POLICY PUBLIC IMPLEMENTATION: PROBLEM OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION IN AFRICA (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS)

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ABSTRACT

The African continent is at a crossroads caused by economic recession, crime, corruption and incompetence of leaders leading to insecurity and poverty. This is the best time to join forces in finding solutions to the challenges facing sustainable development in Africa. This study seeks to assess difficulties in implementing policies and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with specific reference to Africa. This article is supported by a thorough literature review to ensure that the purpose of the review was clear. A typical literature review method includes several steps including searching, collecting, prioritizing and reading with the aim of identifying important issues and themes which are then presented and critically examined. Africa must fight procedural deviations to properly align the desired objectives.

Keywords: Implementation Policy, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Africa, Development

ABSTRAK

Benua Afrika berada di persimpangan jalan yang disebabkan oleh resesi ekonomi, kejahatan, korupsi dan ketidakmampuan para pemimpin yang menyebabkan ketidakamanan dan kemiskinan. Ini adalah waktu terbaik untuk bergabung dalam mencari solusi atas tantangan yang dihadapi pembangunan berkelanjutan di Afrika. Studi ini berupaya menilai kesulitan dalam mengimplementasikan kebijakan dan Tujuan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan (SDGs) dengan referensi khusus ke Afrika. Artikel ini didukung oleh tinjauan literatur menyeluruh untuk memastikan bahwa tujuan dari tinjauan itu jelas. Metode tinjauan pustaka yang khas mencakup beberapa langkah termasuk mencari, mengumpulkan, memprioritaskan, dan membaca dengan tujuan mengidentifikasi masalah dan tema penting yang kemudian disajikan dan diperiksa secara kritis. Afrika harus melawan penyimpangan prosedural untuk menyelaraskan tujuan yang diinginkan dengan benar.

Kata kunci: Kebijakan Implementasi, Tujuan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan (SDGs), Afrika,

INTRODUCTION

Over the years, international organizations like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have assisted in developing and implementing public policies in Africa. After many years of colonial domination, some have also been developed independently by African political leaders with the objective of producing a drastic and quick improvement in living conditions (Bäumeltová et al., 2004).

Basic economic and political conditions are intertwined with issues with public policy execution in Third World nations, with specific emphasis to Africa. The limited extractive capability of the state in relation to the economy and the corruption-related resource waste limit the ability of governments to implement public policies aimed at enhancing the quality of life. Therefore, both the bad effects of a low GDP and the negative effects of political instability are factored into the fundamental equation that governs what governments can do to enhance the human condition.

Africa has recently found itself at a crossroads due to economic contraction, political instability, criminality, corruption, and inadequate leadership, all of which have resulted in national insecurity and poverty (O. V. Ajulor, 2018)

PUBLIC POLICY AS A PHENOMENON

It is critical to define public policy in its broadest meaning as well as what public policy

implementation (PPI) involves because both public policies and their execution can strengthen a democracy (Delamaza, 2015). These terms are crucial because the execution of public policy is a component of public policy. Thus, the word "public policy implementation" is a subset of the main term public policy. Public policy can be described as a cycle or process with a number of steps that must be taken before a policy's goals can be achieved. Typically, there are four or five phases: Problem identification, agenda creation, policy design, execution, and evaluation are the steps in the policy-making process. The specific strategy used will have a big impact on the policy's stages (Tebele, 2016).

Public policy is first and foremost a form of persuasion, according to Goodwin et al. (2006). It is referred to as such because it demands decision-making, selection, legislation, and participation of all pertinent parties (Goodwin, et al., 2006; Oyadiran & Akintola, 2014). Lasswell (2003) mentions that one goal of public policy is to make sure that those in charge of carrying out significant "decisions in society, whether they make them as party leaders, government officials, business executives, or members of the clergy, are well trained." This statement is in line with the sentiments expressed by Goodwin et al. (2005) and Oyadiran and Akintola (2014). (Laswell, 2003). According to Barrett, public policy must be seen as both a declaration of intent and a negotiated result of the implementation process (Tebele, 2016).

THEORETICAL ANALYSES (THE POLICY PROCESS THEORY)

The study has been shaped, directed, and guided by the Theory of Policy Process. The notion was put forth by Laswell (1951) in his work "The Policy Orientation," where he described the concept's first official use. Here, Laswell (1951) put his theories about enhancing government oversight by enhancing the caliber of the information it receives into practice (Edited by Sandra Braman, n.d.). The idea focuses on the functional phases that any particular government policy goes through over the course of its existence. Process orientation is the theory's methodology. "Knowledge of the policy process" is another point that the theory emphasizes. The theory produced a knowledge map of the key stages of collective action and suggested seven (7) stages for the formulation of policy decisions: intelligence, promotion, prescription, invocation, application, termination, and appraisal.

One of three perspectives on the theory has emerged among policy researchers. First, they

perceived it as a group of distinct activities. Thirdly, as a policy phenomenon that seemed to occur quickly, more closely resembling the typical policy maker's fast-paced working schedule than the actual life span of a given policy. The first two explanations are that they were episodic processes that happened in pieces rather than ongoing continuous ones. Scholars like Nakamura, Sabatier, and Jenkins-Smith asserted that the Lawell theory had severe flaws because it ignored the impact of ideas, particularly those concerning the highly technical components of policy debates, in the 1980s.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Like any other notion, public policy has been the subject of a wide range of opinions. It cannot be reduced to a single definition. Public policy merges various social science disciplines like economics, sociology, and management as an academic field. Since the conception of the idea, the growth of literature on public policy debate has been an ongoing process.

In this sense, even though it is not its primary focus, the current proposal is founded on the purpose of giving a conceptual analysis of public policy as a way of facilitating potential alterations.

The concept of public policy can be interpreted according to more than one definition. The idea has been redefined over the years. The Thomas Dye (1984) definition, which states that public policy is "what the government decides to do or not to do," is consistently used as an acceptable definition. The article Two Faces of Power by Bachrachib & Barataz (1962), which appeared in the American Science Review, lends credence to Dye's assertion (Agum et al., 2015). The research proves that creating public policy can be done by the government taking the position of doing nothing about a particular issue. Lasswell's formulation, which was popularized before Dye's, takes the form of a provocation: who gets what, why, and what difference does it make. Only decisions made by the government qualify as public policy, which is largely about maintaining the status quo. Government decision-making, on the other hand, involves a difficult iterative process that is influenced by a wide range of socio-political and other environmental elements. Usman contends that these environmental factors affect how policies are produced and have an impact. They also cause policy variations (Jahanger et al., 2021). Every policy goes through six fundamental stages, according to Bruce and Smith (2003): defining the agenda, formulating the policy, making the decision to adopt it, putting it into practice, evaluating it, and ending it. These steps might not, however, be followed exactly as they are

described.

Some insurance policies might never reach the termination phase. Focusing on implementation, Pressman and Widavsky defined it as "a process of interaction between the defining of goals and activities tailored to achieving them" when they were its pioneers. According to some sources, three generations of research have been conducted on implementation (Saetren, 2005). The early 1970s to the early 1980s comprised the first generation. The third generation of research spans from 1990 and on, whereas the second generation covers the 1980s to the 1990s (Hupe, 2014). It is clear that implementation is action oriented.

Policies are implemented by carrying out specific actions in order to achieve the goals and objectives in the beneficiary community. Carrying out, accomplishing, fulfilling, producing, or completing a task are all examples of implementation.

According to (Mcdonnell & Elmore, 1987), there are four key components for successful implementation: clearly defined tasks and objectives that accurately reflect the policy's intent, a management plan that assigns tasks and performance standards to subunits, an objective goal to measure subunit performance, and a system of management controls and social sanctions, sufficient to hold subordinates accountable for their performance. Still lists a few requirements for the successful implementation of any public policy, such as the need for sufficient engagement from the target society. According to Smith (2003), citizen engagement processes must be used to address issues that involve conflicts in values or call for difficult policy decisions or trade-offs, explore emerging issues that demand significant learning on the parts of both the government and citizens, and create common ground by balancing divergent interests. In order to ensure that policies are implemented effectively, he lists a number of techniques to involve the public in the decision-making process, including publications, workshops, bilateral meetings, interviews, advisory committees/task forces, and polls.

Only a politically stable nation can successfully implement public policies. The majority of third-world nations have policies aimed at improving the quality of life for their citizens in the fields of education and health.

However, due to the political unrest that rules in the majority of these nations, effective policy execution is just a distant possibility. Political leaders in the Third World frequently admit their desire to implement measures that would enhance the living standards of their citizens, according to Lane and Ersson's (2001) conclusion. However, the fundamental political instability that pervades many Third World nations causes the policy goal to fade away. The most harmful manifestation of political instability is the widespread incidence of corruption since it is frequent, ongoing, and all pervasive.

This highlights the fact that, in addition to political stability, certain sectors of the nation, including the economics, play a significant role. Basic economic and political factors are interwoven with issues with public policy execution in Third World nations. Governments implementing public programs to raise the standard of living discover that they are constrained by the state's meager ability to extract resources from the economy as well as by the theft of public funds through corruption (Jan-Erik Lane, University of Geneva and National University of Singapore and Svante Ersson, Umea University, n.d.).

METHODOLOGY

This paper is supported by a through study of the literature. To make sure that the review's aim was clear, its initial stage involved identifying its intended goals and objectives. A typical literature review method includes several steps, including searching, gathering, prioritizing, and reading with a goal of identifying important issues and themes that are then presented and critically examined.

The study made comparisons to first-world nations and specifically made reference to Africa in an effort to explore the politicization of public policy implementation and problems in third-world countries.

AFRICAN PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES OR CHALLENGES POLITICIZATION (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS)

Poor planning, political unpredictability, bureaucratic bottlenecks, the deliberate imposition of policy, complete plan modification if it is unfavorable to the implementers or civil servants charged with its implementation, and problems with corruption and bribery could all pose challenges or problems with policy implementation in Africa (O. V Ajulor, 2021).

Developed nations have always been seen as being more capable of methodically and efficiently implementing comprehensive public programs. Africa is now progressing. Most policies are implemented with great difficulty, if not total failure, and are usually influenced by current political events.

POLITICIANS' EGO

The ego of most African politicians leads to policy twists and turns, usually for political survival

and the perpetuation of party interests. Policy changes, if not abandonment, are unnecessary. New governments take office and fail to carry on the policies begun by the previous opposition government. In a few rare instances, their best option is to modify the policy's name or expand its scope to include more societal challenges. Election victories are regarded as being more significant than the longevity of policies and the accomplishment of their primary objectives (Daniel, 2015).

NARROW VIEW IN POLICY FORMULATION

When formulating policies, policymakers concentrate on just a few factors that affect the specified issue. Most of the time, they ignore the social, administrative, and external environmental elements in favor of concentrating primarily on the political and economic factors. As a result, the policy is drafted with flaws from the beginning (Amugo, n.d.).

CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY

Corruption and bribery are becoming widespread issues in Africa. The majority of the implementation stage challenges are accounted for in the policy setting. Financial resources are siphoned off by policy actors for their own needs, both at the top and in the trenches. Institutions and agents set up to enforce accountability are bribed to falsify their reports and slant their investigation. In the end, the system is compromised, and the developed policies fail to materialize their intended outcomes (Amugo, n.d.).

TARGET GROUP UNDER-PARTICIPATION

Under-participation occurs when the target group for whom the policy is intended is not given sufficient opportunity to participate in the creation and execution of the policy. The target population is typically overlooked during the policy formulation process in the majority of African nations, though. Only senior government figures and policymakers are required to participate. As a result, the established policy is not client-focused and loses contact with the community. Possession of the policy becomes challenging (Amugo, n.d.).

According to Landsberg of the University of Johannesburg, numerous NGOs have branded NEPAD a bottom-up plan run by authorities and governments while shutting out civil society participants from NEPAD proceedings (Landsberg, 2010).

The adoption of foreign-made solutions to Africa's myriad of concerns is the current tendency, although doing so frequently hinders the ability of local intellectual resources to address regional problems. These have a tendency to exacerbate the underdevelopment of local talent and deny them the chance to solve the issue in their own way. Additionally, while examining the execution of policies, politicians frequently fail to take into account the social, political, economic, and administrative environments (Enserinii et al., 1871).

The international community frequently imposes a policy in the form of goal-setting, such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the current Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Setting unreasonable targets is a trait of developing country policymaking, according to (Akinwale & Ogundari, 2017). (including Africa). Their policy formulations are consistently thorough, raise expectations among the populace, and are rarely equaled by the system's ability to carry them out effectively. The challenge is in figuring out how to accomplish them. For instance, there were eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which are exhaustive and include 18 targets. Due to a lack of resources (both human and material), the majority of African nations were unable to accomplish the goal effectively.

THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs) (MDGs)

189 nations endorsed the MDGs in 2000 as a coordinated strategy for managing sustainable human development. Eight goals were derived from the MDGs and are to be accomplished by 2015. They consist of:

Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger;
Goal 2: Achieved Universal Primary Education;
Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality;
Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality. Others are
Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health;
Goal 6: Combat HIV and AIDS, Malaria and other diseases;
Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability and
Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development. 18 objectives and 48 indicators are also part of the MDGs. It is done to make sure that development efforts are better focused, and that their execution is assessed and monitored. The wealthy countries committed to allocating 0.7% of their GNI to support the MDGs through official development assistance (ODA) to the developing world, and the latter affirmed their commitment to better governance.

(Modibbo et al., 2021) evaluated how well African nations had performed in terms of fulfilling the MDGs. He claimed that, generally speaking, it had

not been impressive as stated in the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa's 2015 MDGs Report (UNECA). The report shows a range of results, including success for some nations in meeting one or two MDGs and failure for others. Regarding the top ten African nations for each of the MDGs, these performances are shown in the table above. However, Modibbo et al., (2021) only included 4 of the original 8 MDGs, which are still important for our analysis.

Table 1: Top Ten (10) African Countries per MDG

Position	MDG1	MDG2	MDG3	MDG4
1st	Gambia (32%)	Sao Tome & Principe (100%)	Lesotho (1.25)	Egypt (66%)
2nd	Burkina Faso (25%)	Seychelles (100%)	Sao Tome & Principe (1.14)	Ethiopia (66%)
3rd	Ethiopia (25%)	Algeria (100%)	Algeria (1.10)	Liberia (66%)
4th	Niger (22%)	Tunisia (100%)	Tunisia (1.10)	Malawi (66%)
5th	Swaziland (22%)	Cape Verde (99%)	Libya (1.10)	Tunisia (66%)
6th	Uganda (22%)	Mauritius (99%)	Namibia (1.09)	Tanzania (66%)
7th	Tanzania (16%)	Morocco (99%)	Cape Verde (1.09)	Algeria (60%)
8th	Mozambique (15%)	Egypt (99%)	Sierra Leone (1.09)	Cape Verde (60%)
9th	Senegal (14%)	Ghana (98%)	Gambia (1.09)	Eritrea (60%)
10th	South Africa (12%)	Zambia (96%)	Mauritania (1.09)	Libya (60%)

Source: Compiled from the Records of UNECA (2015); UNAID, (2014); WHO (2014); and UNSAID (2015). Adopted from Maduabum, 2016.

MDG 1: Eradicate Extreme Hunger and Poverty: The percentages in the table show the amount that poverty decreased between a 6- and 11-year period. Only Algeria achieved significant progress by developing a public works program for the unskilled, creating jobs for young people, and providing subsidies to businesses as an inducement to hire the unemployed.

While the government funded the salaries of competent youth, companies were given the chance to hire personnel for no charge for a year. In 2000 and 2001, the unemployment rates were 30% and 48%, respectively.

MDG2: Achieve Universal Primary Education: Assessed by Primary Education completion Rate in percentage (UNSD, 2015). Another indicator here is the youth Literacy Rate, And the following countries recorded between 94% to 100% literacy rate: Libya (100%); South Africa (99%); Seychelles (99%); Equatorial Guinea (98%); Cape Verde (98%); Botswana (97%); Egypt (95%); Equatorial Guinea (98%); Cape Verde (95%); Botswana (97%); Egypt (95%); Eritrea (95%); Garbon (94%); and Comoros (94%).

MDG 3: Promote Gender Equality through Empowerment of Women: Gender parity in enrollment in primary schools served as the indication in the aforementioned table. The male-female enrolment ratio in primary schools has reached parity, which is referred to as the Gender Parity Index (GP1). The proportion of female seats in the national legislature is a significant benchmark towards this objective. The performance here is as follows: Rwanda (64%); South Africa (45%); Seychelles (48%); Senegal (43%); Ethiopia (42%); Mozambique (39%); Angola (37%); Algeria (32%); Burundi (31%);

MDG 4: Reduce Child Mortality: On the average, the Under-Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) reduced by 55% (i.e.) 146 deaths per 1000 live births in 1990 to 65 deaths per 1000 live births in 2012) in Africa. The target which was met by some African countries is 66% as indicated in the table.

GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (SDGs)

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were announced and endorsed by the 193-member United Nations Assembly on September 25, 2015, exactly one month before the MDGs' period ended in December 2015. Again, this will last for 15 years, starting on January 1, 2016, and ending on December 31, 2030. It is clear that the SDGs are a logical extension of the MDGs. However, the SDGs have been expanded to include 17 goals. The objectives, their objectives, targets, and indicators are shown in the table below.

According to (Modibbo et al., 2021), the following performance could be discovered so far from the data available after eleven months of the SDGs being established.

➤ No African nation has so far completely eradicated severe poverty in accordance with goals 1 through 5, and the rate of progress against hunger is slow. Regarding health, Rwanda is remarkable

for having lowered the rate of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births from 567 to 290. There has been little development in the secondary school sector of education. But by 2030, Ghana and Gabon plan to cut child marriage by more than 50%.

➤ Cape Verde is the only nation on track to achieve sanitation for all by 2030 in terms of goals 6 through 10. Only South Africa and Gabon are predicted to achieve the energy target in 2030; In terms of growth, Ethiopia stands out as one nation where GDP growth has averaged 11% over the past ten years as opposed to the 4.5% seen in the majority of other nations. The unemployment rate is considerable; Only Niger and Zambia are on track to reach almost half of the industrialization goal;

➤ Regarding objectives 11 through 17, Niger and Burundi are two instances of nations that saw "pro-poor" growth. Only Lesotho, Senegal, Kenya, and South Africa can see a decline in slum populations, while only Seychelles, Mauritius, and Comoros are expected to see a marginal decline in trash creation. Carbon emissions are predicted to rise across all of Africa; by the target date, more than half of the reefs in the Atlantic and Indian oceans are predicted to be in serious danger.

S/NO	GOALS	TARGETS	INDICATORS
1.	End poverty in all its forms	End extreme poverty	Share of population living under the international poverty line
2.	End hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	End Hunger	The share of the population that is undernourished (food intake is insufficient to meet dietary energy requirements continuously).
3.	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all of all ages	Reduce Maternal mortality	Maternal mortality ratio (modeled estimate per 100,000 live births)
4.	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	Universal Secondary Education	Percentage of the population age 20-24 years that have completed upper secondary level education.
5.	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	End child marriage	The share of 20-24 years old women who married before 18 years.
6.	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.	Universal access to sanitation	The share of the population with access to improved sanitation facilities.
7.	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	Universal access to power	Share of population with access to electricity
8	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.	Economic growth in LDCs	Annual % of GDP growth
9.	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	Industrialization in LDCs	Industry, value added (% of GDP)
10.	Reduce inequality within and among countries	Reduce income inequality	Growth income of the bottom 40% relative to average
11	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe,	Reduce slum populations	The share of the urban population living in slums.

			resilient and sustainable
12	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	Reduce waste	Solid waste generated per person (tones)
13	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	Combat climate change	Average annual carbon emissions per country (millions of tons)
14	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.	Protect marine environments	Reefs under threat (%)
15.	Restore and promote sustainable use of forest ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	Halt deforestation	Forest area as a share of total land area
16	Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.	Reduce violent deaths	Violent deaths as a share of total deaths
17	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalized the global partnership for sustainable development.	Mobilize domestic resources	Government revenue as a share of GDP

Source: World Bank (2016); UNICEF (2016); UNHABITAT (2016); Hornweg and Blada-tatat (2012); World Resources Institute (2011); WHO (2016); and IMF (2016). Adopted from Maduabum, 2016

Table 2: Target and Indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (2016-2030)

POVERTY AND POOR COUNTRIES

Despite all the negativity surrounding the global poverty issue, it is important to emphasize the hope of a brighter future. According to the generally accepted "gap theory," the divide between wealthy and developing nations is widening. This claim needs further investigation. Third-world nations, particularly those in Africa, require both political and economic growth. One could really wonder if the first part of the argument—that a continuous process of economic expansion would result in major improvement rather soon—does not provide greater grounds for optimism than the second.

More reason exists to doubt the political elites of the Third World's commitment to enacting laws that genuinely improve the lives of the populace. Poverty is fundamentally structural in the sense that the global economy must result in significant gaps between wealthy and developing nations. This is the stance taken by Marxist ideas, such as the core-periphery model and the study of global systems. It is frequently used by spokespersons for governments that have either failed or made no attempt to better the plight of their impoverished citizens.

On the other hand, there is the non-deterministic argument that world poverty can be eradicated by the choice of the correct public policies. It comes in two versions. First, there is

the top-down perspective that assigns a crucial role to government planning, or so-called development administration. Second, there is the bottom-up perspective that outlines an alternative public policy approach to the improvement of poverty, based on participatory mechanisms such as the NGO: s. However, without resources, self-initiative and grass roots participation will not suffice. Planning too, has failed as the development strategy.

Different human plights are described by the term poverty (Handbook of Development Economics, n.d.)(Jan-Erik Lane, University of Geneva and National University of Singapore and Svante Ersson, Umea University, n.d.).

The commonly accepted belief that poverty cannot be eradicated from human society's social structures derives from the idea of relative poverty or it concentrates on such dreadful conditions as famine. Because there will always be gaps between the rich and the poor in social institutions, relative poverty cannot be eradicated. Even the welfare states in the OECD group of nations and the extremely wealthy oil states are considered to be poor in this sense.

Here, we're examining utter poverty as a national characteristic. The amount of persons who live below a particular minimal standard of life is used as a measure of this type of poverty. The same viewpoint is required by the poverty line technique. Public policy can be used to combat this form of poverty. Famines are not a given in every poor state, and the issue with impoverished states is not that they frequently experience relative poverty. By connecting the idea of poverty to the nation, one emphasizes that the government is accountable for the overall standard of living in a nation.

If and when the political leaders of the Third World are dedicated to eradicating poverty, political stability is a prerequisite. At the same time, effective public policy against poverty depends on the nation's economy allowing governments to utilize its natural resources and labor force. According to this thesis, one factor influencing the likelihood that public policies would be successful in Third World nations is corruption.

A developing nation need not endure perpetual poverty. Let's start by demonstrating that the divide between the rich and poor states of the world today can be closed. Then, we'll demonstrate how vital it is for human development to advance even slightly in order to lessen the harmful effects of poverty. But to do this, the economy must reach a particular level of growth in terms of GDP, and political instability in the form of corruption must be restrained.

THE GAP

It is frequently asserted that the gap between wealthy and developing nations is widening. It is expected that the unchecked population growth will inevitably lead to a decline in the standard of living in poorer states. Is there no reason to be hopeful?

When comparing general disparities across various states, there is unquestionably a vast disparity between, on the one hand, India and China and, on the other, the United States and Switzerland. Exist any options for states to behave in a way that reduces this extraordinary distance? The average country wealth varies greatly, as seen, for instance, in the GNP estimates for Europe and Africa. But outside of the developed world, there has been persistent economic growth.

When looking for measures to combat poverty, one of the biggest roadblocks is the widely held idea that the disparities in poverty between the First World and the Third World just widen with time. It is impossible to include country developments in terms of total wealth under such a crude generalization.

It is clear that between 1950 and 1985, the gap widened between the OECD nations and the groups of Communist and Latin American nations. The Spanish-speaking world is clearly in a state of stagnation. But the gap between ourselves and the African continent has grown much wider. The distance between the OECD countries and the Asian countries, however, is drastically narrowing, casting doubt on and even disproving the gap argument. A few Asian nations that are newly industrializing (NICs) and exporting (NECs) are rapidly reducing the gap, which can presently only be measured by a factor of three. Speaking of the First World versus the

Third World is becoming less and less appropriate (Lane and Ersson, 2001).

The early 1990s developments go counter to the gap theory. The chances for an increase in prosperity in Latin America are far more promising as well as Southeast Asia as a whole, including Mainland China. Chile serves as a prime example, although Argentina has undoubtedly lagged significantly in 2002. The so-called Baby Tigers, which include South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and Hong Kong, have wealth levels that are equivalent to those of OECD nations (Lane and Ersson, 2001), with the last two city-states outperforming a number of OECD nations. Thus, it is feasible for Third World nations to narrow the gap. We emphasize that it necessitates political stability.

Table 1: shows the Third World nations that, in terms of the index of human development, were at the top and bottom of the rankings, respectively, in 1980 and 1999.

Table 1: Human Development Index in 1980 and 2000

COUNTRY	HDI 1980	COUNTRY	HDI 1999
Top:		Top:	
Argentina	0,798	Singapore	0,876
Uruguay	0,775	Korea, Rep.	0,875
Costa Rica	0,769	Argentina	0,842
Singapore	0,753	Uruguay	0,828
Trinidad and Tobago	0,752	Chile	0,825
Chile	0,735	Costa Rica	0,821
Mexico	0,732	Kuwait	0,818
Panama	0,73	United Arab Emirates	0,809
Venezuela, RB	0,73	Trinidad and Tobago	0,798
Korea, Rep.	0,729	Mexico	0,79
Bottom:		Bottom:	
Malawi	0,343	Rwanda	0,395
Nepal	0,329	Mali	0,378
Senegal	0,329	Central African Republic	0,372
Benin	0,323	Chad	0,359
Burundi	0,308	Mozambique	0,323
Mozambique	0,303	Ethiopia	0,321
Mali	0,277	Burkina Faso	0,32
Burkina Faso	0,263	Burundi	0,309
Chad	0,255	Niger	0,274
Niger	0,253	Sierra Leone	0,258

Source: UNDP (2001) Human Development Report 2001

The Human Development Index, used by the United Nations, shows not only the stark contrast between First World and Third World nations, but also that many Third World nations have made progress in raising their citizens' standards of living. In fact, there is no longer any point in discussing an unbridgeable divide between rich and poor countries because of the differences among Third World nations. Making sure a Third World nation does not slip into the poverty trap is more crucial for it than how it compares to a First World nation. Let's elaborate.

THE TRAP

Although proponents of the pessimistic hypothesis could acknowledge that there are a few exceptional cases—countries that have managed to transition from poverty to prosperity—they would undoubtedly continue to believe that the situation for poor countries as a whole is bleak. According to the pessimistic theory, there isn't much that can be done except to stop unexpected famines because the gap between the few wealthy and the many impoverished is so great. Looking at the disparity, it is clear that there is a significant economic divide between the OECD countries and those in Latin America, Asia, and notably Africa.

If it is conceivable to trust the extremely complex calculations required to make the measuring rod - an international US dollar - a valid quantitative indication - it is true that the gap between the rich and the poor in terms of country level prosperity is enormous. However, purchasing power is not a strict indicator of poverty. The quality of life rather than a precise metric of GDP per capita is what is important for the policy of ending global poverty. The quality of life is not strictly a proportional function of the economic indicator of prosperity, which is something that the pessimistic view of world poverty on a country-by-country basis ignores.

The relationship between economic prosperity and overall quality of life has a steep curve linearity, as seen in Figure 1. Extremely low levels of national wealth lead to genuinely appalling social conditions, but as GDP scores move toward higher levels, the quality of life indicator first improves correspondingly before the curve becomes more or less flat.

Given the correlation between GDP per capita and the situation affecting quality of life, it is important to understand that rapid economic expansion will likely swiftly benefit the majority of the population in the nation. Early stages of economic development are when the biggest strides out of poverty are made.

Figure 1: shows the 1999 Human Development Index and GDP

GDP per capita in US $ PPP 1998
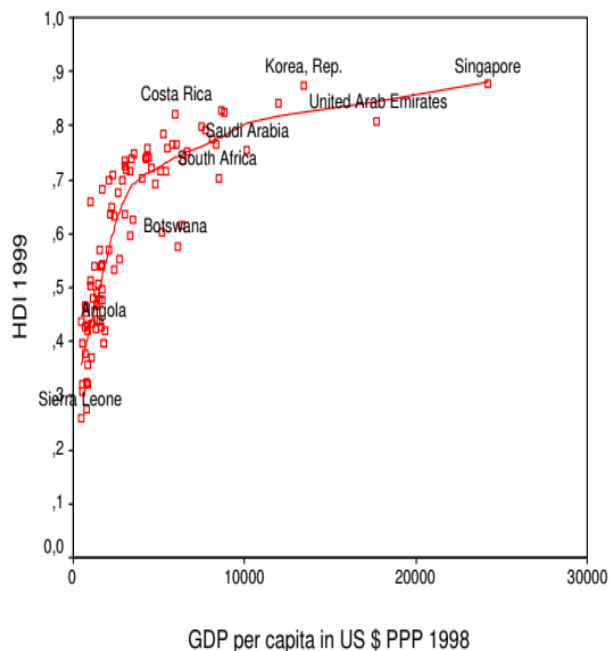
Sources: UNDP (2001) Human Development Report and World Bank (2000) World Development Indicators 2000 (GDP per capita).

Growth factors should be prioritized over distributional issues, according to the policy implication. The most dreadful aspects of poverty in many Third World nations could be eliminated if their national incomes rose to a level over 2,000 US dollars on an international scale.

As a result, increasing the quality of life in the world's poorest nations depends on positive economic development. The typical citizen's quality of life would enhance significantly with little increases in GDP per capita. Economic resources alone, however, will not end global poverty. The nation trying to put policies in place to reduce poverty must have political stability.

In order to escape the poverty trap (found at the left end of Table 2), where a low level of GDP suggests a deplorable state of society, public policy in a poor country should focus on those policies that will help the country do so. A Third World nation can escape the trap by launching a sustained degree of economic development with the aid of public policy.
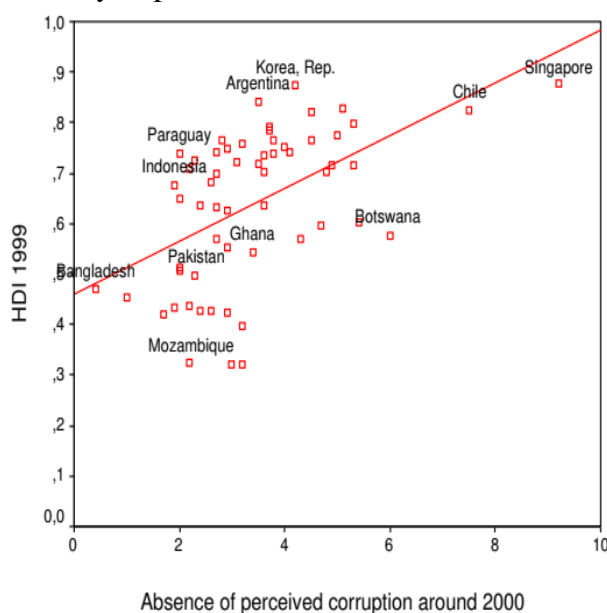
POLITICAL STABILITY

In order to implement policies, a nation must be stable. The Third World's political elites frequently acknowledge their desire to implement measures that would enhance the quality of life for their people. However, the fundamental political instability that pervades many Third World nations causes the policy goal to fade away. The most harmful manifestation of political instability is widespread corruption since it is prevalent, ongoing, and all-pervasive.

First off, attempts to alleviate the plight of the populace are essentially halted by the repeated occurrence of civil wars in third world nations. Second, there needs to be political stability in the broad sense of maintaining a single political system over time. The enormous political instability of the world's underdeveloped continents may be seen when state stability is quantified by looking at the average length of regimes since 1945.

Latin America has historically been the region where the transition between democracy and dictatorship has been most pronounced. There is broad regime instability in Africa as well, but this primarily pertains to the conflict between more or less authoritarian civil rule and military rule. The challenges in establishing a stable democracy are represented in part, but not entirely, by the instability of the Asian regimes. In contrast, Europe's 1990-era late regime change to democracy gave it a very high score. The many indicators of political instability strongly correlate with one another (Percep-, 2005).

In a strict sense, regime survival is not a prerequisite for the development and implementation of measures that relieve poverty because an authoritarian government may purposefully ignore the plight of the poor. However, it could only be sustained for a long time by the use of significant repressive resources. Political unrest in the short term. Governments in the Third World may implement a variety of social policies to alleviate the harshness of their people's lives. First and foremost, one considers educational and health-care policies. Other policies, such as law and order and infrastructure, benefit the masses as well. Political insecurity

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makes policy consistency and coherence nearly impossible.

Sources: Human Development Report 2001: HDI and Corruption Index by Transparency International (2001).

Figure 2: depicts the beneficial link between political stability and human growth in the form of reduced corruption. We have circular causality here, which means that corruption hinders human development, which in turn fuels further corruption, creating a vicious cycle that makes it impossible for public policy and the implementation of policy to be successful in developing nations.

CONCLUSION

The study was able to demonstrate that the difficulties in implementing policy in Africa have served as roadblocks to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. According to the study, the majority of African nations have experienced economic recessions as a result of problems with policy implementation, such as the setting of unattainable goals, political patronage, political instability, insecurity, and insensitivity to the ability of the target population to contribute to policy implementation as well as a lack of environmental consideration. It should be noted that when policies are frequently imposed on people without their consent, they disassociate themselves from the good government program intended to enhance their lives and may even go so far as to thwart such a plan. It is impossible to overstate the role of civil society, nongovernmental organizations, the scientific community, and the media in shaping public policy. The target beneficiary's exclusion from the policy's conception and implementation has significant implications for policy failures in Africa as a whole.

A certain level of good economic development and political stability are prerequisites for the execution of measures that reduce poverty in Third World nations. In addition to existing capital depreciating, fresh capital investments are the sole way for the economy to grow.

We emphasize the necessity for political stability as well as economic progress in the world's poorest nations. The core issue is the intimate connection between political stability and prosperity.

The link between GDP and the absence of corruption is as high as.75. Political instability is caused by a lack of wealth, while poverty is made worse by political instability. More emphasis needs to be given to fundamental political issues, particularly regime stability, if global poverty is to be combated. One has reason to be skeptical about global poverty primarily because of the likelihood that political leaders in the Third world will agree on fundamental constitutional issues. Policies to decrease poverty cannot be started as long as there is fundamental doubt regarding the fundamental laws of the state.

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