## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

My Dear Colleagues and Friends:

We are very happy to bring you this issue of the *JSDA*. There has been a lot of things happening in Africa's Socio-political and Socio-cultural systems which threaten the sustainability of the institutions of government and education. Ethnic uprising such as the one in Southeastern Nigeria by the Igbo group that wants independence distract efforts that should be spent on work to strengthen and build sustainable communities and the economy. Political instabilities brought about by militant or terrorist groups such as Boko Haram have weakened countries of West Africa. Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Mali have experienced set backs as a result of the attacks by terrorist groups.

Education has not received enough attention in many African countries. Elementary, secondary and tertiary institutions have been neglected by governments. Many public schools that are badly needed to educate and train the general public are under-funded and teachers and professors go without pay for several months. The quality of education has deteriorated tremendously over the years in many African countries. Education programs are poorly developed, facilities and equipment are meager at best and the teachers are poorly trained. There is poor coordination of education and training efforts in the urban as well as rural areas. A lack of investment in human component of the community sustainability usually results in socio-political as well as socio-cultural problems.  When people do not have the skills and competencies to create jobs and become entrepreneurs, societies usually collapse. There is a strong correlation between crime and unemployment. Many of the criminality in African societies lead to a great deal of instability and disinvestment and capital flight. Security is absolutely necessary for steady and stable economic growth.

Poverty has been associated with women and children in many developing areas of the world. Poverty is a major problem with African women and ought to be addressed head on by the public and private sectors. The roles of governmental and non-governmental organizations cannot be underestimated in this regard.

This, Winter B, issue of the JSDA focuses on many socio-cultural and socio-political concerns of African societies. The articles are both strongly theoretical and applied. They offer policy answers to the questions raised about sustainable development and sustainability. The methodologies used in the articles are useful to academics and policy makers.

I ask that our readership continues to provide us with useful insights and suggestions. Enjoy the articles published in this issue. We appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,


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