



Abstracts

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Economics

Aid Exit Strategy for African Countries: A Debate

McPherson, Malcolm F.; Clive S. Gray. Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Boston; BHM International, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. EAGER/African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 49. July 2000. 38 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-373

This paper presents the divergent views of two USAID consultants, Malcolm F. McPherson and Clive S. Gray, on the efficacy of an “aid exit” strategy for Africa. McPherson argues that, because foreign aid tends to submerge the agendas of African governments, those governments should, on their own initiative, begin planning to get off aid. He argues that in too many cases across Africa aid dependence has undermined growth and development. The primary evidence for this is Africa’s experience over the last three decades. Despite massive foreign assistance and donor “engagement” in virtually every dimension of

African political economy, only Mauritius has successfully adopted a structural adjustment program leading to sustained growth and development. Further, recent studies in the context of the HIPC (Highly Indebted Poor Countries) initiative suggest that most African countries now require still more financial assistance, both to pay off their debt and to promote development.

Gray asks how an aid exit strategy differs from a conventional growth strategy, given that donors are inclined to terminate aid anyway once a country has achieved self-sustaining growth. The operational question is whether, other things being equal, a country that is following the “right” policies to accelerate growth will grow still faster by renouncing aid than by accepting it. Gray cites recent cross-country World Bank analyses showing that aid has been effective when recipients pursued good policies, and ineffective when they did not. Finally, he argues that aid, when matched with good host country policies, is necessary to reduce the income and wealth gap between rich and poor countries in a time frame acceptable to enlightened world opinion. Includes references.

Foreign Aid and Statehood in Africa

Goldsmith, Arthur A. Harvard Institute for International Development, Boston; BHM International, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. EAGER/African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 47. June 2000. 32 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACJ-129

African states depend on development assistance to conduct basic government operations, yet few of these states are well governed or effective at providing public goods. These two trends—mounting foreign aid and static or diminishing state performance—raise an obvious question: Is aid dependency contributing to misrule and state failure in Africa? Many critics argue that the two phenomena are

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related. To the contrary, the present analysis shows no negative association between aid receipts, democracy, and several measures of public good provision. Rather, the evidence is consistent with a positive or neutral relationship between aid and governance. Since the international community seems bent on reducing foreign aid, an important issue is whether African states can maintain and improve their performance with less assistance. They may need continued subsidies to function at even a modest level.

Interest Groups, Economic Policy, and Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa

Brautigam, Deborah. BHM International, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. EAGER/African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 40. July 2000. 47 p. \$6.11 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-199

This paper explores the role of business interest groups (chambers of commerce, manufacturers associations, farmers associations, etc.) in economic policy reform in sub-Saharan Africa. Individual sections examine some of the typical problems presented by reforms, as well as the difficulties groups are likely to have in overcoming collective problems, review the literature on business interests and economic policy in Africa, and discuss specific cases in Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Mauritius.

These cases demonstrate a mixed record. In Botswana, for example, Africa's longest-running economic success story, organized business interests until recently played little role in policy-making. Yet in Mauritius, also an economic success, interest groups have for several decades had regular, institutionalized consultations with the government on all important policy issues. Zimbabwe provides another case where interest groups, the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries in particular, pushed the government to implement broad-reaching reforms that improved economic efficiency, although their influence was apparently short-lived. A final section of the paper draws on the case studies to outline some of the factors that may affect the ability of interest groups and civil society in Africa to serve as advocates for economic efficiency and growth.

Education

DHS EdData Education Profiles for Africa: Data from the Demographic and Health Surveys

Brunette, Tracy; Kristi Fair; Linda Padgett. Academy for Educational Development, USAID/AFR/SD, USAID/G/HCD, Washington, DC. 2000. 86 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-134

This document contains a series of country education profiles that use cross-nationally comparable data from USAID's Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) to characterize children's participation in primary and secondary schooling and adults' schooling attainment and literacy. The profiles provide information that—when combined with other country-specific data—can inform education decision-making in sub-Saharan Africa. This first edition contains profiles for Benin, Ghana, Guinea, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zambia. The profiles present data collected from nationally representative household and individual surveys on educational status and attainment for household members. These data allow the calculation of: net and gross attendance ratios (NAR and GAR) for primary and secondary school (disaggregated by sex, urban/rural residence, and region); over-age, under-age, and on-time for grade; age-specific schooling status of youth (currently attending, never attended, left school); adult primary and secondary school completion rates and educational attainment; male and female literacy rates and women's literacy by years of primary school completed and by age; and repetition, dropout, and survival rates. The DHS measures differ from those typically produced by ministries of education, which generally derive net and gross enrollment ratios (NER and GER) from data on children's school participation collected from school records. DHS, on the other hand, measures participation using data collected from a nationally representative sample of households. Thus, the NAR and GARs might be seen as highly reliable proxies for the NER and GERs.





Overview of USAID Basic Education Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa III

USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. SD Publication Series: Technical Paper No. 106. February 2001. 98 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-735

This Overview profiles recent USAID support for basic education reform initiatives in sub-Saharan Africa. The document presents descriptions of programs in 11 countries in terms of their working environment, funding, timeframe, conditionalities, indicators of progress, and impact on basic education systems. The two-fold goal is to both inform USAID officials, educators in Africa, partner agencies, and other interested parties about the progress of USAID's basic education assistance, and to serve as a source of factual data on USAID's current programs in Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, and, the newest program, Nigeria. This document updates two previous editions (PN-ABN-365 and PN-ABY-959).

Investments in Education: USAID Africa Bureau's Office of Sustainable Development 1992-1999

Academy for Educational Development, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. September 2000. 34 p. \$4.42 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-032

This report documents investments in basic education made by the Africa Bureau's Office of Sustainable Development over the period 1992-99. Individual sections cover findings and implications for basic education of AFR/SD support for constituency-building for policy reform, the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA), community involvement, sector decentralization, educational information management, educational networking, the Education Research Network of West and Central Africa (ERNWACA), policy formation, identifying determinants of educational achievement and attainment, improving equity and the experience of girls in the classroom, improving the health of school children, educational reform, and research on how education affects girls' lives.

An opening section discusses findings and lessons from research and pilot activities on educational

policy development. The role of nonproject assistance in educational reform, and the success of this approach in Uganda, is highlighted. Among the general lessons learned are that policy development is a dynamic process and is effective when it emerges from the long-term commitment of stakeholders. Such commitment is generated by active involvement in identifying problems and outlining options and recommendations. Also, solid evidence about problems and a good understanding of the policy change process and mechanisms promote realistic and feasible policy recommendations. Finally, adopting a policy is half the battle; implementing and monitoring the policy is often the bigger challenge.

Agriculture

Comparative Economic Advantage of Crop Production in Zimbabwe

Sukume, Chrispen; Ephias Makudze; et al. University of Zimbabwe, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Zimbabwe; Mitchell Group, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC; USAID/AFR/REDSO/ESA; USAID/Zimbabwe. SD Publication Series: Technical Paper No. 99. November 2000. 112 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-468

As part of the series in Eastern and Southern Africa, this study analyzes comparative advantage (CA) in agricultural trade in Zimbabwe, focusing on maize, wheat, barley, sorghum, oil seeds, tobacco, and cotton. The research was carried out in the country's five agroecological zones and across the two major farming systems: smallholder farmers and large-scale commercial farmers.

The study shows that in the large-scale commercial sector, the most competitive crop is groundnuts. Sunflowers and tobacco become relatively more competitive in drier ecological zones. Maize, despite taking the lion's share of cultivated land, is only competitive in two of the zones. These findings indicate that the emphasis on maize production may not be warranted and that removal of subsidies would boost the production of other crops.

In the small-scale commercial sector, only three crops—groundnuts, sunflowers, and maize—were

found to be competitive based on average farmer practices. However, compared with the other sectors, a higher number of crops are economically viable in each zone in the small-scale commercial sector. The most efficient crop in the communal sector was groundnuts, followed by sunflowers, finger miller, and cotton.

On the policy level, only a small share of agriculture tax revenue is reinvested into agricultural sector support institutions such as research and extension. The results also indicate that the pan-territorial pricing system that has been in place for decades has created severe distortions through net subsidization of farmers in regions remote from main consumption centers.

Analysis of Comparative Advantage and Agricultural Trade in Mozambique

Mucavele, Firmino G. Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique; Mitchell Group, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC; USAID/AFR/REDSO/ESA; USAID/Mozambique. SD Publication Series: Technical Paper No. 107. November 2000. 48 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-469

As part of the series in Eastern and Southern Africa, this study analyzes comparative advantage (CA) in agricultural trade throughout Mozambique, with emphasis on maize, sorghum, sunflower, beans, cowpeas, potatoes, onions, cotton, and cassava. Domestic resource ratio costs (DRCs), relative to market prices, were used as the major measure of CA.

Study results show that Mozambique has CA mainly for the crops considered in this study. Specifically, Mozambique enjoys CA in agriculture in the northern agroecological zone, where strong DRCs were verified. The use of potential technologies would improve the CA of the provinces located in the northern and central agroecological zones. In the southern agroecological zones, by contrast, technological change has only a marginal effect, since the existing local technologies in Gaza and Inhambane provinces already have strong DRCs.

The potential centers for the production of the major crops such as maize, sorghum, beans, and cassava are located in the north, but the centers of consumption

are in the south. There is strong evidence that trade within the country is a possibility. However, because of the high cost of transport, storage, and processing, it may be very costly to attempt to transport agricultural produce to major markets in the south. Policies should be developed to improve infrastructure to allow for the flow of agricultural products from the north to the south. It is important to ensure that increased production can be collected and sold in a timely fashion, so the producer has an incentive to produce and meet the needs of consumers. Includes references.

Agricultural Research in Africa and the Sustainable Financing Initiative: Review, Lessons, and Proposed Next Steps

Bingen, R. James; Derick W. Brinkerhoff. Mitchell Group, Inc., World Bank, USAID/AFR/SD, USAID/G/EGAD/AFS, Washington, DC. SD Publication Series: Technical Paper No. 112. August 2000. 53 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACJ-667

This paper reviews financial mechanisms and funding options for agricultural and natural resource management research in sub-Saharan Africa and identifies the next generation of Sustainable Financing Initiative (SFI) issues, challenges, and opportunities. Section 2 outlines an analytic framework for reviewing the experiences, accomplishments, and issues raised to date in the implementation of SFI. This framework situates sustainable financing mechanisms within the overlapping organizational and policy environments that influence the selection, use, viability, and effectiveness of these mechanisms. The three categories of variables (financial mechanisms, organizational components, policy issue areas) can be thought of as nested systems, each sitting within a larger system. This framework reveals the factors that affect the viability of a particular financial mechanism, as well as the organizational and policy implications raised by various mechanisms. Using this framework, sections 2 through 6 focus on lessons learned and possible next steps in regard to financial mechanisms, organization, policy, and operations. Includes references. Previous version issued as APAP III Research Report No. 1072 (PN-ACF-904).

Health

Monitoring and Evaluation of Nutrition and Nutrition-Related Programmes: A Training Manual for Programme Managers and Implementors

University of Nairobi, Kenya; Tufts University, Boston; Academy for Educational Development, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. August 2000.

206 p. \$26.78 paper, \$2.00 disk

French ed.: PN-ACK-248

PN-ACK-247

This manual is designed to help trainers train program managers and implementors to design a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for nutrition and nutrition-related programs. The manual comprises seven units: 1) overview of M&E; 2) conceptualizing an M&E system; 3) M&E indicators; 4) evaluation designs; 5) data collection; 6) data analysis and interpretation; and 7) dissemination and use of M&E results. Each unit includes unit objectives, the suggested time that the unit should take, and the detailed steps in the session, covering content, exercises, and facilitation techniques.

National AIDS Programmes: A Guide to Monitoring and Evaluation

Pisani, Elizabeth; Ties Boerma; et al. UNAIDS, New York; WHO, Geneva; World Bank, USAID/AFR/SD, USAID/G/PHN/HN, Washington, DC. June 2000.

133 p. \$18.85 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACJ-166

This guide, the result of a broad consultation with country program staff, donor representatives, and evaluation specialists from institutions all over the world, aims to summarize the best practices in the field of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of national HIV and AIDS programs at the end of the 1990s, and to recommend options for M&E systems in the future. After describing the main features of a sound M&E system, the guide proposes indicators, based on existing standards and experience, for key areas of HIV prevention, AIDS care, and sexually transmitted infection control programs. The guide is accompanied by a number of data collection instruments and

guidelines needed to construct the proposed indicators. These instruments are based on existing materials from a variety of sources and cover different areas of AIDS programs: sexual knowledge, attitudes, and behavior; program context, input, and output; service provision; and health status. They include various types of data collection instruments, e.g., population surveys and health facility assessments. Some have been in existence for many years and have been widely tested, others are relatively new, and a few are still being tested. The latest versions of these instruments are available on the Internet at

www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/guide/guide.html.

Qualitative Research for Improved Health Programs: A Guide to Manuals for Qualitative and Participatory Research on Child Health, Nutrition, and Reproductive Health

Winch, Peter J.; Jennifer A. Wagman; et al. Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore; Academy for Educational Development, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. January 2000. 187 p. \$24.31 paper

PN-ACJ-020

This guide describes a number of existing manuals for conducting qualitative research on health. The guide is divided into three sections: general manuals on qualitative health research and computer software available for qualitative data analysis, manuals on methods and training for participatory research, and available manuals on specific health topics such as acute respiratory infections, malaria, water and sanitation, diarrheal diseases, nutrition, and reproductive health.

Information presented includes reviews of manuals on basic qualitative research methods such as the qualitative research toolbox; selected introductory-level books and manuals on qualitative research, most of them related specifically to health; manuals for conducting focus group discussion research; ANTHROPAC, a software program for analyzing systematic data; and manuals that describe how to use participatory research methods.



Handbook of Indicators for HIV/AIDS/STI Programs

TVT Associates, USAID/G/PHN/HN, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. March 2000. 129 p. \$16.77 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACK-416

The new HIV/AIDS results package of the HIV-AIDS Division of USAID's Center for Population, Health and Nutrition (G/PHN) represents those programming areas in which G/PHN has the greatest comparative advantage or leadership responsibility, including preventing sexual transmission of HIV through behavioral change interventions, as well as a wide range of operational and service delivery areas, such as sexually transmitted disease prevention, HIV/AIDS care and support, human rights, and capacity building. Referred to as the fourth G/PHN strategic support objective (SSO 4), the results package aims to achieve an increased use of improved, effective, and sustainable responses to reduce HIV transmission and to mitigate the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. This handbook defines the key indicators for monitoring and evaluating (M&E) the SSO 4 portfolio. For each indicator, definitions, data sources, purposes, and strengths and limitations are described, with primary emphasis on those indicators directly related to the intermediate results (IRs) under SSO 4.

Section II presents the key indicators to measure the main components of the portfolio. Section III includes a supplementary list of indicators for those programmatic areas that are not part of the portfolio. These additional indicators are currently in use or being field tested by UNAIDS and national partners. Most of the indicators included in this handbook are consistent with the guide and methods packages for M&E of national AIDS programs that are currently being field tested by UNAIDS, MEASURE Evaluation, WHO, and USAID partners. The handbook is intended for use by USAID mission and regional population, health, and nutrition officers and field support staff at the project level, including all projects supported under the SSO 4 portfolio. This is a working document and it will be updated periodically. Includes appendices.

Food Security

Assessing Urban Food Security: Adjusting FEWS Rural Vulnerability Assessment Framework to Urban Environments

Associates in Rural Development, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. July 2000. 57 p. \$7.41 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACJ-249

Historically, famine early warning systems (FEWS) activities in Africa have focused on rural areas and agricultural production as a reflection of African demographics and food security risks. However, while poor rural households confront many of the same risks today as they did 20 years ago, Africa's urban populations have mushroomed and, as a consequence, new food security issues and threats have emerged. This paper attempts to introduce and sensitize FEWS field staff to this new threat by reviewing the current literature and thinking on urban food security, risks, and coping mechanisms, as well as some assessment methods and tools. It also offers suggestions and precautions for selecting useful monitoring indicators and measurement tools.

The report argues that differences between rural and urban food security issues suggest that the FEWS current vulnerability assessment (CVA) method is not directly applicable to urban environments. Unlike rural households that acquire a large share of their annual income through one of two harvests per year and then consume their food stocks over the following months, urban households earn income continuously throughout the year, and there is no equivalent point in time from which to gauge food security for an extended period of time into the future. Taking food security readings at the beginning of the marketing season, as is done with the rural CVA, is not as informative in urban settings. Although the overarching food security conceptual framework still holds, there is a need to specifically develop urban assessment and monitoring tools to more accurately and appropriately capture relationships between shocks and vulnerability to food insecurity.



Environment

Principles in Practice: Staff Observations of Conservation Projects in Africa

Ntiamao-Baidu, Yaa; Souleymane Zeba; et al. World Wildlife Fund-U.S., Nature Conservancy, World Resources Institute, USAID/G/ENV/ENR, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. 2000. 93 p. \$12.09 paper
PN-ACJ-737

This book describes and presents field-based lessons from 11 conservation projects undertaken in Africa under the Biodiversity Monitoring and Evaluation (BIOME) program. The projects represent a range of biophysical, cultural, political, institutional, and economic contexts and conservation approaches in Zimbabwe, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Kenya, Madagascar, Uganda, Namibia, Mali, Ghana, and Côte d'Ivoire.

The lessons learned about the conservation principles governing these projects include: 1) The level, form, and timing of community participation varies with stakeholder capacity and the issues that need to be addressed. The greater the change desired in people's use of natural resources, the greater the investment that must be made in people's participation. 2) An enabling policy environment is a key to successful biodiversity conservation. 3) Local knowledge often provides project staff with opportunities for developing effective conservation approaches, but must often be merged with outside tools and approaches to address the challenges of the 21st century. 4) Project staff who can identify convergent values across stakeholder groups find it easier to implement biodiversity conservation projects. 5) Placing custodianship of, and management responsibility for, critically needed resources in the hands of local communities is a key to meeting people's needs while conserving biodiversity. Since, however, most rural communities lack the capacity to manage natural resources sustainably, partnerships between local communities and external agencies are often a better option than total devolution of responsibility. 6) For communities to invest time and effort into monitoring, project staff need to make it very clear why the information is being collected and how it relates to their own interests.

Understanding and Influencing Behaviors: A Guide

Byers, Bruce. World Wildlife Fund-U.S., Nature Conservancy, World Resources Institute, USAID/G/ENV/ENR, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. 2000. 70 p. \$8.45 paper
PN-ACJ-779

Behaviors that affect natural resources may involve many actors and actions and take place over long periods of time. This guide presents a framework of nine essential elements or "stepping stones" that natural resource managers have found useful in understanding why people behave as they do toward the environment and in developing an environmental vision with strategies that work. These stepping stones are: 1) clarifying one's own motives and interests; 2) identifying stakeholders and their interests; 3) initiating a dialogue with stakeholders; 4) identifying behaviors that affect the environment; 5) prioritizing and agreeing on critical behaviors to address; 6) learning more about the factors that affect critical behaviors; 7) developing a vision for a sustainable future; and 8) developing activities to affect the factors that influence behaviors. A number of case studies are presented to illustrate how these stepping stones have been used in real situations in Africa, specifically in Senegal, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Kenya, and Namibia.

Democracy and Governance

Risk, Rule, and Reason in Africa

Goldsmith, Arthur A. Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Boston; BHM International, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. EAGER/African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 46. June 2000. 25 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACK-372

Sub-Saharan Africa has produced many autocratic leaders. Authoritarian political traditions, lack of national identity, underdeveloped middle classes, and widespread economic distress are among the sweeping, impersonal forces cited as factors that produce



weak leadership in this part of the world. Without denying that macro-level social and economic factors bear on leaders' behavior, the author looks at these people as individuals and speculates about the incentives created by their environment. In the tradition of political economy, the author begins with the assumption that African leaders are usually trying to do what they think is best for themselves. He contends that they choose actions that appear to produce the greatest benefit at least cost, after making allowances for the degree of risk involved. A leader of this kind is also capable of learning, and takes cues from what is happening to other leaders in neighboring countries. He can improve his behavior if he has to. The paper speculates how leaders might react to perceived levels of risk in their political environment, looks at the actual level of risk, and then assesses how risk seems to have changed the way African leaders act in office. Finally, it looks at ways that democratization processes may be improving political incentives. Includes references.



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