



Open Access Journal Available Online

Issues Impeding Development in Sub-Sahara African States: A Review

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Abstract: This paper seeks to uncover the root causes and pinpoint the obstacles hindering Africa's development by examining critical governance issues. The paper posits that Africa's progress largely hinges on its political development. Consequently, the study aims to critically analyze and assess the continent's developmental challenges, including bribery, corruption, poor governance, weak political institutions, and undemocratic values. Although these hurdles are significant and numerous, they can be addressed through the enhancement and reinforcement of governance and democratic practices. The significance of this research is profound, as its findings could prove invaluable to policymakers and scholars by identifying problems and suggesting policy recommendations to counteract the issues plaguing the continent. A survey was conducted which include expertise from different fields, to gather insights on Africa's development challenges. The results indicate that, beyond corruption, governance, and leadership, the primary obstacles to Africa's development are the weak institutions responsible for ensuring political accountability. While some African countries have made strides in governance and anti-corruption efforts, substantial institutional reforms are necessary to achieve sustainable development.

Keywords: Africa, Challenges, Development, Issues, Sub-Sahara

Introduction

Post-independence African republics have experienced several political and economic reforms, although there is no progress to demonstrate as a result. Africa is widely recognized as one of the most abundant continents in terms of natural and mineral resources, yet it remains one of the poorest regions globally. Africa has numerous obstacles to growth, which are both tangible and plentiful. However, these challenges can be overcome via the presence of a dynamic civil society and unwavering political dedication. These are just a few of the many critical challenges that Africa lacks. Currently, political scientists and international development organizations universally acknowledge that African civil society plays a vital role in tackling the most significant development issues on the continent, such as poverty, governance, and peace building (Khan, 2019). Addressing corruption, promoting good governance, enhancing the efficiency and productivity of the civil service, upholding democracy and democratic principles are crucial matters that require scholarly ingenuity to tackle the challenges Africa is currently confronting. Furthermore, these issues can provide policy makers with alternative solutions for socio-economic development.

While some researchers have focused on Africa's governance issues, there has been significantly less research conducted on exploring potential solutions for Africa's development, particularly in the field of electronic governance (e-Governance/Government). This approach aims to address bureaucratic inefficiencies and red tape in Africa. The

objective of this research is to thoroughly examine and assess the developmental obstacles faced by Africa, including bribery and corruption, poor governance, fragile political institutions, and undemocratic principles. This study will also propose alternate strategies to bolster and optimize sustainable development in Africa. This research aims to determine the causal relationship between political and economic progress. These two developments are intricately connected and rely on one other. Economists frequently assert that economic growth and a free market economy are crucial for the establishment and strengthening of democracy. On the other hand, political scientists believe that sustainable economic growth is contingent upon substantial enhancements in governance, legal, and political institutions (Khan, 2019). The work strives to answer the aforementioned claims, highlighting their significance. Thus, the value of this research cannot be overstated.

According to Khan (2019), the concept of prioritizing the economy appears to be absent in Africa. Between 2000 and 2005, Kenya saw substantial economic advancement, with a consistent yearly growth rate of 5%. Nevertheless, a significant portion of this progress has since deteriorated as a result of the crisis and unrest rocking the country in 2023 and 2024. The lack of economic progress in Kenya did not hinder the achievement of its development goals. Instead, it was the result of political failure, characterized by inadequate governance, rampant corruption, ethnic favoritism, and electoral malpractice.

Despite significant investments from International growth donors, Africa's

growth has seen minimal progress. This may be attributed, in part, to ineffective and unproductive governmental policies combined with inadequate governance. Since the 1980s, prominent development partners like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have undertaken many policies and initiatives to improve Africa's development. Similarly, throughout the 1990s, the United Nations meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, held great importance as it introduced the concept of "Sustainable Development." Since then, the term has gained widespread popularity and has attracted the attention of global leaders, donor partners, and civil society organizations. This progress cannot be accomplished without robust political and governance systems, which are lacking in Africa. The predicament in Africa is characterized by a dearth of effective leadership, as well as passive and reactionary politicians, particularly within opposition parties.

Undoubtedly, undemocratic attitudes, inadequate governance, and corruption are the primary systemic issues that contribute to underdevelopment and poverty in numerous countries. Due to inadequate governance and corruption, the institutional frameworks of many developing nations are compromised, resulting in the misallocation of public funds and the undermining of poverty reduction efforts and sustainable economic development initiatives (Julius, 2011). This study contends that in the absence of substantial enhancements in political structures and institutions, economic progress and sustainable development would be illusory for Africa.

Aim and Objectives of the Study

The aim of the study is to elucidate the issues impeding development in Sub-Saharan Africa. However, this paper aims to provide empirical responses to the following research questions:

- (1) What are the vices hindering Sub-Saharan Africa's development?
- (2) What are the alternatives for development in Sub-Saharan African state?

This research seeks to determine the relationship between political progress and socio-economic growth in this particular situation. Sub-Saharan African States' lack of success can be mostly due to frequent changes of leadership through military intervention, an ambiguous ideology, and weaker democratic institutions. The need to prioritize leadership and governance is currently relevant and significant, as it aligns with the global movement towards political and economic liberalization. This demonstrates that many individuals assumed leadership positions without prior knowledge or experience in the field. This prevailing pattern is observed in the majority of African nations and significantly impedes the socio-economic progress of numerous states. The challenges arising from political, social, and economic stability in Africa may mostly be attributed to issues with leadership and governance.

It seems like Sub-Saharan African states are currently trapped in a condition of political impasse, poverty, and widespread corruption, while the Asian tigers, Europe, and North America have made significant progress in both

political and economic spheres. The prolonged period of political mismanagement and authoritarian control, characterized by individualized political systems and oppressive dictatorships, has resulted in a state of political apathy and economic incapacitation in most African countries. The populace, plagued by poverty, illiteracy, and disease, has been severely impoverished. Unfortunately, Africa is home to the largest population of the world's most impoverished individuals (Kochhar, 2020). The current perilous situation has compelled residents in Africa to resort to rebellion against numerous constitutionally elected governments. The 2014 uprising in Burkina Faso provided convincing evidence supporting the accusation that President Blaise Compaore, who had been in power for 27 years, sought to extend his control. Consequently, this has resulted in widespread civil unrest in the capital and other urban areas. Corruption is another significant problem that has plagued the continent of Africa. Many political leaders in Africa perceive corruption as endemic and believe that this peculiar circumstance has exacerbated the challenges faced by the continent. According to Transparency International (TI), corruption in Africa diverts 20 to 30 percent of money from the provision of essential services. Furthermore, numerous international newspapers and research have documented that African leaders siphon off billions of dollars annually from their financially burdened nations.

In light of this context, the aim of this study is to not only investigate the underlying causes of Africa's development obstacles, but also to

propose answers and alternatives to address these issues. Africa needs e-governance, a dynamic civil society, institutional reforms, and effective political leadership in order to foster development. This work is divided into three sections and the researcher employs qualitative methods (survey), utilizing a standardized questionnaire administered to bureaucrats and academics. The initial section addresses crucial matters such as corruption, ineffectual political institutions, and significant democratic shortcomings, which impede Africa's socio-economic progress. The subsequent section of this study will examine potential approaches to address these development difficulties. This study is finalized with a set of suggestions to improve and reinforce sustainable development in Africa.

Conceptual Review: Development

The concept of development is contentious, differing throughout disciplines, civilisations, and ideologies. It signifies endeavours to improve the welfare of individuals, communities, and societies. Development is sometimes synonymous with economic growth, emphasising the augmentation of a nation's gross domestic product (GDP) or per capita income (Akindoyin & Akuche, 2023). This perspective originates from modernisation theory, which regards industrialisation and urbanisation as indicators of advancement. This definition might be critiqued for prioritising economic measures over human well-being, so neglecting issues such as inequality and environmental sustainability. Furthermore, it enforces a linear developmental trajectory based on Western industrialised states, neglecting the varied historical and cultural

backgrounds of emerging countries. Likewise, economic expansion by itself fails to rectify fundamental inequities, frequently intensifying disparities between the affluent and the impoverished.

Development is characterised as the enhancement of human capacities, liberties, and opportunities, including health, education, and quality of life (Akindoyin, & Badru, 2024). Development is characterised as fulfilling present requirements without jeopardising the capacity of future generations to satisfy their own. Development is critically perceived as an extension of colonial power institutions, commonly termed neo-colonialism. Postcolonial scholars contend that it sustains dependency and marginalisation of the Global South. Consequently, growth embodies various ideological, cultural, and practical components. Its definitions have developed in reaction to critics, however no singular framework fully encapsulates its complexity. A sophisticated strategy necessitates the amalgamation of various viewpoints while acknowledging their constraints to establish inclusive, egalitarian, and sustainable avenues for global advancement.

Sub-Sahara African States

The term Sub-Saharan African states denotes the nations situated geographically south of the Sahara Desert, omitting North African countries that are culturally and politically affiliated with the Arab world. This grouping is not merely geographical; it also embodies unique historical, cultural, socio-economic, and political attributes common to these states (Akindoyin, 2024). Sub-Saharan Africa comprises a

multitude of nations characterised by distinct colonial legacies, languages, ethnic groups, and political structures. Notwithstanding their disparities, these governments frequently encounter common issues, including economic underdevelopment, political instability, and fragile institutional frameworks, partially stemming from the legacy of colonialism. The region is acknowledged for its abundant natural riches, cultural heterogeneity, and expanding economic prospects.

From a developmental standpoint, the word is frequently employed in discussions regarding international assistance, global health, and poverty reduction. Critics contend that the name homogenises the region, disregarding its considerable diversity and perpetuating preconceptions. Although the phrase is commonly employed for analytical and policy objectives, it is increasingly recognised that the intricate realities of Sub-Saharan African nations necessitate nuanced and context-specific strategies.

Methodology

This paper adopted a qualitative approach that involves the use of primary source (questionnaire) and secondary data sources such as academic journals, government reports, and media reports. The choice of this data collection is because it allows for an in-depth analysis of issues impeding development in Sub-Saharan African States. Data collected is analysed via content analysis.

Discussion of Findings

The Vices Hindering Sub Sahara Africa's Development

Corruption and Bribery

According to Bullock & Jenkins (2022), corruption is more detrimental than prostitution. The latter has the potential to jeopardize the moral values of an individual, whereas the former inevitably poses a threat to the moral values of an entire country. Corruption is a significant obstacle in the modern society. The phrase is a complex phenomenon with multiple facets and carries numerous connotations, making it challenging to define precisely. In the last twenty years, there has been a significant body of theoretical and empirical study exploring various explanations, forms, and remedies for corruption. It is vital to acknowledge that corruption is present in all areas, but it is particularly prevalent in poor countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Corruption is a pernicious affliction that infiltrates the social, political, and economic structure of a society, causing significant harm to its essential components. According to Transparency International, corruption is a significant obstacle in today's globe. Corruption has a detrimental impact on effective governance, distorts public policy at its core, results in the inefficient use of resources, negatively affects the growth of the private sector and hinders its development, and disproportionately affects individuals living in poverty. Corruption, like a cancer, impedes development initiatives, obstructs administrative progress within the bureaucracy, and weakens political

institutions by eroding the credibility of government responsibility. Ceva (2021) asserts that corruption has detrimental effects on the efficient operation of governments, undermines the proper functioning of economic and political institutions, obstructs transparency, exploits individuals for personal gain, undermines adherence to rules, and represents a manifestation of structural sin. Confronting this sickness, especially in the public sectors, is a commendable endeavor. To provide a clear understanding of corruption and bribery, one could argue that these two concepts are closely intertwined and difficult to distinguish. Corruption is commonly defined as the self-interested actions of individuals in positions of power who represent the government and public authority. It can also refer to the improper use of public resources by public officials for personal gain. The World Bank defines corruption as the exploitation of public authority for personal gain. The conventional and extensively employed definition of corruption is "conduct that strays from the official responsibilities of a public position due to personal interests (such as personal, immediate family, or private group) for financial or social advantages; or breaches regulations prohibiting the exertion of specific forms of self-interested influence". Bribery refers to the act of providing or receiving payment, whether in the form of money or goods, to a government official as part of a corrupt arrangement. Both concepts involve a state-society relationship. The study acknowledges the existence of different types of corruption, including political, economic, and judicial corruption. However, it argues that political corruption is the most widespread in Africa. Political corruption

is a significant problem that African governments are grappling with, and it has hindered progress in numerous African states. Corruption is an act of unfairness and poses a significant danger to the long-term progress and stability of society. Political corruption refers to any exchange between individuals in the private and public sectors that involves the improper conversion of public resources into personal benefits (Troisi, 2022). Corruption is a manifestation of governance failure and is often employed by African tyrants and dictators as a means to amass wealth and prolong their hold on power. Political corruption has not only eroded bureaucratic institutions in Africa, but also hindered administrative and economic progress. From 1960 to 2010, Nigeria has allegedly suffered a loss of \$500 billion due to corruption (Adeola, 2015, Sahara News). Mrs. Alison-Madueke, who served as the petroleum minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria from 2010 to 2015, was implicated in a corruption scheme involving bribery and money laundering. During her tenure, there were allegations that \$20 billion in oil funds had been misappropriated. This study contends that corruption is a contributing factor to Africa's underdevelopment. There have been reports of significant instances of misappropriation of public monies and capital flight by several African presidents and politicians. In addition, a research survey was conducted utilizing carefully chosen samples obtained from a diverse group of bureaucrats and academics, primarily consisting of bureaucrats, masters, and PhD students from Sub-Sahara African countries. A grand total of 150 meticulously designed questionnaires were distributed to the participants, and

an impressive 94% of them were successfully collected. The analysis employs non-parametric tests that utilize binomial approaches.

Table 1

Variable Options	Frequency	Percentage %
Corruption and bribery	31	22
Political leadership	36	25.5
Both	74	52.5
Total	141	100

Q5: What are the most significant challenges confronting Africa in recent time?

According to Table 1, 22% of the respondents say that corruption and bribery are Africa's most important challenges of the 21st century, while 52.5% believe that both corruption and political leadership are the most pressing issues. Political corruption not only results in the improper distribution of resources, but it also impacts the decision-making process. Political corruption refers to the deliberate manipulation of political institutions and procedural procedures, which in turn has a significant impact on government institutions and the overall political system. This pervasive issue often results in the deterioration of institutions, as seen in various African countries. Furthermore, it undermines the credibility of governance in numerous African nations. Dimuna (2023) asserts that corruption fosters inefficiency, exacerbates budgetary deficits, diminishes the resources allocated to infrastructure, public services, and poverty alleviation initiatives. Corruption has also fostered an unfavorable social

climate for talented African elites, compelling them to pursue higher-paying employment opportunities overseas. Africa possesses abundant natural and human resources, yet remains the most impoverished continent. More than 300 million individuals in Africa continue to survive on a daily income of less than US \$1 (Sasson, 2012).

Ineffective Institutions and Weak Leadership

Sub-Sahara Africa states has been plagued by a crisis of leadership for the last forty years, characterized by a lack of defined ideology, frequent government changes, and civil conflicts. The problem of leadership has been and continues to be the most significant obstacle that Africa is confronting in the 21st century. Africa suffers from a lack of political dedication, as leaders fail to comprehend the obligations and difficulties associated with administering a developing community. According to Spoelstra (2013), leadership is a widely observed but poorly understood phenomenon. The aforementioned assertion is a conspicuous reality in Africa, where individuals ascend to positions of power without comprehending the essence of government, resulting in the emergence of inept and authoritarian dictators. The pervasive surge of violence, insecurity, escalating crime rate, economic downturn, and the breakdown of law and order can be attributed to the issue of leadership and governance in Africa. Hence, the pursuit of effective leadership is an essential requirement for the effective management and long-term progress of a society (Spoelstra, 2013). It is important to emphasize that effective leadership is essential for governance and long-term growth. Put simply, they are

mutually complementary and neither can be attained independently of the other. Therefore, it can be confidently stated that there is a strong connection between political leadership and sustained progress.

The World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), and development donors have acknowledged that Africa's challenges in achieving development goals are partially attributed to inadequate leadership and insufficient institutional frameworks for ensuring accountability of political officials. The multitude of issues plaguing African nations, such as ethnic and community conflicts, rising crime rates, drug trafficking, and advanced fee fraud, have been attributed to weak leadership (Spoelstra, 2013). The occurrence of the Rwandan genocide and civil wars in countries such as Sierra Leone and Liberia provides undeniable evidence to support the claim described above. Africa is commonly referred to as the 'dark continent' due to its leadership challenges, extreme poverty, corruption, and civil warfare. Another challenge faced by the continent of Africa is the presence of inadequate institutional frameworks, which is sometimes attributed to bureaucratic inefficiencies. The concept of checks and balances is often treated as a theoretical notion, allowing presidents to view their nations as personal possessions. This has exacerbated the fragility of bureaucratic structures in terms of accountability, leading to rampant corruption at the highest echelons. The institutional shortcomings in Africa can be attributed to the presence of bureaucracy. Bureaucracy has faced significant criticism in organization theory and

management literature due to its perceived inefficiency and inability to adapt to external developments. Instead, there is a recommendation for embracing a range of organization structures that are more adaptable and responsive to emerging difficulties and evolving human needs and expectations. Bureaucracy is a subject of criticism for some people, who view it as a challenge of modern life. It should be analyzed as a potential solution to administrative issues, but also as a potential danger to the open society.

Head (2022) observed that modern governments tackle a broad range of challenges that are frequently intricate in nature. Bureaucracies are also beneficial to government actors who are actively pursuing specific, self-centered objectives (Head, 2022). "Bureaucracy is a term that carries a predominantly negative connotation for most individuals, to the extent that it is primarily employed as a negative rhetorical tool, making it challenging to present a clear ideological argument in favor of bureaucracy" (Monteiro & Adler, 2022). Bureaucracy is widely criticized and has limited support. African bureaucratic institutions are often scapegoated for the administrative issues that the continent is currently confronting. Several authors have been attacked for both exaggerating and failing to address the challenges, while neglecting to recognize the effective functioning of governments and organizations. This study argues that the issue lies not in bureaucracy itself, but rather in the systems in which bureaucracy functions. Nevertheless, Africa needs institutional and bureaucratic reforms in order to achieve

sustained development.

Elucidating the Alternatives for Development in Africa

Exploring the True Tenets of Democracy

Democracy is a formidable task for contemporary African states. It is often perceived as an alien notion that goes against the traditional African values and principles. Nevertheless, these statements lack evidence and are driven by political motives. Empirical evidence has demonstrated that a substantial enhancement in democracy is causally linked to socio-economic progress. The developed countries, such as America, England, and France, serve as undeniable evidence supporting the notion mentioned above. The concept of democracy has undergone significant growth in recent decades, accompanied by several obstacles and misunderstandings. Diamond (2005) noted in his report on Promoting Democracy in Post-Conflict and Failed States: Lessons and Challenges that the task of promoting democratic transitions and consolidation has become more challenging as the number of democracies has increased. Currently, there are approximately 120 democracies, which account for slightly over 60 percent of all independent states. This is because the countries that are most suitable for democracy in terms of their social, economic, geographic and historical conditions have already established and largely solidified democratic systems (Diamond, 2005). It is important to emphasize that democracy is more likely to be successful in countries with favorable economic,

political, and social conditions. In order to achieve significant progress in Africa, it is crucial to undertake extensive reforms of political institutions. These reforms should involve the exercise of authority over a state, the initiation and execution of policies, the extraction and distribution of revenue, the production of public goods and services, and the maintenance of order through the effective control of violence within a state.

African states that have implemented a system of political institutions have experienced significant rates of economic expansion. Kenya for instance, saw substantial economic advancement between 2000 and 2005, with an annual growth rate of 5%. This achievement was attributed to the establishment of robust political institutions in Nairobi. Democracy and democratic values play a crucial role in fostering and solidifying economic progress and the establishment of a free market in Africa. Ghana has also established and strengthened democratic institutions. Diamond (2005) asserts that Ghana has achieved institutionalization of electoral democracy through four progressively competitive, transparent, free, fair, and well-monitored national elections under the 1992 constitution. This achievement holds great significance for Africa and instills optimism. Democratic ideals, including the rule of law, freedom of speech, human rights, and periodic free and fair elections, are crucial factors for Africa to address its current development issues. Several African nations have made notable progress in enhancing democratic values, although the challenges of upholding the rule of law and protecting human rights remain a concern. Electoral

democracy in Africa has shown advancements in certain nations such as Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal, but in other countries it continues to exhibit stagnation and inadequacy. Electoral democracy is crucial as it allows citizens to hold their leaders responsible and to replace the current administration if it fails to meet expectations. Moreover, it empowers individuals to choose representatives who will address their developmental needs and concerns and, ideally, oversee the government and ensure its accountability on a continuous basis. The purpose of elections is to provide citizens with a method to bring about change in government and to hold leaders responsible for their actions. This has the potential to promote sustainable development in Africa.

Democracy necessitates widespread participation, which can serve as a spur for competitiveness and, thus, result in an efficient administration. Abraham Lincoln described our society as one that was founded on the principles of freedom and the belief that all individuals are inherently equal. The purpose of our civil war was to guarantee the continuation of a government that is "by the people, for the people, and of the people" (Kaczorowski, 1987). It is important to emphasize that a democratic government must be receptive to the demands and desires of its citizens. It is imperative that individuals from all sections of society participate in decisions that have an impact on their lives. In order to foster a greater sense of ownership in government programs, it is imperative to include minority and marginalized groups in the public policy decision-making process. Research has indicated that as economic prosperity and democratic governance

increase, the prevalence of corruption tends to decline. Democratic institutions must be fortified in order to combat corruption. Effective bureaucratic and political accountability is exclusive to a democratic state. In order to ensure the integrity and independence of institutions such as the judiciary, court, and other watchdog groups, it is imperative that they are shielded from any form of political influence exerted by the executive branch. Corruption is eroding the foundations of African society and has resulted in widespread poverty, inequality, and underdevelopment on the continent. To eliminate this cancer (corruption), we must enhance and fortify our democratic institutions. Essentially, democracy has the potential to eliminate corruption, promote political equality, and ensure African rulers are held responsible for their actions and choices.

Exploring E-Governance

Africa's institutional and administrative weaknesses are frequently attributed to bureaucracy. The presence of bureaucracy in Africa is frequently linked to the squandering of resources and lack of effectiveness. In his book "The Case for Bureaucracy," Goodsell (2004) noted that only someone as malevolent as the devil would argue in favor of bureaucracy. Only an irrational individual would advocate for the support of the indefensible (bureaucracy). However, e-Government has the potential to protect against or offer alternatives to the bureaucratic obstacles faced in Africa. Implementing E-Government systems has the potential to effectively address the administrative challenges faced by Africa. Diverse scholars use various terms to refer to digital

governance, such as e-Government/Governance and online government. The concept of e-Government originated in the late 1990s, although the use of computers in government organizations can be traced back to the early days of computer technology. The study of "information technology (IT) in government" has been documented since the 1970s. The concept of e-Governance emerged as a result of the rapid growth of the internet. Grigalashvili, (2022) define e-Government (e-Gov) as the utilization of information technologies, such as Wide Area Networks, the Internet, and mobile computing, by government agencies to revolutionize their interactions with citizens, businesses, and other government entities (Grigalashvili, 2022). The U.S Congress defines e-Government as the utilization of web-based Internet applications and other information technologies, along with the implementation of processes that incorporate these technologies, to either a) improve the accessibility and provision of government information and services to the public, other agencies, and other government entities) achieve enhancements in government operations, such as effectiveness, efficiency, service quality, or transformation.

Implementing e-Governance in Africa would lead to improved delivery of government services to citizens, increased interaction with businesses and industries, empowerment of citizens through information access, and more efficient government management. Possible results encompass diminished corruption, heightened openness, enhanced convenience, increased revenue, and/or lowered costs of

government funding. The increase in e-Government activities in the contemporary world can be linked to the ability of e-Government systems to improve governance (OECD, 2003). E-Government improves government efficiency by enhancing service performance and delivery through the elimination of wasteful processes and reduction of bottlenecks and bureaucratic procedures to the greatest extent possible. It is imperative to bear in mind that e-Government projects also strive to improve government service delivery and promote citizen engagement in the government. The degree of civic engagement in African governments is inadequate or maybe nonexistent in most nations. E-Government will help bridge this gap, thereby improving accountability and openness in the machinery of government.

Nevertheless, despite the aforementioned advantages of e-Governance, its adoption in Africa is hindered by significant challenges, particularly due to the absence of essential infrastructure. The issues faced in Africa provide significant obstacles to the successful implementation of e-Governance. According to Chilembo (2021), 35% of e-Government programs in poor countries are classified as complete failures, 50% are considered partial failures, and the remaining 15% are deemed successful. These shortcomings indicate the necessity for additional research at the implementation level of e-Government in Africa, which calls for scholarly investigation. Essentially, e-Government has the potential to address Africa's governance challenges and combat corruption. It has the potential to enhance government accountability and

transparency, as well as foster increased citizen engagement in government affairs.

Promotion of Good Governance

The International Monetary Fund, World Bank, as well as other international development financiers believes that Africa's lack of significant development is mainly attributed to its history of poor governance. Effective governance is a crucial tool for attaining socio-economic progress, particularly in Africa, where there is a significant influx of foreign money but limited tangible outcomes. The World Bank's indicators of good governance, which include democracy, transparency, and accountability, suggest that the concept of good governance revolves around a participatory system. This system involves individuals who are entrusted with governing on behalf of the people, being motivated to provide their utmost effort in serving and benefiting the people. This includes solving their problems and enhancing their quality of life, ensuring their satisfaction and enjoyment (Mc Gregor, 2009). Governance is focused on development and seeks to enhance the quality of life for individuals. Mc Gregor (2009) defines good governance as comprising multiple dimensions. One refers to the state's ability to effectively operate in order to serve the common welfare. Efficient operation necessitates familiarity with the laws and regulations that most effectively promote the welfare of the general public, and thus the education of government officials in their respective areas of expertise. Africa's development hinges on the establishment of efficient and effective civil services that are capable of being productive and resourceful.

Another fundamental aspect of effective governance is a strong dedication to the welfare and benefit of the people. Effective leadership is missing in certain African countries. Africa's socio-economic growth can be effectively achieved with a strong dedication to the public good. Transparency is an additional aspect of good governance that refers to the degree of openness in the operations and behavior of the state, allowing other state actors and the public to examine and evaluate them. Transparency necessitates the presence of freedom of information, which includes legislation to guarantee that citizens have access to information regarding the government's decision-making process, commercial operations, and allocation of public funds (Mc Gregor, 2009). Establishing effective political and economic governance in Africa would not only ensure that rulers are held accountable for their actions and decisions, but it would also strengthen and encourage the implementation of the rule of law across the continent. This will foster political legitimacy and ensure stability in Africa. It is crucial because progress can only be significant and enduring in a peaceful and favorable setting.

Conclusion

The study conclude that, Sub Sahara African States is confronted with a multitude of obstacles, including governance, leadership, corruption, and democracy-related issues. Thus, Africa's sluggish pace of development may be partially attributed to these difficulties. These obstacles are numerous and tangible, yet they can be overcome. While some countries have made progress in governance, there is a need for

further reform and increased dedication in order for Africa to achieve success. Africa need leaders who are energetic, proactive, and dedicated to effectively manage the state's affairs. The success of a nation is largely contingent upon the caliber of its leadership. Africa requires leaders who are dedicated to enhancing the well-being of their inhabitants. The institution of leadership in Africa requires significant restructuring. This article advocates for the implementation of term limits in Africa as a means to prevent or eliminate dictatorial regimes. Extended duration in power fosters the emergence of autocratic leaders. Nevertheless, it is crucial to acknowledge that despite Africa's leadership challenges, this research asserts and acknowledges that Africa does have a small number of very capable leaders who are genuinely committed to the development of the continent. Africa must enhance its democratization, which refers to granting residents the fundamental right to freely articulate their perspectives. This would enable the government to get insight into the prevailing issues and explore potential solutions. Additionally, it promotes the examination of leaders and the allocation of public money.

Implementing dynamic economic policies in conjunction with democratic policies rooted in African traditions and values has the potential to foster socio-economic progress in Africa. Africa suffers from several governmental shortcomings, necessitating the development of civil society to address the hole left by the government. Civil society organizations are crucial in tackling Africa's most urgent development concerns. Larry Diamond's 2005 Democracy and Governance

Lecture encapsulates the notion that Africa's progress and the enhancement of democracy are contingent upon the presence of a robust, watchful, transparent, and resourceful civil society. These organizations need to be given authority and resources in order to address the challenges faced by Africa in its growth. Additionally, Africa must undergo institutional reform in order to completely eliminate corruption. In order to effectively confront and overcome corruption in Africa, it is imperative that institutional bodies maintain independence from government authority. This would enhance the level of transparency and accountability. Robust political institutions will facilitate efforts to combat corruption, promote competition in the economic and political system, and implement suitable macroeconomic strategies for development.

science and technology. Research has demonstrated that countries with a high level of literacy are more likely to achieve success in implementing democracy and e-Government. Primarily, the advancement of the educational system is the most reliable route to Africa's progress.

4. The African Union (AU) should establish and enforce a policy of limiting the presidential terms of all member states to a maximum of two terms. This should be achieved through diplomatic discussions, ensuring that no president exceeds the two-term limit.
5. Strengthening governance and institutions: Effective governance and strong institutions are crucial for sustainable development. Transparent, accountable, and efficient institutions can create a conducive environment for economic growth, social development, and poverty reduction.

Recommendation

The paper thereby makes the following recommendations;

1. Sub-Sahara African States should assume a proactive approach in addressing its challenges instead of relying on external aid. This objective could be achieved by the facilitation of commerce among African nations.
2. Similarly, it is imperative for the member countries of the African Union to pool their resources in order to enhance the energy sector of the continent. Without this improvement, the realization of e-Governance would be unattainable.
3. Also, Sub- Saharan African governments should allocate greater resources to education, particularly in the domains of

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