

Foreword and Acknowledgements

This Volume 17 of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* with the title „Macroeconomic Policy Formation in Africa – Country Cases” has benefited from many contributions, from various inputs and from important support. The great number of contributions to this volume was made possible because of the continuing support from African and international organisations, from numerous research and development institutions, and from many individual experts working continuously on Africa. International and regional organisations, such as UNDP (United Nations Development Programme), ILO (International Labour Office), UNESCWA (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia), UNECA (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa), WAMA (West African Monetary Agency), WAMI (West African Monetary Institute), and the Arab Planning Institute (API) in Kuwait City have directly supported the Yearbook project on “Macroeconomic Policy Formation” with contributions, expertise and suggestions. Many organisations, like the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) Development Centre, the African Union (AU) and the NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa’s Development) Secretariat, have contributed with information and encouragement. We, as the Editors of the Yearbook, are always interested in their advice and guidance so as to structure the future work on the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*.

For Volume 17 of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* the Editors took up the event of the Independence of the Republic of South Sudan on July 9, 2011 to publish a special *Unit 1* on *New Economic Policies for Sudan and South Sudan - The Need for a Strategic Economic Cooperation* in order to highlight the need for new macroeconomic strategies and policies and to focus on the many interdependencies between these two countries. The Editors were enthusiastically supported in this endeavour by groups of authors from the two countries. While the authors of this *Unit 1* are convinced that new macroeconomic policies and a strategic economic and political cooperation between the two countries are necessary, the politics in these two countries has not yet learned the lessons from the many decades of conflict between and within these two countries. Even new wars inside the South Sudan since December 2013 and continuing wars in Sudan make millions of people in both countries suffering.

Various groups of researchers in Nigeria from academic institutions and from governmental and non-governmental offices in Nigeria have contributed to Volume 17 of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* by making possible the *Unit 2* on *Macroeconomic Policies in West Africa*. Researchers from academic institutions in Nigeria and from WAMA (West African Monetary Agency) and WAMI (West African Monetary Institute) have contributed with their expertise - by writing various essays on the case of Nigeria's macroeconomic policy formation process (including impacts of macroeconomic policies on productive economic sectors) and an essay on the future role of the West African regional economic and monetary integration process (by analysing the new structure of the West African Monetary Zone around countries like Nigeria and Ghana). In order to compare and contrast the established CFA-based West African Economic and Monetary Integration process with the new WAMZ (West African Monetary Zone) integration process in *Unit 2*, Senegal was included as a country case for the CFA Zone.

Unit 3 of Volume 17 contains a great number of book reviews and book notes and so is a valuable source of new books, journal issues, documents and research papers with a focus on macroeconomic policy formation in Africa. All the entries to this *Unit 3* are highly relevant for the main theme Macroeconomic Policy Formation in Africa. The many reviews are grouped according to the headings: Macroeconomic Policy formation in Africa; Macroeconomic Policies in Africa; Global Economic Reports; Regional African Economic Reports; Arab Spring Economies in North Africa; Post-Conflict Countries in Africa; Development Policies and Development Aid.

Volume 17 is complementary to Volume 16 on „Macroeconomic Policy Formation in Africa – General Issues“. For Volume 16 senior researchers gave inputs to the *Unit 1* on General Issues with regard of Macroeconomic Policy Formation. The essays in *Unit 1* of Volume 16 have set the theme for the Volumes 16 and 17 with contributions on employment-targeting, on new macroeconomic policy regimes by considering vulnerability and resilience to shocks, and on ways to react in macroeconomic policies to demands for inclusive growth and to adapt in macroeconomic policies to economic globalization pressures and economic governance pressures. These introductory essays are so important for the theoretical focus of Volumes 16 and 17. Many researchers and international organisations have also supported strongly the idea to publish a *Unit 2* in Volume 16 on the Economics of the “Arab Spring” Countries. It was possible to work on such a *Unit 2* because of the early involvement of researchers from Egypt, Tunisia and from international organisations being active in the North Africa/Western Asia Region, like UNESCWA Beirut, UNDP Cairo and API, Kuwait City.

Many other institutions have contributed with news, information, publications, and various forms of encouragement. Many regional and international organisations, like the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African Union (AU), the UNECA (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa), the World Bank, UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), UNDP (United Nations Development Programme), IMF (International Monetary Fund), UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization), and ILO (International Labour Organization), continue to support our scientific effort by sending us - always timely - new strategy documents and drafts of their researches for publication and review. Also UNU-WIDER (United Nations University - World Institute for Development Economics Research) as an institution of global importance has continuously supported our work with most recent research papers, publications and information about important scientific events. Furthermore, we would like to thank all these institutions by informing so many others about our work for Africa.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Dr. Magda Kandil, Executive Director and Director of Research at the Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES), Cairo and now acting as a senior expert at IMF, Washington. She was the first expert to submit a paper for the *Unit 2* of Volume 16 on the Economics of the “Arab Spring” Countries in North Africa, and she accepted the invitation to join the team of volume editors for both editions – Volume 16 and Volume 17. Dr. Tobias Knedlik, the Managing Editor of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*, and Professor Karl Wohlmuth, the Volume Editor, are also thankful to Dr. Osmund O. Uzor for bringing in his expertise on Nigeria as the main Unit Editor for *Unit 2* of Volume 17 and to Professor Dr. Achim Gutowski for his continuous work as Book Review/Book Notes Editor of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*; his *Unit 3* is in this Volume 17.

We have to thank all contributors and supporters of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* for their hard work, their steady encouragement and their continuous assistance. The valuable input from leading African research institutions and experts has contributed over the years to the success of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* as an outstanding publication on and for Africa. The readers of the various Yearbook volumes have contributed with critical comments and encouragement so that over time a valuable network between readers, contributors and editors was created.

Various institutions have made donations over the years and have funded allocations to the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* project, but the support of the University of Bremen, Bremen, Germany is of invaluable importance. The University of Bremen was awarded by the German scientific research community in June 2012 the title “Excellence University”, and the

Research Group on African Development Perspectives Bremen is very proud about this distinction.

These donations, supports and research grants to the project have helped us to research on African development issues, to distribute the various volumes of the Yearbook to African partner universities and to major African research institutions, and to invite research scholars from leading African research institutions to work with us in Bremen. Institutions like the Volkswagen Foundation and the Humboldt Foundation have generously financed the stay of senior researchers at IWIM (Institute for World Economics and International Management) in Bremen. The Africa Research Workshops are regularly held in Bremen at the University to discuss the draft papers which are intended for publication. These Africa Research workshops serve as forums for the intensive discussion of the draft papers and related research topics. The Editors also have to thank the many reviewers of draft contributions for their committed work. By this input the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* has become over the years a fully refereed publication.

Many persons have given support, advice, and encouragement; others have helped with frank and critical assessments. However, the responsibility for the final product remains with the editorial team of the *Research Group on African Development Perspectives* in Bremen. While Volume 17 and the companion Volume 16 both are released in 2014, the Research Group now works on Volume 18 for 2015 with the title "*Africa's Progress in Regional and Global Economic Integration*".

In the name of the Editorial Team:

Karl Wohlmuth, Bremen University, Volume Editor, and
Tobias Knedlik, Fulda University and IWH Halle, Managing Editor