

Making change real

Lessons



Objectives

- By the end of the 4 days we have the draft content of the book, and have a plan for completion. In addition possible partnerships to take forward the issues raised have been identified.



Approach

- Develop an African text book based on African experience
- Draw on what has worked and what hasn't and lessons for the future
- Draws on areas that Khanya has worked in with partners, but also broad experience in the region and the literature
- Participants include academics (UKZN+) for sharing literature and development discourse, Khanya and partners for practical experience



What have been some of the trends affecting Africa?



Overall issues now

- Tremendous variation across countries, even neighbours – and they are different sizes and diversity, and at different stages
- More stability in politics – and more multipartyism (conflicts reduced?) – some advances eg Ghana, some regression eg Zimbabwe
- State still quite centralised (and this has ebbed and flowed) – and often limited capacity
- Regional structures being given more power – however still problems of movement across borders
- Leadership deficit linked to poor accountability, and weak social mobilisation, also strong patronage systems and corruption – but some good examples eg Botswana



- Communities not empowered generally
- Service provision very poor to the general population across the region
- Agriculture has been neglected as are rural areas
- Macroeconomic management and growth rates have improved but
- Inequality worsening
- Opening to private sector (eg cellphone) and civil society



Comments

- The role that Africa played during this period
 - Ideology
 - The role of the state
- Impact of globalisation of Africa
 - Loss of identity
- Service delivery
 - Brain drain has an effect
- AID comes with ideology of the Donor countries
- We should explore development models
 - Africa had to adopt foreign models
 - Traditional/indigenous systems neglected
- Inter-generational poverty
 - Colonisation resulted in current poverty



Comments cont'd

- Concepts, assumptions and paradigms need to be explained
- Definition of democracy
- Cutting the colonial umbilical cord, Walter Rodney
- Rapid change that has been taking place in Africa
 - growth better than Latin America, North Africa and Middle East
 - From fiscal deficits to financial surpluses
- Syndrome of Afro-pessimism
 - Let's look at successes in Africa
 - Positive role of communities
- Quality of university education
 - Does it produce enough appropriately skilled people
 - Primary school curriculum not made for South Africa
- What lessons can we learn from North African experience?
- Four issues
 - Who sets the mindset
 - Who sets the tools for investigation
 - The role of people
 - organisations



Comments cont'd

- The experience of French and Spanish speaking countries in Africa is missed
- Leadership
- Primary School curriculum
- The role of the media and ownership



Exploring the future - Scenarios



Botswana scenario

Growth and population decrease

- Mineral deposits deplete within 25 years
- Tourism vulnerable, cattle vulnerable to disease
- Reduced growth rate – as dependant on external markets
- How to benefit from growth in the region?
- Population will go down (low birth rate due to family planning, deaths due to HIV/AIDS, limited migration) – now incentives for more children
- Will poverty rise? – inequality continues to rise
- Increased risk of climate change which risks NR as well as effect of depletion
- Stable centralised gov with powerful ruling party
- High levels of patronage eg ethnic preferences but corruption low (don't have to bribe to get something done, misuse of funds)
- but ethnic conflict possible

Zimbabwe Scenario

Political Stability, Reconstruction & Acceleration of improvements

- People's voice has spoken and this has power – state withering away like in East Germany
- Assumes political stability emerges – Government that is inclusive across parties and stakeholders
- Stabilisation of assets/capabilities – health, education, new institutions
- New constitution, change in power relations – institutions already changing eg Parliament
- Restructuring of resource governance
- Developmental state that is committed and accountable – building consensus, inclusiveness
- New regional alignment – stimulation of regional economic status
- New bilateral/multilateral arrangements – more competitive between economic blocks
- Migrants return – may lose some remittances



Mozambique Scenario

Political Stability but with Reconstruction

- Top-down policy formulation making implementation difficult
- Infrastructure – only around major urban areas – rural areas disconnected
- Service delivery very weak – weak HR capacity and weak institutions

Kenya/E Africa

Common market drives economic growth

- More rapid agricultural growth with rising international prices and domestic demand
- Food price rise may well stimulate a supply response which will have big multipliers. Big developments, eg in Turkana investing in infrastructure
- Strengthening of E African regional cooperation – common market, labour flows, EA passport, harmonised tax policies, consultative groups, tribunal. Expect SADC to join COMESA
- Inequality will increase
- Increased environmental degradation (water, grazing) – but will be managed – NEMAs getting strengthened. Potential conflict eg with Egypt around water of Lake Victoria
- Increased decentralisation of resources empowering local communities. Const Dev Fund managed by MP and local committee
- Enhanced democratisation as awareness increasing and holding leadership to account
- Conflict –.Rwanda, Northern Uganda, Sudan improved
- Political stability – much stronger after the conflict, issues were raised – suspect government will be more responsive and inclusive



South Africa

Developmental State but more plural

- Greater political competition with greater plurality
- Water and electricity availability impacting on economic goals
- Growing role of state eg in strategy for economic development – struggle against orthodoxy that should get out of involvement
- CS more active – stronger social movements
- Outcome of growth more evenly spread (challenge from level of inequality which means difficult to spread growth)
- Continued migration into SA with potential for more urbanisation and ongoing xenophobia



Emerging issues

- Scenarios or illusions?
- Need to understand whether the economic model is sustainable in our context. Is it unique to each country? Economic growth or development – we can get growth in national income but people remain poor
- Sense that political stability is strengthening – increased mobilisation of the people and willingness to challenge political leadership
- Role of the state – developmental state – doing more, or doing less but better. Behaviour of the state is critical
- Is economic growth the answer – or reducing inequality. Is creating goods for external demand sustainable?
- How do we create sustainable development that has reduced risk – how are the trends in each country against criteria of SD
- Increasing regional linkages – recognition that have to cooperate to succeed, and improve regional markets
- Need to realign internal focus and external focus
- Potential conflicts around water and energy scarcity
- Role of the state is emerging as an issue?



Principles/worldview underlying the book (not development in general)

- Using clear language so accessible and understandable
- Captivating so draws attention of a wide audience
- The book should be evidence-based, from country, from day to day work and case studies
- Should be reflective, drawing from real experiences of what people have done (good practice and failures), documenting what we and other people are doing - being careful of biases
- Open to a critical review of what we are doing now – and where it needs to go to improve the sustainability of people's livelihoods
- Limited to our practical experience of 7-8 countries – draw in additional experiences where we have solid experience to draw on
- Collaborative between academics and practitioners
- Not prescriptive – not exactly saying this precise methodology in this place, this is the only way? Must indicate what are key priorities and what seem to be ways issues can be resolved, but should also raise questions and unresolved debates.
- Very important to identify gaps – which can be contributed to later
- Part of a bigger process so that what we identify here can feed into other for a
- Should be able to stand the test of time
- Not a manual but a critical and reflective text book



Target group

- Development practitioners from civil society and government – people who facilitate, plan, manage and implement projects and services;
- Policy makers/politicians, decision-makers and advisors;
- Researchers from universities, policy institutions, development institutions, think-tanks;
- Training institutions and trainers;
- Students eg in development studies, sociology...
- Development funders



Purpose

- **Making Change Real: Transforming the Development Systems to promote sustainable livelihoods**
- Assisting readers to draw from experiences in the region, reflect on the real challenges facing them, recognise the urgency of change and consider new ways to impact on livelihoods



Maximising Impact

- Targeting institutions
- Developing materials arising from the book for practitioners e.g guidelines for state & non-state sectors
- Presentations at Conferences and to Parliamentary Committees
- Hosting Seminars & Workshops at Universities & other institutions of higher learning
- Writing Policy briefs, Opinion Pieces based on chapters within the book
- Recommendation as reading list



Proposed chapter structure

- Overview of topic
- Experience of last 20+ years
- Review of literature (especially from academics)
- What is happening now
- Lessons learnt
- What we expect to happen (link to scenarios)
- Key issues to be addressed in the future/recommendations



Writing process

- Finalizing subtopics
- Getting feedback from wider group
- Brainstorming the content
- Generating examples/cases
- Individuals writing up from the brainstorm



Post workshop

- People to write up elements afterwards eg cases
- After the workshop Khanya/UKZN drafting paper based on content from writeshop
- Submitting to all for comment and additions
- Editing process



Way forward

- End Feb – first draft to editors, Role of State end March latest
- Latest end April – comments back to authors
- End May – final draft back to editors
- End July – book complete

