north was hijacked by militant Islamist groups and this was coupled with a military coup in the capital. The resultant instability and potential region - wide threat led to a French military intervention in early 2013, supported by an ECOWAS and AU - backed African force, AFISMA, which was later transformed into a UN peacekeeping force, MINUSMA. This paper evaluates the role of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) in response to the crisis in Mali. The APSA has been developed over the past decade to effect a desire for greater African agency in regional security governance, deemed 'African solutions to African problems', and to demonstrate a commitment to a nascent normative stance of 'non - indifference' to insecurity occurring inside African states. We argue that there is evidence that the APSA has played an important security governance role in the response to Mali. However, resources constraints and under - developed response mechanisms also demonstrate the continuing need for the APSA to rely on external support from non - African countries like France as well as the UN.

MaterekeKudzai– 'MukaUzviitire': Rethinking The Socio - Political Consequences Of Zimbabwe's Neoliberal Reforms From Foucault's Governmentality Perspective –

Architects and supporters of neoliberalism argue that the policy regime is central for stimulating productivity and enhancing economic modernization in African societies. Opponents argue neoliberalism inserts poor African states in deep commodity relations that form part of capitalist modernity thus resulting in a form of recolonization that leaves Africans without social and economic policy alternative as their societies become mere appendages of a global network whose agenda developed and directed from the metropolis of the economically developed nations. The paper seeks to provide an alternative interpretation of Zimbabwe's neoliberal reform agenda of the 1990s by employing Foucault's notion of governmentality. It advances the contention that Zimbabwe's neoliberal reforms have produced a competitive entrepreneurial self who has reconfigured the socio - political terrain of the postcolonial society. Championed under banner of 'mukauzviitire' (self - help; self - employment; self - sustenance), the neoliberal reforms have yielded new forms of subjectivity premised on entrepreneurship, competition, and income - generation as core to the practices of citizenship. The paper concludes that analyses of the forms of subjectivity are important in offering a more critical edge to the on - going debates about prospects for democratization in Zimbabwe.

Mayersen Deborah - University of Wollongong. God, Guns And Graves: Graphic Novel Representations Of The 1994 Genocide In Rwanda

In recent years, several graphic novels have been published about the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. These include Deogratias (by Jean - Philippe Stassen), Smile through the Tears (by Rupert Bazambanza) and 100 Days in the Land of the Thousand Hills, an official publication of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. These graphic novels combine journalistic, literary and artistic responses to the genocide that challenge the reader to understand and identify with events in new ways. Each has grappled with complex issues surrounding the genocide, including themes such as the presence or absence of God during the genocide; the role of the church; the role of ordinary Rwandans as perpetrators and bystanders; and issues of race and ethnicity. Within the sparse text and rich colours of each page, authors have sought to convey the horrors of mass graves; the widespread sexual violence that occurred; the culpability of international forces; and the role of transitional justice in post - genocide reconciliation. In this presentation I will analyse the way in which graphic novelists have approached these difficult issues, utilising both text and images. I will explore how a range of strategies have been utilised to emotionally engage the reader, most often with remarkable success. Finally, I will reflect on some of the benefits and drawbacks of the graphic novel format in representing the genocide in Rwanda.

McGarty Craig and others (Australia National University and Murdoch University). New Technologies, New Identities, And The Growth Of Mass Opposition In The North African 'Arab Spring'

The recent revolutions known as the Arab Spring have been characterized as the products of social media. However, there is an alternative view that revolution takes place on the street or the battlefield and that the role of social media has been overstated. We argue that some new technologies can serve to facilitate rapid social change where they provide ways to overcome restrictions on the freedoms of expression and association. In doing so, communications technologies enable the formation of new social identities that can challenge existing social orders by promoting the growth of a social movement that is positioned as loyal to the nation and its people but opposed to the government. Our analyses (McGarty et al., in press) focus on the role of social media in spreading video images of dissent and the links between this video material, satellite television and mobile telephones in Tunisia and Egypt.

McNamara Thomas - Melbourne University The Creation and Implications of Rural Malawian Understandings of Donors and Development

This paper argues that rural Malawians see development as a commodity, provisioned to them by Western actors. The paper will unpack what rural Malawians mean when they use the term chitokuku (development), who they see as responsible for this and how they have generated this understanding. It explores the history of chitukuku, focusing on the politicized nature of the term and the link between provisioning chitukuku and political legitimacy, tying this to Malawi's perceived and actual donor dependence. It then considers the interplay between these discourses and rural Malawians' experiences of development and donors, showing that NGO development projects typically rely on international funding and that rural Malawians form their understandings of development and the West through this funding. Detailing the treatment of private donors by NGOs and chiefs when they arrive in a Malawian village will show why rural Malawians believe that development is primarily provisioned to them by the West and how they understand western motivations for this. The paper concludes by hypothesizing as to the implications of this understanding, positing that it removes impetus from the community to partake in its own development and reduces the responsibility of chiefs and government to provide for rural Malawians

Dr Max Kelly – Deakin University Exploring local NGOs in development: a case study from Northern Uganda

This research aimed to evaluate the experience of local NGOs in Northern Uganda as the "implementing partners" in development activity. Existing literature critiques power relations between northern and southern NGOs, types of partnerships, managerial issues, capacity building, and a range of other related topics. However a range of assumptions still persist. The normative position that working through a "local partner" provides increased community ownership, increased participation, and more contextualised development interventions for better development outcomes, still underpins most development interventions. The research draws on semi - structured interviews with NGO personnel in local, national and international organisations actively involved in rural development in the region to ascertain: what factors influence the initiation, function and position of NGOs in local society; what opportunities do local NGOs have to drive the development agenda; and finally, how much do the assumed benefits of working with local partners resonate with the actual local partners themselves. This paper argues that the complexity of the aid chain can leave little room for effective community engagement and participation in development, and that generalisations about the opportunities and limitations of NGOs role in development are highly problematic. Effective aid requires effective communication, co - operation, and potentially collaboration between all stakeholders, in particular the community, and local level actors.

Moore Sue - USAID - Addis Ababa Resources and the 'Renaissance': Australian Government support for the Africa Mining Vision

A defining characteristic of the so - called 'African Renaissance' is African countries' expanding exploitation – and strengthened governance –of their natural resources. The adoption in February 2009 by African Union Heads of State of an Africa Mining Vision (AMV) has stimulated national efforts to ensure this resource wealth is shared equitably. The AMV advocates for a transformative role for mineral resources in Africa's development. But there is a long road ahead. In many African countries increased resource revenues are widening the gap between rich and poor. Nowhere are the inequalities between resource stakeholders more stark than in Africa, in terms of expertise, resource governance 'fluency' and access to decision - making. This paper outlines how the Australian Government, through AusAID, is playing a pioneering role in supporting the realisation of the AMV, as a founding supporter of the African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC)–the chief organ to drive continent - wide implementation of the AMV. The success of the AMV will, however, largely be measured by the extent to which African communities themselves manage and negotiate their resource endowments – while minimising social and environmental impacts. So AusAID is also working at this level to build individual and institutional capacity, to support the goal of a knowledge - driven African mining sector.

Mugambwa John –Murdoch University - Should the Government Expropriate Private Land for Investors in Uganda?

Scarcity of land for investors is one of the sticky issues facing the Ugandan Government in its endeavour to promote social and economic development. Following the 1995 constitutional reforms, most of the land in Uganda is privately owned under various tenure systems. Government land is limited to land that was in government use at the time the 1995 Constitution came into effect. Under Article 26 of the Constitution, the Government has the power take compulsorily any private land the taking is necessary for public use, subject to payment of just compensation. Can the government use this power to acquire land for investors? The Report of the Commission of Inquiry (Constitutional Review), 2003, expressed a view that the constitutional powers do not allow the government to acquire private land for investors. Moreover, it rejected the proposition that the government should have such powers.

Mukoya Thomas - Journalist - KenyaAfrican Neoliberal policies and their social consequences - A Photojournalists' perspective.

Neo Liberal policies have driven the development agenda in Africa with mixed consequences. As Donors and investors in Africa drive improved governance, economic growth and technological advancement - conflict, poverty and humanitarian crises continue to dominate global perceptions of Africa. How are these contradictions represented in the media? In the context of the rhetoric about the Africa Renaissance, Award winning Nairobi based photo journalist Thomas Mukoya from Reuters News Agency will discuss and illustrate through his photos the impact of those policies and the myths and reality of the African Renaissance. During 2013 Thomas has covered all the big major stories and trends in Africa today. He will share his experiences and photographs and through his photo journal will cover issues around the double edged sword of minerals development in the Congo, How Africa misses the wisdom of Nelson Mandela and the latest scramble and partition of African.

MungwiniPascah, University of South AfricaAfrican Renaissance, Coloniality And The Quest For A Polycentric Global Epistemology

The idea of an African renaissance as a quest for the rebirth and regeneration of Africa provides an opportunity to think differently and otherwise about Africa particularly within the context of emerging African modernities. This work locates the need for an African renaissance within the broader emancipatory vision in which aspects of existential and epistemic coloniality give way to African reawakening and self - rediscovery. In this work we conceive the return to the past as a return to initiative and select the critical reappropriation and reaffirmation of the indigenous forms of knowing as the focus of our analysis. In the spirit of inter - philosophical dialogue, the work examines how reappropriation as an aspect of the African renaissance can help us move towards the realisation of a polycentric global epistemology; a world in which many epistemic traditions can fit or coexist. Relying on arguments in philosophy of liberation, the work constitutes an attempt to theorise on modernity and the politics of knowledge in postcolonial Africa and how Africa can contribute towards the growth of a truly global knowledge landscape

Ndhlovu Finex - University of New England Linguistic Cartographies Of African Marginals And Spheres Of Possibility In Regional Australia

The received view on marginals (refugees and other displaced people)is that they constitute a disadvantaged social group – disadvantaged economically, socially, politically, linguistically – and, indeed, in all sorts of other ways. Such a reading of marginals ignores the prospects, opportunities and spheres of possibility that belie the temporal experiences of these people. In this paper, I discuss the linguistic cartographies of African marginals in Australia. Iuse the geographical concept of mapping or cartography as a metaphor to develop new understanding of how the psycho - social distribution of these people's multiple languages map onto social welfare and other resettlement aspects of immigration. The overall intention is to capture previously undescribed language practices of individuals and groups, their linkages with life stories, migration histories, and temporal spatial experiences; and how these implicate the sense of hope and motivation that helps individuals develop the capacity to build new friendships and social networks in rural and regional Australia. The concepts of mapping and cartography promise to illuminate further the linguistic repertoires and language practices of marginals that have hitherto been least clarified both from theoretical and empirical perspectives.

Pijovic Nikola - Australia National University "Blips On The Radar" – A Historical Assessment Of Australia's Relations With African

This paper forms one of the background chapters of my PhD thesis which focuses on Australia's foreign policy towards African states, specifically in the past two decades. The paper offers an outline of the (mostly political) content of Australia's foreign relations with the African continent since WW2, and discusses under which circumstances and in which international fora and capacity Australia actively engaged with African issues. While African affairs never really constituted significant foreign policy issues for Australia, in the mid - 1970s, under the Whitlam government, Australia's relations with Africa did assume an importance in Australia's wider changing foreign policy outlook. However, since the late 1970s and Malcolm Fraser's active role in brokering the independence of Zimbabwe, African issues have been relegated to their "natural" marginal importance in Australian foreign policy. The paper also examines why Australia's only meaningful foreign relations with African states have been largely with those populated by significant white minorities (such as South Africa, Zimbabwe).

Quan - Baffour Kofi Poku Empowering South African Youth Through Indigenous Entrepreneurship Skills: Securing the Future and Maintaining Identity

The issue of youth unemployment is seen by many as a time bomb which may explode at any time if various interventions are not quickly made to address it by re - engaging the so - called 'marginalised' youth in South Africa. The warning signs of the treat to social cohesion and political and economic stability of the country are seen in the major protests mainly organised by the youth since the past 5 years which have resulted in loss of lives, destruction of properties, businesses and the country's infrastructure. The main causes of the high urban youth unemployment in South Africa today might be part of the direct consequences of the policies of the apartheid regime. The political situation during apartheid and its concomitant insecurity and poor schooling system designed for blacks are the major causes of the high youth unemployment today. Black schools under apartheid were poorly resourced and ran by curriculum which did not prepare learners for the world of work. Insecurity also led to broken homes where many parents, especially fathers, had to leave their homes for exile, leaving children at the mercy of the polarised country. As products of the 'anti - African' education system many youths have negative attitude towards some kind of work i.e. manual and indigenous and this has exacerbated the unemployment situation. With a school leaving certificate many of them migrate to the urban areas in search of work in the formal sector which is too scarce and sometimes non - existent. The objective of the study is therefore to explore the ways and means indigenous trades can be harnessed to assist in re - engaging the 'marginalised' youth by equipping them with indigenous practical skills to create their own jobs.

Richards Wendy, University of Southern Queensland - Information literacy and African refugee communities in Australia and the diaspora –

Sub - Saharan African humanitarian entrants are a relatively recent addition to the Australian socio - political landscape, constituting a culturally new and visibly different minority that is building a diasporic relationship between Australia and the African continent. Academic and policy research has developed a considered understanding of African refugee communities in areas such as language and literacy, skills recognition, access to education, employment and housing, gendered identities and past trauma. However, little attention has been paid to the role of information literacy, those practices, attributes and skills which enable social subjects to engage with the information worlds around them and obtain the knowledge needed for productive social agency, locally and globally. How do African refugee entrants from differing cultural, language and literacy backgrounds engage with the digitally mediated, text - dense and English language - based information environments of the Global North? What are the risks for new communities of information poverty and social exclusion through lack of information practices that meet the demands of contemporary globalised information capitalism? This paper draws on interviews conducted in South Sudan and Queensland to examine the role that information literacy can play in developing identity and belonging in a new place while maintaining connectedness across the refugee African diaspora.

Robinson David Alexander - Edith Cowan University Gramsci In Africa: The Relevance Of Gramscian Concepts For Mozambican History.

This paper will examine the possibility of constructing a Gramscian analysis of modern Mozambican history, and the form such an analysis might take. Mozambique's period of transition and conflict from 1960 to 1995 will be considered, encompassing the anti - colonial struggle against Portuguese rule, independence under FRELIMO's socialist government, civil conflict against the Apartheid - backed RENAMO rebel group, and the post - Cold War transition to liberal democracy. It will be argued that Gramscian concepts such as 'Uneven and Combined Development', 'Ideological Hegemony', 'Passive Revolution', 'the Integral State', 'Common Sense', and the 'Historical Bloc' can be usefully deployed in explaining key trends and challenges during this tumultuous era. Particularly, it will be asked whether the FRELIMO government's post - independence reforms constitute a passive revolution, and whether their failure to develop ideological hegemony nationally fostered an environment in which the rebels could flourish. Mozambican history is only comprehensible in the context of wider regional and global politics, and Gramsci always recognised the inextricable links between the national sphere and the international environment. The broader Gramscian analysis of the world order will thus also be examined for its relevance, particularly concerning international economic changes during the 1970s and 1980s, and Reaganite America's Cold War policies.

Run Peter - University of Queensland Talking Things Out: A Genealogy of An African Approach to Conflict Resolution

Between the 1940s and 1970s, anthropologists produced a substantial body of literature that documents how different African peoples resolved their conflicts. This literature subsequently enabled a generalisation that asserts most African peoples resolved, or still do resolve, their conflicts by 'talking conflict out.'. Recent developments such as community level mediation and truth and reconciliation commissions have been linked to, and seem to reify, this notion. Indeed, some prominent contemporary writers of African approaches to conflict resolution tend to put it at the centre of African peacemaking practices. This paper seeks to investigate how this idea of 'talking things out' has developed from pre - colonial period to the present. Specifically, it seeks to answer the question: 'How has this idea of talking conflict out changed or remained unchanged through pre - colonial, colonial and postcolonial times?' In other words, how did we get to this point?

Sargeant Jill, Project Officer AFAO - Caught In The Spotlight: African Australian Men And HIV - Related Criminal Prosecutions–

Over the past few years in Australia there has been an increase in the number of criminal prosecutions for exposure to or transmission of HIV. While the number of cases is small compared to the total number of people living with HIV, they are nevertheless concerning for a number of reasons. These include: the severity of sentences in some instances; a disproportionate number of cases with female complainants (63% in the past decade) although heterosexuals comprise only about 30% of HIV diagnoses; and a disproportionate number of prosecutions where the accused is an African man. This disproportionate representation of African men in criminal prosecutions has been seen in other Western countries. It can have devastating consequences for individuals involved in the cases, impede HIV health promotion, and increase the racism and stigmatisation experienced by African communities. With reference to existing and new research, this paper examines the possible reasons for this apparent pattern in Australia, such as cultural factors contributing to non - disclosure of HIV status, confusion or lack of information about the law, the perception of women as 'innocent victims' and racism or prejudice within the criminal justice system.

Sequeira Ana Rita, Lisbon University Institute - Health care providers in South Mozambique: its relationship and local appropriation of biomedical technology

Malaria is one of the main tropical diseases that has witnessed a tremendous increase of the international disbursement in the last decade - US$100 million in 2000 to US$1.84 billion in 2012 (WHO, 2012: ix) – specially related with the expansion and reintroduction of indoor residual spraying (IRS), universal coverage of long lasting Insecticidal nets (LLIN) and the expansion of rapid diagnostic tests (RDT) and artemisinin - based combination (ACT) therapies. From the increase of funding available, we observe the increased and variety of initiatives, movements, financing schemes and actors engaged, with local impacts on local knowledge's and practices. After 4 years of fieldwork in a rural district in south Mozambique (Chókwè district), this paper will reveal how lives were shaped by Mozambican social dynamics and by present health care (mainly malaria control policies) strategies and health care providers, in a context of organizational landscape pluralistic. After the initial conflict between ethnomedicines, the new biomedical practices and technologies were appropriated and complement the local African cosmovision and its relationships.

Shilla,Elibariki Henry Assessment Of Curricula For Wildlife Management Institutes In Tanzania

Environmental issues are dynamic and complex, yet they are increasing in scope and scale all over the world. The future of our environment rest on students through trainings they get from academic institutions. Curriculum remains a major vehicle to bring environmental issues into education systems so that change can be realised through competent graduates coming from academic institutions. It is imperative to thus review academic curricula regularly to keep up with the environmental problems evolution pace. This study aimed at reviewing curricula in Tanzania taking Sokoine University of Agriculture and College of African Wildlife Management - Mweka as the centre of attention as they are veteran in producing wildlife managers in Tanzania and beyond. To what extent do wildlife curricula integrate contemporary environmental issues, and what challenges face curriculum review and implementation in Tanzania where the main questions. Using qualitative approach, the study reveals that, curricula are being updated periodically. Integrating some emerging contemporary environmental issues in conservation, responding to the employment market and responding to bodies which institutions are accredited to, such as National Council for Technical Education were reasons for curricula reviews. However, inadequate resources such as fund, personnel, and time were identified as impediments for curricula review and implementation in Tanzania. The study finally suggested recommendations for improving conservation through curriculum.

Smart Jessie, Etienne Nel and Tony Binns - University of Otago - Supporting Urban Livelihoods In Africa: Urban Agriculture And Economic Change In The Zambian Copperbelt

The growing of food crops in and around Africa's rapidly growing towns and cities has become an important household survival strategy in the quest for food security, income and employment. Despite its widespread existence, urban agriculture has generally received little recognition and support from urban authorities, and in some cases planning policies actually forbid the cultivation of food crops in urban areas. Field - based research undertaken in several towns in Zambia's Copperbelt region has revealed the considerable significance of urban agriculture as a livelihood strategy. In the face of economic insecurity, as a result of declining mining, industry and formal sector employment opportunities in the Copperbelt, urban agriculture provides much needed food and income, not only for the poorest households, but also for less poor households who are keen to diversify their livelihood portfolios. This paper is an update of a paper presented at the AFSAAP conference last year, examining the significance of urban agriculture in the cities of Ndola, Kitwe and Luanshya and, on the basis of emerging pro - urban agriculture policies in Ndola, considering how local authorities in the Copperbelt, and indeed more widely across Africa, might give positive support to such activities.

Theo Neethling, University of the Free State - The Lord's Resistance Army in the DRC: The problem of ungoverned spaces and related regional insecurity.

The syncretistic Ugandan rebel group, known as the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) has been in the news for several years for its brutal methods and horrific guerrilla - political campaigns. Thousands of people were killed or had to flee from attacks, firstly in the northern parts of Uganda, but later in the (former) Sudan and also the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This paper aims to examine and shed light on how the LRA units moved from Uganda into the so - called ungoverned spaces of a neighbouring country, namely the DRC, from where they no longer pose a serious threat to the Ugandan state and national security in Uganda, but attack civilian targets in and around the north - eastern DRC. The paper also aims to examine and argue the point that where governments are not in control of the length and breath of the geographical territories that constitute their countries or states – arguably the basic requirement of territorial sovereignty – aggrieved groups or rebels appear and press upward, often brutally and violently. Specifically, in the DRC the direct extension of state authority remains a pressing issue and one that has created numerous problems on a national level and on a broader transnational level.

This paper revisits the issue whether under the Ugandan Constitution the Government is empowered to expropriate private land for investment. If not, should the Government have such powers?

Thornton Alec, University of New South Wales - Space And Food In The City

A shift towards post - modernist approaches in city planning has led to rapid growth in community - based 'urban greening' movements. The spatial and socio - environmental justice themes are largely playing out in the 'North', or western cities. This paper will position urban agriculture within radical urban theory, in an effort to conceptualise a phenomenon that takes place in both the 'global North and South' in response to various 'justices' but are played out at different scales with very different results. Case study examples are drawn from Africa, North America and the South Pacific.

Udah Hyacinth, Griffith University, - The African Diaspora in Australia and African Renaissance: Harnessing Diaspora Resources and Encouraging Diaspora Investments and Linkages with Africa.

The question of the linkages between African emigration and African renaissance has never been more significant than it is today. Over 30.6 million Africans are living now in OECD countries with wealthier economies. Africans in Diaspora send more than US \$60 billion a year in remittances to relatives and friends in Africa. They also save tens of billions of dollars which they do not send home. Many of them, if not most, still maintain connection to their home countries. While Africa suffers as "brain drain" continues, the great beneficiaries of their skills, knowledge, and entrepreneurial capabilities are countries like Australia, Canada, Great Britain, France and USA. Given that Diasporas can be development partners, how can we tap into their resources, harness their networks and optimize their role in the African Renaissance vision. In this paper, special emphasis will be put on the conditions under which African Diaspora living in Australia can contribute to Africa's economic, social, cultural and scientific development because 'tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today'. The paper aims to suggest new strategies to tap into and harness the African Diaspora resources to help development efforts in Africa from both an economic and a social standpoint.

Vambe Maurice Taonezvi - University of South AfricaShifting Representations Of Genocide And The Concentration Camp In The South African Documentaries On The Anglo - Boer War Of 1902

There is now a sizeable amount of documentaries produced from the historical material that was based on the Anglo - Boer war of 1902. This war was savage to say the least and it has been one of the earliest evidence of the experience of genocide and of the concentration camp in the 20th century Africa, paralleled only in its brutal methods of execution to Africa's historical memory of the Trans - Saharan and Trans - Atlantic Slave trade. And yet, the Anglo - Boer can be said to be the only genocide on a white race by another white race in Africa in the context of the struggle for imperialistic hegemony over African resources. The fact that today the Afrikaaners and British people do not readily describe this form of mass murder as genocide masks a complex and bewildering reality of atrocity which in turn suggests that there is a silencing discourse within the communities of the Afrikaaners and English people in South Africa and in Britain. However, the changing versions of the documentaries on the Anglo - Boer war reveal the gruesome methods of extermination that ranged from physical annihilation, starving of Afrikaaners, pursuit of scotched - earth policies, burning of food, implementation of faminogenic policies on Afrikaaners by the English people. The Afrikaaners were ruthlessly driven out of the land that, by some later truce with the English people, the Afrikaaners came to occupy and then also cynically drove African populations out of that land. Furthermore, the fact that there have been changing versions of the documentaries on the Anglo Boer war suggests on one hand attempts at sanitizing an unprecedented, and formidable genocidal experience before formal colonialism from which apartheid white South Africa was later, after 1948, to introduce its system that was a crime against black humanity in South Africa. On the other hand the proliferation of the documentaries on the Afrikaaner genocide is revisionist showing different scholarly meanings attached to the ethical definition of what genocide is, in a new context where Afrikaaner and English capital had by 1948, decided to bury the hatched and only use it on African people. Scholarly interest on the Afrikaaner genocide is growing against the background of an abject experience previously designated as the misfortunate of black people on the Cape Colony. The article argues that the Anglo - Boer war was the German correlate of the use ofgenocidal tactics in the concentration camp in Namibia. More profoundly, the Anglo - Boer war provided a genocidal template whose effect was meant to remind white people that' never again' should white races fight each other in Africa in front of black people. This bloody, racial truce between the Afrikaaners and the English redirected genocide and gave a blank cheque to the Apartheid South African system to commit crimes against blacks on the watch of and with the approval of local and international capital.

Vambe Maurice Taonezvi & Khatija Bibi Khan - University of South Africa The Violence In The Spectacle Of Excessive Signification: Shooting Dogs (1995) And The Rwandan Genocide

There is now a sizeable amount of documentaries produced from the historical material that was based on the Anglo - Boer war of 1902. This war was savage to say the least and it has been one of the earliest evidence of the experience of genocide and of the concentration camp in the 20th century Africa, paralleled only in its brutal methods of execution to Africa's historical memory of the Trans - Saharan and Trans - Atlantic Slave trade. And yet, the Anglo - Boer can be said to be the only genocide on a white race by another white race in Africa in the context of the struggle for imperialistic hegemony over African resources. The fact that today the Afrikaaners and British people do not readily describe this form of mass murder as genocide masks a complex and bewildering reality of atrocity which in turn suggests that there is a silencing discourse within the communities of the Afrikaaners and English people in South Africa and in Britain. However, the changing versions of the documentaries on the Anglo - Boer war reveal the gruesome methods of extermination that ranged from physical annihilation, starving of Afrikaaners, pursuit of scotched - earth policies, burning of food, implementation of faminogenic policies on Afrikaaners by the English people. The Afrikaaners were ruthlessly driven out of the land that, by some later truce with the English people, the Afrikaanerscame to occupy and then also cynically drove African populations out of that land. Furthermore, the fact that there have been changing versions of the documentaries on the Anglo Boer war suggests on one hand attempts at sanitizing an unprecedented, and formidable genocidal experience before formal colonialism from which apartheid white South Africa was later, after 1948, to introduce its system that was a crime against black humanity in South Africa. On the other hand the proliferation of the documentaries on the Afrikaaner genocide is revisionist showing different scholarly meanings attached to the ethical definition of what genocide is, in a new context where Afrikaaner and English capital had by 1948, decided to bury the hatched and only use it on African people. Scholarly interest on the Afrikaaner genocide is growing against the background of an abject experience previously designated as the misfortunate of black people on the Cape Colony. The article argues that the Anglo - Boer war was the German correlate of the use ofgenocidal tactics in the concentration camp in Namibia. More profoundly, the Anglo - Boer war provided a genocidal template whose effect was meant to remind white people that' never again' should white races fight each other in Africa in front of black people. This bloody, racial truce between the Afrikaaners and the English redirected genocide and gave a blank cheque to the Apartheid South African system to commit crimes against blacks on the watch of and with the approval of local and international capital.

Wakholi Peter, Murdoch University, - African Renaissance And African Cultural Policies -

African renaissance is a long term project that entails the renewal of African societies eternally, the building of broad - based regional integration and the promotion of more beneficial participation in the global economy. The role of the arts in this process is vital. Accordingly this paper explores the concept of African renaissance in relation Africa's cultural policies. The nature of African cultural policies is examined as a means of revealing potential areas of collaboration and partnerships with diaspora communities and agencies.

Ware Helen, Prof. University of New England- Hybrid Government: African Renaissance Or Traditionalist Dead End?

In recent years, several graphic novels have been published about the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. These include Deogratias (by Jean-Philippe Stassen), Smile through the Tears (by Rupert Bazambanza) and 100 Days in the Land of the Thousand Hills, an official publication of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. These novels combine journalistic, literary and artistic responses to the genocide that challenge the reader to understand and identify with events in new ways. Each has grappled with complex issues surrounding the genocide, including themes such as the presence or absence of God during the genocide; the role of the church; the role of ordinary Rwandans as perpetrators and bystanders; and issues of race and ethnicity. Within the sparse text and rich colours of each page, authors have sought to convey the horrors of mass graves; the widespread sexual violence that occurred; the culpability of international forces; and the role of transitional justice in post-genocide reconciliation. In this presentation I will explore how a range of strategies have been utilised to emotionally engage the reader, most often with remarkable success. Finally, I will reflect on some of the benefits and drawbacks of the graphic novel format in representing the genocide in Rwanda.

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