

## Foreword and Acknowledgements

This Volume 22 of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* with the title “Sustainable Development Goal Nine and African Development – Challenges and Opportunities” has again benefitted from many contributions, from various inputs, and from important institutional support. The great number of contributions to this volume (essays, analytical surveys, country case studies, review articles and book reviews) was made possible because of the continuing support from African and international organisations, from numerous research and development institutions, and from many individual experts who are cooperating continuously with us on Africa. A great number of international and regional organisations, universities and research institutes have supported this project which led to this new publication of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*. While the volumes 20 and 21 had a focus on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) Policies, the volume 22 is related to the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9 and the achievements of Africa in this regard. It is of great importance to inform the public about the anniversary ceremony of *Thirty Years (1989-2019) African Development Perspectives Yearbook*, an event which took place in 2019. A great number of former and still active contributors and editors have contributed to this Festschrift. Volume 22 for 2020/2021 is now the start of a further decade of this important publication on African development.

It is worth to mention the great number of supporters to the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*, such as a number of international and regional organisations: The World Bank, the IMF (International Monetary Fund), UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation); ACBF (African Capacity Building Foundation); UNECA (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa); UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African Union (AU), the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD). For volume 22, UNCTAD had a great role, as two key experts presented contributions. On the side of the universities, scientific academies, scientific governance institutions, and research institutes the following partners should be mentioned: the Department of Economics, University of Khartoum, Sudan; the African Technology Policy Studies Network Nairobi, Kenya; the Department of Agricultural Economics, Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Edo State, Nigeria; the Fraunhofer-Institut für Fabrikbetrieb und -automatisierung (IFF), Magdeburg, Germany; Tilburg University, TiSEM/Tilburg School of Economics and Management, Department Management; Graduate School of Technology Management (GSTM), Department of Engineering and Technology Management, University of Pretoria; Global Change Institute (GCI), University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa; Department of Construction Management and Quantity Surveying, Faculty of Engineering and the

Built Environment, University of Johannesburg, South Africa; Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria; Industrial Economics Research Institute, Industrial Research and Consultancy Centre (IRCC), Khartoum, Sudan; Sudan Chapter, African Technology Policy Studies (ATPS) Network; the University of Maroua, Maroua, Cameroon; the Laboratory of Analysis and Research in Mathematical Economics (LAREM), University of Yaounde 2, Soa, Yaounde- Cameroon; also independent researchers from the Sudanese Consulting business and related to the Afrika-Verein der deutschen Wirtschaft e. V. in West Africa have contributed; and many others.

All these partners have directly supported this Yearbook project with contributions, expertise, and suggestions. Special thanks go to Professor Dr. Samia Satti Mohamed Nour, Department of Economics, University of Khartoum, Khartoum, Sudan, and to Dr. Anthony Ifeanyi Ugulu, from the Department of Construction Management and Quantity Surveying, Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. Both experts have given advice from the first phase of planning this publication project, and both accepted the task as unit and volume editors. Professor Samia Satti Osman Mohamed Nour accepted the position of the Book Reviews and Book Notes Editor for volume 22 (2020/2021), while Dr. Anthony Ugulu accepted the position as Unit Editor for Unit 2 of volume 22 (2020/2021). Professor Dr. Samia Satti Mohamed Nour has already cooperated with her great expertise to the volumes 20 and 21 on STI policies in Africa as contributing to inclusive growth. She will also cooperate with the Research Group on volume 23 (2022) on digital transformation in Africa. The volume editor of volume 22 (2020/2021), Professor Karl Wohlmuth (from IWIM/Institute for World Economics and International Management and the Research Group on African Development Perspectives Bremen), is indebted to these two experts for their encouragement, ideas, concepts, and the valuable contributions to this volume of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*.

Institutional support is welcomed by the *Research Group on African Development Perspectives Bremen*. Many organisations in Africa, like the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Union (AU), and the NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development) Secretariat have contributed with information and encouragement. Also, the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) and its Development Centre, the IMF (International Monetary Fund), and the World Bank (with various offices at headquarters and in Africa) have given advice and information. We, as the Editors of the Yearbook, are always interested in their advice and guidance to structure the future work on the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*.

For the volume 22 (2020/2021) of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* the Editors of the Yearbook took up the issues of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9 as this is a key goal for industrialising and innovating Africa

and for a continent which is developing now its soft and hard infrastructure. These issues are so important for the much-needed redirection of economic and social policies in Africa as all the social, economic, political, and ecological dimensions of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 are involved. The volume 22 (2020/2021) considers the fact that structural reforms and structural transformation processes in Africa request policies which directly support structural change. SDG 9 is giving with its 8 targets and its 12 indicators a guideline for action. All the essays and book reviews contained in the volume fulfil this task of taking stock of realising SDG 9 in Africa by achieving its targets.

While volume 20 presented a general strategy on “STI policies for inclusive growth in Africa”, the volume 21 was focussing on “human capacity building and STI policies in Africa”. Volume 22 can build on this basis by analysing the three elements of advancing industrialisation, building innovation capacity, and developing infrastructure in Africa. Unit I of volume 22 elaborates on continent-wide issues. There is a discussion of developing productive capacities for industrial growth, a discussion about innovation strategies, which are based on frugal innovations to empower the people in bottom-of-the pyramid households, a discussion about commodity-based industrialisation enabled by the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA), and there is a discussion on making foreign direct investment to facilitate a sustainable industrialisation. Specific strategies to speed up industrialisation, to create innovation capacities, and to develop infrastructure development are presented in these essays of Unit 1, and important policy recommendations are provided. Country specific examples are presented in these continent-wide analyses of Unit 1 as well. In Unit 2 the eight targets of SDG 9 are considered in the form of exemplary cases, such as the role of financial innovations for strengthening agricultural value chains and the role of new strategies for agro-based industries; other cases refer to issues of renewable energy promotion in rural and urban areas to address local inclusive growth and sustainable development; finally, there are cases which highlight the role of modern integrated roads systems and the significance of social development and infrastructure projects which are attached to mining activities. In this Unit 2 there are found country cases on Nigeria, Sudan, Cameroon, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. There is a tradition in the work for the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* to focus with great priority on country studies, and Sudan, Nigeria, and South Africa have always played a great role to exemplify the themes of Yearbook volumes that were selected. This has also to do with the great research projects which are ongoing on these three countries. Unit 3 is on Book Reviews and Book Notes, and the Unit is rich in entries which are based on a classification system according to the 17 SDGs and the 8 targets of SDG 9. Unit 3 is also highlighting those publications which discuss the key linkages of SDG 9 with other SDGs. Also, global reports on economic perspectives and reports on the development options and perspectives of the African continent play a great role in this Unit, but also the reviews for the African

Studies section of Unit 3 should be mentioned. This Unit 3 is presenting numerous review articles, book reviews and book notes on the core theme of volumes 22. This strong Unit 3 is facilitated by the fact that most of these reports, books and documents which are reviewed are under an open access publication status.

Many institutions have over the three decades up to now contributed to the various volumes of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*, with news and information about African countries and regions, with information about new research projects in and on Africa, with publications about policies and strategies, with documents about declarations and agreements, and with research papers, also at their early stage. So, the editors of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* can grasp new events and developments in Africa very early, what helps in inviting contributors who are then key persons of expertise for specific units (chapters). Many regional and international organisations, like the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African Union (AU) and its affiliated institutions, the UNECA (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa), the World Bank, the UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), the UNDP (United Nations Development Programme), the IMF (International Monetary Fund), the UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization), and the ILO (International Labour Organization), continue to support our scientific effort by sending us materials and by making available - always timely - new strategy documents and drafts of their research papers for our publication series, especially the Book Reviews and Book Notes Unit of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*. For volumes 20 and 21, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) and ACBF (African Capacity Building Foundation) stepped in as key partners, and for volume 22 this role is taken by UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development). But it is also true that individual persons in these important organizations are of great help; they open the doors, they invite us to cooperate, and they share their knowledge with us.

Also, UNU-WIDER (United Nations University - World Institute for Development Economics Research), as an institution of global importance for development research, has continuously supported our work with most recent research papers, with access to their conferences and networks of researchers and affiliated institutes, and with publications and information about important scientific events in their domain of development studies. Furthermore, we would like to thank all those institutions which make us part of their global research networks; so, they are informing so many others in the development field about our work for Africa, publicising our endeavour of continuously publishing the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*. This is the case now since 1989 when the first volume appeared under the theme of "Human Dimensions of Adjustment".

We would also like to express our gratitude to those researchers who accept the position as members of the Editorial Committee for the volumes of the *African*

*Development Perspectives Yearbook*, by acting as Editors/Co-Editors of a Unit and as a Volume Editor. These persons add to the stock of knowledge of the Research Group. We are also indebted to the UNECA offices in Addis Ababa and Kigali, as they have pushed us to launch volumes of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* in their offices. In October 2016 this idea was realised. The Acting Director of the Kigali Office of UNECA, Andrew Mold, organized a launch event with a great programme for the volumes 18 (2015/2016) and 19 (2017) of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*. A major launch event with a high-level audience took place in Kigali, Rwanda. Our Managing Director, Professor Tobias Knedlik, Research Professor at IWH Halle and Professor for International Economics at the Fulda University of Applied Sciences, and our Project Adviser for the volumes 20 and 21 at that time, Dr. Nazar Mohamed Hassan, Senior Regional Adviser, UNESCO Regional Office in Cairo, were presenting the two issues of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* in Kigali, Rwanda. They informed the attending experts, policymakers, ambassadors, the UN staff, and representatives of donor organizations and the media about the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* Project. It was a great event, and African TV and Radio Stations reported in 48 African countries about the launch event for the volumes 18 and 19 of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*. We are planning to hold such events in the future more regularly. Dr. Nazar Mohamed Hassan has presented the two volumes 20 and 21 of the African Development Perspectives Yearbook at meetings in UNESCO offices (in Cairo and Paris). This information had given additional weight to the theme of “STI Policies for Inclusive Growth in Africa”. Professor Samia Satti Osman Mohamed Nour gave such information to members of the Faculty of Economics at Khartoum University, Sudan. We hope that we can realise such launch and information meetings also with volume 22 of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*.

Professor Dr. Tobias Knedlik, the Managing Editor of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*, and Professor Karl Wohlmuth, the Director of the *Research Group on African Development Perspectives Bremen* and Volume Editor, are also thankful to Professor Dr. Achim Gutowski for his continuous work as the Book Reviews/Book Notes Editor of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*; he has over many years prepared, in cooperation with Professor Karl Wohlmuth, the Unit on Book Reviews and Book Notes. Now Professor Samia Satti Osman Mohamed Nour from the University of Khartoum in Khartoum, Sudan has taken over this function. She is associated with important global and regional research institutions and has numerous advisory functions. The Unit on Book Reviews and Book Notes provides detailed assessments of a great number of books, journals, series, research papers and documents being related to the specific theme of the volume; but also, global reports on the world economy and on African development and specialised publications on Africa’s development perspectives are reviewed. The Unit on Book Reviews and Book notes is based on a

detailed list of subjects/classifications which is filled with many reviews; the Unit is of value for all those readers who want to go deeper in their understanding of African development perspectives.

We are thankful to all the contributors and supporters of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* for their hard work, their steady encouragement and their continuous assistance. The valuable inputs from leading African research institutions and their experts have contributed over the years to the success of the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* as an outstanding publication on and for Africa. In 2019 the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* project has celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> birthday, as the first volume has appeared in 1989. The Festschrift at this occasion has motivated a great number of former contributors and supporters to continue with their work for the Yearbook project. The readers of the various *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* volumes have a great role in the success of the Yearbook project; they continuously have contributed with critical comments and with supportive encouragement, so that over time a valuable partnership has emerged between readers, contributors, and editors.

Various institutions have made over the years donations and have funded specific 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. The great honour for the University of Bremen was helpful in the further work of the *Research Group on African Development Perspectives Bremen*. These donations, direct supports and research grants to the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* project and related research projects have helped us to intensify the research activities 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 Alexander von Humboldt Foundation have generously financed the stay of senior researchers at IWIM (Institute for World Economics and International Management) in Bremen. Also, the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have contributed with research grants, invitations, and access to their networks, thereby supporting the research of our staff/guest researchers. Professor Reuben A. Alabi from the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Edo State, Nigeria has cooperated with us for many years; he is now back to his home university. Professor Alabi has supported the Yearbook project as editor/co-editor, as a contributor, and he was a research collaborator in various projects. The Research Group is happy about a significant number of long-term partners of the Yearbook project. We are thankful for all

these contributions and donations to the research activities on African development perspectives which are taking place in Bremen; these are important supports for the *African Development Perspective Yearbook* project.

African Development Research Workshops were regularly held in Bremen at the University to discuss the draft papers which were intended for publication in the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook*. These African Development Research Workshops served as forums for the intensive discussion of the draft papers and of related research topics. Still there is contact to many of these research visitors; they are part of our network. These workshops are now replaced by online discussion forums about Units and Drafts, what has also to do with the COVID-19 crisis. The Editors also want to express the thanks to the many referees of the draft contributions for their committed work they are doing for the Yearbook. By this input the *African Development Perspectives Yearbook* has become over the years a fully refereed publication. Also, the reviewers of the many books, journals, research papers and documents for the Book Reviews/Book Notes Unit are doing an excellent job. Past volumes, like the volumes 19 and 21, and now volume 22 give evidence of this important part of the work of the *Research Group on African Development Perspectives Bremen*.

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 Bremen*. While the *Research Group on African Development Perspectives Bremen* is presenting its volume 22 for the year 2020/2021 with the title “*The Sustainable Development Goal Nine (Infrastructure, Industrialization, Innovation) and African Development*”, the work has already started for volume 23 (for the year 2022) with the title “*Business Opportunities, Start-Ups, and Digital Transformation in Africa*”. An International Call for Papers was released to increase participation and collaboration. The theme is related to important research and cooperation programmes of the *Research Group on African Development Perspectives Bremen* on digital transformation and reindustrialisation in Africa.

In the name of the Editorial Team:

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