



# Quarterly Newsletter

*Quality Research for Sound Policies*

## Welcome to CSEA's April 2015 Newsletter

### CSEA PUBLICATIONS

#### **Policy Brief**

#### **The Chinese Model of Infrastructure Development in Africa**

*By Uzor Ezechukwu*

The volume of Chinese Official Development Assistance (ODA) channeled into infrastructure development in Africa has grown sharply in recent years, compared to other donors like the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries. To finance infrastructure projects in Africa, China's policy banks use financial instruments that link Africa's natural resources and agricultural raw materials to its development. This paper examines infrastructural development as a key step in providing a competitive business environment for African economies.

### CSEA EVENT UPDATES

#### **Partnership to Strengthen Innovation and Practice in Secondary Education**

*January 8-9, 2015 Lagos, Nigeria*

Uzor Ezechukwu joined education stakeholders and policymakers for the convening of the [Partnership to Strengthen Innovation and Practice in Secondary Education \(PSIPSE\)](#) organised by Results for Development Institute (R4D) and The Education Partnership Centre (TEP). The event was organised to share knowledge, discuss best practices and explore possible solutions that will address the challenges of secondary education initiatives across Nigeria. The meeting also provided a platform for discussions among stakeholders to identify areas of much-needed collaboration in educational organizations, foster new relationships with key actors in the secondary education level as well as provide technical support.

#### **Southern Voice Research Conference on Post-2015 International Development Goals and Target**

*February 16-17, 2015 Istanbul, Turkey*

The first research conference on [Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets](#) was organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDGs International Development Goals in association with Think Tank Initiative (TTI). Members of international development and research communities from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America convened to discuss various issues centered around the core themes of the conference which includes: shaping of the international development agenda for post-2015 period; identification of implementation challenges of the post-2015 agenda and understanding national implications for implementing post-2015 international development goals. The conference also provided a platform for Southern Voice research grantees to present their papers and invite inputs from other participants. Dr. Ebere Uneze presented a paper titled 'Exploring Domestic Financing Options for Post-2015 Development Agenda in Selected Sub-Saharan African Countries'.

## **2015 Think Tank Initiative Global Exchange**

*February 18-20, 2015 Istanbul, Turkey*

Dr. Ebere Uneze and Dr. Chukwuka Onyekwena, joined representatives of other think tanks, and research-to-policy stakeholders for the [2015 Think Tank Initiative \(TTI\) Exchange programme](#) organised by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) to discuss the importance of research quality for think tank impact, both in theory and in practice on theme of "Research Quality: Approaches, Outreach and Impact." Participants explored various perspectives and shared knowledge and experience on how research quality can lead to think tank impact and how think tanks can ensure quality research while maintaining policy relevance.



## **Financing the Sustainable Development Goals International Conference**

*March 17-18, 2015 Accra, Ghana*

Given the changing nature of development finance in the international sphere, the [Sustainable Development Goals International Conference](#) was put together in order to shape the global priorities for economic, environmental and social development to meet the challenges of a new era. The conference was organised by the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and a global coalition of partners, including United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Development Finance International (DFI), Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF), African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) and Development Initiatives (DI). The theme of the conference 'Financing the Future: Fresh Perspectives on Global Development' explored how international public finance can best contribute to accelerating progress in development from 2015. Dr. Ebere Uneze joined other high-level speakers from around the world to discuss and identify core issues of financing for development.

## **CSEA IN-HOUSE SEMINARS**

### **"Managing Capital Flows"**

*presented by Dr. Gene Leon, IMF Senior Resident Representative in Nigeria.*

**February 5, 2015**

The report presented the view of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on capital flows and its implication for macroeconomic management. The paper also addresses issues including: the importance, structure, size and composition of international capital flows and the spill-over effects; the relationship between international capital flow and domestic macroeconomic management and what should be the reaction of the monetary authority to managing international capital flows risks.

## 'Is There Discrimination Against Women Entrepreneurs in the Formal Credit Markets in Nigeria'

*presented by Dr. Emmanuel Nwosu, Department of Economics, University of Nigeria, Nsukka*

**March 11, 2015**

The report highlighted the major factors impeding the growth of women-owned businesses in developing countries which includes low access to formal credit for small and medium enterprises in Nigeria. It also investigates the impact of credit access on the performance of enterprises.



## CALL FOR PAPERS

### **AERC: Call for Proposals**

The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) is calling for proposals /expression of interest from AERC network participants and/or other researchers interested in developing framework papers as part of the AERC collaborative research project on 'Growth in Fragile and Post-Conflict countries'. The project would serve to better understand the growth dynamics in fragile and post conflict countries in Africa and to better inform economic policies that promote sustainable growth and development. . The deadline for submission is **June 30 2015**.

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### **PEGNet: Call for Papers**

The Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network (PEGNet) is calling for papers ahead of its 2015 conference tagged "Transformation of Developing and Emerging Economies: Challenges and Opportunities for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth". The conference will provide a platform for high-level dialogue and exchange of ideas on transformation and structural changes of developing and emerging economies towards inclusive and sustainable growth within the context of the Post-2015 Agenda. Contributed papers and projects will be selected on the basis of papers or extended abstracts written on topics in development economics. The deadline for submission is **May 29 2015**.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **2015 PEP Annual Conference**

*29 April-8 May, Nairobi*

The 12th edition of the [Partnership for Economic Policy \(PEP\) Annual Conference](#) and general meeting will be held on the theme of "Inclusive growth and employment for poverty reduction in developing countries". Discussions will focus on research and policy issues related to this theme. The conference will also feature a special high-level policy forum on the theme 'Unlocking Africa's growth for productive employment and poverty reduction'.

### **16th Annual Global Development Conference**

*June 11-13, 2015, Morocco*

The Global Development Network (GDN) is organising its [16th Annual Global Development Conference](#) tagged "Agriculture for Sustainable Growth: Challenges and Opportunities for a new 'Green Revolution'". The objective of the conference is to facilitate a better understanding on the

nature and prospects of 'green revolution' globally, drawing on the insights from experiences around the world, to foster dialogue among researchers , experts, practitioners and various government organisations who are working towards making their respective region more sustainable in agriculture and food security.

## ABOUT CSEA

The Centre for the study of the Economies of Africa (CSEA) is a non-profit think tank Research Centre that conducts high quality applied research on economic policy issues in Nigeria and the rest of Africa. The Centre conducts research on issues around Public Financial Management and Governance; Macroeconomic Management; Trade Investment and Growth; Programme Evaluation, Poverty Measurement and Analysis; Natural Resources, Energy and Environment; Education, Health and Population Dynamics; Global Economic Governance.

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