

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

My Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am very delighted to communicate with you once again just before my departure to West Africa for some collaborative work with many of my colleagues at some of the universities in the region. Here in the United States, we have been working very hard on the papers submitted to the JSDA for consideration for possible publication and we have been working and planning for a "face lift" for the JSDA. All our current work is to move the JSDA to loftier levels of quality and visibility. It also means that we are planning to increase the number of people working for the JSDA. These changes require resources to enable us to respond quickly to prospective authors and to review the papers in a timely manner. In the near future, the JSDA management will be putting into place procedures, processes, programs and policies that will enable us to accomplish our tasks of processing submitted papers.



This issue of the JSDA contains articles that confront the economic development matters of Africa by analyzing the situations and conditions that enhance or hinder development efforts in the countries of Africa. The theoretical and applied analyses and syntheses provide academic and operational perspectives of the economic issues in Africa. It is commonly believed that some progress is being made in the economic development of Africa. Duncan Miriri reporting for Reuters on May 28, 2012, observed that Africa's 4.5 percent economic growth could be premature since the jobless rate among the youth is chronic and is the highest in the world. Although the forecast for the 2012 economic growth outpaces the 3.4 percent growth rate in 2011, some parts of Africa such as the Western region indicate a continuous economic problem with famine and chronic poverty. The large emerging markets and the growth in the demand for Africa's commodities must be sustained by indigenous and external stakeholders in order to sustain the economies of the countries of Africa.

The recent troubles in Mali and Guinea Bissau are serious concerns for development in the western part of the continent while the military involvement of Uganda and Burundi in the peace keeping efforts in Somalia is diminishing the resources needed for development in the eastern part of the continent. The papers in this issue provide holistic approaches of examining sustainable development and sustainability in Africa. Africa's development problems are multidimensional and as such the solutions to these problems must be holistic. We continue to appreciate your support and loyalty and we thank you for being engaged with matters of sustainable development and sustainability in Africa.

With best regards,

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